Itinerary: Harvard First-Year Outdoor Program 2019

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

11am – 3pm: Participants arrive and check in inside the Science Center, adjacent to Harvard Yard. Check-in will take approximately an hour. If you are hoping to participate in a switch-canoe trip, we expect you to arrive by 2 pm. While FOPpers go through gear check, parents can attend a slide show and informational meeting with trip leaders. Participants are responsible for providing their own lunch and dinner.

6pm: All participants gather on the steps of Widener for the introductory meeting. Please be on time. You will be assigned to a group, and you will leave this location with your group. You should say goodbye to family members and well-wishers before this meeting.

7:30pm: Groups meet and distribute food and gear. Groups go to bed early to prepare for dawn departure.

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

4:45am: Wake up!

5:30am: All groups clean up their rooms, return keys, and load buses.

6:30am: Buses and vans depart toward the wilderness of NH, VT, and ME! Breakfast served on bus.

Wednesday, August 21 to Monday, August 26, 2019

FOP trips are in the New England wilderness!

Monday, August 26, 2019

Morning: Groups picked up at trailheads throughout New England.

Afternoon: Buses and vans return to Cambridge. Clean and return gear equipment.

Evening: Pick up room keys and ID’s. Shower in your dorms, change into clean clothes, and re-convene with your group for a final evening with FOP. FOP programming will end at roughly 9 pm this evening. (We ask that FOPpers do not try to reconnect in person with their families or friends this evening. There will be plenty of time for move-in the next day.)

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Move-In Day! Family members are welcome to arrive. Follow instructions from First-Year Experience Office mailings. You are responsible for your own breakfast and lunch on this day.

Some Notes Regarding Religious Observance:

Often our program coincides with several religions’ holy days. In the past, we have been able to make accommodations to meet the needs of our religiously observant students. We also recognize that because of the nature of our activities, we are not able to make all the accommodations necessary for everyone, so please be in touch with us as soon as possible so that we can determine whether we can meet your needs.

If you communicate your needs early in the summer, here are accommodations we can and cannot make:

If your religion requires that you pray or attend services between 6 PM on August 20 and 9 PM on August 26, we can offer you the opportunity to pray but cannot guarantee the opportunity to attend services.

If your religion requires you to uphold dietary restrictions, please talk with us directly. We can, for instance, provide meals that align with kosher and halal diets, but because of the nature of our activities, our distance from medical care, and our dependence on nutrition for our health and welfare in the woods, we cannot accommodate any student who is fasting between August 20 and August 26.

If your religion requires that you observe a day of rest, we can often accommodate that request, though we cannot ever guarantee it.

If we have not addressed one of your religious practices, it does not mean we cannot accommodate it; it merely means we have not considered it yet. Please let us know if we have not addressed one or more of your needs.