

RANCH HANDS

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION



As a participant in Philmont's Ranch Hands Program, you can look forward to an exciting experience. The information contained in this packet will help you prepare for your adventure. Please read all of it carefully, it is intended to help you make your adventure the greatest.

EQUIPMENT AND SPECIAL CLOTHING

In addition to the personal equipment listed in the *Cavalcade* section of the *Guidebook to Adventure-Campers Edition*, please be sure to bring the following: **a good pair of work gloves, a couple of pairs of jeans, long sleeve shirts, rain gear, water bottles, and a western hat and/or ball cap (necessary to protect your head from the sun)**. Remember, you will be doing strenuous work in the Philmont backcountry or Headquarters for eight days prior to your trek, so come prepared! **START A DAILY FITNESS PROGRAM TODAY! Riding boots are required.** All the **crew equipment** listed in the *Cavalcade* section of the *Guidebook to Adventure-Campers Edition* will be provided by Philmont.

LEADERSHIP

Your Ranch Hands Crew will be under the leadership of experienced Horse Department staff who are skilled in riding and horse care. You will meet a Horseman at the Welcome Center on the day your program starts. After your work session is completed, they will assist you in planning and carrying out your eight (8) day Cavalcade Trek.

EXPEDITION NUMBER

Your expedition number is important. It helps Philmont quickly and easily identify the program and time for which you are registered. Be sure to include it in **ALL** correspondence. Your Expedition Number is **707-RH**.

UNIFORMING

Wear your uniform proudly while traveling. It identifies you as a member of the greatest youth organization in the world. All Ranch Hands Crew members will be expected to be in complete uniform for dinner in Base Camp.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PLANS

Your *Individual Arrival Plans* information form will be sent with your acceptance package. It must be filled out completely and emailed to philmont.camping@scouting.org at least three weeks before your arrival to Philmont.

ARRIVAL AT PHILMONT

Plan to arrive at Philmont in time for lunch at 11:00 on July 7, the first day of your program. Please report to the Welcome Center at Camping Headquarters. Horsemen will meet you here to take you through the check-in process.

If, due to transportation schedules, it is necessary for you to arrive a day early (June 6th), please indicate this on your *Individual Arrival Plans* information form. Do not arrive more than one day early. Tent space at Philmont Camping Headquarters is limited.

DEPARTING PHILMONT

Participants must depart the morning of July 23. If you must depart later than July 23rd, you must speak with Philmont and pay for additional accommodation; this will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

TRANSPORTATION

You will be responsible for your own transportation to and from Philmont.

Private Vehicle

Private vehicles can be driven directly to Philmont Camping Headquarters, five miles south of Cimarron, New Mexico. Check in at the Welcome Center.

Train

Raton, New Mexico (45 miles northeast of Philmont) is the nearest terminal for AMTRAK. Arrangements should be made in advance for Philmont bus transportation to and from Raton. Forms for registration for the Philmont shuttle bus are available at: www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/planningyourvisit/getting-to-philmont/. The cost is \$50.00 round-trip.

Airplane

Commercial flights serve Denver (270 miles from Philmont), Albuquerque (220 miles from Philmont) and Colorado Springs (200 miles from Philmont). In addition to the airport shuttles, Greyhound busses run from numerous cities to Raton where they may be met by Philmont shuttle busses (\$50.00 round-trip). Round-trip shuttle service is available from Albuquerque International, the Denver International, and the Colorado Springs airports to Philmont. Shuttle Registration forms are available at: www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/planningyourvisit/getting-to-philmont/.

MEDICAL FORM

All participants of Philmont programs must pass a physical examination. Have your physician fill out and sign the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record and **BRING IT WITH YOU**. A copy of your insurance card (front & back) should be attached. If your physical examination must be given at Philmont, you will be charged the prevailing fee. Participants must meet the height/weight limits noted on the medical form.

COVID-19 PROCEDURES

Please read Philmont's 2023 COVID-19 Supplemental Risk Advisory, which outlines our current COVID-19 policies. See www.philmontscoutranch.org/covid-19-mitigation/ for more information.

INSURANCE

The Boy Scouts of America provide accident and sickness insurance coverage for Philmont participants from the time they leave home until they return. This policy has an excess insurance provision that will pay eligible expenses not covered by other collectable insurances. The name and policy number of your family policy should be noted on your medical form. Please attach a photocopy of your insurance card to the Annual Health and Medical Record.

EXTRA CHARGES

One crew photo, taken on your arrival day, is included in your fee. Additional crew photos of your session may be purchased at www.PhilmontPhotoArchive.org/. See the *Guidebook to Adventure-Campers Edition* for advice on spending money.

Transportation fees may be prepaid to reduce the amount of cash you carry, if you wish.

If, due to transportation schedules, participants must stay an extra day in base camp, either before or after their trek, they will be charged for accommodations. Participants under 18 years of age will pay \$75 for supervision, tenting, and meals. Those over 18 will be charged \$6 per meal and \$10 for tenting. Participants arriving by plane or train by shuttle the day before will not be charged extra. **Due to limited tent space, participants are only allowed 1 additional day in base so please plan accordingly.**

QUESTIONS

If you have specific questions about the Ranch Hands Program, please contact Philmont at 575-376-2281 or email camping@PhilmontScoutRanch.org.