

Welcome to the UK!



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Welcome to the UK! We are pleased that you have chosen to visit and we hope that you will enjoy your stay with us. This factsheet tries to answer the questions that are most commonly asked by overseas visitors.

Scouting Accommodation

Details of Campsites and Scout Centres throughout the UK are contained in the National Campsite Directory available from The Information Centre (contact details below) or on www.scoutbase.org.uk

Many campsites also have indoor self-catering accommodation for groups but you have to book well in advance.

Non-Scouting Accommodation

Useful websites:

www.yha.org.uk YHA (The Youth Hostel Association in England and Wales) is part of the International Youth Hostel Federation.
www.syha.org.uk for YHA hostels in Scotland.
www.hini.org.uk for hostels in Northern Ireland.
www.roughguides.com On-line coverage of thousands of travel destinations.

General Information

Transport:

Train Information can be obtained from 08457 48 49 50 (from the UK) or on www.nationalrail.co.uk/ www.railtrack.co.uk

National Express has an extensive Coach network across the Country. Although slower than the train it is less expensive. More information can be found on www.gobycoach.co.uk or by calling 08705 80 80 80 (from the UK)

Telephones: All telephones are automatic – just dial the required number. Instructions are posted in all telephone kiosks. Most public phones take 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 coins, phone cards (available from Newsagents) and major Credit Cards. In cases of emergency, dial 999 and ask for the

service you require: Police, Fire or Ambulance. Emergency Calls are free of charge.

Emergency Medical Treatment: Available on demand from any hospital with an Accident and Emergency Department (A & E). For cases of sudden illness or accident you should find the nearest telephone, dial 999 and ask for ambulance. Such treatment will only cover the immediate emergency-subsequent treatment, accommodation and food will be charged so you should have adequate travel insurance.

Emergency Procedure: In the event of an emergency or difficulty during your visit to the UK, you may wish to seek the help and advice of UK Scouting. The International Office will try to help and can be contacted through the Information Centre.

Programme Ideas

Tourist Information: British Tourist Authority, 64 St James Street, London W1

Useful websites:

www.visitbritain.com
www.travelengland.org.uk

Contact with local Scouts: If required, it may be possible to arrange a visit to meet some local Scouts. Please remember if you are visiting in the summer, it may coincide with school holidays making a visit more difficult to organise. Please send us as much information as possible about yourselves and your visit. Please allow enough time for a suitable contact to be arranged.

International Camps: UK Scouting has a tradition of staging locally organised, international events every year. This is an ideal way to meet UK Scouts and enjoy a fun-filled and activity packed week. Why not join us? More information can be obtained from The Information Centre.

Baden Powell House Hostel, Queens Gate, London SW7 5JS has reasonably priced

The Scout Information Centre

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

accommodation, a small permanent exhibition on Scouting in its foyer and a souvenir shop.

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7590 6900

Fax + 44 (0)20 7590 6902

Email: bph.hostel@scout.org.uk

It is sign posted from Gloucester Road and South Kensington Tube Stations.

Gilwell Park is the National Training Centre and Campsite. Scouters all over the world are still today awarded the WoodBadge for completing their formal training in accordance with the Gilwell tradition started by Baden-Powell.

You can walk around the park and enjoy the sights that include B-P's caravan, The Tait McKenzie Statue and the Ernest Carlos paintings in The White House.

The Information Centre sells a guide book but will organise Guided Tours during the summer months for a small charge per person. The Information Centre is open 0800 to 2000 Monday to Friday and 0900 to 1200 on Saturdays. (Contact details below)

Training Insignia (Gilwell scarves, woggles and WoodBeads) is on sale in the Information Centre. Gilwell Souvenirs are available from the Campsite Trading Post.

You can stay on the Campsite, Gilwell Park, Bury Road, Chingford, London E4 7QW
Telephone: + 44 (0)20 8498 5410
Fax + 44 (0)20 8498 5417
Email: logandaxe@aol.com
www.scoutbase.org.uk/gilwellpark/

Accommodation is available at the White House.
Telephone: + 44 (0)20 8498 5353
Fax + 44 (0)20 8498 5303
whitehouse.reservations@scout.org.uk

Take a train from Liverpool Street Station or Walthamstow Central Tube Station to Chingford, then a taxi or walk of 2km. There is a map in the station.

Visits to London

For those visiting London, a factsheet called Welcome to London FS260030 is available from the Information Centre with details of accommodation and places to visit.

Outdoors (Scout Shops Ltd) has branches all over the Country. Visit www.outdoors.ltd.uk or call

+44 (0)1903 755352 (Head Office) for more information.

Brownsea Island is situated in Poole harbour on the south coast of England. It is open from April 1st to September 30th.

On the south west corner of the island, around the site of B-P's first experimental camp in 1907, there is some 50 acres set aside for camping.

Further information on the campsite and bookings from: Group Visits, National Trust, Poole Harbour, Dorset BH13 7EE. You can also email brownseaisland@nationaltrust.org.uk

Further information about visiting the island from The National Trust on +44 (0)1202 707744 or www.brownsea-island.org.uk

The Information Centre factsheet FS145008 available on www.scoutbase.org.uk gives you details of prices, ferry crossings etc.

Enjoy your visit to the UK!