

General Information

Arrival & Departure

Arrive and check-in between 4 and 6 p.m. on the day the conference begins. This year we ask that you drive up to the Wynne/Flato Lobby. We will approach the car to find out what church you are from and bring all of your information to you. There is no need to get out of the car. From there, we ask that you go to swim check at the pool. Groups will be able to move into their housing facilities no earlier than 4 p.m. Conferences begin with dinner at 6 p.m. and end mid-morning on the day of departure.

Make Check-In Easier

In order to make your arrival at Mo-Ranch as smooth as possible, please follow these guidelines.

- ◆ Be sure to give the Program Department an accurate account of who is coming. (Step 2 form of online registration.)
- ◆ Provide all Youth and Adult Sponsor paperwork through fax (830-238-4014) or e-mail (program@moranch.org) **30 DAYS PRIOR** to the conference.

Required Paperwork: As backup, bring all forms with you to check-in, alphabetized by participant.

Youth

Health/Release Form (2 pages)
Covenant of Conduct

Sponsor

Approved Background Check: Ministry Safe or Mo-Ranch HR
Clearance through Ministry Safe: Video Training

Covenant of Conduct

Child Protection Form

Health/Release Form (2 pages)

- All forms are available at <https://www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/conferences-for-youth/>
- All paperwork **MUST** be **COMPLETELY** filled out, with appropriate signatures from legal guardians.

- ◆ Pay all balances in a timely fashion prior to your arrival at Mo-Ranch.
- ◆ If the person who has made the advance arrangements for your group (registration, payment, form collection, etc.) is not coming to the conference, please be sure that person has met with one of the sponsors attending and gone over everything.

Appropriate Dress

Mo-Ranch fosters an environment where all conference participants feel safe. In keeping with this standard, we ask participants to dress comfortably for the weather, but also modestly. Specifically, ***we ask females to bring one-piece bathing suits (or bring a shirt or cover up to wear over a two-piece suit) and males to bring swim trunks.*** “Tankinis” which cover the same area as a one piece are acceptable. ***For recreation events, all participants will be expected to wear shorts and shirts.*** Participants out of line with dress standards will be asked to change clothes or put on an over layer that provides adequate coverage.

Swim Check

Youth will be asked to take a swim check at the pool during the check-in period. For easy access, youth should remember to pack swimsuits on top. Swimmer and non-swimmer wristbands will be issued to all participants. All youth participants must take the swim check even if they are 18 years of age. Participants not wishing to take the swim check must go to the pool to be given a non-swimmer wristband. Wristbands provide guest identification to our staff and act as meal tickets in the dining hall, and must be worn by guests at all times. ***Please note Mo-Ranch’s appropriate dress standards (above) when packing swim suits.***

Stuff to Bring

Water bottles! Bible, casual clothes, closed-toe shoes for ropes course, swim suit (see appropriate dress), swim towel, river shoes, sunscreen, insect repellent, flashlight, toiletries, notebook, something to read during rest time, spending money, and a camera.

Personal Electronics

Mo-Ranch encourages groups to leave personal electronics (iPods, MP3 players, personal gaming systems, etc.) at home. We realize many of you have long drives to the Ranch and allow them on the journey. No personal electronics (excluding cameras) may be brought to any conference event. Personal electronics may be collected by conference staff and turned into a sponsor if found or used at an event.

Cell Phones

We know cell phones are used as cameras in many cases. We encourage phones to be left in housing during youth conference activities. If an adult must bring a phone to an activity, it must be in silent or vibrate mode, and must not be used within sight or hearing distance of conference participants. Texting during conference events is not permitted.

Youth Conference

Sponsor Responsibilities

Adult sponsors play a key role in the success of each of our conferences.

- ◆ Each group must send a **minimum of one adult for every five youth**. Churches must send sponsors of the same gender as those youth who will be participating.
- ◆ In order to maintain a ratio, adult sponsors may be asked to supervise youth from another congregation up to a maximum of five youth. Confirmation of registration is dependent on the availability of sufficient adult sponsors for each gender and/or the gender requirement.
- ◆ Churches with small congregations that find it difficult to meet the sponsor/participant ratio should contact the Mo-Ranch Program Office (program@moranch.com) for assistance in securing appropriate supervision for their youth.
- ◆ **Mo-Ranch has a zero tolerance policy regarding child abuse (including, but not limited to physical, emotional or sexual abuse). Mo-Ranch sponsors must also abide by the *Rule of Three* (2 youth and 1 adult) or (2 unrelated adults and 1 youth) to ensure safety for all guests. No adult shall be left alone with a minor; therefore, a minimum of two youth will be assigned to hotel housing when a sponsor is to share the same room. A reasonable ratio of adult workers will be maintained in each situation involving the supervision of minors. Mo-Ranch staff and volunteer directors will supervise on an ongoing basis and may make unannounced visits into classes and other program sites during the conference.**
- ◆ Sponsors are responsible for the behavior of their youth at all times.
- ◆ Sponsors are asked not to bring non-participant children to the conference.
- ◆ **Each sponsor is expected to participate fully in all conference activities and to facilitate home group devotions.**
- ◆ Sponsors are responsible for seeing that their youth attend all the activities.
- ◆ Sponsors are expected to maintain a positive attitude because it will make a difference in the atmosphere of the conference. Your attitude has a direct effect on your youth and on your own enjoyment. You are an important role model!
- ◆ **Sponsors are expected to see that youth observe afternoon rest times and lights-out each night, eat regularly, drink plenty of water, and remember to use sunscreen!**
- ◆ Sponsors are expected to stay on Mo-Ranch property during the entire time of the conference.
- ◆ Sponsors are encouraged to be open to all the good ways God is at work.

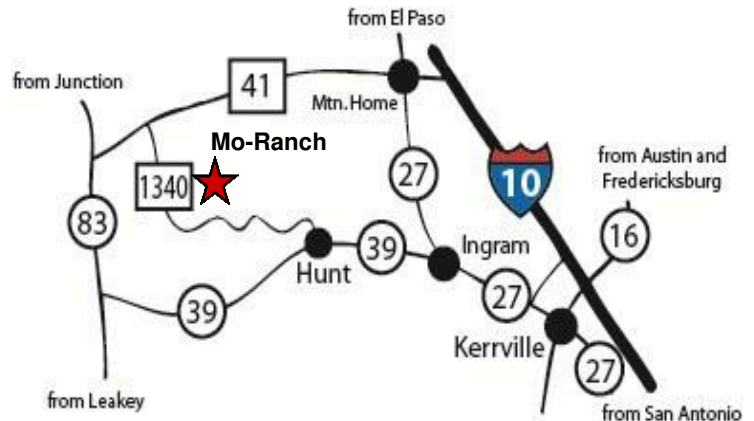
Driving Directions to Mo-Ranch

From Houston (295 miles):

West on I-10 to San Antonio.
See "From San Antonio" below

From San Antonio (90 Miles):

West on IH-10 to Kerrville; take exit 508 to State Hwy 16 south into town; turn right at the Courthouse on State Hwy 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take State Hwy 39 west from Ingram for 6 miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.



From Dallas/Ft. Worth (325 miles):

South on US 281 to Johnson City; turn right on US 290 west to Fredericksburg; turn left on State Hwy 16 south to Kerrville; turn right at the Courthouse on State Hwy 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take State Hwy 39 west for 6 miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.

From Austin (130 miles):

West on US 290 through Johnson City; turn right on US 290 west to Fredericksburg; turn left on State Hwy 16 south to Kerrville; turn right at the Courthouse on State Hwy 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take State Hwy 39 west for 6 miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.

From El Paso (530 miles):

East on IH-10 to exit 490, exit and turn right on State Hwy 41 west for about 16.5 miles; turn left on FM 1340 east for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the right and the entrance gate on the left.

To Avoid All Local Towns, Or In Case Of Flooding:

Stay on IH-10 to exit 490, Mountain Home/ Rocksprings. Exit and turn right on State Hwy 41 west for about 16.5 miles; turn left on FM 1340 east for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the right and the entrance gate on the left. This route is longer, but avoids the towns, low water crossings and twisty roads.

Caution Notes: While it is a beautiful drive to Mo-Ranch, please take care, be aware of your surroundings and drive safely.

- ◆ The roads have severe curves in many places, so be ready and take them slowly.
- ◆ You will drive over many low water crossings. If there is water on the road, "Turn around, don't drown." (Use the above stated alternate route to Mo-Ranch.)
 - ◆ Watch for wildlife along the sides of the road and in the fields next to the road. Be prepared to slow down, but never swerve. You have less risk of severe accident or injury from hitting wildlife than from swerving to avoid it. Always watch where the wildlife came from, not where it is going. Where there is one, there will usually be more coming across the road and you want to be ready.