

Selecting A Great Trek

January Advisor Briefing

Phase II - Selecting A Great Trek

- Phase II - The following slides provide a process of choosing a trek that satisfies the desires of your crew.

Selecting A Great Trek

- Phase III - On January 29th-30th - the online selection process begins
- Phase IV - May's Watchu Mountain Adventure - a Trail Planner will help your crew optimize your trek



Trek Information

- 35 pre-planned treks.
- Treks range from 50 to over 100 miles
- Each offers a variety of program opportunities.
- Treks also vary in the physical challenge they present



Treks & Camps

Classification of treks is largely based on

Total miles, elevation changes

Long Hikes between camps, Dry Camps

Staffed camps and Trail Camps





Treks are classified by number 1-35 as:

- Challenging (56-62 miles)

- Rugged (62-72 miles)

- Strenuous, (76-84 miles)

- Super Strenuous (89-103 miles.)

Lower numbers are Challenging;

highest numbers are Super Strenuous.

Trek Information

- The higher numbered (more challenging) treks = less time for program
- Lower numbered treks, while still challenging, allow more time for programs
- Your crew must decide what is more important to them



Trek Information

- Higher numbered treks may be better suited to crews with older youth and very fit adults
- Lower numbered treks may be better suited to crews with younger youth
- Each crew must evaluate their capabilities – shakedown!



Trek Information

Programs are available:

- Where you are spending the night at a staff camp
- When you are passing through a staff camp on your way elsewhere, or
- With a side hike to a staff camp.



Trek Information

- Except for horse rides and burros, crews can participate in any program they are willing to hike to.



Caution - crews scheduled for a program always get priority but this is usually not a problem

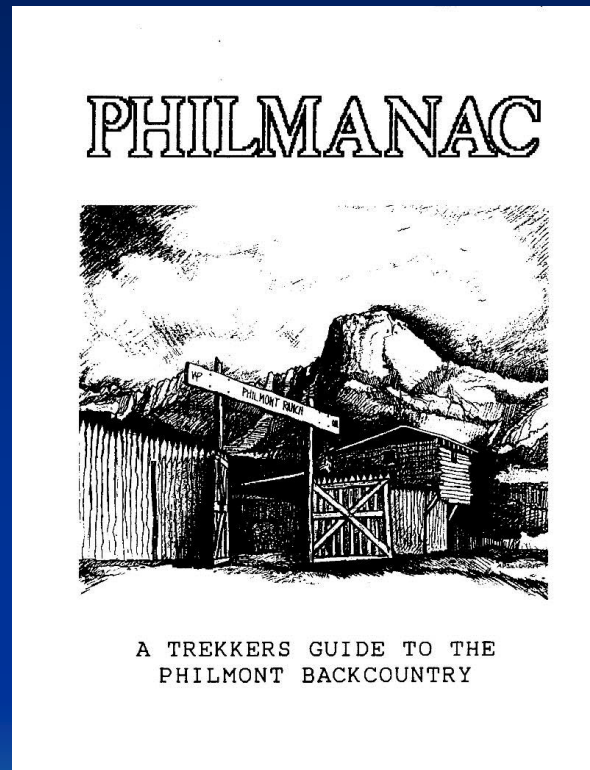
Gather your Trek Information Tools

- Start with the materials that are online:
Philmontscoutranch.org and Watchu.org
- On the Trek Selection tab of the Trek Preparation

The screenshot shows the 'The Watchu Experience' website. The main heading is 'Patriots' Path Council's Trail to Philmont'. Below this is a navigation menu with tabs for 'Trek Preparation', 'Getting Started', 'Medical', and 'Equipment'. The 'Trek Preparation' tab is selected and highlighted in yellow. Under this tab, there is a sub-menu with 'Trek Selection' also highlighted in yellow. To the left of the main content area is a vertical navigation menu with items like Home, Quick Links, Watchu, and Administration. The main content area lists 'Advisor Briefing presentations' with links to 'An Introduction to Philmont (November)', 'Selection a Great Trek (January)', and 'Trek Selection Process (March)'. Below this, there are sections for 'Getting Started', 'Medical', 'Equipment', and 'Trek Selection'.

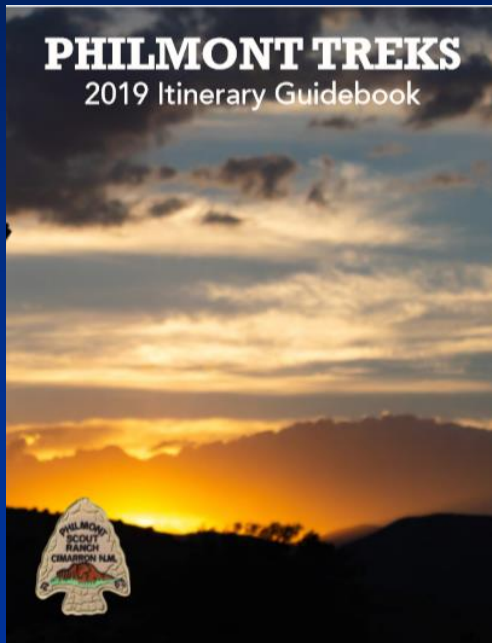
- Trek Selection tools:
 - [Outdoor Adventure History](#) - survey your crew for outdoor experience
 - [Guidebook to Adventure](#) - includes descriptions of the programs offered at the staffed camps
 - [TREKS Itinerary Guide](#)- includes specific details for each available itinerary
 - Overall Philmont Map, [North](#) and [South](#) segments- determine where camps are located and the trails that connect them. Caution! large files
 - Treks Comparison Guide (in [PDF](#) or [Excel](#)) - detailed breakdown of last year's treks
 - [PhilSearch](#) - an online trek comparison tool, maps, photos and much more
 - [Philmont News Group](#) - join in the online discussions devoted to Philmont
 - [Trek Selection Ballot](#) - use this sample form to vote for your favorite programs
 - [Itinerary Selection Worksheet](#) - complete before starting the on-line registration process
 - [Sample post card](#) from the *TREKS Itinerary Guide*, used to confirm your arrival schedule (submitting online rather than mailing recommended).
 - [Philmont Tooth Of Time Traders](#) - Philmont's trading post for ordering Philmont maps online or by calling 575-276-2281

Trek Information Tools



Philmanac

2019 Trek Information Tools



TREKS Itinerary Guide



Guidebook to Adventure

Trek Information Tools

The *Guidebook To Adventure* includes a description of each program offered

Crater Lake. They will share their skills of spartree “pole” climbing and the use of wood tools and instruments. Competition in exciting logging events such as log toss, cross-cut sawing, and log tongs races, will challenge your crew.

Demonstration Forest

Between **Hunting Lodge** and **Clarks Fork**, near Cito Reservoir, a Demonstration Forest has been developed with the support of the American Tree Farm Organization. Be sure your crew takes time to learn about the forests and various forest practices taking place at Philmont. A visiting Forester will be available to visit with crews.

Environmental Awareness

Become acquainted with some of the western birds, wildflowers, mammals, lizards, snakes, and insects in this natural outdoor wonderland. Discover what wildlife passed through camp by observing tracks and other signs—view how plant and animal species change as you climb higher into the mountains, and learn why these changes occur—walk past the timberline and observe the life that survives the rigors of this high-altitude environment.

Across the Ranch, Backcountry Staff will offer a program of environmental awareness. The program is called BEEP=Backcountry Environmental Education Program. It will help you know and understand Philmont’s flora, fauna, geology, and life zones; and how you can be a part of maintaining the natural order of things so others that follow may enjoy them too.

A Philmont Field Guide is available at the Tooth of Time Traders. It will enhance your environmental awareness during your trek.

Fly Tying and Fishing

The Rayado and Agua Fria streams in the south offer excellent trout fishing. Though not large, these trout are wary and exciting to catch as a part of Philmont’s catch and release fishing programs. Fly rods may be checked out at **Hunting Lodge** and **Fish Camp**.

At **Fish Camp** a program counselor with material and equipment will show you how to tie your own trout flies. The thrill of catching a trout on a fly you have tied is hard to beat. Near **Fish Camp**, **Phillips Junction** and **Abreu** a catch and release program is in effect. If you don’t know how to remove the hook from your fish, a program counselor will demonstrate the correct method. A tour of Waite Phillips’ fishing lodge, including a narrative of area history, is also offered. All fishermen are required to have a current New Mexico state fishing license (see page 17).

Geocaching

Geocaching combines map reading and GPS use to find specific points where you can record your visit. Geocaching will take place at **Zastrow** and at a Low Impact Camp, Slate Hill Heck, located near **Dean Cow**. Instruction for the trail camp will be provided by your Ranger.

Also at historic **Zastrow** your crew will learn the latest techniques of land navigation using map, compass and GPS. Discover how a knowledge of UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) and latitude/longitude will improve your navigation skills on your trek. The evening

program features a Dutch oven dessert and a rededication to the Values of Scouting Ceremony.

Geology

Philmont and private sector geologists have teamed up to provide an exciting and educational program of geology and mining technology at the sites where history comes alive - **Cyphers Mine**, **Baldy Town**, and **French Henry**.

Gold Mining and Panning

Gold is still found in almost all streams on Philmont, which was once the scene of lucrative gold-mining operations. Mine shafts, sluice boxes, and placer mines dot the mountainsides and valleys. If your itinerary takes you to **Cyphers Mine** or **French Henry** you will tour a real gold mine. Not working now, the mines are carefully shored so you can tour the mine tunnel. Bring your jacket and flashlight for the tour. Learn about adventures that were experienced during the fascinating and colorful past as determined miners sought their fortunes in these historic mountains. When you find some “color,” ask one of the staff miners for some cellophane tape so you can take your discovery home to show others your success. Gold pans are available for you to use at **Cyphers Mine**, and **French Henry**.

Homesteading

At **Crooked Creek**, **Rich Cabins** and **Abreu** your crew will visit a working homestead. The staff will help you learn early day skills such as railsplitting, shingle making, primitive farming, log structure construction and care of farmyard animals. In keeping with the southwestern spirit of the program, you will be instructed in preparing a special Mexican meal at **Abreu**.

Horse Rides

Philmont owns and maintains a remuda of 300 western horses with strings located at **Beaubien**, **Clarks Fork**, and **Ponil**. All three camps offer exhilarating mountain horse rides at times noted on crew itinerary. Be prompt for your scheduled ride. Reservations are made at Logistics on a first-come, first-served basis upon arrival at Philmont. (Confirm times at Logistics.) Philmont wranglers are courteous but strict. They make certain everyone stays in line and maintains the pace to avoid endangering members of your crew. Even skilled riders cannot be permitted to ride at a different pace or away from the group. Please cooperate with the wranglers by following instructions for a safe and enjoyable ride. For your personal safety you will wear a helmet, which will be provided. Ponchos and maps should not be taken since they may frighten the horses. Wear long trousers on your horse ride to protect your legs. Closed toe shoes are required to protect your feet. Persons weighing over 200 pounds will not be permitted to ride.

Jicarilla Apache Life

Apache Springs offers a unique program featuring the lifestyle of the Jicarilla Apache. You will see how the Jicarillas worked and played. A replica Jicarilla village has been erected for this program. Tepees are furnished with realistic fireplaces, back rests, robes, hides, and baskets for you to see.

Trek Information Tools

Guidebook Summary Of Programs

CAMPS AND PROGRAM FEATURES

A list of staffed camps with program features listed for each camp follows. The letter "S" denotes starting camps.

<u>CAMPS - North Country</u>	<u>PROGRAM FEATURES</u>
Anasazi (S)	Ranger Training
Baldy Town	Food pickup, trading post, museum, geology, gold assaying
Bent (S)	Ranger training
Black Horse, Copper Park, Ewells Park, Ute Meadows	Side hike Baldy Mountain
Campos Heck (S)	Ranger Training
Cimarron River (S)	Ranger Training
Dan Beard	Challenge course, low impact camping
Dean Cow	Rock climbing, rappelling
Dean Cutoff (S)	Ranger Training
Dean Heck (S)	Ranger Training
Flume Canyon (S)	Ranger Training
French Henry	Mine tour, blacksmithing, gold panning, geology
Head of Dean	Challenge course
Hells Fire Camp (S)	Ranger Training
House Canyon (S)	Ranger Training
Indian Writings (S)	Archaeology, petroglyph tour, atlatl, Ranger Training
Metcalf Station	Railroad building, handcar, blacksmithing, telegraph, campfire
Miranda	Muzzle loading rifle, burro packing, mountain man rendezvous, tomahawks
Ponil	Horse rides, burro packing, cantina

Trek Selection Tools

The *TREKS* *Itinerary* *Guide*

contains maps
of each trek
giving a
general idea
of the route

Itinerary 22

Rugged

68 miles

Camping & Hiking Highlights

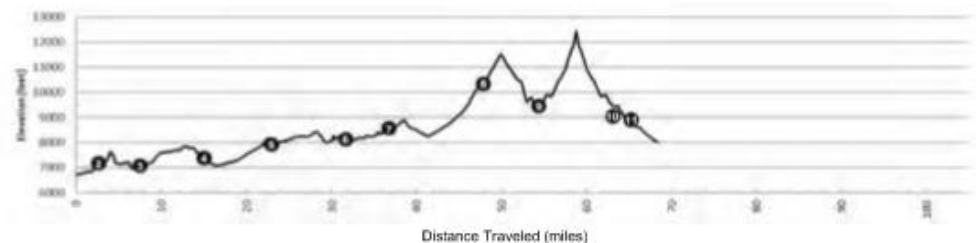
- Baldy Mountain - 12,441 ft.
- Valle Vidal
- Chase Canyon
- Greenwood Canyon

Program Highlights

- Chase Cow - NEW Climbing Camp
- Challenge Course Events
- Mountain Man Rendezvous
- Blacksmithing

Conservation

- Day 7 - Ring Place
- Stream Restoration



Trek Information Tools

Opposite each map is a day by day breakdown

2019 PHILMONT ADVENTURE ITINERARY

Itinerary 22 **Rugged (good mix of program and hiking) - 68 miles**

This adventure packed itinerary provides a variety of opportunities for mileage, adventure, and traversing breathtaking vistas. Enjoy a variety of side hikes, participate in unique program opportunities and try your skills with Leave No Trace camping opportunities in the Valle Vidal Unit of the Carson National Forest. The trip will begin with a bus drop off at Six-mile Trailhead and a hike to the first confirmed T-rex footprint in the world, and a quick hike to House Canyon Camp where your Ranger will continue your training. Day 2 will take you up and over the ridge to Philmont newest rock climbing camp at Chase Cow Camp. Enjoy the views as you make your way out of Chase Canyon and hike the ridgeline above the North Ponil before dropping down to Cottonwood Canyon Camp. Get up the next morning ready to join the railroaders of the Cimarron & Northwestern in building a new line up the canyon and see what life was like at a railroad camp. Work quickly, as you still have to climb up and over to Dan Beard, where the Challenge Course and initiative games will help to build teamwork that your crew will utilize the rest of your trek. Leave Philmont Property and enter the beautiful Valle Vidal on your way to Ring Place camp to learn about weather and astronomy, surrounded by a blanket of stars in their open meadows. Head on over to Iris Park for more Leave No Trace camping, then drop down into the middle Ponil canyon to reach Upper Greenwood Canyon Camp to begin your approach to the high point of your trek. A layover at Ewells Park will give you plenty of time to summit Philmont's highest peak, Baldy mountain, and visit the historic mining towns of Baldy town and French Henry where our crew can tour the Aztec mine, pan for gold, and make a souvenir at the blacksmith shop. Your next adventure is at the mountain man rendezvous at Miranda where you can compete in your crew at tomahawk throwing and muzzle loading rifle shooting. Alas, your journey is coming to an end as you make your way to the Express Trailhead and load your bus for the ride back to base camp.

Day	Note	Camp	Program Features	Food Pickup
1		Camping Headquarters	Opening Campfire	
2	d	House Canyon	T-Rex Track; Ranger Training; Trail Camp	Camping Headquarters
3		CHASE COW	Rock Climbing & Rappelling	
4		Cottonwood	Trail Camp	
5		DAN BEARD	Railroading @ Metcalf Station	
6		RING PLACE	Challenge Course Events; Folk Weather Forecasting, Astronomy	Ring Place
7		Iris Park	Conservation @ Ring Place, Trail Camp	
8		Upper Greenwood	Low Impact Camping; Trail Camp	
9		Ewells Park	Blacksmithing, Mine Tour @ French Henry; Trail Camp	
10		Ewells Park	Climb Baldy Mtn.; Mining History, Assaying @ Baldy Town	Baldy Town
11		MIRANDA	Mountain Man Rendezvous, Muzzle Loading Rifle, Tomahawks	
12		Camping Headquarters	Hike to Express Trailhead; Awards Campfire	

Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Six Mile Gate to go to House Canyon Camp
Returns to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from Express Trailhead

Campsite Elevations: 7,078' Minimum, 10,263' Maximum **Camps:** 4 Staffed, 5 Trail, 1 Layover, 1 Dry Camp
Conservation: Ring Place **Sectional Maps:** North

Your days at Philmont.

Scheduled programs

Scheduled food pickups

Camps where you spend the night

Camp information and trek start point

Trek Information Tools

✓ Trek Summaries

Programs Included in Itineraries

ITINERARY NUMBER \$:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
Hiking Difficulty	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Distance (approximately)	53	54	54	55	56	57	54	56	58	57	60	61	61	58	59	62	61	63	62	66	67	68	68	69	70	71	71	74	73	73	75	78	81	84	85	
Trail Camps	4	4	6	5	6	4	5	4	6	6	4	4	5	5	5	5	6	4	4	5	5	6	5	5	3	5	5	5	7	4	7	6	5	6	6	
Dry Camps	1			1	2	2	1	2	1	2				2	1		1	1	1	1	1	1				2	2		1	2						
Archaeology		X									X	X		X					X		X	X				X	X								X	
Archery - 3 Dimensional				X			X		X	X							X	X	X	X						X				X						
Astronomy																						X	X						X		X		X	X	X	
Atlatl (Dart-Throwing)			X								X	X		X					X				X				X	X								X
ATV Rider Course	X																																			
Baldy Mountain Hike		X	X									X	X		X						X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	

Philmont Programs/Itineraries/Camps

Programs	Offered on Itineraries	At These Camps
Archaeology	2, 12, 13, 16, 21, 23, 24, 28, 29, 35	Indian Writings
Archery - 3 Dimensional	4, 7, 8, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 26, 30	Apache Springs
Astronomy	22, 23, 29, 31, 33, 34, 35	Ring Place
Atlatl (Dart-Throwing)	3, 12, 13, 16, 21, 24, 28, 29, 35	Indian Writings
ATV Rider Course	1	Zastrow
Baldy Mountain Hike	2, 3, 12, 13, 16, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35	
Blacksmithing	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35	Black Mountain, Cyphers Mine, French Henry, Metcalf Station
Burro Packing	3, 21, 23, 25	Miranda, Ponil
Campfire (evening)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35	Beaubien, Clarks Fork, Crater Lake, Cyphers Mine, Metcalf Station, Ponil, Pueblano, Rich Cabins, Urraca, Zastrow
Cantina	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25,	Abreu, Ponil

Trek Information Tools

✓ Trek Summaries

Itineraries at a Glance

21 - 67 Mi. - R

Little Twin
House Canyon
Ponil
Elkhorn
Ute Meadows
Ute Meadows
Pueblano
Rich Cabins
Dan Beard
Indian Writings

22 - 68 Mi. - R

House Canyon
Chase Cow
Cottonwood
Dan Beard
Ring Place
Iris Park
Upper Greenwood
Ewells Park
Ewells Park
Miranda

23 - 68 Mi. - R

Anasazi
Cook Canyon
Seally Canyon
Whiteman Vega
Iris Park
Upper Greenwood
Copper Park
Miranda
Pueblano
Ponil

24 - 69 Mi. - R

Maxwell
Head of Dean
Rich Cabins
Middle Ponil
Middle Ponil
McCrystal Creek
Seally Canyon
Cook Canyon
Indian Writings
Ponil

25 - 70 Mi. - R

Bent
Dan Beard
Seally Canyon
Whiteman Vega
Metcalf Station
Ponil
Baldy Skyline
Miranda
Miranda
Elkhorn

The Process

The trek selection process has crew phases.

- Phase I – (June- Sept 2018)
 - Learning the outdoor experience of your crew
 - Survey your participants ([Outdoor Adventure History](#))
 - Scheduled hikes or backpacks to understand capabilities (1-2miles/hr?, 1000 feet climb?)
 - Rotate assignment of crew roles

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Phase II – The Process

Nov Dec 2018 -
Provide an
introduction to
Philmont, its history
and programs
available

Dec-Jan 2019 -
Define process to
chose a trek that
satisfies the desires
of your crew:

1. Choose Programs
2. Choose Trek



The Process - Select the Top Programs

1. Discuss (in face to face meeting) programs offered and desires to climb mountains at Philmont - Listen to reasons desired
2. Using the Sample ballot found at Watchu.org, individually rank the program desired
3. Announce the total results of the crew's ballot
4. Crew Homework - Find 6 treks that meet the desires of the Tally from the group

Sample Philmont Trek Ballot

	.30-06 Rifle Shooting / Reloading
	12 Gauge Shotgun Shooting / Reloading
	Archaeology
	Astronomy
	Black Powder Rifle
	Blacksmithing
	Burro Packing
	Burro Racing
	Cantina
	Cimarron and Northwestern Railroad (new in 2009)
	Conservation
	Continental Tie and Lumber Company

TALLY- group

black powder rifle - III	3
Mines - I	1
blacksmithing - IIII	6-
Cantina - III	3
Continental - II	2
astronomy - II	2
ropes - IIII	5-
Western love - I	1
horses - II	2
rock climbing - II	2
mtn bike - I	1
gold mining - IIII	3
jicar apache - I	1
nw rr - II	2

The Process - Itinerary Selection

- REMEMBER – It's their trek, they decide – *Advisors – Caution: Do not be responsible for picking a trek* - - later when it's “too hard” or “too easy” and they need to own it, not you.
- There is a lot of information, so start early.
- Avoid the common mistake of trying to see everything on a trek.

Itinerary Selection

- For Crew Homework – Provide links for the *Guidebook To Adventure* and Trek Itinearies to review details. Give time (1 week?) for reading and exploring all the options.
- Crew members come prepared to select their trek
 - Pick 6 choices for meeting in Jan.

Itinerary Selection

- At crew meeting review each top choices with all - Use the *Philmanac* and overall map or on-line tools to review the treks in the Itinerary Guidebook as a group. Focus on desired programs and/or an area of the ranch.
- Remember... there are no bad TREKS! The best one may be in minority of choices.

Itinerary Selection

- After review is completed ...
- The youth members rank the six potential treks. Take a 5 minute poll of choices individually and then summarize the tally
- Likely will not capture every single program activity they want

Phase III – On Line Trek Selection

- Prepare Philmont Gateway roster in advance in order to be ready when the package arrives.
- Without some advance help with planning, your selection process can be delayed or difficult.
- To be continued.... in Phase III Presentation “On Line Trek Selection”

Questions?

