



What to Expect

Local Environment, Climate, and Weather

Crow Canyon is located in the high desert, where deep sandstone canyons dissect pinyon-, juniper-, and sage-covered plains, all against the distant backdrop of the Rocky Mountains. The campus and excavation site are located at an elevation of 6200 feet. Depending on which camp your child attends, he or she will also take excursions to elevations ranging from 4300 to 10,000 feet.

The Colorado sun is strong (ultraviolet exposure increases about 4 percent for every 1000 feet above sea level), and the air is generally very dry. In summer, daytime temperatures are usually in the mid-80s to low 90s, but occasionally reach triple digits. Nighttime temperatures can drop to around 50°F. In July and August (our monsoon season), it is not uncommon to get afternoon thunderstorms.

The best precaution for anyone not accustomed to both the dry climate and the high elevation is to drink plenty of water. We recommend that camp participants drink at least two quarts of water per day, every day, while here. In addition, pre-hydration—drinking plenty of water for a few days before leaving home—may help the body acclimate more quickly.

Sunscreen is a must! ***Please note that parental permission for sunscreen use is required; see the Medical Form for Minors.***

Activity Level

Although camp participants will work at their own pace in the field, archaeological excavation *does* require physical exertion: hiking a short distance to reach the site, hauling buckets of dirt, and kneeling on the ground for extended periods. The Middle School Archaeology Camp includes one off-campus excursion in the mountains (elevation approximately 9000 to 10,000 feet); the High School Field School includes a weekend rafting trip in Colorado (elevation 6500 to 7000 feet), as well as hiking; and all camps include a visit to Mesa Verde National Park (elevation 7000 to 8500 feet).

Being in good physical condition will make the camp experience more fun. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's ability to participate in the activities offered in this program, please call the enrollment manager at 970.564.4346 (toll-free 800.422.8975, ext. 146).

Free Time

Camp participants will have free time during their program to read, listen to music, hike, or just relax with friends. Crow Canyon also has a basketball hoop in the meadow and indoor and outdoor game equipment. The chaperons may conduct structured activities. The chaperons are in charge during free time, and camp participants are required to inform them of their whereabouts at all times.

iPods and Other Musical Devices

We encourage camp participants to take advantage of the quiet serenity of our campus and enjoy the sounds of nature! Participants are allowed to bring musical devices; however, **the rooms do not lock, and we cannot guarantee the security of personal items, although we provide individual lockers to protect private property.** We also ask that camp participants use earphones when listening to music on campus. None of these items may be used during scheduled activities.

Campus Gift Shop

Crow Canyon's small gift shop carries a variety of reasonably priced gift items, including books, T-shirts, and jewelry. The shop also stocks toiletries, film, and postcards. All proceeds from shop sales help support Crow Canyon's programs.

Safekeeping of Airline Tickets and Spending Money

Crow Canyon will provide safekeeping for your child's airline tickets and spending money during his or her stay. All camp participants will have opportunities to shop in the campus gift shop and at Mesa Verde National Park. In addition, participants in the three-week High School Field School will need enough money to cover two laundry trips and two restaurant meals on the weekends (approximately \$100 to \$200 should be sufficient). Spending money will be made available at times designated for these activities.

Smoking

Colorado state law prohibits the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18. Because the majority of participants in our teen programs are under 18, Crow Canyon does not permit smoking or other use of tobacco products by **anyone** in this program.