



Acharya Sushil Gurve Namah

Siddhachalam Arhum Youth Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

When is drop-off?

- 7:00 PM — Friday, July 24, 2026

When is pick-up?

- 3:00 PM — Sunday, July 26, 2026

Note: If someone other than the primary guardian will be dropping off or picking up your child, please list their names on the required form. Only individuals listed on the form will be permitted to pick up your child, following photo ID verification.

What is the meaning of the word “Arhum” used for the name of the camp?

- The name of our youth camp is inspired by the Arhum Yoga camps Guruji held at Siddhachalam in the 80s and early 90s. “Arhum” means the soul in its perfected state. It is a manifestation of Arihant. Together with Aum and Hreem, it is the centerpiece of rishi mandal mantra and stotram. Guruji used to train children in chanting the rishi mandal mantra. During our camp, all children will learn the rishi mandal mantra and its chanting.

What is the camp's staff-to-camper ratio?

- The staff-to-camper ratio is a minimum of 1 staff member to 10 campers.

What are the sleeping arrangements at camp?

- Campers share and sleep in large cabins. Each cabin can easily accommodate 8 campers of the same gender with two bathrooms. Counsellors and Camp Directors sleep in the same area within their cabins. For more details, visit: <http://www.siddhachalam.org/activities/stay/>

How does Siddhachalam keep camper fees so low?

- Siddhachalam camps are much less expensive than the majority of summer camps held elsewhere. We are able to keep low camper fees because all administrators, camp directors and instructors are dedicated volunteers who cover their own expenses. By passing our savings on to campers, we make summer camp accessible to more youth while maintaining a high standard of quality.

What will my child take away from this camp?

- Camp provides a nurturing, inclusive, and supportive environment. We hope campers will leave with a higher sense of confidence and conviction in their own beliefs. Further, Campers will gain a practical understanding of Jain philosophy and learn how to apply Jain principles such as ahimsa (non-violence), satya (truth) and anekantwad (the doctrine that truth depends on standpoint) into their daily life.

What is the maximum number of campers at a camp?

- Currently, we accept a maximum of 50 campers. Our aim is to keep a small, community feel at camp.

Is there a doctor on available?

- A doctor is not on site, but one will be on call 24/7 during the entire camp.

How is the food?

- Awesome! Ever since early 1980s when Siddhachalam was founded, it has followed a practice of joyfully serving without charge simple, freshly-made food to all. Fresh food is made two-three times a day. Children will also participate and learn Jain principles followed in the kitchen.

Arhum Youth Camp Packing List & Camp Guidelines

Jai Jinendra!

We are so excited to welcome your child for a meaningful and joyful weekend at Arhum Youth Camp. To help them have the best experience possible, please review the following guidelines:

- **Pack light:** The more compact your child’s luggage, the easier it will be for them to keep track of their belongings and stay organized during the weekend.
- **Label everything:** Please label all clothing, water bottles, and personal items with your child’s name to prevent confusion or mix-ups.
- **No air conditioning in cabins:** Our cabins are simple and comfortable, equipped with fans. With windows open at night, they stay cool and pleasant.

Below is a suggested list:

<p><i>Clothing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 modest Indian outfits for daytime activities (Kurta-Pajama, Salwar Kameez, etc.) ● 1 Pooja outfit ● 1 Festive Indian outfit (for final day program) ● 1 pair of comfortable pants or leggings (for yoga and sleeping) ● 2 modest t-shirts or long tops (for yoga/sleep) ● 1 hoodie or sweatshirt (evenings) ● 3 sets of undergarments ● 3 pairs of socks ● 1 set of long-sleeved pajamas ● 1 summer hat or cap ● 1 light rain jacket ● 1 towel for bathing <p><i>Sleeping Gear</i> - All cabins are fully furnished, so just pack whatever your kids need to feel comfortable! If they prefer, they can bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 pillowcase cover ● 1 extra-thin fleece blanket 	<p><i>Toiletries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Toothbrush ● Small toothpaste ● Small soap & shampoo/conditioner ● Hair Comb / Brush ● Sunscreen ● Insect repellent <p><i>Footwear</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 Pair of waterproof or fast-drying Sandals and 1 Pair of Running Shoes <p><i>Additional</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Water bottle (MUST have!) ● Medication (e.g., asthma puffer, EPI pen) clearly labeled with camper’s name in a zip-lock bag. Be sure to inform the camp director. ● Flashlight ● Yoga mat ● 1 plastic bag for dirty clothes ● Signed Arhum Youth Camp Required Form
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Items Not Permitted at Camp

Phones & Electronics

- Phones are permitted at camp; however, we strongly encourage limited use.

To help campers stay present and engaged:

- Phones must remain in cabins during activities.
- No phone use during temple programs, lectures, group sessions, or meals.
- Camp staff may temporarily collect phones if misuse becomes disruptive.

- We ask parents not to call during camp. Unplanned calls can interrupt activities, cause homesickness, and make it harder for campers to settle in. If there's something important, our team will contact you.
- Emergency Contact: If there's a true emergency, you can reach us on the numbers provided.
Siddhachalam Office +1 (908) 362-9793
- These numbers are strictly for emergencies, not casual check-ins.

Other devices like iPads, smartwatches, and handheld games are not permitted.

No Outside Food

- Due to allergy concerns and wildlife, outside food is not allowed. All meals and snacks will be provided.

No Valuables

- Campers should not bring money, jewelry, or expensive items. Siddhachalam is not responsible for lost or damaged property.

Dress Code

- This is a Jain ashram. Campers are expected to wear modest Indian attire during the day.
- T-shirts and pants/leggings are only allowed during yoga and sleep.

Safety Rules

- Lights out means lights out: Campers may not leave cabins at night for their safety and the ashram's peace.
- Please talk to your child about respecting the property and maintaining discipline.

Room Assignments

- Room assignments are final. No changes will be made on the day of camp.
- Requests can be made in advance, and we will try our best to accommodate them.