



Troop 21 Big Trip

Grand Canyon 2025

June 7 – 14

Trip Information Packet



April 20, 2025

Dear Parents & Scouts:

In June Troop 21 will depart on its 43rd annual big trip to the **Grand Canyon**. The purpose of this packet is to provide you with all the information to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip. A copy of this packet can also be found on the Troop 21 website: www.Troop21clayton.org

Please read the enclosed information carefully. The success of any trip depends on proper planning. We ask that all parents supervise their son's packing. Note: Temperatures may dip down to 50 degrees at night in the Grand Canyon. Due to space constraints, please bring only what is specified on the equipment list.

We ask that each Scout carry no more than two pieces of luggage: 1) a duffel bag which will hold your clothes, toiletries, sleeping bag, sleeping pad and a tent (if you are the designated tent carrier). We will check this bag on the plane and 2) a daypack which you will carry-on the plane and use for day trips.

At **7:00 pm** on **Tuesday, May 20th** at **Wydown** we will have a special troop meeting for all those Scouts going on the trip. A parent should also attend. **The remaining balance of \$1,000 payable to Troop 21 is due at this meeting.**

During the meeting we will collect medical forms. We will also cover any items not addressed in the packet and answer any questions.

Tom Coscia

Grand Canyon Itinerary

June 7 – 14, 2025

- Sat – 6/7:** Arrive at the Southwest check-in counter at the Lambert Airport at **4:30 am**. Wear your Troop 21 black shirt. Tom Coscia will check everyone in at once. We will also check in one duffle bag per person. You will carry your daypack on the plane. Non-stop Southwest flight 2572 leaves St. Louis at 6:25 am and arrives in Las Vegas at 7:55 am.
- Once in Vegas, we will rent vehicles and while select adults are food shopping, visit some Vegas sites have lunch and drive up to the Watchman Campground at Zion National Park to set-up camp.
- Sun - 6/8:** On Sunday we will explore Zion National Park including the extremely challenging (and optional) Angell's Landing Trail.
- Mon - 6/9:** On Monday we will continue exploring Zion including the scenic Narrows.
- Tues - 6/10:** On Tuesday we will explore Bryce Canyon National Park noted for hundreds of colorful rock pillars.
- Wed - 6/11:** On Wednesday we will strike camp. Visit Glen Canyon National dam and swim on a sandy beach on Lake Powell. Travel to the north rim of Grand Canyon National Park and set-up camp at the North Rim Group Area.
- Thurs - 6/12:** On Thursday we will descend into the canyon. That evening we will watch the sunset over the canyon.
- Fri - 6/13:** On Friday we will strike camp and drive to Vegas. At 5 pm we will see the Blue Man Group followed by a buffet dinner. That night we will stay overnight at the Stratosphere.
- Sat - 6/14:** Saturday will be dedicated to swimming at the hotel pool, lunch and seeing other Las Vegas sites TBA including the top of the Stratosphere.
- We will take non-stop Southwest flight 2001 that leaves from Las Vegas at 6:15 pm and arrives in St. Louis at 11:30 pm.

Grand Canyon 2025

Personal Equipment Details

Dress

Everyone should wear their Troop 21 black shirt and khaki short or long pants to the airport Saturday morning. Everyone will also receive two trip shirts: One short sleeve t-shirt and one t-shirt hoodie. Throughout the trip the dress code will be either the black Troop 21 shirt which we will wear on the Saturday's we are flying or one of the trip shirts. We will have extra black shirts at our May 20th meeting.

Medical Form

No Scout or Scouter will be permitted to go on the trip unless a current medical form, with completed physician's sections, has been provided to Tom Coscia prior to departure. The medical form must be signed by a doctor in the last year. Copies of the medical form can be found on the Troop 21 website. www.Troop21clayton.org

If your son has any special medical condition or prescription, please inform Tom Coscia. If you would prefer, we can have an adult dispense your son's medication during the trip.

Trip Cell Phone Policy

Scouts are encouraged to bring their cell phones on this trip. Tom will want your cell phone number. Scouts will be able to charge their phone in the vehicle. Be sure to bring your charger.

Money

The only money needed will be for souvenirs and snacks. No money will be needed for meals. An adequate amount should be \$60-\$90. If you prefer, we can have an adult safeguard your son's money. Place in an envelope with your son's name on it. (Small unmarked bills are great ☺)

Labels

Please be sure to label **all** clothing and equipment with your name so that we can readily identify items. **Be sure to include your Troop 21 shirts - they all look alike.**

Glass Containers and Aerosol Cans

No glass containers or aerosol cans should be carried on the trip. Glass breaks easily and aerosol cans are bulky and may discharge in duffel bags.

Packs & Clothing

Scouts should be able to pack everything they need in two bags. In addition to a day pack, we would like everyone to use a duffle bag instead of a backpack as backpacks are too bulky for travel by vans. Everyone must be able to fit their sleeping bag, sleeping pad and tent (if they are the designated tent carrier) in your duffel bag. Note: The duffel bag must weigh less than 50 pounds or it will be subject to additional fees.

A daypack should also be brought so that lunch, water bottle, and rain gear can be carried on day trips. Be sure not to bring any liquids greater than 3 oz in your carry-on. Be sure to check those items in along with any pocket knives.

Note: Temperatures may dip into the 50's at night.

Food Preparation

While in touring **Grand Canyon**, we will be eating out or buying items at local grocery stores to save money. When we are camping, we will prepare food using camping stoves and charcoal fires following the patrol method. We will eat as one patrol. Each Scout will know in advance what his duties and responsibilities are for each meal. Hopefully with everyone's help we can spend a minimal time cooking and cleaning we can spend more time seeing the sites. The Troop will have disposable plates, utensils and cups.

Safe & Healthy Camping

Strict adherence to proper health and safety practices is crucial. Each Scout is responsible for keeping himself strong and healthy. Of great importance, each Scout is responsible to other members of his crew. Failure to clean and rinse cooking gear thoroughly may affect everyone in the crew. Health and safety are a crew responsibility as well as an individual one.

Discipline

It is critical to the success of the trip that all Scouts are well behaved. For this reason we reserve the right to send home--at parental expense--any Scout who proves to be too much of a disruption to the rest of the group. The Troop 21 Code of Conduct will be in effect at all times.

Keep Personally Clean

Good campers are clean. Personal cleanliness will make you feel better, smell good, and look decent to the rest of the troop. A short haircut is recommended shortly before we leave for **Grand Canyon**. Note: Our campsites will not have showers, but we will have opportunities to shower during the week---though not every day.

Drinking Water

All regular camping areas will have clean drinking water. No need to purify any water.

Washing Clothes

Only Trip shirts and the Troop 21 black shirts will be washed once during the week. Note: You should bring enough of your non-scout clothes so nothing else needs be washed.

Accidents

Most accidents occur late in the day in camp -- not while hiking. Many accidents involve horseplay. Fatigue and hunger may also impair a Scout's performance and judgment. Rock throwing, improper use of tools, climbing steep rocky ridges, running through campsites, climbing trees, and carelessness around campfires are prevalent causes of accidents. To avoid them, individual and crew discipline and safety should be practiced in all activities.

Staying Together

Scouts are **never** to leave the group alone: Always stay together in-groups of three or more and make sure your adult leader knows where you are.

Avoid Disease

Rabbits, bats, ground squirrels, chipmunks, and other rodents transmit rabies and the bubonic plague. Scouts should **never** handle ground animals.

Repel those Mosquitoes

There may be mosquitoes in **Grand Canyon**. Strong mosquito repellent with a high percentage of "DEET" is highly recommended. Purchase liquids or stick as aerosols are not recommended. **Aerosol containers should not be brought.**

First Aid and Emergency Procedures

The Troop will carry a complete first aid kit. Minor ailments will be treated as common sense dictates on an individual basis. Scouts with asthma should carry their own inhaler. Serious injuries will be taken to the closest medical facility that will treat the condition.

If in the adult leader's judgment, a Scout cannot continue to participate because of medical reasons, we will phone the parent or guardian and work out details for transporting your Scout home. If the emergency is such that your Scout must return home immediately, we will take him to the closest airport and place him on the next available flight to St. Louis.

In case of emergency, Tom Coscia's phone number is 314-780-3021. He may not always be accessible but you can leave a message and he can retrieve and return calls.

Adult Supervision & Campgrounds

Our entourage has 10 Scouts and 7 adults. We have all camping reservations for **Zion** and the **Grand Canyon**.

Grand Canyon 2025 Personal Equipment List

Items Due at the May 20 Big Trip Meeting

- ___ Final payment of \$1,000
- ___ Medical form signed by a doctor in the last year
- ___ Will you be bringing a tent?

Packing (Remember to pack light!)

Have Packed

- ___ Duffel bag (no backpacks)
- ___ Small daypack for day trips and the plane
- ___ Sleeping bag warm enough for 50-degree weather (pack in duffel bag)
- ___ Tent? (We will determine tent mates on May 20th) (pack in your duffel bag)

Clothing (required - packed in plastic bags)

- ___ 1 pair of walking shoes
- ___ 1 pair of camp shoes (We do not recommend crocs & don't allow flip flops)
- ___ 3 pairs of light weight socks
- ___ 2 pairs of beige khaki shorts
- ___ 1 Troop 21 black shirt (We will have additional shirts at the May 20th meeting)
- ___ 4 changes of underwear
- ___ Short-sleeve trip shirt – you will receive at the airport
- ___ Trip hoodie – you will receive at the airport
- ___ 1 jacket for 50-degree weather
- ___ Poncho or rain suit
- ___ Belt
- ___ 2 pair of long pants
- ___ 2 extra T-shirts (for camp)
- ___ Sleepwear
- ___ Bathing suit for outdoor swimming and the Stratosphere pool

Personal Hygiene (required)

- ___ Soap
- ___ Toothbrush & small toothpaste
- ___ Comb
- ___ Small towel
- ___ Large towel (shower)
- ___ Kleenex tissue (small packages)
- ___ Toilet paper in a plastic bag (partial roll)
- ___ Lip balm
- ___ Sunscreen
- ___ Medication (if required)

Miscellaneous

- ___ ___ Cell phone and charger
- ___ ___ Cash (for souvenirs & snacks while traveling)
- ___ ___ Water bottle - 2 each, of a one quart or one liter size
- ___ ___ Headlamp or Flashlight
- ___ ___ Personal first aid kit
- ___ ___ Pocketknife (no sheath knives) (Be sure to pack in your checked luggage)
- ___ ___ Matches in a waterproof case (Be sure to pack in your checked luggage)
- ___ ___ Mosquito repellent
- ___ ___ Sandals, water shoes that can get wet – (No flip flops)
- ___ ___ Hat for sun protection

Optional Equipment

- ___ ___ Foam pad (highly recommended) (pack in your duffel)
- ___ ___ Small camp chair
- ___ ___ Camera or phone (highly recommended)
- ___ ___ Sunglasses
- ___ ___ Eye glass straps
- ___ ___ Small notepad and pencil
- ___ ___ Gloves and wool cap if you are sensitive to cold
- ___ ___ Watch (inexpensive & waterproof)
- ___ ___ Small deck of playing cards
- ___ ___ Reading material for traveling
- ___ ___ Personal listening / movie devices with small headphones (for the plane)