

# Rancho del Chaparral

Rancho del Chaparral has been part of the Girl Scout camp tradition in New Mexico for nearly 50 years. Located in the Jemez Mountains, Rancho is accessible from spring through fall. The camp's over 1100 acres include hiking and horse trails, primitive camping, and traditional camp activities. Rancho is an ideal setting for basic outdoor skills, advanced skill building, group retreats, art and creative sessions, ecology programs, and much more!

## Programming

With over eleven hundred acres of vast meadows, tall pines, and a creek, Rancho del Chaparral offers a range of outdoor experiences.

**Hiking:** Miles of hiking offer access to sweeping vistas and forest discovery. Full trail maps are available from the camp ranger.

**Archery Range:** Targets and equipment are available for 4th grade campers and up.

**Campfires:** Beautifully situated just below Hoffman Hall, there is seating for 50 people around a campfire circle. For a more intimate experience, gather around the fire circle in your outdoor unit.

**Horseback Riding:** With limited availability, your group can arrange to horseback ride through the camp's miles of horse trails.



## At-a-Glance

Offering a range of day-use meeting space and overnight camping options, Rancho del Chaparral has beds to sleep 267. Primitive camping options can host an additional 30+ people. Gather for meetings or meals in Casa Grande and explore various program areas throughout the camp.

**7900-8200** Elevation  
**1176** # of acres  
**105 miles** Distance from Abq  
**25 miles** Distance to grocery store

**50 - 85 F** Temperature range:  
**35 - 70 F** Summer  
**20 - 50 F** Spring/Fall  
**July-Aug** Winter  
Rainy season

**Bosque Sleeping:**  
Pinon (20)  
Juniper (20)  
Cottonwood (28)  
Blue Spruce (28)  
Ponderosa (36)

**Prado Sleeping:**  
Hogans (38)  
Adirondaks (38)  
Covered Wagons (36)

**Additional Facilities:**  
Casa Grande  
Headquarters  
Draper Lodge  
JJ Bunkhouse  
Wengard Art Center  
Equestrian Areas

## History of Rancho del Chaparral

In 1963, nearly 1200 acres, originally Native American land and the last part of the San Diego Land Grant was purchased. Groundbreaking for Rancho del Chaparral, surrounded by the Santa Fe National Forest, began on June 23, 1968 and the camp was officially dedicated on July 13, 1969. Since opening in 1969, thousands of girls have attended camp sessions and programs at Rancho del Chaparral.

# Facilities Descriptions

Housing areas are divided into two main areas, Bosque and Prado. These two main areas are separated by forest area, an approximate 15 minute walk. Within each area, individual housing platforms / structures are grouped into small groups of 5-9 structures.

## Bosque

Bosque is a platform tent camping area nestled within the ponderosa pine and gambrel oak. Bosque consists of 12'x24' platform tents, fire circles, unit shelters for group gatherings, pit latrines, and hand washing stations. Bosque is divided into 5 areas, each having a unit shelter and fireplace, tables and benches, and electrical lighting. The Bosque shower house is a covered 8 head shower with semi-private showers. Maximum sleeping accommodations for Bosque is 132.

Bosque Units:

- Pinon: 5 platform tents, sleep 4 each, total 20 beds.
- Juniper: 5 platform tents, sleep 4 each, total 20 beds.
- Cottonwood: 7 platform tents, sleep 4 each, total 28 beds.
- Blue Spruce: 7 platform tents, sleep 4 each, total 28 beds.
- Ponderosa: 9 platform tents, sleep 4 each, total 36 beds.

## Miller Center

Miller Center is a mini-headquarters for the Bosque area, centrally located for all tent campers. Miller Center has a total of 4 rooms: office, group gathering room with fireplace, and two bedrooms equipped with 2 beds each. Private pit latrine is situated nearby.

## Prado

Prado is a mixed use, tree covered camping area consisting of three units and housing types. Each unit has it's own pit latrines, hand washing stations, and enclosed unit shelters. Unit shelters consist of tables, benches, storage area, fireplace, and removable walls. The Prado shower house is a covered 8 head shower with semi-private showers. Maximum sleeping accommodations for Prado is 116.

Prado Units:

- Hogans: open air, bunk housing sleeps 8 in 4 structures and 6 in 5th structure (38 total).
- Adirondaks: open air bunk housing sleeps 8 in 4 structures and 6 in 5th (38 total).
- Covered Wagons: 9 traditional wagons sleep 4 each on raised platforms (36 total).

## Seligman Center

Seligman Center has a total of 4 rooms: office, group gathering room with fireplace, and two bedrooms equipped with 2 beds each.



## Casa Grande

Casa Grande is a large dining facility, seating approximately 120. Two large fireplaces grace each end of the hardwood floored dining hall. The commercial kitchen in Casa Grande is a separate rental, with additional requirements for use.

### Casa Grande: Commercial Kitchen

This is a full commercial kitchen with walk-in coolers, walk-in freezer, and industrial dishwasher. Use of this commercial kitchen requires at least one individual with experience and training in commercial kitchen usage. A hands-on training & orientation to the kitchen is mandatory for usage.

## Headquarters

The Headquarters is the welcome center for the camp. Phone and internet use is minimal. Larger counter space for check in / out is available. Two Headquarters apartments are available with a shared bathroom, fireplace, refrigerator, and electricity.

## Draper Lodge

Our Draper Lodge Health Center is equipped with basic medical care equipment, locking area for medications, kitchen, nurse's quarters with private bedroom & bath, common bath, and hospital grade beds. It is traditional for only medical staff to reside in Draper Lodge.

## JJ Bunkhouse

The JJ Bunkhouse has two sides, consisting of 4 rooms each, shower facility, flushing toilet, and sinks. Both sides share a common kitchen equipped with a refrigerator, stove, microwave, coffee maker, table, and chairs. Rooms are set up with 2 beds each, for a total sleeping capacity of 16. Traditionally, this housing area is not utilized for campers under the age of 18 and often hosts support staff or visiting council staff members.

## Wengard Art Center

Wengard Art Center, also known as "Crafty's Closet," is a larger building designed for arts and crafts activities. The building is outfitted with tables, chairs, and a large outdoor deck. Flooring is concrete, tables and chairs are designed for heavy use with children.

## Equestrian Areas

Rancho has a fully equipped equestrian center consisting of a fenced riding area, tack room, corral areas for housing and feeding, mounting area with platforms, a spacious holding area to secure animals waiting to be mounted, and a pasture for grazing. A viewing area at the corrals allows visitors to watch the animals and maintain a healthy distance while the wranglers are working with and feeding the animals.

## Burro Barn

The Burro Barn houses our resident burros, Gladys, Maizey, and Bettye.