



Expeditions Winter 2020 BSAC High Adventure

Philmont Backpacking Sneak Peak



Backcountry Sneak Peak is a progressive, challenging backpacking expedition that provides the opportunity to experience the Philmont backcountry in preparation and training for a full Philmont Trek experience.

Participation in the Backcountry Sneak Peak program is designed for Scouting Units with individuals 13-18 and their advisors. Participants must be registered in any of the Boy Scouts of America programs to participate. Crews are placed under the supervision of two highly qualified Philmont Rangers who plan the trek to meet the abilities and experience of the crew.

Your adventure will begin as you depart for your first hike into Philmont's backcountry. As your week progresses, so will your hikes from easier terrain and length to moderate and more difficult. The end of the week will mark the end of your skills progression with an overnight experience in Philmont's backcountry with a Philmont Ranger.

Participants will enjoy a hands-on introduction to Philmont's backcountry and achieve a thorough understanding of the following:

- Efficient setting up and breaking down camp
- Bear bags and smellable procedures
- Dining fly and tent set up
- Gas stove care and operation
- Philmont's backcountry cooking method
- Dishwashing and sump use
- Choosing gear that is right for you
- Philmont Shakedown
- Philmont base camp operations

The curriculum will also be provided for adult Crew Advisors attending Sneak Peak to learn more about topics like:

- How to go on a prep-hike
- Crew dynamics
- Your role as a crew advisor
- Physical Conditioning
- Crew Leadership Positions

Participants will also enjoy other adventures of their choice before or after their day hikes. Some of the choices include touring the National Scouting Museum, visiting the shooting range or the craft center and more. Participants must be 13 years or older (or have completed the 7th grade) and must be accompanied by an adult. Units are welcome with two deep leadership, and families or parent(s) are welcome with age-eligible children. All participants must meet the height and weight requirements listed in the [BSA Medical Form](#) and must have a completed BSA physical (Parts A, B, & C). Participants will then return to the PTC on Saturday morning to check in equipment, clean up, and prepare for the trip home.

For more information search Philmont Backpacking Sneak Peak.

Vertical Adventures



Vertical Adventures in Columbus is an indoor facility offering 16,000 sq. ft. of rock-climbing terrain for all skill levels, plus classes.

Search Vertical Adventures Columbus to access the website.

Wabash Cannonball Trail



The WABASH CANNONBALL TRAIL is a 66 mile multi-use recreational trail in Northwest Ohio, traversing Williams, Fulton, Lucas and Henry counties. It provides non-motorized access to hikers, bikers, equestrians, and cross-country skiers. The 12 foot wide trail surface varies within the different jurisdictions, from asphalt to hard packed cinder ballast. The trail is a part of the nationwide movement to rejuvenate former railroad corridors into linear parks where people can enjoy the beauty and solitude of the outdoors while also providing a safe alternate mode of transportation between towns and villages along the route.

The Trail is actually comprised of two rail lines that converge in Maumee at Jerome Road. The “North Fork” of the Trail runs in an east-west direction, 48 miles from Maumee to Montpelier, Ohio within 13 miles of the Indiana state line. The “South Fork” takes a southwesterly route from Maumee to the restored historical railroad depot in Liberty Center, Ohio for a length of 18 miles. The average width of the Trail corridor is 100 feet, with the width of the Trail surface being 10-12 feet. If you traverse the length of the Trail, you will cross over 13 bridges.

Portions of the Wabash Cannonball Trail are also certified segments of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST), a 4,600 mile long hiking trail stretching over eight states from North Dakota to Vermont and connecting the Lewis and Clark Trail in western North Dakota with the Appalachian Trail in upstate New York. The NCNST is administered by the National Park Service.

Maps of the trail as well as additional information are available at:
www.wabashcannonballtrail.org.

Sea Base, Bahamas, after Hurricane Dorian



Hurricane Dorian has slipped off the North American coastline after leaving a wake of death and destruction, primarily in the Bahamas.

Prior to landfall Florida Sea Base staff stationed in St. Thomas and St. Croix were evacuated to safety and crews to those areas were called off.

Marsh Harbour on Great Abaco Island, where the Sea Base hosts its Bahamas Sailing Adventures, saw destructive wind gusts of more than 200 mph and storm surge of more than 20 feet. The catastrophic storm slowed down over the islands, destroying many homes and infrastructure, and killing more than 40 people. The marina Sea Base operates from, along with the entirety of the Abacos was left decimated.

Without a base of operation, Sea Base will likely not be able to offer spring Bahamas Sailing Adventures in 2020. The Sea Base's goal is to place every Bahamas spring crew that had planned a trip in another adventure on or around the same date originally planned. If you had a trip planned, Sea Base will be reaching out to you to provide more details.

Plans for summer crews in the Bahamas are still being assessed based on relief and rebuilding efforts.

From Bryan on Scouting