

Horse Expedition Pack List

7 nights at Camp Ondessonk, 7 nights on Trail



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Items to take on the trail (saddle bag provided)

- 2 Water Bottles that hold at least 1 liter
- 2 Pairs of Long Pants to change into
- 7 T-Shirts
- 8 Pairs of Socks (The more the better!)
- 7 Pairs of Underwear
- 1 Sweatshirt/Long Sleeve Shirt
- 1 Set of Raingear
- 1 Pair closed-toe light shoes (tennis shoes)
- 1 Headlamp or Flashlight
- 1 Light Weight Fleece Sleeping Bag
- 1 Toothbrush/ Small Tube of Paste
- 1 Trial Size Stick of Deodorant
- 1 Set of Camping Utensils
- 1 Pair of Shorts
- Bug repellent
- Sun Screen
- Swimsuit



Optional

- Camera
- Folding Pocket Knife

Duffle Bag (Arena/Back at Camp)

- 1 Pair of Long Pants
- 1 Pair of Shorts
- 7 T-Shirts
- 6 Pair of Socks
- 7 Pair of Underwear
- 1 Trial Size Bottle of Soap
- 1 Towel
- 1 Trial Size Bottle of Shampoo
- 1 Pair shower sandals



Horse Expedition Essentials



Howdy! We're glad that you're coming to challenge yourself with a unique, overnight backcountry pack trip at Camp Ondessonk this summer. Horse Expedition will be a pinnacle experience. Here are some tips to make your awesome adventure even better.

What to Bring:

Sleeping Bag: During the summer the temperature generally doesn't drop below 50 degrees. We recommend bringing a simple, inexpensive fleece sleeping bag liner.

Water Bottle: This is the most important piece of personal equipment you will bring. It should be big enough to carry at least a liter and have a sturdy strap for use when riding.

Utensils: Please bring small camping utensils to use on the trail.

Raingear: When picking out raingear, the jacket should be your priority. The most comfortable are lightweight with a mesh lining. Please do not bring a poncho because when riding ponchos tend to flap in the wind, possibly spooking the horses.

Riding Pants: Bring at least two pairs of comfortable, long pants. Jeans are best suited for a full day of riding.

Boots: Riding boots must be closed toed, hard soled, and with a ¾-inch heel. Lug-sole or fashion boots do not fit well into stirrups. Make sure your boots are broken in because you will be walking as well as riding.

Long Sleeves: A shirt or sweatshirt made of polyester or fleece is the best way to go. Avoid cotton since it will not keep you warm if it gets wet.

Pocket knife: This tool comes in very handy in the woods. Make sure your knife is sharp; a dull knife is a hazard. The blade should be about 4 inches long, and folding blades are preferred.

Camera (optional): Disposable and waterproof cameras are the most durable and travel best.

What to Expect:

Campers: Horse Expedition is the ultimate experience in back-country camping by horseback. The beginning of the two weeks will be devoted to reviewing the basics of grooming, saddling, riding, and camping. We will spend time in the arena and on the trail to get prepared for our two overnight trips.

The first overnight trip will be two nights at familiar campsites. When we return, we will begin intense planning and packing for our five night backcountry trip. Once on our trip, you will experience the beauty of the Shawnee National Forest by horseback.

Every evening, we will cook our meals after setting up our very own campsite. As the sun sets, we will water and graze our horses for the night. When the stars come out, you can enjoy the coziness of a crackling campfire.

Horse Expedition will challenge your riding skills, your ability to work as a team, and your outdoor knowledge. It will be an unforgettable two weeks!

Parents: Your camper will spend the majority of his or her time at Camp Ondessonk on an overnight horseback trip. He or she will receive mail periodically.

Each camper will be assigned a horse according to riding level. Throughout the week, we will progress from intermediate material to advanced knowledge along the trail. By the end of the week, campers will have a mature understanding of the responsibilities of horse ownership, and the adventure of overnight group camping.

Campers should bring older clothes that can get dirty. If your camper comes home with perfectly clean clothes, he or she may have missed out on all the fun!