



California Redwood Tree Climbing Experience

Tuesday, March 29 at 8AM through Friday, April 1 at 10PM

Fewer people have climbed an old growth redwood tree than have summited Mount Everest. Join us on this all new adventure to the west coast to spend time climbing a 180ft tall old growth coastal redwood tree, named Grandfather. Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime adventure, many scenic views, inspiring and humbling forests, river views, and get a nearly 360 degree view of the Santa Cruz Mountains from the top of Grandfather.

Attendance at the pre-trip informational meeting and pre-trip tree climb is required (Thursday, March 24th, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Secor Metropark).

COVID Policy: Metroparks uses current CDC guidelines—all guests are required to verify that they have one of the following; A.) Received the COVID-19 booster, B.) Received the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine within 5 months of trip date (or the J&J vaccine within 2 months of trip date) OR, C.) Viral COVID-19 test (PCR or antigen) must be taken no more than 72 hours before the scheduled report time of trip. Guests must use a lab, pharmacy, or other qualified testing site to provide negative results before the group departs. This policy is subject to change. For any questions, refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/> or contact your trip leader.

Fee: \$2100 per guest. Program fees include all transportation costs, lodging, and tree climbing fees. All climbing gear will provided by Tree Climbing Planet. Meals are not included.

Because of the intense planning for this trip, 50% of the fee is considered a non-refundable deposit per the refund policy. If you need to cancel for any reason, please call Ashley Smith at 419-265-2920.

The following packet contains information and resources you need to prepare for the trip including the trip agenda, packing list, and food suggestions for the trip. Please feel free to reach out to your trip leader with any additional questions.

Jake Willing: Jake.Willing@MetroparksToledo.com or 419-277-0107

Travel Plan

- Guests will meet at Oak Openings Mallard Lake Parking Lot at 7:45AM to check in and load luggage. The minibus will depart for the Detroit Airport at 8:00AM.
- Guests are able to leave a car at the Mallard Lake Parking Lot during the trip. We will need to submit car make, model and license plate information to our rangers.
- Please have your ID readily available for passing through security at the airport.

Tentative Schedule (This is our desired plan however it could be subject to minor changes. You will be advised of the final schedule at the mandatory pre-trip meeting.)

Tuesday, March 29th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 AM: Meet at Oak Openings Preserve Metropark, Mallard Lake Parking Lot. Check-in with staff and load luggage onto minibus. • 8:00 AM EST: Depart Oak Openings • 9:00 AM EST: Check-in at the airport • 11:00 AM EST: Flight departure • 4:00 PM PST: Arrival at San Jose Airport Board rental vans and drive from airport to Fern River Resort. We will stop at a grocery store on our way to the resort to get food • 6:30 PM PST: Check-in and dinner, group games at the resort, evening share
Wednesday, March 30th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00AM PST: Wake, prepare for tree climbing adventure Breakfast, pack lunch for the day. • 8:00 AM PST: Board vans to head to tree climbing adventure Arrive at Grandfather • 9:00 AM PST: Begin morning tree climb Bag lunch on the property near Grandfather • 1:00 PM PST: Begin afternoon tree climb Finish our tree climbing adventure, drive back to Fern River Resort • 6:00 PM PST: Dinner, group games, campfire, evening share
Thursday, March 31st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00AM PST: Wake, prepare for day hike in Henry Cowell Redwood State Park Breakfast, pack bag lunch/snacks for day-hike • 4:00 PM PST: Depart state park • 6:00 PM PST: Celebration dinner in Santa Cruz Sunset along the Pacific Coast Highway • 8:00 PM PST: Head back to resort. Evening share, pack for flight
Friday, April 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00AM PST: Wake, breakfast, pack up • 9:00 AM PST: Depart for San Jose Airport, check-in • 12:00 PM PST: Flight departs • 9:00 PM EST: Arrive at Detroit Airport, drive back to Oak Openings Preserve on minibus

Food Plan

We will stop at a grocery store once we are on the ground in California. We will have one dinner out in town, so please bring cash/debit/credit card for that or any other food purchase. Bring a refillable water bottle for the trip.

Each cabin has a drip coffee maker, microwave, refrigerator of varying size, toaster, and outdoor barbeque. Cabins with a full size kitchen have full size appliances including a stove and oven. All kitchens are supplied with kitchen towels, dish soap, sponge, drying rack, ice cube trays, cutting board, large mixing/serving bowl, cups, bowls, plates, knives, measuring cups, wine bottle opener, can opener and silverware. Pots and pans are not typically provided, but a simple set is available at the office for a \$20 cleaning deposit. Ovenware is not available.

For this trip you will need to buy:

- 2 dinners – Tuesday, Wednesday, (Thursday is out in Santa Cruz, Friday is at the airport or on the flight)
- 2 bag lunches – Wednesday, Thursday, (Tuesday and Friday lunch is at the airport or on the flight)
- 3 breakfasts – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (Please eat breakfast before you arrive at Oak Openings on Tuesday morning)

Packing List

Luggage Allowance

All guests will be allowed one checked bag and one carry-on for the flight. Please pack any fluids or food items in your checked bag, be sure they are sealed in a water-tight package.

Clothing

Temperatures in the Santa Cruz area of California during our time on this trip range from 40°F - 60°F

- 1 pair good hiking shoes/boots, well broken in. Can be used for climbing as well our time hiking in Henry Cowell Redwood State Park
- Casual shoes for travel and leisure time (optional but recommended to let feet breathe.) Crocs or light tennis shoes. Some folks make sure to bring a pair sturdy enough to hike in – in the event of a boot failure.
- 2-3 pair medium weight hiking socks.
- 1 set clean underwear per day
- Sports bras x2 (women)
- Hiking shirt and pants: 1 set, quick dry, non-cotton recommended
- Sleep Clothes. Depending on how cold or warm you sleep you may want a tee-shirt/shorts or long johns. Our lodging will have climate control.
- Packable rain gear such as Frogg Toggs (\$40 at Walmart or online). Jacket and pants.
- Wool sweater or down or fleece jacket (when paired with your rain suit this should be suitable for most weather conditions). Do not recommend cotton hoodies as they are heavy and cotton clothing is not a good choice for hikers/tree climbers.
- Wicking base layer (tops/bottoms) Optional but recommended



- Hat, gloves, buff (optional)

Miscellaneous

- Bandana
- Lip balm (with sunscreen recommended)
- Toothbrush
- Travel tube toothpaste or baking soda in a small bottle
- Personal medications
- Personal first aid, Band-Aids, ibuprofen, antiseptic wipes, foot care kit – Moleskin patches, foot powder.
- Sun protection: hat with brim, sunscreen, sunglasses
- Feminine hygiene items

Optional

- Camera
- Note pad/pencil
- Watch

For travel: We recommend packing any of the following in your carry-on bag.

- 1 clean mask per travel day. Everyone is required to wear a mask during transit.
- 1 clean pair of clothes.
- An empty water bottle to fill once through airport security.
- Books, headphones, laptops/tablets to occupy you during the flight.