

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH ADVENTURE ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS

Time Available

10 minutes

Learning Objectives

1. Identify opportunities available for individuals at the four national high-adventure bases
2. Tell their units about opportunities for individual members to attend a national high-adventure base alone or with a few friends
3. Obtain the needed information for members of their units to sign up for individual opportunities at the four national high-adventure bases

Suggested Presenter(s)

Scouts who have participated in individual opportunities at one or more of the national high-adventure bases, national high-adventure base ambassadors and representatives, and members of the council High Adventure Committee

Presentation Method

- The handout included with this interest topic provides sufficient information for a short presentation. If possible, local council contacts should be added to the handout. In addition, Philmont Scout Ranch has a PDF brochure for individual opportunities (see link in the handout).
- If your prep time allows and you want more information on individual opportunities, it can be found on the websites for the high-adventures bases (links provided in the handout). You may want to create additional handouts with this info and /or prepare slides tailored to your roundtable.

Presentation Content

- Quickly comment that all national high-adventure bases have opportunities for individuals who are not able to attend with a crew to experience their bases. These opportunities include OA service teams, NAYLE, staff, Ranch Hands at Philmont, conservation, STEM trips, and more. Go through a list of the opportunities and the basic requirements.
- Councils often have opportunities to send contingents of individual Scouts and Venturers as one council unit to participate at the bases. Your council High Adventure Committee will have information on how to participate in a contingent unit opportunity.

- Have a recent participant present pictures of their experience. Then distribute information on individual opportunities at all four bases. The intent is that the presenter's excitement about his or her experience will get a lot of attendees excited about the opportunities.
- Ask if anyone else has participated in an individual opportunity at a high-adventure base.
- As time allows, read about some of the opportunities available.
- Take questions.

HANDOUT FOR HIGH ADVENTURE BASE INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITIES

BSA Reference Materials

- Northern Tier programs for individuals, www.ntier.org/About/Summer%20Canoe%20Trips/programs%20for%20individuals.aspx
- Florida Sea Base opportunities, www.bsaseabase.org/ScoutConnections.aspx
- Philmont Individual Opportunities, www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/IndividualProgramsBro.pdf
- Summit Bechtel Reserve Individual Opportunities, www.summitbsa.org/programs/national-high-adventure-base/summit-experience

Individual Opportunities Offered at All High Adventure Bases

NAYLE

- National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience is an exciting program that enhances leadership skills and expands upon the team-building and ethical decision-making skills learned in National Youth Leadership Training. NAYLE emphasizes leadership, teamwork, and selfless service, using the core elements of NYLT to help youth strengthen these skills.
- The NAYLE course is now available at all four national high-adventure bases. The material presented is basically the same at all four venues but is specific to the unique environment of each site.
- Learn about opportunities at all four bases at www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/Resources/NAYLE.aspx
- Provide contact information for your council's NYLT coordinator or other person responsible for arranging to send youth to NAYLE.

OA Service Team Adventures

- These adventures involve a period of service followed by a hike/paddle/sail of equal duration.
- Start with an OA Trail Crew at Philmont, www.philmontscoutranch.org/oatc.aspx. This is usually the least expensive way to go to a high-adventure base.
- Learn about OA high-adventure at all four bases at adventure.oa-bsa.org/index.php
- Florida Sea Base—OA Ocean Adventure, adventure.oa-bsa.org/oaoa.php

- Northern Tier—OA Wilderness Voyage & OA Canadian Odyssey, www.nlcbsa.org/files/d/usr/2/Northern%20Tier%20OA%20Programs.pdf

- Summit Bechtel Reserve—Summit Experience, adventure.oa-bsa.org/oase.php

- Local Lodge Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Staff

- All four national high-adventure bases hire staff for the summer and off-seasons—from Philmont with 11,000-plus summer staffers to the several hundred at the other three bases.
- How can spending a summer with several hundred college-age people not be FUN?
- A wide variety of skills is needed in the positions available at each high-adventure base. An individual need only qualify for one position.
- Requirements vary depending on the base and the position.

Unique Offerings

Philmont Scout Ranch

- **Ranch Hands (coed)**—Spend eight days working at a horse camp and eight days riding around Philmont on a horse.
- **Rayado**—The ultimate wilderness challenge, Rayado will challenge you to build the advanced outdoor skills and confidence you need to lead groups in the back-country. There are separate crews for males and females.
- **STEM (coed)**—Ranger guided treks that take a close look at how science, technology, engineering, and math are integrated in Philmont's most popular programs.
- **Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS)**—For those interested in learning more about conservation, resource management, and environmental science, and possibly pursuing a career in one of these fields.
- **Trail Crew Trek (coed)**—14-day educational trek focusing on conservation and leadership development. TCT involves seven days of trail-building, a seven-day trek through Philmont.

Northern Tier

- Join a crew already signed up for Northern Tier that has space for additional crew members. NT has a program to help individuals link up with crews that have openings. This works for both summer canoe trips and winter Okpik trips.
- **Lone Voyageur**—This program allows Scouts 14 and older to attend Northern Tier as part of a provisional crew.
- **Forest Corps**—A leadership training course for outdoor enthusiasts. It is a 14-day program focusing on wilderness canoeing/camping, ecology/conservation education, and Leave No Trace.

Sea Base

- **Individual Scout Connections**—Join a crew already signed up for Sea Base that has space for additional members. Sea Base has a program to help individuals link up with crews that have openings.
- **Divemaster Training Academy**—This program gives Venturers and Boy Scouts the opportunity to further their dive training by becoming a certified PADI Divemaster. This course is free but requires a commitment to either work at Sea Base or with Scuba BSA in your home council.

Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR)

- All high-adventure programs at SBR are available on a provisional basis.
- Boy Scouts and Venturers may join a crew already signed up that has space for additional crew members. SBR has a program to help individuals link up with crews that have openings. This is available for the High Adventure and Summit Experience programs. Making a phone call to SBR is the best way to initiate the process to join an existing crew.
- **High Adventure**—One week each summer is designated as a provisional week for the High Adventure program. During that week, Boy Scouts and Venturers are encouraged to come to the Summit to take part in the high-adventure activities of their choice. Provisional leadership is provided by the camp.