



Getting to Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation

The journey is often just as memorable as the destination, especially for Scouts heading to Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation (MSR). Here are key tips to think about as your Patrol Leader's Council plans for your adventure:

1. MSR's front gate opens at 1:00 PM on Sunday and not a moment earlier; plan your arrival accordingly to avoid waiting. Enjoy the [coffee shop in Pickerel!](#)
2. Decide if your unit wants to reach MSR quickly or visit attractions along the way, like these [Wisconsin Roadside Attractions](#) and [Rustic Roads](#).
3. Ensure your trip is S.A.F.E. using [this helpful planning tool](#) with your Adult Leaders.
4. Budget time for rest stops to stretch, eat, and take breaks.
5. Consider Saturday camping at MSR for a relaxed check-in on Sunday; email Ranger@MaKaJaWan.com for Wabaningo campsite & cabin availability. Units must manage their own meals and programs.

A Word on Charter Buses

When Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation (MSR) first opened, a car was not the best way to get to camp. Scouts once [traveled by train!](#) As the highways improved in quality and safety, [buses replaced the iron horse](#), and as cars became more affordable, they are now the preferred way for the majority of units who visit.

MSR [continued to offer a coordinated charter bus service](#) on an as-needed basis over the years out of tradition and convenience, but due to rising costs, falling interest, and complexity outweighing unit benefit, we have made the decision to retire our coordinated bus charters.

This will keep MSR out as a middle-man that requires sustainable margins in order to provide the service, and those savings can go right back to the Scouts we serve. This also allows the unit to plan for transportation that best fits the schedule and needs of the Scouts and Leaders.

We are happy to provide resources, contacts, tips, and best practices on how you can best organize your summer transportation if enough drivers and personal vehicles are unavailable.

[Enterprise rent-a-car](#) does offer passenger vans at certain locations, as well as similar rental groups that [may be in your local area](#). Double-check that the vehicles available can be driven with a normal driver's license (i.e. No CDL required).

There may be other units in your local area that, if combined, might make chartering a coach bus at an affordable price possible when shared equally. Your local school bus company might also be available for affordable charters.

In the future, as we continue to gather feedback every year on how we can best meet the needs of today's Scouts, we may revisit offering a coordinated bus service.

We hope your unit travels safely to and from Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan! Please don't hesitate to reach out to your camp director if you have any questions or would like travel suggestions.