

A Week of Fun and Learning

Set in the rolling Adelaide Hills, Crystal Lake Camp is a Scout camp in the small town of Macclesfield. You have the opportunity to attend all three events or do a little touring of the regional wine areas that are close by.

La Prova Dura and the Great Southern Gathering will not coincide again until 2016 so this is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in all things SCA for up to 11 days!

La Prova Dura (Friday Sept. 24 – Sunday Sept. 26)

The Barony of Innilgard is hosting the first La Prova Dura tournament to be held outside the West Kingdom. It is a tourney of endurance modelled on the original La Prova Dura held every three years in West Kingdom and is a chance to test your endurance skills – there will be fighting all day long on the Saturday followed by a Rose tourney on the Sunday with fighters selected by the ladies in the gallery from the previous day's fighting.

The Rattan Symposium (Tuesday Sept. 28 – Thursday Sept. 30 and Saturday Oct. 2- Sunday Oct. 3)

The second rattan Symposium is offering two separate workshops catering for all levels of experience. The first workshop will be run midweek between La Prova Dura and Great Southern Gathering, the second at the Great Southern Gathering. The Symposium will feature Duke Sir Hauoc Bender and Duchess Sir Marie Alexander.

Great Southern Gathering (Friday Oct. 1 – Monday Oct. 4)

The second GSG is shaping up to be as diverse in its offerings as the first was. Classes in all things SCA together with Guild of Defence prizes, tourneys and the first Cut and Thrust tournament are on offer.

Please note these are all separate events that need to be booked individually.

If you are planning to attend all three events please be aware that there is a gap in accommodation and catering from Sunday evening September 26th to Monday September 27th inclusive. If you wish to stay on site these two nights please contact the site manager, Robert Carter on 08 8388 9343 to arrange your accommodation and catering.

FAQ

Macclesfield ([Google Map](#))

The town is located in the Adelaide Hills. From the airport, take your best route to the South Eastern Freeway. Take the exit to Mt. Barker. Follow the signs on B37 to Macclesfield that is 26 km. from Mt. Barker.

Weather ([Current weather](#))

September can be variable with hills temperatures being slightly lower than on the plains. Expect 8-10 C (46-50 F) at night and 18-22 C (64-72 F) during the day. Rain averages at 44-53 mm (1 1/2-2 inches) for Sept. / Oct.

Can I stay for the full period/3 events?

Yes but you need to book for each event separately.

Do I need to attend all events?

No, you can attend any one of them.

Is the Group able to billeting me?

We are encouraging people to stay on site if they are attending all three events. Accommodation and food for the “off “ days is not expensive. If you have friends in Adelaide and wish to stay with them by all means make your own arrangements. If this is problematic, please indicate that you must have billeting and we will see what we can do for you.

Is there parking?

We estimate around 50-60 spaces are available in the grounds. If you have a trailer, we ask that you uncouple it and park it parallel to your car. There is a gate to the grounds that must be closed after entry.

What is the accommodation like?

There are Nissen huts that contain both beds and bunks. Each bed or bunk has a pillow and case, a blanket and base sheet. Some rooms have some form of heating, windows, hooks to hang up your gear and power points. There is room under each bed to put your suitcase. If you need extra blankets we suggest you bring a sleeping bag.

Where will the food be served?

The Dining Hall has a fully fitted commercial kitchen. The lounge itself will have seating, a wood burning stove and a refrigerator for your cold drinks. Breakfasts will be served here. If the weather is good, lunches will be served outside. Dinners will be served either in this area or, if the numbers are high, in the feasting hall.

Can I camp?

Yes there are plenty of level grassed camping areas. Water is available on tap in the grounds but it is river feed and not suitable for drinking. Water in the dining area is drinkable rainwater. Signs indicate which water supply is drinkable.

Do I need to bring a torch?

No. All paths and stairs are very well lit. The camping areas has 4 floodlights which can be turned on / off individually. There is a campfire area as well. Wood can be scavenged in the grounds.

Is the site child friendly?

Basically it is child friendly. There is plenty of shade and the river is fenced off. There are stairs from one level to the next but these are well lit. Most of the site is grassed and sheep graze on the grass when the site is not in use. All other main areas are concreted. There is some overhead protection if it rains.

Can I swim in the river?

No

What facilities are available in the area?

Macclesfield is a small town in the Adelaide Hills. It is within walking distance of the camp site. Some facilities include:

Slack's Supermarket 08 8388 9321 Open: 7.00 AM – 7.00 PM Mon. to Fri.,
7.00 AM – 6.30 PM Sat., 8.30 - 6.30 PM Sun., 8.30 Am – 6.00 PM Public
holidays

3 Brothers Arms – Open Mon. - Sat. 12 noon to 2.00 PM for lunch, 6.00 PM
to 8.00 PM for dinner, Sun. 12 noon to 8.00 PM Weekends 11.00 AM to late.
Bottle shop is through the front bar. They sell English cider.

We are compiling a list of tourist activities that will be added to this FAQ in due
course.

Where is the closest major suburb?

Mt Barker is the closest large suburb (26 km. away) with a host of facilities. The
closest hospital is located in Mt. Barker. See
<http://www.mountbarker.communityguide.com.au/>

This FAQ will be updated as more questions are asked.