



# Sierra Nevada JOURNEYS



Welcome to Sierra Nevada Journeys Outdoor Education Camp.

We are thrilled that your child will be part of a transformative experience with us. We hope you are getting as excited about summer camp as we are. Please know that your child's physical, mental, and emotional safety is our number one priority.

Sierra Nevada Journeys follows strict local, state, and Federal safety and health standards to ensure the well-being of all our participants. This family handbook is designed to help campers and families get ready for Sierra Nevada Journeys summer camp. We strive to make the registration process as easy as possible for our families. The online registration system,

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## About Sierra Nevada Journeys

### Our Mission


-  Deliver innovative outdoor, science-based education programs for youth to develop critical thinking skills and inspire natural resource stewardship.

### Our Core Values


#### Equity Forward

-  We believe that science and nature are for everyone. Therefore, we prioritize serving youth who have been denied access to high-quality science education and outdoor learning experiences.


#### Committed to Outstanding Quality

-  We strive to improve through rigorous evaluations of our actions. We flexibly embrace change that makes our programs and operations better.


#### We Are Accountable

-  We do what we say we'll do for each other and for stakeholders. **We**


#### Respect Each Other, Ourselves and Our Environment

-  We use supportive actions and words to impact our teammates positively and work to understand the goals and challenges of our team, participants, and donors.

#### We Provide Unforgettable Experiences

-  We keep participants' emotional safety, education, and experience at the forefront of our actions.

### Sierra Nevada Journeys Outdoor Education Camp

-  Camp is 515 acres surrounded by magnificent vistas, valleys, and meadows in the Plumas National Forest. Camp is breathtaking and ideal for exploring nature, from our high ropes and challenge course to the forest and river ecosystems.



# Map of Camp



## Arrival Information

If you plan on arriving late, please notify our office manager 530-832-1085 or by email at [OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org](mailto:OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org) to let us know as soon as possible. Lodging is assigned within a week of your camp start date. Campers are placed based on their age, gender, and lodging availability.

We operate a small camp store on site, Monday - Thursday, allowing campers to purchase souvenirs and snacks.

You can also add credit to your camper's account through CampBrain. All unused funds are donated to Sierra Nevada Journeys and are not refundable. We are a 501(c)(3) and your donation is tax deductible, EIN: 08-0881587.

### Arrival Dates

### Overflow of Arrival Day

June 09  
June 16

Arrive at 3:00 pm. Check in at registration and the health center

June 23  
June 30

Upload money at the camp store and receive your t-shirt and cabin/yurt assignment

July 07  
July 14

Parents: At drop-off, kids participate in a large group game while you review health information with our staff

July 21  
July 28

5:00 pm - eat dinner and 9:00 pm lights out



## Departure Information

Departure Dates	Departure Schedule
June 14 June 21	7:00 am - Wake up and pack belongings
June 28 July 05	7:30 – 9:00 am - Shower and eat breakfast
July 12 July 19	9:00 – 10:00 am - Participate in closing ceremonies
July 26 August 02	10:00 am – Time to go back home







Please do not arrive before 10:00 am unless you have made special arrangements with the Programs Director. Sierra Nevada Journeys' policy is that anyone authorized to pick up a camper must show photo identification before the camper is released. A special authorization form is mandatory to permit the release of your child to an adult other than the

parent or guardian on the camper application. There is an online form that you may fill out during the registration process, or it may be added or updated after registration through your CampBrain account. The designated person will also be required to show photo identification. Pets are not allowed at camp unless they are certified service animals.













## Packing List

### Bedding

-  Sleeping bag
-  Twin-size fitted sheet
-  Pillow with pillowcase
-  Laundry bag



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### Toiletries

- |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Soap and travel container           |  Shampoo and conditioner |
|  Brush or comb                       |  Travel sized tissues    |
|  Toothbrush and toothpaste           |  Sunscreen               |
|  Deodorant                           |  Lip balm                |
|  Glasses or contacts (if applicable) |  Two towels              |












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### Optional Items

- |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  One small backpack                                  |  Paper and pen for letters home |
|  Bug spray                                           |  Books                          |
|  Reusable water bottle                               |  Small games and deck of cards  |
|  One flashlight with batteries                       |  Camera and film                |
|  Self-addressed and stamped envelopes to write home |  Extra blanket                 |
|                                                                                                                                       |  Stuffed animal               |

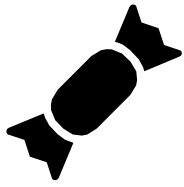
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### Clothing

- |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Five t-shirts                     |  Swimsuit                |
|  Four pairs of shorts              |  Sunglasses              |
|  Two pairs of pants or sweatpants  |  Close-toed tennis shoes |
|  Five pairs of socks and underwear |  Pajamas                 |
|  Two sweaters or jackets           |  Hat                     |
|  One light rain jacket             |                                                                                                             |

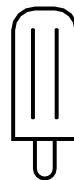


## Camp Store Prices



\* All items are subject to change due to availability.


Camp Store Items	Pricing
Bandanas	\$ 3.00
Bottled Water	\$ 1.00
Caribiners	\$ 3.00
Deck of Cards	\$ 7.00
Drinks (Bottled soft drinks, Kool Aid Jammers, Capri Suns)	\$ 2.00
Frisbee	\$ 4.00
Hats	\$ 25.00
Memory Foam Balls	\$ 5.00
Notebooks	\$ 6.00
Pens	\$ 1.00
Stamped Postcard	\$ 1.00
Snacks (Candy, Cookies, Chips, Corn Nuts, Jerky, Popsicles)	\$ 1.00
Stuffed Animals	\$ 12.00
Sunglasses	\$ 5.00
Temporary Tattoos	\$ 2.00
32oz Nalgene Water Bottles	\$ 20.00






## CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, CAMP PROTECTION, AND PAYMENT POLICIES


### CANCELLATIONS

-  All monies are NON-REFUNDABLE unless Camp Protection Insurance is purchased at the time of the original registration. Camp Protection Insurance is per child and week and may not carry over or be applied to another student.


### DEPOSIT

-  A non-refundable deposit of \$200 per child per session is required to secure your reservation for summer camp. All remaining camp fees are due by May 1. If you have not paid students' camping fees by May 1, your credit card on file will be automatically charged.


### PAYMENT METHOD

-  If you prefer to use a different payment method or need to update your card on file, please log into your account at [registersnj.campbrainregistration.com](http://registersnj.campbrainregistration.com), scroll to the bottom and click New Payment. Failure to make final payments by May 1, may result in your session being cancelled and the deposit forfeited.

### CAMP PROTECTION INSURANCE

-  Life can happen when you least expect it. Help protect your investment by purchasing Camp Protection Insurance for \$100 per camper, per session. All monies are NON-REFUNDABLE unless Camp Protection Insurance is purchased at the time of registration. This insurance allows you to cancel any time before 4 pm on your scheduled drop-off date, no questions asked. Additionally, you will receive a refund minus the \$200 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and the Protection Plan fee of \$100. You must purchase the protection plan at the time of your original registration.


### NOTICE TO CANCEL (With Protection Plan)

-  To cancel and receive your refund, you must submit, in writing, a notice of cancellation. Letters may be emailed or hand delivered to Sierra Nevada Journeys, c/o Office Manager, [OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org](mailto:OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org) or 5900 Grizzly Road, Portola, CA 96122.




## CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, CAMP PROTECTION, AND PAYMENT POLICIES


### EARLY DISMISSAL OR DEPARTURE

-  Early dismissal or departure from camp are subject to a complete loss of fees. Dismissals resulting from behaviour-related or criminal actions are not eligible for a refund. Dismissals or departures due to sickness or injury are subject to complete loss of fees depending on the circumstances, time spent at camp, and ability to attend another session. Refunds are not available for loss of programming or changes to programming made to accommodate weather conditions.


### CAMP STORE

-  Any funds left on your students' camp store account are not refundable. However, the remaining balance will be converted to a donation to Sierra Nevada Journeys' scholarship fund. They will help send youth to camp who might otherwise not have the opportunity to participate in camp programs. Since Sierra Nevada Journeys is an environmental education 501(c)(3) nonprofit, your donation is tax deductible, EIN: 01-0881587.

### WAITLIST

-  Once a session fills, we have a waitlist. You will need to go through the registration process to be added to the waitlist. Although your credit card information is collected, the deposit is NOT charged. If a slot becomes available, our Office Manager will call waitlisted campers in the order they are received. At that time, you may choose to accept or refuse the space.

### CHANGING MY SESSION AFTER I HAVE REGISTERED MY CHILD

-  You may transfer to another session (week) if available at any time. Please get in touch with our Office Manager at [OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org](mailto:OfficeManager@sierranevadajourneys.org) or by calling 530-832-1085



## Behavior Information

To ensure a positive experience for your child and the rest of the camp participants, it is essential that all campers obey the following “non-negotiable” rules at camp. Campers will not undertake any actions that involve physical or emotional danger to oneself, another camper, staff members, or any other individuals. Campers will not steal or harm camp property or facilities, or the property of other campers or staff members.



Non-negotiables include, but are not limited to:

- 🌲 Physical altercations
- 🌲 Threatening to harm others or oneself, in jest or seriousness
- 🌲 Bullying of any kind
- 🌲 Sexual harassment

Campers are NOT allowed to have in their possession:

- 🌲 Weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and electronics (including cell phones).
- 🌲 Prescription and over-the-counter medication must be turned into the nurse at check-in.

Campers will not leave campus without permission and will not leave their cabin after “lights out.”



## Health Information

We have an on-site health center which is staffed by a trained health professional. The nearest hospital is five miles away in downtown Portola.

Campers are NOT permitted to keep medications on them or in their lodging area. EpiPens and inhalers are the ONLY exceptions. Prescription drugs and over-the-counter items such as Tylenol®, Sudafed®, or cough drops are not permitted. All medications that are brought to camp will be given to the Camp Health Center staff at check-in. Even if it is an EpiPen or inhaler that will be self-carried by your camper, please present it at check-in so we can verify that it came to camp.

All prescription and over-the-counter medications need to be sent in the original container with the doctor's name, dosage, and usage instructions on the bottle. All over-the-counter medications must be age appropriate and must be administered for their intended purpose, per the manufacturer's instructions. Please put all medication bottles to be used during camp in a clear zip-lock bag with your child's name and instructions for administration on it. Camp Health Center Staff will administer all necessary medications as needed. All medications will be returned to you when you pick up your child.

Please make sure the medications sent to camp are not expired. Legally, our camp nurse cannot administer ANY expired medications – including inhalers.

Camp stocks certain over-the-counter medications at the Health Center. These medications are listed on the Camper Health History Form. You do not have to send these over-the-counter medications to camp. Simply select on your Camper's Health History Form that it is OK for the camp nurse to administer these medications. You can select these individually and check off which ones are appropriate for your child. This step can help alleviate long lines at check-in.

We frequently have campers who have accidents at night (bed wetting). This is very normal and happens every session. We treat it with the utmost confidentiality. If your camper has issues with bed wetting, please let us know on the online Health History Form. Campers can either secretly inform staff of an accident or staff will check campers' beds during breakfast. We will discreetly wash the sleeping bag, sheets, clothing while campers are at activities, and return the items before your camper returns to their cabin.



On-site Health  
Center staffed  
24/7

All  
medications  
must be in  
original  
packaging

Medications  
cannot be  
expired

## Contact Your Camper

Camper's love receiving letters and postcards from home! You can send your letters either in the mail or via email. We collect the mail and print the emails once a day and distribute them at lunch time.

With emails, think more regular letter format as in a story or maybe jokes to share with cabin mates. No photos please.

The campers may send letters home (easiest if you give them a self-addressed stamped envelope) but they aren't able to answer emails or read them real time. Cabin assignments are given at check-in so if you send a letter before camp include your campers first and last name.

You can also discretely drop handwritten letters off at check-in, and we will distribute them during the camp session.

Please send mail to:

Sierra Nevada Journeys Camp  
Summer Camp: *Your camper's name and cabin*  
5900 Grizzly Road  
Portola, CA 96122

Please send emails to:

[CampMail@sierranevadajourneys.org](mailto:CampMail@sierranevadajourneys.org)

\*\*Mail delivery to Portola typically takes 3-4 days, even from Reno. Please mail your letters early! Mail that arrives after camp will be returned to sender. Please do not send mail requiring a signature as we don't get to the post office daily. Packages may not include food. \*\*

Phone Calls: Homesickness and other issues are often exacerbated when campers call home. For this reason, such calls are not allowed. We will contact you if behavioral, medical, or other issues arise. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions over the course of the week or would like to check in.

Contact information:

9 am – 5 pm, call 530-832-1085.

Call our on-call staff member at 775-225-1660 for emergencies outside of desk hours.

Visiting While Camp is In-Session: To protect the safety and morale of all campers, and to run our programming effectively, Sierra Nevada Journeys has a "no visit, no drop-in" policy. However, parents may make an appointment to explore our facility before camp season.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**1. This is my child's first year at camp, can I request my child to be in the same lodging with their friend?**

⚠️ Yes, during the registration process, there is a form titled "Bunk Request" where you can request up to 3 friends for your camper to share a cabin or yurt with. This online feature will be turned off on May 1. Bunk requests are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Even if all conditions are met, the request may not be honored if the cabin has no space. Rest assured; we appreciate the importance of friends being together. Confirmations cannot be given until arrival day. If you want to know your child's cabin number or the names of the cabin counselors, please be patient.

**2. How far away is a restroom from the yurts?**

⚠️ Restrooms are located right outside the yurts.

**3. How often do you post photos?**

⚠️ Every evening the counselors turn their cameras in, and we upload photos to our photo site every morning. You can check out our photo site [here](#)! Alexis will send out an email on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with the photo link.

**4. What if I need to update my child's health information?**

⚠️ If you need to update your child's information, please email our [Office Manager](#), and she will re-open the form for you to update. Please click [here](#) to log in and edit those forms.

**5. I need to add someone to the authorized pick-up form, how do I do that?**

⚠️ If you need to update your pick-up form, please email our [Office Manager](#), and she will re-open the form for you to update. Please click [here](#) to login and edit the form.



## Directions to Camp

### Physical Address

Sierra Nevada Journeys Outdoor Education Camp

5900 Grizzly Road  
Portola, CA 96122

### Directions from Reno (1 hour) and Carson City (2 hours):

- Take Highway 395 north toward Susanville
- Exit at Hallelujah Junction for Highway 70 West toward Quincy (left turn)
- Turn right (north) onto Grizzly Road (21 miles from the intersection of Highway 395 and Highway 70)
- Entrance to Camp is the first road on the left, directly after the mailboxes

### Directions from Sacramento (roughly 2 hours):

- Take Interstate 80 east towards Truckee/Reno
- Just past Truckee, take the Highway 89 north exit toward Sierraville (follow signage through traffic circles)
- Follow Highway 89 to Sattley
- Turn right onto Westside Road/County Road A23 toward Portola
- Stay on Westside Road/A23 until it ends at Highway 70
- Turn left onto Highway 70 toward Portola
- Turn right (north) onto Grizzly Road
- Entrance to Camp is the first road on the left, directly after the mailboxes

### Directions from Chico (roughly 2 hours):

- Take Highway 99 south
- Turn left onto Highway 149
- Turn left onto Highway 70
- Turn left (north) onto Grizzly Road (about 4 miles past town)
- Entrance to Camp is the first road on the left, directly after the mailboxes

### Directions from Susanville (roughly 1 ½ hour):

- Take Highway 395 south
- Exit at Hallelujah Junction for Highway 70 West toward Quincy (right turn)
- Turn right (north) onto Grizzly Road (21 miles from the intersection of Highway 395 and Highway 70)
- Entrance to Camp is the first road on the left, directly after the mailboxes

