



Welcome to Sandy Island

We are delighted to have you join us on the island!

Each camp week has its own unique character. A camper representative (or two) will be available throughout the week as a friendly point of contact and resource for anything that comes up. They are annotated on the Camper List, and will be introduced by the Director so you can easily find them. They also will introduce themselves to you on Saturday when you arrive. Sandy Island staff are also always on hand to help you out — look for anyone with a staff shirt, or nametag. Finally, members of the office staff are on hand to answer any questions you may have. Office hours are posted at the Camp Office (the small building between the Lodge and Dining Hall).

A Few Pro Tips

- **Quarters** — Bring quarters for the coin-operated laundry machines (soap pods are also available for purchase in the Camp Store – located in the Lodge) and for the always-popular family Bingo Night and Tie Dye. A load of laundry is \$2.00
- **Bedding** — The camp provides sheets, blankets and pillowcases. But you are welcome to bring bedding if this is more comfortable. All beds are twin size.
- **Babies and Toddlers** — We have pack & plays and strollers (single and double) available for use.
- **Small Appliances** — Each cabin is equipped with one or two fans. Small appliances are not authorized in the cabins due to, risk of fire, but you can bring a C-PAP machine if required.
- **Beach Chairs** — There is no need to bring beach chairs. We have chairs / lounge chairs at the beach and waterfront.
- **Keep luggage closed** — Bags travel from dock to boat to truck to cabin, so open bags such as totes are prone to spills and mishaps. Make sure all luggage has a cabin tag securely attached.
- **Pack a carry-on bag** for the arrival boat with valuables, fragile items, and essentials such as sunscreen, your wallet, keys, a towel, and a bathing suit. Luggage delivery to cabins takes some time, and many campers head straight to the water upon arrival.
- **Bring an empty backpack or tote** for day trips to the beach.
- **Protect your belongings from rain** — Pack clothes and other non-waterproof items in plastic garbage bags inside your luggage, as bags may be left on the dock, on the boat, or on trucks and will get wet in wet weather.
- **Bring a white or light-colored cotton T-shirt** for tie-dyeing.
- **Don't forget** tennis rackets, fishing poles, and softball gloves. Worms are available for purchase in the Camp Store.
- **Pack reusable water bottles** — Filtered water bottle filling stations are available on the Lodge porch and at the sports pavilion near the tennis courts.

- **Bring a soft-sided cooler** — Great for keeping beverages cold at the cabin, and it collapses flat for easy packing when empty. Bags of ice are available for purchase in the Camp Store.
- **Condiments** — The Sandy Island dining hall menu is designed to appeal to a wide range of tastes. Campers are welcome to bring their own hot sauces, chocolate for milk, French press/coffee, etc. You can leave the items on your designated table. Please note that we are a nut-free facility, so please do not bring peanut butter.

Additional Information

The details below supplement what is already available on the Sandy Island Camper Resources page at YMCA Camps.

- An **Island Map** is available on the website and will be available in the Camp Office upon your arrival. While it is most useful once you arrive, reviewing it beforehand will help you locate your cabin, identify key buildings, and get a sense of the island's layout. Our camp office staff will be available to assist if you have questions or need assistance upon arrival.
- Wifi is available at the Camp Lodge and at tables outside the camp office. Please be respectful of your fellow campers by taking calls or meetings by the office.

Arrival — Getting to the Island

- **Sandy Island Camp** is located at **1 Northwoods Camp Rd., Mirror Lake, NH or you can put Northwoods Boys Camp, Mirror Lake, NH into your GPS.**
- Before boarding the *Big Sandy II* (the ferry from the mainland to the island), check in at the Todaro Center (big farmhouse across from the stable) on Northwoods Camp Road. Here you will review and sign required documents and pick up luggage tags. If you are catching a later boat (3 or 5 PM), check-in may be at the Sandy Island Dock.
- After checking in, follow the signs to the Sandy Island Dock. The road is unpaved and bumpy and passes through a children's camp — please drive slowly.
- The Sandy Island parking lot is on the right as you head down toward Lake Winnepesaukee.
- Continue past the lot to the loading and unloading area at the bottom of the hill to temporarily unload. Please exercise caution, as this area is often busy — full of departing campers from the previous week and newly arriving campers.
- Unload all of your luggage and place it on the dock. Note that luggage left on the hill near the parking lot belongs to the outgoing campers from the previous week — your bags should be placed **on the dock for transport to the island.**
- Once unloaded, drive back up the hill and park your car for the week.

Arrival — On the Island

- Depending on the week and the lake's water level, arrival will be at either Main Dock (in Center Camp) or North Dock (used later in summer as lake levels drop), on the North side of the island.
- Bed linens are available on the side of the Lodge - next to the Office upon arrival. Please take one fitted sheet, one flat sheet, and one pillowcase per bed. Blankets and pillows will already be in your cabin.
- Please note that campers from the previous week are not required to vacate their cabins until noon, so your cabin may not be available for move-in until that time.
- Luggage will be delivered to the porch of your cabin. If a bag is missing, please inquire at the Camp Office.
- Should you need to leave the island during the week, a boat sign-up is posted on a clip board on the Office porch. Please sign up for your departure and return boats as if there is no one signed up for a specific boat, the boat will not run. Boats typically run 4 times per day.

Weekly Schedule — Meals and Activities

- A signboard outside the Dining Hall displays the island map and the daily activity schedule.
- Saturday and Sunday meals and activities follow different schedules than weekdays — be sure to review the Sunday meal schedule and plan accordingly.
- Mealtimes are announced by bell. One bell signals the start of breakfast and lunch. Dinner is announced with three bells: a 30-minute warning, a 10-minute warning, and the final dinner bell.
- At the entrance to the Dining Hall, a posted list will show your family's assigned table number along with a seating map.
- A bulletin board on the Lodge porch is where you can sign up for weekly activities such as water skiing and sailing regattas, as well as special events like the sunset cruise and the talent show.
- Camper tournaments are a long-standing Sandy Island tradition. Bocce, tennis, ping pong, Scrabble, and cribbage are among the options. Signing up for a tournament is a wonderful way to meet fellow campers and enjoy some friendly competition. Sign-ups are posted on the Lodge porch bulletin board upon arrival on Saturday and are replaced with brackets by Monday morning.
- The Talent Show, held on Thursday evening, is a chance to share your gifts with the camp — storytelling, comedy, music, dance (a piano is available on stage), magic, and more are all welcome.
- A visiting artist hosts specialized art classes at the Craft Shop each week. Visit the Craft Shop on Sundays to register. Classes run Monday through Friday at varying times according to age group, and projects are available for all skill levels. Tie-dyeing — a perennial camper favorite — takes place on Wednesdays. Times will be posted in the Program Schedule.
- Triathlons for adults and children, along with the morning Family Water Carnival, are held on Friday.

Departure

- Confirm your selected departure boat time before Saturday. A sign-up sheet is available at the main office.
- Count your luggage bags before sending them on the luggage boat so you can verify that everything is accounted for upon arrival on the mainland.
- Place your luggage by the road in front of your cabin one hour before your departure boat.
- Please leave the cabin nicer than you found it. Clean out all trash, fold blankets, and sweep out the cabin before you depart. If there are any lights out, or damage to the cabin, please report this to the Office.