



COUNTY INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INTOPS) for trips in 2027

INFORMATION SHEET for Parents, Carers, Rangers, Young Leaders, and Guides

Please read before completing the application form.

Thank you for your interest in Girlguiding Buckinghamshire's INTOPS event for international trips in 2027.

- ★ Girlguiding Buckinghamshire have been running international trips for over 20 years for our members.
- ★ We do try to offer County trips which include meeting up with other members of worldwide Girlguiding or Scouting.
- ★ Most of our trips are arranged during school holidays usually in the summer but could be at another half term. They can vary in length and cost.
- ★ INTOPS is an international experience that can take place in the UK or abroad.
- ★ Every trip is different and may be a camp or residential. Travel may be by boat, coach, bus, train, or plane. Activities may include sightseeing, swimming, walking and adventurous activities. We try to have a range of activities to suit everyone.
- ★ Obviously, the cost of these trips is a major consideration, and we have tried to include a range of options. Suggestions for fundraising and grants available will be given after selection has taken place.
- ★ All trips are dependent on getting the minimum number of leaders and young members to take part.
- ★ Why so long before the trip? We usually allow about 9 – 18 months from selection to the trip – (dependent on the cost and location) this lets everyone have time for fundraising, planning, saving etc.
- ★ The trips on offer are County trips and the group selected will come from all over Buckinghamshire and young members selected might not know anyone. Never fear! We hope that by the end of selection event, everyone will have made new friends.
- ★ We cannot guarantee places on any particular trip.
- ★ Our aim for these trips is for everyone involved to make new friends, build confidence, travel to different places – and have fun!



After completing the application form, you will need to get this counter-signed by your leader and parent/carer.

This year's selection event will be an overnight residential from 6.30pm on Friday 13 March to 2.30pm on Saturday 14 March 2026 at Ellesborough Guide Centre, Missenden Road, Butlers Cross, Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 0UP

You will need to attend the whole selection event – there will be no alternative date.

The cost for the application and the selection event is £20.00, which is non-refundable.

There are limited places available – so get your applications in early. Once all the places are filled – we will be unable to accept any further applications.

Payments should be made electronically (details below), however, if this is not possible, please attach a cheque to the application form and post to the address below.

- **Guide Association of Bucks International**
- **Sort Code 30-90-18 (TSB Bank)**
- **Account Number: 01089373**

Please quote your daughter's name and "INTOPS" as a reference (eg. JSmith INTOPS)

Along with this application, an Information and Consent form should be completed, signed and emailed (or posted) with this application form. A Health form will be provided nearer the event.

The application is in Word format. Please do not send photographs of your application. Either complete online and email or complete, print and post.

Forms should be emailed to international@girlguidingbucks.org.uk or posted to Margaret Lorton, County International Adviser, Girlguiding Buckinghamshire, 3 Walton Terrace, Walton Street, Aylesbury HP21 7QY – **TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 27 January 2026**

Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept applications after this date.

Once received, you will then receive an email and confirmation of your place at the selection event.



OUTLINE OF THE EVENT:

The event will involve sleeping indoors in the house and will begin at 6.30pm on Friday, with registration for everyone, followed by supper and indoor activities, which will enable you to meet and join in with others who share your interests in guiding and travel.

On Saturday, after breakfast, there will be outdoor activities after which you will be able to hear about past County international trips and ones planned for 2027, what's involved in County trips and what to expect, take part in team building activities and have your questions answered. The event will conclude at 2.30pm.

Supper will be provided on Friday evening, breakfast and lunch provided on Saturday. Drinks will be available for the whole duration. Please let us know any dietary requirements beforehand.

A kit list can be found on the next page.

We will make contact to either offer a place on a trip or to decline as soon as we can after selection day. We cannot guarantee places on trips, but we will try to accommodate everyone who applies. We will provide feedback if necessary.

County INTOPs Event – 13/14 March 2026 at Ellesborough Guide Centre

KIT LIST / WHAT TO BRING

- Guide/Ranger/Young Leader hoodie – if you have one – to be worn on both days
- Additional clothing i.e. trousers, spare hoodie, t shirt, underwear
- Waterproof/warm jacket or coat (we will be outside on Saturday morning)
- Outdoor walking boots/trainers
- Sleeping bag
- Blanket
- Small pillow
- Pyjamas
- Slippers or indoor shoes
- Toiletries e.g. Toothbrush, toothpaste
- Small towel
- Hairbrush/comb, hair ties
- Torch
- Water bottle
- Medication (in clear zip lock bag, labelled with your name and dosage instructions)
- Notebook, pen, pencils
- An item or object you think illustrates something about the UK or your area and which you will be prepared to talk about.
- An activity, game or song which you might be able to share with non-English speaking Brownies or Guides.

Everything should be clearly marked with the owner's name

Girlguiding UK accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen items.

Insurance is the responsibility of parents/carers.