

2021 Life at Camp

Camp Sabra has been around for 52 years. While summer 2021 will be different in some ways, it will be the same in all the important ways.

Campers and staff **will** make friendships and connections that will last a lifetime.
Campers and staff **will** live in a small, personal, joyous Jewish community.
Campers and staff **will** develop independence, resilience, and relational skills.
Campers and staff **will** spend most of their time connecting with the outdoors.
Campers and staff **will** swim and sail and climb (and more!) and sleep under the stars. And eat s'mores.

Our campers and staff this year will have an extraordinary experience. We offer a world of friends and role models and play that will contrast sharply with the last year of their lives. Once we are all safely out of the bubble phase*, we will take off our masks and hug and cheer and sing and celebrate.

What will cabin life look like?

Cabin groups will live, sleep and eat together. They will clean up their cabins, shower and perform end-of-the-day rituals together. They may enjoy an evening campfire with s'mores or hang out at Hammock Village. During the bubble phase, there will be times when campers will not need to wear masks, like in their cabin or when sleeping. There will be times that you might see your camper in photos with their mask on – that means they are traveling from place to place or might be near another bubble. There will be more cleaning this summer - in the bubble and out! We have increased the number of (and use of) handwashing stations and sanitizing gel distribution.

What will activity area time look like?

Most of the time, there will be only one cabin at a particular activity, and, once the cabin is situated and the activity begins (whether canoeing, tubing or tie-dying), masks can come off! We have also added some exciting new activities like pickleball, a second stand-up paddleboard area and more! After the bubble phase, there may be additional cabins at activities to add to the fun!

What will meals look like?

During the bubble phase, we will be eating in three places at camp – the Dining Hall (where we always eat), the Rec Hall (downstairs from the Dining Hall) and Beren Pavilion (our covered sports pavilion). Units (age groups) will be in the same area, tables will be distanced, and everything will be served family style, including sunflower nut butter and salad. We will not be singing or cheering at the tables, but we will be finding places to do that outdoors! After the bubble phase, we will all be back in our super noisy, joyous Dining Hall, full of songs and unit cheers.

What will evening activities look like?

Units will be together every night for some wacky activity that our fabulous staff has created. During the bubble phase, masks/outdoor/distance will be the norm, but we can still get super loud and crazy. After the bubble, evening activities will still be silly, loud and crazy, but without the masks and distance.

What will staff life look like?

Our amazing staff is signing on for the entire summer at camp. They will not leave our peninsula until they leave for the summer, so we will load them up with snacks and activities during their time off. Staff will undergo two weeks of quarantine before our campers arrive. Once campers are at camp, staff will be part of their cabin's bubble.

How will we have Shabbat?

Our first Shabbat will be unlike any other at camp. Each unit (age group) will have a unique service, created just for them. Instead of gathering in one spot, campers and staff will be all over camp, making the connection with their joyous Judaism all over the peninsula. We will still sing and create poems and find shalom on Shabbat. Once we are out of phase one, we will be able to have Shabbat together as one family again.

How will the Health Center operate this summer?

Our Health Center Manager will live at camp all summer. She will oversee our medical staff, COVID-related testing, medication distribution, sick calls and more. We will have medical staff at camp and will also use Tele-Health Doctors during some weeks. During the bubble phase, medications will be distributed in the villages (outdoors) and sick call will be on the Health Center porch. Our Health Center staff will utilize additional PPE and COVID-related protocols while we are in the bubble phase.

How will things look to the parents at home?

You will still be writing back and forth via snail mail or the CampInTouch email system. We will post photos on Facebook and in CampInTouch, but during our bubble phase, there will be a minimal amount while we instead concentrate on all the protocol behavior we need to maintain to move our summer along safely. Most photos will be of cabin groups (initial bubble groups). Some of the photos may have campers and staff in masks. Once we are out of the bubble phase, you will see more photos with faces and with cabin groups all mixed up.

Anything Else?

Yes. One last thing. We know this summer will be different. We are working hard to make sure different is better for your campers. Our mission, and our work every day, is to make each day as joyous as possible and to create myriad opportunities for growth, ensuring that our Jewish future is secured by resilient, confident and happy Sabra alumni.

**Bubble phase refers to the initial days of camp (8-14 days) when we will be masked, outdoors and appropriately distant from people who are not in our bubble.*

