

Dear Delegations,

We are now less than two months away from the 15th European Guide Conference, the 22nd European Scout Conference and the 15th European Guide and Scout Conference, all taking place at the Oslofjord Convention Centre from 17 to 21 June 2016!



The Guides and Scouts of Norway are looking forward to meeting you at EGSC in June 2016. This is the third information letter from us, with more specified information about the Norwegian Evening, the European Village Party, how to rent a car or mini bus, the exhibitions area with prices and how to book an exhibition space, as well as more information about the cabins, where the majority of you will be staying during the Conference.

Practical Information

The Conference Website and our Facebook Page

All the information about the Conferences, registration and documents is available on the conference website: www.15egsc.europak-online.net. And if you have not done so already, please follow us on our official Facebook page: www.facebook.com/15egsc

Dates

The Conferences will commence on Friday 17 June 2016, with networking and check-in, followed by dinner and the opening ceremony. However, you can book your accommodation from Thursday 16 June depending on your travel itinerary. The Conferences will end on Tuesday 21 June with departures on Wednesday 22 June 2016.

Conference Fee

For registrations entered in the on-line system up to 30 April 2016 the conference fee is EUR 595. Invoices will go out to all those registered by that date in the coming days. For late bookings (between 1 May and 1 June 2016) the fee is EUR 615.

Day Rate

If you are unable to attend the whole conference, you can pay a day rate of EUR 120 per person per day. You use the same on-line conference registration and choose the days you will attend the conference.

Accompanying Persons

Accompanying persons pay the same price as the participants. We do not have a separate accompanying person programme, but they are welcome to join the social programme we will have every evening.

Children

Children under the age of two are free, whereas children aged between 2 and 16 years pay a fee of EUR 380 plus the accommodation. We do not offer kindergarten or day care services.

The Conference Venue

The venue is located a 1.5 hours' drive from the Norwegian capital Oslo. The address of the convention centre is Brunstadveien 77, 3159 Melsomvik, Norway. The nearest town, Tønsberg, with shops and restaurants, is 20 minutes away by car, but there is no public transportation between the venue and Tønsberg.

Accommodation

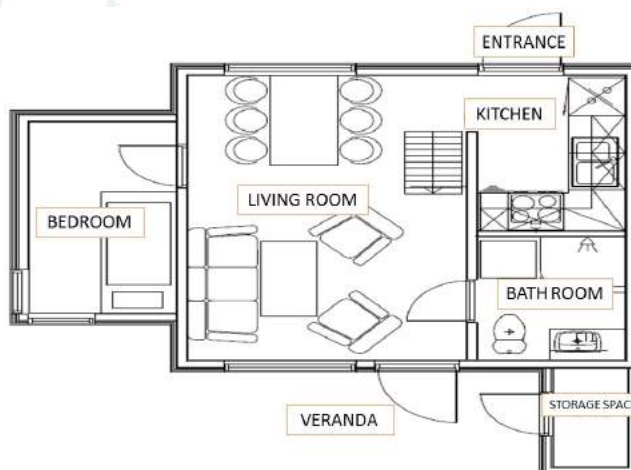
As we have communicated before, the majority of us will stay in cabins in [The Garden Village](#), forming one big European village, just a short walking distance from the conference centre. There are different cabins, which can accommodate groups of different sizes.

Except for the size, the cabins are basically the same, with a kitchen, one bathroom (with a washing machine), a living room and a loft area, where most of the beds are located. These are bunk beds and/or single beds, and there might be up to five beds in the same loft area. The cabins for five or six persons have an additional bedroom on the ground floor with one bed. The largest cabins have a big living room, which is ideal for meetings. Please note that a full 6-person cabin will be cramped and is not recommended if you prefer space and privacy over low costs. There will be a breakfast buffet at the Conference Centre every morning.

People in cabin	Price per person per night
1 (single, 40 m ²)	EUR 155
2 (small, 40 m ²)	EUR 96
3 (medium, 40 m ²)	EUR 74
4 (medium +, 50 m ²)	EUR 60
5 (large, 50 m ²)	EUR 56
6 (largest, 60 m ²)	EUR 54



This is a cabin for 5 to 6 persons with an additional bedroom. The loft area with bunk beds is located above the living room.



Transportation

The Torp Sandefjord Airport (TRF) is situated just 20 minutes away by car, and Oslo Airport Gardermoen (OSL), which is Norway's main airport, is two hours away (by car) from the Oslofjord Convention Centre.

Shuttle Bus Service

There will be a special shuttle bus service running from Oslo Airport Gardermoen and Torp Sandefjord Airport. This service can be booked through the on-line conference registration and is the fastest and most convenient way to travel from the airports to the conferences besides renting a car. The price of the bus service is EUR 25 one-way from/to Oslo Airport Gardermoen and EUR 12 one way from/to Torp Sandefjord Airport. For those who do not pre-book, the price will be EUR 35 and EUR 20 one way respectively, but we are not able to guarantee that there will still be available seats.

Please note that the shuttle bus services to both airports will only be available on the arrival and departure days, which are Thursday 16 June (between 3pm and 8pm) and Friday 17 June (from 8am until 3pm) for arrival, and Wednesday 22 June (from 7am to 11am) for departure.

The timetables for the shuttle buses will be communicated to everyone who will have booked this service once we know when people will be arriving and departing from the airports. Therefore, please fill in your correct flight information in the on-line Conference registration system.

Public Transportation

For those who do not wish to use the shuttle bus service, public transportation is an option. Oslo Airport Gardermoen Airport and Torp Sandefjord Airport have train stations, and tickets can be pre-booked at www.nsb.no. The nearest train station to the conference venue is in the town of Stokke. From Stokke Train Station to the conference venue, you will need to use a taxi (the 10-minute drive will cost about NOK 220 / EUR 24).

Rent a Car or Mini Bus

We already know that there are a number of delegations, which plan to rent a mini bus or larger car. This is an easy way to be mobile and if you are a large delegation, this might indeed be the most convenient and least expensive way of transport between the airport and the conference venue. Most larger car rental companies are represented in Norway, with agencies at both airports. Use an on-line search engine to find the best option for you.

Exhibition Area

There is a large interest in having an exhibition area or stand at the Conference. So far, we have bookings for twelve different exhibitions/stands. Bringing your own exhibition is free of charge, but if you need any equipment (such as desks, chairs, panels, electricity, etc.), there are additional costs (which are fixed by the convention centre).

Prices

If you bring participants specifically to run your exhibition who are otherwise not participating at the Conference, these will need to be registered as observers or as day guests for the days in question, and they will have to book their accommodation like any other participant. They will of course then also be served all the meals and may attend the social events covered by the Conference fee.

The prices for the exhibition equipment (as communicated by the convention centre) is as follows:

One chair: EUR 8

One table: EUR 16

Electricity and extension cord with three sockets: EUR 155 (don't forget to bring an adapter; Norway uses the standard European sockets)

Please note that these are the non-negotiable prices quoted by the conference venue, and as they are quite expensive, we recommend that you bring your own equipment as far as possible.

When you book a table you can get a small exhibition wall behind the table. If you need exhibition panels to build your own exhibition stand on site, please contact Elise to get the prices.

How to book an Exhibition stand

Should you like to book an exhibition stand or area at the Conference, please get in touch with Elise at the Conference Secretariat (elise.kjelling@speiding.no), providing the following information:

- Your name and e-mail address
- What equipment you need for your exhibition
- How much space you need
- The days during which you want to have your exhibition (we recommend 18–20 June)
- The address to which the invoice shall be sent

Meeting Room or Private Reception

If you would like to book a meeting room or want to organise a private reception for your delegation, please get in touch with the Joint Conference Secretariat as soon as possible (15egsc@europak-online.net)

Programme

	Thursday 16/06	Friday 17/06	Saturday 18/06	Sunday 19/06	Monday 20/06	Tuesday 21/06	Wednesday 22/06	
Time	Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	
07:30			Breakfast buffet					
08:45		Arrivals and registration	Meditation				Departures	
09:00			Conferences					
10:30			Break					
11:00			Conferences					
12:30		Lunch						
14:30			Conferences					
16:30			Break					
17:00			Conferences					
18:00	Arrivals and registration							
18:30								
19:00		Dinner	Break	Inter-Religious Service	Norwegian Evening	Break		
19:30				Dinner				
20:00							Dinner	
20:30		Opening Ceremony	International Evening	European Village Party				
21:00					Closing Ceremony			
21:30								

For the detailed programmes of the three Conferences, please consult information available in the relevant section of the conference website!

The Social Programme

An important element of the Conferences is to spend time with new and old friends from all around Europe at social events once the Conference sessions are finished for the day. We encourage you to take a break from the work at the Conferences and join everybody at the proposed social activities.

International Evening

On Saturday 18 June, we will organise the traditional International Evening. Our aim is of course for everybody to get to know traditional food and drinks from all the participating countries. All delegations are encouraged to bring typical food and (only non-alcoholic) drinks for this event. Since there are refrigerators in the cabins, you will be able to keep your food cold in the days before the International Evening. Each delegation will get one table for free; additional tables are available at a cost of EUR 12 per table.

European Village Party

On Sunday 19 June, we welcome you to the European Village Party, the market happening at the conference. We encourage all of you to bring fun and creative activities so that we can line up in the streets between our cabins and enjoy ourselves. The European Village Party is also a means for National Associations, WAGGGS and WOSM to fundraise for a set of predefined charitable purposes, either through their activities or through selling small items.

Norwegian Evening

On Monday 20 June, we invite all the delegations to experience Norway at its best during our Norwegian Evening. After a short bus ride from the Convention Centre, we will arrive at Ilene Wetlands, a beautiful part of the coastal landscape of the Oslofjord with a rich birdlife. Ilene is also an old smallholding under the Estate of Jarlsberg. Here, you will be served a refreshment and delicious Scout Burgers to your own taste, with either meat or fish.

After the meal, you will be walking – with Scouts or Guides as guides – to Tønsberg, the oldest town in Norway (founded in 871 AD). This walk will take you through the oldest districts of the town. We will end up at a replica of a Viking shipyard, where a copy of a Viking ship from around 1000 AD is currently being built. We will also have a look at and get on board a replica of the Oseberg Ship, the world's most famous Viking ship.

The guided tour ends here, so you will be free to either explore Tønsberg or join our special offer (see textbox). There will be bus transportation back to the Convention Centre. The Norwegian Evening, including transportation, food and the guided tour, will cost EUR 25 per person. The buses will leave from the Conference Centre from 6pm and return from 10pm to 11pm.

***Special Offer:
Join a Boat Ride Back to OCC***

For those who would like a memorable journey back, there is room for 30 persons in the Viking ship 'Saga Oseberg' and 10 persons in the Sea Scout boat 'Lipos Kyria'. This boat ride will cost an extra EUR 25 per person. These boats will leave Tønsberg at 9:30pm. Registration and payment can be done at the

Registrations for the Norwegian Evening are done through the Conference registration system. Please note that the deadline for this is 1 May, and that all registrations must go through this system.

In the next and final information letter, we will provide you with the timetable for the shuttle buses, a short presentation of the Host Team, more details about the programme. We will also present you the Conference t-shirts, which you can purchase during the Conference.

We wish you all a nice spring and look forward to seeing you in Norway in June!

Warm greetings from
The Guides and Scouts of Norway
15egsc@europak-online.net



GUIDES AND SCOUTS
OF NORWAY