

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: How do I apply for August Camp?

A: Go to www.augustcamp.org and complete the "August Camp Application & Camper Information" document. Follow directions for filling out electronically and printing or printing and filling out by hand. However you complete it, the form must be signed and mailed to the Registrar, not sent electronically. The address for the Registrar is on the form.

Q: How will I know if I have been accepted to Camp?

A: You will be notified via e-mail of acceptance within a few weeks of receipt of your application.

Q: What happens if I apply and the week(s) I've requested are already filled?

A: If the week(s) for which you have applied are already filled, the Registrar will contact you and give you some alternatives to consider. Perhaps another week IS available and you may decide to change your week. If camp is completely filled or if you can only attend the week requested, the Registrar can retain your deposit to hold a space for you on a waitlist. Your deposit check will not be cashed until such time as a space opens up, you are notified of that open space, and have agreed to take it. Waitlist spaces will only be held with a deposit check. People are waitlisted in the order in which the Registrar receives their deposits. When it becomes likely that no spaces will open up, you will be notified and your deposit check will either be shredded or returned as per your preference.

Q: If I am waitlisted, what are my chances of actually getting into Camp?

A: There is no way to tell how many cancellations will be received for any given week at any given Camp. It has been historically true that as many as 30 people on wait lists are eventually accepted at Camp. The more flexible you can be in the week(s) you want to attend, the better your chances.

Q: If I plan to go to Camp with someone else, how can I be assured we both/all get in?

A: The only way to be sure you and requested tent mates/friends/family will all be accepted for the same week(s) is to send your applications and deposits TOGETHER IN THE SAME ENVELOPE.

Q: What if my flight schedule changes after I mail the Transportation form to the Transportation Coordinator?

A: Please promptly notify the Transportation Coordinator (Virginia Campbell, 20 Witherell St., Bronxville, NY 10708) of schedule changes that significantly affect your arrival time. (917-495-2084 or augcamptrans@gmail.com). Do NOT contact the Registrar.

Q: What if my flight is delayed on my travel day and I will arrive after 2 pm?

A: Call the number given on page 1 of the August Camp Specifics document.

Q: Can I register on line and pay with a credit card?

A: August Camp does not yet have this capability.

Q: What is the age range of August Campers?

A: The majority are age 45-60, with some older and some younger.

Q: Are there single people who come to Camp?

A: Yes—many singles attend Camp.

Q: What will I do for a tent mate if I come alone?

A: You will be assigned a tent mate of the same gender.

Q: What if I am not comfortable with my tent mate?

A: While such cases have rarely been a problem at Camp, reasonable effort would be made to address your concerns. Reassignment, if any, would be dependent on space availability. Ear plugs (e.g., "Mack's" silicone earplugs) are helpful for light sleepers who may be concerned about a snoring tent mate, or even the sounds of crickets and other night creatures.

Q. What are the daily hiking options?

A: Most days there will be hikes offered of 3 or more levels of difficulty and length. In addition, there will generally be a walk of perhaps 2 to 3 miles and approximately 500 feet of elevation gain. The A hikes are the longest, highest, fastest and most challenging, up to 15 miles and sometimes over 3000 feet of elevation gain. The C hikes are shorter, generally about 4 to 5 miles, climb less, generally less than 1000 feet of elevation gain, and are at a slower pace. The B hikes are in between and generally at a less demanding pace than the A hikes.

Q. At what altitude will I be hiking?

A. See the August Camp Specifics document for this information.

Q: What if I don't want to hike every day? What else is there to do?

A: Although August Camp is primarily a hiking camp, we will also schedule some non-hiking excursions to scenic areas, and, if possible, some boating activities. These extra activities may involve extra charges, such as admission fees, or costs of an outfitter. In addition, it is perfectly okay to stay in Camp for the day and relax with a book or your camera.

Q: Will a novice hiker fit in? How about a fast competitive hiker?

A: We offer hikes at a number of different levels so there really is something for everyone. You will enjoy the activities much more if you get in shape ahead of time. Check with your health care provider if you have questions about your ability to participate. Our hike leaders are experienced in helping people of all levels have an enjoyable day. The A hikes are usually challenging enough for most participants.

Q: What overnight activities are planned?

A: In addition to daily hikes, August Camp traditionally offers an overnight car-camping trip or backpack each week. A list of hikes and other activities will be posted on www.augustcamp.org once the hike leaders have completed their planning for the current year's camp.

Q: How hot or cold does it get at Camp? What clothes should I bring? What kind of sleeping bag?

A: Summer temperatures can range from the 30/40's at night to the 80/90's during the day. Consult the equipment list for suggested clothing and gear. A full length pad to put between your cot and your sleeping bag is essential for comfort and warmth.

Q: How can I make my tent "home-like"?

A: Many returning campers bring plastic tarps to put on the ground in the tent (ca. 8' x 10'), with a bathmat or area rug on top. The tents do not have a floor, so having a tarp or rug prevents your backpack, duffle bag, and shoes from getting damp if we have a period of rain and the ground gets moist (which can happen even though the tent keeps you dry). A folding chair is nice for relaxing with a book or around campfire. A limited number of these items may be available for rent from the croo. A good length of cord and clothespins are helpful to set up a clothesline outside the tent.

Q: What is a "sun shower"?

A: It is a water container that can be placed in the sunlight, to heat the water. The collapsible variety, with one side of clear plastic and a tube with showerhead on it (rather than the rigid black plastic "gas can" variety) is easiest to lift up when filled. On a sunny day, the water gets almost too hot to use without diluting it! You can have a very enjoyable hot shower with these devices, used in our wooden shower stalls with a pulley to lift up the bag. Since we will not have access to regular showers in camp, it is highly recommended that every camper purchase a sun shower bag. A 2.5 to 3-gallon size is adequate for a shower. See [this example](#) on the Campmor web site. (However, sunshowers do not get hot without sunshine.)



August Camp Sun Shower Stalls!

Q: Can I get a hot beverage at other than mealtimes?

A: There is a "tea tent" where coffee, tea and hot chocolate are available before breakfast and in the late afternoon. Bring your own (non-breakable) mug and hang it on the mug tree outside the tea tent. We suggest putting your name on your mug.

Q: I have special dietary needs; can that be accommodated?

A: August Camp accommodates vegetarian diets but not vegan diets. **As the cook needs to plan for food purchasing, if you want to avail yourself of the vegetarian option you MUST so indicate on the Camper Information form.** We are a "field kitchen" and cannot accommodate individual food requirements/preferences. We can deal with gluten intolerance by offering rice cereal, rice cakes, baked potatoes, rice and fruit. If you have dietary restrictions, you may need to bring some of your own food to camp. Storage space will be provided. You may NOT be able to partake of every course of every meal. Lactose-free milk is available.

Q: Do we need to bring guidebooks for hiking?

A: No, there is no need to have your own personal maps and guidebooks. However, if you are interested in familiarizing yourself with the area ahead of time, refer to the books listed on www.augustcamp.org under SUGGESTED READING.

Q: Besides the cost for attending camp, are there other expenses?

A: You will need money for all items of a personal nature, including alcoholic beverages and snacks for happy hour. Some activities involve extra charges, such as entrance fees and outfitter charges. We do set up a "Croo Kitty" for tips at the end of each week. What to contribute is up to each individual camper. The August Camp Croo is typically made up of students who work very hard to keep the campers well fed and happy. You may wish to bring a personal check for your contribution. Gratuities in the 10-15% range are typical.

Q: Where do I do my laundry?

A: Camp staff will post information about the closest Laundromat, as well as other helpful information about local churches, medical facilities, etc. Each tent is provided with a bucket and dishpan in case you want to rinse out some small items.

Q: Can I bring my child/grandchild/nephew/niece?

A: Yes, with the understanding that you are responsible for their supervision at all times, and that this is primarily an adult hiking camp, with no formal children's program. There have been many young people age 10 or older who have loved their time at August Camp. The cost is the same, regardless of the age of the camper.

Q: Can I have a guest visit?

A: This depends on the availability of space. There is a per diem charge for guests, which includes their meals.

Q: Can I bring my hairdryer and other appliances to camp?

A: There is no electricity in our camping area. If you have a camera or other device that needs recharging, you may want to consider having spare fully charged batteries available or see if there is an adapter that will allow charging in a car. Some such devices can also run on regular batteries – check your owner's manual.

Q: What kind of medical facilities are available?

A: See the Specifics document for info on this year's location. This information is also posted at Camp.

Q: If I decide to leave camp early for any reason, can I get a refund?

A: No refunds are given for Campers leaving early. Campers are encouraged to obtain trip insurance, such as that offered by TRAVEL INSURANCE SELECT, a company the AMC works with. Phone: 1-800-937-1387 or visit the [web site](#).

Q. How early a flight should I schedule for my departure day?

A. Check the Transportation page for this information. Generally, flights leaving before 10 am on departure Saturdays cannot be accommodated. If you must book an early flight, book it for Sunday and plan to spend Saturday night near the airport.

If, **after reading all the info about Camp on the August Camp website**, www.augustcamp.org, you still have questions, here is contact info for real people:

General and registration info: Trish Niece, 203-265-9584 or augcampreg1887@gmail.com

General Camp questions: Sam Jamke, 603-472-2536, samjamke@myfairpoint.net

Transportation coordinator: Virginia Campbell, 917-495-2084 or augcamptrans@gmail.com

Note: All calls before 9 pm eastern time, please.