



JOSHUA TREE EXPLORATION *TRIP ITINERARY AND EXPECTATIONS*



Joshua Tree National Park is immense and infinitely variable, the confluence of two desert ecosystems, the dry Colorado and the wetter Mojave. "JTree" is a hiker's dream with its mild winter climate and interesting geologic formations, plants, birds and wildlife. Each day we have the opportunity to explore trails and canyon oases, scramble amongst the rocks, and trek across lost mining roads, discover outlaw hideouts and summit peaks under bright sun and blue sky, where bighorn sheep and golden eagles add an air of unconcerned majesty to the land. During the evenings we can take short nature hikes, listen to the sounds of the wild desert and relax by the fire under the canopy of stars in the night sky. Come join us for clear skies and clean air, and the peace and tranquility, the quietude and beauty, only deserts offer!

In order for your experience to be a pleasurable one, we ask that you thoroughly read the information in the handouts provided and follow the recommendations on the equipment list. This is an outdoor winter trip in the high desert! Cold weather, rain and even snow can be expected. Nighttime temperatures can be freezing. It is always best to be dry, well fed, warm and comfortable while exploring the desert all day! The trip leaders will try to contact you approximately a week before the trip to introduce themselves and to answer any specific questions you may have that were not answered in the information packet. Please feel free to contact the Adventure Center at (805) 893-3737 during business hours if you need any additional information and/or our leaders have not contacted you seven days before departure date.

Minimum Experience Level: No experience necessary, good physical condition

***Sample Itinerary:**

Thursday—Drive from UCSB to Joshua Tree, dinner on the road, set up camp in Indian Cove.

Friday—Breakfast. Explore Indian Cove area, Rattlesnake Canyon and the Wonderland of Rocks! Check out the local oasis. Dinner at camp. Campfire!

Saturday--- Head out to the trail heads! Adventure beckons from sites and trails with names like Skull Rock, Lost Horse Mine, Ryan Mountain, and Hidden Valley. Option: overnight hike. Dinner at camp. Star gazing!

Sunday—Breakfast, pack up, short morning hike, lunch with a view and drive back to UCSB.

*tentative

Departure Location: Near the main entrance of the Recreation Center.

Departure Time: Meet at 3 p.m. so we can load your personal equipment and leave by 4 p.m. As a courtesy to the group, please be prompt. If you are not there on time we will leave without you. No refunds for no-shows.

Approximate Drive Time: 4-5 hours

Approximate Return Time: 8 P.M. on Sunday depending on traffic.

Parking on Campus: Park in Lot #16 across from the Recreation Center if you plan to keep your car on campus for the length of the trip. Daily permits are required Monday through Sunday 7:30 am- 10 pm. Parking info and permit sales are provided from kiosks located at both entrances of campus and dispensers in each lot. If you prefer, you can arrange to be dropped off the morning of the trip. When we return you may call your ride from our office. For more UCSB parking information please check www.tps.ucsb.edu.

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UCSB Adventure Programs Provides:

- Round trip transportation
- Group cooking gear
- Breakfasts and dinners while camping
- First Aid Kits, Water jugs for camp
- Camping, permit, tour and park entrance fees
- Leaders

Participant provides:

- All equipment described on the equipment list
- \$ for road meals (one on Friday and one on Sunday)
- Three lunches while camping.

Meals: If a meal is planned with meat we prepare the meal so non-meat eaters can take their portions before the meat is added. If you have any special dietary restrictions please be sure to notify the trip leaders when they contact you.

Vehicle: We travel in a 12-passenger van. Our trip leaders will be taking turns driving the group to their destination. Once your gear is loaded, you will not have access to it until we make camp. Therefore, please take the necessary items you will need in the van for the duration of the drive (i.e.: books, \$, water, snacks, jacket, etc.). There is NO SMOKING in the van. There will be no radio in the van. If you need music, please bring a personal stereo with headphones. Books and magazines are good as well. Please Note: We cannot guarantee the safety of any equipment left in the van when we are away from the van during meal stops and on the trip.

Group Experience: The trip guides are there to be used as a resource. The work involved during the trip is a group responsibility. We hope everyone will do their fair share of the cooking, cleaning and equipment moving. Everyone also has a responsibility to the group with respect to responsible behavior and being on time to meals and departures. Always inform the leaders of your plans if you wish to head off from the group. The leaders will inform you if such actions are appropriate given the circumstances at that time.

Environmental Concerns: UCSB Adventure Programs follows minimum impact practices according to the guidelines of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. The trip leaders have an information sheet that discusses low impact camping, please take a moment to read over it before you start your hike. More information is available at www.lnt.org.

Feminine Care Information for All Participants: Outdoor adventures typically causes a change or increase in your physical activity level and may alter your menstrual cycle. We understand that feminine care may be a concern and we have several suggestions to help you manage your needs on the trip.

To be adequately prepared, please bring the following:

- Twice the number of tampons, pads, or panty liners you normally use during a cycle. Since you are going to out in the wilderness for a long period of time, plan to bring enough for 2 to 3 cycles.
- 4 to 5 large zip-lock plastic bags (freezer grade quality)
- 2 travel packs of feminine or baby wipes
- 2 travel size bottles of instant hand sanitizer or anti-bacterial soap that does not require water
- 2 extra bandanas (useful for keeping dry when not menstruating)
- An opaque carrying bag you can use to store the zip-log bags containing used products until you can dispose of them. Some suggestions:
 - Place duct tape around the zip-lock bags
 - Bring a small zippered cosmetics case

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- Extra underwear – two to four pairs
- At Adventure Programs, we practice Leave No Trace camping techniques. Therefore, we pack out all that we pack in. This means you will be expected to store used products until you reach the front-country at completion of the trip.

If you need any help or guidance, your trip leaders are very experienced in helping you solve feminine care concerns while you are on your trip. Don't hesitate to ask them any questions you may have on how to deal with a challenge.

No Drugs or Alcohol: University regulations and program policies do not allow alcohol or drugs on this trip. Thank you for your cooperation.

UCSB ADVENTURE PROGRAMS

www.GauchosPlay.com

(805) 893-3737

Refund Policy: Once an offering is **full**, you will be offered a refund (less **\$20 service charge**) **only** if someone **pays** for your spot. If the offering is **NOT** full:

- 30 or more days before the course date- Full refund less \$20 processing fee.
- 29 to 8 days before the course date—50% refund less \$20 processing fee.
 - Less than 8 days before the course date- no refunds available.

For information on other programs we offer, find us at www.GauchosPlay.com



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