

Welcome to Norway for the 15th European Guide Conference, the 22nd European Scout Conference and the 15th European Guide and Scout Conference 17 - 21 June 2016

Greetings from the cold and dark North!

The Guides and Scouts of Norway are looking forward to summer's brighter days and to welcome all of Guiding and Scouting Europe to Melsomvik and the 15th EGSC in June 2016. This is the second information letter from us, with more practical information about the conferences and an attached letter about the registration process.

The Conference Website and Social Media channels

The website for the conferences is now open. All the information about the conferences, registration and documents during the conferences will be available on a **special Conference Website** (<http://15egsc.europak-online.net/>). It is there where you also find the link to the **on-line Conference Registration System** (<http://www.cvent.com/d/wfqj86/4W>).

We also hope you will like our official **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/15egsc) and **Twitter** (www.twitter.com/15egsc_norway) pages!



Dates

The Conferences will start 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 2016 with departures on Wednesday, 22 June 2016.

Conference fee

The conference fee is **EUR 595** and includes:

- Attendance at the conferences
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- International Evening
- Coffee breaks
- European Village Party
- Simultaneous interpretation (English/French)
- Official conference documents
- A contribution to the conference participation solidarity fund
- A contribution to the conference organisational costs of WAGGGS and WOSM
- Friday-Tuesday: lunch and dinner (*except for the Norwegian Evening, breakfast is included in the accommodation price*)

The conference registration and payment is due no later than 1 May 2016. Late bookings (between 1 May and 1 June 2016) will be charged 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 registration system and choose the days you will attend the conference.

Accompanying person: Same price as participants.

Children: Children under the age of two are free; children between two and sixteen pay a fee of EUR 380 plus the accommodation.

The conference venue

The venue is located 1.5 hours' drive from the Norwegian capital Oslo. The Oslofjord Convention Centre (www.oslofjord.com/en/Home/) is a large conference centre, with a total capacity for approximately 6000 people. The **address** of the convention centre is:

The Oslofjord Convention Centre,
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.

The main centre (where the Conference proceedings will take place) has Wi-Fi; for the cabins, where we will be accommodated, you will need to bring an Internet connection cable.

Accommodation

Number of beds in Cabin	Price per person per night
1	EUR 155
2	EUR 96
3	EUR 74
4	EUR 60
5	EUR 56
6	EUR 54

We will all live next to each other in cabins, 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 kitchen, bathroom, a living room and a loft area, where most of the beds are located; larger cabins also have an additional bedroom on the ground floor. The largest cabins have a big living room, which is

ideal for meetings. Breakfast will be handed out every morning at the cabin before heading to the conference centre.

Transportation

Torp Sandefjord Airport (TRF) is 20 minutes away and Oslo Airport Gardermoen (OSL), which is Norway's main international airport, is 2 hours away from the Oslofjord Convention Centre.

There will be a special **shuttle bus service** from Oslo Airport Gardermoen and Torp Sandefjord Airport. This service can be booked through the on-line conference registration system and is the fastest and most convenient way to travel between the airports and the conferences. The price is EUR 25 one way from Oslo Airport Gardermoen and EUR 12 one way from Torp Sandefjord Airport. For those who do not pre-book, the prize is EUR 35 / EUR 20 one way; however, available seats cannot be guaranteed.

Please note that the shuttle bus service will only be available on arrivals days Thursday 16 June and Friday 17 June 2016. There will also be a shuttle bus service on the day of departure Wednesday 22 June.

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

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 Stokke. From Stokke Train station to the conference venue you will need to use a taxi (the 10-minute journey will cost about NOK 220 / EUR 24).

A note on alcohol

The Guides and Scouts of Norway have a **strict alcohol policy**. No one – regardless of age – can drink alcohol while wearing a Scout or Guide shirt and/or scarf. The venue has a bar, which is open at fixed times each day, after the end of the official programme.

- Please **refrain from drinking alcohol outside the bar**, as young Norwegian Guides and Scouts will be present on the premises.
- Please **refrain from drinking alcohol outside the venue** while wearing Scout or Guide shirt and/or scarf or other symbols of Guiding and Scouting, as it can potentially damage the reputation of Norwegian Scouts and Guides.
- In addition, please **do not bring alcohol to the international evening**.

The social programme

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

International Evening

There will be an international evening where the aim is to get to know traditional foods and drinks (but not alcohol) from all the countries. All delegations should bring food and (non-alcoholic) drinks for this event. Since there are refrigerators in the cabins, you will be able to keep food cold in the days before the international evening.

European Village Party

Since everyone will live in cabins forming a small village, we have decided to transform the traditional European Market into a European Village Party. We will all meet in the streets around the cabins and all delegations are encouraged to present a typical walk-in activity for the other participants.

Norwegian Evening

The distance between the Conference venue and any nearby towns is approx. 20 km and the only means of transportation is taxi (or private car). We have therefore decided to provide a social programme on all the evenings during the Conference. The details about the Norwegian Evening have not been finalised yet, but we can guarantee an excellent evening with an exclusive dinner prepared with local products, hosted by a team of local Guides and Scouts. The Norwegian Evening is not included in the Conference fee and will come at an extra cost of EUR 25.

We very much look forward to seeing you in Norway in June 2016!

Warm greetings from

The Guides and Scouts of Norway
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GUIDES AND SCOUTS
OF NORWAY