

# Great Field Trip Ideas for Troops

Below are a number of great field trip ideas arranged into 3 categories: In Davis, Outside of Davis, and overnight/camping. Many of these places have web sites you can research for detailed information and current pricing. Some of these trips are seasonal and/or weather dependent. Be sure to take this into consideration when planning your trip. Many of these trips can be used to help earn Try-It's and Badges, but some of them are just about having fun!

## Don't forget:

⇒⇒⇒ Fill out a Trip Notification Form and turn it in if your trip requires one. Depending on the type of trip, there are different requirements for trip forms. Check the Leaders Resource Guide and Safety Wise for up to date information.

⇒⇒⇒ THANK YOU! Have the girls in the troop hand make a thank you card to give to your host. It's also a nice gesture to bring along a box of Girl Scout Cookies as a Thank you, especially if you are a getting special tour or treatment.

## Suggestions on How to Help Girls Plan a Field Trip:

1. When planning Field Trips, ask the girls what they want to do. Make a list of everything they say, no matter how wild or expensive.

2. Have girls research several different trips for prices, time and what they could do on the trip.

3. Discuss how the troop will pay for the trip, or if parents will be asked to pay. Sometimes this can have a big effect on how girls want to use their money. Discuss what the time frame of the trip is: a few weeks, months or years.

4. Girls vote. For younger girls have them close their eyes, or have them do a secret ballot. Once you have narrowed it down, re-vote for the top two or three.

5. If planning an overnight or camping trip, make sure adults in troop have taken any necessary Adult Training courses. Longer trips can require well over a year of planning time. Older girls should take the Trip planning course as well!

## **IN DAVIS - Local Businesses/Activities, Day Trips:**

**Most grocery stores and some restaurants are willing to give tours.**

**Davis Farmers Market** –connect to a local grower and arrange a field trip to their organic farm!

**Rocknasium**

**Davis Fencing Academy**

**Yolo County Library**

**Davis Waste Removal** (Work on the Eco Action badge.)

**DCTV** (Davis Community Television. Fabulous interactive tour. Works great with My Community badge.)

**Corn Maze and/or Pumpkin Patches**

**Train to Old Sacramento**

**Horseback riding** (Sterling & UCD are prepared for Girl Scouts.)

**UCD Veterinary Teaching Hospital** (Wonderful! Juniors & older)

**UCD Bohart Museum** (Fun with bugs!)

**UCD Arboretum Tour**

**UCD Raptor Center**

**UCD Bowling** (Ask for a behind-the-scenes tour)

Other suggestions: Yoga and dance studios, Davis Art Center, Post Office, Local Banks and Credit Unions

## **OUTSIDE OF DAVIS: Day trips**

### **Towards Bay Area/San Francisco**

**Mt. Diablo** (Picnic, hike, rock climb & camp)

**Jelly Belly Factory** Fairfield

**Año Nuevo State Reserve** (In the winter view elephant seals)

**Basic Brown Bear Factory** (The 1<sup>st</sup> Teddy Bear factory. San Francisco.)

**San Francisco day via train** (Shopping at 4<sup>th</sup> & Market, lunch in Chinatown, cable car to Fisherman's Wharf, return by train. Juniors & older.)

**Japanese Tea Garden in S.F.** (A fun bridge for bridging.)

**Guide Dogs for the Blind** (San Rafael. A wonderful experience!)

**Submarine or U.S.S. Hornet Sleepover** (Sometimes a GS event, but you can also go on your own)

**California Culinary Academy** (Take BART to this S.F. cooking school for lunch. Great for troops working on cooking badges. A big \$ outing!)  
**Mrs. Grossman's Sticker Factory** (Petaluma. Make reservations!)  
**West Valley Alpaca Farm** (Wonderful! Juniors & older)  
**Six Flags Marine World**

## **Towards Sacramento/Foothills/Tahoe**

**Empire Mine** (Great for fourth graders. Located in Grass Valley, this mine has a wonderful interactive program. Near Malakoff.)  
**Build-a-Bear** (Fun way to spend cookie money. Turn it into a service project and make bears for children in need, too. About \$20 per child.)  
**Effie Yeaw** (Earn a badge or try-it. Ask a docent for special tour.)  
**PAWS** (Performing Animal Welfare Society in Galt)  
**Disney on Ice** (They have a Girl Scout night. Expensive.)  
**Rivercats Game at Raley Field**  
**Monarch's basketball game**  
**Snow Shoeing** (Royal Gorge in Soda Springs. Great team building activity.)  
**Girl Scout Museum** (Schedule a tour. Located at the Girl Scout store in Rancho Cordova. Girls could shop, too!)  
**Apple Hill** (Cut down Christmas tree & donate to a charity)  
**Soda Springs** (Tubing & work on Frosty Fun badge)  
**Natomas Fish Hatchery**  
**Ice Skating**  
**Sacramento Zoo** (Adopt an animal & then go visit it)  
**News and Radio Stations**

## **OUTSIDE OF DAVIS: Overnight and Camping**

**Lake Solano** - Youth campground — canoeing available

**Dillon's Beach** – primitive, Dunes, tidal pools  
**Bodega Dunes** - Near Bodega bay with a nice beach  
**Samuel P. Taylor State Park** - Visit the Pt. Reyes Nature Center  
**Pigeon Point Lighthouse Youth Hostel** - Easy access to hiking  
**China Camp State Park** - Marin County. Walk-in Site, Mountain Biking

**Santa Cruz Boardwalk & Año Nuevo**  
**Salt Point State Park** - Best tidal pools  
**Butano State Park** - Near Santa Cruz  
**Big Basin Redwoods** - Near Santa Cruz

**Emerald Bay State Park - Tahoe.**

**Grover Hot Springs State Park - Markleeville, South of Tahoe**

**Calaveras Big Trees - Stop at Moaning Cavern**