



Categories of destinations

There are six categories of *destinations*. Which one is right for you?

- **International**—events outside of the U.S.
- **Outdoors**—events ranging from learning outdoor skills to Outward Bound challenges on land or sea.
- **Science**—events that take science to a new level. Learn animal behavior or what a doctor's life is like.
- **People**—events that visit cities and country sides so you can experience the culture of new places.
- **Apprenticeships**—events that give you hands-on, real-life experience in a potential career field.
- **Getaways**—Two- to four-day events all over the country, that don't require the 2009 STUDIO 2B *destinations* application.

Application Process

- Each girl will complete one application per event. A girl can complete as many applications as she chooses. She may also attend as many *destination* events as she chooses. However, it is recommended that she only get council funding for one event. A girl can only get GSUSA funding for one event.
- Two references must accompany each application (unless otherwise noted on the event description page on the Web site). A girl can use the same letters of reference for each event, if she chooses.
- Each application should include one self-addressed stamped postcard for the girl's council, and one self-addressed stamped postcard for the applicant – in order to confirm receipt of the application by the event sponsor.
- Once applications are received at the council office, the council **MUST SIGN THE GIRLS' APPLICATION VERIFYING THE APPLICANTS' GIRL SCOUT MEMBERSHIP and ALL CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATIONS' FRONT PAGE.**
- Girls and the council are to keep a complete copy of the applications.

In an effort to better mirror the college application process, shorten the selection timeframe, and simplify work for councils and event sponsors, the following changes are being made:

1. There will be “early” and “late” application times, thereby giving a girl two chances to apply for a *destination*. There will not be any selection rounds, as in the past. All applications will be mailed to the event sponsors at the same time. The application form and reference forms are completed, they should be hand delivered or mailed to Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana by **November 15, 2008**.
2. Should a girl miss the council deadline, implying that her application will not arrive to the event sponsor by December 1, 2008, she may apply for “late” acceptance if her application is received by the event sponsor by February 1, 2009. The application process will be completed and finalized by March 1, 2009. No applications will be accepted or processed after March 1, 2009.
3. Girls will complete one application for each event they intend to apply for. There will not be 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th choices. The application will remain basically the same and there will still be two letters of references required, unless otherwise noted within the event description on the Web site. A girl could use the same references for each event she applies for. There will **not** be an interview process.
4. A girl can submit as many applications as she chooses. If a girl is accepted to more than one event, and she is financially able to attend more than one event, she may. However, it is recommended that she only receive council funding for one event. A girl will receive funding from GSUSA for only one event.
5. Because this means that a girl could be accepted to 5 events, but only be able to afford to attend 1, the event sponsors will require an immediate deposit of between \$50 and \$200 to secure her spot in an event.
6. There will be deposits due after acceptance no matter if a girl is selected for “early” or “late” acceptance. The deposit will be towards the event fee. The deposit will not be over and above the stated event fee.

References

When the application form and reference forms are completed, they should be hand delivered or mailed to the council where a girl is registered by **November 15, 2008**. Applicants will still be required to have two (2) letters of recommendation:

- One from a Girl Scout adult who has worked closely with the girl (not a relative). This can be a girl advisor, an event leader, a camp counselor, or council trainer.
- One from an adult who works with the girl in the community, such as a teacher, religious instructor, supervisor, or employer (no friends of the family or peer).

Girls should discuss the skills they need and the reasons they are applying with the persons they have asked to write a reference. Girls should inform the reference about the content and requirements of the event. They should provide a stamped, addressed envelope, which can be sealed and returned to the girl to turn in with the application. It must have all references attached before it can leave the home council. It is very important to ensure all paperwork has been completed and turned in to the council on-time.

2008-2009 Timeline for National & International Events

Date	Action
November 15, 2008	Application packet due to Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana
December 1, 2008	"Early applications" due to event sponsors.
January 15, 2009	"Early" selections made and applicants notified of their status by this date. Applications for girls who did not apply for "early" admission are processed by GS Councils
February 1, 2009	Deposits due to event sponsors to secure "early" applicants space in the event. Applications due to sponsors for "late" selection process.
February 15, 2009	"Late" selections made and applicants notified of their status by this date.
March 1, 2009	Deposits due to event sponsors to secure "late" applicants space in the event. Application and selection process completed and closed for 2009.

**Additional events may be posted on the destination web page at www.studio2b.org throughout the year. Adjustments to individual event timelines will also be posted.

The Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana *destinations* Financial Award

The Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana wants to celebrate the accomplishments of girls and adults who are chosen to participate in GSUSA *destinations* programs or other national or international Girl Scout/Girl Guide events. As a show of support, the council offers each selected participant a financial award that will be applied toward their registration fee. The Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana will pay up to 50 percent of the of the event registration, not to exceed \$400.00, for any Kentuckiana member who participates in a *destination*.

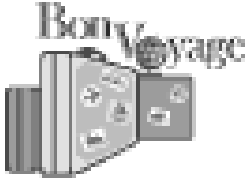
Other details

Individuals may only receive this event registration financial award for one *destination* or other national or international Girl Scout/Girl Guide event during a calendar year. It is the participant's responsibility to submit a copy of their acceptance letter (e-mail or other copy of written communication from the event sponsor) to the *destinations* staff liaison to process the payment. Payments will only be made to the event sponsor.

What about additional financial assistance or Scouterships?

In addition to the automatic award that will be applied toward the *destination* registration fee, individuals requiring additional financial assistance may also apply for a Scoutership. Scoutership assistance is based on financial need. Scoutership requirements include: the girls/adults family has a demonstrated financial need; the girl/adult is a registered member of Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana; the girl/adult submits a Scoutership application by the event deadline (Resource Sheet #510).

Preparing for a destination



This is perhaps the greatest thing in Girl Scouting that has, or will happen to you.....it is a very important step in your life....so much awaits you, and you will want to make the most of every second of the experience. Never before will Juliette Low's words and ideals seem so important, so necessary, so relevant. To make this the greatest time of your life with everlasting memories and immeasurable growth.....Be Prepared!

Be ready for almost anything, especially new surroundings, different ways of living and doing things, dialogues, different sights (the rest of the world doesn't look Southern Indiana or Kentucky), different views (especially viewpoints from participants from other countries or other parts of the United States), new customs, new friends, lots of sightseeing, lots of walking, little rest and great insight into what Girl Scouting is all about!

LUGGAGE

Your luggage will depend on the event, where you're going and for how long.

1. Try to limit yourself to one suitcase or duffel and one tote or carry-on. Remember, **YOU** will have to carry it.
2. A luggage carrier or suitcase with wheels is great. Hint: The bungee cords that come with these carriers do not hold securely. Use a regular strap that fits around the carrier and your luggage. That way, if you have to pick everything up to negotiate steps, it won't fall. (Not all airports have escalators and moving sidewalks.)
3. Your carry-on is a must! In this you should carry everything that is vital to your very life. That is, toothbrush, something to sleep in, medication, camera, film, brush or comb, and anything else you cannot live without in case your luggage is misplaced. **Be sure to check the current airline regulations.**
4. Inside each piece of luggage put your name and address and the name and address of your destination, with the dates you will be there.
5. On the outside of the luggage should be your name and address. You can put identifying tag, ribbon, pom-pom, or something that is easily recognized on your luggage to make it easier to find at the airport.
6. THINK SMALL, THINK LIGHT.

PACKING

Follow the suggested packing list that is provided by your event. Consider where you will be going, for how long, and what you will be doing.

Start N O W to plan your wardrobe and supplies.



Packing (continued)

1. Get everything together about two weeks in advance. Double check for any washing and mending. **PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING - ESPECIALLY UNIFORMS!!!!**
2. Fold everything neatly and leave it alone for about a week.
3. Now go back through it and take out all the unnecessary items and include the forgotten important items. Do this again the day before you leave, and then pack it all up.

SOME HINTS: Use sample size plastic bottles of shampoo, soap, etc. Put all bottles of liquids in zip-lock bags. Put extra shoes in plastic bags. Pack heavy things and least used items on the bottom. Lighter items and much used items on top. On the very top should be the things you will need right away (pajamas, robe, casual clothes).

After everything is packed, attach your luggage to the carrier (if you will use one) and try walking around the block two or three times at a fast pace. If you cannot manage your own luggage, then reconsider what you packed and take out **ALL** unnecessary items. Be sure to leave room to bring home souvenirs.

Start buying things like stamps, stationary, personal items now. That way you won't have a big expense right before the event.

Get a small notebook for keeping a log of your trip and for recording expenses, etc. You can keep your addresses in it too. This way you'll have something handy when you want to write something down or leave a note, etc.



THINK SMALL ~ THINK LIGHT
PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING !



CAMERA

A camera is essential for keeping a record of your *destination*. You will want to take pictures of your activities, your new friends and all the places you visit for remembering and sharing with others when you return.

The Camera - Whether you already own one, will borrow one or buy one, it is important to have your camera far enough ahead of time so that you will know how to use it.

Using a digital camera

Tip 1:

Compact digital cameras have a [shutter delay](#). To reduce this, take some practice shots. Here's a tip to help you find out how much of a delay you're dealing with:

- stand in the middle of the room, camera at the ready.
- turn slowly, and while looking at the screen, press the shutter when you see a "marker" in the room (the "marker" could be a lamp, perhaps). Keep turning until the shutter fires.
- When the camera has taken the shot, compare where it took the shot, with where you pressed the shutter – the difference is the shutter delay.

Tips for using a digital camera (continued)

Once you have found out how much delay there is, you can plan for it. For example, when taking a group photo; “ready? Three, two . . . *press shutter button!* . . . one, smile! . . . *camera takes the shot!*”

Tip 2:

If you're taking photographs outside, a good digital photography tip is to make use of "the golden hour" if possible.

There are two golden hours per day (so you have two chances every day to use this digital photography tip!). The first golden hour is one hour after sunrise, and the second golden hour is one hour before sunset.

The light is less harsh than during the middle of the day and the result is photos with nice saturated colors. The golden hour works especially well for landscapes.

Tip 3:

Don't waste time or battery power analyzing your photos "in the field". Better to make sure you have a big memory card, and just keep on snapping away!

When you are back home, download your photos to your computer, and then separate the wheat from the chaff.

Tip 4:

A digital photography tip for those seeking the best quality photos – switch off the digital zoom.

Digital cameras have both an optical zoom (which is good), but also a digital zoom (which is not so good!). The digital zoom just makes things appear larger by adding in extra pixels to your photo.

As a consequence of this addition, photos will appear blocky or blurry. Best to turn it off in your settings menu.

Tip 5:

Don't be afraid to use the flash when taking photos of people in daylight. If your subjects have harsh shadows on them, the flash will lighten these shadows, and the result will be much more appealing.

Look through your camera settings for either a "fill in" flash mode, or an "on" mode (*not* "auto").

Tip 6:

Never use the black and white mode! These days cameras have modes such as black and white, sepia, solarise . . . the list grows. But don't use them.

Once you have captured the image in black and white (or sepia, or solarise, or . . .) you will never be able to put the color back. Always take your photos in color, and convert them when you get back home.

Even the most basic editing software will be able to this for you. For example, Google's Picasa can perform all of these effects, and a whole lot more. And it's free. You can click here to



If your camera is one that requires film, practice with an inexpensive roll of black and white film.

1. Practice opening the camera and loading the film (or disc)
2. Take a complete roll of film using all the features of your camera (f-stops, focus, shutter speeds, flash, etc.)
3. Write down what you did for each picture.
4. Practice unloading the film from the camera and know how to care for exposed film.
5. Have the film developed.
6. Evaluate which pictures you like best and check your list to see how you did it.
7. If your camera is automatic, know how to make manual adjustments for special effects or if your automatic feature fails.

The Film

Which is best, slides or prints or digital? That is up to you. Consider the cost and what you will be using the pictures for. 35mm slides, of course, require a 35mm camera. This size is relatively inexpensive to develop, you can project them for a large audience and you can have excellent prints made from your best ones. 110 slides are very small but are still cheaper than prints. Prints can be shared in an album, are quite expensive to develop and you cannot be selective about the ones you want.

What ASA to use? ASA refers to the sensitivity of the film to light. 64, 100, 200, 400 and 1000 are typical examples. The higher the number; the more sensitive the film. 100 to 400 are good versatile films for both outdoor and indoor pictures. The more sensitive films are more easily overexposed; especially in bright sunlight. Ask for advice at a camera store if you are still unsure about which one to use.

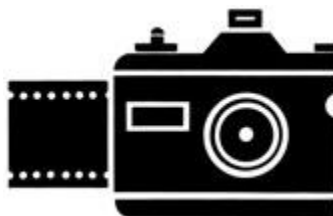
Care of Camera and Film

Have a bag for your camera and any accessories. Use only lens paper to clean the lens. Use a wrist strap or a neck strap so you won't drop the camera. Always keep the lens covered when not using the camera. Never leave the camera in the hot sun or in a closed vehicle. The same for your film.

Buy plenty of film before you leave. You can always use it later at home. If you will be flying to your event you might want to invest in a lead-lined film bag to protect film from x-rays. Try not to have your camera loaded before passing the x-ray station. If it is, ask to have the camera hand inspected.

Most important - have fun!! Take plenty of pictures - even those you think are silly. You won't regret it.

PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR CAMERA, CASE, FILM, EVERYTHING!!!!!!!



More hints, tips and other things to consider:

1. destination

Find out all you can about where you are going - whether it's another country or another region or area, or another state.

Look at:

- ★ points of interest
- ★ historical facts
- ★ climate
- ★ economy – for example is it mostly farming or factories
- ★ population, significant cultural groups
- ★ local Girl Scout program

2. Correspondence

Writing to other participants can help you prepare for your event.

Write to:

- a) Participants - call and get together with other girls from Kentuckiana going to the same event. Contact other participants from the Midwest and possibly arrange to travel together.
- b) Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana - keep in touch with the council's training development coordinator or program specialist while preparing for your trip. You can be helped with many questions, concerns, etc. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

3. Know about your home

You will be asked many questions about your home, your city and your state. If you attend an international *destination* you will need to know about your country. To insure you won't be caught off guard by these questions, do some homework.

- a) Places - we are all curious about places we have never seen, so be prepared to answer lots of questions about your home and about what teenagers do in the United States.
- b) Politics - if you are attending an international opportunity you can be sure you will be asked questions that are political in nature. Make sure you are up on current events as much as possible.
- c) Special interest event - if your event is of special interest, bring information and pictures (photos, postcards, magazine photos, etc.) of the area where you live – Southern Indiana, Louisville area or Western Kentucky.

4. Skills - if your event includes the use of outdoor skills, start reviewing and practicing them NOW.

5. Equipment - check your equipment to see if anything is missing or needs to be repaired or replaced. Examples are sleeping bag, backpack, hiking boots, pocketknife and camera. If you need anything, borrow it if possible. Don't wait until the week or night before you leave to check your equipment. Make a "Packing List" of things to take, and add to it as you go along. Label items.

6. Swaps - a "**gift**" given to a new friend. Keep the expenses minimal for swaps. Check with city visitor centers, stores, banks for giveaway promotional items that are representative of your community, county and state.

How many??? Usually the information packet from your event suggests a reasonable number. Making swaps is time consuming. so start early. Get help from your troop. Brownies would love to be a part of your *destination* and could help making some Swaps; by doing so could learn much about older Girl Scouts and *destinations*.

7. Luggage - what kind of luggage you need will be determined by what kind of *destination* you will attend.

Keep the following in mind:

- a) Use one suitcase or duffel bag plus one carry-on bag. You should be able to carry everything yourself.
 - b) Flight regulations may limit your luggage by weight or size.
 - c) Ask your airline how they want you to ship your backpack, if one is needed for your event.
 - d) Musical instruments may require special handling, ask your airline.
 - e) Consider using a travel pack if you have one or can borrow one. A travel pack has an internal frame with shoulder straps that can be zipped up in the pack until you need them.
9. Personal Items - "think small." Here's a list of possible items you might need.
- a) Shampoo, cream rinse, lotion, toothpaste, etc. Start rounding up small containers for these items.
 - b) Laundry soap would be a good idea.
 - c) Stationary, stamps and addresses. For addresses needed for writing to family and friends, make labels or address envelopes before you go.
 - d) Small flashlight is nice whether you're camping or in a college dorm.
10. Clothing - take into consideration where your *destination* is taking place. *destinations* are expensive so don't spend money on unnecessary clothing. Use what you have.
- Here are some hints about the clothing you will need.*
- a) Girl Scout uniform - you must wear a uniform when you travel on GSUSA *destinations*. We suggest you have the skirt instead of the pants, especially on International *destinations*. Many countries do not allow women to wear pants. Be sure your pins and insignia are on your uniform correctly. If you are going on an international opportunity, leave your badge sash or vest at home. Keep your uniform simple. Most countries don't have the quantity of recognitions we have in the USA and it can be overwhelming to Girl Guides from other countries.
 - b) Shoes - you will need a good pair of walking shoes that you can wear with your uniform. Not all tennis shoes are good walking shoes. This is very important because you will do a lot of walking no matter where your opportunity is located. If you must buy a pair of shoes, buy them early and break them in.
 - c) Camp Uniform - this is usually required, but each event uses a different camp uniform. The event information packet will tell you what you need. The uniform is usually shorts, socks and an event T-shirt.
 - d) Don't over pack - gather your things up about 2 weeks before your departure date. Fold everything and leave it alone for a week. Then go back through it and take out all those unnecessary items. Do this again the day before you leave.
 - e) Passport - If you are leaving the country, you will need a passport. Get it early.
 - f) Travelers Checks - you should be sure most of your spending money is in Travelers Checks. You will need a student I.D. card to cash the checks.