

Welcome!



Here we all are! We finally got a photo of all the ISupport Team at our recent CMT/CST weekend at Gilwell. By the time you read this, the most recent Unit Leaders Weekend will also have taken place and Christmas will be fast approaching. It is now just 7 months until we all head to Japan for one of the most inspiring events of our lives. The planning, preparation and coordination of travel, hospitality, activities and kit, to name just a few elements, are well underway.

Hopefully by now, you've had the opportunity to meet up with your local unit and get to know them and have also meet up with other local members of IST for fundraising and social activities. In this bulletin Lawrence has written a piece about his experience of IST. Needless to say, every Jamboree is different and every Jamboree experience is unique, but the article is designed to give those of you new to IST an idea of what may be to come.

Liz

ISTokyo

The programme for Tokyo has been moving forward rapidly and we intend to be able to give all IST more detailed information regarding the programmed activities in the next bulletin. We can however confirm that every member of the IST in Tokyo will get to climb the Tokyo Sky Tree which is the tallest building in the city with views even as far as Mount Fuji!

Option D Travel Arrangements

Those making your own way to ISTokyo please make your way to the Shinagawa Prince Hotel (main tower). The closest station is Shinagawa and the hotel is opposite the station. Check in with the contingent is any time from 10am on the 23rd July. Once checked in with the contingent you will be free to enjoy the delights of Tokyo.

Criminal Records

We've been in contact with the Japanese Embassy in London and they have issued some guidance regarding people entering Japan with a criminal conviction. Anyone who has a criminal record must apply for a visa in order to gain entry for Japan.

All applications are reviewed on a case by case basis and if you had a conviction that involved drugs or a prison term it is likely you will be refused entry. The Japanese Embassy has requested that those affected by this get in touch with them to talk through the options and apply for a visa. In order for us to support you through this process please get in touch, in confidence with Emma Townson on **emma.townson@scouts.org.uk**.



Medication Update

We've had confirmation from SAJ about the quantities and types of prescribed drugs allowed into Japan. The common questions so far are about Ritalin and Concerta. These are permitted in Japan but only in quantities of up to a total of 1800mg for the duration of the trip. Any more than this, then you will have to apply for a license called a yakkan-shoumei directly; this will not be done centrally through the contingent. Any opiate medications such as codeine and morphine also require a yakkan-shoumei as do CPAP machines for sleep apnoea. This license needs to be applied for as per the guidance which is available on our [FAQs](#) page, along with an accompanying guide book detailing the drugs and quantities affected.

More information is available on the [Japanese Bureau of Health and Welfare website](#)

General Reminders

Official Facebook

Please do not use the Facebook group 23rd World Scout Jamboree - UK Contingent IST/JPT for personal queries. Facebook is fine for general questions but for personal questions please email IST.communications@scouts.org.uk and we will respond as soon as possible.

FAQ's

Please remember to check the [FAQs](#) page before emailing the ISupport Team. More often than not we've answered your question, or a slight variation of it before.

Eventsforce address

The address for Eventsforce is:

www.scouts.org.uk/wsj-register

Please ensure you update Eventsforce with your choices and remember 'proceed, proceed, proceed, save!'

Christmas closure

Please note the International Events office will be closed from the 19 December and will reopen on Monday 5 January. The IST inbox will be monitored during this time but only urgent enquires will be responded to. Should you need to make a manual payment for the January payment please do this before the 19 December.

Date for your Diary

16-17 May 2015: All Adult Weekend, Gilwell Park

Below is a reminder of the deadline dates. Please note the deadline will always be 17:00 on the dates below:

Finalise passport details -
19 December 2014

Payment 4 -
5 January 2015

Last payment (for options A and B) -
5 May 2015



My IST Experience by Lawrence Chapman

A friend and I travelled independently to Sweden but were picked up from the airport, which was easy. On arrival at the site there was a lot of queueing and even when you got through the first check in, there were later queues for tents etc. You just have to be prepared that no matter how hard everyone is working there will be some queueing on entry to the site.

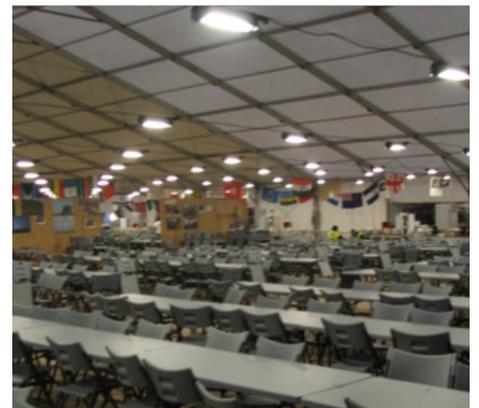
After some confusion about which job I was meant to be allocated to they found me job! I was to help with offsite emergency transport. So anyone who needed to go offsite for medical help needed to come through our office. This was a 24/7 operation so we had shift work. I was working with a small team who was led by a Danish scout, but many of the team including all the drivers were Swedish. There were a few English people on the team.

Although I had travelled with a friend and we were camping next to each other, we went days without seeing each other as often our shifts crossed over. We did however leave each other notes in the tents, which was a great morale booster.

After the first couple of days working I became more aware of some of the other activities available onsite. With a bit of careful planning it was possible to try to complete some of the other activities either on the way to or from work. The Armature Radio base, the Swedish sauna, the food houses, the swapping zones etc. I called in on my local unit a few times. Sometimes it was obvious that they were really busy and I would be in the way, but a few times it was also obvious that the leaders were really tired and could do with a helping hand.

Overall I worked really hard; I even went in sometimes when I wasn't on duty just to give the other people a break to get some food. I also had a really amazing time and took as many opportunities as I could but I had to pace myself and plan ahead.

What would I need for the day? When would I eat and do my washing? I made the most of my time and visited different areas of the site and complete some activities.



We hope hearing from Lawrence gives you a better idea of what to expect from your time on site and to understand that there are some things that will be outside the control of the UK contingent but we will of course always support you as best we can!