



BROWNSEA ISLAND

SCOUTING ADVENTURE!



Philosophy

The Brownsea Island Program is designed for Scouts who have just joined a troop or have just graduated from Webelos. This is a transitional program to help the boys understand the patrol method, learn basic Scout skills, and experience many of the programs available at Summer Camp.

Program Goals

1. To provide a well organized program based upon the Patrol Method lead by qualified instructors.
2. To maintain a ratio of 1 instructor to 10 boys.
3. To teach the basic skills necessary to succeed in Scouting and the outdoor program.
4. To instill in the boys a respect for the Scouting Methods and Ideals found in the Outdoor Code and Scout Law.
5. To provide an exciting and memorable summer camp experience.



1 Prepare for the Big Week

1. Help the boys earn the Scout rank prior to summer camp.
2. Ask the Troop Guide or an older Scout to show the new boys how to read and use the Scout Handbook.
3. If your troop has more than three boys participating in the program, we ask that you provide an adult leader to assist the Patrol Guides throughout the week. This is an excellent opportunity for the new leader in your troop to learn about Scouting.
4. Host a shakedown at a troop meeting prior to camp to make sure that the Scouts have all the equipment they will need for the week. Refer to the Equipment Guide in the Administrative Section and additional gear listed below:

Items Carried to Each Session in a School Style Backpack

- Handbook
- Canteen
- Pocketknife
- Pen/Notebook

Items Required for BSI Program

- Tent/Tarp (can share)
- Sleeping Bag
- Pocketknife
- Swim Trunks & Towel
- Shoes that can get wet
- Long Pants and Belt
- Long Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Optional Items

- Sleeping Pad
- Frame Backpack (internal or external)
- Compass

2 Registration

Participants in the Brownsea Island Adventure will register along with their troops at either Powhatan or Ottari. Please remember to completely fill out the Brownsea Roster and bring it with you at registration.



3 Your Week at Camp

The Brownsea program kicks off at 9:15 a.m. on Monday morning with an opening ceremony at Powhatan or the BSI troop site at Ottari. During this ceremony Scouts will be grouped into patrols and meet their Brownsea Island Guide—an experienced Scout who will work with them through the week as an instructor and mentor. Scouts will be matched with other boys who are similar in rank and experience to increase program flexibility and allow the patrols to work on appropriate material for their skill level. We will attempt to place troop members in the same patrol. Scouts will be presented with a passport and walking staff to keep with them at all times during the week. The passport will chart their progress towards the advancement requirements of Tenderfoot through First Class.

Below is a sample day for Scouts in Brownsea.

- 9:15-9:30 **Opening Ceremony** - Opening Ceremony will be in the chapel.
- 9:30-12:00 **Patrol Time** - Specific time at a secluded site to work with the Patrol Guide on rank requirements and prepare for the troop competition.
- 12:00-1:45 **Lunch & Free Time** - Sometimes the Scouts may wish to eat together with their guide and fellow patrol members.
- 1:45-3:30 **Patrol Time** - Continue learning and practicing essential Scout skills.
- 3:30-5:00 **Troop Competition** - Each day the patrols will compete against each other in a skill they have learned that day. Competitions include: knot tying, orienteering, fire building, and also team interaction games.

In addition, a day will be scheduled for the troop overnigher. Scouts will leave after lunch and hike to a site away from base camp to gain camping and cooking experience with their patrol. Patrols will also participate in a special Brownsea Island campfire that evening. This is a highlight experience for the Scouts. We ask that an adult from your troop please attend the overnigher with your Brownsea Scouts.

4 The Brownsea Island Patrol

Each Patrol Guide is given the flexibility to structure the week to maximize their patrol's learning and enjoyment of camp. Therefore the times listed above provide a good outline, but not a definitive schedule, for each patrol. Other activities guides may include these in their schedule:

- Touring the camp and explaining the activities at different program areas. This builds enthusiasm in new Scouts by showing them the things they can look forward to when they return to camp next year.
- Sampling an activity from the merit badge areas. Examples could include rifle or archery shooting, kayaking, or working on a reed basket.
- Inter-Patrol Competitions—challenge another patrol to a game of volleyball or steal the bacon to build Scout spirit and have fun.

5 Getting the Most from the Program

In order for your Scouts to truly take advantage of the Brownsea Program, there must be a leader committed to working with the boys throughout the week. For example, leaders should ask to see the Scout's passports each night and test them on what they have learned. If you, as a leader, are satisfied with the Scout's knowledge, then sign off the requirement in the handbook. Though there will be informational meetings throughout the week, we encourage you to seek out the Brownsea Director if you have any questions or concerns.