

Selecting A Great Trek - Part 3

Finalizing Your Trek Choices

March Advisor Briefing

Selecting A Great Trek

- Part 1 - The November presentation designed to educate you about Philmont and its history.
- Part 2 - In January we introduced you to the process of choosing a trek that satisfies the needs and desires of your crew .
- Part 3 - Tonight we will review what to do when your Philmont packages arrive.
- Part 4- During the Watchu Mountain Adventure in May, we will help you optimize your trek to get the most out of it.

Selecting A Great Trek

- By now you should have worked with your crew to identify five treks they would enjoy using information from last year.

Itinerary Selection

About mid March, each Lead Advisor will receive two important mailings from Philmont.

1. A letter with on-line trek selection instructions.
2. A package containing detailed descriptions of the treks available (*TREKS Itinerary Guide*), a wall map and a *Guidebook to Adventure* for each crewmember.

In Mid March

- When your package containing *TREKS Itinerary Guide* and the *Guidebook to Adventure* arrives, check the new *TREKS Itinerary Guide*, or review the on-line information, for any newly added treks or programs that did not exist before that might be a better fit for the difficulty and program selection your crew desires.

In Mid March

Simply compare your previously selected treks from the old guide to those in the new guide. Don't just check the top two or three. Check them all and make adjustments as needed.

Renumbering of treks and some program or camp changes to treks are always expected.

Itinerary Selection Tips

- In advance of the designated on-line selection date, use the worksheets provided by Philmont to have all of your information ready before starting the selection process.
- On the appointed date and time, make your selections as soon as reasonable.

Registering On-line

Have this information handy:

- Crew Expedition number
- Crew Access Code (mailed to you)
- Name and personal contact information of the lead advisor registering including e-mail address
- Number of youth and number of adults in the crew

Registering On-line

- Are you a coed crew?
- You are a Council Contingent?
- Provide your five top itinerary choices with 1 being your first choice (always provide 5 choices)
- Space is also provided if you have a sister crew choosing the same trek

Registering On-line

Your Arrival Information:

- You will arrive at Philmont
- Date and time - Your arrival date is the same as your crew number; ex: 711 = July 11.
- Your arrival time will be 9:15am for all contingents
- You will arrive by chartered bus
- You do not need transportation
- Your first meal at Philmont will be lunch

Sister Crew Request

If you have a sister crew, use these tips:

- Ignore this item unless you want a sister crew taking the same trek
- If you want a sister crew, you must provide their contact information (they must do the same for you)
- The five trek selections of both crews should match exactly

Caution!

All of the information presented tonight is based on our experience from last year. Be sure to review all information from Philmont for any unexpected changes.

What about the arrival card?

- A card located inside the cover of the *TREKS* guide can be used to send in crew arrival information.
- If you provide your arrival information on-line, ignore the card.
- Review your instructions from Philmont for more information and any possible changes. Do not mail the card if the on-line process is used.
- If you choose to use the mail in card, fill out the card completely and return it in no later than 30 days in advance of your arrival at Philmont, and sooner if possible.

Now What?

- Expect a quick reply from Philmont with your assigned trek. This is done by e-mail to the Lead Advisor.
- **IMPORTANT** - Be sure to forward your trek assignment by e-mail to Chief Watchu when you receive it. This information will be used to provide each crew with information at the Watchu Mountain Adventure in May to optimize your trek so you get the most out of it.

Now What?

- If you choose a trek in the Valle Vidal, Philmont will mail you an additional map.
- At your next crew meeting, after your trek is assigned, review the details of your trek so that everyone knows it well. Make it a fun experience by reviewing your trek day-by-day using your map and the *TREKS Itinerary Guide*.

Maps

- After receiving your trek assignment, consult your new *TREKS Itinerary Guide* for the section maps needed and order at least two copies of each from Tooth Of Time Traders at Philmont.

<http://www.toothoftimetraders.com/philmont/>

- Review the route of your trek on the maps with your crew prior to the Watchu Mountain Adventure.
- Be sure to take your Overall wall map to Philmont. It will be used by the Logistics team when you check-in.

Final Trek Review

- At May's Watchu Mountain Adventure your crew will meet with an experienced Philmont trekker to review your assigned trek in detail so that you can get the most out of your Philmont experience.

Closing Thoughts

- Get out and hike as much as possible!
- Help your crew develop a plan to get into shape and work as a team.
- Use the Resources section shown on the Crew Development page of the Watchu Web site for helpful suggestions.

http://www.watchu.org/Crew_Development.htm#resources

Questions?

Enjoy your trek!