

Camp Herrlich

Summer Sleepaway Camp Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. What's your camper to counselor ratio?
- A. We follow the American Camping Association and the New York State Department of Health regulations for our summer camp. Our ratio for Sleepaway Camp is 8 - 10 campers per counselor. Campers are grouped by age and gender.
- Q. What kind of food do you serve?
- A. We serve three tasty, healthy, and balanced meals a day. Breakfast can be anything from eggs to pancakes and waffles to bagels and cereal. Lunch is very kid-friendly food like chicken fingers, pizza, tacos, macaroni and cheese, etc. Dinner is always served with a protein, (chicken, roast beef, turkey,) a starch, (rolls, mashed potatoes, rice,) and a vegetable. We offer a salad bar at lunch and dinner and juice and water are served with every meal. We eat family style at camp with an emphasis on sharing both the food and our lives with each other.
- Q. What's a typical day like?
- A. Each day is packed with fun activities at Camp Herrlich! Each cabin follows a schedule filled with one-hour time blocks. Because we are a traditional summer camp, those activities will include things like nature, hiking, high ropes, free swim, boating, fishing, sports, arts and crafts, and of course meal times. There are also special guests and theme days each week. We wake up at 7:30, breakfast at 8, and we're moving through our activities until bedtime at 9:00pm for the younger campers and 9:30pm for the older campers.
- Q. Where do you get your staff from? Who are they and how are they trained?
- A. Our staff comes from all over the place! Many Sleepaway Camp staff members have come up through the ranks, first being campers, then Counselors in Training (at 16 years old), then Junior Counselors (at 17 years old), then Senior Counselors (at 18 years old and up). We also get staff members from college job fairs and word of mouth. Every summer, in addition to the American staff, we hire about 20 staff members from all around the world. They come to us through registered, reputable staffing agencies from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, Czech Republic, Colombia, Belarus, and many other places. The diverse mix of staff is fantastic for children!
- We provide a full week long orientation for our staff. Topics covered include things like communication, conflict resolution, discipline and behavior issues, getting to know the 156 acres of Camp Herrlich, sports, games, and creative activities, Herrlich History, basic first aid, and much more.
- All summer staff have the required background checks performed as dictated by our licensing agencies. This can include the state sex offender registry, the state and local criminal courts, and all international staff members have a mandatory criminal background check before arrival.

- Q. How does the swimming work?
- A. Each cabin has free swim on their schedule for 1 hour per day. At the beginning of each session campers are swim tested to one of the depth levels in the lake. The rules and regulations of the beach are clearly communicated to the campers on the very first day they go swimming. There also may be Swim Fun or Swim Lessons depending on the availability of the beach and the lifeguards. All our lifeguards and our Water Safety Instructor have been certified by the American Red Cross. Many of them have worked our beach before. We strongly encourage children to swim, especially during the hot days!
- Q. Do you provide transportation?
- A. We do provide transportation for Sleepaway Campers! Our bus picks campers up from stops in the following boroughs – Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens. Please see the Transportation Schedule for more detailed information on times. You are also free to bring your child to and from camp yourself.
- Q. What happens if my child gets hurt or sick?
- A. We have an RN on staff during the Summer and a Health Director who is also an EMT. We are 10 minutes from the local hospital in case of an emergency and we have local health professionals on call as well if we have need of them during the summer. We also have more than 10 staff members trained in American Red Cross First Aid and CPR and 3 staff members trained in Responding to Emergencies. We are very communicative with parents so if your child is hurt or sick, you will be contacted by the medical staff member on duty.
- Q. What if my child has to be sent home?
- A. Children are sent home from camp for behavior or health issues. If you receive a phone call stating that your child needs to go home for any reason, you are responsible for transporting your child as soon as possible. Camp Herrlich is also only 10 minutes from the Metro-North Harlem line and we generally are happy to help you arrange transportation from the train station to the camp and back.
- Q. Can I come for a tour of camp?
- A. Yes! You can call or e-mail Jessica Vanacoro any time to schedule a tour at your own convenience. The camp number is 845-878-6662. We are also having an open house on May 31st. Look for more information to come home in the mail and on our website, www.campherrlich.org
- Q. How much does camp cost and how does payment work?
- A. One two-week session of Sleepaway Camp costs \$550. Upon registration, a \$200 deposit is due and the balance is due by June 1st. There is scholarship available! Please ask for a scholarship form if you feel you qualify for financial assistance.