



Joshua Tree Experience 2009 – September 25-27

Introduction: Thank you so much for registering to participate in Outdoor Outreach's Joshua Tree Experience. This annual fundraiser is an opportunity to support Outdoor Outreach while benefiting from an action-packed weekend at Joshua Tree National Park! This is a chance for you to experience multiple outdoor adventures in a comfortable setting, and push your comfort zone by learning how to climb, rappel, participate in clinics, practice yoga, hike and camp. Whether you are a novice or an experienced rock climber, this weekend will be an amazing opportunity to learn more and to meet cool, like-minded people.

Your contributions and fundraising efforts will provide hundreds of at-risk and underprivileged youth the opportunity to go climbing, surfing, mountain biking, snorkeling and snowboarding, giving them greater confidence and self-esteem.

Please take a few moments to read through this welcome package. Additionally, we will be in touch with updates and helpful information about fundraising efforts.

Fundraising: Your registration for this event is free, however each participant is required to set up a fundraising page through Active and is required to raise a minimum of \$250 to participate in the event. At \$250 you will also receive a custom t-shirt designed for the event, and the more you raise, the more gifts you can earn!

We strongly encourage you to invite friends to register and fundraise as well. You can work as a team or in competition! Please continue to check back to the main Active page about tiered incentive prizes as we're working with sponsors now to secure them.

The Outdoor Outreach staff and volunteer committees will be providing you with fundraising tips. For more information and suggestions, please see the fundraising tips page on the Outdoor Outreach Joshua Tree page.

Food/Drink: All meals on Saturday and Sunday will be fully catered. Some water/drinks will be provided, however we encourage everyone to bring their own water and snacks. If you have special dietary requirements, you can indicate your requests on the registration form. If you arrive Friday evening, dinner is up to you. There are plenty of options in town, or if you have your own cooking gear, you can cook at the campground. Some local restaurants are listed below and can be viewed on a map here: <http://snipie.com/iza>

Joshua Tree:

Crossroads Café: 61715 29 Palms Hwy 92252 (760-366-5414)

Sam's Pizza: 61380 29 Palms Hwy 92252 (760-366-9511)

Park Rock Café: 6554 Park Blvd 92252 (760-366-3622)

Royal Siam Cuisine Thai food: 61599 29 Palms Hwy 92252 (760-366-2923)

29 Palms:

Rocky's New York Style Pizzeria: 73737 29 Palms Hwy 92277 (760-367-9525)

Santana's Mexican Food: 73860 Sun Valley Drive 92277 (760-361-0202)

Twenty-nine Palms Inn: 73950 Inn Ave 92277 (760-367-3505)

Camping/Accommodations: We have secured a private campground called Joshua Tree Lake, about 9 miles northeast of the entrance to the park. The campground has hot showers and flush toilets. The address is 2601 Sunfair Road - Joshua Tree, California 92252. Directions are below.

Carpooling and Shuttling: The campground has plenty of parking but we strongly encourage participants to be environmentally friendly by carpooling or taking an Outdoor Outreach shuttle up to the event. Shuttle times are TBD, but they will be Friday afternoon. If you can't come until later Friday, you should have your own transportation. We will also be shuttling everyone into the park for climbing events. Keep an eye out for more details about this as we get closer to the event.



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Weather: Climate can fluctuate drastically in the desert in the fall. Although this time of year is usually the most pleasant time to be in Joshua Tree, at night the weather can still drop below freezing and during the day it can be 90 degrees, or be pouring down rain. Please come prepared with everything you need for a comfortable camping experience.

Safety/First Aid: In the rare case of injury or illness, Outdoor Outreach will have staff with WFR and CPR/1st Aid training. There is phone reception at the campground, and some in the park. There is also a nearby hospital. We will also have first aid kits on site for minor injuries.

Attendance: Please plan on attending both days in order to gain the experience of the entire event. We encourage you to come out Friday afternoon/evening to get an early start Saturday (campground is secure Friday, but dinner is on your own). Otherwise, you are welcome to come early Saturday morning. **If you have to cancel, please let us know at least 2 weeks in advance.** The money raised prior to the event is non-refundable.

Gear: Please bring a tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, headlamp and whatever else you need to be comfortable camping. Bring warm weather clothes for the day and cold weather clothes for the evening. Have hiking shoes or boots for getting to the climbing sites and guided hikes. Bring running shoes if you plan on running. Bring your road bike and gear if you plan on participating in one of our group rides.

If you do not have your own tent, sleeping bag, or sleeping pad, please let us know (if you didn't in the registration through active.com) and we can arrange for you to get free rentals, compliments of REI.

Additional Items: Lantern, personal snacks, water bottle, small day pack, extra socks, comfortable shoes or sandals, camp chair, coffee mug, sunglasses, hat, extra sunscreen, camera. If you want to bring your own personal climbing gear, you can do so, but we will have harnesses, shoes, and other gear available. If you've never climbed before, or are just getting into climbing, there will be plenty of assistance provided. If you have never hiked or camped before, don't worry, we'll help you out with everything.

If you have a National Park Pass, please bring it. Outdoor Outreach will cover the entrance fee into the park for everyone in our shuttles from the campground to the park. Otherwise, we'll try to spread out the National Park Passes.

Contacts: If you have any questions at any time please contact Julie Sonenberg at julie@outdooroutreach.org or 619-238-5790.

Thanks and see you out there!

Directions:

We have the campground reserved from Friday through Sunday. You can arrive as early as 12pm on Friday, and we will pack our stuff up from the campground Sunday morning prior to the day's activities. The Joshua Tree Lake Campground is separate from the Main Park!

Driving from San Diego: 15N to 215N to 60E to 10E to 62N (Yucca Valley, 29 palms exit) drive 28 miles to the town of Joshua Tree. Continue past the road that takes you to the main park, and drive about 4 more miles, then turn left on Sunfair Road. You will be on Sunfair Road for about 5 miles until you see the Joshua Tree Lake Campground (2601 Sunfair Road 92252). Approximately 3 hours

Please refer to a map just in case, and ask in town if you're confused.



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General Outline:

Here is a *preliminary schedule* of events for the weekend.

Friday September 25

Joshua Tree Lake Campground will be reserved on this night. Anyone can arrive and set-up camp as early as 12pm on this day. This evening you are on your own for food. There are plenty of options in town (see above), or if you have your own cooking gear, you can cook at the campground.

Saturday September 26

8:00am: Breakfast Served. Additional participants start arriving at the campground.
8:15: Official kick-off talk, and sign-up for activities.
9:00: Shuttle to Indian Cove.
9:30 Choose Activity: 1. Top Rope Climb, 2. Crack Climbing Clinic, 3. Anchor Building Clinic, 4. Hike with Yoga
12:30pm: Groups meet to eat packed lunch and swap activities
1:30: Split into Activities: (same as morning, choose a new activity)
4:30: Head back to campground for evening activities.
5:30: Evening sunset yoga session, slack lining, socializing
6:30: Silent Auction begins.
7:00: Dinner Served.
8:00: Silent Auction/Top Fundraiser announcements. Thank You's.
8:30: Slideshow and talk by Founder, Chris Rutgers.
9:30: Raffle prizes, acoustic music and hang out around fire.

Sunday September 27

6:30am: Sunrise yoga session for earlybirds
7:00: Breakfast served. Group announcements during breakfast.
7:30: Take down tents and pack cars.
8:00: Get packed lunch and get in shuttles/carpools to Echo Cove (in Joshua Tree).
9:00: Split into activities: 1. Top Rope Climb, 2. Rappel, 3. Boulder Clinic, 4. Lead Clinic, 5. Hike, 6. Bike Ride
12:30pm: Eat Lunch during activity
2:00: Wrap it up. Everyone will head home or back to their shuttle to pick up their car.
3:00: Final Outdoor Outreach Shuttle leaves campground parking lot.