

Helpful Information: Contra in Wonderland Dance Weekend

Camp DeSoto [264 Highway Above the Clouds, Mentone, AL 35984]

We suggest that you bring:

- Camp chair for attending various activities such as the *Saturday Tea Party & All Star Revue*, the Saturday afternoon concert, and impromptu gatherings.
- Your desired bedding and towels
- Refillable water bottle!! [Or you can purchase a FOOTMAD refillable bottle for \$5.] We will NOT be providing paper cups. There will be large igloo water coolers with cold water at the dance hall, as well as water bottle refilling stations strategically located around camp.
- Coffee cup/mug if you want your own at meals in the dining hall.
- A snack or two (individually wrapped) to share with others at the dances (we will have a snack table set up at the dance hall).
- Also consider: musical instruments, songbooks, flashlight, swimming gear, fan, extension cord and/or power strip, earplugs (camp is NOT quiet), sleep/eye mask if outside trail lighting would bother you, bug spray, and sunscreen.

Lodging options:

- There are enough beds to sleep over 240 people on campus! Plenty of room to spread out! See the map for the locations.
- There are clearly marked cabins for bands, caller, & staff, as well as for men only and for women only. Please respect the signs on those labeled as such. All other cabins are available for use.
- Cabins A through H - (over the footbridge) This area has 8 cabins, each with about 10 beds and a bathroom with toilet & sink. No A/C but box fans in each one. Shower house is located in the center of the area behind the Green Mansions counselor's cabin.
- Cabins 1 through 24 - (closest to dance & dining halls) These cabins also have about 10 beds each but no bathrooms. No A/C but box fans in each one. Four green bath houses containing showers, sinks and toilets are located among the cabins.
- Tent camping - on the soccer field next to The Lodge. No vehicles allowed. See map.
- Vehicle or RV camping - on the Tennis Court parking lot. Pool house close by with bathrooms (toilet & sink). Showers available in main camp bathhouses.

How to access the camp when arriving:

- From AL 117, turn onto CR 631 (left turn if coming from the center of Mentone).
- Drive about 0.3 mi and turn right into the camp at the big sign for Camp DeSoto. There will be greeters there to meet you and provide further directions. If you come after 7 pm, go straight to the dance hall if you need directions.
- If going to the area for vehicle/RV camping, go past the entrance for Camp DeSoto and turn left at the next camp road on the left. Follow signs to the tennis courts/pool area.

Parking options: (see the map)

- Camp staff parking area is a large lot (room for 60ish cars) directly behind the Little Theater building.
- Barnyard parking area near cabins 21 thru 23.
- Tennis Court parking lot - same area as vehicle/RV camping.

Registration begins Friday at 7:00 pm at the Dance Hall.

Food:

- Two breakfasts (Saturday & Sunday) and Saturday night dinner will be provided.
- You must provide your own food for Friday dinner, lunches, and snacks. Except for water and coffee which the camp provides, you must provide your own beverages. You can also utilize nearby restaurants and markets. (See list below.)
- Please keep your personal food in your own cooler, at your cabin. There is an **ice machine** located next to the Dining Hall that you can access.

Health and Safety:

- COVID issues: Refer to our [COVID policy](#) for the Mentone Weekend. Basically, if you've tested positive in the interval of August 13-18 or feel sick on August 18th, then stay home and isolate.
- We have First Aid Kits in the Dining Hall and Dance Hall. AED units are at the Dining Hall and Pool House.
- **Please Remember You Are Here at Your Own Risk!**
- Weekend trouble shooters: Groovy Tharpe and Jan Sharpe
- Nearest Hospital: DeKalb Regional Medical Center, 200 Medial Center Dr SW, Fort Payne, AL 35968 (256-845-3150). Take I-59 South toward Birmingham. Take exit 218 and follow the signs.

Phone signals, etc.

- Weekend cell phone signals: Anything but Verizon. AT&T is the best.
- WIFI is available at four locations around the camp: Dining Hall, Health Center, Business Office, and Program Office. Network names and passwords will be provided at the camp.

Other important information:

- Swimming in the pool is only allowed Friday 3:30-6:00 pm and Saturday 2:30-5:30 pm when lifeguard is on duty. **Children need adult supervision anytime at the pool.**
- Please bring lost and found items to the registration table in the dance hall with a note stating where they were found.
- **SUNDAY CABIN CHECKOUT:** Your personal items must be out of the cabin by 1:00 pm.

Local Eateries:

In Mentone: Mentone Market, The Hatter Cafe, Wildflower Cafe, Elevation Bistro, and Seabolt's Street Tacos.

In Valley Head: Rib Shak, Tiger's Inn, and The Pantry at Moon Lake Village.