High Adventure on a Budget
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• Conversations of high adventure trips usually center on the B.S.A’s popular and heavily promoted big three – Philmont, Seabase and Northern Tier and more recently The Summit, Council high adventure programs usually focus on putting crews together for trips to these four destinations but there are hundreds (if not thousands) of other places for Scouts to experience a high adventure trip. With a little ingenuity, planning and vision every Scout can participate in a high adventure trip.

• I want to challenge you to stretch your understanding of the High Adventure idea, to go beyond your comfort zone and make it happen for your Scouts.
High Adventure on a Budget

• **MYTH**
  High Adventure trips must happen at a high adventure base or as part of an ‘official’ program

• **FACT**
  High adventure can happen anywhere! State and National Parks offer great places for hiking, backpacking, climbing, canoeing, and kayaking. You don’t have to travel far or go to exotic locations; that’s another myth –

• **MYTH**
  High Adventure only happens in distant, exotic places.

• **FACT**
  High Adventure is not a place, it’s a state of mind, a challenge beyond our normal weekend camping trips. High Adventure is about who you go with and what you do, not where you go! Philmont may be a great location but it’s not high adventure without the right mindset and the right participants. Four or five days backpacking hours rather than days from home can be as exciting, adventurous and rewarding. The most important location for high adventure is between your ears!
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• **MYTH**
  To lead a High Adventure Trip I have to become a highly trained expert.

• **FACT**
  You do not have to be an expert to lead a High Adventure Trip but you’ll need some important training (Weather, Safety, First Aid, etc.). You’ll also need plan your trip to be slightly below your estimated skill level. High Adventure does not need to be dangerous to be challenging. Rely on the experience of others to educate yourself- talk to them, read their books, practice your skills.

• **MYTH**
  High Adventure trips are dangerous and risky.

• **FACT**
  The most dangerous part of your trip (statistically at least) will be driving to the location you choose. Risk must be carefully assessed and proper steps taken to assure everyone’s safety.
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• MYTH
High Adventure trips require expensive equipment.

• FACT
Some trips (like canoeing or kayaking) do require expensive equipment but this equipment is commonly offered for rent in the locations they are likely to be used. Backpacking is a great low-cost option. Equipment manufacturers have done a good job of equating comfort and safety with expense but this is only partially true. A little research will reveal viable, inexpensive alternatives to high-priced gear.

• MYTH
High Adventure is expensive.

• FACT
Stay closer to home, plan a challenging but attainable outing, make reasonable choices about gear and you can have a great High Adventure trip. You may find that a trip like this could be the catalyst that motivates your Scouts to work towards planning and financing more ambitious trips next year.
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• High Adventure is a great program builder and a fantastic opportunity for your Scouts! Don’t let these common misconceptions make you reluctant to give it a go.

• High Adventure" doesn't require paying someone to plan, organize and guide. If the scouts (patrols or crews) have been doing scouting adventure by planning and organizing, then doing so for the next level of high adventure is the next logical step. It saddens me that scouting has moved from scouts making their own gear, finding places to camp, and organizing their own adventures to needing to raise money to pay for expensive hi-tech stuff, and extra gadgets and paying for expensive camps and guides. Sad when an eagle scout doesn't know how to plan and organize a basic camping trip without paying someone to do it for them. A Scout is thrifty.
High Adventure

• Alaska Ultimate High Adventure
  • http://scoutingalaska...high-adventure/

• North Idaho High Adventure -
  • http://www.nwscouts....e-program/23243

• Maine High Adventure -
  • http://mainehighadventure.org/
GET READY FOR BSA HIGH ADVENTURE!

LENNOX'SIN TRAIL 
GoSHEN SCOUT RESERVATION VIRGINIA

Lennox is NCAC’s ideal place to begin high adventure, with 50 miles of backpacking, excellent gear, clothing, saving, or kayaking. Experience history with mountain men and homesteaders, some time with Lennox in "Pilgrim with Bears" and certainly and great place to start high adventure.

ADIRONDACKS 
UPSTATE NEW YORK

Hike and canoe in 6,000,000 acres in the Adirondacks Adventure Area. Paddle the scenic rivers and lakes, then hike on backpacks in the picturesque mountains. This is a wonderful week-long trip that won't break the budget. Another great place for younger Scouts to start high adventure.

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH
ROCKY MOUNTAINS, NEW MEXICO

The most famous High Adventure location, Philmont presents the ultimate backpacking challenge. Crews travel from 30 to 70 miles depending on their skills and interests, with land elevations from 6,500 to 12,400 feet above sea level. Philmont is recommended for older, more capable Scouts willing to accept the mental and physical challenges of backpacking at altitude. Considered by many to be the mountaineering experience of a lifetime.

SUMMIT
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS, WEST VIRGINIA

Summit will challenge the hardiest Scouts and Venturers with world-class ski bases, canoe tours, climbing, canoe parks, BMX tracks, mountain bike trails, shooting ranges, kayaking, whitewater rafting, and more. Crew size depends on the available space in an area of the Base. This program requires some experience and equipment needed for your trip. Summit offers direct registration for unit and provisional crews and as individuals.

MATAGAEMON 
NORTHERN MAINE

Wet, wild, and wonderful, Matagamon offers canoe trips into Maine’s remote Allagash Waterway, down rivers full of whitewater opportunities (winter permitting). Hike up Mount Katahdin, the northernmost point of the Appalachian Trail. Considered "best bang for the buck" in canoeing because of driving accessibility and low whitewater opportunities.

NORTHERN TIER
NE MINNESOTA, NW ONTARIO, SE MANITOBA

Northerners, so many of them! The Northern Tier, NCAC’s moniker, is the ultimate wilderness experience. Over 6,000,000 acres of the premier canoe wilderness in North America. Yoko © starts in Ely, Minn., Atikokan, ON, or Russell (MB). Considered by many to be the ultimate wilderness challenge in BSA High Adventure. Recommended for older, more capable Scouts willing to accept the mental and physical challenges of putting in pristine canoe country!

OKPIK WINTER CAMPING 
NORTHEAST MINNESOTA

Okpik is a winter event in which Scouts will test their camping skills in a true winter wilderness. Crews travel by ski, snowshoe, dog sled, or foot into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness for at least two nights. Learning how to travel efficiently and effectively in the difficult Minnesota winter. Crews travel between 5 and 15 miles on their trek through a remote winter wilderness. Cold weather clothes and gear provided. $150 cost.

FLORIDA SEA BASE 
FLORIDA KEYS

One of the most popular adventures, Florida Sea Base offers an ocean island adventure, coastal sailing, SCUBA, a Sea Exploring adventure, and a Bahamian adventure. The swimming, sailing, snorkeling, fishing, and SCUBA diving offer completely different challenges from the other high adventure opportunities.

THESE ARE THE TRIPS OF A LIFETIME, SO START PLANNING EARLY!

See NCAC High Adventure Web Site For Contact Info
Boundary Water Outfitters

Donahue Franklin
http://www.vnorth.com/ this is who our troop and family has used since 1986.

Boundary Waters BWCA Canoe Outfitters Ely MN
vnorth.com
Voyageur North Outfitters specializes in Boundary Waters (BWCA... 4 hours ago · Like · Reply

Mike Griepentrog
We used Voyageur Canoe Outfitters, 2015, in Grand Maria's, MN. Great staff and very accommodating. Website is http://canoeit.com

Voyageur Canoe Outfitters - Home
canoeit.com
Gunfint Trail canoe outfitters outfitting all entry points into the B...