

Ojai Valley School, Lower Campus

2019-2020 Outdoor Education Weekend Adventure Offerings

• Sespe Wall Rock Climbing

September 22, 2019

This is a one-day excursion to the nearby Sespe Wall rock climbing area. We start with a trip to the local coffee house for hot cocoa before heading out. The location is outstanding for both beginners and advanced climbers. A stream gurgles nearby, and the drive is only 30 minutes! Learn about the physics of friction and sandstone geology. *All equipment is provided.* (8 people maximum.)

• High Sierra Mountaineering

October 17-20, 2019 (4 days)

Does a challenging, four-day, off-trail climb of a 14,000 ft. mountain sound good? How about a snowy ascent on a forgotten trail through forests, meadows, and "boot skiing" an off-trail descent? Would you like to dig in the snow and sign your name in the summit register? Adventurous backpackers and rock climbers will enjoy the thin air and infinite views! Learn about high altitude physiology and wilderness management. *Technical gear is provided.* (8 people maximum.)

• Secret Spot Surf and Boogie Kayaking

November 10, 2019

Do you love the ocean? Would you like to explore the wild coast of California from the water? Join a small crew of kayakers as we strap our boards on and paddle down the coast for a day, exploring secluded beaches, stopping to surf, boogie, and snorkel at a State Marine Conservation Area. Enjoy an amazing lunch and learn about wave physics and reef preservation. *Kayaks, personal floatation devices, paddles, and helmets are provided.* (8 people maximum.)

• Sycamore Canyon Mountain Biking

December 8, 2019

Join us for an exciting mountain bike ride through the beautiful Santa Monica Mountains. Descend through a pristine forest and cross trickling streams on a 10-mile single-track trail called "Guadalasco." Have a picnic lunch and relax at the beach. Continue down the "Backbone" trail that sweeps and banks down a hillside. Finish your day on a relaxing dirt road to the pick-up point. This is an unbelievable opportunity for strong riders with solid skills! Learn about pioneer trade routes and chaparral ecosystems. *Mountain bike, riding experience, and helmet required.* (18 people maximum.)

• Wilderness Fly Fishing

January 19, 2020

How about a relaxing day at a beautiful fresh-water stream fishing for rainbow trout? We start our preparations two weeks in advance with a meeting to build practice poles and perfect our casting technique, and then to review the essential skills found in "The Curtis Creek Manifesto." Whether you are an accomplished angler, or just a beginner, this trip is for you. Search for shimmering pools as we hike along a native stream in the San Rafael Wilderness. Would you like to stop for dinner at the oldest business in Santa Barbara, a legendary taco stand known for its exceptional food? Learn about riparian ecosystems and genetic diversity. *Fly fishing pole, tackle, and patience are required.* (8 people maximum.)

• **Mammoth Mountain Ski/Snowboard Trip**

January 30 - February 2, 2020 (4 days)

How do two full days of deep snow, groomed runs, and terrain parks sound? How about warm condos, your best friends, and a tour bus stocked with movies? Relax in the game room at night and play in the foosball, ping-pong, and pool tournaments. Learn about ancient bristlecone pine forests, water wars in the Owens Valley, and the Manzanar Internment Camp. *The fee for this trip is approximately \$650. (40 people maximum.)*

• **Topa Topa Equestrian Trail Ride**

February 16, 2020

Take a trail ride in the beautiful Upper Ojai Valley! Ride through breezy meadows with views of the Topa Topa Mountains. Enjoy shaded oak woodlands as your horse explores land once inhabited by the Chumash Native American tribes. Learn skills necessary for the spring horse-camping trip! *Participants must be currently enrolled in the riding program. (8 people maximum.)*

• **Spooky Slot Canyoneering**

March 13-14, 2020 (2 days)

An occasional canyoneer, travelers on the Mojave Road, and a small team from the OVS middle school are the only known explorers of this remote canyon known as the "Spooky Slot." Grab a burrito at El Pescador as we drive to the remote trailhead on Friday night. Throw out your sleeping bag under starry skies and enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of the Mojave Desert. After a breakfast feast the next morning, walk cross-country down a winding valley, following a creek to a very narrow cut in the cliff. Continue hiking, scrambling, and rock climbing with your headlamp as the slot grows thin, steep, and dark on its ascent to the mesa. Let's go! Learn about early California pioneers, Native American tribes of the southwest, and the Calico Early Man Site. *Technical gear is provided. (18 people maximum.)*

• **Ventura River Preserve Equestrian Trail Ride**

March 15, 2020

This is the second of two trail rides offered! Trailer your horse over to the Ventura River Preserve and ride miles of beautiful trails through chaparral, grassy meadows, and oak forests. Cross the Ventura River and head up a narrow and scenic canyon. This trip is excellent preparation for the spring horse camping trip. *Participants must be currently enrolled in the riding program. (8 people maximum.)*

• **Kern River Rafting**

May 8-9, 2020 (2 days)

It's back! Can you survive freezing cold snow melt from the Sierra Nevada Mountains? Would you like to paddle through raging rapids, and swim in flat-water pools? After a long absence from the weekend trip list, we will be headed back to the Kern River this spring for a day of rafting on one of California's most amazing wild and scenic rivers! This is a two-day trip that leaves Friday after school and returns Saturday night. Learn about our recent water cycle and how it has affected this extensive watershed. The fee for this trip is approximately \$225. *Solid swimming ability is required. (18 people maximum.)*