Primitive Camping

Whiskeytown has six primitive campgrounds with a total of twenty sites: Peltier Bridge, Horse Camp, Brandy Creek, Sheep Camp, Crystal Creek and Coggins Park. They are all located in the forest at least one mile from the lake.

Peltier Bridge, Sheep Camp and Crystal Creek are now for **tent campers only.**

Horse Camp, Brandy Creek, and Coggins Park may accommodate any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including trailers, RVs, and RVs pulling other vehicles that do not exceed 25 feet in length.

They are considered “primitive” because they do not offer such amenities as running water or flush toilets.

Each site contains a vault toilet, picnic table, bear-proof storage locker, a fire pit with a swing-arm BBQ grill, and a pole for hanging your lantern.

Sites are issued on a first come, first served basis. Primitive camping permits are available ONLY at the Visitor Center during open hours.

Drinking water is available at the visitor center. There is a faucet on the outside of the building to the right of the men’s restroom. Water taken from the creek is not potable and must be purified before use.

Some of the sites may be closed during the winter.

Camping with horses: Special reservations may be made for groups with horses at the Horse Camp by calling (530) 242-3412. The fee will be determined based on the group size. Camping with trailers will be allowed. Bring your own tie lines – no corrals available. Potable water may be available on site.

Fees

The primitive camping fee is $15.00 per night year round. The following will be honored for a 50% discount: Golden Age and Access Passports and the Interagency Senior and Access Passes.

In addition to the campground fee, an entrance pass must be purchased for the use of the recreation area. Display the pass on the dashboard of your vehicle.

Whiskeytown is Bear Country!

All food, pet food, beverage containers, cosmetics, toiletries, cooking utensils, dishes, and other items with food odor must be stored inside your bear-proof storage locker or in your vehicle unless they are in immediate use. Never store these items in your tent.

If you store food in your vehicle, store it out of sight and odor-free. Bears can break into cars, so take care to store food carefully. Bears that get human food sometimes become aggressive and dangerous and must be killed. You can prevent this by proper food storage.

If you do not store your food properly, you may receive a $150 citation from a law enforcement ranger.

Primitive Camping Regulations

1. You must set up your campsite immediately upon purchasing your permit. If you do not occupy an assigned campsite, your permit may be canceled.

2. You must be at least 18 years old to secure a campsite and you may be asked to show proof of your birth date. All minors must be accompanied at the campsite by a person 18 years of age or older.

3. Clip the white primitive camping permit to the pole with your site number on it.

4. Check-out time is noon on the ending date. If you wish to extend your permit, you must do so before noon on the ending date. At noon, the site is available to other campers.

5. Only six people may stay in one site. Two tents may be erected per site. Any visitors to your site must leave by the 10 PM quiet time.

6. Two vehicles are allowed per site. Each vehicle must display a Whiskeytown $10 Seven Day Entrance Pass or $40 Annual Pass on the dashboard. Lassen Volcanic National Park Annuals, Golden Age or Golden Access Passports, and the Interagency Senior, Access, Annual and Military Annual Passes may be displayed in place of the Whiskeytown permits.

7. Peltier Bridge, Sheep Camp and Crystal Creek are now for **tent campers only.**

8. Horse Camp, Brandy Creek, and Coggins Park may accommodate any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including trailers, RVs, and RVs pulling other vehicles that do not exceed 25 feet in length.

9. Quiet hours are between 10 PM and 6 AM. No generators may be used during this time. Other noises, such as loud voices or music, are also prohibited after 10 PM.

10. Pets must be kept in a cage or on a leash no more than six feet in length at all times. Unattended pets are subject to impoundment and the owners may be issued a notice of violation. Dispose of pet waste in trash cans.

11. Protect our natural resources. Gather only dead and down wood for firewood. Do not put nails in trees or damage or remove vegetation.

12. Do not leave campfires unattended. Always make sure that your fire is completely extinguished before you leave your campsite or before you go to sleep for the night.

13. If you leave early, please advise the Visitor Center at (530) 246-1225 so that your site can be made available to others.

14. You may stay a total of 14 days from May 15 through September 15 or a total of 30 days during the entire calendar year.

15. If you want to change campsites, check with the Visitor Center first at (530) 246-1225 to be assured that the site has not already been assigned to another camper.

16. Portable showers are not allowed.