



SUMMER CAMP

theNAT
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Frequently Asked Questions

When does summer camp go on sale?

Summer camp goes on sale on **Monday, March 2, 2015** for Museum members.
Summer camp goes on sale on **Monday, March 9, 2015** for the general public.

When does summer camp start?

Camps begin the week of June 22 and run through the week of August 10. All camps are Monday through Friday.

What are the camp hours?

We offer half-day camps for Pre-K/Kindergarten. These camps run from 9 AM to 12 PM. We offer full-day camps for incoming 1st-8th graders. These camps run from 9 AM to 4 PM.

Do you have full-day camps for Pre-K/Kindergarten? Or half-day camps for 1st-8th graders?

We do not offer any full-day camps for Pre-K/Kindergarten. We only offer half day camps from 9 AM to noon. Our camps for grades 1-8 are full day only.

How much do camps cost?

Half-day camps are \$170 for the general public. Members receive early registration and a discounted rate of \$145 per camp. Full-day camps for grades 1-5 are \$290/\$301 for the general public. These camps are \$265/\$276 for members. Full-day camp for grades 6-8 is \$390 for the general public and \$365 for members. Annual [family memberships](#) to the Museum are \$70 and will guarantee \$25 off your child's camp registration. A great value!

Why are some of the camps \$11 more?

These camps will be visiting our separately priced, traveling exhibition *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed*.

Why are grades 6-8 camps more expensive?

There is a higher supply cost as the 6th-8th graders will be building an exhibition during their camp that will be on display in the Museum. We will also have Museum exhibit staff joining us for the week.

Are there scholarships/discounts?

The Museum is not offering scholarships or discounts for summer camp at this time.

Tell me more about the summer camp T-shirt.

The summer camp T-shirt is optional. They are \$12 per shirt. There is one shirt for the entire summer (they are not camp-specific). The shirts come in youth sizes XS (2-4), S (6-8), M (10-12), L (14-16), and XL (18-20). The youth XL is close in size to an adult S.

How old do you have to be to attend camp at theNAT?

Children must be **four years old** by the start of camp to attend.

What grade level camp should I enroll my child in?

Our camps are designed for the upcoming grade level. Children in Pre-K/Kindergarten camps must be four years old at the start of camp and/or entering Kindergarten. Children in 1st-8th grade camps should enroll in camp with their upcoming grade level (the grade they will be in during the 2015-2016 school year). To ensure a high quality experience, it is important that all participants are with their same-aged peers.

My child has a food allergy/medical condition. How does theNAT handle medical issues?

First and foremost, let us know. Please note all allergies, intolerances, and medical issues on your child's **Emergency Release Form**. If medication is necessary at camp, please indicate the directions on your form as well as in the bag with the medication the week of camp. We've had many cases of nut allergies, dairy allergies, asthma, and more over the years and we have First Aid/CPR certified staff. As an example, with food allergies specifically, we will keep the children separate and hands are washed if snacks may pose an issue (e.g. John is allergic to nuts and Susie brought a PB&J). If your child's allergy is not limited to ingestion, please let us know as well in case a craft or art project may require a volunteer's assistance (e.g. gluten in dough).

Is there a lunch or snack provided?

Lunches and snacks are not provided. Morning campers need to bring a snack to camp every day. Full-day campers need to bring a snack and lunch each day. Please send a beverage with your child as well. Water will be available in the classrooms. Please label your child's lunch and drink containers.

How do I register my child?

Register in person at the Museum, [online](#), or call 877.946.7797. **Register soon, camps fill up quickly!**

Is online registration secure?

Yes. Our website has been verified by GeoTrust. You might not see the “https://” at the top because of how our website is set up, but you can view the verification by right clicking on the page and viewing properties or the frame source (depending on your browser).

I’m a member. How do I register online?

You can begin by clicking the link above or by clicking “Buy Tickets” on [our homepage](#). You can also click the camp you wish to register for on [our calendar](#) and click “Sign Up!” **You must log in FIRST** to access the camps for early registration and to receive your discount. After you log in, you can select your grade level, add your camp(s) to your basket, and check out.

The screenshot shows a website interface with a navigation menu on the left and three product cards in the center. The navigation menu includes: Log-In Here!, View My Basket, Online Ordering, Memberships (Learn More), Donations (Give Now!), Education Programs (Adults, Family, Lectures & Films, Preschool & K, Grades 1 - 2, Grades 3 - 5). The product cards are: 1. Membership: 'Join today and enjoy many valuable benefits throughout the year, including free general admission and guest passes.' with an 'ORDER INFO' button. 2. Donate: 'You can make a difference! Support the Museum today with a gift to the Annual Fund.' with a 'DONATE' button. 3. Education Programs: 'Adult Programs Get up close to nature in workshops, field outings, and day trips.' with a 'VIEW' button. On the right side, there is a calendar for February 2013 and an 'ORDER BASKET' section showing a total of \$0.00 with 'REVIEW' and 'CHECK OUT' buttons.

I’m not a member, how do I register online?

You can begin by clicking the link above or by clicking “Buy Tickets” on [our homepage](#). You can also click the camp you wish to register for on [our calendar](#) and click “Sign Up!” The sign up will take you directly to your camp where you can select which week you’d like to come, add it to your basket, and check out. You can add other camps by selecting the grade level on the left side. You can also become a member (which will automatically apply your member discount and give you access to early registration) during this time. You will be prompted to sign into your account or create a new one before you check out. **Make sure you use a valid email address as this will be our primary means of communication for summer camp details.**

What is the Balboa Park Camp Collaborative?

The Balboa Park Camp Collaborative Program is a program in which half-day camps offered by Balboa Park institutions which allow your child to enjoy a full day of camp in the Park. Your child will be supervised all day. Campers will be escorted to their afternoon camp after they enjoy their sack lunch. To participate in the program, be sure to mention the Camp Collaborative Program when you register at each institution. Click here for a [schedule of camps and participating institutions](#).

What does my child need to bring?

Please provide a snack and drink for your child each day. Each camp takes a snack break. If your child will be collaborating with another Museum for a full day or is participating in a full-day camp here, please pack a sack lunch as well. Children should wear comfortable play clothes that can get dirty and wear closed-toe shoes (NO SANDALS). We recommend hats and a jacket or sweatshirt on cool days. We highly recommend sunscreen be applied each day before you arrive at the Museum.

My child's friend/sibling is going to camp too. How can I make sure they are in camp together?

If these children are in the same grade range, they will be in camp together if they are signed up for the same camp during the same week. Check with each other (i.e. "*Which week are you going?*"). That being said, you can always let us know too—on your **Camper Release Form** make note of the other camper's name (and authorize the other camper's parent(s) for pick up). If the children are in different grade levels, they will need to sign up for separate camps.

Will my child meet a real scientist?

As our scientists are often in the field, any visits are pending availability. Scientists enjoy spending time with the campers and make every effort to work visits into their schedule.

Will my child have time to play and explore outside?

All camps will spend some time outside during the day.

What is the instructor to camper ratio?

The instructor to camper ratio is approximately 1:5. Each camp has one adult instructor, one camp assistant, and two or three camp aides. Our camp assistants and aides are often high school or college students. The Museum's Education staff provides additional supervision and support when the camps leave the classroom and visit the Museum, explore Balboa Park, visit to the Zoo, or take a nature hike.

Is camp staff required to have a background check?

Yes, all instructors and volunteers working with children at the Museum have completed a background check.

What if we need to cancel our camp?

There is a \$10 cancellation fee per camper per camp. You will receive a credit voucher for the remaining balance that can be used towards admission, membership, or future camps. Cancellations must be made with at least seven days' notice prior to the start of camp. Please contact the Education Department by phone at 877.946.7797 to cancel your camp.

No credit vouchers will be given for cancelations made within seven days of your camp's start date. A full refund will be given for any camp canceled by the Museum. Please allow up to 30 days for processing of a refund.

What if my child is sick or can't make it to camp?

Please contact Customer Service by phone at 877.946.7797 or email education@sdnhm.org as soon as possible. If you know in advance that your child will be missing a day of camp, you can also let us know in person at drop-off or pick-up.

Where do I park?

Parking is free in Balboa Park. You may park in any of the lots at any time or on the street after 9 AM. Parking usually isn't difficult in the morning, but we recommend allocating extra time for any traffic or parking difficulties. You will only need to park on the first day of camp for check-in. For the remainder of camp, you will drop off and pick up your child at the turn around at the south end of the lot on the east side of the Museum.

What if I am running late to pick up or drop of my camper?

Please notify Customer Service at 877.946.7797 as soon as you are able to do so. If you arrive later than 10 minutes after the program starts/ends, please report to the north entrance (near the giant fig tree) to pick up/drop off your child. During drop-off, the doors to the Museum will be locked. Please call to let us know you've arrived. **Note: If you are more than 15 minutes late, a \$10 late pick-up fee will be assessed.**

What if I need to pick up my child early from camp?

Please let your child's instructor know at drop-off or alert the Education Department in advance by phone or email if you need to pick your child up early. If you realize after the start of camp that day that you will need to pick your child up early, please call Customer Service at 877.946.7797 to make arrangements.

What if I need someone else to pick up my child?

Please make sure to fill out **Camp Release Form** with the person's name as listed on their ID and the phone number they can be reached at during camp hours. A **photo ID will be requested** upon pick-up. If your camper is carpooling with another camper, please make sure to add that camper's parent(s) to the Camper Release Form. If your plans change during the week, please authorize the new person at drop off with your instructor or call the Education Department at 619.255.0196 or Customer Service at 877.946.7797 to notify us of who will be picking up your child that day. We will not release a child to someone who is not on the Camp Release Form (**this includes parents**).

Do you have a photo policy?

The San Diego Natural History Museum reserves the right to photograph program participants for publicity purposes. By entering the Museum facility and/or participating in a

Museum activity or event, you consent and authorize without restriction or compensation to the possible use of you and your accompanying group's image for future media or marketing. You will be asked to initial your agreement to this policy on the Emergency Release Form. You may opt-out of this policy by not initialing the line on your Emergency Release Form.