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Outfitting Trip with Adams' Pack Station

Have you been thinking about backpacking lately? I know you like to hike. What if you could do both without carrying all of the weight, cooking freeze-dried food, and planning where to go and what to do? What if you could do this right here in Southern California within your local mountains? Boy, do I have a trip for you!!

WHAT Are You Talking About?

I am sure you have seen advertisements for outfitting trips in the High Sierras. Perhaps you have actually been on a trip where a guide and packer take you and your party, along with a pack train, through the back country. It is beautiful, easy, and memorable. But, you have to drive a long way to get there and it can be quite expensive (thousands of dollars for a group). Adams' Pack station is introducing Southern California to High Sierra type outfitting right here in Angeles National Forest. In fact, the trip begins at your favorite location: Chantry Flat.

WHO is The Trip Geared To?

The trip is moderate in terrain and slower than moderate in pace. Total trip is around 24 miles over 3 days. We would like this trip to be geared to those of you who want to try backpacking or have been backpacking but do not want to carry all of the equipment. Also, if you have not had the pleasure of camping under the stars away from RVs and other campers, this is the trip for you. Like to eat well? Yep, this is the trip for you.

WHEN Would We Be Going?

May 15, 16, and 17th.

WHERE Does Trip Take Us?

Leave Chantry Flat at 2:00 Friday May 15th. Hike to Spruce Grove Campground (around 4 miles). Spend the night. Then, hike past Newcomb's Saddle, DeVore, and up the West Fork to Valley Forge Trail Camp.

HOW Does It Work?

- Gather at Chantry Flat around 12:00 noon.
- You will be provided with tent, sleeping bag, and sleeping pad. All of the food for Friday evening through Sunday lunch will be provided. You should bring your own personal items limited to a single back pack or small duffel bag. These will be carried on the 9 donkeys for the group. You should also carry a fanny pack or small day pack for water and snacks that we provide.

THEN What?

- We leave Chantry around 2:00
- We will hike to Spruce Grove campground and should arrive around 4:30-5:00 (around 4 miles).
- The two packers will unload the animals, setup the tents, highline the pack train., then feed the animals.
- The group will head to Sturtevant camp for dinner. Friday night dinner will be pasta, salad, and garlic bread. Beverages will also be supplied. If you want an adult beverage you should bring it along.
- We will return to Spruce Grove for the evening. Hopefully, we can get a little guitar and fiddle playing going on. Otherwise, you are on your own for the evening.

- Saturday morning, we will have coffee, tea, and hot chocolate available to help you to wake up.
- We will go to Sturtevant camp around 9:00 to eat breakfast consisting of pancakes and fruit.
- The packers will get the pack train ready, including breaking down the tents.
- We should be on the trail by 11 or 12. It is about 7-8 miles to Valley Forge from Spruce Grove.
- We will head up to Newcomb's Saddle (about 2 miles) and take a rest there Water and snacks will be provided.
- Our next break will be at the fire road before DeVore Campground (2 miles). The guide will take the group to DeVore, then Westford Campground, and then Valley Forge campground while the pack train continues to Valley Forge via the dirt road.
- The Canyon's famous Dutch Oven chef, Eric Woodyard, will be catering this event.
- Dinner Saturday Night will be Dutch oven cooking at its best: pulled pork sandwiches (or veggie style).
- In addition, you will be treated to salad and blueberry coffee cake.
- That night we will party. Music, stories, etc.
- Once again, if who want an adult beverage you should bring it along.
- Sunday morning will be more Dutch oven cooking: scrambled eggs with cheddar cheese, sausage links, buttermilk biscuits, and fruit.
- You have two options for finishing up the day. Option A: Arrange a ride from friends and head up to Red Box (about 3.5 miles). Option B: Return to Chantry with the pack train (about 11-12 miles). We will supply snack items and water for the trip out. No formal lunch will be provided.

FINALLY, What Does It Cost?

- Cost to you; Currently \$250. We are limiting the trip to 10 people. There has been a lot of interest and so you will want to reserve a place quickly. We will ask for \$100 deposit that is non-refundable unless we cancel the trip (e.g., for rain or non-participation).

Have a Great Day!