

Recess Backpacking

Kisatchie Hills Wilderness, LA

February 13-16

Trip Leaders:



\$135: Early Registration Jan 20 – Jan 26

\$150: Regular Registration Jan 27 – Feb 5

Registration closes February 5 at 12pm, or when capacity is reached.

Tuesday February 11

Mandatory Pre Trip Meeting – 6:30-8:30 PM

Bring all your clothing/gear to this meeting. We will assign group gear and teach you how to pack your backpack, and load backpacks into the trailer. You will not be taking backpacks home.

Thurs February 13

5:00AM Depart Rice

Breakfast stop on the road

10:00AM ETA Trailhead

Hit the trail!

February 14-15

On Trail

Sunday February 16

2:00 PM ETA Exit Trailhead

7:00 PM ETA Rice

Dinner stop on the road

Gear Clean up

In a state known for being flat and swampy, ROPE is taking you to the unusually hilly Kisatchie Hills wilderness of Louisiana. Winding through longleaf pines and bottomlands we will find ourselves heading towards the sandstone bluffs overlooking the Cypre & Kisatchie Bayous. A secluded area compared to other hot spots, we hope the solitude offers some excellent opportunities to see wildlife and enjoy a few peaceful sunrise and sunsets. Each day will cover around 10 miles to complete the entire 40-mile trail loop, and for an intrepid group, the option to leave trail and navigate off trail is available to increase or decrease mileage. Lay claim to being the first ROPE trip to explore this region!

Due to trip distance, a suitable level of fitness or backpacking experience is required. Contact ROPE in advance of registration if you have questions or reservations.

Registration covers transportation, meals on trail, equipment, and associated recreation fees. Participants are responsible for meals while traveling to location. Participants assist with gear clean-up to encourage gear care and reduce trip costs. Registration includes a \$75 deposit.

[Take a peek at the trail map.](#)

Gear Guide for Mixed Weather Extended Backpacking Trips

Please dress & pack appropriately for this trip. Review the guide below to support a comfortable and successful backpacking trip!

All the gear listed as provided is included in your trip registration. Rental agreements and gear issue will take place during your pre-trip meeting.

Equipment ROPE provides:

- ✓ Backpack w/ rain cover
- ✓ Sleeping Bag
- ✓ Sleeping Pad
- ✓ Bowl & Personal Utensils
- ✓ Headlamp
- ✓ Whistle
- ✓ Tents
- ✓ Cooking Equipment
- ✓ Trail Meals

Optional yet recommended

- Sunglasses (strongly recommended)
- Camera (H2O protection encouraged)
- Campshoes (lightweight; e.g. sandals)
- 1 pair of waterproof pants
- Sun hat
- Bandana(s)
- Journal & Pen
- Cards/Game
- Water reservoir (Camelbak)
 - One-liter back-up bottle required.

Necessary Personal Items:

- 1 Pair of Hiking Boots or Hiking Shoes
- 3-4 of hiking socks (synthetic or wool)
- 1 Hooded Rain Jacket (No Ponchos)
- 1 heavy fleece or down jacket
- 1-2 Long sleeve synthetic shirts (NO Cotton)
- 1-2 synthetic T-shirts (NO Cotton)
- 3-4 underwear
- 1-2 synthetic pants (NO Cotton)
- 0-1 pair of synthetic shorts
- 1 insulating long-sleeve shirt
- 1 insulating legs layer
- 1 warm hat
- Warm gloves
- Personal toiletries (Toothbrush, etc.)
- 2 Bottles for water (storage for 2 liters/64 oz)
- Small and lightweight face towel (4x4in)
- Medications (for allergies, etc.)
You must inform us if you take any medications.
- Money for meals on the road (if applicable)
- Passport & Travel Visas (Intl. Students)**

Small Bag for Travel

- 1 pair pants/shorts
- 2 shirts
- 2 underwear
- 1-2 socks
- Clean footwear
- Toiletries & Towel for shower
- Small bag (backpack or smaller)

For extended trips plan your clothing around 2 sets of clothes: 1 set for being active that will likely get wet from weather or exertion, and 1 set for camp which always remains packed and dry. A set of clothes per day is unrealistic and unmanageable, but an extra t-shirt and/or pair of socks are small and meaningful additions for many participants.

*Footwear Guidance: Appropriate footwear for backpacking is a sliding scale largely based around prior experience and terrain. The more challenging and rocky a trail is, the greater requirement for hiking shoes or boots. An established trail through the forest offers more flexibility for trail shoes. Participants with weeks of trail experience may consult with trip leaders on preferred footwear. Some restrictions may still apply including prohibitions on sandals.

It is not necessary for you to purchase a set of new expensive equipment; many items listed above you may already own as athletic or day-to-day apparel. Check with your friends for options to borrow or rent items too. Items that you choose to purchase may be available at low cost from online suppliers or local thrift store. Our primary concern is that all participants have appropriate equipment for a safe and comfortable experience.

If you are unsure whether an item or clothing you own is appropriate for this trip, please contact us prior to the trip or bring the item/clothing to the pre-trip meeting.

Please leave jewelry and other non-essentials at home.

Alcohol, tobacco, and recreational drugs will *not* be tolerated on any trips led by ROPE. If you have such items, do *not* bring them!

These requirements are for the safety and comfort of participants. ROPE reserves the right to refuse involvement in the program to anyone not properly equipped.

[Register for the Trip!](#)