

TROOP 250 SUMMER CAMP PLANS, RULES, & GUIDELINES



Summer camp is a fun, exciting and important event for a Scout. This document provides the Scouts, Leaders, and Parents an overview of Troop 250 summer camp plans. It also provides some rules and guidelines to help ensure you are prepared to have a safe and enjoyable summer camp experience. Please read carefully and if you still have questions, please contact the Troop 250 Summer Camp Coordinator, Todd Whitaker ttwhitaker@gmail.com. These plans, rules, and guidelines may be updated as new information becomes available.

***“A week of camp life is worth six months of theoretical teaching in the meeting room.”—
Robert Baden-Powell***

Troop 250 Summer Camp Plans, Rules, & Guidelines

Section A - Summer Camp Plans & Registration Fees

Where and when is Troop 250 attending summer camp for 2012?

Troop 250 will be attending summer camp at the Blue Ridge Mountain Council's (BRMC) Scout Reservation in the mountains of Virginia. The camps and programs at this reservation have a proven track record for providing high quality programs and a safe environment for our Scouts. Troop 250 will depart the early morning of Sunday, June 10, 2012 and return on Saturday, June 16th in the early afternoon. If you have other summer plans including other camps and vacation, please do not include the dates from June 10th through June 16th in those plans. As a general rule, we depart and return to and from camp as a Troop and late arrivals and early departures at camp are highly discouraged.

What Scouting programs will Scouts be able to participate in at camp?

The following provides a brief summary of the Scouting programs available during this week of summer camp:

Program	Description
Brownsea Island	Designed for younger boys (age 10 ½ to 12) new to scouting. This program teaches the Patrol Method, basic Scout skills, and get boys excited about Scouting!
Merit Badge (Base Camp)	Approximately 40 merit badges available in the areas of aquatics, scout craft, nature craft, handy craft, nature/ecology, and shooting sports.
Foxfire *(Must be age 13 by camp & 1 st class by camp)	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) designed for youth leaders. (Special Requirements - experience in Troop Leadership and at least 1st Class Rank)
High Knoll **(Must be age 12.5 by & 1 st Class by camp)	Backpacking through the reservation each day to a different outpost with structured fun activities like paintball shooting, mountain boarding, black powder shooting, and climbing to mention a few.
New River Adventure * (Must be age 13 by Jan. 1, BSA Swimmer, & canoeing experience)	This program combines teamwork, leadership, and the confidence building activities a COPE course with the thrills, skills, and challenges of five other high adventure activities which include caving, climbing and rappelling, whitewater canoeing and white water rafting on the New River
Mountain Man ** (Must be age 13 by camp & ability to backpack gear 1½ mi.)	Live the life of a 19 th century Mountain Man by living, cooking, and participating in activities including shooting a .50 caliber muzzle loading rifle, build a sheath knife and sheath, make a simple tool on the forge, and learn about survival, traps, snares, edible plants, tracking, cord making, and hide tanning.
Claytor Lake Aquatics Base * (Must be age 13 & BSA Swimmer by camp)	Wakeboarding, Motor boating, Waterskiing, Kayaking, Olympic-style Rowboats activities, SCUBA Certification (must be age 14 by camp & PADI Medical),
Fish Camp *(Must be age 13 & BSA Swimmer by camp)	Not only do you fish a different location every day, Scouts will learn to fly cast, tie flies, and study the habitat and ecosystems of the fish they attempt to outwit
Voyageur *(Must be age 13 by Jan 1, BSA Swimmer & Canoeing Experience)	Discover what life must have been like for the 18th Century Voyageurs by participating in a 5 day 50 mile canoe trip down the New River

* Provisional Program, no adult required to attend. ** Adult required with 5 or more registered Scouts

How can I find out more information about the Blue Ridge Scout Reservation, Camp Ottari, and the various Scout programs being offered at summer camp?

Visit <http://www.bsa-brmc.org/>, click on "Camping & Reservation", click on "Summer Camp Programs", and then click on the program you are interested. Each program has a short video.

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What are the registration fees for summer camp?

The Summer Camp 2012 Registration Fees are provided in the table below. The registration fees cover the cost for you to attend summer camp and the meals each day while at camp. These registration fees do **not** include additional costs such as those incidental fees with merit badges, meals while in route to and from camp, purchases at the Trading Post, and the zip line.

Program	2012 Youth Cost*	2012 Adult Cost*
Ottari (Brownsea Island)	\$280	\$160
Ottari Base/MB Program	\$280	\$160
Fish Camp	\$300	\$300
High Knoll	\$300	\$300
White water rafting elective	\$65	\$65
Mountain Man	\$320	\$320
New River Adventure	\$320	\$320
Voyageur	\$300	\$300
Claytor Lake Aquatics Base	\$320	\$320
Personal watercraft elective	\$60	\$60
Wakeboarding	\$425	\$425
SCUBA Certification	\$425-450	\$425-450
Firefox	\$290	\$290



*The costs in the table above are based on each the Scout or Adult Leader completing and turning in Parts A, B, & C of their BSA Annual Health and Medical Record into the Troop 250 Medical Coordinator no later than May 14, 2012. Otherwise, the registration fee is \$30 higher than indicated in the table for each program.

When and where is the registration fee due?

The fees are collected from the Scouts and adult leaders by the Troop 250 Summer Camp Coordinator (Todd Whitaker) and turned over to the Troop 250 treasurer for payment to the BRMC. For 2012, the summer camp fee payment schedule is provided below:

January 16, 2012	1 st Down Payment - \$100
March 19, 2012	2 nd Down Payment - \$100, If white water rafting - \$65 in addition
May 14, 2012	Balance of dues

If I sign up for summer camp and later decide not to go, can I get a refund of summer camp fees?

You will be responsible for \$100 of the Summer Camp Fee if you do not notify the Troop 250 Summer Camp Coordinator by March 19, 2012. After May 14, 2012, you will be responsible for the entire Summer Camp Fee except for cases of death of an immediate family member, sickness and injury, or military transfer. In these cases, the Blue Ridge Mountain Council will refund all but \$100 of fees paid when verified by a physician, military commander, or such official.

Why is it necessary for me to declare my intentions to go to summer camp and to pay the 1st down payment so early?

The Troop made initial reservations at BRMC Scout Reservation several months ago for the number of Scouts & Adult Leaders it anticipates attending each program at camp. In January, the Scout Reservation requires the Troop to pay \$100 for each Scout and Adult Leader attending or we will lose any reservation slots not paid for. Therefore, to reserve a slot for camp and a specific program, each Scout and Adult Leader who intends to go must pay the 1st down payment. After January, slots for specific programs may or may not be available.

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Section B - Summer Camp Medical Overview & Requirements

What are the medical requirements for Summer Camp?

All Scouts and Adults who attend summer camp with Troop 250 must have a current BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B, & C) completed and turned into the Troop 250 Medical Coordinator. To be considered current, each part of the record must have been completed within 12 months of the first day of summer camp (i.e., on or after June 10, 2011). Therefore, you must ensure you have completed a medical exam and Part C of the record signed by a licensed health care provider on or after June 10, 2011. Scouts and Adult leaders that complete and turn Parts A, B, & C of the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record to the Troop 250 Medical Coordinator no later than May 14, 2012 will receive a \$30 discount on their summer camp registration fee. No other form is valid for BSA functions.

Are personnel qualified to provide first aid at summer camp?

Yes. The main camps at the reservation (Ottari, Powhatan, & Claytor Lake) all have a medical lodge staffed 24 hours a day by qualified medical personnel. In addition, the camps have arrangements with the local rescue squads and hospitals to handle any medical emergencies.

What will happen if there is a medical problem with my Scout while at Summer Camp?

Your Scout will be treated. You will be contacted by an Adult Leader for your Scout's program or by a Staff Member of Summer Camp. You will be kept informed of your Scout's condition so that you may make decisions about medical issues. Most importantly, with your signature on the Health and Medical Form and the Permission Slip, you give the Troop and Summer Camp permission to treat your Scout. Above all, all attendees will receive medical treatment promptly for any condition needing medical attention.

My Scout has a special medical need/issue that I have listed on his medical form, who will know this information?

Scout medical information is kept confidential. Copies of all Health and Medical Forms must be given to the Summer Camp upon check in. Life threatening medical concerns will be discussed with the Summer Camp Health Office (please discuss these with the Troop Medical Coordinator ASAP). In addition, one or more designated Troop Health and Medical Coordinator for your Scout's program will know of any special considerations so that he/she can act quickly to assist your Scout should the need arise.



My Scout gets occasional headaches or may need to take an over-the-counter allergy medication (e.g., Benadryl). Can I send those along with him?

The Summer Camp Health Office has a wide variety of over the counter medications. Scouts are encouraged to go to the Health Office to request these medications. If you feel that your over-the-counter medication may not be available at the Health Office (Claritin), you may send it with your Scout in its original container in a resealable bag with dosage instructions. This medication will have to be turned in to the Health Office by the Troop Health Officer.

What about over the counter medications – like Tylenol, Benadryl, or Motrin that are taken on a regular basis?

All prescription and over the counter medications that are taken on a regular basis must be turned in to the Troop Health Officer on the day of departure to camp. All Medications will then be turned in to the Health Office at Camp and Camp Scouts and Adult Leaders will go to the Health Office to take their medications. These medications must be placed in the blister packs provided by the camp. Blister packs will be provided by Scout Leader Jennifer Dunton closer to the departure of camp.

Liquid medications and/or ointments should be placed in a resealable plastic bag (one medication per bag) and labeled with the Scout/Adult Leader Name, Troop 250, and dosage instructions.

Epi Pens and inhalers should be carried by the Scout or Adult Leader for whom they have been prescribed.

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Section C - Summer Camp Preparations

When will we depart and return from camp?

Depart: All Camp Ottari SC participants must be in the parking lot at the Fort Mill Barbeque (in front of Lowe's Food) **no later than 8:00am** on Sunday, June 10th. We will depart once we ensure all participants are present and equipment is loaded.

Arrival: The actual time of arrival in the church parking lot will depend on the time we depart from summer camp but should be back no later than 1 pm on Saturday, June 16th. Parents, please be on standby and ready to pick up your Scout upon arrival at the church.

How much spending money should I take with me to summer camp?

The amount of money each scout needs will vary and is ultimately a decision you and your parents will make. Below are some guidelines that may help you determine the amount of spending money you bring to camp.

- One meal in route to camp ~\$5
- One meal on the return trip ~\$5
- Trading Post –The Trading Post is a Scout favorite and will be open at convenient hours from Sunday afternoon through Saturday morning. The Trading Post will carry camp t-shirts, patches, souvenirs, merit badge pamphlets, craft supply materials, snacks (soft drinks, candy, chips, etc.) and a wide selection of Scouting outdoor supplies. How much? Parents, please use good judgment.
- Zip Line – for those Scouts who are eligible, cost is \$5 for two rides
- Merit badge kits & supplies - \$3-\$23 (see Q&A below on exact cost of MB kits & supplies)



No matter how much you bring, you should keep your money in a safe location preferably in a wallet you carry at all times. Adult leaders will not be able to hold onto money or lend money to the Scouts.

What equipment and supplies do I need at summer camp?

The list of equipment and supplies you need at summer camp is contained in the Equipment Checklist at the end of this guide. For High Adventure participants, you will need to review the respective equipment lists for each program. It is recommended that you label all your equipment and supplies with your name and Troop 250.

I am participating in the Brownsea Island Program (BSI) for first year scouts. What equipment or supplies do I need?

The BSI program Scouts will need the same equipment as everyone else. You will find it helpful if your day pack identified in the equipment list is a small school style backpack, day hiking pack, or hydration pack to help carry your water bottle, pencil, rope and other materials that you might want to carry during the day.

What uniforms will I need to take and when will we wear them?

Scouts and Adult Leaders must wear the Scout Field Uniform (Scout tan shirt, green pants, and socks) in route to and from summer camp, evening retreat at the flag pole (just prior to dinner), opening and closing ceremonies, and other events as designed. During all other activities throughout the day, attendees can wear the scout Activity Uniform (Troop or BSA T-Shirt, shorts). *Scouts should avoid wearing printed tank tops, t-shirts or golf type shirts.* If you do not have a supply of Troop or BSA T-shirts, you may wear solid colored t-shirts like those similar in color as the Troops – red, grey, green, camo, or tan. Exceptions may be approved by the Scoutmaster if the Scout doesn't have any activity uniforms.

I am participating in the merit badge (MB) program. What do I need to do to be prepared?

Remember, it's the Scout's responsibility to have the MB book and printed worksheets (www.meritbadge.org is a good source) prior to camp. It is also the Scout's responsibility to have the MB prerequisites completed and signed off by the appropriate MB Counselor prior to the start of MB classes.

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Are there any extra costs for merit badges?

The cost of the merit badge program is including in the registration fee. However, several of the merit badges identified below have additional fees for kits and equipment. Most of these kits can be purchased at the Trading Post upon arrival at camp.

Basketry - \$23, Leatherwork - \$6, Model Design - \$3.50, Woodcarving - \$5, Climbing - \$15, Horsemanship - \$20, Archery \$2.50, Shotgun Shooting - \$14 (covers the cost of shots during class. Open shooting time is 25¢ per shot), The Climbing and Horsemanship fee will be due when you turn in your MB requests.

I am participating in the Brownsea Island Program. Can I participate in Merit Badges?

The Brownsea Island Adventure is an all day, all week program. As such, BSI Scouts will not be able to take MB classes except for the fishing or bird study merit badge class if offered at 7 a.m.

What should I NOT bring to camp?

Any electronic devices, cell phones, radios, firearms, fireworks, tank tops, printed t-shirts, or golf shirts. Electronic devices will be taken up by Troop Leaders prior to disembarking at camp.

Can I take snacks with me to summer camp?

You may take snacks to camp. However, because of the wildlife on the reservation, you will not be able to keep snacks in your tent at any time. Scouts will be able to store their snacks in the Troop trailer which is typically parked near our camp. Alternatively, Scouts can purchase snacks at the Trading Post.

What is the Camp Ottari Zip Line?

Get ready to soar on Ottari's 800 foot zip line. Riders must be 12 years old and at least 100 lbs but less than 300 lbs to ride. Participants may sign-up at the Camp Trading Post for \$5 for 2 rides.

Can I receive mail while I am at camp?

Parents, siblings, and extended family are highly encouraged to send letters, post cards, and care packages to the Scouts. In years past, Troop 250 families have been very supportive with sending these items and the Scouts really enjoy the touch from home! If you are sending these items, please make sure you send them early enough so they get to camp in time. You should consider mailing the items no later than Saturday, June 9th. Camp mail to:

Camp Ottari (or High Knoll, Fish Camp, or Mt. Man	New River Adventure	Claytor Lake
<i>(Scout's Name)</i> , Troop 250 Camp Ottari 2881 Simpkinstown Road Hiwassee, VA 24347	<i>(Scout's Name)</i> , Troop 250 New River Adventure 2600 Max Creek Road Hiwassee, VA 24347	<i>(Scout's Name)</i> , Troop 250 Claytor Lake Adventure Base 4100 Adventure Base Road Radford, VA 24141

What do I need to do to ensure I stay hydrated during summer camp?

It is possible for participants at summer camp to become dehydrated with the full day of activities all week long. In some cases, the level of dehydration can become serious enough to require intervention including medical care. Dehydration is completely preventable but requires attendees to take adequate precautions. The best prevention is to drink plenty of water and avoid items with excessive caffeine. **Therefore, attendees must at a minimum have a water bottle with them at all times.** If you have a hydration pack, this often works better because it helps ensure you have adequate water and also serves to carry other items you may use throughout the day. Either way, the key is to constantly be drinking water throughout the day! **Highly caffeinated / energy drinks like "Monster", "Red Bull", "Amp", etc. are not allowed at any time.**

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What can happen if I do not adhere to the Troop 250 Code of Conduct while at summer camp?

As stated in the Code of Conduct (which all Scouts and parents will have signed), Scouts not adhering to the conduct guidelines will risk disciplinary action that could *include suspension or expulsion from the Troop*. We take the conduct of our Scouts very seriously. If behavioral issues arise at camp, your parents will be immediately contacted to come and remove your from camp. Remember, you are a Scout representing Troop 250 at all times while in route to/from camp and at camp.

Can I bring a knife to summer camp?

If you have earned the rank of Second Class or you have earned your Toting Chip (and bring it with you), you may bring a knife with you to summer camp.

Can siblings attend summer camp and can my parents pick me up early?

Summer camp participants must be registered with the BSA. Therefore, siblings are not permitted to attend. **Parents will not be authorized to pick up their Scout early from camp.** If a situation arises where a Scout must be picked up early, the Scoutmaster and Camp Staff must be notified in advance.

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Section D - Summer Camp Equipment Checklist

The checklist and guidelines below will help you ensure you have the items necessary for Summer Camp. It is a Scouts responsibility (not parents) to ensure they have packed their personal items.

Meet at the Fort Mill Barbeque parking lot (in front of Lowe's Food) no later than 8:00 am on the day of departure. Claytor Lake and High Knoll participants should congregate in the parking lot in front of Allen Tate Real Estate and coordinate your efforts.

- Please ensure you arrive on time as late arrivals delay departure for all.
- Need signed permission form!
- Medication you are taking at summer camp in blister packs
- Must wear complete field uniform (tan shirt, green pants, green socks)

Day pack (Keep this equipment ready for use when you arrive at camp on Sunday):

- Swimsuit. Consider wearing your swimsuit under your uniform. You will need to take the swim test upon arriving at camp on Sunday.
- Towel
- Water bottle or hydration pack with water
- Money for lunch on the way to summer camp

Summer Camp Equipment Checklist (Base camp, Brownsea Island, and Fish Camp participants)

- Sleeping Bag with liner or sheet inside
- Scout Field Uniform (shirt, shorts, socks)
- Scout Activity Uniform (Troop T-shirt or other BSA T-shirt) – No other printed T-shirts
- Rain Jacket or Poncho
- Warm Jacket (fleece or sweater) – yes it can get chilly enough at night
- Hat
- (10) Pair Socks
- (7) Underwear
- (6) Sets of Clothing
- Swimming Suit
- Long Pants (Scout pants) - yes it can get chilly enough at night
- Long Sleeve Shirt
- Pair Tennis Shoes (All shoes must be closed toe shoes – no sandals or flip flops are permitted at camp except in shower only)
- Pair of Hiking Boots
- Pair Sandals (for shower only)
- Old Towels (3)
- Toiletries (Soap, Toothbrush & Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shampoo) – yes, you will need to take a shower and brush your teeth!
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Water Bottle or Hydration Pack
- Spending Money
- Flashlight & Extra Batteries
- Handkerchief
- Scout Handbook
- Paper and Writing Items
- OA sash if you are in the Order of the Arrow. There will be some fellowship events including the closing campfire.
- Merit badge worksheets and books if participating in MB program at base camp or Claytor Lake

Although it's summer time, temperatures in the Va. Mountains in the past have gone down to between 40°F - 50°F at night so plan accordingly!

Recommendation: Place your name and Troop 250 on your equipment in case it gets separated from you!

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Optional Items

- Small Bible
- Folding Pocket Knife
- Camera
- Card Games
- Compass
- Pillow
- Spare Rope or Cordage
- Extra Shoe Laces
- Wet suit for aquatics activities
- Fishing gear

*Do **NOT** Bring the following:*

- Any electronic devices, cell phones, radios
- Firearms or fireworks
- Tank tops, printed t-shirts, or golf shirts
- Highly caffeinated / energy drinks like “Monster”, “Red Bull”, “Amp”, etc.

High Adventure Programs Equipment Checklists

- Go to <http://www.bsa-brmc.org/>, click on “Camping & Reservation”, click on “Summer Camp Programs”, and then click on the program you are planning to attend. The leaders guide contains the equipment checklists.

Fish Camp Fishing License

Each participant in the Fish Camp program is responsible for obtaining a State of Virginia fishing license (Required for non-residents age 12 and older) before arriving at camp. The Fish Camp Leader's Guide recommends that you obtain a 5-day fishing license with the national forest stamp endorsement. Below are the details of how to obtain the license on-line and costs.

- ✓ Va Fishing License Online Registration: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/licenses/>
- ✓ Current Non-resident Fees: \$21 for 5 day license, \$4 for national forest permit, total cost \$25
- ✓ When registering online, be sure to specify the start date for the 5 day license. The start date should be June 11 which will cover Monday through Friday of camp.