

11th Scouts Summer Camp 2015

Ardeche, France



Parent Info Pack
Friday 5th June

Agenda



- Ardeche 2015
- The Leaders
- Before we go
- Travel to camp
- At camp
- Travel home
- Our Badge
- Information Appendices



Ardeche 2015



- Every two years the 11th Scouts camp abroad.
- Camping La Savane, a youth camp operated by Acorn Adventures near the village of Ruoms in the Ardeche region of southern France
- Not a dedicated Scout/Guide camp-site but is a youth and schools site operated by UK company
- Camp includes two day, one night kayak adventure with caving, climbing, water sports, Scout skills and an open air pool.

Confirmed Leaders



Scott Richards
(Camp Leader)



Karen Todd



Nancy Little



Young Leader
Ola Walker

A team with many years experience in Scouting abroad having led trips to Russia, Denmark, Switzerland & Norway.

Before we go



- Obtain or check validity of European Health Insurance Card <https://www.ehic.org.uk/> expires after 5 years, E111 now invalid
- EHIC takes approx. 7 working days to process, **must have** for travel (give a copy to Scott by 1st June)
- EU and selected other countries passport holders do not need a visa to enter France, however if your Scout holds a passport from a country not on that list, e.g. India, you must obtain a visa for them. The processing times are 2-3 weeks.
- Check your Scout's passport is valid until at least 20th January 2016 (give a copy to leaders by 1st June)
- Parents & Scouts to complete a Permission to Camp form and a Good Behaviour contract, which will be distributed in June.
- The trip is comprehensively insured by Acorn Insurance.
- Travel insurance cover, Electronic Devices policy, Medication, Pocket Money and Kit List details are found in the appendices.

Travel to camp



- Meet at Waverley Station at 5.30pm for a 6.30pm departure on Friday 3rd July. Scott to advise meeting point separately.
- Arrive London Kings X at 11.15pm. Overnight hostel accommodation at Dover Castle Hostel in Borough.
- Depart London St. Pancras International Station at 7.15am by Eurostar to Avignon. Approximately 6 hour journey
- Arrive Avignon TGV station at 2.15pm local time
- Coach transfer from Avignon to Ardeche is 1 hour
- Travel in full Scout uniform 'above the waist', i.e. scout shirt, camp neckerchief and hoody. No requirements for kilts this time (phew!)
- No Maximum bag size or weight limit but Scout must be able to carry their bag by themselves. No suitcases (ruck sacks or soft bags only) and no knives or sharp objects. See kit list in appendices.

At camp



- Accommodation on camp is private pre-erected four-person tents with a central marquee for meeting and eating.
- Daily routine; wide variety of adventure activities, helping with meals, hosting visits from foreign groups, visiting the local village, etc.
- Parents stay informed throughout camp by visiting our our Facebook page. Updated regularly. Facebook page will be opened shortly.
- On-site café with a *Pocket Money Bank* account facility available from leaders to ration spending.
- Big opportunity to meet young people from other countries and learn about their cultures.
- Take stickers and badges for swapping with other Scout Groups on-site.

Travel home



- Depart campsite at 2pm on Friday 10th July.
- Eurostar to London from Avignon, arriving back in the UK at 10pm
- Overnight accommodation in Dover Castle Youth Hostel in London
- Depart London Kings X at 8am on Sat 11th July, arriving in Waverly at 12.30pm (after noon).

Important Information



Home Emergency Contact – Prime Contact
David Anderson, Assistant Scout Leader
0131 552 5254
07976248418

Away Emergency Contacts – Secondary Contacts
Scott Richards 07429452449
11thenescouts@gmail.com

Acorn Adventure
0121 504 2070
info@acornadventure.co.uk

The Away Leader contact is for emergencies only, the daily blog should give you lots of insight into camp life. See guidance on mobile phones for Scouts.

Camp Badge



- In previous years we've designed a badge specifically for each camp, but this year we've settled on a new permanent badge for the group
- Here is the badge we'll use on our hoodies and luggage labels for camp and will be our permanent branding after camp too
- Your Scout knows the detailed story of the significance of the colours and the Stag motif, but the Stag is the emblem of Broughton and can be seen on the badges of several local clubs and institutions.



Appendix 1 - FAQs



Q: How do I know what my Scout is doing each day?

A: You can see what we've been up to on the Group Facebook page. Page will be launched shortly.

Q: What if my Scout runs-out of pocket money?

A: If this is likely, use the camp bank to help your Scout ration their spending. The leaders will not have spare funds to supplement Scout discretionary spending.

Q: What are the plans for meals?

A: We will have breakfast, packed & sit down lunches, main meal and supper with fruit snacks and fresh water available between meals. Meals will be nutritionally balanced and accommodate dietary preferences, e.g. vegetarians, allergies, etc.

Q: What currency will my Scout need?

A: The local currency is the Euro.

Q: What happens if my Scout becomes ill or is injured?

A: All Scout leaders and Acorn staff are trained First Aiders. There is a GP doctor in the nearby village and the nearest hospital is 30mins away. France has advanced medical services and we carry full insurance for medical treatment and repatriation.

Having fun and being safe

Appendix 1 - FAQs



Q: Do I need to arrange travel insurance for my Scout?

A: No, all Scouts are covered under our insurance policy; see Appendix 2.

Q: Will I be able to contact my Scout while they are away?

A: Experience of trips abroad shows that Scouts may become home-sick through mobile phone contact with a parent, especially mid-week, so we discourage direct contact. Our programme will be busy and fun and parents are encouraged to keep track of what the troop is doing through the blog. If leaders feel that contact with home is beneficial at any point they will contact you to arrange this. In an emergency at home, use the contact details supplied.

Q: Will my Scout be supervised at all times?

A: All activities will be supervised by British/Irish qualified leaders or staff. Scouts will have free time, but sensible boundaries and time constraints are applied. There are social areas within the camp and Scouts will be encouraged to socialise with other campers. The rule of 3's applies.

Have fun and be safe

Appendix 2 – Group Insurance



	Cover Benefit	Value of benefit up to	Excess
1	Personal Accident	£5,000	
2	Medical & Emergency Repatriation Expenses	£10,000,000	£20
3	Hospital Stay	£400	
4	Supplementary Travel & Accommodation Expenses	£15,000	
5	Personal Belongings (single item limit)	£1,000 (£250)	£20
6	Money	£1,000	£20
7	Credit Card Fraud	£1,000	
8	Loss of passport	£1,000	
9	Disruption	£1,000	£20
10	Travel Delay	£60	
11	Missed Departure	£500	£20
12	Personal Liability	£2,000,000	
13	Legal Expenses	£25,000	
14	Rescue Plus	£2,000	
15	Piste closure	£200	

Appendix 3 - Policies



Mobile Phones & Other Electronic Devices

Although most Scouts have personal mobile phones, we discourage them at camp. There is a high risk of accumulating prohibitive data roaming charges, as happened to one Scout on our Switzerland trip, and the risk of loss of the hand-set too. Experience shows that parents contacting Scouts directly can be unsettling for them. Phones, small cameras, iPods, etc. may be brought to camp but at the Scout's own risk. Unfortunately, these devices and mobile phones are excluded from the group travel insurance policy provisions, so we cannot claim lost items on the group insurance.

Good Behaviour Policy

For a happy camp, we need safe and respectful behaviour at all times. Scouts should listen carefully to instructions and any request from a leader should be followed willingly. Respect, and look-out for each other. We'll ask all Scouts to sign a good behaviour contract before departure.

Medication Policy

We need to know all relevant medical information, including any medications currently being taken. Scouts should carry their own and give a spare to the leaders for safe-keeping.

Pocket Money Policy

France is not a particularly expensive destination, so we recommend a maximum of £100 pocket money and much less should be more than adequate. You can choose to bank this with the leaders or entrust it to your Scout. We are happy to accept the Euros equivalent; 130 Euros by 26th June (in cash). If entrusting with your Scout, you should provide Euro currency only.

Appendix 4 – Kit List



Kit List	
Sleeping bag	Pillow
Small rucksack or bag	Insect repellent (just in case)
Wallet/purse (spending money)	Towel x2
Toiletries	Tie on for glasses are necessary for activities
Sun hat/cap	Nightclothes
Change of clothes for evenings	Socks (At least 2 pairs for each day)
Fleece/warm jumper in case of cold weather	Trousers/Tracksuits/Long Shorts
Two pairs of trainers (one for getting wet & one for keeping dry- no crocs or jelly shoes)	Underwear
High factor suncream (50+)	Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothes
Light waterproof jacket for warmer wet weather (Decathlon offers these at good value)	Swimwear
Torch & spare batteries	Water/sports bottle
Passport	EHIC Card
Wet Activities (Ardeche Descent, Kayaking, Raft Building & River Trek)	
T-shirt (must cover to elbow- no vests)	Shorts (to the knees)
Full toe protection- old trainers	
Dry Activities (Caving, Climbing & Abseiling, High Ropes, Archery & Giant Initiative)	
Long sleeved t-shirt (must cover to elbow-no vests)	Trousers or long shorts
Full toe protection- old trainers (plimsolls are ideal)	
Optional	
Single sheet/Mattress cover	Disposable camera (that you don't mind losing or getting damaged)
Sunglasses with UV protection	Pen and notepad

Appendix 5 – Costs per Scout



- Cost to Travel – **£174** (includes train and overnight accommodation in London)
- Insurance - **£ 15**
- Cost to Camp & Activities - **£600** (includes food, activities and excursions during the camp)
- Cost per Scout = **£789**

The final net cost to parents is variable depending on fundraising. Over £7000 was raised in bag-packs and through grants.

- Average net cost - **£530**

Many thanks to Peter and Fiona Holmes and Colin Anderson for their fundraising efforts and to all the Scouts, Leaders and Parents too!

Appendix 6 - Timeline



Fri 26 June – Deadline for payment for hoody (£17) & final deposit date for Pocket Money Bank

Fri 3 July – Meet at 5.30pm, depart from Waverly at 6.30pm

Sat 4 July – Depart London for Avignon 7.15am, arrive 2.15pm (local time)

4-10 July – Camp

Fri 10 July – Depart Avignon for London 4pm

Sat 11 July – Arrive Waverly at 12.30pm (just after noon) from Kings X

Sept 2015 – Parent reception & presentation