

Overseas Travel Packages



Item Code FS260007 January 2007 Edition no 6

0845 300 1818

Over 11,000 Scouts travel abroad from the United Kingdom each year to take part in camps, international events, exchanges, tours and expeditions. Some of these Scouts travel with commercial travel companies, or as part of a package organised by a Scout County, District or Group. This can be particularly valuable to groups venturing abroad for the first time, as the organisers of the package undertake most of the detailed planning and arrangements, including perhaps optional activities, excursions or other programme content.

Scout Leaders will, however, be looking for packages that provide opportunities for a real international experience, with a chance to explore the country being visited, and to meet some of its people. There is little point in travelling abroad to hold the same summer camp programme that could have been held nearer to home. The trip should offer members opportunities to progress in the Balanced Programme: during the preparation, the visit itself, and afterwards.

Your Assistant County/Area Commissioner (International) ACC/AAC(I) will be able to supply you with information on any opportunities organised by the County or Area and sometimes even nationally. This paper is intended to provide details of some commercial operators offering overseas travel packages, either specifically for Scout groups, or for general youth/school group travel. It is not exhaustive, and inclusion in this paper does not mean that the organisation is 'recommended' or 'approved' by The Scout Association.

Many of these organisations advertise in SCOUTING Magazine, to which you may wish to refer for current information. It is worth contacting local travel agents as well. Details of charter flights currently available and cut-price airlines can be found through search engines like Google on the world wide web and the national press.

Your choice of package will depend on a number of factors such as the country and area you wish to visit, your budget, the type of programme that you wish to run, and the sort of accommodation that you want. You might ask your AAC/ACC(I) for details of groups which have travelled abroad recently and could pass on their experiences and recommendations. Some organisations provide opportunities for leaders to go on a reconnaissance visit, which can be very useful and is often considered a justifiable part of the budget. In keeping with POR, the party leader needs to be satisfied that the operator conducts adventurous activities in a safe, competent and qualified manner, and in accordance with the Activity Rules of The Scout Association.

It is important to check the booking conditions and terms of the operator. These will cover cancellations, payment schedules and other important information. You may also wish to check whether the organisation is a member of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) or other appropriate Associations, such as STF (School Travel Forum) or carries an ATOL (Air Transport Operators Licence) qualification. The

The Scout Information Centre

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advantage of booking with ABTA agents is that your money is protected if the agent collapses.

General information on planning a visit abroad is available on FS260018 Thinking of Going Abroad. The TA (Travel Abroad) form, Insurance Information and a Checklist for groups going abroad are included in the Visits Abroad folder, available from your ACC/AAC(I). He or she will be able to give you advice and support as your plans progress.

Package Visits Abroad

- **Acorn Adventure**

Acorn House
Prospect Road,
Halesowen. B62 8DU
Tel: 0870 121 9950

info@acornadventure.co.uk
www.acorn-venture.com

Coach travel to France and Spain for camping holidays at their own 'villages'. Includes flexible activity and/or study programmes. Also has programmes in the UK for incoming groups.

- **JEKA Holidays Ltd***

Victoria House
Victoria Street
Taunton
Somerset TA1 3FA
Tel: 01823 365 777, 0121 559 0991,
0141 248 3665, 02890232334
Fax: 01823 365888

info@jeka.co.uk
www.jeka-groupolidays.co.uk

Activity holidays throughout Europe for young people.

- **The Group Travel Company**

Tel: 0845 671 0093
info@thegtc.co.uk
www.thegtc.co.uk

Specialists in organising group travel to world-wide destinations.

- **Venture Abroad***

Rayburn House
Parcel Terrace,
Derby, DE1 1LY
Tel: 01332 342050
Fax: 01332 224960

Scouts@ventureabroad.co.uk
www.ventureabroad.co.uk

Youth group coach packages to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland, Disneyland Paris and to Centres throughout Europe and in Canada and New Zealand.

- **Discover Adventure Ltd**

Throope Down House
Blandford Road
Coombe Bissett
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP5 4LN

General Office Tel: 00 44 1722 718444
Office Fax: 00 44 1722 718445
info@discoveradventure.com
<http://www.discoveradventure.com>

- **PGL Travel Ltd**

Alton Court, Penyard Lane, Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire, HR9 5GL
Tel: 0870 551 551
Group holidays Tel: 08700 507 507
Fax: 0870 551 561

overseas.adventure@pgl.co.uk
www.pgl.co.uk

A range of adventure courses for schools, youth groups and individual children in locations throughout UK, France and Spain.

*** JEKA and Venture Abroad have Partnership Agreements with The Scout Association**

Independent Travel

Key Travel - offices in London and Manchester,

Tel: 020 7843 9600 / 0161 819 8900

reservations@keytravel.co.uk

www.keytravel.com

STA Travel – 65 UK Branches

Tel: 0871 2300 040

www.statravel.co.uk

Trailfinders – 5 Travel Centres in London and 16 others in UK and Ireland.

Group travel 0845 050 5955

Worldwide 0845 058 5858

www.trailfinders.com

Eurostar

Tel: 08705 186 186

www.eurostar.com

Rail Europe

Telephone Enquires/Bookings

Helpline 08708 30 20 08

www.raileurope.co.uk

Internet Helpline 08708 30 20 08

Brochure requests 08708 30 60 30

The Coach Connection

Tel: 01225 448184

Fax: 01225 789833

www.coachconnection.co.uk

National Express

www.nationalexpress.com

The largest scheduled coach service in Europe