

## 7: Properties

Camping is a great way for girls to explore leadership, build skills and confidence, and develop a deep appreciation for nature. Whether they go for a day, weekend, or a week, Girl Scout camping gives girls an opportunity to grow, explore, and have fun under the guidance of caring, trained adults. Every girl deserves a chance to camp! Read on for information about some of the camp experiences available in our council. For a complete overview of camps and our council properties visit <http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/camp/index.html>.

Only service animals and resident wildlife are allowed on GSGLA properties and at girl events. Service dogs should be documented with a state service dog license. Pets should not be present during Girl Scout activities unless serving a specific educational purpose.

### Resident Camp

Osito Rancho Resident Camp offers girls entering second grade through eighth grade the opportunity to camp for four and five night sessions. Lodging is in platform tents and cots. All facilities have hot and cold running water, flush toilets and showers.

Girls sign up as individual campers or may elect to go with a buddy. At resident camp, girls have the opportunity to experience all that the great outdoors and Girl Scout camp have to offer, such as swimming, archery, canoeing, a challenge course, zip line, horses, arts and crafts, and nature. Camp days and nights are filled with adventures and new challenges. Here the Girl Scout Leadership Experience comes to life; girl-led opportunities and decision-making is encouraged throughout the camp session. Our camp program focus allows girls to discover themselves and connect with others as they explore all the adventures of camp. The Journeys are woven into all program areas of camp. We also offer the opportunity for campers to complete many requirements for various age-appropriate badges.

The Counselor in Training (CIT) Summer Leadership Experience is a great opportunity for older girls, in grades 9-12, who are interested in working as a camp counselor or want to expand their leadership skills. CIT girls shadow camp counselors, learning how to be a camp counselor and mentor and work with younger girls in the camp setting. CIT's will gain a better understanding of how resident camp is run while having lots of fun!



### Day Camp

Day camp is camp program conducted within a 12 hour period and five (5) days in length. Girls register as individual participants and are placed in units for program activities. We have three locations for our summer day camp program; El Ranchito, Marine Landing, and Mariposa.

At El Ranchito and Mariposa, day camps are available for girls entering kindergarten through sixth grade. Marine Landing is for girls entering first grade through eighth grade. At day camp, girls typically attend week-long sessions. Girls sign up as individual day campers and may elect to go with a buddy.

#### El Ranchito

Located in Long Beach, El Ranchito offers an exciting adventure every week. At this beautiful tree-filled, park-like day camp, girls are grouped by grade level in shaded units. Girls explore traditional Girl Scout activities such as games, arts and crafts, songs, interacting with nature, and making new friends while earning new badges. There are several exciting elements at El Ranchito, such as an archery range, gaga court, low ropes course, and a 32-foot tall climbing wall.

## Mariposa

Located in the foot hills of Altadena, Mariposa offers themed weeks from which girls can choose. Girls participate in new and traditional Girl Scout activities while making new friends and creating lasting memories. This camp also offers a gaga court, low ropes, team building activities, and a kid's kitchen where girls can prepare fun and different snacks each week.

## Marine Landing

Located in Long Beach on the water front, this camp offers Girl Scouts the opportunity to develop their boating skills, kayak, canoe, swim, and have fun in the sand at two of the local beaches. Girls will make new friends, play games, make crafts, and sing songs. Badge work or other skill-building programming is included in each week's activities. Juniors and Cadettes have the added bonus of paddle-boarding, as well as attending overnights and field trips on certain weeks.



## Specialty Camps – Troop & Family

Girls Scouts of Greater Los Angeles also offers specialty camps throughout the year and summer for girls, troops, and families. Some include Santa Clarita Day Camp, Island of the Blue Dolphins, and Ocean Fun on Catalina. These camps consist of both week long day camps and weekend opportunities. Overnight troop (group) camping, often referred to as “weekend camping” in our council, is available for girls in second grade and older, and typically lasts over three consecutive days and two nights. Weekend camp experiences are planned and carried out by a group of girls and their leaders, using GSGLA-approved sites. Some weekend camp experiences are designed to include staff with program expertise— this a good choice for girls and adult volunteers who may want support with their camp experience. Refer to the “What I Need for My Girls To Attend A...”([http://www.girlscoutsla.org/documents/What\\_I\\_need\\_for.pdf](http://www.girlscoutsla.org/documents/What_I_need_for.pdf)) chart for required trainings and approvals when planning activities.

## Campsite Basic Information

What types of sites are available at Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles' camps? A wide variety!

Some of the types of facilities include:

- Day-use only areas (picnic shelter, water, fire ring, space for activities).
- Primitive (pioneer) sites, where girls pitch their own tents.
- Platform tents with cots and mattresses; flush toilets or latrines are nearby.
- Cabins with HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning), full kitchens, and bunk beds or mattress on the floor for sleeping.
- Cabins with HVAC, *partial* kitchens and bunk beds or mattresses on the floor for sleeping.
- Cabins with HVAC without kitchens – outdoor cooking is the only option - and beds for sleeping.

“Campsite 411” can be found here [http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/camp/property\\_reservations.html](http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/camp/property_reservations.html). Be sure to read the descriptions on the website closely so you are sure that you are getting the type of facility you and the girls want or need.

## Procedures for Reserving a GSGLA Campsite

- Complete all appropriate adult camp training. Refer to the “What I Need For My Girls To Attend A...” ([http://www.girlscoutsla.org/documents/What\\_I\\_need\\_for.pdf](http://www.girlscoutsla.org/documents/What_I_need_for.pdf))
- Meet with troop and discuss camping plans with girls.
- Complete Property Reservations application form.

## Follow these guidelines for success

- Fill out the “Property Reservations Application Day Use/Overnight Use Form.” Give at least two different choices of camp, your first choice site, and at least three date choices. If none of your choices of camps or dates are available, you will be contacted by phone or email to set up alternate plans. Your chances of being placed in a site of your choice are higher if you list as many date and site choices as possible.
- Fill out the rest of the application as carefully as possible. You will need the names of your adult trained in Overnight/Camping Skills and first-aider, and the dates of their training to complete the form.
- ALL adults participating in a camping trip, including day trips, must be approved volunteers\*. We encourage all adults to become registered members of Girl Scouts of the USA, but membership registration does not, on its own, satisfy the volunteer application requirement - they are separate processes.
- Be sure your name and address are printed clearly and that you have included a daytime phone number. Sign the camp reservation/application form.
- Mail, email, or drop off the application to the GSGLA property registrar which is located at the Montclair Service Center, 9525 Monte Vista Avenue, Montclair, CA 91763.\*\* For more information, contact Elsa Escobedo at [eescobedo@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:eescobedo@girlscoutsla.org) or (626) 677-2366. Do not send money with your application unless specifically instructed to do so.
- If you must cancel your reservation, please notify the Property Registrar as soon as possible so a troop may be placed from the waiting list if possible: (626) 677-2366. If you find you must cancel during the week you are scheduled to camp, call the camp’s ranger directly. If you cancel thirty days in advance of your camp date, a portion of your fees will be refunded (see refund policy, below).
- Only service animals and resident wildlife are allowed on GSGLA properties and at girl events. Service dogs should be documented with a state service dog license. Pets should not be present during Girl Scout activities unless serving a specific educational purpose.

**\*Being an approved volunteer means that you are a registered member, have a volunteer application and a cleared background screening on file (within the last three years), and have completed position related training.**

**\*\*Office will be relocating to: 313 East Foothill Blvd., Upland, CA 91786**

## Camps are Not Closed and Refunds are Not Made Because of Rain

Be sure girls include rainy day activities in their planning! In the event of severe weather, leaders should evaluate the driving conditions before leaving for camp and determine whether they should wait until the next day to travel. *GSGLA will notify the leader on record if we close camp for any reason – a full refund will be issued under these circumstances.*

## Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made more than one month in advance of the reservation date will incur a cancellation fee equal to one day (or night) rental rate. The remaining rental fees will be refunded.

1. Cancellations made one month or less from the reservation date will forfeit all rental fees, including security deposit.
2. A re-scheduling of an already confirmed reservation is considered a cancellation and the cancellation policy will apply.
3. Service unit events rescheduled due to low registration are exceptions.
4. No refunds (partial or full) are given for cancellation of a regular troop meeting reservation once it has been confirmed.

