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Newsletter #3 - February 2022 (Participants' Issue)

Welcome to our Alps22 newsletter for participants, parents and supporters of '**Alps22 - Jamboree in the Mountains**'

Read on for all the latest event and planning news as we countdown to August 2022.



Dates for your diary

We're going to be running two webinars for **ALL** participants to join on **23rd March** and **8th June**.

Starting at 7:30pm and lasting no more than an hour, it will be the perfect opportunity to learn more about the Jamboree and ask any burning questions.

We'll be in touch with the joining instructions nearer the event and we hope this will really start the countdown to what is going to be an epic **'Alps22 Jamboree in the Mountains'**!

Is your passport valid for entry into France?



We know our passports have been feeling a bit left out over the past two years. They may be lurking in a dusty drawer or at the back of the filing cabinet, thinking they'll never see the light of day again.

But dust off those bad boys because you're going to need them in a few months' time. To make sure yours is still valid for travel to France, here are some important things to remember:

For British passport holders, your passport must meet 2 requirements. Your passport must be:

- **less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')**
- **valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')**

The guidance at the moment is that your passport will need to be less than 10 years old during your whole visit, and the 'valid for 3 months after you have left France' may also need to be within 10 years of your passport's **issue date**.

Check both the **issue date** and the **expiry date** in your passport. If you renewed your passport early, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. This could affect the requirement for your passport to be less than 10 years old.

If you have a non-British passport, please check the Government travel advice to see which specific requirements apply to you:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/france/entry-requirements>

And if you don't yet have a passport, or it has expired, what are you waiting for? We'd encourage you to get your passport application in **ASAP** as the Passport Office is likely to be busier than normal this year and we'd hate to have to leave anyone behind :(



European and Global Health Insurance Cards

All participants for Alps22 will need to have a valid UK EHIC or GHIC card to gain access to emergency medical cover overseas.

You can apply for the cards free of charge via the NHS website at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Please note that under 16s will need to be included on their parents' application, but will be provided with their own card.

Vaccination update



The vaccination requirements for France are still subject to change, but this is what we know right now:

Fully vaccinated travellers aged 12 and over must provide:

- Proof of vaccination. For under 18s you will need to have had two doses and for over 18s it includes the requirement to have a booster.
- A [sworn statement](#) (déclaration sur l'honneur) self-certifying you're not suffering from COVID-19 symptoms and haven't been in contact with confirmed cases in the 14 days prior to travel.
- If you are over 18 and your second jab was more than 9 months ago on the day of travel, but you've not received a booster, you will have to follow the rules for unvaccinated travellers, which includes taking a PCR test! If you are able to, please get your booster now. There are plenty of walk-in vaccination centres, so you don't even need to make an appointment.

- These rules are subject to change and so please keep an eye on the FCO travel pages for further guidance <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/france/entry-requirements>

Spotlight on Guillestre



Situated just over 8km south of Saint-Crépin, lies the pretty mountain village of Guillestre, which you'll be able to visit on one of our cultural excursions during the Jamboree.



In the main square there is a beautiful fountain made of Guillestre pink marble and many of the buildings are also decorated in pastel colours.

One of the main landmarks is the imposing 16th century Notre-Dame d'Aquilon church, also built using that gorgeous pink marble.



But what better way to soak up the Alps way of life, than sitting in one of the many cafes around the square and watching the world go by?

You'll also be able to stock up on souvenirs for the family, although maybe leave the cheese buying until the end of your stay for the sake of your fellow campers!

Allons en randonnée



Faire de la randonnée means to go hiking or hillwalking. We're really looking forward to you all being able to experience the spectacular scenery of Les Hautes-Alpes and breathing in that fresh alpine air.

After a difficult couple of years for us all, this is the perfect stress buster. It's also a great cardio workout and fat burner - which means we can all indulge in that extra croissant!

If you haven't already signed up for the Hillwalking training session, there is still time. The training takes place on either the 5th or 6th March at the Ridgeway. Please talk to your Unit Leader to book your place. For Scout Network, you can email us at alps22@berkshirescouts.org.uk.

And don't forget we also have our 2 day Kayaking training between 9th and 24th April in Newbury or Wokingham. Make sure you book your spot now.



Fundraising Fun

Who said fundraising had to be hard work? There are plenty of things you can do to raise money, which are great fun for everyone involved. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Make and sell pancakes on March 1st for Shrove Tuesday.
- Offer to walk your neighbours' and friends' dogs.
- Organise a car wash day in your local area.
- Be sponsored to give something up for Lent.
- Organise an Easter Egg hunt.
- Hold an 'unwanted present' auction.
- Have a bingo or quiz night.
- Put on a variety show.
- Hold a gaming tournament.
- Have a good old fashioned bake sale (they never fail)!

Staying in touch

As activity ramps up over the coming months, we'll be posting more information for all Alps22 participants in our closed Facebook page.

You can ask to join the group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/150275487049323/>

We'll also be having a public page for posting our daily blog and all the photos of our adventures while we are in the Alps. That way everyone back home and our friends in Scouting can feel part of the Alps experience.



Berkshire Scouts Alps 22 Jamboree in the Mountains >

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