



ELK CREEK RANCH

2017 APPLICATION

To apply to Elk Creek Ranch, detach the application and complete the applicable portions of the form, indicate your session and optional activity preferences, attach the deposit, and mail to Elk Creek Ranch, PO Box 1476, Cody, WY 82414. Keep the Fact Sheet and Equipment List for your future reference.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Male Female

School and Grade Completed in June: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: _____ Parents' Cell: _____ Child's Cell: _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Parents' Email: _____ Child's Email: _____

From whom or how did you learn about Elk Creek Ranch?

Friends Family Website Facebook Google Other: _____

Previous Riding Experience:

Western English

Please be specific regarding your previous riding experience:

Never Ridden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Novice Rider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Average Rider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Advanced Rider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Name of Company Carrying Health and Accident Insurance: Please attach a copy of your insurance card

_____ Policy/Certificate #: _____

RANCH SESSIONS:

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: *(see fact sheet)*

	Tuition	Preference		Tuition	Preference
June 20 th to July 17 th	\$5,200	<input type="checkbox"/>	June 17 th to July 18 th	\$5,050	<input type="checkbox"/>
July 18 th to August 14 th	\$5,200	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 17 th to August 14 th	\$5,050	<input type="checkbox"/>
June 20 th to August 14 th	\$8,800	<input type="checkbox"/>	June 17 th to August 14 th	\$8,500	<input type="checkbox"/>

OPTIONAL RANCH ACTIVITIES:

	Cost	Select
Yellowstone-Teton Caravan	\$300	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing	license required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backpacking	no additional cost	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenge Backpack: July 20 th to July 27 th	\$1,600	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The Ranch tuition includes the Wyoming State Sales Tax and travel to and from Billings and Cody.

Deposit: In order to reserve your spot, we must receive a completed application and a deposit of \$1,000. The deposit is refundable if you notify us of a change in plans before March 1st. For applications received after March 1st, the deposit is not refundable.

Discounts: A 10% discount is available for applications received before January 1st, and a 10% discount is also available for the second and third children from a single family during the same summer. Only one discount can be applied per Rancher.

Tuition Refund: The tuition balance is due by June 1st. No refunds can be made for cancellations after that date.

Canteen Account: We ask for a \$125 deposit in our ranch store to cover miscellaneous expenses such as laundry, spending money for trips, and other personal purchases. Any unused funds will be returned to the parents at the end of the summer. If the account has been overdrawn, the Ranch will bill the parents.

AGREEMENT:

Elk Creek Ranch is aware of the safety challenges involved in the Ranch programs. Although we stress “safety first” as part of the best western tradition, we cannot assume responsibility for accident or illness, both of which can occur under the most vigilant supervision. It is required that you accurately complete and sign the Elk Creek Ranch medical form and medical release permitting hospital care. This information and authorization will allow us to respond to medical emergencies in the most effective manner possible.

In signing this application, you acknowledge that the use, handling, and riding of a horse involves a risk of physical injury to any individual undertaking such activities. You understand that a horse, irrespective of its training and usual past behavior and characteristics, may act or react unpredictably at times, based upon instinct or fright, which is an inherent risk assumed by a horseback rider.

In signing this application, you expressly assume such risk and waive any claim against Elk Creek Ranch as a result of physical injury incurred in said activities, except to the extent such claim might be based upon the sole and exclusive negligence of the Elk Creek Ranch. You further agree to hold the camp harmless for physical injury to others, or for property damage, which results from your child’s use of the camp’s horse in violation of any camp rules or the terms and conditions of this agreement.

The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or other drugs or drug paraphernalia is not permitted, and therefore constitutes grounds for dismissal without a refund.

In signing this application, you hereby give permission for Elk Creek Ranch to use photographs, addresses and e-mails of or including your child in the brochures, newsletters, website, facebook and slide shows.

This agreement shall be effective and binding upon the parties hereto for the duration of their stay at Elk Creek Ranch. The parties hereto acknowledge having read and understood this agreement.

In signing this application, you understand that, under the Wyoming Recreation Safety Act, Wyoming Statutes #1121-1123 (sign. 1993), your child’s participation in dude-ranching activities, swimming, alpine skiing, snowboarding, mountain climbing, river floating, fishing, backcountry trips, horseback riding, and any other equine activity, and similar recreational opportunities implies that you have assumed the inherent risks of injury associated with such activities.

In signing this application, it is Elk Creek Ranch’s understanding that you, as parent or guardian, having reviewed the information made available to you about the Ranch program, have judged your child capable of participating safely and fully in all of the Ranch activities.

Date: _____ Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____



ELK CREEK RANCH

FACT SHEET

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The Yellowstone-Teton Caravan is a three-day, 400-mile car trip through Yellowstone and Teton National Parks. The caravan also includes a whitewater rafting trip. It is recommended primarily for those who have not visited the parks.

Fishing of all sorts is available in the Sunlight country. The Ranch provides short afternoon and evening stream fishing trips with longer overnights to the lake country of the Beartooth Mountains. There is no Ranch charge for fishing, but a state fishing license is required and can be purchased through the Ranch or online in advance of the summer. A Rancher will need to have his or her Social Security number to make the purchase.

Our Backpacking program has become very popular in recent years, in part because of the proximity of large national wilderness areas. We offer short day and overnight trips, and climax each session with a challenging four-day trip.

Prompted by the interest of Ranchers, Elk Creek Ranch now offers a **Challenge Backpack**, a six-day trip at the beginning of second session that will include more peaks and high country travel than our traditional, end of session trips. Only first session ranchers who have taken one of the two first session backpacks and are at least 14 years old, will qualify for the Challenge Backpack. It will not be mandatory for participants to stay for the entire second session, but there will be a supplemental charge for the backpack. For those who would take on the Challenge Backpack and then stay at the ranch for the entire second session, the cost will be included in the normal tuition.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AT ELK CREEK RANCH:

When Emily and Doc Ridgway first started Elk Creek, they envisioned an experience for young people between their youth-camp years and their first summer jobs. Elk Creek was to be a place where young people faced more challenges and took on more responsibilities while at the same time enjoying an authentic western ranch experience. Over the years many Ranchers have actually graduated to leadership positions as Junior and Senior Counselors. In 2013, we established a process to enhance the leadership opportunities Elk Creek offers young people. The Ranchers can look ahead to a progression of challenges and responsibilities.

- All Ranchers participate in the Work Crew Program, creating a sense of responsibility and personal accomplishment, and will receive a refund of up to \$100 at the end of the summer in recognition of their efforts.
- Ranchers who have attended Elk Creek for at least two sessions over two summers and who are at least 15 years of age can choose to return to the Ranch in the Leadership Program. They will arrive before the other Ranchers for orientation and will be given increased responsibilities in the different Ranch programs. Those Ranchers interested and who meet the qualifications above should indicate their intent on the application and include a letter of interest.
- Elk Creek has been very fortunate to have developed our staff from past participants in the Ranch program. Junior and Senior Counselors arrive at the Ranch four days before the Ranchers and will stay four days after the Ranchers leave. First-year Counselors pay half the normal ranch tuition, and Second-year Counselors pay no Ranch tuition. Senior Counselors are salaried.

TRANSPORTATION:

We make arrangements with a travel agency to organize each individual's trip to and from the Ranch. Upon receipt of your application and deposit, we will contact the agency giving them all the necessary information. The agency will in turn notify you at least one month before departure about the final travel plans. This arrangement allows all Ranchers to travel as a group while at the same time enabling us to coordinate our surface transportation between the airports and Sunlight. Some families opt to use their travel miles for their children's transportation, but it is important to coordinate the flights with those arranged by the travel agency. Please remember that Billings, Montana is 120 miles from the Ranch, and individual travel arrangements are very difficult to arrange. Arrivals to Billings should be scheduled between 11:00am and 2:00pm and departures should be between 10:00am and 2:00pm. Parents of Ranchers under the age of 15 should check with their airline on any "unaccompanied minor" restrictions.

EQUIPMENT LIST:

Most of the items listed below can be purchased in Cody if the need arises. Be certain to **label all clothing and equipment**. In all cases the more rugged the equipment the better its chances of surviving the rigors of a Wyoming summer.

RANCH - required

- compressable mummy sleeping bag with stuff sack (good to at least 32 degrees. Please, no cotton or flannel)
- Thermarest or similar sleeping pad
- sheets (2 sets)
- blankets (3)
(if sleeping bag zips open it can take the place of 2)
- towels (2)
- riding boots
- sneakers
- warm jacket (wool, fleece, or down)
- working/hiking boots
- socks (8 pairs)
- wool socks (2 pairs)
- blue jeans (4 pairs)
- shirts (8)
- underwear (10 sets)
- long underwear, top & bottom (polypropylene)

- pajamas (2)
- laundry bags (2)
labelled with name
- toilet articles
- shorts (*gym or quick dry*)
- heavy wool sweater, fleece shirt, fleece vest (*a combination of 2*)
- fleece pants
- work gloves
- warm hat & gloves
- waterproof rain gear (*top & bottom—no ponchos*)
- swimming suit
- pocket knife
- 32 oz water bottle
- flashlight/headlamp

RANCH - optional

- musical instrument
- western hat
- fishing equipment
- camera
(*see policy below on cell phones*)

- books
- writing/drawing supplies
- pillow/pillowcases
- water shoes/boots/Crocs
- day pack (*for hiking or fishing*)
- cell phone (*for travel days*)
- camp chair (*Crazy Creek or similar*)
- dress/skirt (*for girls*)

Please, no hair dryers, straighteners or curling irons.

BACKPACKERS - required

- hiking boots
(*well broken in, with cleated soles*)
- backpack (*large capacity, 65L to 75L*)
- moisture wicking shirt (2)
- light socks (4 pairs)
(*polypropylene recommended*)

Please call if you need suggestions for new equipment.

REFERENCES, COMMUNICATION & FURTHER INFORMATION:

The Ridgway Reporter (available at elkcreekranch.com under the News menu), lists the names and addresses of all last summer's Ranchers. We encourage you to contact people on that list for a reference or contact us for additional names.

We have one telephone line at the Ranch. We ask that Ranchers use this only in an emergency. If you would like to call, you will most likely reach your child at meal times (8:00am, 12:00pm and 6:00pm). Sunday meals are at 10:00am and 4:30pm.

Elk Creek Ranch Cell Phone Policy: Cell phone usage can be very detrimental to our efforts to immerse Ranchers in a western experience and to create a close community. We understand that having phone contact during travel is often important, but Ranchers will check in their cell phones (and we recommend their other valuables) upon arrival at the Ranch. **Ranchers should not rely on their cell phones as cameras or music devices.** Ranchers may use the Ranch phone in emergencies, and parents may call their children at meal times. Parents can also reach Ranch personnel via phone or email at the addresses listed in our contact information.

As we all know from painful experience, the airlines are charging much more for baggage. Some families have turned to UPS and FedEx, but that option has turned out to be even more expensive and difficult for the Ranchers on their final day. We recommend pre-paying the baggage fees through the airlines (but making sure to send us the pre-paid receipts). Sometimes other family travel plans require non-airline shipping in which case the address listed below should be used.

Letters and packages sent USPS should be addressed your child at Elk Creek Ranch, PO Box 1476, Cody, WY, 82414. Packages sent UPS, FedEx, etc. should be addressed to your child at 114 Sunlight Road, Cody, WY, 82414.