

# CAMP PREPARATION GUIDE

Summer Camp is almost here and we are looking forward to seeing you!! This guide will provide the pre-arrival, arrival, and departure information you need as you anticipate this exciting time. Should you have questions not found in this guide please contact us at 423.725.4010 Monday–Friday, 9:00 am-4:30pm or email registrar@doerivergorge.com. We are always happy to talk with you!

## ONE MONTH PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

### Pay any Balance Due

Your final balance is due **one month prior to your arrival date** and can be paid to your online account. If you would prefer to pay by another method, please contact our office at 423.725.4010. Failure to pay by this date could result in your space being filled by another camper.

## TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

Please visit your online account to complete the information requested below. Doing this prior to your arrival will greatly expedite your check-in process. (To access your online account, go to [www.doerivergorge.com](http://www.doerivergorge.com), click on “Log-in” at the top of the page)

### Complete/Update your Camper’s Health Forms

Please update this form to include any new or recent health concerns, activity restrictions, medications (prescription or non-prescription), or dietary needs. A physician’s visit is **not** necessary to complete this health form.

### Establish a “Doe Bucks” Account (optional)

You can establish a “Doe Bucks” account for your camper. This account allows them to make purchases at the Side Track Café (snack shop) and the Outfitters Gift Shoppe. There are several advantages to establishing this account:

- Campers do not have the inconvenience of carrying cash with them throughout the day, which could be lost or stolen.
- Parents can monitor (through your online account) each item that your child purchases.
- Additional money can be added to your child’s account at any time.
- If your child is registered for a program longer than one week, they may withdraw cash from this account for laundry, incidentals, and off-site events.
- At the end of your child’s stay the remaining balance will be refunded (within two weeks) via the method of payment used, or you may opt to donate the remaining balance to the camp scholarship fund.

### Request a Roommate (optional)

Camper may request up to three roommates. The roommates they request must be registered for the same week and program and accept the online invitation. Every effort will be made to honor accepted requests but cannot be guaranteed. Part of camp is making new friendships.

### Airport Shuttle

Tri-Cities Airport (TRI), located 45 minutes from Doe River Gorge, is serviced by American Airlines, Delta, and Allegiant. Shuttle service can be provided for \$65 per trip. This fee can be shared with up to four people arriving and departing at the same time. The Elizabethton Airport (0A9), located 15 minutes from Doe River Gorge, has a well-equipped FBO and can handle most private aircraft. Shuttle service per trip is \$20.

### Linens

For those traveling by airline who wish to reduce baggage charges, DRG can provide a linen package for \$20. This package includes a mattress pad, fitted sheet, top sheet, blanket, bath towel, hand towel, and washcloth. (If possible, please bring your own pillow as only a limited number are available.)

Please call our office at 423.725.4010 if you have any needs, requests or questions.



# ARRIVAL DAY

## ADDRESS

Our address for your GPS is 220 Doe River Gorge Rd, Hampton, TN 37658. Look for signs on US-19E as you near the DRG entrance.

## ARRIVAL TIME

Check-in time is from 3:00pm-4:30pm. The gates will not open until 2:30 so please do not arrive early or you could have a long wait while sitting in your car. Consider hanging out at a local coffee shop, etc.

## LATE ARRIVALS

If you are delayed and will be arriving after 4:30pm, please notify us ASAP at 423.725.4010 so that we can hold your spot and make arrangements for someone to greet you.

## WHAT TO EXPECT UPON ARRIVAL

**Step 1: At the gate you will receive a welcome packet which will instruct you on how to check-in and how to pick up your child at the end of their camp session. You will then proceed to the appropriate luggage drop off area, where our staff will unload your luggage and transport it to your student's lodging. Before turning the luggage over to our staff please ensure:**

- That your luggage contains no medications (prescription and non-prescription) or any prohibited items. All medications (prescription and non-prescription) must be turned in to the nurse during check-in.
- That each piece of luggage and other personal belongings has a luggage tag. Luggage tags will be provided.

**Step 2: Next, park your vehicle and proceed to the check-in tent (follow the signs). Please carry all of your prescription and non-prescription medications to the check-in tent.**

**Step 3: At the check-in tent you will:**

- Visit our photo booth.
- Meet with Registrar to update any records and pay any unpaid balances.
- Meet with medical staff. Here you will be asked a few questions regarding your child's current health condition and will turn in all medications (prescription and non-prescription).

**Step 4: Proceed to assigned lodging**

- Meet your counselor. Parents, this is a great time to speak with your camper's counselor and tell them all about your child.
- For the safety of everyone, each camper will be asked to unpack their luggage in the presence of their counselor. Any non-permitted items will be collected, given back to the parents or kept until the end of your child's stay.
- Campers are not permitted to live out of a suitcase. Your camper will have their own storage area in which to place their clothing and personal items.

**Step 5: At this point your check-in process is complete. You now have several options:**

- You may place your child under the care of their counselor.
- You may stay with your child and tour the property, take a train ride, and/or attend the parent meeting.
- The camp program officially begins at 5:30 pm and we request that all parents depart by this time. Before departing, please be sure to return your child to their counselor to ensure a safe and clear transfer of care.

## Exciting Things to Note:

- **Train Ride**—Doe River Gorge offers a complementary 35 minute train ride into the scenic and historic Doe River Gorge. You may take this train ride with or without your child.
- **Parents Meeting**—This meeting, beginning at 4:30 pm, will explain what your child will be experiencing during their time here and how Doe River Gorge can be a part of their development from the age of seven until they graduate from college.
- **Surprise Care Packages**—Parents can visit the The Outfitters Gift Shoppe and purchase gift packages which will be delivered to your child's room during their first night. Items could include blankets, water bottles, t-shirts, and many other gifts like these.



# WHILE YOUR CHILD IS AT CAMP

## How can I communicate with my camper?

- **In case of emergency:** you can reach Doe River Gorge after business hours and weekends by calling 423.725.4010 ext. 345.
- **Phone calls**— Out of consideration for other campers and planned activities, incoming phone calls are not allowed except in case of emergencies. Should campers need to contact parents, calls can be made through the camp office.
- **Emails**—You can send e-mails to your camper through the Bunk1 app. Go to [www.Bunk1.com](http://www.Bunk1.com) or Download the app in the IOS App Store or Google Play. **Log in** using the **same credentials** that you use to access your **Doe River Gorge Account**. E-mails are printed for distribution each morning **from the Bunk Notes received in the last 24 hours**. We are not able to offer facilities for your camper to send replies.
- **Mail**—If you wish to send mail to your campers, it must be mailed at least **seven** days in advance or they may not receive it. Doe River Gorge cannot be responsible to return packages that arrive after your camper's session has ended.

Address mail to:

Doe River Gorge Ministries, Inc.  
*[Insert Program Week's Name here]*  
Camper's Name  
220 Doe River Gorge Road  
Hampton, TN 37658

## Can I visit my camper while they are at camp?

- Visits are discouraged for students who are in programs lasting one week or less. For campers enrolled in programs of two weeks or longer, the most convenient time to visit your camper is on Sunday. You are welcome to attend our Sunday morning worship service followed by lunch (\$11/per person). Please call to ensure that services will be taking place during the Sunday you wish to visit and RSVP for lunch at 423.725.4010 or [drginfo@doerivergorge.com](mailto:drginfo@doerivergorge.com).

## Can my child call home if they get homesick?

- Our counselors, leadership team, and medical staff are adequately equipped to handle most homesickness situations. Should a camper experience excessive homesickness, they are permitted to call home. Campers who become homesick and leave their camp session early are not eligible for refunds. If a camper leaves for any reason, it is the responsibility of the parents to provide transportation. The camp will not be held responsible for travel expenses incurred in picking up a child.

## Can I add additional money to my camper's "Doe Bucks" account?

- Yes, visit your online account and you will be able to monitor each expense that your child incurs and add additional money into their account at any time.

## Can my camper leave early?

- Early check-out is highly discouraged due to disruption of the program and team unity. It should only be considered in extreme circumstances. Arrangements for early departure must be made before Arrival Day by contacting the camp at 423.725.4010 or [registrar@doerivergorge.com](mailto:registrar@doerivergorge.com).

## What if my child gets sick or injured?

- Doe River Gorge has medical personnel on site 24 hours a day. Should your child get sick or be injured in the course of a camp week, they will be given immediate medical care. Parents will be contacted if the sickness or injury warrants outside treatment.

## Is my child allowed to have a vehicle?

- Your camper's personal vehicle is not permitted on the premises during their stay. Parents, please make arrangements to bring and pick up your campers.



# CHECK-OUT PROCESS

## Departure Time and Closing Ceremonies

Departure times and closing ceremonies vary depending on the program in which your child is enrolled. Please refer to the chart below:

Dates	Camp Program	Departure Date	Gates Open	Closing Ceremony	Final Dismissal
June 1-6	<i>Adventure Quest 1</i>	Friday, June 6	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
June 8-13	<i>Jr. Adventure Quest 1</i>	Friday, June 13	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
June 1-13	<i>17Three 1</i>	Friday, June 13	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
June 1-20	<i>SALT 1</i>	Friday, June 20	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
June 15-20	<i>Adventure Quest 2</i>	Friday, June 20	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
June 1-27	<i>LEAD 1</i>	Friday, June 27	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
June 15-27	<i>17Three 2</i>	Friday, June 27	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
June 22-27	<i>Adventure Quest 3</i>	Friday, June 27	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
July 6-11	<i>Adventure Quest 4</i>	Friday, July 11	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
July 13-18	<i>Jr. AQ Beginner</i>	Friday, July 18	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
July 13-18	<i>Jr. Adventure Quest 2</i>	Friday, July 18	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
July 6-18	<i>17Three 3</i>	Friday, July 18	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
July 6-25	<i>SALT 2</i>	Friday, July 25	8:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am
July 20-25	<i>Adventure Quest 5</i>	Friday, July 25	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am
July 27-Aug 1	<i>Jr. Adventure Quest 3</i>	Friday, August 1	9:30 am	10:15 am	11:00 am

## Medications

Please ensure that you have your camper's medications before leaving the property.

## Luggage Pick-Up

All campers luggage will be located in a central area for your retrieval. Luggage will be grouped by the cabin and room number of your camper. Please remember to check for all of your camper's items including suitcases, duffel bags, pillows, bedding, craft items, dirty clothes bags, etc.

## Outfitters Gift Shoppe

The Outfitters Gift Shoppe will be open on departure day so that you or your camper can purchase last minute souvenirs or other items.

## "Doe Bucks" Refund

Any remaining balance in your child's "Doe Bucks" account will be refunded within two weeks, unless you chose to donate it to the Camp Scholarship Fund.

## Register for Future Programs

On departure day you may register your child for next year's summer programs and receive the lowest rate possible. Payment plans are available. You may also register for other upcoming DRG programs: *Day Quest*, Father/Son Challenge, and The Creation Conference.

## Staying Connected

Don't let the Doe River Gorge experience end! You will be receiving emails about upcoming events at Doe River Gorge, including information on *Adventure Quest* next summer, high school leadership programs, family retreats, *Day Quest*, *Exponential Gap Year Program*, the Creation Conference, *The Christmas Train*, and information to help your student grow in their walk with Christ!

