

EMC Family Camping Trip

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

11 – 19 APRIL 2026



Join EMC families this Spring Break for a camping adventure in Death Valley National Park in California! Fun for the whole family – climb mountains and sand dunes, explore canyons, sleep under the stars, build lasting relationships and memories, and more!!



Planned Activities

- Climb the remote Eureka Sand Dunes, 700ft above the valley floor.
- Summit attempt of Telescope Peak (11,049').
- Exploring the surreal Racetrack Playa and surrounding peaks and canyons.
- Night hike under the stars and glow-in-the-dark night games.
- A relaxing day at the pool and visitor center at Furnace Creek Resort.
- Sleeping under the stars and evenings around a campfire.
- Learning to overcome the hostility of the desert environment.

By coordinating this trip together as multiple EMC families, we can simplify the planning and preparation required by individuals, making it easy and accessible for anyone to participate, regardless of camping experience or equipment. Planning, meals, group camping and cooking equipment, and supplies are all planned for, and we have individual gear such as tents, sleeping bags and pads, headlamps, etc. to loan for those who need them. This trip is not guided, led, or otherwise officially organized by EMC. It is a community-building activity for individual EMC family units, responsible and liable for the welfare of their own party and property.



The not-so-fine print: This trip is not a cushy guided tour! It is a camping adventure where every participant is a member of a team and helps with setting up camp, cooking, clean-up, etc. Death Valley is a notoriously harsh environment, and potential for excitement is high! Our remote backcountry campsites typically do not have toilets, water, or any amenities other than what we carry with us – but we will set up a camp with all the necessities. We sleep on the ground under the stars or in tents with the wildlife. Temperatures in April can be very pleasant in the valley during the day (or over 100 degrees!) and can drop below freezing in the mountains above at night. Wind and sand storms can come up



unexpectedly, which can make camp functions like cooking, eating, setting up tents, taking the shovel into the desert for a bathroom visit, and sleeping difficult. There are limited opportunities for bathing during the trip. Vehicle problems, flat tires, weather, or road closures could alter plans. All that to say, even those new to camping can expect to have a great time - one thing that is guaranteed is lasting memories! An adventurous spirit and a flexible attitude are required items on the packing list!

Cost: The cost for this 8-day trip is \$475 per participant. Costs cover all food, group camping gear and supplies, any individual camping gear that may need to be borrowed, and entry fees to the Furnace Creek pool and showers. The only additional costs required on the trip would be fuel for your personal vehicle.

Equipment: The packing list will be provided. Minimal camping specific gear required.

Contact: For questions, details, packing lists, or to reserve a spot, please contact the trip coordinator, David, at engediproject@gmail.com.

Space is limited! Please contact us as soon as possible if interested.

Tentative Itinerary

Note: We plan to set up and stay in three different campsites during this trip (Eureka Sand Dunes, Race Track and Wildrose Canyon in the Panamint Range).

Sat, 11 Apr	Families drive (9hrs from San Jose) to Eureka Dunes , set up camp. Eureka Dunes moonlight night-hike.
Sun, 12 Apr	Eureka Dunes day-hike and/or unnamed canyon hike explore.
Mon, 13 Apr	Relocate camp to the Race Track via Ubehebe Crater. (3hr total driving). Explore Lippencott Mines.
Tue, 14 Apr	Explore the Race Track and Grandstand . Hike into Corridor Canyon for overnight.
Wed, 15 Apr	Corridor Canyon exit. Night games on Race Track playa.
Thur, 16 Apr	Relocate camp to Wildrose Canyon near Telescope Pk
Fri, 17 Apr	Summit attempt on Telescope Peak (11,049').
Sat, 18 Apr	Pool/relax day at Furnace Creek.
Sun, 19 Apr	Return drive home. (8 hrs to San Jose).