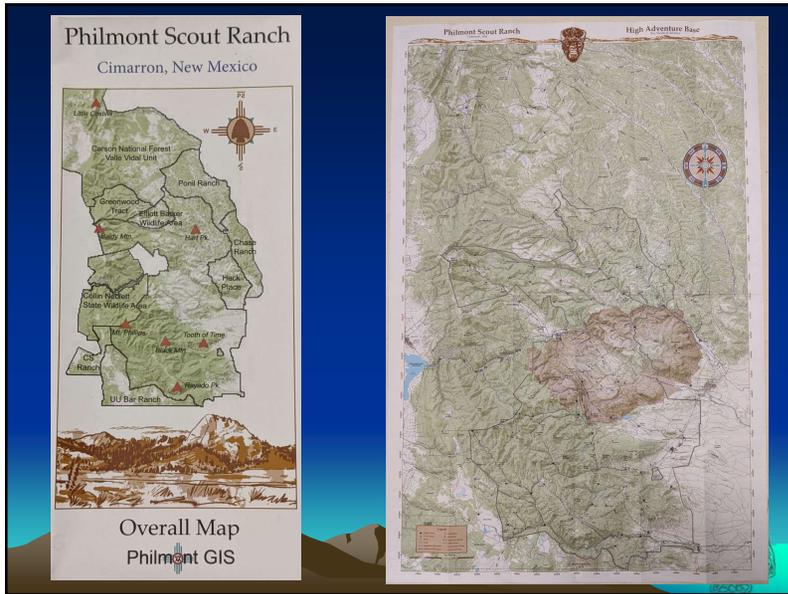


Agenda

- What's Philmont?
- Challenges
- Typical Trip overview
- Preparations:
 - Warm-ups
 - Trip logistics
- Administration

What is Philmont Scout Ranch?

- Located in northeastern New Mexico, near the town of Cimarron (pop. 800) in the Sangre de Cristo section of the Rocky Mountains
- 137,000 acres (214 sq. mi.), ranging from 6,500 to 12,441 feet elevation - the largest youth camp in the world
- Established 1939 by donation of 35,000 acres by oilman Waite Phillips
- Expanded 1941 to 127,000 acres with 2nd gift;
- Baldy purchase 1963, Chase Ranch 2014



What do you do there?

- 11-day backpacking trip covering 46-78 miles (also 7-day and 9-day)
- 30+ staff camps, 70+ trail camps
- Daily activities include
 - Rock climbing
 - Western lore
 - Spar pole climbing
 - Challenge events
 - Black powder rifle
 - Shotgun shooting
 - Gold panning/mine tour
 - Blacksmithing
 - Burro packing
 - Challenge events

Philmont Programs/Itineraries/Camps		
Programs	Offered on 12 Day Itineraries	At These Camps
Archery	12-3, 12-8, 12-18, 12-23, 12-27, 12-28, 12-30	Indian Vintings
Arroyo - 3 Dimensional	12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-7, 12-9, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-17, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-29, 12-31, 12-31	Apache Springs, Cimarronita
Astronomy	12-16, 12-18, 12-23, 12-26, 12-28, 12-27, 12-30	Ring Place
Atlatl (Javelin Throwing)	12-4, 12-18, 12-23, 12-27, 12-29	Indian Vintings
Baldy Mountain Hike	12-4, 12-6, 12-6, 12-6, 12-18, 12-20, 12-23, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	
Backpacking	12-4, 12-2, 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-6, 12-7, 12-8, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Black Mountain, Cypress Mine, French Henry, Metcalf Station, Pinnal, Puerco, Ring Place, Uruca
Bouldering	12-15, 12-18, 12-23, 12-27, 12-28, 12-30	Chase Creek
Burro Packing	12-4, 12-16, 12-27, 12-32	Mitaska, Pinnal
Campfire (evening)	12-4, 12-2, 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-6, 12-7, 12-8, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Beaulieu, Chase Creek, Chase Lake, Cypress Mine, Metcalf Station, Pinnal, Puerco, Ring Place, Uruca
Canoe	12-4, 12-4, 12-7, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-16, 12-19, 12-21	Albu, Pinnal
Challenge Events	12-3, 12-3, 12-3, 12-4, 12-4, 12-5, 12-5, 12-6, 12-6, 12-7, 12-7, 12-8, 12-8, 12-9, 12-9, 12-10, 12-10, 12-11, 12-11, 12-12, 12-12, 12-13, 12-13, 12-14, 12-14, 12-15, 12-15, 12-16, 12-16, 12-17, 12-17, 12-18, 12-18, 12-19, 12-19, 12-20, 12-20, 12-21, 12-21, 12-22, 12-22, 12-23, 12-23, 12-24, 12-24, 12-25, 12-25, 12-26, 12-26, 12-27, 12-27, 12-28, 12-28, 12-29, 12-29, 12-30, 12-30, 12-31, 12-31, 12-32, 12-32, 12-33, 12-33, 12-34, 12-34	Don Ewert, Head of Deer, Uruca
Chokecherry Corner	12-1, 12-2, 12-4, 12-6, 12-6, 12-7, 12-8, 12-8, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Beaulieu, Chase Fork, Pinnal
Cowboy Action Shooting	12-8, 12-10, 12-16, 12-28	Pinnal
Demonstration Forest	12-2, 12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-11, 12-14, 12-16, 12-17, 12-19, 12-21, 12-22, 12-24, 12-28, 12-30, 12-31, 12-34	Demonstration Forest
Fishing	12-4, 12-12, 12-15, 12-17, 12-21, 12-22	Fish Camp
Flag Tying	12-4, 12-16, 12-17, 12-22	Fish Camp
Flag Trapper Handicraft	12-5, 12-5, 12-5, 12-16, 12-18, 12-26, 12-25, 12-27, 12-30	Mitaska
Gold Mining & Panning	12-2, 12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-5, 12-6, 12-7, 12-8, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Cypress Mine, Pinnal Henry
High Ropes & Climbing Tower	12-4, 12-3, 12-3, 12-9	COPE Course
Historic Chase Ranch	12-10, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-30	Chase Ranch
Horsebacking	12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-11, 12-14, 12-15, 12-17, 12-19, 12-21, 12-22, 12-24, 12-28, 12-30, 12-31, 12-34	Crowded Creek, Fish Camp
Horse Rides	12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-7, 12-8, 12-8, 12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Beaulieu, Chase Fork, Pinnal
Hunter Safety	12-4, 12-29, 12-31	
Impromptu Foot Hike	12-1, 12-1, 12-1, 12-19, 12-24	Cimarronita
Juvenile Apache Life	12-2, 12-4, 12-7, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-17, 12-19, 12-21, 12-22, 12-24	Uruca
Kid Canyon/Rapido Ranch		Apache Springs
Laser Shot Shooting Range	12-3, 12-8, 12-20, 12-20, 12-31, 12-33	Cimarronita
Lodge Cabin Tours	12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-7, 12-8, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-17, 12-19, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-26, 12-28, 12-30, 12-31, 12-34	Albu, Crowded Creek, Fish Camp, Humble Lodge, Pinnal, Chase
Low Impact Camping	12-16, 12-16, 12-18, 12-23, 12-26, 12-26, 12-27, 12-30, 12-33, 12-34	Baldy Mountain, Crowded Canyon, Fish Camp, Little Cactus, Moose Park, Pinnal, Puerco, Ring Place, Uruca
Mexican Dinner	12-11, 12-22	Demonstration Forest
Mine Tour	12-2, 12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-10, 12-11, 12-15, 12-17, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31	Albu
Mountain Biking	12-16, 12-18, 12-23, 12-26, 12-27, 12-30	Ring Place
Muzzle Loading Rifle	12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-4, 12-5, 12-11, 12-13, 12-16, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-24, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29	Black Mountain, Chase Creek, Mitaska
New Mexican Homestead	12-4, 12-7, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-18, 12-19, 12-20, 12-21, 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, 12-31, 12-32, 12-33, 12-34	Albu
Photograph Tour	12-1, 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-5, 12-27, 12-28, 12-30, 12-32	Indian Vintings
Poor Kid War Encampment	12-1, 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-24, 12-29	Black Mountain
Rappelling	12-2, 12-2, 12-16, 12-18, 12-23, 12-26, 12-27, 12-30, 12-33	Metcalf Station

(Handout - 31 Photos Removed Of:)

- Rock climbing
- Rappelling
- Spar pole climbing
- Black powder rifle
- Tomahawk throwing
- Gold panning
- Blacksmithing
- Mine tour
- Burro racing
- Burro packing
- Western lore/branding
- Challenge events
- Shotgun shooting
- Mud
- Musical programs
- Wildlife
- Crew - Tooth of Time
- Crew - Baldy Mt.

Challenges

- Equipment
- Physical
- Camping/backpacking skills
- Teamwork and Leadership



Challenges - Equipment

- Boots
- Pack
- Sleeping bag
- Rain gear
- Clothing



Challenges - Physical

- Strength – figure about 30% of body weight as pack weight
- Aerobic – 7-10 miles a day, often in direct sun
- Standing breaks 15-30 minutes
- Packs off ever 1-2 hours
- Hydration – minimum 4 liters, plus refills
- Foot care – boots are key to no blisters



Challenges - Physical

Once you see that you can handle the physical, the rest is all mental.



Challenges - Camping Skills

- Proper camp setup/arrangement
- “Load management” and proper packing techniques
- Map and Compass skills (how to orient/read contour maps, use compass with map, do basic trail profiling)
- Backpacking stove usage (sometimes “no fires”)
- Dishwashing and sanitation
- Personal hygiene
- Bear bags and proper “smellable” management
- Water purification
- Cooking (at high altitudes)



Challenges - Teamwork and Leadership

- Plenty for everyone to do:
 - Cooking, Cleanup, Water, Bear bags, Dining fly
- Advisors are crew members for duties
- “Navi-guessing” – plan the night before
- Hiking pace – find a pacesetter (not the navi-guesser)



Costs

- All-inclusive cost in 2023 (Philmont fee, air fare, car rental, food, lodging, activities: \$2800-3000 per person)
- 12-day trek in 2025 is \$1675; in 2026 is \$1725 (below)
- **Camperships are available (~\$400)**
- 2026 Program costs:

Payment Type	AMOUNT DUE (Per Person)				DUE DATE
	12-Day Trek	9-Day Trek	7-Day Trek	Cavalcade	
Deposit	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	December 1, 2024
50% Of Balance	\$787.50	\$735.00	\$622.50	\$607.50	October 1, 2025
Balance Due	\$787.50	\$735.00	\$622.50	\$607.50	March 1, 2026
TOTAL	\$1725.00	\$1620.00	\$1395.00	\$1365.00	



Getting There

- Registration (lottery) – 18-20 months in advance
- Preparations – conditioning, warm-up hikes
- Logistics – transportation (air, ground), accommodations, sightseeing



Typical Trip Overview

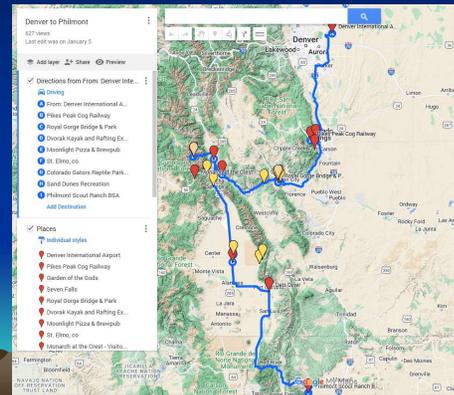
- Depart Saturday
- En-route activities Saturday, Sunday, Monday
- Arrive at Ranch Tuesday by 11:00 AM
- Return 2nd Sunday (16 days)



Typical Trip Itinerary

Maps of things to do enroute

- [Denver to Philmont](#)



Link to spreadsheet



Typical Trip Itinerary (cont.)

ITINERARY:

- Saturday morning – fly into Denver, rent SUVs
- Saturday afternoon – [Pikes Peak](#) and [Garden of the Gods](#) – Colorado Springs
- Saturday evening – drive via Canon City, CO, camp near [Royal Gorge](#)
- Continue to near Salida/Poncha Springs, CO – Altitude 8000 ft)



Typical Trip Itinerary (cont.)

ITINERARY:

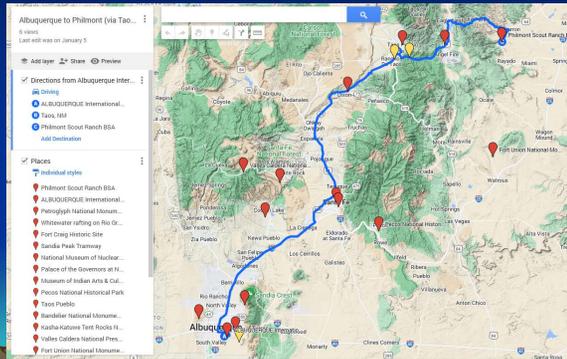
- Sunday – [whitewater rafting](#) on Arkansas River, [St. Elmo ghost town](#); camp near Salida, CO
- Monday – drive up to Monarch Pass (tram to top of Continental Divide); drive to [Great Sand Dunes National Park](#), explore/surf the dunes, swim/dinner at hot spring in Hooper, CO, [camp in National Park](#) or at [pool in Hooper](#))
- Tuesday – drive to Philmont, arrive around 11 AM



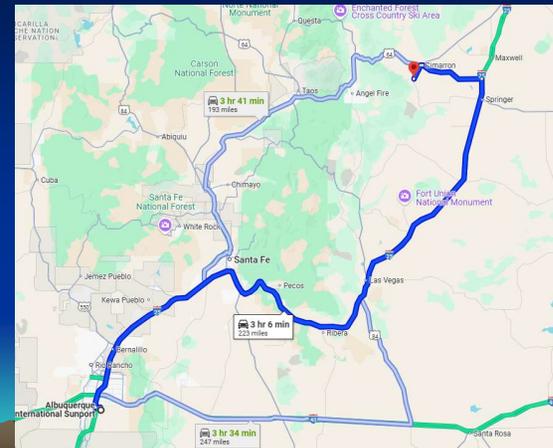
Typical Trip Itinerary (cont.)

Maps of things to do enroute

- [Albuquerque to Philmont](#)



Albuquerque to Philmont Options



Travel Logistics

- Airline reservations
 - Group reservation in Jan/Feb (groups of 10+ direct to airlines)
 - No problem using frequent flyer miles if book early
- Ground transportation
 - Rental vehicles probably more economical than “services” and don’t restrict itinerary
 - Blue Sky Adventures (\$\$\$\$); Leading the Way Tours (\$\$)
 - Three large SUVs (Yukon XLs) worked for 2 crews
 - Standard sedans may be economical alternative
 - 12 or 15-passenger vans now allowed by BSA but may be restricted by rental companies

Travel Logistics (cont.)

- Reservations for attractions/accommodations
 - [Pike’s Peak](#) – train reservation (pre-pay at 30 days)
 - [KOA campgrounds](#) – camping
 - Whitewater rafting – used [Dvorak](#) in '12, [Arkansas River Tours](#) in '23
 - [Great Sand Dunes National Park](#) – camp site reservation (<\$5 per person)
 - [Sand Dunes Recreation](#) (Hooper, CO) – also has camping, more convenient to pool than dunes

Preparations

- Warm-up hikes
- Travel logistics



Warm-up Activities

Factors to consider:

- Minimum 2 nights – at least one 3 nights
- Room to camp full crew (or two)
- Short/no hike Friday night (it gets dark...)
- 9-10+ miles Saturday, fewer Sunday
- Car access to start, finish, moving cars
- Camping permits (national parks)
- OR... Multiple make/break camp in 1 day



Potential Warm-up Sites

- Prince William Forest Park (intro hike)
- AT between Front Royal/Manassas Gap
- AT between I-66 and 50 (Sky Meadows)
- AT between 7 and 50 (roller coaster)
- AT from 7 to Harpers Ferry
- AT in Maryland
- Signal Knob/Eliz. Furnace/Massanutten Trail
- White Oak Canyon/AT/Old Rag (3 night)



Warm-up Planning

- Group for venue selection
- Philmont food storage (if available)
- Transportation coordination
- Map acquisition (AT, SNP, other)
 - [PATC maps/REI](#)
 - [HikingUpward.com](#)
 - Also [AllTrails.com](#)



Warm-up Planning (cont.)

- HAC High Adventure Sourcebooks
 - Vol. 1 – [National and Council HA bases](#)
 - Vol. 2 – [Local hikes and overnights](#)



Administration

- Online tracking
- Payments
- Additional participants (new Philmont service)



Online Spreadsheet

- Payments/expenses
- Attendance
- Meal usage
- Shirt sizes/orders
- Airline ticket info



Payments

- 12-day trek costs: 2025: \$1675 2026: \$1725
- 9-day: \$1560/\$1620 7-day: \$1335/\$1395
- Lottery opens October 1, closes Oct. 16
- Random selection announced within a day
- Deposit of \$150 due by Dec. 1 (or 30-days)
- Half of remaining fee due the following Oct. 1
- Remainder due March 1
- Other advance fees to be expected:
 - Air fares
 - Lodging and en route activities
 - Crew t-shirts
 - Philmont meals for warm-ups (available Aug-Sept)



Camperships

- Philmont offers one campership per crew (generally around \$400)
- Applications online (due ~Jan. 31)
- Troop resources may also be available



Advice

- Minimum crew size is 8 (w/3 adults, max 4)
- Payments to Philmont are one-way
- If you pay them for more than the minimum on Oct. 1 and anyone drops out, you can't get that money back (but can replace)
- You can always add people (late fee if less than 30-45 days before arrival)
- Consider paying for 1-2 less than have up to deadline for adding w/o penalty



Additional Participants

- New service in 2024 – “Trek Match”
- Accessed through Gateway
- Check box to indicate interest
- Applicants can't see list of openings, but fill out form
- You are notified of interest
- You contact them



Resources

- Philmont web site <https://philmontscoutranch.org/>
 - Philmont Council/Unit Planning Guide
 - Philmont Itinerary Guidebook
 - Guidebook to Adventure (+ new Advisors edition)
 - Philmont Shakedown Guide
- Philmont [YouTube channel](#) (large number of instructional videos)
- Maps (overall and sectional - physical/digital) – from Tooth of Time Traders (new around April)
- Philmont overlays for Google Earth (camps, trails)
- Philmont meals for warm-ups (usually available Aug-Sept)
- [Philtrek.com](#) – detailed itinerary selection tool
- REI online equipment selection guides



Training

- Philmont [YouTube channel](#)
 - Large number of instructional videos
- Philmont Preparedness Webinars (Zoom)
 - Monthly starting in November (archived)
- **NCAC High Adventure Committee**
 - Training sessions in Nov, Jan, March, April (separate content in each)
 - April in person, includes demonstrations



Promoting Philmont

- NCAC High Adventure Committee
 - Members available to present to your Troop
 - Live or virtual
- Also for other high adventure bases



Embedded links from earlier

- Philmont: <https://philmontscout ranch.org/>
- Philmont YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/philmontscout ranch>
- Philmont in Two: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WLDYFKDUZ2qIDET1Os07SJJgwIqTd_6/view?usp=share_link
- Denver to Philmont Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1AlgFcfmBAnDEnb74JWKd1OSxZo23NF9x&ll=38.28715622379136%2C-104.7452436638618&z=8>
- Albuquerque to Philmont Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1CYsa4ReCQLzYGH-45Qy6pUcR4krvzQ&ll=35.690905477164186%2C-106.0036075625&z=9>
- Getting to Philmont Spreadsheet: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1CYsa4ReCQLzYGH-45Qy6pUcR4krvzQ&ll=35.690905477164186%2C-106.0036075625&z=9>
- KOA Campgrounds: <https://koa.com/find-a-koa/>
- Philtrek.com: <https://www.philtrek.com/index.php>
- PATC maps: https://www.patc.net/PATC/Our_Store/PATC_Guides.aspx
- Hiking Upwards: <https://www.hikingupward.com/>
- AllTrails: <https://www.alltrails.com/>
- High Adventure Sourcebook-National/Council HA bases: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/gPPyixZdGr1FLP5M2C8yuAt1>
- High Adventure Sourcebook-Local hikes/overnights: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/UEH3o3JD9c1XtsYRFmr9nFKS>



Questions?

QR Code to Documents



<https://bit.ly/49hxod3>

