

ADVENTURE IN Mongolia

2024 ADVENTURE CAMP MONGOLIA

LEADER'S GUIDE



*A camp adventure of Scouting America – Far East Council –
and Scouting America Troops from across the Asia-Pacific Region*

July 28 - August 3, 2024

Asia Camporee 2024

Welcome to our Asia Camporee – a joint activity of Scouts and Adult Leaders from across the region. This follows a successful Asia Camporee held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in July 2022 and Nepal in July 2023. The objectives of this Camporee are to bring BSA members together from across Asia for a week of Adventure, Teamwork, Advancement, and Fun – all while demonstrating the highest levels of the Scout Oath and Scout Spirit. Scouts from across the region represent many ethnic and national backgrounds and live in a diversity of Asian cultures. Let us build off the richness of these contexts, learn from each other’s scouting experience, and develop BSA friendships which can lead us to greater collaboration in the future.

Our Journey in Mongolia – Locations and Maps

‘The Adventure in Mongolia’ involves six nights/seven days. We expect a group of Mongolia Scouts and Leaders will join us for the event. Our camp location is at **"Nairamdal International Children's Camp"**.



Introduction to Camporee Activities

The focus of the Camporee is on Advancement, Adventure, Service, and Fun. In addition to First Class Trail – for junior Scouts – there are more than 40 Merit Badge opportunities during the Camporee. Other activities during the week, knots competition, campfire programs, community orientation, hiking, and Camporee Olympics. The plan is to camp for the entire portion of the camporee – at one base location.

Mongolia and Horses – Horse Riding at the Camporee

Nowhere are horses more central to daily life than in Mongolia. Mongolia is known as the land of the horse, and Mongols have a reputation for being the best horsemen on Earth. “It is not possible to imagine Mongolian history without horses,” says J. Tserendeleg, president of the Mongolian Association for Conservation of Nature and the Environment. “I think it is not possible to view the future of Mongolia without horses as well. Mongolia is not Mongolia without horses.”

Even in the twenty-first century, Mongolia remains a horse-based culture and retains its pastoral traditions. Its 2.7 million people are semi-nomadic and support themselves primarily by breeding five domestic species. These are invariably spoken of in a set order: horses, cattle (including yaks), camels, sheep, and goats. The horse, which is used for travel, herding, hunting, and sport, is the most prized. In the words of a herder who lives outside Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia's capital, “We Mongols respect horse as our companion of night and day. The horse is the source of joy and pride of a Mongolian herder. And we are nothing without our horses.”

Each Scout and Adult Leader will have the chance to ride a Mongolian Horse for a 2-3 hour ride

Many Merit Badge offerings will focus on the Mongolian Horse: Horsemanship, Mammal Study, Veterinary Medicine, and Animal Science.



Mongolia Day – Nadam Festival

Each Scout and Adult Leader will have the opportunity to participate in Mongolia Day. On this day we will take a break from our typical merit badge schedule and get to know more about our host location. Activities will include – a visit from a local village to learn about nomadic life, livestock care, local crafts, Mongolia games, Mongolian Archery, and more knowledge about horses.

Five Areas of Focus at Scout Camp

The Scout camp will be organized thematically into five focus areas. Each area is the location for related merit badge activities and other events. Merit Badges will be scheduled for the morning with the afternoon being open for scouts to explore each of the five activity areas.

- Science and Technology
- Business and Development
 - Mongolia
 - The Wilderness
- Scouting History and Principles

Science and Technology

Here we will highlight one of the newest award programs in BSA – the NOVA awards. This program encourages advancement in areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.



Merit Badge Offerings include:

- Chemistry
- Energy
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Nuclear Science
- Space Exploration
- Weather

Scouts can work on the NOVA Awards as well. And explore some of the science experiments conducted at camp.

Business and Development

Here we will highlight merit badges and activities related to operating a business and how successful businesses operate in today's environment.



Merit Badge Offerings Include:

- Communications
- Salesmanship
- Entrepreneurship
- Inventing
- Law
- Public Speaking
- Pulp and Paper
- Sustainability (new)

Mongolia

Here we will highlight Mongolia and Mongolian Scouting – traditions, history, culture. Scouts can earn the International Patch through their work at the 2024 Asia Camporee.



Merit Badge Offerings Include:

- Horsemanship
- Archery
- Animal Science
- Veterinary Medicine
- Geology
- Mammal Study

The Wilderness

Here we will highlight a number of important merit badges in Scouting as well as offer numerous opportunities for skills development and practice.

Merit Badge Offerings Include:

- Wilderness Survival
- Emergency Preparedness
- Forestry
- Pioneering
- First Aid
- Search and Rescue
- Geocaching

Trail to First Class will also be offered in this area. The morning is devoted to merit badges with four time slots offered in all camp areas. Afternoon at 'The Wilderness' will include knot ninja competition, pioneering competition, and other cool activities.

Scouting History and Principles

Here we will highlight key elements of Scouting Heritage and the principles we demonstrate.

Merit Badge Offerings Include:

- Indian Lore
- American Cultures
- Woodcarving
- American Heritage
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Citizenship in Society

Merit Badge information and Daily Schedule

Of the six full days at camp – each Scout has a Mongolia Day on Wednesday and four days spent at the facility engaged in merit badges and other activities (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday). These four days have four merit badge sessions in the morning – and then the afternoon is open with many options listed below. The Sunday of arrival will include some optional activities.

- **Trail to First Class:** The TTFC area will be open all morning as well as during free time for Scouts to work on requirements leading to Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.
- **Morning Merit Badge Sessions:** There will be three merit badge time slots in the morning – over four days – each session is 90 minutes in length.
- **Afternoon Activities:** Scouts will have a range of options to choose from at the five areas of the camp, including:
 - Ger (Traditional Mongolian Nomadic Home) construction
 - Open time at the Archery Range
 - Knot Ninja
 - Pioneering competition
 - Afternoon hikes
 - Mongolian games
 - Additional Merit Badges - optional
- **Some Additional Merit Badge Information:** We will preserve much of the afternoon – which is now wide open – for Scout choices among the five areas of the camp. Again, the morning has three time slots for merit badges, one in the afternoon and one more slot for a Tuesday/Thursday combo.

Merit Badge Procedures

All Scouts should, prior to the commencement of the Camp, have each Merit Badge opened and approved in Scoutbook and be assigned the Merit Badge Counselor leading the session in which they are registered. Each Scout should review ALL the requirements in advance for each Merit Badge they are taking and complete any assigned “prerequisites” prior to arriving at Camp. If a Troop is not comfortable tracking Merit Badges via Scoutbook or importing results electronically from Black Pug or otherwise wants a back-up, you may provide your Scouts with “Blue Cards”, and have your Scouts provide these to the MB Counselor at the beginning of the MB session. But these are not required or expected and will be used primarily as manual backups rather than the primary mechanism for keeping track of Scouts’ progress.

Specific Activities and Awards – Individual and Troop

A number of activities are also planned where individual Scouts and Troops can participate for fun and recognition.

- **Honor Troop – Camp Spirit Recognition:** We want to recognize Troops for their Camp Spirit and dedication to Scouting at the Camporee. See the back of this guide for the detailed criteria.
- **Honor Scout:** See the back of this guide for the detailed criteria.
- **Additional Activities:** Check out the afternoon activity list.

Program Schedule

At the back of this guide is the program schedule.

Weather at Camp

Be prepared for rain. It will not rain all the time, but it is beyond our control. Most Merit Badge activities areas are enclosed and well covered. Meals are in the main lodge building. Temperatures may range from 15° C to 25° C at the Scout Camp. It should be comfortable. You should bring a waterproof jacket and a sleeping bag rated for at least at 10° C or cooler.

Elevation at Camp – and Questions about Effects at this Altitude

The elevation at Camp is about 1400m or roughly 4,500 feet. Altitude sickness is not an issue at these elevations.

Vaccinations

Please check with your local health care provider or the CDC web site (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>) for advice. The information for Mongolia is [here](#). Routine vaccinations include Chickenpox (Varicella), Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTP), Flu (influenza), Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR), Polio, and Shingles. All travelers are advised to be up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines recommended for Mongolia include Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Rabies, Tick-borne Encephalitis, and Typhoid. Most typically focus on up-to-date Tetanus and Hepatitis vaccine. As with all medical decisions, we recommend families consult with your licensed family physician.

Emergency Contact Information

The contact number for the Campsite Office at the 2024 Asia Camporee is **+976 7049 6008**

What to Bring to the 2024 Asia Camporee

At the back of this Guide is a packing list for individual Scouts and Adult Leaders and for each Troop. As a reminder, tents are the responsibility of each Troop – tents are **NOT** provided by the Camporee Team.

Troop Clean Up Duties at Camporee

Each participating Troop will have specific clean up duties to be completed each day – including the bathrooms and merit badge meeting areas. A sample Troop Roster is included at the back of this Guide to assist Troop SPLs in planning for these responsibilities.

Troop Camp Fire Duties at Camporee

Each Troop will be asked to assist with the campfire programs. Each Troop should prepare for skits – with opportunities provided throughout the week to share various Troop talents.

Personal Electronic Devices

In order to provide a quality outdoor experience, the use of personal electronic devices by Scouts – including mobile phones, portable video games, and other mobile devices – is not permitted during the Camporee. Any Scout found to be in violation of the Camporee policy will have their device taken from them for the remainder of the event. The Camporee Staff will not be responsible for any device which is lost while in the possession of the Camporee Team. Scouts involved in the Geocaching Merit Madge will be permitted to use appropriate devices for fulfilling these requirements. However, Scouts which abuse this privilege will not be permitted to complete this Merit Badge at the Camporee.

Check In Procedures – Sunday, July 28

All troops will arrive at scout camp on Sunday, July 28

1. Upon arrival at the host facility one Unit Leader should be prepared to begin the registration process with a Camporee Staff member. Each Unit will be asked to review and confirm their Unit Roster – Scouts and Adult Leaders; medical forms; and tour permit. Tour permit and medical forms will be returned to each Troop upon check-out.
2. The rest of the Troop will move their gear to the camp site, set up tents, and store gear. They will be guided by a member of the Camp staff.
3. Troops will be given tours of the facility once their camp site is established.
4. Adults Leaders leading Merit Badges will receive orientation to their venue and resource materials and equipment. Any remaining requests for assistance should be identified at that time.
5. An SPL and Scoutmaster meeting will follow dinner on Sunday, July 28.

Check Out Procedures – Saturday, August 3

On Saturday, August 3, we will proceed with check-out as follows – specific times will be identified at the Camporee.

1. Pack and move gear to designated area for loading buses – depending upon specific Troop departure times.
2. Breakfast.
3. Leave No Trace.
4. Load buses for transport to airport or to a designated place in Ulaanbaatar.
5. Tour permits, medical forms, completed blue cards (optional), and event patches will be given to the Unit Leader.

Uniforms at Camp

- Class A (Full Field Uniform): Morning and Afternoon Flags; Evening Meal; other times as identified
- Class B (Activity Uniform): During the day

Class A is defined as scout shirt, neckerchief, slide, and appropriate shorts or pants. Class B is defined as BSA t-shirt/activity uniform of the troop. **Scouts must wear closed-toed shoes all times at the Camp.**

Medical Information Form

All participants – Scouts and Adult Leaders – must have completed BSA medical forms. Each medical form requires a physician’s examination and signature and parent or legal guardian’s signature (for scouts).

According to BSA policy, all Scouts and Adults must complete Parts A, B, and C (which requires the physician examination and signature indicated above) to attend long-term camp or a camping event of more than 72 hours. The medical forms are valid for one year.

Medications

All prescription medications required for Scouts are the responsibility of each Unit Leader – to collect, store, and administer. Refrigeration, if needed, is available – please identify this need upon check-in.

Emergency and Medical Care

The camp facility staff are equipped and trained for emergency care on site as needed. There will be three trained and licensed medical professionals on staff at the camp site to allow for 24-hour medical coverage. A vehicle will be available and on stand-by should a Camporee participant require transport to Ulaanbaatar for further care. The nearest hospital is less than 1km away. We encourage Unit Leaders to provide first aid for minor cuts, small blisters, etc. using your Unit first aid kit.

Emergency Procedures

The Camporee staff may sound an emergency siren/bell at any time due to a lost Scout, severe weather, or other emergency. If you hear this alert, you are to report to the appropriate meeting point as quickly as possible for further instruction. These emergency procedures will be reviewed during orientation.

Special Diets

We can accommodate special diets for Campers. Each Unit Leader should identify such needs at **LEAST** three weeks **PRIOR** to the start of the Camporee and communicate these needs to the Camp Director and Camporee Staff. Dietary accommodations are to meet health-related and religious/cultural needs, not mere “preferences”.

Camporee Trading Post

A Camporee Trading post will be available at the host facility which will include Scouting Store materials, Camp items, as well as snacks. The trading post will not be open during merit badge sessions. Specific hours will be posted. The trading post will take cash only – US dollars and Mongolian Tugrik.

Troop Leadership at Camp

The Scoutmaster, or designated Unit Leader, is in charge of the Troop at all times. The Scoutmaster and other Adult Leaders have the primary responsibility for the care of all Unit Scouts while at the Camporee. The discipline and organization of the Troop is the Unit Leader’s responsibility. However, the Unit Leader should utilize and support the Senior Patrol Leader’s leadership during the Camporee. While the ultimate responsibility for the Troop rests with the Scoutmaster (or designated Unit Leader), each Troop is under the leadership of the Senior Patrol Leader. The SPL, with assistance from designated ASPLs and Adult Leaders will ensure that all members of the troop are where they are supposed to be at various times during the day and that they follow the Scout Oath and Law. The Troop SPL will also attend the daily SPL meeting as scheduled by Camp Staff.

Adult Pre-requisite Training – YPT and Others

All registered Scouters (i.e., ALL attending/participating Adult Leaders) must have a current Youth Protection Training Certificate. Certification is valid for two years and must be current through the Scouters entire time at the Camporee. This requirement is to be verified by the Scoutmaster before the Camporee. Adult leaders also need to complete Hazardous Weather Training. All Adult Leaders attending the Camp should be registered as Merit Badge Counselors and should be registered for the Merit Badges they are leading (or co-leading or assisting). Additionally, Adult Leaders are encouraged to complete additional on-line training opportunities available through [scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org).

Age – Rank Requirements for 2024

There are no age or rank requirements for the 2024 Camporee. A Scout must be appropriately registered with BSA, meeting the BSA age requirement. Some Troops in the past have limited participation based on rank – for example, First Class and above. Some have required that each scout have the First Aid merit badge. Some have required a certain number of nights camping with the Troop prior to participation. I highly recommend that Scouts have camped at least five nights with a Troop as a measure of experience in preparing a Scout for this event. Keep in mind we will be camping for 6 nights – some in the rain – in a country and environment that is new to all of the Scouts.

Also – if you intend to bring many recent Cross-Over Scouts – I highly recommend you have the ASM that works with these Scouts participating in the Camporee. This has proven critical in past years.

Some have asked whether this is considered high adventure camping – I would say no given that camp site and surrounding area is relatively flat, the facilities are good, and the camp site is located at a relatively low elevation (roughly 1400 meters, or 4,500 feet). However, young Scouts with little camping experience may consider this a challenging experience – we are tent camping 6 nights – at times in heavy rain – and at times the Scout may not be feeling 100%. These factors and others can be challenging for a young and/or new Scout. I am available to discuss directly with Scoutmasters and other Leaders.

Troop Adult Leadership

The recommended ratio is a maximum of one Adult Leader per five Scouts (of course each group needs at least two Adult Leaders). Each Adult Leader must be registered with BSA with appropriate YPT training. We expect each Adult Leader to lead AT LEAST 1-2 Merit Badges during the event. This requires each Adult Leader to ensure the appropriate experience and preparation for each MB they are leading. Scoutmasters (or designated Unit Leaders) who are recommending a higher number of adults than one to five should contact Rob David to discuss. There will be times where someone is bringing a specific skill or where there are other compelling reasons. Rob Davis will make the final call – based on the needs of the Camporee Program and execution. It is important that all Adult Leaders are primarily focused on supporting the Camporee and their Troop.

Parents wishing to Visit the Camp

Parents traveling to Mongolia will NOT be permitted to visit the Camp in Mongolia. This policy is due to the logistical challenges of allowing parents onto the Camp Site, related safety issues, and overall objectives for the Camporee. We have found through experience that it is a more beneficial experience for the Troop and Camporee participants to focus on the Scouting experience – participating with other BSA Scouts and Adult Leaders in their Troop and a part of the entire Camporee event. However, if parents would like to visit for the final closing camp fire on Friday, that is ok – with prior approval.

Camporee Fees

The Camporee Fee for Scouts and Adult Leaders registered with the Far East Council is \$750 USD – plus any additional Merit Badges fees. This fee includes all camping costs, all meals, all domestic ground transport, all adventure activities, and other normal Camporee services. It includes meals starting with lunch on Sunday, July 28 and concluding with breakfast on Saturday, August 3. After Friday, June 7, the fee increases to \$800 USD. Scouts and Adult Leaders not registered with the Far East Council must pay \$800 USD, \$850 USD after the late registration date.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Please refer to the appropriate policies on the Far East Council web site at <http://www.fareastcouncil.org/>

What to Bring to the 2024 Asia Camporee - Participant List

- **Class A Uniform (For specified times - includes neckerchief - not sash)**
- **For Order of the Arrow Members: Do bring your OA sash**
- Jeans/trousers (loose fitting and lightweight)
- Shorts (2-3 pairs)
- T-shirts (3-4)
- Long sleeve shirt
- Socks and undershorts
- Sweatshirt
- Raincoat or poncho
- Towel (recommend 2)
- Washcloth
- FOOTWEAR - recommended - 2 pairs:
 - For hiking - track shoes or hiking boots
 - For Scout Camp - sturdy sports shoes **NO OPEN TOE SHOES (e.g., Sandals, Flipflops, Crocs, etc.)**
- Hat
- Sunglasses (optional)
- Soap and personal hygiene items; Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Mosquito spray, anti-septic cream, Tiger Balm, Sunscreen and lip salve

Additional Gear

- Tent (ground cloth highly recommended)
- Sleeping bag and pillow (temperatures projected 10-25° C)
- Air mattress or sleeping pad (cots and tents are not provided)
- Personal first aid kit
- Personal refillable water bottle or bottles (2 liters total capacity)
- Personal camp cup
- Small backpack - for day hikes and field work
- Compass
- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Pocketknife and Totin Chip card
- Scout Handbook - recommend a large zip log bag to keep dry
- Pens, pencils, notebook
- Merit Badge worksheets
- Camera (optional)
- Spending Money - Camporee Trading post (USD or Mongolian Tugrik only. \$1 USD ~ 3500 Mongolian Tugrik)

What to Bring to the 2024 Asia Camporee - Troop List

Camp site

- Ensure all Troop participants have tent with ground cloth
- Troop flag
- Rope or twine
- Small tool kit (hammers for tent stakes)
- Lanterns or lighting for camp site
- Troop First Aid Kit

Note: Troops will be assigned to one of three camp site areas.

Advancement

- Merit Badge information - pamphlets if needed; worksheets
- Paper, notebooks, clipboard
- Other handbooks or guides as desired

Senior Patrol Leader

- First Aid Kit
- Duty Roster Paper
- Pens, Pencil, Notebook
- Skit ideas

Scoutmaster - or Designated Adult Unit Leader

- Cash for emergencies
- Pens, Pencils, Notebook
- Medical forms for all scouts and adult leaders
- Tour Permit

2024 ASIA CAMPOREE

Honor Troop Criteria

Unit _____

Criteria	Possible Points	S	M	T	W	Th	F	TOTAL POINTS
<i>Campsite Criteria (540 possible points)</i>								
1. Display a completed duty roster	20/day							
2. Tent floors are clean and swept	10/day							
3. Personal gear stored neatly	10/day							
4. Activity shelter is neat and clean	10/day							
5. Campsite area and trail is clear of litter and brush	10/day							
6. Troop flag is displayed	10/day							
7. Campsite is free of hazards	10/day							
8. Garbage removed each morning	10/day							
<i>Scout Spirit Criteria (470 possible points)</i>								
1. 100% of troop wears field uniform to all evening meals	10/day							
2. Scout Spirit displayed	10/day							
3. On-time attendance at morning flag ceremony	5/day							
4. On-time attendance at evening flag ceremony	5/day							
5. Troop completes their daily cleanup responsibility on time and effectively	15/day							
6. SPL attends daily SPL meeting(s)	15/day							
7. 50% of Scouts complete requirements for at least 3 merit badges	20							
8. Provide a song or cheer prior to a meal on the parade ground	15							
9. Provide a song or skit for the campfire program	20							
10. Troop conducts a flag ceremony	15							
11. Troop provides a cobbler for Cobbler Competition	20							
12. Troop participated in one inter-troop activity not organized by the camp	20							
TOTAL POINTS	1010							

- Troops earning at least 432 Campsite points and 376 Spirit points will be designated "Honor Troops." This is ~80% of possible points from each category.
- First, Second, and Third places will be awarded to Troops earning the highest number of Total Points.

2024 ASIA CAMPOREE

Honor Scout Criteria

Criteria	
1. Completes 100% of all assigned Duty Roster responsibilities on time and effectively	
2. Personal gear stored neatly each day	
3. Neat and clean personal appearance each day	
4. Wears complete Class A uniform to evening flag ceremony (100%)	
5. Scout Spirit displayed consistently	
6. On-time attendance at all scheduled events (90%)	
7. Completes 100% of MB or FCT pre-work prior to arriving at camp	
8. Completes 100% of all other possible MB or FCT requirements at camp	
9. Participates in at least one Troop flag ceremony	

- Scoutmasters and SPLs will rate each Scout against these criteria throughout the week
- Each Unit can recommend 3 Scouts as top Honor Scouts

2024 ASIA CAMPOREE - SAMPLE TROOP ROSTER

TROOP _____

SPL: _____ **ASPLs:** _____

ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE SCOUT (S)	COMPLETION
7/28: Camp site set up		
7/29: Camp site clean up		
7/29: Latrine/Meeting room clean up		
7/30: Camp site clean up		
7/30: Latrine/Meeting room clean up		
7/31: Camp site clean up		
7/31: Latrine/Meeting room clean up		
8/1: Camp site clean up		
8/1: Latrine/Meeting room clean up		
8/2: Camp site clean up		
8/2: Latrine/Meeting room clean up		
8/3: Camp site break down		
8/3: Storing/cleaning troop gear		
8/3: Loading of gear		
Cobbler Competition		
Skit preparation		
Flags Ceremony		
Other Duties as identified		