

Welcome to London!



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Welcome to London! 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

Gilwell Park
The White House
Chingford
London E4 7QW

+ 44 (0) 20 8498 5300 (tel)
+ 44 (0) 20 8498 5303 (fax)
whitehouse.reservations@scout.org.uk

Situated in North-East London on the edge of beautiful Epping Forest, Gilwell Park has the feel of a country estate with all the advantages of being close to the capital. The White House is our fully restored grade II listed building, and is the centrepiece of the 108-acre estate. We are pleased to offer good quality three star facilities across 41, double, twin & single rooms in the White House. These are en-suite and equipped with colour television, power shower, tea, coffee and biscuits.

Baden-Powell House Scout Activity Centre
65-67 Queen's Gate
London
SW7 5JS
+ 44 (0) 20 7590 6900
+ 44 (0) 20 7590 6902
bph.hostel@scout.org.uk

Situated in the heart of South Kensington, Baden Powell House is perfectly located for some of the great activities London has to offer from Art & Attractions to Museums and Theme Days out.

With it's Four Star Visit Britain Quality Assurance rated accommodation & facilities, the centre welcomes groups both large and small offering

single, twin, family and group rooms, (up to 180 guests).

Gilwell Park Scout Activity Centre
Chingford
London E4 7QW
+ 44 (0) 20 8498 5411
+ 44 (0) 20 8498 5429
andy.lanham@scout.org.uk

Gilwell Park provides the ideal setting for camps of all sizes, from an individual backpacker to a large-scale camp of 2,500 + people. In addition to 5 fields on which you can set up camp, Gilwell Scout Activity Centre is also proud to offer indoor accommodation:

Downe Scout Activity Centre
Birdhouse Lane
Downe
Orpington
Kent
BR6 7LJ
44 (0)1959 572121
44 (0)1959 572853
downe.activity.centre@scout.org.uk

A beautiful wooded 86-acre site situated only 16 miles from the centre of London. Close to Biggin Hill in rural Kent, the centre is within easy access of two main railway stations at Orpington and Bromley, both a 20 minutes train ride into London.

Downe has campsites to suit all camping styles and tastes, with large open-field areas complemented by woodland sites. In addition, Downe offers a choice of three main indoor accommodation blocks available all year round except over the 2 week Christmas and New Year period.

Other Opportunities include:

A unique opportunity to stay on a ship:
Docklands Scout Project
HQTS Lord Amory (Boat)

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

631 Manchester Road
London E14 9NU
www.lordamory.org
+44 (0)20 7363 0323

Islington Scout Centre
319 Holloway Road
London N7
www.londonscouts.org.uk/scoutcentre.htm
+ 44 (0)20 7607 5595

South London Scout Centre
The Fort, Grange Lane
London SE21 7LH
+44 (0)20 8693 5287
slsc@pbnet.co.uk

Chalfont Heights Scout Camp
Denham Lane, Chalfont St Peter,
Buckinghamshire SL9 0QJ
+ 44 (0)1753 882640
fax +44 (0)1753 884108
warden@chalfont.org

Tolmers Scout Camp and Activity Centre
Cuffley, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 4JS
+44 (0)1707 872900
fax: +44 (0)1707 872960
tolmers@bigfoot.com

Details of Campsites and Scout Centres throughout the UK are contained in the National Campsite Directory available from The Information Centre (contact details below)

Non-Scouting Accommodation

There are a number of Youth Hostel Association (YHA) hostels in London:

- Holland Park, Holland Walk, W8 0870 770 5866, hollandpark@yha.org.uk. Holland Park or High St Kensington tube
- Oxford Street, 14 Noel St, W1 + 0870 770 5984, oxfordst@yha.org.uk Oxford Circus or Tottenham Court Road tube
- St Pancras, 79-81 Euston Rd, NW1 0870 770 6044, stpancras@yha.org.uk Kings Cross & St Pancras tube & rail
- Thameside, 20 Salter Road, London, SE16 5PR, 0870 770 6010, thameside@yha.org.uk Rotherhithe tube
- St Pauls, 36 Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AB, 0870 770 5764, stpauls@yha.org.uk

General Information

Transport: Public Transport is widely available in London. Buses are frequent and reasonably

cheap. A single journey costs £1.50 in Central London.

The Underground (Tube) network is extensive, offering a relatively fast service, tickets are cheaper during off peak hours. A suburban train network covers many of London's suburbs particularly in the South East.

To save money and take advantage of unlimited travel on buses, the tube and trains within Greater London (Zones 1-6) buy a One day (valid from 9.30am) or Weekend travel card. You can buy the travel cards at Stations and some Newsagents. You can find a London Underground map at www.tfl.gov.uk

London's black cabs are metered; a yellow light over the windscreen tells you if they are available – just stick out your arm to hail one!! Minicabs are also widely available, they are not metered and you should book them through Minicab offices.

If you wish to extend your travels, train facilities are good from London for travel all over the Country. Train Information can be obtained from +44 (0)8457 48 49 50 or on www.nationalrail.co.uk

National Express have an extensive Coach network across the Country, although slower than the train it is less expensive. More information can be found on www.nationalexpress.com or by calling +44 (0)8705 808080.

Telephones: All telephones are automatic – just dial the required number. Instructions are posted in all telephone kiosks. Most public phones take 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.

Emergency Procedure: In the event of an emergency or difficulty during your visit to London, 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: Britain & London Visitor Centre, 1 Regent Street, Piccadilly circus, London, SW1Y 4XT,

Useful websites:

www.london-tourist-information.com

www.capital-calling.com

www.enjoyengland.org.uk

www.visitbritain.com

Visiting the London's tourist attractions can be expensive but you can visit the following for free:

- The British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 +44 (0)20 7323 8000
- The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square+44 (0)20 7747 2885
- The Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 +44 20 7887 8888
- Changing of the Guards, Buckingham Palace, on alternate days starting at 11.27am for 40 minutes.
- Hyde Park - covers a distance of 2 miles from Speakers Corner and Marble Arch to Kensington Palace and from the Albert Hall to Notting Hill.

London also has many markets. Why not pay a visit to Covent Garden (open every day) and see the variety of street performers or Greenwich (open at the weekends), famous for its astronomical and maritime history. Stroll along the river and admire the outstanding architecture of the Royal Naval College (entry is free) or the Cutty Sark.

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 has a small permanent exhibition on Scouting in its foyer and a souvenir shop. It is sign posted from Gloucester Road Tube Station.

Gilwell Park is a National Training Centre and Campsite. Scouters all over the world are still today awarded the Wood Badge 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 guidebook and organises Guided Tours during the summer months. 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 Providore.

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.

Brownsea Island is situated in Poole harbour on the South Coast of England. It is open from the beginning of April to the end of October.

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 contact: 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.nationaltrust.org.uk

Enjoy your visit to the UK!