

Troop 212 Owl Canyon Backpack Trip – February 2009

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

Troop 212 will be backpacking at Owl Canyon (35 miles NW of Barstow). This is an ideal preparation trip for Scouts who may not have a lot of backpacking experience. Our main focus on this trip will be the use of backpack gear with a short easy hike through a scenic desert canyon.

Departure: Friday, February 20th at 7:00 PM – Church parking lot. Please arrive promptly for pack inspection.

Return Arrival: Sunday, February 22nd, at approximately 3:30 PM – Church parking lot. Please call the **troop hotline at (310) 816-3510** for updates on arrival.

Hike Location: Owl Canyon Campground
<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/barstow/camping.html>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIVCmTEexe4>

Cost: \$40.00 / \$15.00 (1 dinner, 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts, snacks, patch / \$15 includes gas). **Please bring \$55.00 cash to the troop meeting on Monday, February 16th, with the standard permission slip** which can be found on the website.

Preparation: Troop meeting, Monday, February 16th, packing and cooking demo. Adults encouraged to attend.

Food Shopping: ~~Thursday, February 19th, Stater Bros at 7:00 PM PERFORMED BY THE ADULTS~~

Uniform: **Full uniform for travel Friday evening and Sunday after lunch.**

At a minimum, the following items should be **packed in a backpack (NO black duffel bags)**:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate clothing (Day mid-60°/Night low-30°) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cloth | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Spray |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brim Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Small baggy of Handy-wipes, Toothbrush & paste | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Jacket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Knife | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper & trowel (see below, very important) | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches to light stoves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (small is best) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydration pack or water bottles (<u>filled with water</u>) <u>4 liters minimum</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and Chapstick | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Kit (utensils, bowl, mug, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils, Pens, Notebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook with your name in it | <input type="checkbox"/> Rope – 10 Feet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass | <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle for emergencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag and Pad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots and socks | | <input type="checkbox"/> Small towel |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses |

Although this is desert camping, the nights will be cold, so “be prepared” because campfires are not permitted. Friday night at base camp, there are vault toilets. However, there are no restroom facilities on the trail or at Saturday night’s campsite. Please follow the pack list above, and fill your canteens at home prior to the Friday night departure. You will need this water to cover you for the hiking portion of the trip, both ways/days as well as the Saturday supper and Sunday breakfast. We will be trucking in water from Long Beach for use at the Base Camp, and will be made available for Saturday’s breakfast and Sunday’s lunch at Base Camp. The scouts will be cooking on light weight stoves for both breakfasts and dinner.

The troop owned backpacks will be available at the troop meeting on Monday, February 16th. Other troop owned equipment such as tents, will be assigned to each Scout Friday night at Base Camp, while stoves and cook pots, will be available and distributed on Saturday morning in order for the patrols to prepare breakfast and then pack into their backpacks. Later that same morning there will be a full pack inspection and weigh in at Base Camp. There is no need to purchase a backpack or other special equipment for this event, as the troop owns more than enough. Please keep in mind that a full backpack goal weight is to be no more than one-fourth the weight of the scout carrying it – lighter is even better!

Uniforms will be stored in the vehicles at base camp, and not worn, or carried at hike time, so make sure you have a paper bag or sack with your name on it in order to prevent uniform mix up while being stored. We will return to base camp on Sunday morning. Sunday lunch will be prepared at base camp before departure. No additional money required. If you have any questions, please contact us before the Friday departure (refer to the ScoutTrack directory for phone numbers).

Yours in Scouting,

Duane Jones and John Douglas