

Summer Camp FAQs

Q. What will my daughter do while at camp?

A. The girls will help plan their program after they arrive at camp. Some of the things they might do while at camp include swimming, boating, scavenger hunts, cookouts, games, crafts, ice cream making, night hikes, singing, and star gazing.

Q. What about food?

A. Three well balanced meals are served each day in the dining hall. Menus are designed to offer nutritious food that children will eat. Everyone is encouraged to try some of everything but no one is forced to eat something they do not want. Once a day, the campers visit the snack bar – there is no additional charge for snacks.

Q. Will my daughter need money while at camp?

A. Campers can purchase T-shirts, souvenirs, stamps, etc., from the trading post. Money is collected when the girls check in at camp. Any unused money will be returned at the end of the session.

Q. Will my daughter take swimming lessons?

A. All campers will be instructed by certified lifeguards and water safety instructors. However, due to a lack of time, most girls will not complete a Red Cross swimming course.

Q. Will my daughter earn badges while at camp?

A. Some badge requirements will be completed. However, most programs will not complete an entire badge. A list of requirements met will be sent home with your daughter.

Q. What does my daughter need to bring to camp?

A. A complete list will be sent after your daughter registers. All equipment and personal belongings must be plainly marked with the camper's name. Linens are not provided.

Q. What time does she need to arrive at camp and when do I pick her up?

A. Arrival: Sundays, 2-4 p.m. Departure: Fridays, 2-3 p.m. The gate will be closed until 2 p.m. on Opening Days and until 2 p.m. on Closing Days, unless otherwise stated. Please do not be late to pick up your daughter. If for some reason you cannot follow these times, the camp office or the council office must be notified in advance to make other arrangements. If someone other than the camper's legal guardian is to pick up your daughter, written consent is to be given to the camp director prior to closing day.

Q. Is a physical exam required?

A. No. Physical examinations are not required, However, we do require that each camper fill out a new health form with a parent's signature every year. What type of health care is provided? A nurse and/or certified first aiders are on site. Health forms will be sent after your daughter is registered. On camp arrival day, the camp medical personnel have the right to refuse to admit a girl who does not meet the acceptable health conditions, i.e., temperature, contagious disease, etc.

Q. Who will take care of my daughter?

A. Camp staff have been carefully screened and selected for their honesty and integrity, as well as their genuine concern for children. Many of our counselors were once campers at Kamp Kiwani or Camp Tik-A-Witha!

Q. How can I be assured that my daughter will be well cared for?

A. Kamp Kiwani and Camp Tik-A-Witha are accredited by the American Camp Association and licensed to operate in their respective states. High standards, as set forth by the Girl Scouts of the USA, have been met by all camps. Every precaution is taken to protect your child’s well-being. What if my daughter gets homesick? Homesickness is a very real and natural emotion that can happen when anyone leaves a familiar surrounding. It has no age boundaries. Counselors are trained to deal with homesick campers. In extreme cases of homesickness, the Camp Director will contact the parents.

Q. Can I visit my daughter at camp?

A. Since the camp session is so short, we ask that parents, friends and sightseers do not interrupt the program. Everyone is invited to meet the staff and tour the camp on opening day or during one of the FREE Open Houses:

Camp Tik-A-Witha April 24, 2016 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Kamp Kiwani May 1, 2016 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Q. What about mail?

A. Frequent, cheerful mail makes a big difference in a camper’s morale. You may want to mail a few letters in advance so that she will receive mail on the first day. You may also drop off mail on arrival day and we will distribute it during the week. What she needs to know is that “home” is still there and someone cares enough to write. Addresses for each camp will be included in your confirmation packet.

How to write to your camper:

Camp Tik-A-Witha
P.O.Box 126
Van Vleet, MS 38877
Camper’s Name
Unit Name

Kamp Kiwani
1880 Sandy Springs Lane
Middleton, TN 38052
Camper’s Name
Unit Name

Q. What about Email?

A. Email will be provided through the Girl Scouts Heart of the South. You may use the following addresses. Please include in the subject line the camper name and her unit name.

Camp Tik-A-Witha : tikawitha@girlscoutshs.org
Kamp Kiwani: kiwani@girlscoutshs.org

There is no provision for girls to e-mail parents back, as we only have one computer at each camp that is used for both business and bookkeeping.

Q. What about phone calls?

A. Campers do not have direct access to the phone; however, if you have concerns, the camp director can be reached at the following numbers:

Camp Tik-A-Witha : 662.447.3400
Kamp Kiwani: 731.376.8281

Q. Can my daughter be in a tent (cabin) with her friend?

A. Each camper may request one (1) Camp Buddy, attending the same program. Every effort will be made to honor one (1) choice. The youngest girls will be assigned to cabins or lodges. Some units have screened-in platform tents. Generally bathroom facilities are located near the cabins or tents, and inside the lodges.