

Troop 2322

Weekend Campout Locations

Things to consider for choosing a location:

- Distance / Travel options
 - Distance is somewhat limited for 2-night weekends, but we have gone over 200 miles for special cause – Guadalupe River, Texas State Railroad.
 - Three-day weekends allow for more distance by leaving early Sat and returning on Monday.
 - We usually avoid 1-night weekends because it can feel like all that you do is drive, set up, and take down. This works OK for 100% backpacking.
- Activities – some have better trails, water activities, etc.
- Cost – Scout camps are usually free. State parks can be expensive.
- Reservations – some allow it, but others are 1st come, 1st served – can be chancy on a Friday night!
- State parks usually have great facilities, but campsite quality is unpredictable and they do not guarantee adjacent campsites!
- Personal references are very helpful, if we don't already know the campground.

BSA Camps

Camp Karankawa (between West Columbia & Sweeny, 60 miles)

Good camp; close location; OK unless hot or wet!

Exploring & rank advancement, canoes, etc

Many good campouts here

Camp Strake (near Conroe, 60 miles)

Nice camp; close, but across Houston; canoes

Camp Umland (near Woodville, TX, 130 miles)

Camp Edgewood (deQuincy, LA, 140 miles)

Nice camp

Lake, exploring, boat use?

El Rancho Cima (near Wimberley, TX, 225 miles)

Nice camp; swimming, hiking

Camp Pirtle (N of Nacogdoches, TX, 200 miles)

Nice camp; a bit far for a weekend

State Parks

Brazos Bend S.P. (near Damon, TX, 50 miles)

Nice park; close; hiking, gators, observatory

Buescher S.P. (near Bastrop, TX, 150 miles)

Nice park, with biking options

Enchanted Rock S.P. (near Fredericksburg, TX, 280 miles)

Great park for 3-day weekend

Climbing, hiking, cave

Galveston Island S.P. (40 miles)

Close, but sandy

Fishing, beach, roaming

Garner S.P. (near Concan, TX, 315 miles)

Great park for 3 or 4-day weekend

hiking, caves, swimming, fishing

Huntsville S.P. (S of Huntsville, TX, 95 miles)

Nice park and reasonably close

Hiking, canoeing, swimming
 Inks Lake S.P. / Longhorn Caverns S.P. (near Burnet, TX, 250 miles)
 Great park for 3-day weekend
 hiking, swimming
 option to visit Longhorn Caverns
 Lake Livingston S.P. (near Livingston, TX, 100 miles)
 Nice park and reasonably close
 Hiking, canoeing, swimming
 Lake Somerville S.P. (near Somerville, TX, 120 miles)
 Lake Texana S.P. (near Edna, TX, 120 miles)
 Nice park
 Hiking biking, etc
 Lost Maples S.P. (near Vanderpool, TX, 315 miles)
 Great park for 3 or 4-day weekend
 hiking, etc. great backpacking
 Pedernales Falls S.P. (W of Austin, TX, 227 miles)
 Great park for 3 or 4-day weekend
 hiking, etc.
 Rusk S.P./ TX State Railroad (near Rusk, TX, 220 miles)
 OK park, with interesting RR
 2-night weekend leaves only time for the RR
 Stephen F. Austin S.P. (near Sealy, TX, 75 miles)
 Good park; close, but across Houston
 Village Creek S.P. (N of Beaumont, TX, 110 miles)
 Good park; post-Rita status?
 Close to VC canoeing

Other Destinations

Stubblefield / Lone Star Trail (Lake Conroe, 100 miles)
 Great N.F. campground on Lake Conroe & the Lone Star Trail
 Nice facilities, showers, backpacking, hiking, fishing, etc
 Village Creek (canoeing, N of Beaumont, 100 miles)
 Several canoe trips with Piney Woods Outfitter
 Day trips or camp on the river
 Canyon Lake (N of San Antonio, 230 miles)
 Nice park
 exploring, kayaking
 Guadalupe River (New Braunfels, 230 miles) (various camping options)
 Fun kayak day-trip, but dependent upon weather & water flow
 Battleship Texas (Deer Park)
 Fun sleepover on the ship
 USS Cavalla (WW2 sub, Galveston, TX)
 Fun sleepover on the boat
 USS Lexington (Corpus Christi, TX, 210 miles)
 Fun sleepover on the ship

Summer Camp Options

Things to consider for choosing a location:

- Distance / Travel options
 - Time limit is 10 hours/day of driving time, except in a bus, so basically about 600 miles/day in cars or vans.
 - 800-900 miles is achievable in cars or vans leaving early Sat AM, but requires spending a night in-transit. More distance would probably require 2 nights in route.
 - A charter bus extends the range and reduces the time, but at greater cost. Need 50-52 people to fill the bus, so early commitments are needed!
- Program offering—high adventure options?
- Camp cost (most camps are reasonably similar)
- Climate (Sleeping in a hot, humid tent is tough. Colorado can be pleasantly cold at night!)
- Campsite limits (Some camps are strict on # of people. Some others are not.)
- Personal references are very helpful, if we don't already know the camp.
- Timing Considerations: Most Camps have training during the first week of June + 4-8 weeks of camp. .

Texas

1. **Buffalo Trails** (near Fort Davis, TX, 630 miles)
http://www.buffalotrailbsa.org/camping/btsr_summer.html
hiking & general scout activities - no aquatics other than pool
Backpacking, Mountain Man, Cavalry, Circle H Ranch, & Cavalcade (horseback high adventure)
hot during day & cool at night
2. **Lost Pines** (on Lake Bastrop, near Austin, TX, 170 miles)
http://www.bsacac.org/CampingEvents/Camps_LCRA.php
Great waterfront with full set of water-related MB's! COPE!
Hot during day & warm at night
3. **Camp Pirtle** (on Lake Murvaal, near Nacogdoches, TX, 200 miles)
<http://www.gwpsr.org/>
Great waterfront with full set of water-related MB's! COPE!
Hot during day & warm at night
4. **El Rancho Cima** (near Wimberley, TX, ~220 miles)
http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/camping_and_events/camping_opportunities/boy_scout_summer_camp
aquatic + general Scout activities
hot during day & ~moderate/cool at night
5. **Bear Creek** (west of Kerrville, TX, 300 miles)
<http://140.174.88.2/Bear%20Creek/bear%20creek.html>
Alamo Area Council camp
6. **Circle Ten Council** - Constantin (on Possum Kingdom Lake, west of Fort Worth, 360 miles), James Ray (Lake Texoma, 350 miles), & Clements (Athens, TX, 225 miles)
http://www.circle10.org/site/c.owL1KgN4LxH/b.1801251/k.9EE4/Summer_Camp.htm
variety of aquatic + general Scout activities
hot during day & warm at night
7. **Longhorn Council** – Worth Ranch, Sid Richardson, Camp Tahuaya
<http://www.longhorncouncil.org/Camps---High-Adventure.aspx>
Variety of summer camp & HiAdv in Palo Pinto, TX (360 miles), Jacksboro, TX (350 miles), & Belton, TX (220 miles)
hot during day & warm at night

8. **Camp Karankawa** (60 miles)
<http://www.campkarankawa.com/> or <http://www.bacbsa.org/>
Good MB's, close, horsemanship, close, but limited aquatics, close.
hot & humid 24/7

Colorado

1. **Camp Alexander** (1,050 miles)
<http://www.pikespeakbsa.org/campa/>
Cool during day & ~cold at night
Beautiful, but not in high mountain peaks
2. **Camp Ben Delatour/Camp Elkhorn** (1,250 miles)
<http://www.longspeaksbsa.org/camps/BDSR/>
Rocky Mountain camping adventure on 3400 acres northwest of Fort Collins, CO. BDSR offers patrol cooking or dining hall meals. Highlights include rock climbing & rappelling. Camp Elkhorn is the high adventure option nearby.
3. **San Isabel Scout Ranch** (W of Pueblo, CO, ~1,000 miles)
<http://www.rockymountaincouncil.org/sanisabel.htm>
In the mountains; They also have a high adventure base near Poncha Springs, CO.
Cool during day & ~cold at night

New Mexico

1. **Gorham Scout Ranch (formerly Camp Frank Rand)** (NE of Santa Fe, NM, 950 miles)
https://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=2362
In the mountains.
High adventure options in Pecos Wilderness (fantastic mountain backpacking).
Warm during the day & cool at night.
2. **Camp Wehinahpay** (near Sacramento, NM, 800 miles)
<http://conquistador-bsa.org/camps/wehinahpay-mountain-camp/>
In the low mountains at 8,000 ft. Closer than Colorado. Possible side trip to Carlsbad Caverns.
Warm during the day & cool at night.
3. **Camp Dale Resler** (near Cloudcroft, NM, 800 miles)
<http://www.yuccabsa.org/CDR/CDRIndex.htm>
In the low mountains. Closer than Colorado. Possible side trip to Carlsbad Caverns.
Warm during the day & cool at night.
4. **Tres Ritos Scout Camp** (NW of Las Vegas, NM, 910 miles)
http://www.southplainscouncil.org/documents/TresRitosLeadersGuidebook2010_002.pdf
on NW side of Pecos Wilderness; run by Lubbock's council
Warm during the day & cool at night

Missouri

1. **Camp Arrowhead** (near Springfield, MO, 700 miles)
<http://www.ozarktrailsbsa.org/news/camping.html>
SURROUNDED BY MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST
High adventure + general scout activities

Arkansas

1. **Camp Orr** (near Jasper, Ark, 600 miles)
<http://www.westarkbsa.org/>
The only Boy Scout Camp situated in a National Park, 600 acres located 7 miles west of Jasper, Arkansas on the beautiful Buffalo National River Wilderness Area.
River and mountain treks, outback program, + general scout activities
2. **Camp Pioneer** (near Hatfield, Ark, 410 miles)
<http://www.camppioneer.org/main.php>
Caddo Area Council (Texarkana)
In Ouachita Mountains

Oklahoma

1. **Hale Scout Reservation** (near Talihina, OK, 490 miles)
<http://www.halescoutreservation.org/>
In Ouachita Mountains; Great MB selection, but huge enrollment

Tennessee

1. **Camp Mack Morris**~ Distance -Approx. 830 miles, (appx 14 hrs)
http://www.wtacbsa.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=2347
Est. 1946, 480 acres of wooded hills on Birdsong Creek, a large tributary of the Tennessee River. A/C Dining Hall seats 350. Platform tents, cots & mattresses provided for all campers. Waterfront facilities with access to Kentucky Lake.
High adventure option + aquatic + general scout activities
Hot during day & warm at night?
2. **Skymont Scout Reservation** (near Chatanooga, TN, 870 miles)
http://www.skymont.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=805
Cherokee Area Council
Skymont is a 2,460 acre tract of largely wooded land in Grundy County, TN.
High adventure, aquatics, + general scout activities
Hot during day & warm/cool at night?

Alabama

1. **Camp Comer/Camp Sequoyah/Xtreme Adv.**—Distance ~800 miles away
<http://www.lbsa.org/camps.php>
3 Camps on the NW corner of AL an NE corner of GA—beautiful country.
High adventure, aquatics, + general scout activities
Hot during day & warm at night?

High Adventure Options

1. Philmont, NM <http://www.philmont.com>
2. Northern Tier (canoeing), Canada <http://www.ntier.org/>
3. National Florida Sea Base <http://www.bsaseabase.org/>
Galveston Sea Base, TX

Most general scout camps also have a high adventure option of some sort (see individual websites for above camps).

Philmont

Bay Area Council has a Philmont trek scheduled every summer. This is the best opportunity for Philmont.

Reservations are 1st come, 1st served. Details are as follows:

Age Limit: must be 14 or finish 8th grade before trek

Schedule Note: The Bay Area Council trek schedule will include several mandatory practice hikes. (This is an extremely good idea.)

Northern Tier & Florida Sea Base

Other Locations:

1. **Pecos Wilderness** (NW of Santa Fe, near Cowles, NM, 910 miles)
Outstanding hiking & backpacking, plus climbing peaks (hiking)
Beautiful mountains
9-13 thousand feet
2. **Buena Vista, Colorado** (~1,100 miles)
Outstanding hiking & backpacking
Option to climb a 14,000 ft peak (hiking)
Option to raft Arkansas River
Beautiful mountains
3. **Appalachian Trail** (several options, 940 miles to Franklin, NC)
Outstanding backpacking, with options for rafting, kayaking, etc
4. **Cumberland River** (TN/KY border, ~1,000 miles)
Great canoeing, with options for whitewater rafting on the Ocoee in route!
5. **Buffalo National River** (Ozarks in N Arkansas, 600 miles)
Great canoeing, with optional backpacking
6. **Guadalupe National Park** (N of Van Horn, TX, 700 miles)
<http://www.nps.gov/gumo.html>
Great mountain hiking & climbing, plus general scout activities.
Guadalupe & El Capitan Peaks, McKittrick Canyon
Optional side trip to Carlsbad Caverns.
7. **Carlsbad Caverns National Park** (N of Van Horn, TX, 700 miles)
<http://www.nps.gov/cave/index.htm>
Great caving. Camping only at Guadalupe Mountains.
8. **Big Bend National Park** (S of Alpine, TX, 700 miles)
<http://www.nps.gov/bibe.html>
Great mountain hiking & climbing, plus general scout activities.
Variety of hikes & canyons
Very hot in the summer!
9. **Rocky Mountain High Adventure Base** (formerly Packard, near Ponchas Springs, CO, 1,020 miles) <http://www.rockymountaincouncil.org/RMHAB.htm>