

Volunteer Essentials **Girl Scout Program**

Girl Scout Travel Opportunities

GSUSA Destinations

GSUSA Destinations are amazing national and international travel opportunities lasting 2 days—3 weeks with specific themes. These opportunities are sponsored by GSUSA in partnership with a council or travel organization and open to individual girls ages 11-18. To be considered, girls need to submit 2 letters of reference and an application by November 1 for first round acceptance. Sponsoring groups select the applicants. We recommend submitting your application early for better results. For more information on this exciting opportunity and for tips on how to help fund this type of travel opportunity, please visit our website at forgirls.girlscouts.org/travel/ or email info@gsnorcal.org.

There are six categories of GSUSA Destinations:

- Domestic-events within the U.S.
- International—events outside of the U.S.
- Outdoors—events ranging from learning outdoor skills to Outward Bound challenges on land or sea.
- STEM—events that take science to a new level. Learn animal behavior or what a doctor's life is like, etc.
- 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

This is a fun option for troops who want to explore two-to four-day events created just for Girl Scouts. Getaways are open to troops and don't require an application process. Learn more at: forgirls.girlscouts.org/travel/take-a-trip/getaways/

GSNorCal Travel Opportunities

Girl Scouts offers many travel opportunities so girls can see new places, meet new people, and learn about different cultures and ideas. Whether exploring your own neighborhoods, going on overnight camping trips, participating in a GS event across the country, or flying to a World Center, Girl Scouts are continually expanding their horizons through travel. Join us for a special council organized travel trip or travel the world as a troop. For more information about these exciting opportunities, please visit www.gsnorcal.org/en/about-girl-scouts/travel.html

From the Birth of Girl Scouting to the World Centers

The Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah, Georgia, is a fantastic place for Girl Scout Juniors and older to visit. Reservations and council approval are required to take a group of girls to visit the birthplace, and most educational opportunities are booked at least a year in advance. So book early! Families and individuals, however, do not need to reserve a tour in advance.

In addition, <u>four lodges</u> are available in England, Mexico, Switzerland, and India for use by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, each with hostel or dormitory-style accommodations. The world centers are operated by WAGGGS (<u>World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts</u>) and offer low-cost accommodations and special programs. They are also a great way to meet Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world. <u>www.girlscouts.org/en/about-girl-scouts/global/world-centers.html</u>

Closer to home, check with GSNorCal to see whether council-owned camps and other facilities can be rented out to the group of girls with whom you're working.