

## 7: Properties & Camp

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/en/camp/properties.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 2nd grade through 12th grade the opportunity to camp for five-night sessions. Lodging is in cabins for our younger girls and then, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders and older sleep in platform tents and cots. All facilities have hot and cold running water, flush toilets and showers.

Lakota Resident Camp will reopen in the 2020 season with brand new cabins and a dining hall. Lakota offers girls entering 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade the opportunity to camp for five-night sessions. There is a variety of lodging including cabins with electricity, cabins without electricity and staked tent camping. 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 programs allow girls to discover themselves and connect with others as they explore all the adventures of camp. The New Outdoor Badges are earned for some sessions as well.

For campers entering grades 4-8, both camps offer week-long equestrian programs where girls can gain confidence in both their riding and horse knowledge.

For older girls, we offer two tracks: 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 attend camp for three-week sessions, including a weekend, and 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!

The Older Girl Experience focuses on one-week adventures that include activities on Big Bear Lake (for Osito) and building homesteading and hiking experience (at Lakota).

## Day Camp

Day camp is camp program conducted within an 8-12 hour period and five (5) days in length. Girls register as individual participants and are placed in units for program activities. We



have four-day camp locations. El Ranchito, Marine Landing, and Mariposa offer nine weeks of day camp and La Casita offers five weeks of day camp. Please note that we do offer other specialty camps during the summer. Please visit our calendar for a complete list of all of our offerings..



At El Ranchito, Marine Landing, La Casita and Mariposa, day camps are available for girls entering K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Girls entering 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade sign up for our Program Aide/CIT offerings at our day camps. Please check with each individual camp for the age requirements to be either a Program Aide or CIT. 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, outdoor kids kitchen, low ropes course, and a 32-foot tall climbing wall.

## La Casita

Located in Claremont on the edge of the Claremont Wilderness Park, this camp offers Girl Scouts the opportunity to explore the great outdoors in a convenient day camp setting. Girl can test their accuracy on the archery range, build their courage on the high ropes course, and learn to identify native plants on the trail. Each week's theme is geared toward taking advantage of La Casita's long Girl Scout history and unique location. Girls will also make new friends, try outdoor cooking, make crafts, and sing traditional Girl Scout songs. Badge work or other skill-building programming is included in each week's activities as well as guest speakers from the community.

## Mariposa

Located in the foothills 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, weekly science 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 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 Island of the Blue Dolphins, Troop and Family weekends at both Osito and Lakota, 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/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/events/What\\_I\\_Need\\_For.pdf](http://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/events/What_I_Need_For.pdf) chart for required trainings and approvals when planning activities.

## Basic Properties 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.

For more in-depth information about our properties available for rental, visit <http://www.girlscoutsla.org/en/camp/properties.html>. Be sure to read the descriptions on the website closely so you are sure that you are getting the type of facility your troop needs for your event.

## Procedures for Reserving a GSGLA Property

- Complete all appropriate adult camp training. Refer to the “What I Need For My Girls To Attend A...” ([http://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/events/What\\_I\\_Need\\_For.pdf](http://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/events/What_I_Need_For.pdf))
- Meet with troop and discuss camping plans with girls.
- Log on to the GSGLA Website to book your property.

## Follow these guidelines for success

Book your property instantly by logging on to [www.girlscoutsla.org](http://www.girlscoutsla.org). Complete booking instructions and explanation can be found at this link: [https://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/property/Doubleknot\\_How-To.pdf](https://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscouts-girlscoutsla/documents/property/Doubleknot_How-To.pdf)

- If you have any questions or concerns while trying to book, please contact our property registrar at [propertyreservations@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:propertyreservations@girlscoutsla.org) or (213)213-0123.
- ALL adults participating in a camping trip, including day trips, must be approved volunteers\*.
- 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: [propertyreservations@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:propertyreservations@girlscoutsla.org) or (213)213-0123. If you find you must cancel during the week you are scheduled to camp, please also 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.

**\*Approved volunteers are registered members who have successfully cleared GSGLA’s background screening process within the last three years and have completed position related training.**

## 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.*

## Reservation Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made more than 30 days in advance of the reservation date will incur a 10% cancellation fee. The remaining rental fees will be refunded.

1. Cancellations made 30 days or less from the reservation date will forfeit all rental fees.
2. A re-scheduling of an already confirmed reservation is considered a cancellation and the 10% cancellation fee will apply.
3. Service unit events that are cancelled or rescheduled due to low registration are exceptions to the 30 day rule, however the 10% cancellation fee will still apply.
4. No refunds (partial or full) are given for cancellation of a regular troop meeting reservation once it has been confirmed.

