

# Camp Menominee

## Out of State Travel Guide and Policies 2021

### **What will be required before the boys travel?**

Every camper traveling will need to take a PCR test and show camp a negative result before getting on the plane. We ask that this test be performed as close to travel day as possible. We will advise you on the best way to do this in the coming weeks. For vaccinated

### **What will travel day look like?**

All campers must fly in a **day before camp starts**, however, we are coordinating all transportation this year through **Chicago**. The plan is for everyone to spend the night in the Chicagoland area, then travel to camp on the buses on the first day of camp with all the boys from the Midwest.

### **This is different from prior year policies. Why the change?**

1. We plan on beginning our small groups/pods at the point of pickup and have each pod travel on a separate bus. Coordinating from one central location is the best way for us to do this successfully.
2. Travel to camp this year will require more staff at the bus and more of a coordinated effort on our end. Running everything out of one location will limit how many staff need to leave our camp bubble and will ensure travel day is organized in the most efficient way possible.
3. Camp will coordinate a Saliva PCR COVID test for all of our campers in the Chicagoland area on June 16<sup>th</sup> (Father/Son), June 20<sup>th</sup> (Session I, Full Season, Rookie I), July 17 (Rookie II, Session II).

**What is Camp Recommending?** Below we will lay out our recommendations on how to travel to Chicago. These will be in order of our preference for travel day to go as smooth as possible:

1. Fly in to Chicago with your son on the day before camp starts. Stay local for one night at a hotel (or with family), then bring your camper to the bus on travel day.
2. Have your son travel with another family from the area the day before camp starts. Stay local for one night at a hotel with that family and have them bring campers to the bus on travel day.
3. If neither of those options are possible, your son can fly in to Chicago the day before camp starts. Our staff will pick him up at the airport and we will make accommodations for him (fully supervised) at a local hotel, camp family's house, Jason's house or with a cabin mate. We will then get him to the bus the next morning. **Please note if you choose this option you MUST ship your campers bags to camp ahead of time. We cannot accommodate space for luggage and camper transportation that day.**

# Camp Menominee

## Summary of the Overall Travel Basics:

Fly TO Chicago one day prior to the start of your session → Visit our testing site in Chicago that day for your camper to take a Saliva PCR test → stay local (i.e., hotel, with family or Airbnb) that evening → meet us at the bus the next morning to travel to camp.

## What Flights/Times Should I Book?

1. TO CAMP: We recommend you fly into Chicago O'Hare Airport (ORD) as it is closest airport to the testing site and bus. We are not recommending a specific flight this year as there are many options flying to O'Hare. **However, we ask that you book the earliest flight in possible so you can get to our testing site at a reasonable time.** If you have questions about if a time is too late, please reach out.
2. Flights HOME are on the **last day of the session** (July 2-Rookie I, July 16-Session I, July 31-Session II, August 12-Full Season). For Arizona campers, we are recommending a specific flight for the way home. It will be a Southwest flight from O'Hare departing at 5:15pm (flight #508 ORD→PHX). If you would like to book another airline or your son is flying to another location, please book all flights home **after 5pm** from O'Hare on the last day of the session.

**\*\*If your son will be flying to Chicago alone, please note the following:**

1. If your son tests positive for COVID-19 as a part of our gateway testing the day before travel he will NOT be able to get on the bus. As such, you will need to coordinate a way for you to pick him up and be with him in Chicago. We will not be able to stay with him overnight and care for him that evening. Our staff will need to be with our boys traveling to camp. It's important you understand this as you choose your travel options.
2. Please reach out to us ASAP and we will discuss the best flights/times to book.\*\*

## Where Will the Testing Site and Buses Be (aka where should I stay in Chicago)?

1. The buses will leave in the morning (around 8:30) am from Staples in Highland Park, IL (1931 Skokie Valley Rd, Highland Park, IL 60035), so when you are booking hotel accommodations for the evening, we recommend staying close to avoid any traffic issues or delays on the first day of camp. Hotels in surrounding suburbs like Highland Park, Deerfield, Northbrook, Glenview, Glencoe, Lake Forest, Buffalo Grove are all fine. **We do NOT recommend staying in downtown Chicago as there could be heavy traffic making it to the bus for the early departure the next morning.**
2. On the day you fly in, you will also be required to visit our COVID-19 testing site which will be located near the bus location above (exact location TBD). Your son will take a PCR saliva test and we will receive the results in under 24 hours.
3. On the day you fly to Chicago, there will be no camp events other than the PCR test. You can safely enjoy your evening and then meet us the next morning at the bus.

# Camp Menominee

**If my son is fully vaccinated, does he still need to get tested in Chicago?** Yes. Fully vaccinated campers will still need to go through our gateway testing protocol before coming to camp. The CDC maintains that there is still a risk (all be it small) of breakthrough cases in which a vaccinated person contracts the virus. As such, we will take these precautions to better protect our community.

## **Airport Procedures:**

1. On the way TO camp upon arrival, please have the parents wait for luggage and ask the boys to wait outside. We do not want them waiting at baggage claim for too long, especially if they are not vaccinated.
2. On the way home, we will have staff bring the boys to the airport. Those staff members will go into the airport with the boys, get their bags checked and get a gate pass. They will go through security with the campers and stay at the gate with them until their flight takes off. We will update you every step of the way via email.
3. We are tech free but we would recommend that the campers travel with their phones. We will hold on to their phones during camp and make sure they are charged before travel home.
4. **Campers 11 and Under** – southwest will usually require you to fly Unaccompanied Minor and charge you \$50 each way, however, if you link your ticket with a camper 12 and older you can avoid these fees. You do this by entering the older camper's travel information at checkout. As our campers start to book flights, we will pass along older camper's flight information so you can use it to avoid the UM fees. Please email us and we can give you more information.

Finally, please forward your travel itinerary to us at [info@campmenominee.com](mailto:info@campmenominee.com) when you book. All other questions should be answered in the FAQs attached, but if you need anything please email anytime.

We'll reach out again in a couple weeks with very detailed travel information. Thanks so much!

For the Love of Camp - the CM Office