

#### **COVID RULES (as of 26<sup>th</sup> March)**

#### FRANCE

Vaccinated people:

- 1. Proof of vaccination (Since 1 February 2022, travellers aged 18 and over who had their full vaccine course over 9 months ago and have not since received a COVID-19 vaccine booster must follow the rules for unvaccinated passengers to enter France).
- 2. A sworn statement (A sworn statement certifying the absence of COVID-19 symptoms and of any contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to their crossing).

#### Vaccinated people do not need to take any COVID-19 travel tests before they travel to France from the UK

Unvaccinated People:

- 1. A compelling reason (Unvaccinated people will be required to have a compelling reason to travel to or from the UK).
- 2. A negative PCR or antigen test less than 48 hours old. Unvaccinated travellers (12 years or over, even if accompanied by vaccinated adults) have to provide the result of a negative PCR carried out less than 72 hours prior to departure, or an antigen test carried out less than 48 hours prior to departure.
- 3. A sworn statement (A sworn statement certifying the absence of COVID-19 symptoms and of any contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to their crossing).
- Children under 18, whether or not vaccinated, accompanied by vaccinated adults are not subject to compelling reasons.
- All unvaccinated children aged 12 to 17 are subject to the same travel regulations as unvaccinated adults (PCR/antigen test prior to departure, sworn statement), whether or not accompanied by vaccinated adults.
- Children under 12 are exempt from all COVID travel restrictions in all cases

### **COVID RULES (as of 26<sup>th</sup> March)** BELGIUM

If you're transiting through Belgium:

Transiting is when you pass through one country on the way to your final destination. Travellers visiting Belgium for less than 48 hours do not need to present evidence of vaccination or a recovery or negative test certificate unless arriving from a country with a new Variant of Concern (VOC).

#### **COVID RULES (as of 26th March)**

#### NETHERLANDS

An EU entry ban is in effect for people from countries outside the European Union/Schengen area. There are exemptions to the entry ban, for example for people travelling from a safe country or people with proof of vaccination or proof of recovery.

If you are a resident of a country that is not on the list of safe countries and **fully vaccinated**, you can be exempted from the EU entry ban. Under this exemption you can enter the Netherlands if you have valid proof of vaccination (vaccination certificate) showing that you have been fully vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) or the World Health Organization (WHO). The official validity period of a proof of vaccination is 270 days after the last dose of the primary vaccination cycle. After receiving a booster dose the proof of vaccination will be valid again.

- A booster vaccination is an additional dose you received after completing your primary vaccination.
- Proof of booster vaccination is valid indefinitely after you receive your booster vaccination.

Travellers aged 12 and over from outside the Schengen area must complete a vaccination declaration. Children under the age of 18 travelling with their vaccinated parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are exempt from this requirement.

#### From 23 March 2022 people travelling to the Netherlands no longer need to show a negative test result.



#### WHY?

Every two years we offer an international opportunity to the Scouts. We visit countries and places you wouldn't normally go to on a family holiday, so giving a unique experience. In the past we have stayed in an alpine building in Adelboden in Switzerland, a converted school house in a small village called Domos on the bank of the Danube in Hungary, a Castle in the small town of Rieneck in Germany, a Hostel in Reykjavik in Iceland, a Hostel on the bank of lake Bohinj in Slovenia, a Youth Hostel in Malmedy in the Ardennes in Belgium, a Hostel on the outskirts of the city of Krakow in Poland and a Hostel in Zakopane in Poland for a ski trip.

Although many Scouts may of heard of The Netherlands (or Holland) how many have spent a week there? By going to this country it will offer the young people cultural experiences and activities in a memorable location showing them there are far more countries and places to visit rather than just the everyday ones that you hear about. In 2023 we will be staying in a town called Noordwijk, which is the west of the Netherlands, in the province of South Holland.

We have been offering international trips since 2005, and in total with the Group and District trip we have organise 20 trips so have a wealth of experience and knowledge.

#### WHEN?

The Hostel is booked from Saturday 5th August to Saturday 12th August 2023. The departure and return time is yet to be confirmed as this depends on the availability of the Eurotunnel or ferry crossing.

This is the second week of the Summer Holidays so will still give families the opportunity to have a week away together later during the six week break.

#### WHERE ARE WE STAYING?

We will be staying at the Stayokay Hostel Noordwijk. Located just a 30 minute short walk across the dunes to the beach where evenings can be spent chilling out or paddling in the sea. We will be staying full board which means breakfast, packed lunches and evening meals are all supplied by the hostel - giving us more time to do activities and enjoy the local customs and culture.

Within the hostels grounds is an outdoor seating area, a volley ball court, climbing frame and sports field. There is also a snack and drinks bar available and normally in the summer an ice cream shack.



#### **ANY PHOTOS OF THE ACCOMMODATION?**

Yep, here are a few photos...



#### WHERE IN THE NETHERLANDS IS IT?

It's approximately a 6.5 hours journey from the UK.



#### HOW MANY CAN GO?

We have booked rooms for just 25 Scouts\Explorers currently but more rooms are currently available at the hostel. We have to confirm numbers next week so we should be able to take all those that want to go. The rooms will be single sex with ensuite facilities.

#### WHO IS THE TRIP FOR?

This trip is open to the following members of the Scout Association:-

- Cubs who will have moved up to the Scouts Troop by the time of the trip
- Scouts
- Explorer Scout Young Leaders in Silver End Scout Group (current or future)
- Scouts that may have moved onto Explorers within the Maldon & East Essex District

Everyone going must be an active member of the Scout Association and regularly attending the weekly meetings.



#### **HOW WILL WE GET THERE?**

We will be travelling by coach and using the Eurotunnel rather than flying, as this keeps the price down. It will also give us transport to go to places and the activities we are doing. These saves on local transport costs.

Transport is not included in the cost of the trip (more on this later...)



We have planned various adventurous activities and cultural experiences. This is the current plan:-

	Sat 5th August	Sun 6th Aug	Mon 7th Aug	Tues 8th Aug
MORNING	Travelling	Dune Scooters	Duinrell	Atlantic Wall
AFTERNOON	Travelling	Power Kiting	Amusement Park	Rafting & Mega SUP
EVENING	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Bowling

	Wed 9th Aug	Thurs 10th Aug	Fri 11th Aug	Sat 12th Aug
MORNING	Amsterdam Anne Frank House	Adventure City	Ice Karting	Travelling
AFTERNOON	Canal Cruise Resistance Museum	Water Park	Souvenir Shopping	Travelling
EVENING	Free Time	Free Time	Jumpin Disco	



#### **Dune Scootering**

With many walking and cycling trails through the dunes there will be plenty to see during a morning of Dune Scootering. Enjoy exploring the local country side on two wheels and a stop at the beach for lunch or a splash in the sea.





#### **Power Kiting**

This is actually the basis of kite surfing. On the beach you will work with different types and sizes of power kites. You start with relatively small power kites in order to get off to a good, quiet and safe start and to have complete control of the power kite. Then you will slowly expand to a larger one. The kites will carry you through the sand, giving you an incredibly cool feeling.



#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

#### Bowling

This needs no explanation. An evening at the local bowling alley.





#### **Duinrell Amusement Park**

A day at this family friendly theme park. Fly high, go fast and spin around! There are over 40 rides and attractions, from the fun toboggan run and monorail to the more extreme roller coasters. There will be something for everyone.





#### **Atlantic Wall Museum**

The Atlantikwall Museum Noordwijk consists of a series of bunkers from the Second World War. This gives you an idea of life in the bunkers during the war and the way in which the European coast was transformed into a fortress by the Germans.





#### Sea Rafting

Starting with a small piece of theory about safety, sea, currents, etc. then everyone puts on a wetsuit, helmet and grabs a paddle. In teams of 6-8 people, you will take the raft to the high tide line together. Once at the high tide line, you will then play different games in the water!





#### Mega SUP

Fun with 6 to 10 people on a mega surfboard of around 6 meters long! You will dive into the sea and experience the best moments in the surf. The experienced surf instructors will give useful tips & tricks during the activity to make even better use of the SUP.



#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

#### **Day in Amsterdam – Resistance Museum**

Travel with the 'time machine' to the Netherlands during WWII and empathize with four children in this interactive museum that brings their story to life.



#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

#### Day in Amsterdam – Anne Frank House

One of the sad stories from WWII happened at this place. The Anne Frank House is a museum with a story. As a visitor, you experience this story through quotes, photos, videos, and original items.



#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

#### Day in Amsterdam – Canal Cruise

We will spend a day in the capital. One of the best ways to explore it is on the canal. There's a story to tell about almost every bridge or building, so you can see 100 highlights in one hour.





#### **Adventure City**

Enjoy 2 hours of climbing activities at the largest and most spectacular indoor and outdoor adventure park in the Netherlands. SOME of the things to try are the Zipline, Via Ferrata, Freefall Jumps, High Ropes and Climbing Wall.





#### Water Park

The Tiki Pool is more than a tropical swimming pool. Its has 21 unique slides, making it the largest water park in the Benelux area! Enjoy 1.5 km of exciting slides, the kids water park Playa and the outdoor area.





#### **Ice Karting**

Conquer the ice circuit in a go-kart. The task is also to cross the finish line first, but what does it take to do that? With the right technique you can manoeuvre yourself forward while drifting and you are able to overtake competitors. Speed is less important than the right technique.





#### **Souvenir Shopping**

The final afternoon of the trip will be spent in the nearby town of Noordwijkerhout where Scouts can buy souvenirs to remember their time in the Netherlands or presents to take home. They may even want to try a Smurf flavoured ice cream!



#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

#### Jumpin Disco

We finish the week by going to the local Trampoline Park for a party. Friday is disco night, so dance while you bounce! Lemonade and chips are provided for when you need a break from jumping.





#### **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?**

We have already booked the Hostel and have some good deals in place for activities etc. The outline programme has been put together and budgeted at the current prices. Allowing an increase in activity prices and for exchange rate fluctuations the cost will be £395. If it is slightly more, then there will be an additional payment in July 2023 to cover the excess.

Payments will be collected by monthly Standing Order only (unless exceptional circumstances).

#### WHAT DOES THE COST INCLUDE?

The fee includes, accommodation, all meals, activities, trips, tours, days out, 'Trip Branded' clothing, uniform occasional badge, travel insurance, UK Scarf and UK Badge.



#### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

The cost does not include transport. The cost of the coach and crossing is expected to be around £6000. We cannot yet get firm quotes due to fluctuations in fuel costs. If we work on £6000 and we get 40 participants (the average of our international trips) the cost would work out at £150 per person.

If we can get grants to cover the channel crossing (Eurotunnel), it could bring down the cost to £5000 for the coach – so only £125 per person if we get 40 go.

We will try and offer fundraising opportunities to help pay for the transport part of the trip. Any difference between what the participants have raised and the cost of the transport will have to be paid for.

Any COVID test that may still be required at the time of travel will also not be covered in the cost.

One way you can help with fund raising...

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We have been chosen to be one of the organisations to vote for at Witham Tesco in their next round of Community Grant Schemes.

Voting will commence in store from the first week of April 2022 and continue until 30th June 2022.

So if you shop there or know friends and family that do, please encourage them to pick up a token and put in our box.



Click, Shop & GiveForFree each time you shop online and raise free donations for

**Shop via** shopandgive.thegivingmachine.co.uk



Scan and enter our quick sign up code: 62340



ANDROID APP ON GOOgle play

Over 2,000 of your favourite retailers are participating



#### WHAT IS THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE?

This is the payment schedule for the trip. All payments are non-refundable (unless we cancel the trip) and will be via standing order only. We will only accept cash\cheque payment in exceptional circumstances as we are still having problems with people paying by the deadline each month for trips and activities.

Deposit (by end of April 2022)*	- £35	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	- £30	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	- £30	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	- £30	28 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	- £30	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	- £30	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	- £30
28 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	- £30		

\* I do have to pay a deposit to the hostel on Monday where I am also supposed to be confirming numbers, so the sooner people can pay the easier it will be for me.

#### **HOW DO YOU BOOK A PLACE?**

To book a place, fill in and return the booking form with the £35 deposit no later than end of April 2022.

#### **CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO 'SCOUT TOURS'**

(we will accept a postdated cheque)

As already mentioned, I am supposed to confirm numbers and pay a deposit on Monday. As this may be too short of notice for people to be able to pay, if they return the booking form, I will pay their deposit on my credit card on the understanding that the money will be paid by the end of the month. If during the next few weeks they decide not to go, you will still have to pay the deposit or I will personally be out of pocket.

#### SUBS MUST ALSO BE UP TO DATE TO SECURE A PLACE

If you are successful in getting a place, you will be emailed the bank details and standing order form to pay the deposit into (note it will be different to the account you normally use for activities, camps and subs so please check the details before transferring).

## If payments or paperwork needed for the trip are not returned by the deadline, we reserve the right to exclude the participant and no refund given.