

Thinking of Going Abroad



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You may be considering taking a group of Scouts abroad, but are unsure of exactly what is involved in organising a trip. The following information provides an outline of the areas you will need to consider. It will help you to research your ideas and start your planning.

This is a working document. Spaces are provided for you to note your thoughts, outcomes of research and any actions required. Complete the form at the end of the fact sheet to take you on to the next steps for a visit abroad.

Aims and Objectives

Why are you thinking of going abroad? Before planning your trip you need to be clear of the purpose of your visit. What will the group gain from the experience? Travelling abroad is an exciting dimension of International Scouting and should be regarded as an opportunity to learn about another culture and to extend the horizons of the members of your group. You should therefore have a clear idea of what you hope to achieve through your visit.

So why are you thinking of going abroad? What will your group gain from the experience? What are your aims and objectives?

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Top tip: Most funding applications need you to state the aims and objectives of your trip!

Your Assistant County/Area Commissioner International (ACC/AAC (I)) is available to support you in the research and preparations for going abroad. Please feel free to contact them at any time.

Where would you like to go and for what type of International Experience?

There are many types of visit and opportunities available to Scout Groups going abroad. What type of experience fits your objectives? What do you and the young people in your group want to do when you are abroad? Your intended programme will help you to decide on the destination of your visit and other aspects of your planning.

Listed below are some of the many opportunities Scouting has to offer abroad:

- Events and Jamborees: Obtain a copy International Opportunities from the Information Centre or www.scoutbase.org.uk/international or visit the World Scout Website at www.scout.org
- Campsites: consult "Where to Stay in Europe" on www.scout.org/europe
- Find out more about Kandersteg International Scout Centre www.kisc.ch or reception@world.scout.org

The Scout Association

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email info.centre@scouts.org.uk www.scouts.org.uk

- Community Projects: Speak to the International Office, obtain a copy of BP260009 and look at the International Friendship Group Award FS260068
- Explorer Belt Award: Find out more from your District Explorer Scout Commissioner and County/Area Scout Network Commissioner or contact the Explorer Belt Network through the International Office.
- Exchanges/Linking up with Scouts abroad: Find out about the International Links Scheme FS260002, your local Town Twinning Association or District and County/Area Contacts.
- Packages: A number of Companies organise packages for Scout Groups taking the hassle out of booking transport and accommodation. Full details can be found on FS260007. In particular, the Association has worked closely with Venture Abroad on Scout Packages Abroad. www.ventureabroad.co.uk and we are also intending to offer similar contacts with other providers.
- Day Trips: Remember these are still a visit abroad!
- Individuals may be interested in spending the summer months as participants on the International Camp Staff Programme in the USA or the European Scout Voluntary Programme which involves working on Scout Campsites across Europe. Contact the Information Centre or the International Office for more information.

Notes.....

Other sources of information:

- Country Support Packs are available on a number of countries, to assist in detailed planning.
- National Scout Fellowships visits to particular countries and organise nationally co-ordinated events. Contact them through the International Office or www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/programme/networks/index.htm
- Your ACC/AAC (I) will be able to put you in touch with people from your County/Area who have organised similar trips abroad in the past.
- FS260003 contains details of the main National Tourist Offices and other sources of information.

Top tip: All fact sheets are available from the Information Centre
www.sbuk.org.uk/info.centre/catalog.php?cat=60

Programme – Please remember

- Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) applies equally when you are abroad. Please check the requirements for every activity in your proposed programme and in particular adventurous activities and the use of professional centres. Obtain a copy of FS260022 Adventurous Activities Abroad. Where necessary upgrade your authorisation. Your ACC/AAC (Activities) is available for advice and support.
- Submission of forms – POR rule 9.64b states “A Form TA must be submitted to the Assistant County Commissioner (International) or International Adviser who supports such events on behalf of United Kingdom headquarters” Both on the TA (Travel Abroad) Form and in the Nights Away book, it states that the TA form should be submitted to the ACC/AAC(I), at least two months in advance of trips to Europe and six months for anywhere else.
- Home hospitality: FS909004 gives guidelines on organising safe and enjoyable home stays.

- Contingency
- Insurance

Don't forget administration costs, maps and guides and a possible pre visit.

Plan your budget on the worse case scenario. Any fundraising will then be a bonus.

You will eventually need to work out a payment schedule: When do you need the money? How much do you need and when?

Notes.....

A visit abroad is a great opportunity to make your Scout Group known in your local community. It is also an opportunity to obtain financial support, through sponsorship and other means, from members of the community. See BP260006 for more information. Remember to take care in preparing good applications for grants.

Who can I approach for funding?.....

What happens next?

Contact your ACC/AAC (I) for a Visits Abroad folder.

Complete the slip on page 5 of this fact sheet. Please give as much information as you can on

your plans so that they can support you in your preparations. If you need information and advice on particular issues don't hesitate to let them know.

If you do not know who your ACC/AAC (I) is please contact the International Office at Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW
 Telephone:020 8433 7100 Fax:020 8433 7114
 Email: international@scout.org.uk



Date:

To: Assistant County/Area Commissioner (International).....

Please send me a Visits Abroad folder. I am interested in visiting (*country & type of experience*)

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Proposed dates of visit:.....

The aim and objectives of our visit are (*brief description*)

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I would like any information and advice you can give me in particular on the following:

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Name.....

Address.....

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.....Postcode.....

Telephone numbers.....

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Email.....

Appointment.....

Scout Group.....

District.....

Please return to your ACC/AAC (I)