



# TRAIL MARKERS

## 2024 PHILMONT TREK TIPS

### SHIP 1610

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#### NEWS

Sixteen deposits are paid. There is room for 8 additional participants. Our official expedition number is 622-A.

#### PROGRAM

##### Shooting Sports

**.30-06 Rifle Shooting** - This program offers a review of firearms and tips for successful and safe shooting. Wildlife conservation and game management are discussed. Metallic silhouette targets provide a challenging experience at **Sawmill's** range. Each participant will reload and fire three rounds.

**12 Gauge Shotgun Shooting** - Shooting trap takes skill, but with some instruction and practice, you may find that you can hit clay birds. Each participant at **Santa Claus** will reload and fire three rounds.

**Cowboy Action Shooting** - This program is conducted at **Ponil**. Bring the Old West to life in this exciting shooting sports activity. Participants will shoot single-action army pistols, lever action rifles, and coach shotguns.

**Muzzle Loading Rifle** - You will use powder, patch, ball, ramrod, and cap to actually load and shoot a .50 or .58-caliber muzzle-loading rifle. This exciting, historic program is offered at **Black Mountain, Clear Creek, and Miranda**.

Additional rounds may be purchased at three for \$1.00 depending on availability.

Sawmill is in the South, Ponil is in the North. No itinerary has both.

In 2023, three itineraries have all three: cowboy action, muzzle load, and shotgun.

**3-D Archery** - This program is offered at **Apache Springs and Cimarroncita**.

#### PHYSICAL READINESS

##### Annual Health and Medical Record (AHMR)

All participants on the trek must submit an AHMR Parts A, B, and C. No other form may be used. The form includes a physical exam signed by a certified and licensed physician (MD, DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant within the last 12 months. For our trek, the form must be no older than July 2023.

If a participant has a risk condition, we should reach out to the Philmont medical staff early. The Skipper will start accepting AHMR in January 2024.



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#### Tips:

- In addition to the form, you must attach a photocopy of your health insurance card, both front and back.
- Immunization section must be completely filled in. A hospital or school shot record is not adequate. Required immunizations include DTaP, MMR, Varcella, and Polio.
- Part B2 has a parental signature. If non-prescription meds (Tylenol, Imodium, etc.) are authorized, check the YES box and sign. If not, check the no box.
- Doctors often fill out Part C by hand. To ensure that the Philmont medical staff can read their name and phone number when calling your doctor, attach their business card to the form.
- Please use the form at [this link](#). It contains the form PLUS the risk advisory that the doctor should review during the physical exam. I'll have printed copies.

For more information about this form, visit [this website](#). The website includes an extensive page with frequently asked questions (FAQ).

#### **THE PHILMONT WAY**

##### The Philmont Wilderness Pledge

1. An absence of litter and graffiti.
2. Respect for Philmont's wildlife.
3. Conservation and proper use of water.
4. Respect for trails and trail signs.
5. Proper use of campsites.

##### Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to -

Be clean in my outdoor manners.

Be careful with fire.

Be considerate in the outdoors.

Be conservation minded

##### Leave No Trace Principles

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize campfire impacts.
6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.



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#### LEADERSHIP

##### Duty Roster

Every backpacking crew has a variety of tasks that must be accomplished each day on the trail - supplying water, cooking, cleanup, navigation, etc. In addition, at Philmont three positions, Crew Chief (Leader), Chaplain Aide, and Wilderness Pledge Guia are specified by Philmont and will be filled by one youth for the duration of the trek - they are permanent assignments. How all of the other assignments are handled is a crew decision. The two most common approaches are to rotate them through the crew so that each crew member does each of them a couple of times, or to make permanent assignments so each crew member does the same job the entire trek.

No matter your choice of "permanent" or "rotating" assignments, a crew starts off using "rotating assignments" and a duty roster. Each crew member should have to opportunity to perform each position at least once during the months of training. The Crew Chief, Chaplain, and Guia positions should be included as rotating assignments on the crew duty roster. This way every member of the crew gets to experience all of the crew assignments, and the crew gets to see each member in the leadership positions.

There are pros and cons to each approach:

##### **Rotating Assignments - the duty roster approach**

1. Pro - Scouts experience all assignments throughout training and the 11 days at Philmont
2. Pro - There is a clear sense that the assignments are fairly allocated.
3. Con - There is considerable variation in performance. For example, not everyone is a good cook.
4. Con - Speed of execution will not be optimum, since each crew member has a new job every day.
5. Con - No matter how well the duty roster is documented, disputes may arise as to who does what.

##### **Permanent Assignments - each crew member has fixed tasks**

1. Pro - Scouts gets to experience all the assignments during the early months of training.
2. Pro - There is no question who does what, eliminating the Crew Chief's need to enforce the duty roster.
3. Pro - Things get done with excellence, quickly. Each task is performed by an expert.
4. Pro - Generally there is more time for blue skies and backcountry program.
5. Con - Scouts do not get to experience all assignments during the final months of training and the 11 days at Philmont.