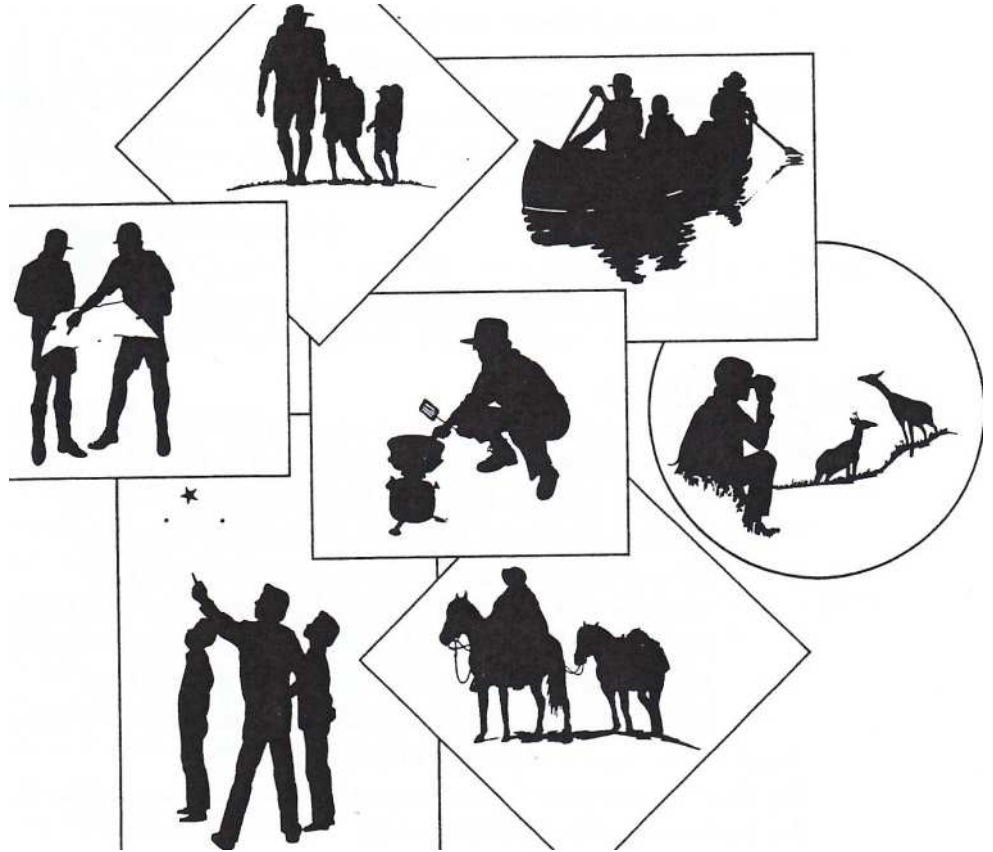


# *Bay Area Camping Opportunities*

SFBAC University of Scouting — 01/24/09

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Camping! For nearly a hundred years, Scouts have been setting out on overnight adventures under the open skies. They have felt the sun on their backs and the wind in their faces. When storms broke overhead, they used their learned skills to stay dry and warm. When a morning dawned brisk and clear, they were sure there was no better way to feel alive. Lord Baden-Powell knew that as well. When he founded the Scouting movement in the early 1900's, he encouraged every Scout to master the art of living out-of-doors. He believed a young person able to take care of himself while camping would have the confidence to meet life's other challenges too.

Times are different now. We are more likely to travel by automobile or mass transit here in the San Francisco Bay Area, than on foot or horseback. Most of us live in large communities, and the wonders of modern technology have changed our lives in ways that Baden-Powell would barely recognize. But the one thing that has not changed is the deep satisfaction and enjoyment that comes with camping. Boy Scouts everywhere are still eager to head out for a few days of living in the great outdoors. Here in Northern California especially, the natural combination of spectacular scenery, incredible natural diversity, easy accessibility to dozens of parks nearby, and the mild weather year-round where the sun shines on golden hills and the gentle wind blows off the Pacific Ocean makes for a region ideal for overnight adventures. There are many new adventures just waiting for you to inspire your boys to understand the Patrol Method. When you are camping with Scouts, you can have the time of your life working, playing and learning together. More than ever you will be immersed in the great Scouting tradition!

## **"San Francisco Bay Area – Naturally"**

Put the Outing in Scouting

Helping Youth Gain Environmental Awareness

Participation in District & Council Programs

Developing a Successful Unit Outdoors Program

Regional Geography

Weather, Climate and Seasonal Considerations

Flora and Fauna Opportunities

Local Habitat Communities

Pacific Shoreline

Coastal Ranges

Bay Marshlands

High Chaparral

Inland Valleys

Impress your Scouts with location, location, location!



### **Local Resources:**

Boy Scouts of America, National Council (<http://scouting.org>)

San Francisco Bay Area Council, San Leandro (<http://www.sfbac.org>)

Golden Empire Council, Sacramento (<http://gec-bsa.org>)

Greater Yosemite Council, Modesto (<http://www.yosemitescouting.org>)

Marin Council, San Rafael (<http://www.boyscouts-marin.org>)

Monterey Bay Area Council, Salinas (<http://boyscoutsmontereybayarea.org>)

Mt. Diablo Silverado Council, Pleasant Hill (<http://bsa-mdsc.org>)

Pacific Skyline Council, Foster City (<http://pacsky.org>)

Santa Clara County Council, San Jose (<http://scccbsa.org>)

Angel Island State Park, Tiburon (<http://angelisland.org>)

Bay Area Open Space Council (<http://openspacecouncil.org/guides> & <http://parkinfo.org>)

Bay Nature magazine (<http://baynature.org>)

California Department of Parks and Recreation (<http://parks.ca.gov>)

California State Parks Foundation (<http://calparks.org>)

East Bay Regional Parks District headquarters, Oakland (<http://ebparks.org>)

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (<http://nps.gov/goga>); Marin Headlands Visitors Center

Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics (<http://lnt.org>)

Mount Diablo State Park, Clayton/Danville (<http://mdia.org>)

Pinnacles National Monument (<http://www.nps.gov/pinn>)

Point Reyes National Seashore (<http://nps.gov/pore>); Bear Valley and Drakes Beach Visitors Centers

San Francisco Bay Area Hiker: Camping (<http://bahiker.com>)

Santa Clara County Parks (<http://sccgov.org>)

Weekend Sherpa San Francisco LLC (<http://weekendsherpa.com>)

### **Text References:**

*Afoot & Afield: San Francisco Bay Area, a comprehensive hikers guide* by David Weintraub

*Backpacking & Hiking, Companion a DK Eyewitness Companion* by Karen Berger

*Best Easy Day Hikes, San Francisco Bay* by Salcedo

*Best Hikes with Children, San Francisco Bay Area* by McMillon & McMillon

*Best in Tent Camping, Northern California* by Jane & Hans Huber with Bill Mai (3rd edition)

*BSA Fieldbook*, Fourth Edition

*BSA Guide to Safe Scouting for Unit Activities*

*BSA Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills*

BSA Merit Badge Series booklets: *Backpacking, Camping, Hiking, Wilderness Survival California Camping* by Tom Stienstra

*Camping & Backpacking the San Francisco Bay Area* by Matt Heid & Wilderness Press

*Golden Gate National Recreation Area Guide to the Parks* by Okamoto

*Leave No Trace, Minimum Impact Outdoor Recreation* by Will Harmon & American Hiking Society

*L.L. Bean Hiking and Backpacking Handbook* by McCafferty

*Monterey Bay Shoreline Guide* by Jeff Emory

*Point Reyes: A Guide* by Dorothy Whitnah

*Point Reyes Visions Guidebook* by Goodwin & Blair

*San Francisco Bay Shoreline Guide* by California State Coastal Conservancy

*Where Else to Go Camping* booklet by Achewon Nimat Lodge, Order of the Arrow, SFBAC

## **San Francisco Bay Area Council Properties:**

**Camp Royaneh**, Austin Creek Valley off Cazadero Hwy and Russian River Rd, Sonoma County

**Rancho Los Mochos**, South Livermore Hills off Mines Rd and Tesla Rd, Alameda County

**Wente Scout Reservation**, near town of Willits off Canyon Rd, Mendocino County

## **Greater Bay Area BSA Council Camps:**

**Boulder Creek Scout Reservation**, Pacific Skyline Council; in the Santa Cruz Mtns, Boulder Creek

**Camp Herms**, Mt. Diablo Silverado Council; in the East Bay Hills by Wildcat Canyon, El Cerrito

**Camp Isom**, Greater Yosemite Council; on Orestimba Creek in the Diablo Range, Newmar

**Camp Lindblad**, Mt. Diablo Silverado Council; in the Santa Cruz Mtns, Boulder Creek

**Camp McConnell**, Greater Yosemite Council; on Merced River in the Central Valley, Livingston

**Camp Pollock**, Golden Empire Council; on the American River Parkway, Sacramento

**Chesebrough Scout Reservation**, Santa Clara Council; in the Santa Cruz Mtns, Los Gatos

**Cutter Scout Reservation**, Pacific Skyline Council; in the Santa Cruz Mtns, Boulder Creek

**Tamarancho**, Marin Council; in the Mt. Tamalpais foothills, Fairfax

## **Regional Public Access Camping Areas:**

### *Sonoma Coast*

Austin Creek State Recreation Area; off Armstrong Redwoods Rd near Guerneville

Porno Canyon & Willow Creek Environmental Camps; off Willow Creek Rd, Russian River mouth

Bodega Dunes Campground; off Bodega Bay Harbor on Sonoma Coast State Beach

### *Wine Country*

Bothe-Napa Valley State Park; off Hwy 29 near Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park, Calistoga

Spring Lake Regional Park; off Hwy 12 near Annadel State Park, Santa Rosa

Sugarloaf Ridge State Park; off Adobe Canyon Rd near Kenwood

Lake Solano County Park; off Hwy 128 in foothills by Putah Creek near Winters

### *Marin County*

Black Ranch Meadows Campground; by San Pablo Bay in China Camp State Park, San Rafael

Madrone & Devil's Gulch group camps; on Lagunitas Creek in Samuel P. Taylor State Park

Sky, Coast, Wildcat and Glen backpack camps; on Point Reyes National Seashore, West Marin

Steep Ravine Environmental Camp; on Rocky Point in Mount Tamalpais State Park, Muir Beach

Pantoll Ranger Station Environmental Camp; in Mount Tamalpais State Park, Mill Valley

Haypress & Hawk backpack camps; above Tennessee & Rodeo Valleys, Marin Headlands, Sausalito

Kirby Cove & Bicentennial camps on the Morin Headlands, Golden Gate National Rec Area

Angel Island State Park environmental camps; on San Francisco Bay, Tiburon