

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
February 21, 2024, 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 a good time to begin planning a trip to a summer 2025 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.

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 BSA national jamborees must be a "minimum of 12 years of age on or before the first day of the Jamboree." The minimum age for BSA 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 <https://michiganscouting.org/international-scouting/> and scroll down to "Travel Overseas with Scouts and Venturers" or go to <https://www.facebook.com/MCCInternationalScouting> to see if there is a more recent revision of this document that includes additional jamborees.

SUMMER 2025 JAMBOREES OPEN TO BSA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

ENGLAND - Kent International Jamboree - August 2-9, 2025 - ages 10 to 17 - Detling Showground, Kent County. about 42 miles ESE of London - <https://www.kij.org.uk/>

ENGLAND - Kernow Jamboree - July 27 to August 2, 2025 - ages 10 to 17 - Stithians Showground, Cornwall, in the far SW corner of England - <https://kernowjamboree.org.uk/>

ENGLAND - Norjam International Jamboree - August 9 to 16, 2025 - ages 10 to 17 - in Norfolk at the Norfolk Showground, about 120 miles NE of London - <https://www.norjam.org.uk/>.

NORWAY - National Jamboree - July 5 to 12, 2025 – “Our two associations, *The YWCA-YMCA Guides and Scouts of Norway* and *The Norwegian Guide and Scout Association* have previously had separate jamborees, but 2025 marks the first time they jointly cooperate on a national jamboree, and you are invited! The jamboree will take place in Gjøvik, Norway. It is a cozy town on the banks of Lake Mjøsa, a couple hours north of Oslo. We can’t wait to see you there!” Go to <https://www.landsleir.no/international> and scroll down.

SCOTLAND - Auchengillan Jamboree - August 2 to 9, 2025 - near Glasgow. Fly to London and take the train to Scotland. The program is aimed at Venturers and older Scouts - Go to <https://www.ai25.co.uk/> and scroll down to “About the Camp” for details. Some activities the jamboree offers might be prohibited by the BSA. Check the list of prohibited activities at <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss07/>

SUMMER 2026 JAMBOREES OPEN TO BSA TROOP AND CREW CONTINGENTS

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

England - Poacher 2026 - August 1 to 8, 2026 - Lincolnshire Showground, 160 miles north of London - <https://www.poacher.org.uk/> has 2022 information.

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 2024 jamborette will be held from July 16 to 26. The 2026 dates have not yet been announced. 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..

SOME INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTERS OPEN TO BSA 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 - <https://www.kisc.ch/>

ENGLAND - Gilwell Park - Nestled just outside of London, Gilwell Park is the 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>