

FAQs – CubaCamp Dos Rios 2017

What should I bring?

- * Clothes appropriate for weather (shorts, jeans, tank tops, skirts, jacket/sweatshirt, sandals, tennis shoes etc). In August it is typically hot (high 90s) during the day and colder at night (mid 50s).
- * Tent
- * Sleeping bag, pillow, matt
- * Flashlight/head lamp
- * Toiletries
- * Water bottle
- * Sunscreen
- * Bug repellent
- * Organic, biodegradable soap and shampoo (such as Dr. Bronner's)
- * Dance clothes (shorts and/or yoga/sweat pants; tank top; long flow-y Caribbean skirt)
- * Swimsuit and towel, floatation devices ☺ that can be easily carried
- * Snacks that do not need refrigeration (nuts, sports bars etc)
- * River/shower shoes (although it is possible to do without)
- * Band-aids for dancing feet, aspirin, tampons/pads, other personal items etc.
- * A conga drum and/or bata if you plan on taking drumming classes
- * A day bag (You may want to go all day without returning to your tent. Classes are about a 5-10 minute walk away from the tents, and the river is about a 5-10 minute walk away from the classes.)
- * Battery operated alarm clock
- * Extra drinking water

Please bring enough clothing for the 4 sweaty days. There is no laundry on the property.

What shouldn't I bring?

- * Your grandmother's jewels - we cannot be responsible for lost or stolen property.
- * The fire danger is HIGH. This means no open flame. No incense, candles, stove tops etc.
- * No dogs.
- * Due to odor sensitivities, please refrain from using oils, perfumes or cologne while at camp.

What are the accommodations like?

Located between the towns of Covelo and Laytonville in Mendocino County, our ranch in Dos Rios is nestled in the enchanted hills of Northern California. The Eel River weaves through the property, which is filled with old oak trees.

Students will be camping on the property and need to bring their own tent and sleeping bag.

Dance classes are held in the outdoor barn and the outdoor stage. Both are in shade and are kind to one's bare feet and knees.

There is swimming in the Eel River, which is about a 10-minute walk away from the main house. This is also a great way to rinse off after a long day of dancing. *Please note that part of the walk to the river includes a fairly steep embankment. (It is possible to drive to a different swimming hole also on the Eel.)*

Please remember that this is a camping experience. Students will mainly be using the outdoor toilets and camping showers. Camping showers consist of a private, enclosed tent and water pouch with dispenser tube. We ask that students limit the number of showers they take during their stay. **Please bring an organic, biodegradable soap**, such as Dr Bronner's.

There is a main house. We try to keep the main house quiet and with limited student access so that there is a place for the teachers to rest and plan classes and for the cooks to safely prepare food.

Walking does happen. The main house and the area for camping are separated by a gravel driveway that is up a hill (about a 5-minute walk).

What if I don't have a tent?

There are several places that rent out tents and other camping gear.

In the Bay Area, we recommend: Outback Adventure, REI, Sports Basement, Lombardi Sports, Any Mountain, to name a few.

What about car camping?

Car camping / sleeping in one's car is not possible as there are two different, distinct areas for parking cars and setting up tents.

Please note that not all cars will make it down the driveway to the camping area, as it is not paved. Those that do not have 4-wheel drive will be parked at the entrance to the property. Accessing these cars during camp, while not impossible, will be slightly inconvenient. We will shuttle people/gear down to the camping area if you are parking your car at the entrance to the property.

Do I have to sleep on-site?

Although we recommend sleeping on the property to take advantage of the entire camp experience, it is not required. There are several hotels in Willits (about 40 minutes away). Although close by, we do not recommend for non-locals to stay in Covelo or Laytonville, as the roads to get to these towns are windy, not frequently traveled, and there is no cell phone service. There are a few Airbnbs in the area.

Can I still eat on-site even if I sleep off-site?

If you want to eat with us even though you will be sleeping elsewhere, please check the sleep & eat on-site camping option on your registration form.

Is there Internet access or a phone on the property?

Please note that there is no Internet or cell phone service on the property. There is a landline in the house that is available for emergencies (phone number is 707-983-6977). While it is possible to head into Laytonville (13 mi away) to use a computer, we encourage students to take advantage of these three days to disconnect from the daily grind, immerse oneself in the fabulous dance, music, and culture that will surround them and enjoy the serenity of the Eel River.

How can my family contact me if there is an emergency?

There is a landline in the house that is available for emergencies. The phone number is 707-983-6977.

How do I get there?

The site is located at 10501 Dos Rios Road, Dos Rios Ca. Please note that the Dos Rios Road is sometimes also referred to as the Laytonville-Dos Rios Road.

BY CAR –

PLEASE PRINT out the “Driving Directions” that are also on the website as your GPS will NOT work. Those are more detailed. The directions below are just to give you a general idea.

From the Bay Area

Take 101 North

Turn right onto CA-162 East (if you get to Laytonville, you have gone too far)

Turn left onto the Dos Rios Road (This left comes right after you cross a bridge, you will see a retaining wall on the left)

Take the low road to stay on Dos Rios Road

Destination will be on your left

From Humboldt County

Take 101 South

Turn left onto CA-162 East (if you get to Willits, you have gone too far)

Turn left onto the Dos Rios Road (This left comes right after you cross a bridge, you will see a retaining wall on the left)

Take the low road to stay on Dos Rios Road

Destination will be on your left

BY BUS:

Both Greyhound and Amtrak have a stop in Willits (this is the closest stop to our property in Dos Rios). The Mendocino Transit Authority also has a stop in Willits. We will be making one pick-up in Willits from the Greyhound bus stop when the bus arrives from the Bay Area at 6:55pm. We will be doing one drop-off at 1 pm on Monday. Please let us know **by August 15th** via email (stella@dancemission.com) if you will be taking the bus and need to be picked up from the bus stop. If you are taking another route, email us to set up a pick up time.

CARPOOL:

We recommend that people carpool as parking is limited. Please email us at dancemissiontheater@yahoo.com if you need a ride and or can offer one. Please include how many seats you need/have and where you are coming from. We will be setting up an online Bulletin Board so that campers can communicate with one another and find rides easily.

There are also carpooling sites: see carpoolworld.com for more.

When should I arrive?

Check-in is Friday between 12-8pm and check out is Monday, 12pm. If you have to arrive outside of these windows, please be sure to email us beforehand (stella@dancemission.com). Please note that it is not possible to arrive after nightfall. If you are detained and have to arrive after 8pm, you must stay in Willits or Laytonville and join us Saturday morning between 9-12pm.

Do I have to take every class? What if I need to leave early or arrive late?

You are able to take as many or as few classes as you wish. Feel free to make your own schedule. Please note that the cost of camp is fixed and that there is no price differentiation based on attendance. Students can enjoy the river, taking long walks, reading/writing, and/or resting (!) when not in class.

Can I bring my dog?

Please leave pets at home.

Can I bring my kids? My partner?

Please note that camp is for adults. However we do know that sometimes it is hard to find a babysitter. Kids under the age of 13 who are not taking class may come to Dos Rios for an additional \$150. Please note that CubaCamp does not provide childcare.

If an entire family would like to attend camp, adults who are not dancing may be on site for an additional \$200. This includes meals, use of showers, river access, evening parties etc. Adults who pay \$200 will not be able to take any classes.

Do you have any Work Exchange opportunities?

We do have Work Exchange opportunities. Students will work approximately 10 hours over the course of the weekend in exchange for discounted tuition. Work Exchange shifts will include helping with the cooking and the clean up. They may also include helping check-in, and making food pickups. Please email stella@dancemission.com if you are interested in learning more. Work exchange participants need to arrive early for orientation and leave late on Monday.

I have never danced before. Can I attend camp?

Most of the classes will be appropriate for all levels. Both the novice and the experienced dancer and drummer are encouraged to attend.