



## *Family Programs Frequently Asked Questions*

*The family programs website is <http://www.naturebridge.org/family-learning-adventures-olympic>*

### *1. What are the sleeping arrangements like?*

*Our standard cabins are modern, heated, and air conditioned cabins. Each standard cabin includes a central common space with four or six private rooms. Typically 2-3 families are housed in the smaller standard cabins and 3-4 families are housed in the larger standard cabins. There is an adjacent bathhouse available with private restroom and showers. Wheelchair accessible facilities are available.*

*If available, you may also upgrade to a historic cabin. Historic cabins are single-family occupancy. All historic cabins have electricity and heat. Each cabin has bunk beds or single beds and a toilet and sink with cold running water. Some of the historic cabins have a bathtub with hot running water. With the upgrade you may not specifically request a tub it will depend on cabin availability during your program.*

*Finally, if available, you may upgrade, at a slightly higher cost, to our Lakeside cabin. It sleeps 3 people – one double bed and one single bed. It has a gas fireplace and a bathroom with a shower, toilet and sink. This cabin has heat and electricity as well.*

### *2. Do the standard cabins have bathrooms?*

*Some of the standard cabins do have bathrooms and showers in them and some do not. The bathhouse available is easily accessible by a well-lit path in the cabin area. Standard cabins are assigned based on availability for the weekend.*

### *3. Do we need to bring sleeping bags and pillows?*

*You do not have to bring your own bedding. We provide sheets, a comforter, a pillow, and one towel for each participant. You are welcome to bring any additional bedding items for comfort.*

### *4. It recommends bringing thermal underwear do we really need it?*

*We do strongly recommend thermals (long underwear) in the spring and the fall as well as wool or synthetic socks and sweaters due to the cool wet temperatures. However it can be very cool in the evenings in the summer as well, so we encourage participants to bring lots of layers to stay warm, especially for small children and people who get cold easily.*

### *5. What is the weather usually like?*

*Olympic has a moderate marine climate with pleasant summers and mild, wet winters. Summers are generally fair and warm, with high temperatures between 65° and 75° F. Summer is the driest season, with heavier precipitation during the rest of the year. Winters are mild, with temperatures at lower elevations in the 30's and 40's. At any time of year, visitors should come prepared for a variety of conditions. Rain gear and layered clothing is key to your comfort.*

6. *Is this program appropriate for small children?*

*Please carefully read the description of the program you are signing up to attend. For each program, we describe what age groups the program is going to be targeted towards. While you are welcome to attend any program with your family, it is good for you to know what level of content to expect. We have found that it is too difficult to please everyone when we have a wide age range of children. We get lots of families with small children and have found that families with newborns, toddlers, and teens have all found our programs to be completely satisfying provided everyone is prepared to spend some quality time outdoors in Olympic National Park!*

7. *What special things should I bring of my own for small children?*

*We do not have high chairs, booster seats, cribs, nightlights, strollers, or packs to carry children on site. So we encourage you to bring your own if your child needs them. We also do not have a lot of extra clothing and boots for very small children so be sure to pack lots of your own. We do have washers and dryers so if you need to do laundry for your small children during your stay it is possible.*

8. *What is the food like and can you meet my family's special dietary needs?*

*The kitchen prepares hearty home cooked meals. With advance notice we can usually accommodate most dietary needs (i.e. Nut free; Vegetarian; Gluten free). Our meat options at meals are poultry based. If you are concerned about meeting dietary needs you are also welcome to bring supplemental food and snacks.*

9. *How far will we be hiking?*

*That depends...weekend programs usually up to 1.5 - 2 miles at a time. During longer programs we may hike up to 5 miles over a variety of terrain. The educators often give their groups options about the length of hikes depending on the demographic.*

10. *Can we leave the program or skip certain activities?*

*We provide a variety of programming options but we always give you or any one in your family the option to bow out and do your own thing. However we do request that all children be under direct supervision at all times. We ask that if you choose to leave campus during your stay that you sign in and out of the program so that we know where you are in the event of an emergency.*

11. *How long does it take to reach campus from Seattle?*

*Typically the trip to Lake Crescent takes 3 - 3.5 hours from Seattle. It is good to note that the ferries can be very busy on Friday evening. You may save trip time if you drive around over the Tacoma Narrows bridge rather than waiting in a long line at the ferry. In the summer, the trip can take much longer due to the high volume of visitors. We recommend that you check on the WA state ferries website for more information <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/>.*

12. *What if we cannot make it during the scheduled check-in time or wish to depart early?*

*We are pretty flexible, as long as we know when you are planning to arrive we can make arrangements and help you settle into your cabin and join the program. You are welcome to depart the program early; however, we do not provide program discounts for late arrivals and early departure.*