



NSYMCA Adventure Guides FAQ'S

What is Adventure Guides?

For years now, the NSYMCA has been helping kids and their parents from across the North Shore to connect with each other through our Adventure Guides program. We invite you to become part of the life-changing experience, rich with meaningful traditions and exciting activities.

What are the accommodations?

We are staying in cabins. The beds are bunks with very simple foam mattresses. Parents sleep in the same cabins as their child(ren).

What should I pack?

At a minimum you need to bring sleeping bags and most folks bring pillows too. In addition the children sometimes bring stuffed animals and blankets, etc. I wouldn't bring a prized possession that you don't want to get lost, stolen, or ruined. Dragging the gear in from the car seems to get everything a little dusty/dirty.

Should I pack food?

Many kids like to have food in their cabins for snacking. It is totally fine, however, I'd please ask that you make them nut free. Dinner will be provided by the hosting camp and be served in the dining hall.

Can I sleep in a tent?

Yes, you can, but bring your own gear. There is plenty of room to set it up outside. You still need to sign up with the North Suburban YMCA and the cost is still the same.

How are rooms organized?

Rooms are usually organized by grade, but there are often times rooms that are mixed grades as some parents have more than one child in the program at one time. In the end, it's pretty flexible and typically "first-come first-served" basis.

My child has a nut and or gluten allergy?

We have all come to understand the concerns associated with food allergies. We can accommodate any allergies with enough notice. Please contact your Group Leader and Nicole Hatfield ASAP at registrar@nsymca.org with any dietary restrictions



What time should I arrive?

You can arrive as early as 12PM on Saturday. Many children have activities and sports on Saturday, so we are flexible and participants can arrive throughout the afternoon, and some even show up later just for the evening.

What are swaps?

Swaps is an activity at the campout where the children trade small toys, candy, trinkets, Shopkins, stuffed animals, etc. Usually the items are less expensive, but still in great shape – this encourages a fun “swapping” experience. It’s very interesting to watch the children figure out the whole process of trading items!

What if we cannot stay the night?

There are always a few families whose schedules won’t allow them to stay overnight, but that doesn’t stop them from coming for the day! It’s very fun for the children to get into PJ’s and hang out with friends – new and old – , then go home for the night – like an undernighter instead of an overnighter!



What is the Schedule?

A schedule will be emailed one week prior to the event. Each campout will be modified to fit your Circle's needs and wants – here is a sample schedule to give you an idea of how a typical autumn weekend may look:

Location: Camp Minikani

Date: October 21-22

Cabins: 1-13 *Indian Rec 36 beds, 1-9 10 beds, 10-13 with 12 beds

Number of People Expected: 103

Camp Minikani Host: (Name of Minikani staff member)

Saturday October 21st

12:00 pm	Arrive at Camp
12:00-2:00 pm	Self-lead activities: Disc Golf Sports Scavenger Hunt
2:00-5:00 pm	Archery Climbing Wall Fishing Horses Boating (weather permitting)
5:30 pm	Dinner/SWAPS
6:00 pm	Pumpkin Carving
8:00 pm	Campfire

Sunday October 22nd

8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00-11:00 am	Archery Climbing Wall
11:00 am	Depart Camp