

Tips for Chaperones



The staff of **Rawhide Ranch** is thrilled that you have volunteered your time to accompany your camper's group for an adventure into the Old West. You have a unique privilege to observe and learn new things not only with your child but with others. We hope that you will have a very rewarding and exciting time.

Chaperone – noun \ˈsha-pe-, rōn

Chaperones are an integral part of the Rawhide Ranch experience for each youth group. We encourage you to take advantage of each and every opportunity to participate - have new experiences & try new things right along with the kids in your group.

Upon arrival at the camp, the ranch road will whisk you away from the city and suburbs and take you back to a simpler time. The rustic nature of life at camp will be a challenge for some, an adventure for others.

The camp cabins are rustic and won't be confused with a hotel or the ultimate dude ranch of your dreams but the quiet sounds of life in the country and the laughter of children will permeate the air around you.

The menu is camp-friendly and won't be confused with your favorite restaurant's menu but mealtime is a wonderful chance to gather together and enjoy each other's company.

These experiences will be memories that last a lifetime. To help make them fond memories here are a few helpful hints.....

- Pack for the weather. (Fallbrook - zip 92028 is the most accurate location if you are checking an on-line weather service). Winter nights are chilly and the cabins are not heated- bring a WARM sleeping bag and an extra blanket is always nice. Don't forget a warm pair of socks for bedtime. Rainy days add a lot of memories to a weekend as well....if rain is in the forecast come prepared for some muddy pathways.
- Cell phones are great for emergencies - but for those "non-emergencies" ---- it's less than 48 hours that we ask you to devote to your camper instead of phone calls. **Please do not take/make calls in any of the program or class areas.** We appreciate your helping to keep Rawhide Ranch as tech-free as possible.
- Sorry - Computers / Wi-Fi not available.
- Need a band-aid or an aspirin? See your group's leader. Each group/school provides & administers their own basic first aid supplies and will have a person designated to help with first aid needs for the group.
- Be on-time for meals and classes. If you aren't ready - don't hold up your small group of campers -ask someone else to go with them.
- Depending on group sizes we are not able to guarantee that everyone with your group will be assigned to the same class times. Reminder – adults do not ride.
- After "lights out" please do not stand and talk outside the cabin areas or along the camp's Main Street - others are trying to sleep and the voices carry a great distance around camp. Also remind your campers that "lights out" means "quiet time" - please do not allow your campers to disturb your neighbor.
- Please respect our "no alcoholic beverages" policy and also respect those around you - no smoking at camp, please.
- Be encouraging and supportive of all campers as they learn new skills or perhaps accomplish great feats of bravery. The weekend will be a great learning opportunity for the campers to see that everyone has something to contribute and there are no small parts...your positive attitude will help to reinforce that.
- Be prepared to join in the fun! No need to just sit back and watch.
- And last, but not least.....we believe strongly in the "Leave a place better than you found it." Thank you for helping us at Rawhide Ranch to provide a welcoming place for the next group of adventuresome chaperones.