

A Contingent from your Troop or Crew can Participate in a Jamboree or Stay at an International Scout Center in Another Country

International Committee, Michigan Crossroads Council BSA

July 1, 2023, update

The fee to participate in a jamboree in another country or stay at an international Scout Center is low enough that, even adding airfare, the total cost per person of an overseas trip is similar to the cost of participating in the BSA National Jamboree or a Philmont trip. You can form a contingent from one troop or crew or from a group of neighboring troop(s) and crew(s). The MCC International Committee will be glad to help you in your planning. Send an email message to international@michiganscouting.org. It is best to start planning a trip to a jamboree in another country at least a year before the jamboree takes place, so now is the time to begin planning a trip to a summer 2024 jamboree.

JAMBOREES IN OTHER COUNTRIES - The BSA is a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). Many WOSM-affiliated National Scout Organizations (NSOs) open their jamborees to contingents from other countries. Most of these jamborees are a week to a week and a half long. That allows a BSA contingent to include time on their trip for sightseeing. There are very few BSA contingents at these jamborees. A BSA contingent can often arrange to pair with a Scout group from the host country that is participating in the same jamboree, share a campsite with them, and borrow group equipment such as tents, stoves, and cooking equipment from them. That provides the BSA contingent with a unique experience, and they don't need to bring group gear. Jamboree websites often state an age range for participants. However, international participants a little older than a stated maximum age might be acceptable. According to BSA's *Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Camping* (<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-686.pdf>) **BSA youth must be at least 12 years old to participate in jamborees.**

If this update is several months old, go to <https://michiganscouting.org/international-scouting/> and scroll down to "Travel Overseas with Scouts and Venturers" to see if there is a more recent revision of this document that includes additional jamborees..

INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTERS - An International Scout Center will typically have Scout groups from a number of different countries in camp at any time and an international staff. Many of them offer opportunities for in-camp activities and nearby outdoor expeditions and sightseeing and have both tent campsites and rooms with bunks and mattresses. With an International Scout Center, you are not constrained by the dates of a jamboree. You can typically make a reservation for whatever dates and time period you desire.

CONSIDER CANADA - The transportation cost to a Scouts Canada event is much lower than it is to Europe, and Scouts under 19 traveling to Canada as a group by land can use birth certificates in place of passports. Michigan troops have had great experiences spending weeks at Scouts Canada's Haliburton Scout Reserve in northern Ontario - <https://www.scouts.ca/camps/haliburton-scout-reserve.html> - and at jamborees in Canada.

LISTS OF OPPORTUNITIES - Below are lists of upcoming jamborees in other countries and International Scout Centers that are open to contingents from individual BSA troops and crews with links to their web sites.

SUMMER 2024 JAMBOREES OPEN TO BSA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

CANADA - Pacific Jamboree - July 6 to 14, 2024 at Camp Barnard in Sooke, British Columbia - The website at <https://www.pacificjamboree.ca/> has links at the top or near the bottom of the home page for details. Participant registration is open to Scouts aged 11 to 14 years old. Offers of Service (staff) registration is open to registered members over the age of 15 (Scouts, Venturers, and Scouters). For members of Scouts Canada, the early registration fee is Cdn \$551.25 which currently equals about U.S. \$410 and the Offer of Service fee is Cdn \$199.50 which currently equals about U.S. \$150. The website states: "Check back soon for information on registering international Patrols and Offers of Service for PJ 2024!" Contingents from a Michigan troop participated in the 2015 and 2019 Pacific Jamborees and had a great time.

ENGLAND - Essex International Jamboree - July 27 to August 3, 2024 - Boyton Cross, Chelmsford, Essex - <https://eij.org.uk/> We have Scout contacts in Essex who participated in past Michigan International Camporees and might be interested in forming a joint jamboree contingent with you.

ENGLAND - Larkin International Jamboree - July 27 to August 3, 2024 - Duncombe Park, Helmsley, York - <https://www.larkinjamboree.org.uk/>

ENGLAND - Red Rose 2024 - August 3 to 10, 2024 - Westmoreland Showground - <https://redrose.org.uk/> We have Scout contacts in England's nearby Lake District who participated in past Michigan International Camporees and might be interested in forming a joint jamboree contingent with you.

GERMANY - Bavarian Jamboree 2024 - July 27 to August 5, 2024 - They are looking for international partner groups who would like to experience the time together with a German group. To learn more, visit their English language web page for International Guests at <https://www.landeslager.bayern/international-guests/>

ICELAND - Icelandic National Jamboree - July 12 to 19, 2024, in Úlfjótssvatn in southwest Iceland - <https://skatamot.is/english/> - especially attractive to Michigan troops and crews because Chicago's O'Hare Airport and Detroit Metro Airport are served by IcelandAir Airlines with its nonstop flights to and from Iceland.

SCOTLAND - Blair Atholl Jamborette - July 16 to 26, 2024 - ages 14 to 17 - The Blair Atholl Jamborette has been held on the grounds of Blair Atholl Castle every even numbered year since 1946 except 2020. Patrols are composed of 6 Scottish Scouts and 6 Scouts from another country. <https://www.jamborette.org.uk/> has the basic information for 2024, but the "Info for Overseas Patrols" link reaches 2022 jamborette information.

SUMMER 2025 INTERNATIONAL JAMBOREES OPEN TO BSA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

ENGLAND - Kent International Jamboree - Detling Showground, Kent County - <https://www.kij.org.uk/>

ENGLAND - Kernow Jamboree - Stithians Showground, Cornwall - <https://kernowjamboree.org.uk/>

ENGLAND - Norjam International Jamboree - August 9 to 16, 2025, in Norfolk at the Norfolk Showground - The only detail they have announced so far at <https://www.norjam.org.uk/> is the dates.

SOME INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTERS OPEN TO BSA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

SWITZERLAND - Kandersteg International Scout Center - Open year-round - founded in 1923 in the Swiss mountain village of Kandersteg. Units can stay in indoor group accommodations or campsites. Opportunities include numerous high adventure activities throughout the Alps that can be booked through the center or you can venture out on your own with one of the centers many vendors. Find out more online - <https://www.kisc.ch/>

ENGLAND - Gilwell Park - Nestled just outside of London, Gilwell Park is home of the original Wood Badge training. BSA contingents can stay in tented villages or cabins and schedule activities at the center or make their own schedule by venturing into London tourist destinations from the nearby Chingford railway station. Find out more online - <https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/gilwell-park>

AUSTRIA - Pfadfinderdorf Zellhof International Scout and Guide Center - Zellhof has bunkhouses and campsites with the opportunity for in camp programs, touring Salzburg, and exploring the Austrian countryside. The Zellhof bus stop is a 41-minute bus ride from the Salzburg train station on a bus that leaves every half hour. Find out more online - <https://www.zellhof.at/en/zellhof-is/>

IRELAND - <http://www.larchhill.org/> and <http://www.castlesaunderson.com/>

THE NETHERLANDS - <http://buitenzorg.scouting.nl/>

SWEDEN - <https://vassaro.se/camp-information/> and <https://ransberg.com/en/>

UNITED KINGDOM - Scout Adventure Centers - <https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/all-centres>