



Your Summer, Your Story

Summer Camp FAQs

Q: What are the summer 2023 camp options?

A: GSHPA summer camp runs from June 25-August 4. We have themes for all interests and a Girl Scout experience for girls at all levels. This summer we also have experiences at ALL four GSHPA camp properties: overnight camps, family camps, and travel camps!

Resident Camp: Five nights at Camp Small Valley. Registration cost: \$420. 5th – 9th grade campers can chose an off-site trip for an additional \$60.

Theme	Current Grade	Dates	Location
Outside the Line	1-4	6/25-6/30	Camp Small Valley
Make an Impression	5-9	6/25-6/30	Camp Small Valley
Enchanted Forest	1-4	7/9-7/14	Camp Small Valley
Potion & Wands	5-9	7/9-7/14	Camp Small Valley
Splash into Summer	1-4	7/16-7/21	Camp Small Valley
Challenge Yourself	5-9	7/16-7/21	Camp Small Valley
Nature Investigators	1-4	7/30-8/4	Camp Small Valley
Camp Scene Investigation	5-9	7/30-8/4	Camp Small Valley

Mini Camp: Three action-packed days gives you the resident camp experience over a shorter period of time. Registration cost: 2 nights- \$240, 1 night-\$190.

Theme	Current Grade	Dates	Location
Outside the Line	Pre K(min age 5) - K	6/25-6/27	Camp Small Valley
Girls Knight Out	K-3	7/2-7/3	Camp Furnace Hills
Under the Sea	K-5	7/5-7/7	Camp Happy Valley
Lost in Space	3-5	7/5-7/7	Camp Furnace Hills
Enchanted Forest	1-2	7/9-7/11	Camp Small Valley
Splash into Summer	Pre K(min age 5)-K	7/16-7/18	Camp Small Valley
Under the Sea	Pre K(min age 5)-4	7/23-7/25	Camp Small Valley
Girls Knight Out	K-3	7/26-7/27	Camp Happy Valley
Lost in Space	2-5	7/26-7/27	Small Valley
Nature Investigators	1-2	7/30-8/1	Camp Small Valley

Counselor-in-Training (CIT): Two weeks of leadership training at Camp Small Valley. Registration cost: \$150- CIT II, CIT I \$600.

Theme	Grade	Dates	Location
Counselor in Training II (CIT II)	10-12 (Max age 17)	7/2-7/14	Camp Small Valley
Counselor in Training I (CIT I)	9-10 (Min age 14)	7/9-7/21	Camp Small Valley

Travel Camp: Campers can choose 5 nights or 2 nights. They will enjoy offsite trips to nearby activities. Registration cost: 5 nights- \$540, 2 night-\$360.

Theme	Grade	Dates	Location
Seeking Adventure	9-11	6/25-6/30	Camp Small Valley
Ocean Exploration	6-8	7/5-7/7	Camp Happy Valley
Where the wild things are!	6-8	7/5-7/7	Camp Furnace Hills
Seeking Adventure	7-9	7/9-7/14	Camp Small Valley
Naturalist in Training	7-9	7/16-7/21	Camp Small Valley
Cultural Explorers	7-9	7/26-7/28	Camp Small Valley
Junior Naturalist	5-7	7/30-8/4	Camp Small Valley

Family Camp: Campers are invited to attend fun filled days and stay overnight. Registration Cost: 2 night Family Camp - \$85/person, 2 Night Rustic Family Camp - \$75/person, 3 Night Family Camp - \$135/person, 3 Night Rustic Family Camp - \$125/person. Rustic Campers are required to bring their own tents.

Theme	Girl Scout Level	Dates	Location
Beyond the Board	All Girl Scouts & Family	7/2-7/3	Camp Small Valley
Mom & Me- Just Camp	Girl Scouts & Female Relative	7/3-7/4	Camp Happy Valley
Around the World	All Girl Scouts & Family	7/5-7/7	Camp Small Valley
Beyond the Board	All Girl Scouts & Family	7/24-7/25	Camp Archbald
Mom & Me-Beyond the Board	Girl Scouts & Female Relative	7/24-7/26	Camp Happy Valley
Around the World	All Girl Scouts & Family	7/26-7/28	Camp Archbald

Q: When are the summer camp open houses?

A: Summer camp open houses will take place in-person at Camp Small Valley

- In-person Open House @ Camp Small Valley on May 7
 - This camp open house is for any camp participants, potential camp participants, and caregivers who want to spend an afternoon exploring the camp that residential summer campers spend their days on. Whether this is your first year or your 10th, you can find the magic of camp at Small Valley!

Q: Are there Camp Tours available before camp?

A: Yes summer camp property tours are [available](#) at all 4 camp properties for free. If this is your first summer, we highly recommend tour the camp property. You WILL NOT have a chance to see the overnight units during check in.

Q: Where can I find full camp descriptions before registering?

A: Camp descriptions can be found and reviewed on the Summer Camp Webpage. For your convenience, we have all linked them here:

- [Resident Camp](#)
- [Mini Camp](#)
- [Family Camp](#)
- [CIT Camp](#)
- [Travel Camp](#)

Registration

Q: Who can go to camp?

A: At GSHPA Summer Camp, we welcome girls, who identify as girls and are biologically girls from birth. Becoming a registered Girl Scout is an option in the camp registration process and allows your girl to become a member for an entire year and to enjoy all the activities, programs, and projects that make Girl Scouts so much fun.

Non-members will need to become a Girl Scout member, for \$25, before starting their GS event registration. Visit our [website](#) to become a member today!

Q: How much does camp cost?

A: The Cost are as follows:

- Resident Camp - \$420, optional offsite trip \$60
- Mini Camp - \$190 (1 Night) - \$240 (2 Nights)
- The Counselor-in-Training program - \$600 (CIT I), \$150 (CIT II)
- Travel Camp - \$360 (2 Nights), \$540 (5 Nights)
- Family Camp (1 Night) - \$85
- Rustic Family Camp (1 Night) - \$75
- Family Camp (2 Night) - \$135
- Rustic Family Camp (2 Night) - \$125

Q: Are there any additional items I can purchase during registration?

A: Yes! You can purchase optional summer camp patches and the 2023 Your Summer, Your Story T-shirt! A link to purchase these items will be included in an email after you register.

Q: When is payment due?

A: A \$50 deposit (non-refundable) will be due at the time of registration. The balance due must be paid two weeks prior to the start of the camp session.

Q: How do I finalize payment?

A: All final balances are due two weeks prior to your selected camp session. You are able to pay by

logging into your [MyGS account](#) (see my events, on left side of the page, on your account) or call Member Services at 800.692.7816. Non-members will create a MyGS account when they sign up.

Q: Can I use GO! Dough?

A: Yes, you are able to use GO! Dough as a payment option. Girl Scouts earn Go!Dough by selling cookies or Fall Fundraiser. After completing registration for camp, Non-members will be eligible for next year's Girl Scout cookie and fall fundraiser experiences and earn Go! Dough

In order to use GO! Dough, follow these steps:

- Pay the \$50 deposit per camp session.
- Use the following form to request using GO! Dough to cover the outstanding balance: <https://gsheartpa.wufoo.com/forms/rj36uee1fcjd4h/>
- If your Girl Scout has enough GO! Dough to cover the outstanding balance and the deposit, the \$50 deposit will be refunded.
- If your Girl Scout does not have enough GO! Dough to cover the outstanding balance and the deposit, pay the remaining balance on the camp session.

Q: How do I use my camp credit?

A: If you would like to use a camp credit, call member services at 800-692-7816. They will assist you in applying camp credits or discounts

Q: What is your refund policy?

A: A full refund, minus the deposit, will be given to cancellations before 6/12/23 unless there is an approved medical reason for the cancellation.

If participants does not adhere to GSHPA camp pre-screen procedures, then the participant's registration will be subject to cancelation with no refund.

Q: Is Financial Assistance offered for camp?

A: YES! Income should not determine whether a girl can experience the magic of camp. Apply for financial assistance when completing your camp forms. Be aware that financial assistance is a finite resource and that not every girl will qualify. Financial assistance applicants are still required to pay the \$50 deposit and complete the camp registration process. If your financial assistance application is not approved, the deposit will be refunded if cancelation is required.

- Financial assistance is available:
 - To girls living within GSHPA's 30-county footprint.
 - For a single session only.
 - If there is still financial assistance available on May 12th, a girl may apply for additional financial assistance for a second week of camp. A girl may not apply for financial assistance for a third session or more.
- If approved:
 - Financial assistance covers some or all of the balance that remains after paying the non-refundable deposit for Travel Camp, Mini Camp, Resident Camp, and the CIT Program.
- Financial assistance does not cover:
 - Family Camp

- Additional purchases, such as optional t-shirts or fun patches.

Q: Does GSHPA allow payment plans for summer camp?

A: Yes. Once the deposit is paid, you can log onto your [MyGS account](#) or call Member Services at 800.692.7816 to make a payment anytime. All final balances are due two weeks prior to your selected camp session.

Q: How do I register my camper for camp?

A: On the [camp web page](#) or [event calendar](#), you will be linked to GS Events for the registration. This software will allow you to complete the initial registration process. Forms will be completed after registration is complete.

Q: Are there any requirements to register?

A: If you are not a current Girl Scout Member, you need to become one before registering for Resident, Mini, Travel or CIT. For family camp, at least one member of the family must be a registered Girl Scout!

Q: When is the deadline to register for camp?

A: For camps occurring between June 25 – July 7, camp registration closes June 4, 2023. For camps occurring after July 7, camp registration closes June 18, 2023.

Q: Can I register for multiple sessions?

A: Yes! Your Girl Scout can come to one or several of our camp sessions!

If you are registering a girl for multiple weeks of camp- you no longer need to enter a new health form for every week! After registering for your first session, choose "Keep Shopping". You will be redirected to the GSHPA webpage. From here, click CAMP, then SUMMER CAMP 2023. From there, you can click on the second session you would like to add.

Q: How will I receive follow-up information about my campers visit?

A: Your confirmation and follow-up emails will come from memberservices@gshpa.org

Q: When will I receive my confirmation email?

A: You will receive your confirmation email the Monday or Tuesday following your registration completion date

Q: Where can I find the medical and information forms?

A: Forms will be included in your confirmation email and can also be found on our website. Forms must be completed by June 6 for camps occurring between June 25 – July 7, and by June 21 for camps occurring after July 7

Q: What information do I need when filling out your forms?

A: You will need the following information for most camp sessions:

- Be prepared to enter all of your information in one sitting (of 1 hour or less before system time-out) as our platform will not save partial submissions or incomplete entries!
- Name and date of your camp sessions
- All camper medical insurance details from your ID carrier including: carrier, name of insured policy holder, policy/group numbers, insurance company phone number, etc.
- All information for your camper's physician and dentist, including name, address, and phone number
- All details regarding immunizations
- All details regarding any medical conditions and disease/health history
- All details regarding any camper medications/prescriptions, including name of drug, dosage instructions, etc.

Q: Does my Girl Scout need a physical in order to attend camp?

A: All health information will be disclosed during the registration process. In order to provide the most accurate information we encourage a physical within the last year, but it is not required. It is required that you share medical information, including whether or not your camper has had a physical in these forms.

Q: Can someone other than a mother attend Mom and Me Family Camp with their Girl Scout?

A: Yes! Any of your female relatives can participate with their Girl Scout!

Bus Transportation

Q: Is there bus transportation to GSHPA Summer Camps?

A: Yes! This summer GSHPA is offering bus transportation to and from Camp Small Valley for week-long camp sessions. This includes Resident Camp, Counselor in Training Camp and Trip Camp!

Q: Where can I find the bus transportation form?

A: This form will be included in your confirmation email, which you will receive the Monday or Tuesday following your registration completion date. Camper's must be registered for camp before purchasing a spot on the bus.

Q: Is there Financial Aid Available to ride the bus?

A: Yes! When filling out the bus form, you can request Financial Assistance.

Q: Where and when will the bus pick up & drop off my camper?

A: Campers will be picked up and dropped off at Harrisburg East Mall. Specific check-in & check out instructions will be provided 2 weeks before your camp session.

- Bus Check in is tentatively planned for 1:30 pm-2:15 pm on Sunday, Departing by 2:30 pm for Camp.
- Bus Check out is tentatively planned for 11:30 am – 12:00 pm on Friday.

What to Expect During Your Campers Stay

Q: Where can I find information of the units/housing my camper may stay in during camp?

A: You can find information about our camp house on ours [Camp Property Pages](#).

Q: Can my camper bring her phone, iPod, Kindle, or other comfort items?

A: No. We encourage campers to leave all devices and electronics at home. All of our staff have radios and cell phones for emergency purposes. We encourage girls to disconnect and unplug from their typical routine. This allows them to concentrate on making friends and enjoying camp activities. However, campers are permitted to bring small fans for their sleeping unit, during overnight camps. These should be battery powered, as not all units have electricity.

Q: What if my camper gets homesick?

A: It's natural for children to experience homesickness while at camp and our staff are trained to work with campers that are experiencing homesickness. We will mentor campers to help enable them to have fun and participate in camp activities. Campers are not immediately sent home when they experience homesickness. Parents will be contacted at the discretion of the Camp Director. If you anticipate that your camper may suffer from homesickness, consider bringing her to an Open House so that you can experience camp together.

Q: Will the camp theme last all day? For example, if my camper signs up for the Ocean Adventure theme, will she be doing Ocean Adventure themed activities all day long?

A: Each day, your camper will have one themed activity period and then participate in other camp related programs. Often times, the theme carries over to the other camp activities as well as the overall camp culture for the week.

Risk Management

Q: Who are the camp staff?

A: Camp staff are enthusiastic, talented, and caring individuals who are 18 years of age or older. We recruit both regionally and from around the world and carefully select staff from colleges and universities, Girl Scout referrals, and international cultural exchange organizations. Campers' health and well-being are our top priorities. We select staff based on their maturity, program skills, experience, and their ability to serve as role models. All camp staff are trained in First Aid/CPR/AED.

Staff members are carefully selected for their skills, as well as how they work with children and adults. Staff members who supervise specialized activities, such as the climbing wall, pool and archery, receive additional training and qualifications each year. All of our staff are required to attend extensive pre-camp training before the camp season begins.

Q: What safety precautions are taken to reduce risk at camp?

A: All of our staff are highly trained, background checked, and trained in First Aid/CPR/AED. Like a good Girl Scout, we're always prepared with our Emergency Action Plan and weather monitoring.

Q: What is the Emergency Action Plan?

A: The Emergency Action Plan is a comprehensive plan that addresses every type of emergency that we can foresee to be prepared for (flood, severe thunderstorm, etc.). We train with this plan to prepare our staff and our campers.

Q: Who should I contact if there is an emergency at home and I need to get ahold of my camper?

A: Please call Member Services at 800.692.7816 and they will direct your call to the appropriate GSHPA staff member that is on-site with your camper.

Q: Can I visit camp during my campers program?

A: To avoid interrupting camp activities and because camp sessions are short, there are no visitor days during the camp session.

Additional Information

Q: How else can I prepare for my campers summer camp program?

A: The Summer Camp Parent Guide and packing lists on the [Summer Camp](#) page, which will be available by March 1st, 2023.

Q: Can I volunteer at Summer Camp?

A: If you are interested in volunteering at this years summer camp contact smonelli@gshpa.org. Volunteers are required to have all GSHPA background checks and to take part in a 30 minute interview to discuss volunteer opportunities.