

# Tents

From the *Philmont Guidebook to Adventure*: "Philmont uses two-person, free standing backpacking tents (foot print - 4'6" x 7'4") called "The Thunder Ridge". The tent is durable, requires 6-8 stakes (not provided), weighs 5 lb. 4 oz., and is available for your use at no charge. Bivy sacks and hammocks are not acceptable." If you bring your own tent it must be a 2-person or 3-person tent. Typically 3-person backpacking tents have a foot print very similar to that of a 2-person tent. Philmont will allow a single person tent in the event of an odd numbered crew.

The Watchu-recommended crew consists of an odd number of youth (9) and an odd number of advisors (3). In some crews there will be a need for two single person tents since youth and advisors cannot tent together; note that an option in the past for a parent and child to tent together is no longer allowed by Youth Protection guidelines.

Approximately 3 pounds per person is the current "state of the art" target for allocated tent weight. Keeping this in mind, check out the many single-person tent possibilities at retailers such as those listed in the [Equipment](#) section on the [Favorite Links](#) page of the [Watchu Experience](#) Web site.

A less desirable solution is to use a four-person tent to sleep three. This is not recommended and only permitted for the odd advisor and/or odd Scout. This solution results in three adults in one tent and/or three youth members in another. A four-person tent weighing 9 or 10 pounds hits the weight target and allows adequate room for three crew members. Again, check the many possibilities at the links cited above.

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**Phil Fact:** George Webster owned the 70,000-acre Urraca Ranch from 1910 until selling it to Waite Phillips in 1922. He first built a cabin where the Agua Fria Creek joins the Rayado, the spot where Phillips later built his Rayado Lodge and other buildings (today's Fish Camp).

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The eagles do soar high over Webster Lake!

*George Webster*

Urraca Ranch, Rayado, New Mexico