

Camping sites within reach of our district

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<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Saltlake/> (go to satellite, cameras, snotel data, etc.)

Winter Camp sites (*cold weather, safe slopes, the right amount of snow. Most 2WD accessible*)

The Spruces – Big Cottonwood Canyon. I-215E to U190. Several troops there every weekend. Get a reservation. Take a ski bus up or drive. Paved & plowed to the parking lot. Count on 2-4 foot deep snow to cave or trench in for the night.

Hot Pots – Diamond Fork Canyon. Several troops in canyon every weekend. I-15S to US 6 to Diamond Fork. Often gated at the campgrounds, 5 miles below paved trailhead in winter. Hot springs 90 minutes hike up from 5 Forks trailhead campground. (can be challenging)

Jordanelle – Has some winter facilities for those who prefer semi-wilderness (heated restrooms)

Call for reservations and fee info. Take I-80 to US 40 to Jordanelle State Park.

Daniels Pass – US 40 South of Heber. 5 troop-size pull-offs from forest boundary at Whiskey Springs to summit with snow depths ranging from 4 inches to 3+ feet at the top. Do tents low, do snow caves at top. Hike in 5-15 minutes to get away from highway noise.

Snake Pit – South end of Lake Mountain down Redwood Rd. past Saratoga Springs. Lots of good spots if it is cold with low snow cover. Miserable muddy access if warm and wet.

Alternate spots nearby are at South end of Lake Mountain near Soldiers Pass.

Soldier Creek - Turn off South just before the truck stop 7-8 miles past Thistle junction. Drive up Paved road 057 as high as you can, then find a sheltered ridge to camp on. Tends to have lots of snowmobiles at the summit so avoid that area.

Alpine Loop – Go in via Sundance to the trailhead. Follow the road up with your Klondike sleds. 2 miles up near the summit there are wonderful places in forest for camping. Road is packed by snowmobiles. Physically challenging.

Tibble Fork trailhead – American Fork Canyon. Go beyond the campground up to the end of the switchback. This is physically challenging. Or simply go up the road alongside the river. There are several good spots well before the road gets steep. Canyon fee required.

Clear Creek – campground South of Tooele. Great for winter camps.

Spring Camp sites (*expect wet and mud. Avoid sensitive ground*)

Snake Pit – **very popular area, but there are plenty of places to quietly blend in. Sometimes muddy just off highway but most of the roads in area are rocky. Not good area for sedans unless you park at bottom near highway and hike in. Try also Soldiers Pass (few trees)**

Cedar Valley – There is a block of BLM land that is accessible via either of 2 roads 1- 2 miles before Cedar Fort. Usually great, but the entrance can be very muddy and/or rutted.

Promontory Point – Great for May near re-enactment of the Golden Spike joining. Camp quite some distant West along the old rail bed on BLM land.

Diamond Fork – Just above the campgrounds is a wonderful, popular area of red rocks for climbing. Many troops camp up the canyon at the many pull-offs along the paved road.

Pony Express Trail – Good sites around Simpson Springs and Lookout Pass that are not too distant. Road has sharp rocks and can be messy when wet.

South Fork Provo River – from Provo take US 189 up Provo River canyon to Vivian Park; South 4 miles to upper trailhead. Plenty of good spots within 5-10 minutes in on forest land.

Burreston Ponds - 2 miles South of Mona on US 91. Good anytime but they tend to be packed in the warmer months. Fishing, canoeing, biking.

Hope campground from Provo take US 189 up Provo River canyon to Squaw Peak Road below Vivian Park. Campground is at end of paved road. Beautiful area. Road is gated low in winter but higher in spring. By May you can drive up to many pull-offs popular with troops

Summer Camp sites (*best weather. Get high First several are point-to-point hikes.*)

Alta crossing 1 - Point-to-point backpacking delight starting from the parking lot at Alta taking the foot trail up towards Albion Basin but cutting back along the service road to go to the saddle by Mt. Baldy. Next day hike down into Mineral Basin and be picked up by vehicles at Dutchman's Flat. Or add another day to fold in Pittsburg Lake. Water available.

Alta crossing 2 - This is a variation for troops wanting to go from pavement to pavement. From Alta take the foot trail up towards Albion Basin, but instead turn East up towards Brighton and over Sunset Peak. Follow the ridge (Great Western Trail), ending at the Alpine summit trailhead on the Alpine Loop. Can be done overnight if scouts start Friday morning. Dry.

Temple view backpacking camp. By far the most rugged venue in this list, but the views are outstanding. Trailhead is at the saddle at the top of Butterfield canyon, reached by heading West on 124th South. It crosses a patchwork of BLM and private property so get a good map to do this. 5 Temples are visible from this trail. You end up near Cedar Fort or backtrack to cars at the summit. (no water available, but we've seen snow in August)

Great Western Trail – best segments are behind Farmington/Bountiful to summit in Emigration canyon. Also front-side of Timpanogos is a great section. Dry. Timp section can also be done on mountain bikes.

Mormon trail. There is a fork to the South half way up from Mormon Flats where you can leave the busy trail far enough away to camp on forest service land.

Red Pine Lake trailhead. Very popular, but you can hike to Red Pine Lake in the wilderness then go above to several smaller lakes away from the crowds. Climb Peifferhorn in the morning and retrace path, or go beyond down to Alpine or rock scr

Deseret Peak - (Utah top 10 hike) Trailhead is South of Grantsville. Popular on Saturdays, but nobody there on other times. Federal Wilderness area. Steep grade but safe.

Above Tibble Fork reservoir. Long dirt road with several troops camping every weekend. My favorite is beyond Dutchman's Flat, but if you fear narrow roads on a ledge, stay lower. Canyon fee required. ATVs cluster around Dutchman's Flat.

Red Rock canyon North of Indianola Take US 89 from Spanish Fork past Thistle & Birdseye. Immediately past Pines turn West on #405 and go 5+ miles to trailhead its about a 40 minute hike into what is supposed to be gorgeous and not heavily populated.

Squaw Peak road- Alps Scenic Loop – Nationally rated biking route. Drop off the bikes at the end of the paved road then camp beyond Rock Creek. (Road is car OK to Rock Canyon group campground but rutted and unmaintained thereafter.) Meet the bikes at the end up the paved road along Left Fork Hobble Creek.

Muddy Creek canyon. Classic slot canyon with a stream running through it. Hike only if river flow is under 25 cfs. It is South of Emery, exit 105 on I-70. Highlight along 16 mile jaunt is passing under logs stuck over 20 feet above your head from a flash flood! Check San Rafael maps for details

Maple Canyon – Nationally acclaimed climbing. Very popular in summer but less visited spring and fall. Once you pass through Fountain Green look for the Maple Canyon turn-off sign. Get a map from any sporting goods store that has climbing gear.

Red Rock canyon North of Fairview. From the trailhead its about a 40 minute walk into what is supposed to be gorgeous and not heavily populated.

Goshute Cave – a long weekend camp with a 4 hour drive and a hard, short hike to the cave. Must follow strong cave etiquette to preserve formations. Not for untrained/undisciplined troops. Get instructions from Utah Grotto Club or Max Barker from our district at 446-1509

UTA camps

Willows from Sandy TRAX via route 816 or 811 to Lehi

Y-mountain via 811 to Orem, connecting to rte. 80x

Butterfield canyon 20m miler hike-over via 43/53, ending up on foot in Herriman

Big Cottonwood canyon via TRAX to 7200 S. & 85 to canyon

Fall Camp sites (*getting colder. Watch out for hunting in areas*)

Sheeprock Mountains. **A little further away, South of Vernon. Go via Tooele or Cedar Fort. Many access roads leading to quiet canyon areas.**

Stansbury Island. Camp on South end of island either on the flats or up the canyon. Fantastic views at night. Good biking area. & excellent space for compass games.

Horseshoe Springs – **Camp at the springs, but the better sites are in the wooded hills to the East. Attractions; water is warm although few care to swim there. Attractions are climbing the black volcanic plug. To see Iosepa cemetery where Hawaiian pioneers are buried, ask for permission at ranch house on East side of road. OK in November**

Grassy Mountains – **A little further out West along I-15, it has no trees to stop the wind but it is very expansive with lots of solitude. Some really like this area.**

Antelope Island State Park – Early fall the beach is still warm enough for swimming. Great hiking along beach or to top of Frary Peak (*Utah top 10 hike*). Safe during hunting season. Let them bike back across the causeway. Fee area.

Timpanogos Peak. (*Utah top 10 hike*). Go to either trailhead late Friday night and sleep outside/inside the cars. Take off just before sunrise. Can also camp away from trailhead in paid campgrounds or much farther away along dirt roads. (Aug. or Sep.)

Burrestein Ponds – a few miles South of Mona, popular with troops. Several large ponds to canoe on. Peddle in 10 – 20 miles from South end of Redwood Road or closer. *Paved*

San Rafael slot canyons. Head to Goblin Valley State Park, turning West about a mile before the park entrance. Fee camping spaces in the park, which is a wonderful attraction in its own right. Best canyons are Little Wild Horse (I do it in a loop with Bells Canyon) Or go to the trailheads on the back side of the reef for Crack & Chute canyons. Oct-Nov. great.

Themes

Pioneering – We learn this stuff, so let's use it.

Emergency Preparedness - Compass hike with lots of pre-prepared "emergencies " to deal with

Utensiless Cooking – A fun theme. Doing this takes a lot of small firewood.

Orienteering – Send in patrols to the troop campsite from different starting points with a map and a compass.

Snow caving – Head out to the really deep snow. This takes lots of teamwork

Fishing – head out to somewhere good enough everyone can catch 2 different species.

Hiking – try a point-to-point where you are dropped off at one location and hike your way overnight to another point for completion.

Night hiking – this is really surprising. Learn night navigation and safety.

Bike camping – go somewhere

Mountain Man skills - making chairs, beads, lead casting,

Wilderness Survival – Use those techniques. Or otherwise go without tents. Be very attentive to natural environment preservation.

Camp Thanksgiving – try making all the fixings in the woods beyond earshot of any vehicles just like the pilgrims. Some start from a live chicken.

Handcart pioneers – 1-3 days on the trail pulling a handcart per patrol. Doesn't have to be an historically accurate venue, rather one that makes the boys teachable.

Family Life – troop based but invite families along as patrol guests for meals and activities.

Patriots camp – theme on our national heritage, the flag and other things of value.

Spiritual theme – take the boys out to a good remote, quiet location with just their sleeping bags, scriptures and the foods the Savior and John the Baptist ate. Lay everybody out separately but close enough around a campfire that fear is not a factor. End with a circle of prayer then silence to daybreak to contemplate one's honor, goals and commitments.

Jewels from Junk – make a camp success out of discarded recyclables.