

# 2026 Summer Camp Guide

Rooted in Nature, Connected by the Stars

**DAY CAMP**  
Merrie-Wood  
Manchester

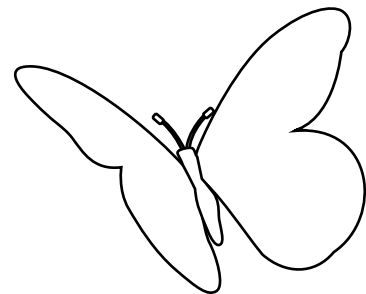
**SLEEPAWAY  
CAMP**  
Yankee Trails  
Tolland

**Registration Opens:**  
November 28 | Returning Campers  
December 3 | Members  
December 5 | Open to All



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# Dear Campers & Families,

**Welcome to a year of growth and adventure! Our theme for this year is Rooted in Nature, Connected by the Stars.**

At Girl Scout summer camp, every adventure begins with a spark—whether it’s the thrill of sleeping under the stars, the challenge of building a fire, or the joy of discovering a hidden trail. Rooted in nature, campers grow confidence, independence, and resilience with every step. Camp is where friendships form around the campfire, where curiosity turns into courage, and where everyone can explore who they are and who they want to become. Guided by tradition, fueled by fun, and connected by the stars, the Girl Scout camp experience empowers Girl Scouts to shine—today and for all their tomorrows.

**We look forward to an incredible summer!**

The Outdoor Program Team

Feature	Camp Merrie-Wood	Camp Yankee Trails
Location	Manchester, CT	Tolland, CT
Type	Day Camp	Sleepaway Camp
Drop-Off	Monday-Friday   8:45-9:00 AM	Sunday, 3:00-5:00 PM
Pick-Up	Monday-Friday   4:00-4:15 PM	Friday, 3:00-5:00 PM
Food	Snacks are provided, but campers need to bring lunch everyday. Girl Scouts will participate in weekly age appropriate outdoor cooking.	Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided daily along with snacks throughout the day. Girl Scouts will participate in weekly age appropriate outdoor cooking.
Transportation	Bus routes offered	Not available
Financial Aid	Available on request	Available on request



Scan QR code to find a Bus route



Scan QR code for Financial Assistance



Need help? Contact Us

# Why Choose Girl Scout Camp?



Girl Scout summer camps offer numerous advantages for Girl Scouts to foster independence, confidence, and leadership skills in a supportive environment. Campers participate in outdoor activities, build friendships, and develop a love for nature. They earn badges and gain valuable life skills, all while having fun and creating lasting memories.

## Experiencing a Safe and Supportive Environment:

Girl Scout camps are designed to be safe and supportive, with trained counselors and staff who create a positive and encouraging atmosphere.

## Developing Leadership Skills:

Girl Scout camps encourage campers to take on leadership roles, make decisions, and work together as a team. They have opportunities to plan activities, lead games, and even mentor younger campers.

## Fostering a Love for the Outdoors:

Girl Scout camps emphasize outdoor activities like hiking, swimming, and exploring nature. This helps campers develop an appreciation for the natural world and learn about the environment.

## Creating Lasting Friendships:

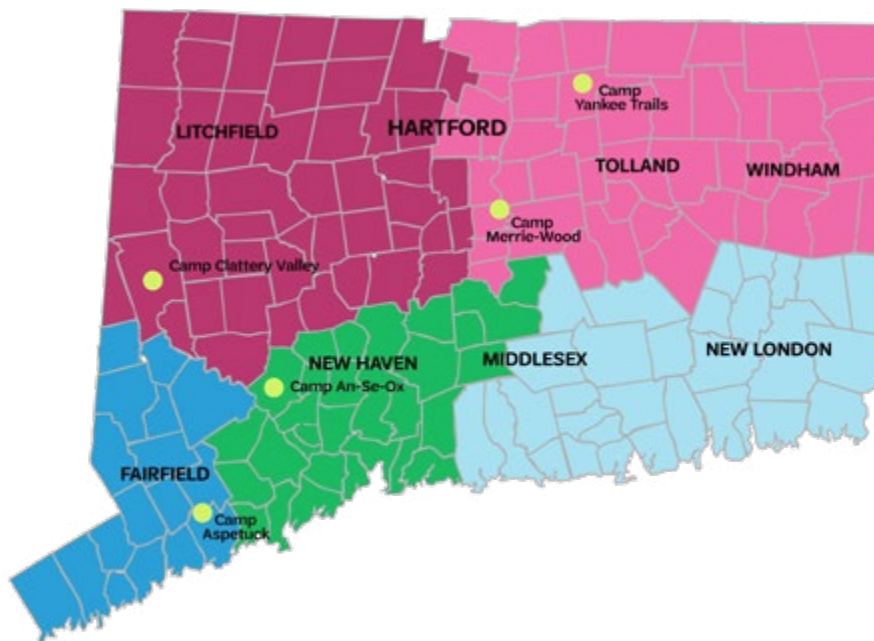
Camp provides a unique opportunity for campers to connect with others their age, make new friends, and build strong bonds that can last a lifetime.

## Earning Badges and Awards:

Girl Scout camps offer a variety of activities that allow campers to earn badges and awards, recognizing their achievements and accomplishments.

## Learning New Skills:

From archery and swimming to arts and crafts and outdoor cooking, Girl Scout camps offer a wide range of activities that allow campers to try new things and develop new skills.



Explore all  
GSOFC Camps  
scan QR code

# Camp Merrie-Wood | Manchester, CT

Day Camp | Entering Kindergarten-12th grade

Camp Merrie-Wood is located on 7 acres with lots of fun activities including outdoor cooking, archery/slingshot, arts and crafts, singing, and theatre. It is also the only camp with a Brook Stomp!

★ Drop-off: **8:45-9:00 AM**

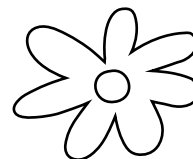
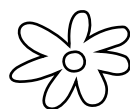
★ Pick-up: **4:00-4:15 PM**

## Camp Units

Across our camp properties, Girl Scouts are divided into groups by age levels. Depending upon the specific camp week and enrollment, campers may be in different age groups if they attend a variety of camp weeks. Campers may mutually request a buddy to be placed with them.



Scan QR code to  
find a Bus route

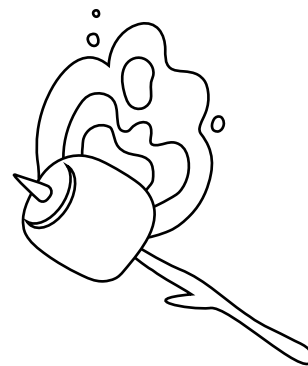


Merrie-Wood patch is available at  
GSOFACT shops!

Visit [gsofact.org/shop](https://gsofact.org/shop) to find a shop near you!

# Camper Weeks

Entering Kindergarten through 12th grade



## Week 1 | July 6th-10th: Stars & Stripes

\$335-\$410

**(Celebrating Community, Good Neighbor, and Inside Government Badges)**

Celebrate what makes our country unique through games, traditions, and classic camp fun. Lead a flag ceremony, make patriotic crafts, and show your community spirit with small acts of service. From backyard BBQ vibes to all-American challenges, this week honors what unites us—Girl Scout values and summer fun.

## Week 2 | July 13th-17th: The Great Outdoors

\$335-\$410

**(Eco Learner, Outdoor Adventurer, Naturalist Badges)**

Explore the woods, dig in the dirt, and learn how to make the outdoors your happy place. Campers will build shelters, identify local wildlife, make nature-inspired art, and cook over a campfire.

## Week 3 | July 20th-24th: Trail Trek (overnight week)

\$360-435

**(Camper, Trail Adventure, and Trailblazing Badges)**

Get your boots on and your backpacks ready—it's time to hit the trail! **Every camper** this week will learn essential camping and backpacking skills like how to pack a bag, pitch a tent, purify water, and read a trail map. It's all about building confidence and outdoor know-how through hands-on practice and outdoor fun.

★ **Older campers (6th grade and up)** have the option to prep for and complete a **real one-night backpacking adventure**, carrying their gear, hiking into the woods, and camping as a team. Note: Overnight is optional. Permission slips will be distributed 2 weeks prior.

☆ All campers can participate in late night that includes a campfire, dinner, and evening activities.

Whether you're roasting marshmallows or filtering water, this is the week to find your wild side and blaze your own trail!

## Week 4 | July 27th-31st: Ocean Olympics

\$335-\$410

**(Water Fun, Athlete, Outdoor Adventurer Badges)**

This week is filled with wild and wacky water games, outdoor challenges, and friendly team competitions. From sponge relays to slip-and-slides, sprinkler obstacle courses to DIY boat races, campers will cool off and cheer each other on as they compete for glory in the Ocean Olympics.

## Week 5 | August 3rd-7th: Where in the World?

\$360-\$435

**(Global Action, World Thinking Day, and Global Citizen Badges)**

Pack your (imaginary) passport—this week we're exploring the world, no plane ticket required! Each day, journey to a different continent through crafts, stories, games, and snacks inspired by cultures around the globe.

All Girl Scouts who participate in weeks 3 & 5 can participate in a late night that will include a campfire and dinner as well as some evening activities.

# Leadership Programs

Entering 7th–12th grade



Our **Program Aide (PA)** and **Counselor-in-Training (CIT)** programs offer Girl Scouts the chance to step into leadership roles, gain hands-on experience, and build confidence that lasts well beyond summer.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE: All leadership programs are offered in sessions that span multiple weeks (not including weekends). Leadership program participants must attend all weeks in the session AND be dropped off each Monday of the session and picked up each Friday of the session for both day camp and sleepaway camp.**

## Program Aides (PAs)

For rising 7th–9th graders, the Program Aide pathway is a progressive leadership experience—PA1s learn the basics of helping staff and caring for campers, PA2s build confidence by leading short activities with guidance, and PA3s take on junior leader roles, mentoring others and preparing for the CIT program.

### Merrie-Wood Leadership

Program	Session	Price
PA1	July 20th–31st*	\$570–\$645
PA2	July 20th–31st*	\$570–\$645
PA3	July 6th–17th*	\$570–\$645

### Yankee Trails Leadership

Program	Session	Price
PA1	August 3rd–14th*	\$1100–\$1175
PA2	July 20th–31st*	\$1100–\$1175
PA3	July 6th–17th*	\$1100–\$1175

## Counselors-in-Training (CITs)

For rising 10th–12th graders (must be 14+), CITs focus on leadership development, camper care, and program facilitation. Through multi-week training and mentorship, CITs gain real-world experience and prepare for future roles as camp counselors.

### Merrie-Wood Leadership

Program	Session	Price
CIT1	July 20th–31st*	\$520–\$595
CIT2	July 20th–August 7th*	\$780–\$855
CIT3	July 6th–August 7th*	\$1300–\$1375

### Yankee Trails Leadership

Program	Session	Price
CIT1	July 6th–17th* OR July 20th–31st*	\$1100–\$1175
CIT2	July 20th–August 14th*	\$2300–\$2375
CIT3	July 6th–August 14th*	\$3450–\$3525

# Leadership Programs

Entering 4th–8th grade

**Note: All experiences are offered every week with no additional registration required.**



## Day Camp

### Junior Aide Program

Rising 4th and 5th Graders (Juniors)

All Junior Girl Scouts at day camp will participate in the Junior Aide experience. They'll:

- ★ Explore how to be a positive role model, learning how to lead songs, games, etc.
- ★ Lead an activity block for Daisies with support from camp staff.

By the end of the session, they'll earn the Junior Aide Award!

## Sleepaway Camp

### True North Program

Rising 4th and 5th Graders (Juniors)

All Junior Girl Scouts at sleepaway camp will participate in the Junior True North experience. They'll:

- ★ Explore their values, learn about goal setting and planning.
- ★ Practice how to act with courage, confidence, and character.

By the end of the session, they'll earn the Junior True North Award, a first step in their leadership journey!

## Day Camp & Sleepaway Camp

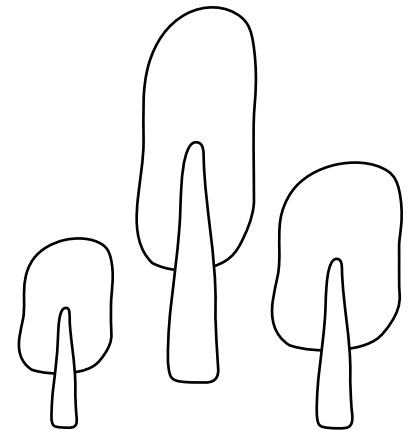
### Cadette True North Program

Rising 6th–8th Graders (Cadettes)

All Cadette Girl Scouts (who are not part of the Program Aides) will participate in the True North Award experience. They'll:

- ★ Explore their personal values, set a goal that matters to them, and take action with courage and confidence.
- ★ Be guided through reflection, teamwork, and creative challenges that help them stay true to who they are and what they believe in.

By the end of the session, they'll earn the True North Award, a step in the right direction for their Silver Award!



Learn more about Leadership Programs  
at [gsofct.org](https://gsofct.org).

# Camp Yankee Trails | Tolland, CT

Sleepaway Camp | Entering 2nd -12th grade

Yankee Trails is back and better than ever! Enjoy the outdoors with exciting upgrades including brand new yurts, a modern shower house, aquatic adventures at Sweetheart Lake, and more! There's so much to explore at the new-and-improved Yankee Trails.

★ Drop-off: **Sunday, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM** ★ Pick-up: **Friday, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## Camper Weeks

### Week 1 | July 5th-10th: Mad World

\$600-\$675

**STEAM & Innovation, Art & Design**

Unleash your creativity and your curiosity, in a week where campers choose between the wild inventions of the Mad Scientist track or the bold masterpieces of the Mad Artist track

### Week 2 | July 12th-17th: Prehistoric Planet

\$600-\$675

**Outdoor Adventure & Ecology, Life Skills & Creativity**

Journey back in time at Prehistoric Planet camp where young explorers unearth dinosaur fossils, create ancient crafts, and discover the fascinating creatures and landscapes of Earth's distant past.

### Week 3 | July 19th-24th: Realms of Adventure

\$600-\$675 (Mini Camps Available 7/19-7/22 or 7/22-7/24 | \$300-\$375)

**Outdoor Adventure, Leadership & Citizenship, Games**

You know Dungeons and Dragons...now add the Girl Scouts! Embark on an epic fantasy adventure where campers create heroic characters, solve mystical puzzles, and journey through imaginary realms in our immersive fantasy week that brings the fun role-playing game to life!

### Week 4 | July 26th-31st: Wizarding Academy

\$600-\$675 (Mini Camps Available 7/26-7/28 or 7/29-7/31 | \$300-\$375)

**STEM & Innovation, Art & Creativity, Leadership & Service, Wellness**

Step into a magical week at Wizarding Academy, where young witches and wizards hone their skills, make new friends, and choose their path of wisdom and ambition or of courage and loyalty.



**Yankee Trails patch is available at  
GSOFACT shops!**

*Visit [gsofact.org/shop](https://gsofact.org/shop) to find a shop near you!*

# Camper Weeks Continued

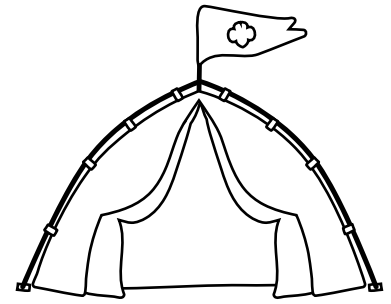
Entering 2nd through 12th grade

## Week 5 | August 2nd-7th: Camp Around the World

\$600-\$675 (Mini Camps Available 8/2-8/4 or 8/5-8/7 | \$300-\$375)

**Leadership & Global Action, Life Skills, Entrepreneurship**

Journey across continents as young explorers, discovering vibrant cultures, global cuisines, and international games during this immersive camp experience that brings the world's treasures to their doorstep.



## Week 6 | August 9th-14th: Olympics

\$600-\$675

**Outdoor Adventure, Wellness, Sports**

Unleash your competitive spirit at our Olympics camp where campers work in teams to tackle thrilling physical challenges, strategic puzzles, and teamwork trials - all while competing for medals in the ultimate test of athletic prowess and survival skills.

## Food

We know that campers can work up a big appetite while they're having fun outdoors! Our staff is trained to check in on campers to ensure they stay hydrated and energized throughout the day. We can accommodate most dietary restrictions and allergies. We hire an outside company to cook all food for camp!

At Yankee Trails, Girl Scouts will eat together in the Dining Hall. Meals may be served either family-style or buffet-style with staff being the ones to handle the food. In addition to hot options, cold options such as cereal, salads, or sandwiches will be available at every meal. Campers will also enjoy snacks and desserts!

## Health and Safety

Safety is always our number one priority. Camp Yankee Trails has a comprehensive Safety Plan and Communicable Disease Plan. On their first day of camp, campers receive a safety talk.

We have multiple first aiders with additional emergency response training as well as medication administration training.

## Our Staff

Our staff comes from around the world and throughout the United States! They all meet at Yankee Trails two weeks before the campers and go through 2 weeks of staff training on everything from reminding your camper to brush their teeth, to how to handle homesickness, from helping everyone successfully learn a new skill, to learning what to do in emergency situations.

# Are you ready for Sleepaway camp?

## Camper Quiz

QUESTIONS	NO WAY! (1 PT)	MAYBE (2 PTS)	YES! (3 PTS)
Do you enjoy staying over at a friend's house without missing your family or feeling sad and lonely?			
Can you wash and brush your own hair?			
Can you make your own bed and keep track of your own things?			
Would you be okay walking to a nearby building to use the bathroom at night?			
Would you be okay staying in a tent/cabin with other Girl Scouts, knowing your counselors are in a nearby tent/cabin?			
Can you see bugs or mice without jumping on a chair and screaming?			
Can you survive a few days without an iPad, TV, video games, or cell phone?			
Are you willing to help with camp chores such as sweeping, setting tables, and picking up trash?			
Will you try new foods that are different from what you eat at home?			
Do you like to try new things?			
Do you easily make new friends and warm up to new environments?			
Do you enjoy participating in group activities?			
Do you enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, playing outside, sleeping in a tent, and listening to nature?			
Can you live by the Girl Scout Law and Promise?			
Are you really excited to go to camp?			

**TOTAL SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

### SCORE: 15-25 PTS

*Not quite ready yet.*  
This year, try a day trip, a one-night overnight, or a troop camping weekend. Get ready for sleepaway camp next year!

### SCORE: 26-35 PTS

*Almost ready!*  
Try a 3-day session by yourself or a 6-day session with a buddy this summer.

### SCORE: 36-45 PTS

*Camp champ!*  
You're ready for a full 6-day session or more—get excited for adventure, friendship, and fun!

# Are you ready for Sleepaway camp?

## Parents/Caregivers Quiz

QUESTIONS	NO WAY! (1 PT)	MAYBE (2 PTS)	YES! (3 PTS)
Can you relax and enjoy yourself when your child sleeps over at a friend's house?			
Would you be okay communicating with your child only by mail?			
Are you prepared to be away from your child for several days?			
Are you willing to entrust camp staff with the care of your child?			
Are you comfortable with your child playing in a rustic outdoor setting where they may get dirty and it may rain?			
Would you be willing to work with your child so they will be ready for camp (i.e. coping with being homesick, keeping track of their own things, using their camping gear)			
Are you confident your child can wash and brush their own hair?			
Are you confident your child can sleep in a tent/cabin with other Girl Scouts, knowing that counselors are in a nearby tent/cabin?			
Are you confident your child can eat new foods that they haven't tried before?			
Are you confident your child can meet new friends and accept others who are different?			
Are you confident your child can follow instructions given by counselors?			
Are you confident your child can ask for help if they need it?			
Are you confident your child can have fun?			

**TOTAL SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

### SCORE: 12-19 PTS

*Not quite ready yet.*  
Consider a weekend event, day trip, or one-night camp with your child to prepare for next year.

### SCORE: 26-35 PTS

*Almost ready!*  
Try a shorter camp session to help build confidence.

### SCORE: 36-45 PTS

*Camp champ!*  
Your child is set for the adventure of sleepaway camp.

# How to Register for Summer Camp

Follow these simple steps to register your camper for a summer filled with outdoor adventure, friendship, and fun!

## Choose Camp Location

1. From this guide or from the GS Events Calendar, click on your desired camp location.
2. Click “Register Now.”
3. Indicate how many Girl Spots you wish to register for.
4. Scroll down and click “Add Events.”
5. If you are not already logged in, click **LOG IN** to access your MyGS account.

## Select Participants

6. In the “Assign Attendees” section, choose who you are registering:
  - a) My Household – for campers in your family
  - OR-**
  - b) My Troop Members – for Girl Scouts in your troop but not your household

Note: You cannot switch between household and troop registrations in the same session. Complete one group at a time.

## Choose Weeks & Sessions

7. Each week of camp is listed as an Activity. Under each activity, you’ll find Session options such as Traditional Camper, Program Aide 1, or CIT 2.

To register:

- ★ Click the check box next to each week your camper will attend.
- ★ Then, click the check box next to the session your camper will participate in for that week.

## (Day Camp Only) Select Bus Transportation

8. Bus transportation appears under Activities, and each bus stop is listed as a Session.

Example:

If you want Bus B that picks up at Nathan Hale Middle School in Norwalk, select:

“Aspetuck Summer Camp Bus B” → “Bus B: Norwalk – Nathan Hale Middle School, 176 Strawberry Hill Ave.”

## Add Camper Details

9. Enter all required camper details, including:
  - ★ Dietary restrictions or allergies
  - ★ Buddy requests (up to 2 friends)

We do our best to honor buddy requests, but they cannot be guaranteed due to group size and safety ratios.

## Choose Payment Option

10. To reserve your camper’s spot, pay a \$75 deposit per week per camper.

You may also choose to pay more—or the full amount—at registration.

## Balances are due by June 1, 2026.

Additional payments can be made anytime by logging into your MyGS account.



Register for  
Camp Merrie-Wood



Register for  
Camp Yankee Trails

**Need help?** Call Customer Care at (800) 922-2770 or email [customer care@gsofct.org](mailto:customer care@gsofct.org).

# Campership & Payment Information

## Balance Due

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The balance of the camp fee, less the deposit, must be paid online by credit card by June 1, 2026. You can manage your payments in your myGS account.

After June 1st, your registration(s) will be forfeited (deposits and Girl Scout Memberships are non-refundable).

## To use cookie credits

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A jotform will be sent out asking if you want your cookie credits applied to camp, by choosing yes we will automatically add them to your balance due (and double them) sometime in May.

## To make any payments

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1. We use myGS for you to make payments: <https://mygs.girlscouts.org/>
2. Enter your email address (example: jsmith@email.com) and password
3. After you log on click on “My Events” and your camp weeks should be listed
4. Select the appropriate event and click “Pay Now” to make a payment for an individual registration

## Opportunities for Financial Assistance

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Every Girl Scout who sells at least 200 boxes of cookies earns cookie credits. These are doubled to help pay for camp.

Campership Fund - financial assistance available to all Girl Scouts, regardless of specific circumstances and challenges.

## Where can I Apply for Campership Funds?

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[Financial Assistance](#) is available. It is conducted on the honor system. No documentation of income will be required to apply.

All registrations not paid in full by June 1st will be cancelled and the financial aid will be waived. Should there be a foreseen issue making your final payment on time, we ask that you reach out to customer care who will direct you to the correct team member.

## Refunds and Cancellations

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You may transfer a camp registration one time at no cost. After the first transfer, a \$25 administrative fee will apply for each additional change.

For summer camp cancellations, written notice must be submitted at least five (5) weeks prior to the start of the session to [customercare@gsofct.org](mailto:customercare@gsofct.org). Upon cancellation, the \$75 deposit is non-refundable.

Please note that financial assistance awards and Cookie Credits are non-refundable and non-transferable.

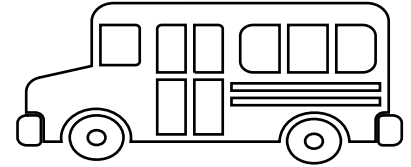


Scan QR code to  
log into myGS



Scan QR code for  
Financial Assistance

# Transportation for Day Camp



## We offer bus transportation to our day camps

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Bus transportation is included in the price of camp registration. Bus stop location details are available on our website.

## Bus Transportation Tips

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- Please remember to be at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to stated departure time.
- You will be notified via Rallyhood and contacted by the Camp Director or a designated individual via your primary phone number, or email, in the event of emergency, or delays of 15 minutes or more.
- Anyone escorting campers from the bus stop must be on our approved pick-up list. Have photo ID ready. Notify your camp's office prior to drop off if the person escorting your camper(s) changes at any point. Without someone to escort your camper(s) at drop off, the bus will wait 10 minutes before continuing. You may contact the camp and arrange to meet the bus at the next stop. However, without contact from the camp, the bus driver will bring your camper(s) back to camp.
- Late pick-up fees may apply.



Visit the [Summer Camps](#) page to find  
a bus route near you!

# Questions?

Email Customer Care at [customercare@gsofct.org](mailto:customercare@gsofct.org), call us at (800) 922-2770, or scan the QR code to fill out “Contact Us” form.



## Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## Did You Know?

Girl Scouts of Connecticut is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization. Membership fees cover approximately 2.7% of the costs to provide Girl Scout experiences to the youth we serve.

We rely on philanthropic support to fund our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character. Together, we make her world a better place. Learn more about how you can support!



## Follow Us

