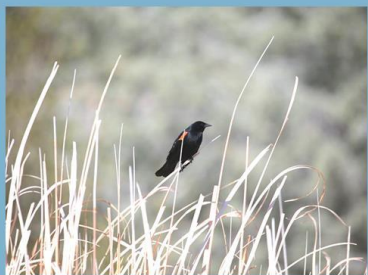


# 2019

## Family Camp Welcome Packet



35510 Pathfinder Rd.  
Mountain Center, CA 92561  
(951) 659-2455  
[www.pathfinderranch.com](http://www.pathfinderranch.com)

Welcome to Pathfinder Ranch!

Thank you for choosing Pathfinder Ranch for Family Camp. We are certain that your stay at camp will be enjoyable, relaxing, and that you and your family will have a lasting, positive experience.

Pathfinder Ranch is nestled in the foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains on seventy-two acres. We are at an elevation of about 4,500 feet and border the San Bernardino National Forest, which offers thousands of additional acres of hiking and exploration. Our programs at Pathfinder Ranch run year-round. In addition to our Family Camp program, Pathfinder Ranch also offers a year round residential Outdoor Education School, Retreat and Conference program as well as a residential Summer Camp. If you are interested in any of our other programs, please let us know.

Enclosed is some information that you may find useful:

- Pathfinder Ranch Camp Rules
- Example Schedule
- Participant Pre-screening
- Packing List
- Directions to Camp
- FAQ Sheet

Again, thank you for choosing Pathfinder Ranch. We are confident that you will enjoy your stay with us, and we look forward to helping you and your family have a memorable time here at camp. If there is anything you may have thought of that would help make your stay more enjoyable, please feel free to contact us and we will do all that we can to accommodate your needs.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth "Otter" Hueter-Willoughby  
Recreation Manager

Please review the following rules with your family members prior to arriving at Pathfinder Ranch. Noncompliance could result in the individual, family, or group's expulsion from camp property. The Camp Coordinator (or other Pathfinder Ranch Employee) will be available during arrival day to answer any questions you might have and they will hold an orientation during your first meal:

### **ACTIVITY SIGN-UPS**

Individuals and families may sign-up for specific activities during their arrival and check-in time. Activity sign-ups for late arrivals will be offered during the first meal as well. Pathfinder Ranch will provide activities that are weather appropriate and in the event of inclement weather some activities may be moved indoors and/or a safer activity may be offered in its place.

### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted during Family Camp events. Individuals, families, or groups who cannot abide by this policy will be asked to leave immediately.

### **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE**

Upon arrival, a representative of the family/group will be asked to check-in at the Dining Hall (follow the signs upon arrival). A brief orientation will be provided to acquaint the families with Pathfinder Ranch policies and procedures. Arrival and departure times are as follows:

- **Arrival:** Saturday between 9:00 am and 11:00 am
- **Departure:** Sunday before 1:00 pm

Pathfinder Ranch reserves the right to expel any group or member thereof which Pathfinder Ranch, in its sole discretion, deems a risk to his/herself or others.

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Please respect our natural environment. Picking of flowers or any removal of natural materials is prohibited. When hiking, stay on trails. Please place litter in trashcans, and all recyclable material in blue bins.

### **FIREARMS**

Firearms, ammunition, and weapons, as well as hunting and fishing, are not allowed on camp at any time.

### **FIRE**

All campfires must have **prior approval** and must be built in designated fire rings. The use of flammable liquids of any kind to start a fire is prohibited. Fireworks are prohibited. No gasoline, flammable liquids, explosives or poisonous substances may be stored or used at any time.

### **FOOD**

For any individuals that want to bring additional snacks and food, we ask that you bring appropriate food storage containers with you and store those items in your vehicle. There will not be space in your cabins nor in the Dining Hall for storage of personal food items. Please also be aware that severe Peanut allergies are common. Please do not bring snacks that contain peanuts, for the protection of those individuals.

### **LODGING**

Please do not move beds or storage cabinets. Help conserve energy by turning out lights when not in lodge. If the heat is on, make sure all windows and doors are closed. Please do not move beds or cabinetry. When departing, please pick up any trash left behind, sweep floors, and clean off bunks. Pathfinder Ranch does not supply linen or cleaning services during your stay. You should bring your bedding, towels, and personal items for the duration of our stay. Cleaning and general housekeeping is the responsibility of each group during their stay and before departing. Charges will be assessed to the individual, family, or group for damages, as well as unnecessary cleaning.

### **MEALS**

Meal times are pre-established and all guests and campers are expected to arrive promptly to all meals in order to ensure quality service; **campers who arrive to meals 30 minutes past the posted meal time should not expect to be served.** Meals will be facilitated by a Pathfinder Ranch Staff member and they will provide a brief orientation to the Dining Hall prior to the start of the first meal. The Dining Hall building may be closed to any and all clients, participants, and guests for cleaning purposes. All meals are served “family style” which means each table will be given serving platters of each item and they will be expected to pass the serving platters around to each camper seated at the table. The Dining Hall prepares enough food for each camper to receive second helpings at each meal and our Dining Hall staff members are quite proficient at feeding large numbers of people. But please understand that we do not operate like a restaurant; **you will not be able to “order” additional food at will.**

### **MEDICAL**

Pathfinder Ranch is not responsible for providing medical services or supplies. We recommend that each individual and family arrive with their own basic first aid supplies. If you have a serious emergency, accident or sudden illness, call for an ambulance from the office, your cell phone, or by contacting the Camp Coordinator. Emergencies must be reported immediately to the Camp Coordinator or another Pathfinder Ranch employee. Please remember that you are responsible for providing immediate first aid and transportation for yourself, your family, or your group, when necessary.

### **NOISE CURFEW**

In compliance with Pathfinder Ranch’s Conditional Use Permit with the County of Riverside, all loud or disturbing noises (including all Group activities) must cease from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. The use of PA or other sound systems outdoors is strictly prohibited.

### **PETS**

Personal animals/pets are not permitted at Pathfinder Ranch; only Service Animals accompanying persons with disabilities are permitted. The Service Animal must meet the

current requirements established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Pathfinder Ranch has the right to inquire about the following:<sup>1</sup>

- Is this animal required because of a disability?
- What work or task has this animal been trained to perform?

### **PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY**

All campers are asked to respect the privacy of any and all Pathfinder Ranch clients, guests, and campers. If asked, Family Camp attendees will refrain from taking and/or publishing photos and/or videos of anyone not affiliated with their own family or group; this includes the use of aerial drones.

### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- Firearms
- Ammunition
- Weapons
- Fireworks
- Candles with Open Flames
- Cooking Grills
- Explosives
- Flammable Liquids
- Poisonous Substances
- Illegal Drugs &/or Paraphernalia
- Fishing Gear/Equipment
- Hunting Gear/Equipment

### **RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

Spaces for parking Recreational Vehicles, Trailers, and Over-sized Vehicles are available upon request and advance notification is required. Spaces are limited as Pathfinder Ranch is not designed for these accommodations. Utility hookups for electricity and water are not available. The lodging and meals cost billed to the individual or family will not be altered for individuals choosing to reside in a Recreational Vehicle or Trailer.

### **RIGHT OF REFUSAL:**

The Group understands that Pathfinder Ranch reserves the right of refusal of its services and resources to any group, family, or individual(s) that cannot reasonably comply with the responsibility requirements or which displays behavior which Pathfinder Ranch, in its sole discretion, determines to be unreasonable or unsatisfactory.

### **SMOKING**

There is a designated smoking area for use of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and vaporizers located behind the Pathfinder Ranch Dining Hall. Smoking anywhere outside of the designated smoking area is prohibited due to secondhand smoke inhalation considerations and wildfire concerns.

### **STAFF LED PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES**

Pathfinder Ranch instructors and staff are not responsible for the supervision of attending Family Camp members. Adventure Program Activities will require the presence of a Pathfinder Ranch instructor; Horseback Riding and Climbing are examples of such Adventure Program Activities. All Adventure Program participants must submit a signed Pathfinder Ranch waiver in order to participate, and this is usually completed during the registration process. Participants

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.adapacific.org/ada/info/serviceAnimals.php>

## **CAMP RULES**

Pg. 4 (to be read by ALL guests)

under the age of 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian. Certain health, age, size, or weight restrictions may apply due to the nature of certain activities.

### **SUPERVISION**

Family Camp is an inclusive program that is designed to provide communal recreation experiences for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Pathfinder Ranch will provide staff supervision and facilitation for all structured Adventure Program Activities. Families and groups are responsible for determining a need for increased supervision of minors; we recommend that children under the age of 12 be accompanied by an adult at all times. All pool activities must be under the direct supervision of a certified Lifeguard, who is certified in standard First Aid and CPR; Pathfinder Ranch will provide a certified Lifeguard for all pool activities.

### **TENT SPACES**

Tent Camping is restricted to designated areas and must be requested and approved prior to arrival. Outdoor fires are not permitted around Tent Camping sites. Fires are only permitted in established indoor fireplaces and designated outdoor fire rings with permission of Pathfinder Ranch and in accordance with Riverside County fire restrictions. The lodging and meals cost billed to the individual, family or group will not be altered for individuals choosing to reside in a tent or other temporary shelter.

### **VEHICLES**

Park vehicles in designated areas **only**. Please stay on designated roads at all times, abide by the 10 miles per hour speed limit throughout camp, as well as the 25 mph speed limit surrounding camp, and comply with all stop signs. At no time are guests allowed to travel in vehicles that are not designated for passengers.



**EXAMPLE  
SCHEDULE**

Below you will find an example schedule of events and activities for Family Camp weekends. An updated schedule of activities will be emailed out one week prior to your arrival.

<b>SATURDAY: ACTIVITY DAY</b>	
<b>9am- 11am</b>	<b>Arrival and activity sign ups</b>
11am-12pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Program Block
<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Lunch @ Dining Hall</b>
1pm-2pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Program Block
2 pm-3 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Program Block
3 pm- 4 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Program Block
4 pm- 5 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Program Block
<b>5:30</b>	<b>Dinner @ Dining Hall</b> (Sign-up if you have a skit or a song that you would like to do)
7-8:30pm	Campfire & Skit Program @ Fort followed by Star Gazing
<b>SUNDAY: DEPARTURE DAY</b>	
<b>9am</b>	<b>Brunch @ Dining Hall</b>
10am-12am	Sunday Fun activity
	Packing up and farewells
1:00am	Final departures.

Families are encouraged to explore the surrounding San Bernardino National Forest during your stay at Pathfinder Ranch. Hiking trails can be accessed directly from Pathfinder Ranch Property and a basic trail map can be obtained from Pathfinder Ranch staff members.

## **PARTICIPANT PRE-SCREENING**

(to be read by ALL guests)

This applies to all people attending Pathfinder Ranch Family Camp

For your safety and for the safety of those around you, please DO NOT participate in Adventure Program activities (Climbing, Alpine Tower, Zip-line, Horseback Riding, Hiking, Canoeing, etc.) if any of the following conditions apply:

- Over 250 lbs in body weight
- Pregnancy
- Cardiac Disease
- Received an Organ Transplant
- Currently experiencing Abdominal Organ Enlargement (ex: Mononucleosis)
- Active Orthopedic and/or joint problems such as
  - Rheumatoid Arthritis
  - Recent Fracture or Sprain
  - Current Sutures or Staples
- History of Head, Neck, or Back injuries
- Any condition that a physician has determined creates a limitation to physical activity or if you think that participating in Adventure Program activities will aggravate any previous medical condition

Further questions or concerns about activity participation or restrictions can be directed towards:

Elizabeth Hueter-Willoughby  
*Recreation Manager*  
(951) 659-2455 Ext. 19  
[recreation@pathfinderranch.com](mailto:recreation@pathfinderranch.com)



**PACKING LIST**

Wondering what to pack for your stay at Pathfinder Ranch? Here is a short checklist of *recommended* items to help prepare you for your stay at camp.

**PERSONAL**

- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Camera

**CLOTHING**

- Closed toed shoes (tennis shoes/boots)
- Sunglasses
- Durable Socks
- Long Pants
- Both short and long sleeved shirts
- Sweater/Sweatshirt/Warm Jacket
- Rain gear
- Hat to protect from the sun

**CABIN/LODGE ITEMS**

- Sleeping bag/bedding/blankets
- Pillow
- Towel
- Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- Personal first-aid supplies (bandages, triple antibiotic ointment, etc)
- Shower shoes
- Playing cards, board games, and books
- Journal or diary

**COLD WEATHER GEAR (October – April)**

- Heavy jacket
- Extra sweaters or sweatshirts
- Long underwear
- Warm gloves
- Winter hat
- Extra Warm Socks

**IMPORTANT NOTES**

- Pathfinder Ranch is situated at an elevation of 4,500 feet. Our mountain temperatures vary widely, so please bring both warm and cold weather clothing options.
- Cell phone service (other than AT&T and Verizon) is extremely limited. Do not plan on your cell phone to get service in this area.

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:**

35510 Pathfinder Rd.

Mountain Center, CA 92651

*Latitude: 33.600696 Longitude: -116.597342*

**FROM HEMET:**

Take Hwy. 74 (Florida Ave.) east through Mountain Center and past Lake Hemet. The ranch is approximately 8 miles past the lake. Turn left onto Devil's Ladder (there is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1 ½ miles back into camp.

**FROM SAN BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE:**

Take Hwy. 60 east to the Gilman Springs exit (Hemet/San Jacinto). Follow Gilman Springs Rd. to Hwy. 79 south. Take Hwy. 79 to the Ramona Expressway and turn left. Stay on the Ramona Expressway until it ends at Florida Ave./Hwy. 74 and turn left. Take Hwy. 74 (Florida Ave.) east through Mountain Center and past Lake Hemet. The ranch is approximately 8 miles past the lake. Turn left onto Devil's Ladder (there is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1 ½ miles back into camp.

**FROM LOS ANGELES:**

Take I-10 or Hwy. 60 east to I-15 south. Follow the 15 to Temecula and take Hwy. 79 south (Indio). Take Hwy. 79 to Hwy. 371 and turn left. You will go through the town of Anza (don't blink) to Hwy. 74 where you will turn left. Follow Hwy. 74 approx. 2 ½ miles and turn right on Devil's Ladder (there is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1-½ miles back into camp.

**FROM ORANGE COUNTY:**

Take the 91 Freeway toward Riverside to I-15 south. Follow the 15 to Temecula and take Hwy. 79 south (Indio). Take Hwy. 79 to Hwy. 371 and turn left. You will go through the town of Anza (don't blink) to Hwy. 74 where you will turn left. Follow Hwy. 74 approx. 2 ½ miles and turn right on Devil's Ladder (There is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1 ½ miles back into camp.

**FROM SAN DIEGO:**

Take I-15 north to Hwy. 79 (Indio exit). Take Hwy. 79 to Hwy. 371 and turn left. You will go through the town of Anza (don't blink) to Hwy. 74 where you will turn left. Follow Hwy. 74 approx. 2 ½ miles and turn right on Devil's Ladder (there is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1-½ miles back into camp.

**FROM PALM SPRINGS/PALM DESERT, ETC.:**

Take Hwy 111 to Monterey turn right becomes Hwy 74 as you ascend the mountain. Follow Hwy. 74 west up the mountain past Hwy. 371 and continue on for approx. 2 ½ miles and turn right on Devil's Ladder (there is a Pathfinder Ranch sign) and follow the signs for about 1 ½ miles back into camp.

You may have some questions/concerns about your stay at Pathfinder Ranch. Here are some answers to our most common questions.

**Where *exactly* is Pathfinder Ranch?**

Pathfinder Ranch is located in the town of Mountain Center, CA -- about 1.5 hours northeast of San Diego, 2 hours southeast of Los Angeles, and 2 hours north of the Mexican border. We are about 1 hour from Palm Desert, Temecula, and Riverside.

*Latitude: 33.600696 Longitude: -116.597342*

**What else is “out there”?**

The San Bernardino National Forest is Pathfinder Ranch’s backyard. It offers a variety of hiking, climbing, and mountain biking opportunities. Visitors enjoy the solitude and pristine settings afforded by the mountains. The area is home to many wildlife species including bobcats, stellar jays, deer and coyotes, which you may hear at night. There are also a few small, quaint towns nearby. Idyllwild is about 20 minutes away from camp and has a grocery store, various other shops and restaurants, and even a movie theater. Idyllwild also has climbing, hiking, and park access. The town of Anza (about 15 minutes away from camp) has a few restaurants, shops, a 24-hour Circle K, and a Dairy Queen.

**What’s the weather like?**

Pathfinder Ranch is in a high desert environment. During the summer months (May – September), expect hot, sunny weather *most* of the time. Typically, the temperatures during the day are in the 80s and 90s and *dry*. Even during the warmer months, nights can get cool (50s). Even during the summer, be sure to bring a warmer set of clothing. From October – April, temperatures are a bit cooler. Daytime temperatures can range in the 50s – 60s throughout the day, and 40s or colder at night. If you are coming in our cooler months, be sure to bring warm clothing as well as warm bedding items.

**What’s the food like?**

An *example* of meals for the day would be: pancakes and bacon for breakfast, pizza and salad for lunch, and baked chicken and vegetables for dinner. Exact meal items will vary depending on what the Dining Hall is prepared to serve. Meals will be served “family style” in our Dining Hall. If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please ensure that you’ve included that information in the registration process. This will help us assess our ability to meet your specific dietary needs.

**Where will I be sleeping?**

Pathfinder Ranch has “rustic” cabins for our guests to relax. Each cabin has bunk style beds for sleeping, a bathroom with showers and toilets, and “lounge area”. And no need to worry, all of our cabins have electricity and running, hot water. However, you will need to provide your own bedding (bed sheets/pillow/sleeping bag/etc.). Note: there are no TVs, Radios, or Computers in the cabins. We recommend that you leave your electronic devices at home so that you can get the most out of your natural surroundings.

**Will I get cellular reception at camp?**

While AT&T and Verizon have been proven to provide reliable cell service throughout our camp, other cell phone providers may not be available.

**Is there internet at Pathfinder Ranch?**

While wireless internet is available in camp, internet speeds on the mountain are very slow. Streaming speeds are not what you would find elsewhere, so don't expect to stream movies or participate in a video conference.

If you have any other questions or concerns, or would like more information on any of our other programs, please don't hesitate to call.

**Contact Information:**

General:	(951) 659-2455
Conference/Retreat:	(951) 659-2455 x.19
Outdoor Education School:	(951) 659-2455 x.12
Summer Camp:	(951) 659-2455 x.17