

Tents

From the *Philmont Guidebook to Adventure*: "Philmont uses two-person, free standing backpacking tents (foot print - 4'6" x 7'4") called "The Thunder Ridge". The tent is durable, requires 6-8 stakes (not provided), weighs 5 lb. 4 oz., and is available for your use at no charge. Bivy sacks and hammocks are not acceptable." If you bring your own tent it must be a 2-person or 3-person tent. Typically 3-person backpacking tents have a foot print very similar to that of a 2-person tent. Philmont will allow a single person tent in the event of an odd numbered crew.

The Watchu-recommended crew consists of an odd number of youth (9) and an odd number of advisors (3). In some crews there will be a need for two single person tents since youth and advisors cannot tent together; note that an option in the past for a parent and child to tent together is no longer allowed by Youth Protection guidelines.

Approximately 3 pounds per person is the current "state of the art" target for allocated tent weight. Keeping this in mind, check out the many single-person tent possibilities at retailers such as those listed in the [Equipment](#) section on the [Favorite Links](#) page of the [Watchu Experience](#) Web site.

A less desirable solution is to use a four-person tent to sleep three. This is not recommended and only permitted for the odd advisor and/or odd Scout. This solution results in three adults in one tent and/or three youth members in another. A four-person tent weighing 9 or 10 pounds hits the weight target and allows adequate room for three crew members. Again, check the many possibilities at the links cited above.

Phil Fact: George Webster owned the 70,000-acre Urraca Ranch from 1910 until selling it to Waite Phillips in 1922. He first built a cabin where the Agua Fria Creek joins the Rayado, the spot where Phillips later built his Rayado Lodge and other buildings (today's Fish Camp).

The eagles do soar high over Webster Lake!

George Webster

Urraca Ranch, Rayado, New Mexico