

# Troop 212, Winter Backpack Trip, January 17-18

## Location TBD ( AKA; find the snow)

**Cost:** \$17.00 to \$41.00 / \$10.00 (\$ covers the round-trip tram ride to the top of San Jacinto, if we go there, and 1 trail dinner and 1 trail breakfast, not Saturday lunch, which you need to provide) (\$10 for gas). **Please bring \$27.00 cash to the troop meeting on Monday, January 12, with the standard permission slip** which can be found on the website.

**Departure:** **Saturday, January 17 at 6:10 AM** – Church parking lot. Please arrive promptly before departure for quick visual pack inspection and vehicle loading. Be sure to have **filled canteens** or hydration packs for the hike before you leave home

**Return:** **Sunday, January 18 , at approximately 3:00 PM,** back at Church Parking Lot. Please do not depart for home until all the troop gear has been accounted for.

After we depart the church, we will drive to the Palm Springs area to the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway which will take approximately 2 hours...OR we will be going to some other local mountain location, in which case the Tram portion of this trip will not be applicable. We will park there and board the tram. Mt. San Jacinto sits above the Palm Springs area. As you take the tram up, you will go from the desert to the forest which is in the middle of winter. The tram will take you up 6000 feet to an elevation of 8, 516 feet. From the top, you will hike to Round Valley, which is approximately 2 miles from the tram stop. Round Valley sits at the base of Mt. San Jacinto. There we will have a base camp. Experienced hikers will be able to hike further depending on the condition of the trail. Based on current information, the trail is clear but there is approximately 4" of snow in Round Valley. Round Valley does have outhouses. There is no water available other than snow melt. We will have to carry in our water.

The hike to Round Valley while not long does have an elevation gain of 700 feet. It is a hike for experienced hikers when carrying a backpack. Daytime temperatures are expected to be in the 40s but freezing at night. Be prepared for sun, snow, wet, and cold.

For this trip, troop packs will be handed out at the Monday meeting, January 12 where we will be collecting money and permission slips. On Thursday, January 15, our standard mandatory final "bag check" will be held at the church at 7pm, room location to be determined. where we will also distribute the backpacking food for Saturday supper, and Sunday breakfast, stoves, fuel, m a p s , and tents, enabling hikers to finish loading their packs before we depart early (and rapidly) Saturday morning...Each Scout will be responsible for their own Saturday lunch.

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

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate clothing<br>(Day mid-40°/Night mid-20) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cloth                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Jacket               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brim Hat and warm hat for nighttime                | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho/Rain Gear                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches or Flint          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Knife                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Daypack</b>                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils, Pens, Notebook   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (small is best)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Small baggy of Handy-wipes, Toothbrush & paste | <input type="checkbox"/> Rope – 10 Feet            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and Chapstick                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper & trowel                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Sleeping Bag and Pad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 liters of water                              | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Small towels            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Kit (utensils, bowl, mug, etc)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots, <b>extra socks</b>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> BAG LUNCH for Saturday    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle  | <input type="checkbox"/> Money for Sunday lunch    |

Please keep in mind that a full backpack should weigh a bit more than last trip to better prepared for the cold. A good target weight would be no more than one-fourth the weight of the scout carrying it and remember to plan for carrying your share of food and troop gear distributed Friday. There will be NO fires. Fires are not allowed in State Parks.