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, Scouting America March 17, 2025, update – 2 pages

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 U.S. 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 <u>international@michiganscouting.org</u> 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 a good time to begin planning a trip to a summer 2026 jamboree.

JAMBOREES IN OTHER COUNTRIES – Scouting America 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 Scouting America contingent to include time on their trip for sightseeing. There are very few Scouting America contingents at these jamborees. A Scouting America 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 Scouting America contingent with a unique experience, and they don't need to bring group gear. This pairing is part of the plan for some National Jamborees like the 2026 Swedish National Jamboree that states on their website: ""All international scout groups will be paired with a Swedish host scout group well in advance so that you can make contact and prepare your practical arrangements for the camp. You and your host group will camp together and hopefully they can support you with some of the camp equipment needed etc."

AGE RANGES FOR JAMBOREE YOUTH PARTICIPANTS - Jamboree websites often state an age range for youth participants. It is important that you check that age range. The **maximum age** for youth participants in some national jamborees in other countries is 14, 15, or 16. This means that some members of Scouts BSA troops will be too old to be youth participants in those jamborees. You should look for a jamboree that allows older Scouts in your troop to be participants. The **minimum age** for youth participants in some jamborees in other countries is 10. Participants in U.S. national jamborees must be a "minimum of 12 years of age on or before the first day of the Jamboree." The minimum age for U.S. participants in jamborees in other countries should be at least 12. You might decide to set it at 13 for your contingent.

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 you desire.

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.

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

SUMMER 2026 JAMBOREES OPEN TO SCOUTING AMERICA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

DENMARK – Jamboree Denmark - July 18 to 26, 2026 - https://spejderneslejr.dk/en/ and scroll down

ENGLAND - Chamboree - August 8-15, 2026 - Royal Cheshire Showground - https://www.chamboree.org.uk/

ENGLAND - **Poacher 2026** - August 1 to 8, 2026 - Lincolnshire Showground, 160 miles north of London - <u>https://www.poacher.org.uk/</u>

ENGLAND - WINGS 2026 - July 25 to August 1, 2026 - in Windsor Great Park, 26 miles west of London near Windsor Castle - <u>https://wingsjamboree.org.uk/</u> and click on the links along the top. <u>https://www.facebook.com/wingsjamboree/</u>

SCOTLAND - Blair Atholl Jamborette - 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. The 2026 dates are July 21 to 30. Scouts are formed into patrols composed of 6 Scottish Scouts and 6 Scouts from another country. The website at https://www.jamborette.org.uk/ has 2024 information. Click on "About Blair Atholl and "Overseas Patrols" to learn more. International spaces usually fill quickly. Learn more from the Baden-Powell Council that always sends contingents at https://www.bpblairatholl.org/2026/default.htm

SWEDEN - Jamboree 26 (Swedish National Jamboree) - July 25 to August 1, 2026 – program for ages 12-14 and 15-17 -Norra Asum near Kristianstad – The closest airport is Copenhagen, Denmark, with trains and buses to the jamboree site- "All international scout groups will be paired with a Swedish host scout group well in advance so that you can make contact and prepare your practical arrangements for the camp. You and your host group will camp together and hopefully they can support you with some of the camp equipment needed etc." - <u>https://www.scouterna.se/jamboree26/english/</u> - Scroll to the bottom to register your interest.

SUMMER 2027 JAMBOREE OPEN TO SCOUTING AMERICA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

THE NETHERLANDS - **Haarlem Jamborette** – 2027 - Saturday July 24 (arrival day) to Wednesday August 4 (departure day) - ages up to 17 - held every World Jamboree year at Spaarnwoude Recreational Area), a nature reserve located between Amsterdam, Haarlem and Velsen. "This reserve has many hiking routes, a mountain bike track, swimming lakes and even a ski slope and a climbing wall" Go to <u>https://www.haarlemjamborette.nl/</u> and click on FAQ and 2027 INTEREST LIST.

SOME INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTERS OPEN TO U.S. TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

SWITZERLAND - Kandersteg International Scout Center - Home of the permanent Mini Jamboree and dream of Lord Baden Powell - open every day of the year - 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 center's many vendors. Find out more online - <u>https://www.kisc.ch/</u>

ENGLAND - Gilwell Park - Nestled just outside of London, Gilwell Park is the home of the original Wood Badge training. U.S. 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 - <u>https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/gilwell-park</u>

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 - <u>https://www.zellhof.at/en/zellhof-is/</u>

DENMARK- Stevninghus Spejdercenter – not far north of the Danish-German border - <u>https://stevninghus.bookhus.dk/</u>

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