



OUTBACK ADVENTURES

Wilderness Orientation FAQs

Q: What is Wilderness Orientation (WO) all about? Who can attend these trips?

A: WO is a great opportunity for incoming students to get oriented to campus, learn some life skills, make lasting friendships, and unplug before starting school at UCSD. All non-specified WO trips are open to incoming first years and incoming transfer students. Transfer students are also able to sign up for our transfer specific program. Incoming graduate students are welcome on our grad-specific trips.

Q: Does Wilderness Orientation take the place of College Orientation?

A: No, Wilderness Orientation is a supplemental program that will help you learn life skills and facilitate you meeting new friends, but it does **not** replace your mandatory college orientation.

Q: My college orientation conflicts with the WO trip I want to sign up for, what should I do?

A: Outback Adventures cannot excuse you from your Orientation. If you need to request a change, you must contact your college directly. Please do not sign up for a WO trip that conflicts with your orientation time.

Q: My class registration time is during the WO trip I would like to attend. Will I have access to internet during the trip?

A: Unless your registration is on the first or last day of the trip, when your group is on campus*, there is no opportunity to gain cell or internet service while you are on your trip. We recommend either giving your login information to a trusted person (i.e. your parent) to make your selections for you; otherwise, we would be happy to have you join one of our other WO trips. We think they are all amazing!

*Please call us at 858-534-8211 to make sure you will be on campus during your registration time.

Q: My trip is right before my move-in date. Will there be a place for me to store my things? And can someone help me with move-in?

A: Yes, we have space at Outback for you to store some items during your trip. If you have a large number of items, please contact us to make sure we have enough space. If your trip ends on your move-in date, your Outback guides will be able to help you move into your dorm.

Q: My flight home is in the afternoon; will I be able to get a ride to the airport?

A: Outback guides will provide one airport shuttle at 10am on the last day of your WO trip (12 noon for Coast to Summit). Please do not plan flights earlier than noon (or 2pm for Coast to Summit) to ensure you have enough time at the airport before your flight.

Q: Can I sign up for these trips as a minor?

A: Minors are welcome to sign up for any of our trips. Since we require a waiver signature, a minor cannot sign up using their own Rec account. Here is an outline of the process to register through a parent or guardian:

1. Parent/guardian must sign up for a recreation.ucsd.edu community account. Please fill out all required fields when signing up. This will trigger an email confirmation. Follow the link to confirm your account.
2. Sign in to your account and click your name on the top right corner, then click profile. Scroll to the bottom and click on “add dependent”
3. Fill out the dependent’s information – this should be the incoming student currently under 18 years old.
4. Once your dependent is saved, you should also create a payment method. This will make the check-out process easier. On the left of the profile page, click on the last link, “saved payment info” and select “save a new card,” then save your info.
5. Now you can sign up for a trip! At the search bar in the top, type “WO—” (include the dash) and all our Wilderness Orientation trips should show up. Make your selection, click register, and be sure to select **“register” next to the incoming student’s name.**
6. Complete the remaining information and process your payment. Congratulations! We can’t wait to see you on a WO trip soon!

Q: I’m a student and I tried to log in with my UCSD email, but I keep getting an error, what should I do?

A: When you sign up for classes, our system automatically recognizes you and imports your information into our system. If you haven’t signed up for classes yet, or are unable to, you will need to create a community account to sign up for WO. Eventually your student and community accounts will be merged, and you will use your student account to sign up for recreation events in the future.

Q: I’m still having trouble signing up online, who should I ask for help?

A: If you are still unable to complete the process online, please call the Recreation Customer Service line at 858-534-3557.

Q: What are the prices of all the different trips? Why are they priced so differently?

A: To view a list of trips and prices, [click here](#). Our prices cover the cost of transportation, food, camping permits, staff, and more –these will vary depending on the location, activity, and duration of the trip.

We keep our prices as low as we can to stay accessible to as many students as possible. Keep in mind, our prices go up on July 1st and again on August 1st so be sure to sign up soon.

Q: Is there an opportunity to receive a financial assistance for a WO trip?

A: Yes, we have \$200 awards available for first generation college students, students from low income families, non-resident/out of state students, and international students (F1/J1). If you believe you qualify for any of these categories, please fill out a [WO Financial Assistance Application](#). Please note that you must sign up for a trip before completing the application. If you qualify for a financial assistance award, we will refund you the amount after the trip. Students who apply but are **not** awarded any financial assistance can cancel program enrollment and receive a 100% refund if cancellation occurs on or before August 1st. The [WO refund policy](#) applies to cancellations made after this date. For this reason, please apply right away. Also, please note that the Coast to Summit trip is already subsidized by \$200 and therefore participants of this trip are not eligible for additional WO financial assistance.

Q: What does “wilderness” refer to? Will we be able to communicate with folks back home?

A: Our WO trips take place in fairly remote areas where there is often no cell service. We like to take advantage of being “away from it all” and connecting with our group members in the present moment. All participants will leave cell phones and other communication devices behind (and secured) at Outback, but trip leaders will carry multiple forms of communication to contact our office in case of emergencies or other incidents. If you have questions about this policy, please contact us in advance of your trip.

Q: How do I know which trip to sign up for? They all look so different! And so fun!

A: We pride ourselves on the variety of activities and locations that we offer for our WO programs. As an incoming undergraduate student, you have five or six different options to choose from. Please read through the descriptions on our WO website, recreation.ucsd.edu/adventures/wilderness-orientation.

If you still have questions, feel free to call or email us. We are always happy to talk about WO.

Q: Can I sign up for more than one WO trip?

A: Yes, you can sign up for more than one trip. However, we would like you to know that the programming on all our trips is very similar, so while the activity you choose might be different, many of the group activities will be the same. Most people choose to go on one trip, but if you are excited about more than one we understand, we’re excited about all of them!

We hope you found the answer to your questions. Still need more information?

Email us: wo@ucsd.edu

Call us: 858-534-8211