

Dear friends

A few years ago the Guides and Scouts of Belgium decided we wanted to host an event of big importance in 2010.

We decided not to bid for the Olympic Winter games and were proud that we could leave the FIFA World Cup to South Africa. When the organization of "le Tour de France" was thinking of Belgium to start the tour here, we said that the Netherlands would be a better idea. This gave us the time and space to fully prepare for the nicest event of that year:

The 13th European Guide Conference, the 20th European Scout Conference and the 13th European Guide and Scout Conference

We are very happy to invite you to these next European Conferences.

All 3 conferences will be held in the same venue:

Hotel Bedford, Brussels. 17-21 July 2010

The conference will start on Saturday 17 July with initial sessions in the afternoon and opening ceremony in the evening. We will end the conferences on Wednesday 21 July with the closing ceremony.

In this letter we want to give you the first practical information:

1/ Accommodation:

The 4 star hotel Bedford is ideally located in the city centre of Brussels, close to many historical monuments and great examples of Belgian cuisine and refreshment. It has 326 fully equipped bedrooms and 2660m² of meeting area! On top of that, the hotel has an indoor parking for 200 cars. More info on www.hotelbedford.be

Room rates (per room, including breakfast) during the conference are:

- € 75 single room
- € 85 double/twin room
- € 100 triple room

2/ Conference Fee

The conference fee varies according to the date of payment: the earlier you pay, the lower the price.

- Paid before 31/01/2010: € 505,00
- Paid before 31/03/2010: € 520,00
- Paid before 31/05/2010: € 540,00
- Paid before 17/07/2010: € 560,00



This fee includes:

- Attendance at the conference.
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
- Lunch Saturday to Wednesday and dinners Saturday to Wednesday (except for one free evening and International evening). Breakfast is included in the accommodation price.
- Coffee / tea breaks.
- International Evening.
- Interpretation from / to English and French.
- Cost of official Conference documents.
- A contribution to the Conference Participation Solidarity Fund
- A contribution to the conference organizational costs of WAGGGS and WOSM.
- Belgian "Ambiance"

Conference registration will be handled on line on the conference website:

www.europeanconference.be

Registration will open on 1 June 2009 and further information on the registration process will be communicated before this date

3/ Visas

Obtaining a visa is the responsibility of the individual participant and / or their Association. Please check on this website if you need a visa: <http://www.diplomatie.be/en/travel/visa/default.asp>. Support letters will be issued on application to the European Offices of WAGGGS and WOSM. The process must begin well in advance of the conference date and it is strongly suggested that 3 months are allowed so that visas can be issued in time.

4/ Transportation

Brussels, the capital of Belgium and Europe, is situated in the centre of the country and is easily accessible by all means of transportation.

Train.

Eurostar, Thalys and all intercity trains stop in Brussels Midi. This train station is a 15 minute walk from the hotel.

Airports.

Most Airline companies fly to Zaventem, Brussels main airport. From the airport a train brings you in a short time to Brussels Midi train station. From there it is a 15 minutes walk to the hotel.

Low cost carriers fly to Charleroi (Brussels South airport) on a regular basis. A shuttle bus takes care of transportation from the airport to Brussels midi train station, close to the hotel.

Car/Bike.

The hotel has 200 covered parking spaces.

More transportation details will be posted on the website.



All of Guiding and Scouting in Belgium is looking forward to welcoming you in their refreshing and hydrating country for the first European conference in the 2nd centenary of Guiding and Scouting. We are ready to do our best to ensure everything works well and to ensure that you can appreciate the many faces of our country and to our Scouting and Guiding.

