Why Camp?

Girl Scout campers find their strengths and challenge themselves as they navigate activities on the water, at the campsite, and along the trail. Girl Scouts of Northern California's camp sessions allow campers to develop a strong sense of self and positive values, build healthy relationships, seek challenges, and have fun while making memories of a lifetime!

At camp, youth enjoy a variety of activities like building campfires, swimming, riding horses, shooting arrows, creating art and crafts, hiking, constructing science experiments, canoeing, kayaking, eating family-style meals, and tackling the high ropes courses—all while making friends. That's why so many of our campers say that Girl Scout Camp is one of their favorite places on earth.

**Camp helps kids:**
- Develop leadership skills through our girl-led programming, with supportive staff by their side.
- Discover a sense of self by participating in activities that build confidence.
- Overcome obstacles by challenging themselves to try activities they've never done before.
- Learn resilience and gain a deep appreciation of the great outdoors.
- Cultivate important life skills by interacting with fellow campers and problem-solving with a team.
- Relax & “unplug” from the everyday while making lifelong friends!
- Strengthen their mental and emotional health through supportive friendships and empowering activities.

**Camp is all about:**
- a tight-knit community of friendship & sisterhood
- classic camp experiences
- awesome adventures
- having a voice and a choice in each experience
- experiential learning in the great outdoors
- taking the lead and making a difference
- meaningful mentorship from professional role models
Camp Programs

Our sessions are focused on classic camp experiences, sisterhood and community, and campers having a voice and choice in their experience. Our traditional camp programs offer a taste of all that camp has to offer. These sessions make up the bulk of the summer camp schedule, and are offered for campers grades 2-12. The focus of our traditional sessions is fostering a sense of collaboration and community between campers while enjoying all the activities they love at camp.

- Specialty Programs: A few of our programs offer a deep-dive into specific activities like woodworking, theatre, or backpacking. Campers will enjoy other favorite activities as well. Specialty programs are primarily offered to grades 6-12 and vary in topic each week.

- Leadership Sessions: The Counselor-in-Training program continues to provide an opportunity for older campers to learn leadership skills at camp. Various levels of CIT are offered to campers in grades 9-12.

What activities are offered at each camp?

All of our sites offer core classic camp experiences, including team building, campfires, outdoor cooking, stargazing, sing-alongs, and games. In addition to these core activities, each site also has their own special collection of offerings. How often campers participate in various activities varies significantly by program. Campers will sample most offerings 1-2 times, unless enrolled in a specialty program.

**Camp Bothin (Fairfax, CA)**
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Counselor-in-Training
- Drama & Performing Arts
- High Ropes
- Maker Space
- Nature Exploration
- Organic Gardening
- STEM
- Swimming

**Hidden Falls (Soquel, CA)**
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Coastal & Pond Eco Exploration
- Creek Stomping
- Hatchet Throwing
- Outdoor Cooking
- Outdoor Skill-Building
- Primitive Camping
- Swimming
- Woodworking

**Sugar Pine (Arnold, CA)**
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Boating
- Ceramics
- Counselors-in-Training
- Creek Stomping
- High Ropes
- Horseback Riding
- Swimming
- Wilderness Outings
Tucked away in the beautiful hills of Marin, Bothin's cozy, tree-covered canyon is full of laughter, creativity, and deep traditions that keep campers coming back year after year. Imagine an invention by tinkering with gadgets in the maker space. Explore the sky by spacing out while you stargaze. Go on a creative adventure when you set your inner artist loose with paint, clay, and textiles. Discover your dramatic flair by writing, acting, singing, dancing, or designing sets for a performance. Rest and relax with some camp magic by sitting around a campfire with your friends eating s’mores. Camp Bothin is an amazing retreat where sisterhood and community will make you feel at home.

### Session Schedule

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<td><strong>Grades 4–5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grades 6–8</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Leadership</strong></td>
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<td>Troop &amp; Family Camp</td>
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Classic Camp
Come enjoy a classic summer camp experience at Camp Bothin! Bask under the warm valley sun, spend time with friends, and enjoy s’mores under a 5 billion star view of the night sky. With this program, you will get the classic camp experience: try archery, explore the garden, swim at the pool, create art, and sit around the campfire with friends new and old.

Discover
2–3 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2B: June 25–27 (mini camp)
- Session 2C: June 27–29 (mini camp)
- Session 2D: July 2–6
- Session: 4: July 23–27

Imagine
4–5 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2B: June 25–27 (mini camp)
- Session 2C: June 27–29 (mini camp)
- Session 2D: July 2–6
- Session 3: July 9–20
- Session 4: July 23–27

Explore
6–8 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 3: July 9–20
- Session 4: July 23–27

Adventure
9–12 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2: June 25–July 6
- Session 4: July 23–July 27

CIT I
10–12 Grade
- Session 2: June 25–July 6
In this first level of CIT training, you will establish the leadership and outdoor skills needed to be a camp counselor. Work with others to analyze what makes a good leader and participate in fun and challenging group games. Challenge yourself, then identify which traits you possess that can make you a positive leader. Participants will explore the basics of developing and delivering camp program and camp operations, learn techniques on how to work with younger children, and improve camp leadership skills.

CIT II
11–12 Grade
- Session 3: July 9–20
The next level of CIT training focuses on refining the skills needed to work with youth at camp. In addition to building your skills in working with campers, you will learn more about the operations of camp and tackle projects to help improve camp. Your journey in leadership continues with mentorship from staff, peer-group workshopping, and lessons from experts in the outdoor education field. Learn behaviors to expect from campers and how to manage them and work as a team with staff. Spend time learning about various areas of camp operation, and learn how to be a supportive mentor to campers of all ages.

Off Broadway
6–8 Grade
- Session 2: June 25–July 6
9–12 Grade
- Session 3: July 9–July 20
It's showtime! From auditions to the final bow, your group will put on a complete musical production. Take part in daily rehearsals, design sets, create costumes, and learn about all aspects of a Broadway show and stage work. At the end of your session, present your production to the whole camp! Parents and friends are welcome to attend and join you for a special cast party.

Troop & Family Camp
- Session 5: July 30–August 3
Come enjoy a week of fresh air and family fun! Explore what Camp Bothin has to offer, including arts, archery, s’mores and more. At the end of the day, relax around the campfire surrounded by friends and family.
Surrounded by giant California Redwoods, Hidden Falls is a beautiful camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains near Soquel. Hidden Falls features a central meadow for sports and games, a new archery range, an eco-pond to explore, a freshwater waterfall and a glistening creek, and an amphitheater-style campfire circle. Campers gather around campfires in rustic units where they sleep under the stars, between the trees, or in pitch tents. Experience woodworking, tree climbing, and outdoor cooking nestled in the magic of the redwoods and surrounded by friends.
**All Good in the Redwoods**
Get back to nature at Camp Hidden Falls! Practice your aim in the archery range and take a hike to the waterfall. How do you want to spend your afternoons? More time in woodshop or art? How about a lashing lesson? The choice is yours! Get a break from technology while making new friends and exploring the natural world.

**Seedlings**
2–3 Grade
- Session 2A: June 25–27 (mini camp)
- Session 2B: June 27–29 (mini camp)

**Violets**
4–5 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2A: June 25–27 (mini camp)
- Session 2B: June 27–29 (mini camp)
- Session 4: July 9–20
- Session 6: July 30–August 3

**Sorrel**
6–8 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2: June 25–29
- Session 4: July 9–20
- Session 6: July 30–August 3

**Ferns**
9–12 Grade
- Session 1: June 18–22
- Session 2: June 25–29
- Session 6: July 30–August 3

**Exploration Station: Woodworkers**
Grades 6–8
- Session 4: July 9–20
Spend lots of time in the woodshop! Learn how to use different tools from hammers to drills. Then design and build your very own game to take home. Outside of the woodshop learn how to lash then take on a design challenge to test your new skills.

**Exploration Station: Day Trippers**
Grades 9–12
- Session 2: July 9–20
Experience what camp and the coast has to offer! Plan a few day trips and travel out of camp for new adventures. Explore tide pools, see local wildlife, and learn about how to protect our oceans. In the art center, make something inspired by your trips.

**Troop & Family Camp**
- Session 3: July 2–6
- Session 5: July 23–27
Come enjoy a week of fresh air and family fun! Explore what Camp Hidden Falls has to offer, including arts, archery, s’mores and more. At the end of the day, relax around the campfire surrounded by friends and family.
Hidden in the enchanting Sierra foothills, Sugar Pine has been a magical getaway to generations of campers for over 75 years. From the camp's sky-high ropes course and camp stables to the neighboring alpine lakes and caverns, Sugar Pine is the hub for high adventure. At 5000 feet in elevation, there's plenty of room for adventurous campers to experience swimming, archery, horseback riding and more. Gather together in classic cabins or our unique covered wagons, visit the creek and look up at the stars. Wild adventures and friendship await you at our home-away-from home in the mountains!

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<th>Session 1</th>
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<td>June 18–June 29</td>
<td>July 2–July 13</td>
<td>July 16–August 3</td>
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<td><strong>Grades 4–5</strong></td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Elfins</td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Elfins</td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Checkerspots</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grades 6–8</strong></td>
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<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Checkerspots</td>
<td>Alpine Adventures: Paddlers Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grades 9–12</strong></td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Bluewings</td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Bluewings</td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic: Bluewings</td>
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<td><strong>Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Introduction to CIT</td>
<td>CIT I</td>
<td>CIT II</td>
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<td>CIT III</td>
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Sierra Summer Magic
Experience all that Camp Sugar Pine has to offer. Start your day by visiting the horses, discovering new heights at the ropes course, or tapping into your creative mind at art. Spend afternoons splashing in the pool, learning a new skill, or re-visited one of your favorite morning activities. When the stars come out get ready to bask in glow of the campfire, gaze at the stars, or enjoy a night hike with friends. You could even venture out for a field trip or two to our local lakes—the mountains are calling you!

Elfins
4–5 Grade
• Session 1: June 18–29
• Session 2: July 2–13

Checkerspots
6–8 Grade
• Session 1: June 18–29
• Session 2: July 2–13
• Session 3: July 16–August 3

Bluewings
9–12 Grade
• Session 1: June 18–29
• Session 2: July 2–13
• Session 3: July 16–August 3

Alpine Adventures: Backpackers
Grades 6–8 & 9–12
• Session 3: July 16–August 3
Lace up your boots—it’s time to go! Learn the basics of planning and packing for a backcountry trip during the first two weeks of your stay. Practice using camp stoves, hiking with full backpacks, and filtering water. Later, put your skills to the test by heading out on a multi-day trek to sleep under the stars and explore the Sierra Nevadas. Campers should be able to carry a 30-pound pack and bring broken-in hiking boots.

Alpine Adventures: Paddlers
Grades 6–8 & 9–12
• Session 3: July 16–August 3
Paddle away to beautiful Camp Sugar Pine. Splash with friends into our local lakes; like Alpine, White Pines, or even Spicer, lock-in your kayaking skills, and land back at camp to enjoy all that Sugar Pine has to offer. This three-week session offers the best of lake, land and laughter.
**Introduction to CIT**
*Grades 9-10*
• Session 1: June 18–29

Are you itching to be a CIT? Feeling ready to mentor younger camps, lead games and songs, and help out around camp? Start your leadership journey with this Introduction to CIT! Explore the basics of developing and delivering camp programming and learn techniques on how to work with younger children. Gear up for your Counselor-in-Training leadership journey while also experiencing all your favorite camp activities.

**Counselor-in-Training I**
*Grades 10-11*
• Session 2: July 2–13

In this first level of CIT training, campers establish the leadership and outdoor skills needed to be a camp counselor. Work with others to analyze what makes a good leader and participate in fun and challenging group games. Challenge yourself, then identify which traits you possess that can make you a positive leader. Participants will explore the basics of developing and delivering camp program and camp operations, learn techniques on how to work with younger children, and improve camp leadership skills.

**Counselor-in-Training II**
*Grades 11-12*
• Session 3: July 16–August 3

The next level of CIT training focuses on refining the skills needed to work with youth at camp. In addition to building your skills in working with campers, you will learn more about the operations of camp and tackle projects to help improve camp. Your journey in leadership continues with mentorship from staff, peer-group workshopping, and lessons from experts in the outdoor education field. Learn behaviors to expect from campers and how to manage them and work as a team with staff. Spend time learning about various areas of camp operation, and learn how to be a supportive mentor to campers of all ages.

**Counselor-in-Training III**
*Grade 12*
• Session 3: July 16–August 3

CIT is all about your leadership skills in action. In addition to building your skills in working with campers, you will learn more about the operations of camp and tackle projects to help improve camp. Your journey in leadership continues with mentorship from staff, peer-group workshopping, and lessons from experts in the outdoor education field. Use your leadership and camp programming skills as you work directly with camp staff, spend time in unit stays, have fun at your favorite program areas, carry out an individual project, and learn more about camp management, too. Bridge the gap from camper to staff with this exciting session of internship adventures.
## Registration

Registration opens January 25 at [camp.gsnorcal.org](http://camp.gsnorcal.org)! A 10% deposit is required for each session at the time of registration.

Registration will be hosted through our new partner, CampInTouch. After registration, you’ll be able to access a portal in CampInTouch to submit necessary forms. A link to CampInTouch will be available at [camp.gsnorcal.org](http://camp.gsnorcal.org) on January 25th.

### Financial Aid

Any youth member living in one of the nineteen GSNorCal counties is eligible for financial aid! Our Financial Aid program is robust and flexible, and we will happily consider any information you’d like to share in order to determine eligibility. Applicants will not be automatically excluded based on income guidelines alone.

We encourage all campers to apply! Families will automatically have the opportunity to complete the Financial Aid form during online registration.

## Fees

As a non-profit organization, our fees are a direct reflection of the operational cost to run camp. The rising costs of food, vendors, and most significantly, staffing, are reflected in the 2023 Camp Fees. Variance in session fees represents amenities offered at each site, such as food service, included transportation, horse programming, etc.

## Learn More

For additional information regarding waitlists, deposits, financial aid, confirmation of registration, payment of fees, cancellations, refund policy, food allergies, accessibility, or any additional questions, please visit [camp.gsnorcal.org](http://camp.gsnorcal.org) or contact Member Services (Mon–Fri 9AM–5PM) at 408-287-4170, ext. 2091 or 800-447-4475, ext. 2091, or email [registration@gsnorcal.org](mailto:registration@gsnorcal.org)

The full balance of camper fees is due 30 days before the start date of your session.

## Traditional Program Fees

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<tr>
<th>Camp Bothin</th>
<th>Camp Hidden Falls</th>
<th>Camp Sugar Pine</th>
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<tr>
<td>Classic Camp</td>
<td>All Good in the Redwoods</td>
<td>Sierra Summer Magic</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2 Week Sessions</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Week Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Week Sessions</td>
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<td>$1,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Week Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Troop &amp; Family Camp</td>
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## Specialty Program Fees

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<tr>
<td>Off Broadway</td>
<td>Day Trippers</td>
<td>Wood Workers</td>
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<td>Two Week Sessions</td>
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## Counselor-in Training Program Fees

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<td>Intro to CIT</td>
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<td>CIT III</td>
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FAQ

**How many spaces are there?**

Our capacities have increased since the summer of 2022; however, we do anticipate a continued increase in demand. The availability of vendors, staff, and resources have all been considered in our capacity calculations. We recommend early registration, as many programs do fill up. When you login to apply, CampInTouch will hold your space for 20 minutes while you complete registration.

**Where do campers sleep?**

Campers sleep in typical camp sleeping arrangements with their group.
- Camp Bothin: Yurts, Cabins, or Dorms
- Camp Hidden Falls: Hammocks, Tree Beds, or Pop-up Tents
- Camp Sugar Pine: Cabins or Covered Wagons

**Can I send mail?**

Mail is accepted at all of our camps. You can also bring mail to check in and we will distribute on the date requested. Care packages without food are also welcome.
- We strongly recommend dropping care packages and mail off at the bus if attending Camp Sugar Pine. The mail system is slow in our remote mountain town, and things often arrive after campers have left.

**Can my child attend with a friend?**

Yes! To register two campers for the same program, list them as “Camper Buddies” on each other’s registration. A maximum of two names together will be accepted.

**Can I register a group of kids to camp together?**

The program is designed to facilitate lots of making new friends, so we don’t recommend sending large groups together. If you have a group that wants to attend together, please keep the following in mind:
- Our registration system is designed for individual campers. Caretakers must register their own campers.
- You may list your campers as buddies at registration, but we do not guarantee that we can place them in groups larger than pairs. They may be split into more than one cabin in order to avoid other campers being left out.
- We cannot make any special exceptions to waitlists, etc, in order to get a group of friends into a session together. It can be very difficult to get groups of more than 2-3 campers into the same program.

**Do I have to be a Girl Scout to attend camp?**

You don’t have to have previous Girl Scout experience to enjoy Girl Scout camp! Our camps are open to every camper who identifies with the girl experience—no matter their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability.

**Can camp meet my child's particular needs?**

We’re here to support your camper! We work hard to build plans for success on a case-by-case basis with camper families. To connect with us about medical needs, accessibility, dietary needs, or other concerns, please reach out to registration@gsnorcal.org

**What medical information is required to attend?**

All campers must have a physical exam within 12 months of their camp session. You’ll also be required to complete a health history form. Camp families will receive more information on how to submit this paperwork after registration.

**Can we use cookie rewards to pay for camp?**

Yes! Girl Scouts can use their Fall Product and Cookie Program reward cards to pay for camp, and girls who sell 3,000 packages of cookies can earn a free camp session at any of our council-run camps! Find out how at camp.gsnorcal.org

**Can you accommodate my child's dietary needs?**

Dietary restrictions, allergies, and other needs are accommodated at all of our camps. We believe that a dietary restriction should not prevent a camper from attending and will work with your family to make sure they feel safe eating at camp.
What will Covid-19 procedures look like this summer?

We will release Covid Guidelines 1-2 months preceding camp. GSNorCal’s Covid-19 Response Team and the camp team continuously monitor updated information by the state of California, the CDC, the American Camp Association, and local health departments and will implement necessary practices as needed.

What’s happening with Camp Skylark Ranch?

The property at Skylark Ranch is currently undergoing a very important phase of restoration, re-growth, and recovery. During this stage, tree and soil health are still developing. It will remain closed for this summer to allow the forest to adequately heal before any rebuilding begins, and to ensure camper safety.

What is the cancellation policy?

To cancel a registration or a wait list spot, send an email or written notification to registration@gsnorcal.org.

The deposit is non-refundable. To receive a refund of the registration fees paid less the deposit, a notice of cancellation must be received four weeks prior to the first day of the camp session for which the cancellation is being made.

Refunds

Please note that our refund policy is strict, and that we are unable to make exceptions this year.

**Full refund:** The balance of the camp fee, including deposit, will be refunded only if:

- If the financial aid amount requested is not fully granted, the total amount paid will be refunded.
- If GSNorCal cancels the camp session, the total amount paid will be refunded.

**Partial refund:** The balance of the camp fee, less deposit, will be refunded only if:

- Written notification of cancellation is received four weeks before the opening date of the confirmed camp session.
- The camper does not attend due to illness or injury. A letter from a physician must accompany the refund request.
- The camper is sent home from camp due to illness or injury occurring at camp. Refunds are prorated in such cases and will not be made if the camper attends more than half of the camp session and will be made only at the written request of the parent/guardian.

Refunds are not offered for cancellations made less than 4 weeks before the session start date unless a doctor’s note is submitted. Important note: We strongly recommend practicing caution in the two weeks leading up to camp to avoid exposure to illnesses (including Covid-19).