



# Summer Camp Road Tripping

**Bill Hensley**  
**Scoutmaster, Scouts BSA Troop 15**  
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# Why Take A Road Trip For Summer Camp?

**A road trip camp can be quite the change of pace.**

**Celebrate a troop milestone.**

**Completely different experience for many Scouts.**

**No wild whitewater in OKC, or mountains, or canyons.**

**Fit in something like a Jamboree**



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# Kinds of Road Trips

Base camp, but far away.

Couple days here, then couple days there, then couple days somewhere else.

Someplace new each day or so.

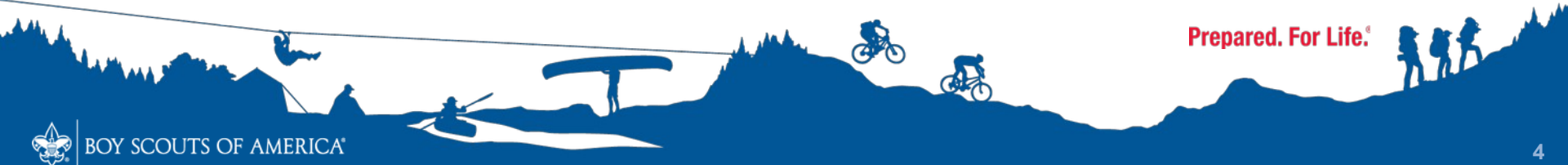
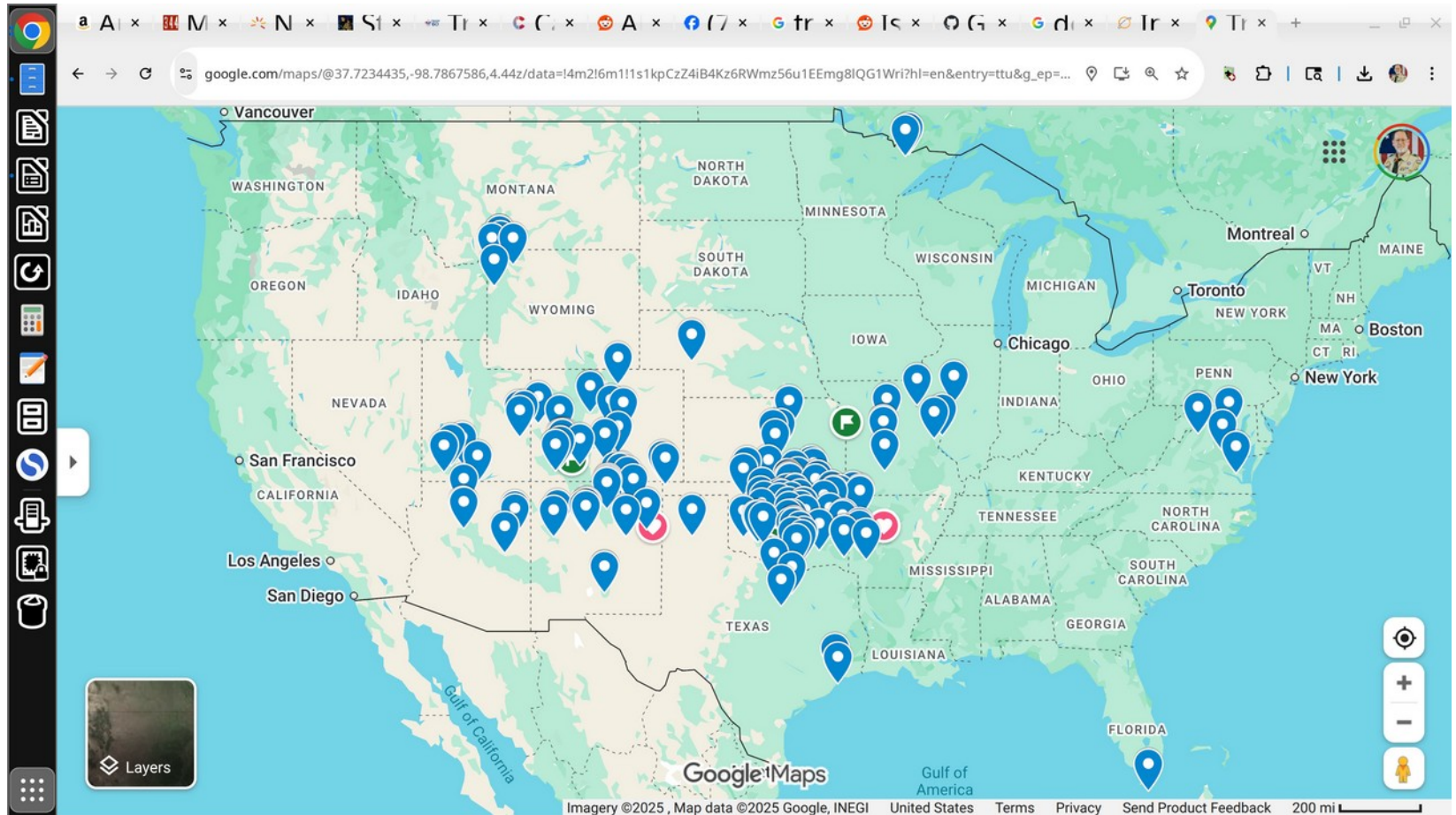
Better to look at examples.



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# We Get Around...



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# T15 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Colorado Plateau loop: 10 days**

**Nuclear Science Museum, El Malpais Lava Tubes**

**Petrified Forest, Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce Canyon,  
Arches, and Great Sand Dunes NPs**

**WW Rafting on the Colorado**

**\$400/person**

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# GSUSA HAT Colorado

**Based in Durango: 7 days**

**Hike into Rio Grand/Rio Bravo River gorge**

**Whitewater rafting, zipline**

**Silverton gold mine tour, museums, shopping**

**2-nights backpacking on Colorado Trail**

**\$400/person**

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# T15 Durango Backpacking

**Weminuche Wilderness: 8 days**

**Whitewater rafting on the Animas**

**Camped at Junction Creek outside town**

**Steam train ride to trailhead and back**

**Five-day backpacking in Wilderness**

**\$275/person**

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# GSUSA HAT Wyoming and Montana

**Yellowstone NP: 10 days**

**2 long drives there, 2 long drives back**

**Walking tour of Jackson, Ranger cabin**

**Four days of base camp in Idaho, Yellowstone,  
Whitewater rafting, high ropes/zipline, bear  
sanctuary**

**Devil's Tower, Mount Rushmore**

**\$500/person**

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# T15 Summer 2021

**NM/CO loop: 9 days**

**National Scouting Museum, waterfall hikes**

**Great Sand Dunes NP**

**Amazing Florida group camp, WW Rafting, zipline,**

**Train museum, Black Canyon NP, Ouray**

**Arch hike bust, Montrose and pizza, Colorado**

**National Monument, 10<sup>th</sup> Mtn Division Camp Hale**

**\$400/person**

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# T15 Summer 2025

**Combined traditional summer camp and a National  
Park AZ: 12 days**

**1.5 days driving there**

**Grand Canyon NP 4 days**

**Short visit to Prescott AZ**

**Traditional summer Camp Geronimo AZ**

**1.5 driving back**

**\$650/person (Same thing to Yellowstone 2023, \$625)**

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# Shorter Trips Also Work

**Presidential Libraries: 5 days**

**Mammoth Cave, Gateway Arch, Museum of Western  
Expansion**

**Truman, Lincoln, Eisenhower Libraries**

**Galveston Island: 5 days**

**Camping at Galveston Island SP on the beach**

**Was still bloody cold!**

**Johnson Space Center, fishing**

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# Shorter Trips Also Work

**Albuquerque Balloon Festival: 4 days**

**Balloons! Sandia Peak Tram and hike**

**Stayed at Santa Rosa NG Armory and Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque**

**These trips were less than \$250/person**

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# Things To Think About

## Food

- Don't try to buy the whole trip's food at one time
- Don't get hung up on nutrition for breakfast and lunch, speed is important
  - Donuts, danish, fruit, milk, OJ (standup breakfast)
  - Build (or buy) sandwiches, boxes of fried chicken
- In-camp dinners are a great way to end the day
- We resupply every couple days (or daily)

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# Things To Think About

## Food

- **Semper Gumby!**
- **Things may change**
- **Toss in a little extra budget for a McD stop**
- **Pizza is always good**
- **Family style cooking – less gear**

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# Things To Think About

## Lodging

- Scout camps
  - RON and breakfast at Philmont!
- Recreation.gov; group camps in particular
- BLM and USFS camps (free, mostly)
- National guard armories
- Hotels (free breakfast!)
- Commercial camps (\$) or state parks
- Showers at least once on the trip

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# Things To Think About

## Transport

- Usually the largest cost item for a trip
- Vans – our COs
- Vans/SUVs - Rentals
- Parent vehicles
- Gas
- Trailers
  - U-Haul 4x8 enclosed is \$160 for 10 days

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# Things To Think About

## Planning

- Think ahead at least a couple months if possible
- Water and potties, not at some camps
- Call activities and let them know you are Scouts
  - Whitewater rafting and ziplines
  - Pricing and group planning for them
- National Park admission
  - Not during holidays in some cases
  - Timed admissions at some parks

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# Things To Think About

## Planning

- **Get prepaid debit cards**
- **Driving – some long days. BSA has a 10 hour limit**
- **Don't overlook culture and science**
- **Lodging should be reserved**
  - **If FCFS, try to send advance people to squat**
- **Electronics**
  - **Great for letting Scouts explore while on the road**
  - **Have each Scout handle recharging their stuff**

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# Things To Think About

## Tr 15 Summer Travel Camp 2021 Budget Per Person

Activity	RON Friday	Springer NM 18-Jun	Alamosa Saturday 19-Jun	Florida Sunday 20-Jun	Florida Monday 21-Jun	Florida Tuesday 22-Jun	Black Canyon Wednesday 23-Jun	Montrose Thursday 24-Jun	Camp Hale Friday 25-Jun	East RMNP Saturday 26-Jun	Home Sunday 27-Jun	Total	
Breakfast			\$6.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$38.00	
Lunch		\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$30.00	
Dinner		\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$5.00	\$5.00			\$43.00	26%
Transportation		\$47.40										\$47.40	12%
Entry fee			\$8.75									\$8.75	2%
Board			\$10.00									\$10.00	2%
Museum												\$0.00	0%
WW Rafting						\$74.00						\$74.00	18%
Zipline				\$107.00								\$107.00	26%
Campsite			\$2.08	\$3.75	\$3.75	\$3.75	\$3.75		\$5.00			\$22.08	5%
Hotel								\$24.00				\$24.00	6%
Daily cost		\$55.40	\$34.83	\$122.75	\$15.75	\$89.75	\$18.75	\$36.00	\$17.00	\$7.00		\$404.23	Total cost
Notes			Philmont, Great Sand Dunes									\$400.00	Participant cost
Travel time 7 hrs, gain 1		3 hrs	2 hrs			3 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs	10 hrs		
2100 miles			\$47.40	Van cost/person									
MPG			12										
Gas			\$3.25										
													Food
													Fuel
													64.47
													78.26
													46.02
													41.63
													107.38
													28.25
													7.38
													32.46
													170.29
													24.3

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Hotel									\$24.00

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# Things To Think About

## Tactical

- **Maps and routes for drivers**
- **Next meet-up place**
- **Communications**
  - **Cell service not so great in the mountains**
  - **NO FRS radios, use GMRS pro radios**
- **“I need to go!” Side of road less than ideal.**
- **Pack and load first, then eat right before or while moving**

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# Things To Think About

## Tactical

- Text group for the adults on the trip
- Have one or two designated contacts people back home
  - They must have the routes, agendas, and a full contact list for parents
  - Nowcasting for weather or issues (pipeline break in GCNP)
  - Ability to reserve alternate locations

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# Things To Think About

## Tactical

- **“Before” photo of group (SAR :)**
- **T-Shirts for the group**
- **Scouts need a van bag (“my [whatever] is on the trailer” [SAD FACE])**
- **Set up a photo sharing site for the folks back home**

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# Takeaways

**A travel camp is feasible for a Troop of at least 40**

**Cost is comparable to traditional resident summer camp**

**Requires some planning**

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# HAVE FUN!

