



Issue 6

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Final Briefing Update

Date and Location

Sunday 6th July we will have our final briefing for the trip. This will be held at Boyne Hill Altwood Scout Hut. Please arrive at 10.00am. It is planned to finish around 12.00pm. This is a briefing for ALL TRIP PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR PARENTS.

Payments

Everyone should have, by now, completed payment of the £550.00 expedition fee. If you haven't done so, and have not already agreed an alternative plan for payment, please send off your cheques immediately.

Documentation

When you come to the Briefing Morning on 6th July can you please bring two copies of your passport (just the page with the photograph and personal details on it). Also, we need two copies of the front of your European Health Insurance Card.

These copies will be held centrally (one copy in the UK and one with the party in France) to ensure we can cope with any eventualities such as lost passports or a need for medical treatment.

We will also need to collect details of any medical conditions of which we should be aware and any particular dietary requirements.

All these documents will be destroyed on our return to the UK.

It is important that you and/or a parent attends (even if you can't attend yourself), as flight details, luggage allowances and packing, van loading and other final information will be given.

If there really isn't anyone from your family who can attend, you must let us know and we will be in contact.

For any questions, please email: alps2008@berkshirescouts.org.uk

Explore Les Hautes-Alpes

There's so much to explore in Les Hautes Alpes that you may not want to venture outside the region but Italy is so close (just over the odd mountain or three) it would seem a pity not to explore in that direction too and the obvious place to head for is Turin.

What do you think of when one mentions Turin? For many of you it may be "not a lot" so you may be surprised just how notable it really is. For instance it is the home of Fiat and also the Juventus football club (Factoid: both owned by the Agnelli family). It also has many more surprises: the Holy Shroud, Ferrero Rocher chocolates, Tic Tacs, Nutella and Lavazza coffee. You may also have heard of Martini & Rossi - two men from Turin who teamed up to create a wine & liqueur distillery of their own in 1879. For the visitor it is a gracious city of wide boulevards, elegant arcades and grand public buildings which stands in regal calm beside a pretty stretch of the River Po. Touting itself as Europe's capital of Baroque it is well worth a visit. It has a flourishing café life and every morning until noon there is a food and clothes market in the Piazza della Repubblica. You can either amble around on foot or use the hop-on/hop-off bus service which serves 14 different points around the centre (tickets bought on board).

Since Italy is synonymous with ice-cream it might be hard for you to leave the city without trying one - how about pistachio, yoghurt, peach, nougat, chestnut or even zabaglione with amaretti?

You may have flown in to Turin airport but until you visit the city you will have no idea of what it is all about.

One last snippet about the city: the original film of *The Italian Job* was filmed there and if you have never seen this classic I would recommend you try to watch it before going so you can spot the famous Mini-Cooper chase-scene sites. Great fun.

Gourmet Camp Chef Jeremy provides us with another practice recipe.

Bacon Chowder

8 rashers of bacon
1 tablespoon of oil
4-5 medium sized potatoes
1 large onion
1 stick of celery
1 bayleaf
Salt & pepper
Flour
¼ pint of milk per person
1 can of sweetcorn
1 stock cube
Parsley

Fry the bacon with a little oil in a large dixie for about 10 minutes.
Peel and chop the potatoes and onions.
Wash and chop the celery.
Add these to the dixie with a bayleaf, salt and pepper.
Mix flour with a little milk to create a smooth paste and then add the rest of the milk to total ¼ pint milk per person.
Bring to the boil, stirring occasionally.
Add to the dixie the sweetcorn, the meat cubes – crumbled and the parsley – chopped. Bring back to the boil, stirring continuously, then cook until milk has reduced to create a thickened sauce

Help! I don't speak French!

[Pronunciation of the phrase is in brackets]

Can we light a fire here? – **Pouvons-nous allumer un feu ici?** [poo-von noo aloomay ern fer eese]

Rucksack – **sac a dos** [sahk-ah-doh]

Fly sheet – **double toit** [doobl twah]

And...

A French idiom:

Your French is not so hot – **Vous parlez francais comme une vache espagnole** [voo parlay frahnsay kom oone vashe ispanyol] = literally meaning 'you speak French like a Spanish cow'.

Help! I don't speak Italian either!:

Yes – Si

No – No

Please – Per favore

Thank you – Grazie

You're welcome – Prego

Exit – uscita

Baggage reclaim – recupero di bagaglio

Toilets – toilette

Male - uomo

Female - donna

A few final details:

Payments

Everyone should have, by now, completed payment of the £550.00 expedition fee. If you haven't done so yet, and have not already agreed an alternative plan for payment, please send off your cheques immediately.

Insurance

Everyone is covered by travel insurance via Unity Insurance Services (part of the Scout Association) summary details as below

Benefit Table

- Personal Injury – up to £5,000
- Medical and Emergency repatriation expenses - up to £10,000,000.
- Hospital stay benefit abroad - up to £400
- Supplementary travel and accommodation expenses - up to £15,000
- Personal Belongings - up to £1,000 (limit £250 for valuables/£250 any one article, pair or set).
- Money - up to £1,000 for Scout Party leaders, £200 for other Insured Persons aged 16 or over and £150 if aged 15 or under
- Credit Card Misuse - up to £1,000
- Loss of Passport - up to £1,000
- Disruption - up to £1,000 for any one journey (maximum £75,000 for all Insured Persons any one Journey)
- Travel delay - up to £60
- Missed Departure - up to £500
- Personal Liability - up to £2,000,000.
- Legal Expenses - up to £25,000.
- Rescue Plus - up to £2,000 (mountain rescue cover)

Checklist for the Briefing Meeting

- Self and Parent/Guardian
- 2 copies of passport detail page
- 2 copies of European Health Insurance Card
- Details of any relevant medical condition
- Details of any dietary requirements or allergies
- Contact details for Next of Kin (for the period we are in France)
- Any outstanding money

Here is a link to Boyne Hill Altwood Scout Hut.

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/newmap.srf?x=486807&y=180435&z=3&sv=486807,180435&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=newmap.srf&searchp=newsearch.srf&ax=486807&ay=180435>

For any comments, questions or feedback please contact:

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