

LIONS AREA 2018 INTERNATIONAL TRIP LONDON, ENGLAND AND SWITZERLAND

When is the trip?

3 weeks, July 21 – August 10, 2018. Please note these dates are subject to change.

Who can participate?

- Eight (8) girls aged 13-15 years as of December 31, 2018.
- Girls must have completed their 1st, 2nd or 3rd year of Pathfinders or the equivalent in Trex by the time of the trip.

In order to qualify, participants must:

- Be active members of Girl Guides of Canada (GGC)
- Have a minimum of two nights camping experience at the Guide level or higher and preferably five or more nights of experience being away from home in a Guiding or another youth oriented program (such as SOAR, Mix-It-Up, camp etc.)
- Be physically fit and be prepared to complete the GGC Swim Test
- Be continuing as a Pathfinder, Trex or Ranger in the Guiding year following the trip (2018-2019)

What will you experience?

Our adventure begins in London, England, at **Pax Lodge**, one of the Girl Guide World Centres. Girls will have a chance to learn about the origins of Guiding in England and make new friends with international Girl Guides and Girl Scouts while staying at PAX Lodge. Program activities in England could include visiting famous attractions such as Big Ben, the Tower of London and the London Eye, watching the changing of the Guards at Buckingham Palace, visiting the Harry Potter film studios or taking in a West End theatre show. And, of course, we'll have the chance to ride the tube, enjoy afternoon tea and perhaps even sample some of London's famous curries or fish and chips.

From there we will travel to Switzerland by plane. Within Switzerland we will be traveling on the famous Golden Pass and Glacier Express Panorama trains, visiting the cities such as Zurich, Interlaken, Montreux, Gruyere and Zermatt. We will be exploring some of the many delights of Swiss culture and scenery, which could include a trip to some of the highest mountains in Europe, cog train rides, gondola rides, hiking, mountain luge rides, cheese dairies, chocolate factories, visiting a medieval castle, museums and even a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a spectacular lake high in the Alps.

We plan to continue our exploration of the international Guiding movement in Switzerland with a stay at another Girl Guide World Centre, **Our Chalet** in Adelboden. There, we will experience the local mountain culture, beautiful landscapes, campfires with our sisters in Guiding, and many more special activities, before flying home.

The girls selected to participate in the trip will be active participants in the planning, working with the trip Guiders to choose programming options for the trip that reflect their interests and aspirations.

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What is the cost?

The total estimated cost of the trip is \$5,830 per person. As this is a trip sponsored by Lions Area, each successful applicant will receive a subsidy of \$1830 towards her trip costs, which makes the **net estimated trip cost per girl \$4000**. Girls can fundraise up to 90% of this cost. A minimum of 25% of monies fundraised must be through the sale of Girl Guide cookies.

The trip cost includes:

- Transportation (air, train, bus, on the ground local transit, etc.)
- Insurance (health, trip cancellation)
- Accommodations (hotel, hostels, etc.)
- All meals (eating out, prepared by group)
- All activity costs (sightseeing, tours, entertainment)
- Administration (phone, mail, photocopies)
- GGC International shirt and scarf

The final trip cost may vary, depending on any extraordinary fluctuations in the exchange rate, programming, transportation or other costs. While we have done our best to create a reasonable budget and anticipate costs in advance, families will be expected to pay for any additional costs incurred on the trip beyond the estimated costs. If there are excess funds remaining after the trip, families will be reimbursed.

Additional personal costs girl members are responsible for:

- Personal spending money
- Purchases to meet kit list requirements
- Notary and passport fees (passports must be valid until March 1, 2019)
- Additional group t-shirts and/or hats (to be determined)
- Cost of meals before arriving at YVR and landing at YVR and personal snacks
- Required immunizations

How do I apply?

Each girl applicant must complete the entire application, including references, by the application deadline. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Application and reference forms can be found at the National website at:

<http://forms.girlguides.ca/SitePages/Home.aspx#national>

(1) Girl Member application

Form to complete: *STG1R – Nationally-Sponsored Trip Application Form – Girl Member*

In Part H of the STG1R form, please answer the following trip specific question in detail:

What does being a good team member on a trip mean to you? What do you think might be the greatest challenge you will face during the trip and how might you deal with it?

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(2) References

Girls will need to have two references submitted to the selection committee. One reference should be from Guiding and one from non-Guiding. References can not be family members. References will need to be sent directly to the selection committee by the referee.

Form to complete: *STG2 – Reference Form – Girl Member*

(3) Application deadline – Tuesday, November 1, 2016

Applications and references must be received by November 1, 2016. Please submit to:

Lions Area 2018 International Trip Selection Committee
c/o Colleen Kellner
730 E. Keith Rd.
North Vancouver, BC
V7L 1W7
colleen.kellner@shaw.ca

Notes for all participants:

In order to provide as many members as possible with the opportunity to attend an International Event, members may be selected to participate in one Area, one Provincially sponsored and one Nationally sponsored domestic and international event as follows:

- Once as a girl member
- Once as a Guider
- Once as an adult participating in a WAGGGS event or GGC determined endorsed event
- In a designated role as determined by the Board, such as: Chief Commissioner, International Commissioner, CEO, etc.

In addition:

- The trip will be led by two selected Guiders from Lions Area.
- This is a uniform event and by submitting an application, you agree to the uniform guidelines that will be established by the trip Guiders.
- As GGC is committed to the health and safety of its members at all times, GGC reserves the right to cancel and/or reschedule trips, as required.
- If participation is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, GGC Lions Area Council will not accept responsibility for expenses incurred in preparation for this event.