



Backpacking

For overnight backpacking trips at Whiskeytown, register at the Visitor Center. The camping permit for overnight backpacking in undeveloped areas is issued at no cost.

Your vehicle must display a valid park pass. \$10 seven day entrance passes or \$40 annual passes may be purchased at the Visitor Center when you obtain your backcountry camping permit.

Purify any drinking water by boiling it for 3 to 5 minutes, or by using a giardia-rated filter or iodine-based chemical filter.

Regulations

1. Camp a minimum of one mile from Whiskeytown Lake.
2. Camp at least 100 feet from any trail or stream. Camp away from fragile, untrampled vegetation.
3. Campfires are not allowed in the backcountry. Portable stoves and BBQ grills are allowed except in times of high fire danger.
4. Bury human waste 6 inches deep and at least 100 feet from water sources, camp areas, or trails.
5. Do not construct campsite "improvements," such as shelters, drainage ditches around tents, rock walls, or bough beds.
6. Pack out all trash and toilet paper. Don't bury or burn it.
7. Keep wash water, soaps, detergents, fish entrails and other waste out of streams. Even "biodegradable" soap pollutes.
8. Do not feed wildlife. Keep a clean camp and store food properly. Read the next page for important bear information.
9. Stay on trails at all times for safety and to prevent erosion. Cutting switchbacks, "shortcuts," or walking outside a wet trail cause hazardous conditions and trail destruction.

Whiskeytown is Bear Country

There are black bears in Whiskeytown, and they are clever and persistent. Take the time to set up your camp properly and keep your tent area clean. Careless camping and lazy or improper food storage often result in dead or nuisance bears.

Do Not Store Food in Tents

Store food and odorous items, including toothpaste, cosmetics, soap, and garbage, by using the counterbalance method or a bear canister. Sleep 20 to 30 feet from where you store items so you can hear the bear and scare it away as quickly as possible. Keep some rocks available to throw. Hang pots and pans from counterbalanced foods as an alarm.

Black bears are basically timid. If a bear approaches your camp, act immediately to scare it away. Yell and make as much noise as you can. Throw rocks toward the bear. Make more noise. You may need to do this more than once, but the more vigorously and longer you do it the first time, the less likely the need to repeat.

Always maintain a safe distance. Do not advance on a bear which appears to feel threatened or cornered by you. Do not attempt to retrieve food or gear from a bear until the items are abandoned. If a bear attacks, fall to the ground in a fetal position and play dead. Protect your neck and head with your hands.

Help Save a Bear's Life

Bears that get human food may become aggressive and dangerous and must be killed. You can prevent this by proper food and garbage storage.

Keep all wildlife healthy and wild by not feeding them or allowing them to get into your food or trash.

Please report all bear incidents at the Visitor Center.

Important Phone Numbers

Call the Visitor Center at (530) 246-1225 for more information.

Dial 911 in case of emergency. A pay phone is located at the Visitor Center.