| **Ranking** | **Program Description** |
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| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Archaeology:** The Ponil country in the northern section is rich in the prehistoric background of the American Indian. Your crew can help reconstruct Philmont history while participating in this fascinating program and learning about Indians who inhabited this area. An educated archaeologist and staff explain and supervise the program in the North Ponil Canyon at Indian Writings camp. Activities may include assisting with excavations or preparing specimens and artifacts. Near Anasazi Camp, you can visit the site of a well-preserved Tyrannosaurus Rex footprint. This is the world’s only confirmed fossil footprint of a T-Rex. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Baldy Mountain:** Baldy Mountain, named for its rocky, barren top, is a favorite climb for those camping in the area at and around Baldy Town. Dotted with old gold mines, Baldy Mountain is the highest peak at Philmont, standing at 12,441 feet above sea level. The view from the top is unobstructed and spectacular. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Blacksmithing:** The ring of hammer striking iron echoes through the mountains around French Henry, Black Mountain, Cypher’s Mine, Metcalf Station, and Rayado/Kit Carson camps. Here, staff blacksmiths will acquaint you with a working forge, blower, leg vice, hardie, and an array of tongs used to grip red-hot iron. The blacksmith will discuss and demonstrate techniques for firing the forge, working metal, and tempering the finished product. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Campfire (evening):** Throughout the backcountry, various staffed camps conduct special evening campfires and programs. ***Pueblano***, and ***Crater Lake*** campfires relate to the tales of the Old West, logging, and the history of the land. Facts about the Beaubien-Miranda Land Grant come alive, and the influence of Waite Phillips and his gift of Philmont to the BSA provides for a special inspiration. At ***Beaubien*** and ***Clarks Fork***, the focus is on the Old West with its songs and stories and true cowboy atmosphere. **Ponil** offers a nightly Old West Cantina show. At ***Cyphers Mine***, the story of gold will ring through your ears as an interpreter relates the life and adventures of the miners of yesteryear at the nightly “STOMP”. At ***Metcalf Station***, be ready for the Railroad Jubilee Campfire that regales stories and songs of railroading history and lore. At ***Rich Cabins*** enjoy the family gathering and hear some stories and music regaling the life of the Rich family. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Cantina:** Abreu and Ponil offer the opportunity for a thirst-quenching root beer in a Mexican or Western-style cantina. You can buy root beer for your whole crew or a cup for yourself. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Challenge Events:**  A series of “ropes” activities that will test the teamwork, skill, and resourcefulness of your crew awaits you at Dan Beard, Head of Dean, and Urraca camps. While the challenges can be met by every crew, the real contest is with yourself. Did you do your best? How would you do better next time? What did your crew learn that will help you work together to meet the challenges of your trek? |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Chuckwagon Dinner:** The programs at Clark’s Fork, Beaubien, and Ponil include a special chuck wagon dinner for many crews that pass through. Members of your crew will help prepare these meals.  |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Demonstration Forest:** Between Hunting Lodge and Clarks Fork, near Cito Reservoir, a Demonstration Forest has been developed with the support of the American Tree Farm Organization. Your crew will spend time with professional foresters to learn about the forests and various forest practices taking place at Philmont. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Fishing:** The Rayado and Agua Fria streams in the south offer excellent trout fishing. Additionally, the Cito Reservoir near the Hunting Lodge provides great lake fishing. Though not large, these trout are wary and exciting to catch. A little time and skill spent along these streams may yield you a delicious trout supper or breakfast. Fly rods may be checked out at the Hunting Lodge, Fish Camp, Abreu, and Phillips Junction.Near Fish Camp, Phillips Junction, and Abreu a catch and release program is in effect. If you do not know how to remove the hook from your fish or how to clean it, a program counselor will demonstrate the correct methods. All anglers are required to have a current New Mexico state fishing license. These may be purchased at the Tooth of Time Traders before leaving Base camp. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Fly Tying:** At Fish Camp, a program counselor with material and equipment will show you how to tie your own trout flies. The thrill of catching a trout on a fly you have tied is hard to beat. A tour of Waite Phillips’ fishing lodge, including a narrative of area history is also offered. All anglers are required to have a current New Mexico state fishing license. These may be purchased at the Tooth of Time Traders before leaving Base camp. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Fur Trapper Rendezvous:** Catch some of the flavor of a Fur Trapper’s rendezvous while at Miranda. Find out why rendezvous were held and what went on. See demonstrations of the mountain man way of life and participate in some of these skills and contests such as tomahawk throwing and muzzle-loading rifles. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Gold Mining & Panning:** Gold is still found in almost all streams at Philmont, which was once the scene of lucrative gold-mining operations. Mine shafts, sluice boxes, and placer mines dot the mountainsides and valleys. If your itinerary takes you to Cyphers Mine or French Henry, you will tour a real gold mine. Not working now, the mines are carefully maintained so you can tour the mine shaft. Bring your jacket and a flashlight for the tour. Learn about adventures and hardships as determined miners sought their fortunes in these historic mountains. When you find some gold, ask one of the staff miners for some cellophane tape so you can take your discovery home. Gold pans are available for you to use at Cyphers Mine and French Henry. You may even run across one of our Roving Prospectors; they will help you learn about gold panning and prospecting too! |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Homesteading:** At Crooked Creek, Rich Cabins, and Abreu your crew will visit working homesteads. The staff will help you learn early day skills such as candle and soap making, primitive farming, wood tool use, and care of farmyard animals. In keeping with the Southwestern spirit of the program, you will be instructed in preparing a special Mexican meal at Abreu. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Lodge/Cabin Tours:** Fish Camp and Hunting Lodge were two of Waite Phillip’s backcountry cabins where he entertained famous people. You will have the opportunity to experience the way they “roughed it” in the backcountry in the 1930’s. At Abreu, Crooked Creek, and Rich Cabins you will see how early homesteaders lived. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Low Impact Camping:** Wildland ethic depends upon attitude and awareness rather than on rules and regulations. While camping off Philmont property in the Valle Vidal or any other locations, you are expected to employ Leave No Trace methods taught at Dan Beard, Rich Cabins, and other points where you leave Philmont property. You will have the opportunity to learn how to enjoy wildland with respect to hiking, camping, eating meals, and disposal of trash without leaving a scar or trace. You will also receive further “Leave No Trace” information at Whiteman Vega and Ring Place. Your Wilderness Pledge Guia and Ranger will help you learn the techniques of Leave No Trace. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Mexican Dinner:** In keeping with the southwestern spirit of the program at Abreu, you will be instructed in helping to prepare a special Mexican meal. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Mountaineering:** Big Red, Black Mountain, Comanche Peak, Hart Peak, Lookout Peak, and many other peaks will test your stamina and give you breathtaking views of surrounding terrain. Little Costilla Peak at 12,584 feet above sea level is located in the Valle Vidal. Many false peaks will keep you guessing as you work to reach the summit. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Muzzle Loading Rifle:** You will use powder, patch, ball, ramrod, and cap to load and shoot .50 or .58 caliber muzzle-loading rifles. This exciting program is offered at Black Mountain, Clear Creek, and Miranda. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **New Mexico Homestead:** At Abreu, you will become acquainted with the art of constructing southwestern architecture. After mixing a batch of adobe mud, using a special formula of clay, straw, water, and sand, you pack it into wooden forms to mold bricks. When the bricks have dried from the solar energy of the New Mexico sun, they are used for construction. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Petroglyph Tour:** Near Indian Writings camp in the North Ponil Canyon take a guided tour to see the petroglyphs carved in the rocks by the ancient Puebloan settlers. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Post-Civil War Encampment:** This interpretive program is based upon skills utilized by the settlers who came to New Mexico following the Civil War. Shoot .58 caliber black powder rifles, learn to do blacksmithing, and meet former soldiers from Ft. Union, New Mexico in this interpretive camp. The only access to Black Mountain Camp is on horse or foot; it is a perfect setting for this unique program. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Railroading:** At Metcalf Station, learn about the history of the Cimarron & Northwestern Railway and experience what it was like to build a railroad in the early 1900’s. The ringing sounds of the mauls driving spikes, the “tick-tick” of the telegraph, combined with the smell of coal burning in the blacksmith’s forge will fill the air just like it did in 1907. Your crew will have the opportunity to lay ties and rails and spike them down as Philmont reconstructs the early logging railroad that was here. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Rock Climbing & Rappelling**: This fascinating and challenging sport is a favorite of all Philmont campers. You will scale a steep pitch and rappel down a sheer cliff. Philmont has carefully selected three areas to conduct this program where the rocks are safe and practical, but a distinct “Class Five” challenge. Under the supervision of expert climbers, you will climb using your hands and feet while protected by rope, carabineers, and helmet. Safety is always stressed and practiced.Rock climbing at Philmont is restricted to the three locations, Miner’s Park, Cimarroncito, and Chase Cow and is only done under the supervision of Philmont rock climbing staff. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Shotgun Shooting/Reloading - 12 Gauge:** Shooting clay targets takes skill, but with some instruction and practice, you may find that you can hit clay birds. Each participant at Santa Claus will reload and fire 3 rounds. Additional rounds may be purchased at three for $1.00 depending on availability and crew loads. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Spar Pole Climbing:** The exciting legend of the loggers with the Continental Tie and Lumber Company will come to life through the staff at Pueblano and Crater Lake. They will share their skills of spar pole climbing and the use of wood tools and instruments. You will use spikes on your feet and a leather strap to climb to the top of a “spar” — a tree with no limbs! See what is at the top of it!  |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Tie Making & Crosscut Saws:** You will use two-person crosscut saws and other vintage tools to make railroad ties as the workers at the Continental Tie & Lumber Company did in the early part of the 20th century. Competition in exciting logging events such as log toss, cross-cut sawing, and log tong races will challenge your crew. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Tomahawk Throwing:** Test your ability to throw tomahawks at targets! The throwing part is easy; getting them to “stick” in the target is difficult! Compete against your crewmembers and others to see who the best at this old-time western sport is. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Trail Peak:** A hike up Trail Peak will give you the opportunity to visit the remains of the B-25 Liberator bomber that crashed here in 1942 killing all 7 crewmembers. Some of the wreckage remains, including a wing and propeller, and because of its location, it is the world's most visited airplane crash site. |
| **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Western Lore/Branding:** Philmont is an operating western cattle ranch. Cowboys still watch over cattle on horseback and drive them from their winter pasture on the plains to high mountain meadows for summer grazing. While you hike the trails, look for the whiteface Hereford cattle. Though not wild, they are best observed from a distance. A cow with a calf may become dangerous if she feels her calf is threatened. To chase or attempt to rope these animals is foolish and can result in serious injury. Watch and photograph them if you wish.An organized western lore program is offered at Beaubien, Ponil, and Clark’s Fork. Horse riding, campfires, and branding are all part of the western lore program. Philmont cowboys will tell you about New Mexico’s cattle industry. Using authentic western lariats, they will show you how to rope. The cowboy’s garb and equipment will be displayed and explained. After a hearty chuck wagon dinner that you will help prepare, you will gather around a campfire under the western sky for an evening of songs, guitar playing, and stories of the Old West at Beaubien or Clark’s Fork. Ponil campers may gather at the cantina for a Wild West Cantina show. |