



# Expeditions

## Winter 2018

### BSAC High Adventure

## Summit Bechtel Reserve



The Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve has three main components of activity: the Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base, the James C. Justice National Scout Camp, and the John D. Tickle Training and Leadership Center, each of which has unique program opportunities. There are six subcamps, which have the capacity to house up to 40,000 campers and a large outdoor arena with a capacity of approximately 80,000.

High Adventure Areas constructed on the property include: The Park (skateboarding), The Trax (BMX), The Pools (scuba and swimming), The Cloud (popular science & robotics), The Bows (archery sports), The Barrels (shooting sports), The Ropes (challenge courses in the trees), The Rocks (climbing, bouldering and rappelling), The Zip (zipline), Low & High Gear (mountain bike headquarters locations connecting over 36 miles of downhill and cross country mountain bike trails), The Canopy (canopy tours), and 'sampler' activities available within The Scott Summit Center.

The Summit will be the site of the 2019 World Scout Jamboree from July 22 – August 2 and will include 45,000 Scouts and Scouters from 133 different countries. Day visits are available. For more information on visitation, go to [2019wsj.org/attend/day-visitors/](http://2019wsj.org/attend/day-visitors/).

## Indiana Dunes State Park



Indiana Dunes State Park encompasses 2,182 acres of beach, dunes, marshes, swamps, hardwood forests, and white pine groves and is surrounded by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore lands, which hugs 15 miles of the southern shore of Lake Michigan. The state park's 16.5 miles of trails allow you to explore all these habitats, which shelter diverse wildlife and provide excellent birding.

On Saturday, March 23, 2019, the Pathway to Adventure Council's OA South Area of Takhone Lodge 7 will host the Annual Potawatomi Trail Hike, an all-day event. This event will complete hiking requirements for Cub Scouts and Boy Scout ranks and provide chances to camp. Complete the Three Dune Challenge, hike the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan or enjoy the nature center. The possibilities are endless. The hike traditionally attracts a large number of visitors and takes place regardless of rain or snow.

A \$5 registration fee includes the 2019 Potawatomi Hike Trail Patch, with registration beginning at 9:30 AM at the City West Shelter, Indiana Dunes State Park, located at 1600 N 25 E, Chesterton, Indiana. No advanced registration is needed. Out-of-state participants will need to pay a state park entry fee of \$12.00 per vehicle. Further, there will be an additional charge for parking.

Any questions regarding the hike can be directed to Noah Tuftedal at [southareachair@oa7.org](mailto:southareachair@oa7.org).

## Upcoming Events

**Wilderness First Aid** – A Wilderness First Aid course will be offered at Camp Berry on April 25-26. For more information, contact Tammy Speer, Council Training Chair, at [bsactraining@gmail.com](mailto:bsactraining@gmail.com).

**Philmont 2020** – The Black Swamp Area Council will be sending a contingent to Philmont in 2020. If interested, contact Mike Saxton, High Adventure Chair, at [jmsaxton823@gmail.com](mailto:jmsaxton823@gmail.com).



Black Swamp Area Council is excited to announce the formation of the NEW Expeditions Trek Program, designed for older Scouts. The vision of this program is to offer a 3-year program, with a new trek added each year. These treks will be offered to Scouts who are 15 or older, as well as adult leaders.

The idea for this program is simple. Your older Scouts have gone to traditional summer camp several times now. They have worked on tons of merit badges, including the exciting ones that draw Scouts to camp. Now they might not be as excited about returning for the 5<sup>th</sup> time, or more. We want to offer them an experience that gets them outside the traditional realm of summer camp. An experience that will allow them to rely on skills they have learned, and possibly pick up new skills along the way. We want to immerse them in a week long, outdoor program, that is not only exciting and fun, but that challenges their sense of adventure!

For our inaugural year, we are introducing the **Camp to Camp Paddle Trek**. This 5-day excursion will see participants canoe the local rivers and waterways from Camp Berry in Findlay to Camp Lakota in Defiance. Participants can come with their Troop to their scheduled week of camp. Participants at Lakota will be transported to Berry on Sunday afternoons. On Fridays, Berry participants will be transported back after the Trek ends, so they can travel home with their Troops. Participants who do not have a Troop in camp that week can report directly to Berry on Sunday afternoon. Each week, we will have the capacity of 10 paddlers, and two staff guides, for a total group of 12. The intended ratio will be 8 youth to 2 adults. Participants will camp along the way at established camping sites. Cooking will be done by the participants. Additional program activities will await the participants each day at their scheduled stops.

We will offer 5 weeks of this Trek program, coinciding with the normal weeks of summer camp:

**June 17-21      June 24-28      July 1-5      July 8-12      July 15-19**

**Cost: \$375 (includes the regular summer camp fee)**

**Registration for the Camp to Camp Paddle Trek will open on April 6<sup>th</sup>.**

For questions, please contact Tom James at [tom.james@scouting.org](mailto:tom.james@scouting.org) or call the Findlay Service Center at 419-422-4356.