

# Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp Information Packet



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## **Dear Camp Grownups,**

On behalf of the Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp Staff, thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your camper. We are thrilled to welcome you to another exciting summer of exploration and discovery at Galena Creek Regional Park!

Our goal at camp is to provide a safe and enriching environment for campers to learn, connect with nature, and create magical camp memories. We are dedicated to fostering a love for nature, science, and adventure while emphasizing the importance of teamwork, self confidence, and environmental stewardship.

This camp information packet will help you and your camper prepare for your epic camp journey. Inside, you will find details about camp schedules, activities, packing lists, safety guidelines, and contact information.

We encourage you to review the information thoroughly and reach out to us with any questions or concerns. Our staff is here to support you and your camper every step of the way.

Thank you once again for choosing Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp. See you at Camp!

Adventure awaits,

- **Galena Summer Camp Staff**

## Camp Overview

Nestled within the picturesque Galena Creek Regional Park, Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp invites campers **aged 7-16** to embark on a thrilling journey of discovery and adventure. Our program offers a wide variety of outdoor activities, including guided hikes, wildlife observation, science experiments, team-building challenges, and exciting creek exploration. From **Monday to Friday**, campers can explore the beauty of the Sierra Nevada mountains from **9:00 AM to 4:30 PM**, connecting with nature and creating camp memories. This Summer is going to be EPIC!

### Day Camper Packing List:

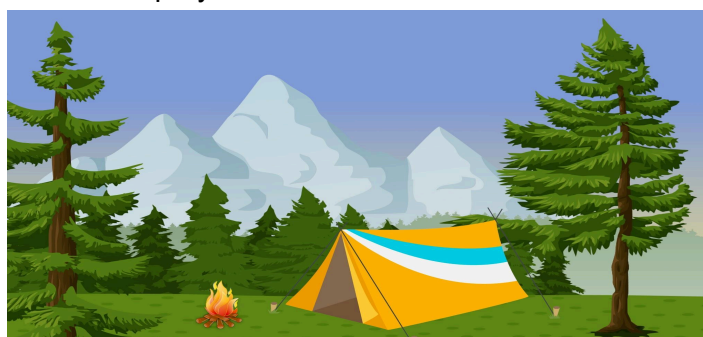
- 🌲 Rugged closed-toe shoes to conquer those untamed trails like a boss.
- 👕 Clothes to get dirty in, because let's face it, things are bound to get messy when you're having this much fun!
- ☀️ Sunscreen and insect repellent to shield campers from the elements and blood thirsty insects. Fun Fact: Sunscreen and bug spray combo is known to be an effective BigFoot deterrent.
- 💧 A water bottle with their name on it so they can stay hydrated during epic adventures.

### Optional:

- 🍱 A lunch box filled with nut-free snacks (two snacks and lunch will be provided)
- 🎒 A backpack for carrying all their gear and the treasures they'll discover along the way

### Do Not Pack:

- Anything Valuable (Campers are responsible for all personal belongings)
- Foods that contain Nuts, or Peanut Butter
- Phones, items or electronics that would be distracting (Campers are responsible for any cell phones brought to camp)
- Pocket Knives or Bear Spray



## Overnight Camper Packing List (in addition to the day camper list):

🌙 A cozy sleeping bag or twin size sheets and a plush pillow and blanket. Blanket forts may or may not be constructed.

🧼 Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, towel, shower flip flops) for staying fresh and fabulous

🧦 Extra pairs of socks and underwear because you never know when you'll need to change an undefeated adventurer's socks!

👕 Seven outfits and 1 pair pajamas. One bathing suit and beach towel. One jacket.

💊 Any necessary personal medications. (Must be given to Camp Staff at check in)

🧺 A waterproof plastic bag for keeping dirty laundry separate from the fresh fits.

### Optional:

🔦 A super-powered flashlight with extra batteries to discover hidden secrets and light up the night

🧸 A Slice of Home: A picture or item that brings comfort.

📖 Books or calming indoor activities to do at night.

🌀 Small Fan

### Do Not Pack:

- Anything Valuable (Campers are responsible for all personal belongings)
- Food or drinks that contain Nuts, or Peanut Butter. Any snacks will be stored in the kitchen and must be labeled. Campers must ask Camp Chef in the morning if they want their snacks brought from home for that camp day. No food is stored in bunks.
- Phones, items or electronics that would be distracting (Campers are responsible for any cell phones brought to camp)
- Money
- Pocket Knives or Bear Spray

# Choosing Your Camp Week

## Weekly Themes

**Animal Adventures:** Campers will have the opportunity to search for and learn about a variety of animals that live at Galena! They will also participate in animal tracking, exploring furs and skulls, nature talks with Naturalists and-themed crafts and games.

**Bug's Life:** Campers will delve into the world of insects through bug hunts and collection, insect identification walks, and creating insect habitats. A highlight of the week is the chance to try edible insect snacks and learn about the nutritional value of eating bugs.

**Forest Defenders:** Campers will engage in activities such as tree planting, nature hikes, and forest clean-ups to learn about the importance of protecting our forests. They will also learn about wildlife conservation efforts, fire ecology and participate in forest-themed arts and crafts.

**Wilderness Adventure 1:** Campers will develop outdoor survival skills such as wilderness first aid, outdoor cooking, fire building, shelter construction, and map reading. They will also go on nature hikes, bird watching expeditions, and learn about Leave No Trace principles.





## OVERNIGHT CAMPS

### Field Trips every week!

**Wilderness Adventure 2:** Campers will embark on an exhilarating adventure as they conquer survival challenges, cook outdoor meals and learn to survive in the Sierras. Overnight campers will also participate in night hikes, stargazing, and storytelling around the campfire. **Field Trips: Crystal Peak Park, Virginia City**

**Water Exploration:** Campers will have a splashing good time with water activities such as creek exploration, swimming, fishing, water games, and learning about the water ecosystems. They will also learn about water conservation efforts and participate in hands-on water experiments. **Field Trips: Sand Harbor, Overnight Tent Camping at Davis Creek**

**Rocking Out:** Campers will become junior geologists by exploring different types of rocks, going on rock mining expeditions, and creating their own rock collections. They will also learn about rock formations and participate in rock-themed games and experiments. **Field Trips: Crystal Peak Park, Mayberry Park**

**Wild Wild West:** Campers will step back in time to the wild west era through western-themed activities such as gold panning, cowboy games, and survival skills. They will also learn about western history through storytelling and crafts. **Field Trips: Sand Harbor, Virginia City, Overnight Stay in the Discovery Museum (Pick up Sat Morning at Museum)**

Overnight campers stay in WeChMe Lodge located in the park. Campers receive all meals while at camp starting with Monday Lunch. Pickup is Friday afternoon.

We can't wait to welcome your camper to Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp for an adventurous and educational summer experience!

# Animal Adventures 5 Day Camp Itinerary Example:

## Monday - Animal Adventures Day Camp Itinerary:

**9:00am-9:30am:** Arrival, free time, and Breakfast snack  
**9:30am-10:00am:** Morning Meeting and 7 Ethics  
**10:00am-11:00am:** Animal Track Scavenger Hunt  
**11:00am- 11:30am:** Nature Journaling  
**11:30pm-12:00pm:** Whole Camp Group Game  
**12:00pm-12:45pm:** Camp Lunch  
**12:45pm-1:00pm:** Guided Hike/Orienteering  
**1:00pm-2:00pm:** Animal Olympics or adaptation stations  
**2:00pm-3:00pm:**Furs and Skulls and Animal charades  
**3:00pm-3:10pm:**Afternoon Snack  
**3:10-4:00pm:** Small Group Games or Activities  
**4:00-4:30 pm:** Wrap up and Free Exploration  
**4:30pm:** Pick up

## Tuesday - Animal Adventures Day Camp Itinerary:

**9:00am-9:30am:** Arrival, free time, and Breakfast snack  
**9:30am-10:00am:** Morning Meeting and 7 Ethics  
**10:00am-11:00am:** Animal Habitat Exploration and Building  
**11:00am- 11:30am:** Animal Scavenger Hunt  
**11:30pm-12:00pm:** Whole Camp Group Game  
**12:00pm-12:45pm:** Camp Lunch  
**12:45pm-1:00pm:** Guided Hike/Orienteering  
**1:00pm-2:00pm:** Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Virtual Visit  
**2:00pm-3:00pm:** BioBlitz Challenge  
**3:00pm-3:10pm:**Afternoon Snack  
**3:10-4:00pm:** Small Group Games or Activities  
**4:00-4:30 pm:** Wrap up and Free Exploration  
**4:30pm:** Pick up

## Wednesday - Animal Adventures Day Camp Itinerary:

**9:00am-9:30am:** Arrival, free time, and Breakfast snack  
**9:30am-10:00am:** Morning Meeting and 7 Ethics  
**10:00am-11:00am:** DIY Terrarium Workshop  
**11:00am- 11:30am:** Nature Journaling  
**11:30pm-12:00pm:** Whole Camp Group Game  
**12:00pm-12:45pm:** Camp Lunch  
**12:45pm-1:00pm:** Guided Hike/Orienteering  
**1:00pm-2:00pm:** Animal Science Experiment Day  
**2:00pm-3:00pm:**Animal Anatomy Workshop (Owl Pellets)  
**3:00pm-3:10pm:**Afternoon Snack  
**3:10-4:00pm:** Small Group Games or Activities  
**4:00-4:30 pm:** Wrap up and Free Exploration  
**4:30pm:** Pick up

## Thursday - Animal Adventures Day Camp Itinerary:

**9:00am-9:30am:** Arrival, free time, and Breakfast snack  
**9:30am-10:00am:** Morning Meeting and 7 Ethics  
**10:00am-11:00am:** Environmental Ethics Challenge  
**11:00am- 11:30am:** Eco-Friendly Birdhouse Building  
**11:30pm-12:00pm:** Whole Camp Group Game  
**12:00pm-12:45pm:** Camp Lunch  
**12:45pm-1:00pm:** Guided Hike/Orienteering  
**1:00pm-2:00pm:** Build-a-Bee Hotel Activity and Insect Safari  
**2:00pm-3:00pm:**Outdoor Survival Skills Training  
**3:00pm-3:10pm:**Afternoon Snack  
**3:10-4:00pm:** Small Group Games or Activities  
**4:00-4:30 pm:** Wrap up and Free Exploration  
**4:30pm:** Pick up

## Friday - Animal Adventures Day Camp Itinerary:

**9:00am-9:30am:** Arrival, free time, and Breakfast snack  
**9:30am-10:00am:** Morning Meeting and 7 Ethics  
**10:00am-11:00am:** Guest Speaker ex. Birds of Prey Presentation  
**11:00am- 11:30am:** Animal Habitat Restoration Project  
**11:30pm-12:00pm:** Whole Camp Group Game  
**12:00pm-12:45pm:** Camp Lunch  
**12:45pm-1:00pm:** Guided Hike/Orienteering  
**1:00pm-2:00pm:** Water Games  
**2:00pm-3:10pm:** Fire Building and Smores  
**3:10-4:00pm:** Small Group Games or Activities  
**4:00-4:30 pm:** Wrap up and Free Exploration  
**4:30pm:** Pick up

## **Camp Menu Examples**



We are thrilled to share with you a tasty sneak peek of the scrumptious meals that your campers will be enjoying at our nut-free camp this summer! Our talented camp chef has prepared a balanced and mouthwatering menu that will fuel your child's energy for all of the exciting camp activities. Please note that we take allergies and dietary needs seriously, and limited vegan options are available upon request.

### **Lunch**

- **Cold Lunch:** Ham and Cheese on Hawaiian Rolls with a side of crunchy carrots and zesty ranch dressing for dipping
- **Veggie Straws:** A fun and flavorful snack to munch on
- **Chocolate Chip Cookies:** A sweet treat
- **Lemonade:** A refreshing beverage to cool off after a day of adventures
- **Watermelon Slices:** Juicy and hydrating watermelon slices for a burst of summery freshness

### **Dinner**

- **Cheeseburgers & Hotdogs:** Sink your teeth into delicious cheeseburgers and juicy hotdogs
- **Baked Beans:** A classic campfire side dish
- **Chips:** Crunchy potato chips
- **Corn on the Cob:** Sweet and buttery corn on the cob, a summertime favorite
- **S'mores:** Indulge in gooey and chocolatey s'mores for the perfect campfire dessert

As always, our top priority is the health and safety of all campers. Please inform us of any allergies or dietary restrictions your child may have, and we will ensure that appropriate accommodations are made.  





## Overnight Camps

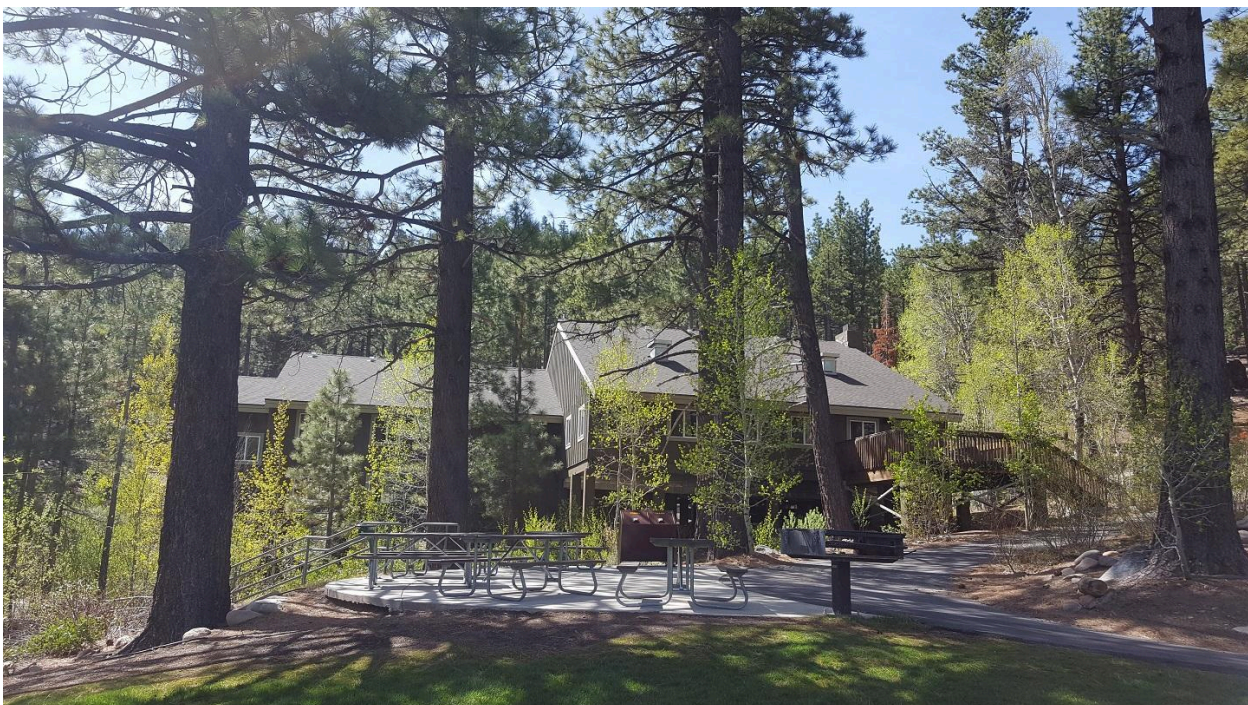
Each week, set out on exciting field trips! Our overnight themed camp nights are a highlight of the week, featuring a variety of engaging activities such as astronomy nights under the twinkling stars, movie nights, karaoke extravaganzas, and much more!

**The WeChMe Lodge** is equipped with all the comforts of home, including a spacious dining room where campers gather for delicious meals, an industrial kitchen where our talented chef whips up mouthwatering dishes, bunk rooms for cozy nights of rest, and bathrooms and showers for freshening up after a day of adventure. Campers will sleep in assigned rooms based on gender to ensure comfort and safety throughout their stay.

At Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp, we encourage campers to unplug and immerse themselves in the wonders of nature. Electronics are allowed during free time after camp activities, but are gathered before **lights out at 9:30PM**.

Our daily schedule ensures that campers are well-fed and energized for all the fun ahead. Rise and shine to a delicious hot breakfast spread served at 7:30 am, fueling campers for another day of excitement and exploration. Dinner is served at 6:30 pm and often followed by a hands on dessert.

Campers are required to notify staff if leaving the building and should follow Camp and Lodge rules at all times. Any medications must be given to our knowledgeable Naturalists (camp leaders) before the start of camp to ensure that campers receive proper care and attention throughout their stay.



## **Camp Contact Information**

We are thrilled to provide you with all the essential contact information you need to ensure a smooth and memorable camp experience for you and your camper. If you have any questions, concerns, or simply want to connect with us, please don't hesitate to reach out to our friendly Galena Camp Staff Team using the following contact details:

[www.galenacreekvisitor.org](http://www.galenacreekvisitor.org)

### Phone:

Main Camp Office: 775-849-4948

Camp Director: Ashley Phillips 775-674-5475 + EXT 802

### Email:

General Inquiries: [visitorcenter@thegreatbasininstitute.org](mailto:visitorcenter@thegreatbasininstitute.org)

Camp Director: Ashley Phillips- [aphillips@thegreatbasininstitute.org](mailto:aphillips@thegreatbasininstitute.org)

### Address:

Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp

Galena Creek Regional Park


18250 Mt Rose Hwy


Reno, NV 89511

### Visitor Center Hours:

Wednesday-Sunday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Connect with us on Social Media to see daily pictures of camp shenanigans!:

 Facebook: [@GalenaCreek](https://www.facebook.com/GalenaCreek)

 Instagram: [@GalenaCreek](https://www.instagram.com/GalenaCreek)

We are here to assist you every step of the way and ensure that your camper has an amazing and unforgettable experience at Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp. Feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, or special requests you may have.

See you at Camp! 

## Drop off/Pick up Info

### Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up Information

To ensure a smooth and organized experience for drop-off and pick-up, please take note of the following details:

#### **Drop-Off Location:**

All drop-offs and pick-ups will take place at the **Manzanita Picnic Tables** and surrounding area at the South Entrance to the park. Please refer to the park map provided.

#### **Drop-Off Time:**

Drop-off time is between 9:00 am and 9:30 am each day. Early drop-off and late pickup at 8:30am-5:30pm is available for purchase on the first day of camp for the entire week for an additional \$25. Please bring cash for the early drop-off/pick-up option.

#### **Pick-Up Time:**



Pick-up time is between 4:00 pm and 4:30 pm. Early drop-off and late pickup at 8:30am-5:30pm is available for purchase on the first day of camp for the entire week for an additional \$25. Please bring cash for the early drop-off/pick-up option.

#### **Important Note:**

See Camp Missed Pickup Time Policy. You will be charged \$10 for any late pickup after 4:30 if you did not purchase Early Drop off/Late pickup or in unavoidable situations, did not promptly notify camp Naturalist. Please ensure that you arrive for pick-up no later than 4:30 pm. We kindly ask that you communicate any special needs or requests with our camp Naturalists in advance.

#### **On the Trail:**

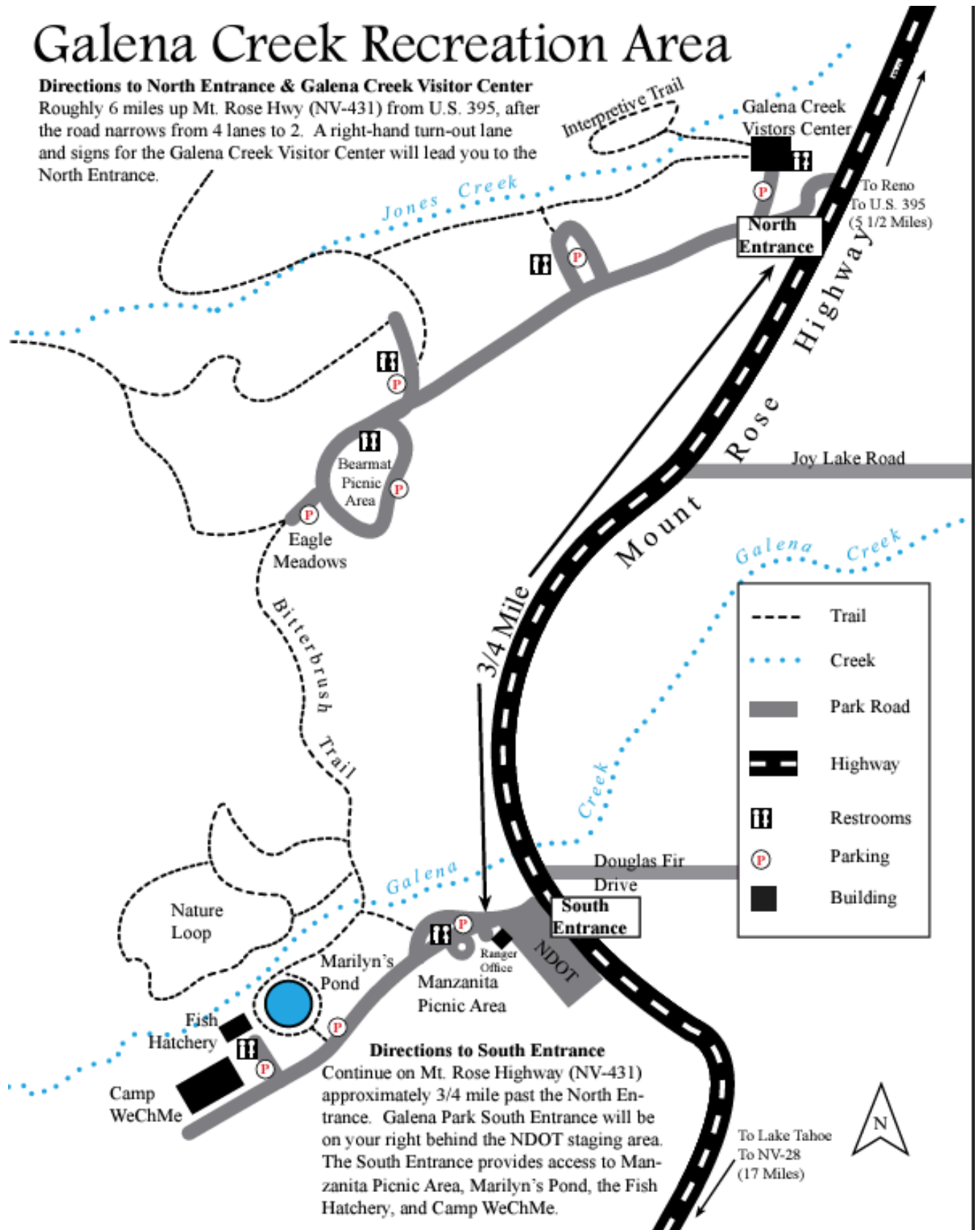
During camp activities, our campers may be out on the trail exploring and engaged in various experiences. For the safety and well-being of all campers, we are unable to accommodate campers arriving later or leaving early than the specified drop-off and pick-up times unless absolutely necessary.

**We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in following these guidelines to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all campers. If you have any questions or need assistance regarding drop-off and pick-up, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.  **

## Galena Creek Exploration Summer Camp Park Map

# Galena Creek Recreation Area

**Directions to North Entrance & Galena Creek Visitor Center**  
Roughly 6 miles up Mt. Rose Hwy (NV-431) from U.S. 395, after the road narrows from 4 lanes to 2. A right-hand turn-out lane and signs for the Galena Creek Visitor Center will lead you to the North Entrance.





## Galena Exploration Field Trips

### Field Trip Day Information

Our field trips provide unique and educational experiences for our campers, and we want to ensure smooth and organized logistics for these special outings.

Please review the following details regarding Field Trip Days:

#### Field Trip Logistics:



- **Water Test:** For any field trips that involve swimming activities, a water test will be conducted to ensure the safety of our campers.
- **Drop-Off:** Campers will be dropped off at camp like normal on Field Trip Days.
- **Transportation:** Campers will ride in assigned camp vans to the designated field trip location.
- **Lunch:** Camp lunch on Field Trip Days will be a sack lunch provided by the camp.
- **Pick-Up:** Campers will be picked up from camp at the normal location and time as per the regular schedule.

#### Arrival Instructions:

Please make sure to arrive at camp during the designated drop-off time on Field Trip Days to ensure that campers can meet with the drivers on time for departure to the field trip location.

#### Field Trip Reminders:

Our camp Naturalists will send out a Field Trip reminder and other important details on the Monday of the camp week to keep you informed and prepared for the exciting day ahead.

We are dedicated to providing a safe, enriching, and enjoyable experience for our campers during Field Trip Days. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Field Trip logistics or any other aspect of the camp program, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Adventure awaits!  

#### Camp Field Trip Location Examples:

- Virginia City
- DavisCreek
- Lake Tahoe
- Sand Harbor

# Summer Camp Policies

## Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp Policies

**At Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp, the safety, well-being, and enjoyment of our campers are our top priorities. Please review the following camp policies to ensure a positive camp experience for all participants:**

### **Overview of Camp Policies:**

**1. Cancellation Policy:** Please notify us at least 14 days before the camp start date for a full refund; cancellations within 14 days will incur a 50% fee. Contact us promptly for rescheduling or partial refunds due to unforeseen circumstances. Refunds will be processed within 14 days in the original form of payment.

**2. Camper Sickness Policy:** If a camper is experiencing illness, please keep them at home to prevent the spread of illness to other campers. Contact our camp staff to inform us of the situation. If a camper is showing symptoms a guardian will be contacted to come and pick up the camper. Campers symptom free for 24 hrs may return to camp.

**3. Camper Behavior Policy:** Respectful behavior is expected from all campers. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action such as removal from camp activity or refund of camp tuition and suspension or termination from camp.

**4. Camper Safety Policy:** Our staff is trained to prioritize camper safety at all times. Campers must follow all safety guidelines and instructions provided by camp staff. All staff is First Aid and CPR certified and carry First Aid Kits. Please note that all campers requiring medication must have a Medication Authorization Form completed by a parent/guardian and turn in all necessary medication to camp staff upon arrival. All campers will be assigned to specific counselors who will carry all necessary meds such as epi pen or inhaler.

**5. Camp Meal Policy:** Camp-provided lunch and two snacks are included for all camp days. Please inform us of any dietary restrictions or allergies in advance. Campers are welcome to bring nut free snacks or lunch to camp.

**6. Field Trip Policy:** Campers will participate in supervised field trips with transportation provided by the camp. Please ensure prompt drop-off on field trip days. All land and



water activities will be strictly supervised. Campers are required to stay with the camp group during the entire trip.

**7. Late Pick-Up Policy:** A \$10 fee will apply for late pick-ups if early drop-off/late pick-up was not purchased or if the camp Naturalist is not promptly notified.

**8. Overnight Camp Policies:** In the event of homesickness, our staff is trained to provide support and guidance to campers to help them adjust to the camp environment. Campers are allowed to phone home on camp provided phone during free time. All Overnight campers must follow all camp rules, respect nature and lodge property, and abide by all instructions given by camp staff.

**9. PG Movie Policy:** Campers may be shown G and PG-rated movies during certain activities. Please inform camp staff if you have any concerns regarding movie content.

We appreciate your cooperation in following these camp policies to promote a safe, enjoyable, and enriching experience for all campers. If you have any questions or require further information on any of our camp policies, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you for choosing Galena Creek Summer Exploration Camp for your camper's summer adventure.

**We look forward to exploring, learning, and having fun together in the great outdoors! See you at camp! 🌲 ☀️**

