

# Family Camp

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### YMCA Camp Marston



#### YMCA CAMP MARSTON

250 acres in Julian. Mountains, forests, hiking trails.

#### HOUSING

We have 10 Lodges that are 1700 sqft each (they're big), 24 beds, 2 large bathrooms, living room. No kitchen.

#### STAFF CONTACT

For program specific questions and business related questions, contact Sharnaye Neale at [sneale@ymcasd.org](mailto:sneale@ymcasd.org).

#### ARRIVAL AND CHECK-IN

Plan to arrive between after 4:00pm and 6pm on Friday. The Marston address is 4761 Pine Hills Road, Julian, 92036. We recommend taking the route through Ramona on Highways 67/78 to Julian. When you arrive, drive to the main parking lot and someone should be there to greet you. If they are not nearby, please call the number on the whiteboard outside the office. You will be asked to provide a Photo ID and sign a Waiver of Liability.

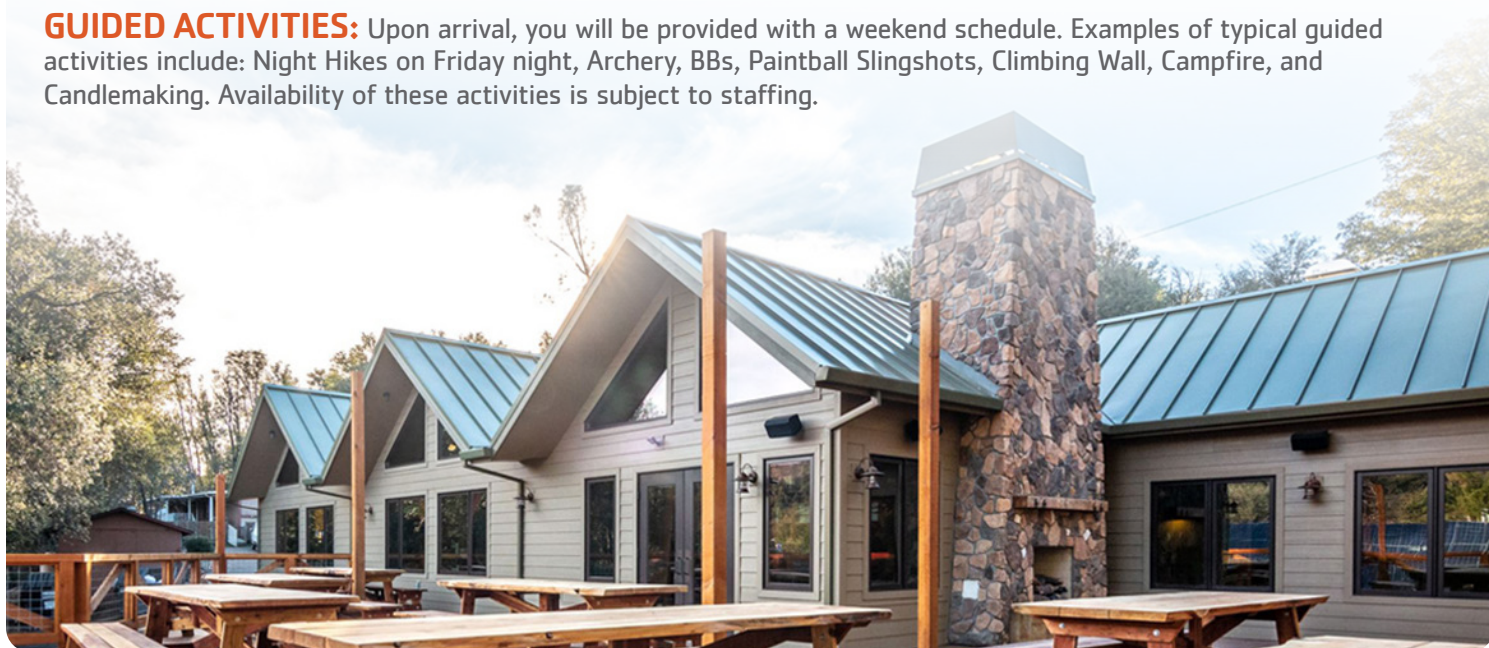
Checkout is 12:00 on Sunday. We do ask that you be packed and moved out of your cabin by 10:00am to allow staff time to clean before incoming groups on Mondays.

#### MEALS

Meals will be provided at 8:00am, 12:00pm, and 5:30pm. First meal that is served is Breakfast on Saturday morning, last meal is Breakfast on Sunday morning. **WE DO NOT SERVE DINNER ON FRIDAY NIGHT.** Coffee and tea are available in the Dining Hall at any time. Unfortunately, we cannot store your food in the kitchen. However, if you have any dietary restrictions, please contact Sharnaye Neale at [sneale@ymcasd.org](mailto:sneale@ymcasd.org) at least 2 weeks in advance. We can accommodate almost any allergy/restriction.

The Dining Hall has indoor and outdoor seating. Meals will be served buffet style on a first come first serve basis. During breakfast, a fruit bar will be available, and during Lunch and Dinner a salad bar will be available (in addition to the main courses).

**GUIDED ACTIVITIES:** Upon arrival, you will be provided with a weekend schedule. Examples of typical guided activities include: Night Hikes on Friday night, Archery, BBs, Paintball Slingshots, Climbing Wall, Campfire, and Candlemaking. Availability of these activities is subject to staffing.



## SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES:

**Hiking:** Trail maps will be provided. There are miles of trails & nice vistas.

**Soccer, basketball, ga-ga:** Balls are provided or you can bring your own.

**Bird Observation Blind:** At the north end of the lake, in the willow forest near the old wagon, there is a short trail to the bird blind. Head in, take a seat, be still and nature will return.

**Frisbee golf:** The 9-hole course starts outside the camp office, heads out to the lake and back through camp. Course maps available in the office.

**Horseshoes:** Located near Lodges 10 & 11.

**Fishing:** There are largemouth bass, bluegill and catfish in the lake. No licenses required. Bring your own fishing equipment and bait. This activity is seasonally available, to inquire about the lake's status, please contact Tami.

Visit Raintree Livestock. Take a drive or hike over to Raintree Ranch to visit our 2 goats, 2 sheep, 4 pigs, and 30 chickens.

**Fires:** You can build an open fire at Lodges 2/3, Lodge 7/8, Mountaineer Tent Village, and Lake Jessop campfire. Please make "fire soup" to put out your fires, aka make sure fire is completely extinguished with NO remaining steam or smoke. Fire pit should look like a puddle! Fires are not allowed outside of designated fire pits. BBQs are welcome, we just ask that you do not use them on any pavement or decking.

**Bouldering Wall:** Test your rock-climbing skills on our bouldering hut, located right next to the climbing tower.

**Gaga:** A neat form of dodgeball! Gaga pit is located by the climbing tower.

**Basketball/Field Sports:** Ask program staff for sports balls. Field/court available on a first come first serve basis.

## CABIN LIFE

Don't forget your bedding, towels and toiletries. Each lodge has 4 bunkrooms with 6 twin sized beds each. There is comfortable furniture and a wood burning stove in the living room (free firewood available). There is also forced-air heat, they are nice and warm.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. The following are also strictly prohibited: weapons, pets, open flames inside cabins, and smoking on the premises. Outdoor campfires/smoking are only permitted in approved areas. Please be courteous and respectful of other guests and staff on site!

## WIFI

Camp offers free wifi (CampWifi). **Password is campmarston.** Most cell signals work here at camp.





## EMERGENCY

If an accident occurs, please call 911, and our emergency number at (760) 445-5266. There is an Arch Health Partners Urgent Care Center in Ramona, 211 13th Street. Our nearest hospital is Pomerado in Poway, 15615 Pomerado Road. We have minor first aid supplies available if needed.

## WILDFIRE

If a wildfire breaks out nearby, please be prepared to leave quickly. Any camp emergency is signaled by a steady ringing of the dining hall bell. If signaled, please send one member of your family to the main parking lot for instructions.

## NATURAL HAZARDS

**Dehydration:** Camp is situated at 4,100 feet elevation. Dehydration is common, be sure to drink lots of water.

**Mountain Lions:** You are in mountain lion country. We almost never see them, but we know they're out there. Stay together in groups, do not walk alone at night. If confronted by a "big kitty", do not run away. Make yourself look larger, get together in a group, yell and holler. It is not recommended to hike alone during dusk/dawn hours.

**Rattlesnakes:** There are rattlesnakes, but not common. We shouldn't see any in winter. Stay on trails and watch where you're walking.

**Critters:** We've found a few ticks over the years. Be cautious if wading through tall grass, check for ticks afterwards.

**Poison Oak:** We do have poison oak. Staying on the trails is your best bet on avoiding it!

**Mosquitos:** Are typically not a problem this time of year.

**COVID Procedures are subject to change according to current guidelines.**

## JULIAN IN WINTER/SPRING

Winter is always a fascinating time here in the mountains. Weather can range from the 60's/70's or be brutally cold with wind, rain, sleet or snow. Check the forecast to help with packing. If there is a snowstorm predicted for your weekend, I will reach out to you directly. Ideally, we can get you into camp, not driving during the storm. Once here, we have snowplows and removal equipment, no worries. Julian can become quite busy, especially if there is snowfall. We recommend staying away from town on weekends as of about 11:00 each day to avoid the crowds.

## SPECIALTY ACTIVITIES FOR HOLIDAY FAMILY CAMPS:

**Labor Day Family Camp:** This is our only family camp where our pool is open. Enjoy all of camp's regular activities and bring your swimsuits to cool down in the pool!

**Halloween Family Camp:** In addition to camp's regular program areas, Halloween family campers can enjoy pumpkin carving, a "monster mash" dance, a costume contest, and trick or treating from lodge to lodge!

**Thanksgiving Family Camp:** Enjoy Thanksgiving with your family up in the mountains. On top of regular camp program areas, Thanksgiving Family campers will enjoy a traditional thanksgiving feast, as well as some thanksgiving themed arts and crafts.

**Easter Family Camp:** Easter family campers will be excited for a camp-wide easter egg hunt, egg decorating, and traditional camp activities!

**Mother's Day Family Camp:** Take mom up to Camp Marston for Mother's Day family camp! Mother's Day family campers will enjoy our traditional camp activities, as well as crafts and flower bouquets to make for mom, as well as a special Mother's day brunch!

