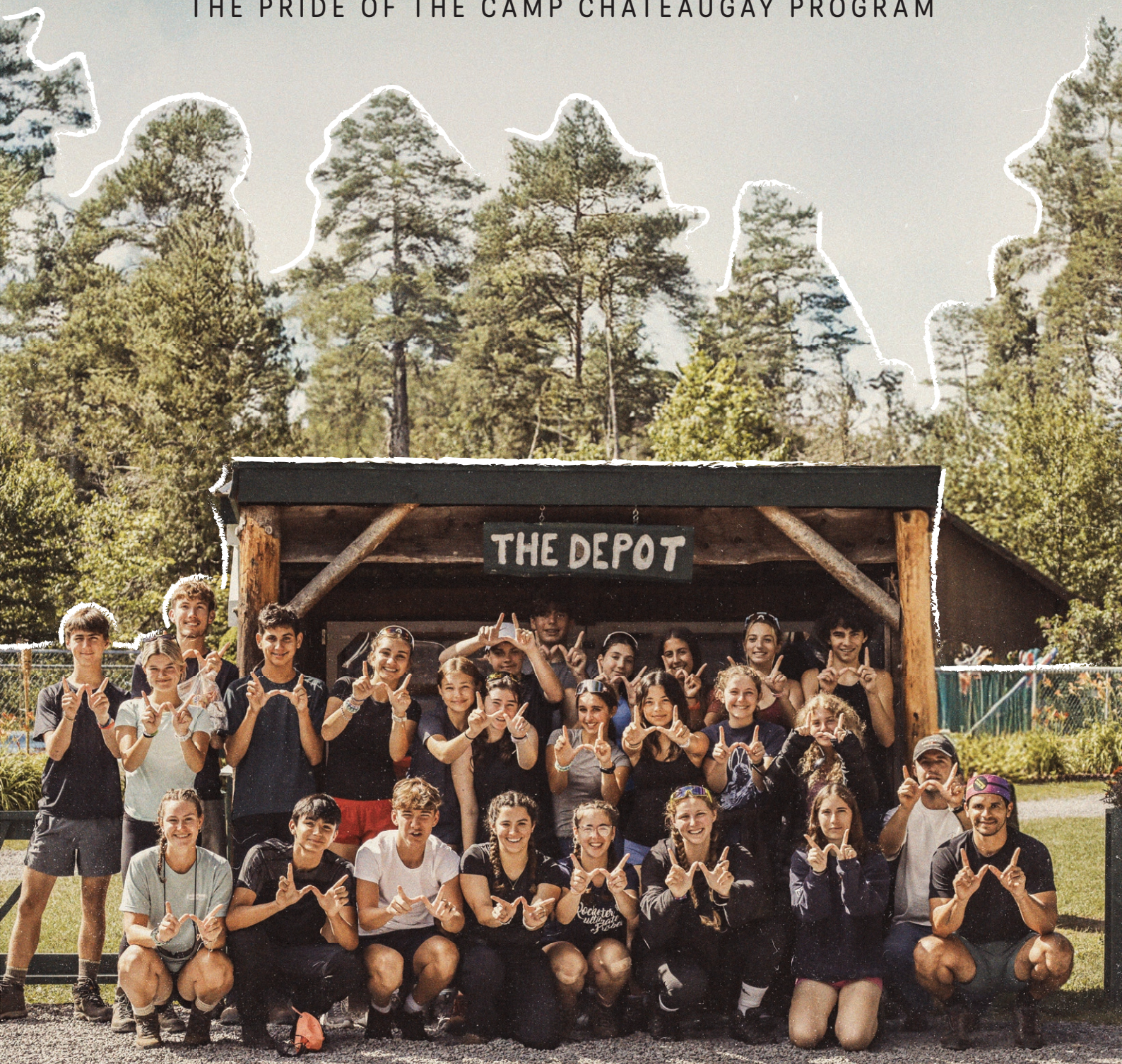




# WILDERNESS

THE PRIDE OF THE CAMP CHATEAUGAY PROGRAM



# SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

THE WILDERNESS PROGRAM BEGAN 75 YEARS AGO AS A BOLD AND INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO COEDUCATIONAL CAMPING.



## DAILY ACTIVITIES

When the campers are not out of camp on a trip, their mornings are devoted to cooking their own breakfast and lunch, unit preparation, trip planning and project completion. This might include a practice bike ride, time in the rowing shell, or even planning for a special event.

Their afternoons and evenings are spent participating in the regular camp program. They go to activities and participate with the other campers.

A few times during the summer, Wilderness campers are encouraged to take total responsibility for a few camp programs (eg. the 4th of July, Olympic Day and Gold Rush).

Bringing together up to 40 boys and girls in a setting separate from the main camp, the program invites campers to step into a true spirit of adventure. They head out on exciting trips, tackle meaningful projects, and grow into confident camper leaders. Through these shared experiences, Wilderness sparks independence, builds lasting enthusiasm, and creates a powerful sense of unity among everyone involved.

## WHAT IS THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE?

**The wilderness program consists of 6 transformational components:**

### BASIC OUTDOOR LIVING

The campers have no electricity and live in a rustic, no frills environment (either a cabin or platform tent). They learn to cook on wood burning stoves, use lanterns and make do without electricity.

### EXTENSIVE ADVENTURE TRIPS

Campers venture out on challenging, varying and exciting biking, hiking and canoeing trips ranging from the Adirondack Mountains to the lakes and streams of Maine. Each trip is a five-day trip.

### LEADERSHIP

As the oldest campers in camp, they direct many activities and serve as role models for the younger campers.

### RESPONSIBILITY

Campers play a major role in the decision-making and planning of their trips. Through this responsibility, they naturally set the tone for camp life, serving as leaders who model camp spirit, initiative, and pride, especially during special camp moments and traditions.

### GROWTH

Campers learn to work together as a community which fosters their own sense of independence and self-esteem.

### EDUCATION

Campers come home with a feeling of accomplishment and learn camp craft skills, survival skills and environmental appreciation.



# THE 3 5-DAY TRIPS

THE CAMPERS PLAN EACH TRIP WITH GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY THE COUNSELORS. DEVELOPING A TRIP PLAN IS ONE OF THE MANY REWARDING CHALLENGES THAT WILDERNESS CAMPERS ENJOY.



## CYCLING

The bicycle tour has traditionally been the first of the three trips. The trip ranges from 100 - 250 miles in 5 days. In past years, trips have toured the St. Lawrence Seaway, Southern Quebec, Lake Placid and Lake Champlain. Wilderness campers provide their own bikes and are permitted to use them throughout the entire summer.



## BACKPACKING

The backpacking trip takes place either in the High Peaks region of the Adirondack Park or in Vermont's Green Mountains. Once again, campers plan their trip including routes to hike, meals and selecting campsites. Wilderness campers are encouraged to bring a frame pack, hiking boots and sleeping gear (a sleeping bag and ground pad) suitable for the challenging conditions hiking provides.



## CANOEING

The canoe trip offers a variety of courses through Maine's rustic and beautiful lakes. The trip involves paddling 40 - 80 miles including portaging canoes between waterways. All Wilderness campers receive canoe safety instruction, testing and skills prior to their actual trip.




## THE WILDERNESS STAFF

Wilderness Staff members are trained professionals, carefully selected for their maturity and outdoor experience. They serve to guide their campers through the process of selecting, packing and accomplishing the goals set for each trip.

WILDERNESS IS THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME – WHERE WILD ADVENTURE IS THE FOUNDATION OF GROWTH, UNITY AND DEEP ACCOMPLISHMENT.

*Contact us* →

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