



Netherlands 2027 Frequently Asked Questions

What will my child need to take with them?

A full kit list will be given in good time, however all their clothing/sleeping equipment etc (sleeping bag, roll matt and so on) need to be carried on and off the ferry and coach by the attendee. Therefore, we would recommend taking a large backpack. They will be stored in the cabin during the ferry crossing.

Will my child share with scouts/explorers from their own group/unit whilst at the campsite?

Not necessarily, we will try to ensure we observe friendship groups where possible and we will ensure single sex tents. We will have enough tents to ensure all accommodation is single sex should this be people's preference.

Will my child share with scouts/explorers from their own group/unit whilst on the ship?

Not necessarily, we will try to ensure we observe friendship groups where possible and we will aim to ensure single sex cabins, however we may need to have a small number of mixed sex cabins to keep under occupancy and (in effect higher prices) to a minimum - if this were to happen it would typically be with the explorers who are older and more mature and again only with express consent of the members and their parents/guardians in advance of travel.

Why won't you guarantee allocation of tents/cabins by group/unit?

We are taking part in this overseas trip as **one district rather than several groups/units who happen to know each other**. As such we will have plenty of time for members to get to know each other and form bonds in their group of 12 (or thereabouts) participants in the lead up to the camp during planning and skills sessions, we believe this will give the attendees a broader and more engaging experience rather than only spending time with the same group of scouts/explorers they are with week in week out, of course they can socialise with whoever they like during free time.

Food. What? Where? and allergies etc

We will give our attendees the opportunity to help design our menu for the event.

We will of course provide appropriate meals for people with medical/religious/conscientious dietary restrictions. Food onboard the ship will be prepared in a professional kitchen, and we will pass on any pertinent info in relation to food intolerances/allergies

Who will provide the camping equipment?

The fully equipped kitchens and tables/benches to eat at will be rented from the hosting site.

Tents for sleeping will belong to various groups around the district who agree to loan them to us and we will transport them to and from the site in a member of the event management teams van. We urge all participants to be mindful of scout law 6 in particular **A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.**

Any accidental damage and repair costs resulting from that will be covered by the district, however any malicious damage will be billed to the individual responsible.

Medical/Health/Wellbeing needs

We will collect this information approximately 6 months prior to travel to ensure it's up to date.

However, if your young person has any complex needs be it Physical/Emotional or Mental health related which we need to be aware of. **Please flag this to a member of our team at the earliest possible opportunity** so we can ensure we are able to make all necessary adjustments which are practicable.

Who is the event lead and why?

Andy Moore is the event lead (as well as the district lead for global scouting) along with Richard Smith the District Lead Volunteer. Andy has been involved in scouting as an adult since 2015 in addition to being a member in his youth.

He has taken a group of scouts from Northumberland to the Netherlands previously as well as arranging a trip for a group of 43 scouts from Newcastle upon Tyne to Spain.

Andy has also taken a group of 150 young people from Hadrian District (Tyne Valley) to winter camp (national event held at Hawkhurst scout activity centre in Kielder- sadly this event is discontinued since covid) before so is used to dealing with large-scale camps.

Andy has 20 years' experience in the travel industry and has an in-depth and wide knowledge of the logistics of taking people overseas this is in addition to the successful camp taking 40 young people from Darlington to the Netherlands in August 2025. He currently works as a manager for a corporate travel company who specialise in dealing with charities and academic institutions as well as group travel.

He also holds a nights away permit which covers campsites, indoor accommodation, open fields and narrow boats.

Who will be looking after the young people?

All leaders in attendance will be DBS checked leaders from within the district who are competent, fit and proper people who will meet all attendees before we travel, and the District Commissioner/District Lead Volunteer will also be in attendance.

We will be taking adults at a ratio of 1 adult to every 6 young people which is far above the minimum number required of 1 adult to 12 Youth Members (plus one leader in charge) this is to facilitate the safest movement of our members during our journey and during off site activities.

Any other questions

Please email andy.moore@darlingtonscouts.org.uk for specific queries.