

Roundtable Scouts BSA Breakout

Scouts BSA High Adventure Trip



Planning a Scouts BSA high adventure trip requires plenty of planning and organization to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all the participants. Here are 12 steps to help you plan your own Scouts BSA adventure:

1. **Find New Experiences** - Look at locations, interests, activities, duration and budget to help you when looking at new experiences for your adventure.
2. **Determine the Dates** - Consider local school schedules, holidays and availability of Scouts and adult leaders when creating your schedule.
3. **Recruit Participants** - Make sure participants meet the age and skill abilities for the chosen destination and activity. Use the guide to Safe Scouting to help you in your planning.
4. **Training and Preparation** - Prepare participants for the specific activities they will be doing on the adventure like sailing, hiking, and wilderness first aid, etc.
5. **Gear and Equipment** - Make sure each participant has the camping gear, clothing, safety equipment, specialized gear, etc., that they need to successfully and safely enjoy the adventure.

6. **Arrange Transportation** - Look at logistics, travel time, travel modes, permits, location and distance.
7. **Permits and Reservations** - Get permits, reservations, permissions, check regulations or restrictions that may apply to your trip including burn bans, closed routes and flooding.
8. **Safety Plan and Risk Management** - Be prepared with emergency protocols, communication plans, medical considerations, safety procedures/guidelines. Make sure parents have needed information to know where their Scouts are and what will happen in case of emergency.
9. **Budget** - Transportation costs, permit, gear and food need to be paid for. Look at fundraising options and plan ahead with plenty of time to fundraise.
10. **Documentation and Paperwork** - such as medical forms, permission slips, waivers, emergency contact info. Any Scouting trip exceeding 72 hours, must obtain a Health Form Part C from every participant completed by an authorized, qualified medical provider.
11. **Communicate and Coordinate** - Maintain open communication and provide regular updates to families.
12. **Evaluate and Debrief** - Conduct a debrief to evaluate the experience and gather feedback for future trips.

Follow these steps to ensure a rewarding and memorable experience for everyone involved!

Discussion Questions:

1. What kind of high adventure trips have your Scouts planned and enjoyed?
2. What are some additional tips you want to share about being prepared for a trip?
3. What kind of fundraising opportunities have you used to help pay for Scouting adventures?
4. When thinking about communication and safety, what are some ideas to stay in communication with families while on an adventure?