

Frequently Asked Questions about the Hurst Ranch Festival

1. Can I make reservations for the crafts ahead of time? Can I sign up my entire scout troop?

Craft reservations and reservations for the house tour are made at the festival only. Reservations cannot be made in advance. Please do not call and ask for an exception. Reservation crafts are age designated for the child's safety and we are limited by the generosity of the person providing the activity (they are un-paid volunteers). The Hurst Family wants children to learn how to use hand tools and how to make the crafts themselves (not an adult making it for the child). These activities are not for anyone over 15 years old. All crafts are to be completed at the Festival.

2. Why do adults pay admission fees if they cannot do some crafts?

They are many things for the adults to enjoy. They can tour the house, look at a history timeline of West Covina in the car barn, see an actual US Patten in the barn, enjoy historical artifacts, learn about irrigation and what crops were grown at the ranch, etc. Children's crafts are for the children. However, in the community center there are crafts adults can do with their children.

In 1997 The Hurst Family donated this Ranch to the city of West Covina for the sole purpose of educational outreach. The Hurst Ranch is run by a non-profit Hurst Ranch Historical Center Foundation and this is our annual community outreach. The motto is "Preserve the Past, Harvest the Present and Plant Seeds for the Future". We keep the cost of holding this event low and we do not make any money on this. The fees cover our expenses to pay for insurance, pumpkins, wood, some craft supplies, venue maintenance for this event. All people staffing the venues are donating their time and and some donate their supplies. We do our best to keep the cost family friendly.

3. I want my child's birthday party at the ranch. Can I make special arrangements for this?

Thank you for thinking of having your child's special day with us. The best way to do your child's party is to have everyone arrive at 10am to get reservations at the crafts that require this. Some people have the children do the crafts at different times and it is always best to have some adult supervision and some crafts and the house tour require this. There are eating tables that will seat 10 if you want to bring pizza, cupcakes, etc. or feel free to buy the hamburger/hot dog combo at the Ranch. We cannot reserve tables but there are usually plenty available.

4. Why can't adults get a pumpkin?

We want the children to have the best time they can at the Ranch. There are so few places where children can see pumpkins in the field and go in and get their own pumpkin. We have to supplement our own crop by buying several hundred pumpkins. In order for us to keep the price of admission low we ask that only children take a pumpkin.

5. Can I pick the fruits and vegetables on the property?

No. This is part of our educational programming.

6. As most everything is outdoors..... It is a good idea to.....

- ✓ Bring a "carry bag" for all your crafts and pumpkin
- ✓ Wear good walking shoes
- ✓ Have sunscreen, hat, sunglasses
- ✓ Some bottled water (we have some for purchase too)

7. If you questions is not answered here, please call (626) 339-5151

