



INTOPS 2011

Are you...

- 17 - 30 years old?
- Interested in finding out more about International Guiding?
- Eager to make like-minded friends on a fun weekend?
- Interested in going on a GOLD Project?

Then come along to INTOPS and find out about the opportunities available to you!

INTOPS (INTernational OPportunities) is a fun-filled and challenging weekend where you can meet new friends, have a great time and learn about international opportunities available in guiding.



This year INTOPS is taking place on
30 September - 2 October 2011 at:

**Guy's Farm Activity Centre,
Bay Horse,
Lancaster
LA2 9DG**

The cost for the weekend, including accommodation, food and activities is £55.

Your application form, a reference form from someone in guiding and payment of £55 must all be received to reserve your place. We will return any cheques submitted once INTOPS is full.

Places for INTOPS are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with a quota system operating for the first month. At least two spaces are reserved for each Country/Region. If the quota for your Country or Region is full when you apply, you will be added to a waiting list. After the first month we will allocate any remaining spaces based on the order applications were received. There will also be a waiting list for INTOPS as we often have last minute places available; we will let you know if you are on the waiting list.



Applications open on 11 April 2011!

About INTOPS

INTOPS 2011 participants should aim to arrive between 6.00pm (no earlier) and 8.30pm on Friday 30 September. The weekend will finish at 2.00pm on Sunday 2 October. Please arrange your return travel to be after this time. We recommend you travel by public transport where possible, as driving home from this event may be hard as you are likely to be tired.

At the INTOPS weekend we are aiming to inform you about some of the international opportunities that are available to you through guiding including GAINING, World Centres, WAGGGS and GOLD.

If you gain a place on INTOPS 2011 you will receive a confirmation within two weeks of your application and further information regarding the weekend in July/August.



Accommodation

Accommodation for the weekend will be camping, with a small amount of indoor accommodation for those that require it. We encourage everyone to camp as many of the International Opportunities that you will learn about involve camping.

Travel

Travel grants are available for participants travelling long distances to INTOPS and are processed after the event. Grants will be distributed as follows:

- To participants travelling from further than 60 miles away only
- By car - the first 60 miles of the journey in either direction are not eligible. After this each mile will be given at 10p
- Train/Bus/Coach/Flight - 30% of the journey cost will be given as a grant
- If costs are over £70 the participant will receive a 50% grant
- If costs are over £150 the participant will receive a 70% grant.

Travel grants can only be offered where there are receipts and where the cheapest method of suitable transport is used. Applications for travel grants and all accompanying receipts **must** be received before the end of October 2011. Please note that your County and Country/Region may help you with travel expenses for the INTOPS weekend.

GOLD

One of the opportunities you will find out about is GOLD (Guiding Overseas Linked with Development). In 2011 we have eight GOLD projects going to Armenia, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, Russia, Tanzania, Malawi and Guyana!

GOLD enables young women to develop their potential and make a difference in the world. For 20 years Girlguiding UK has worked with other Guide Associations around the world to deliver sustainable community-based development projects. It's a fantastic opportunity for teams of up to six



members to travel overseas, develop their skills, experience an amazing new culture - and know that they're really having a long-term impact.

At the INTOPS weekend, we will ask you if you would like to be considered for GOLD, so do read about GOLD on the Girlguiding UK website in advance if you think you would be interested. Please note that GOLD participants must be 18 by the time of their first briefing weekend in February 2012 and 30 or younger at the time of their GOLD project if successfully selected.

How to Apply for INTOPS

Application Form

Please complete this as openly and honestly as possible and return by email to Carrie Myers (address below). Your application will not be refused based on what's in it, but the information will help us to ensure you have a great weekend! Applications should be returned to Carrie Myers, preferably by email, at the address below.

Reference Form

Please pass this on to someone in guiding who knows you well, such as your Leader, Commissioner or someone you have worked with on a project. We would like this reference to be confidential so please ask that it is either returned directly to Carrie Myers at the address below, or that it is returned to you in a sealed envelope for you to return with the application form.

Payment

The cost of INTOPS 2011 is £55, of which £10 is a non-refundable deposit. This amount covers all your costs for the weekend excluding your travel. Travel grants will be given depending on how far you have had to travel - see more details below. Once paid, if you drop out of the weekend your fee can only be refunded if we can find someone to take your place at INTOPS.

Please send cheques made payable to 'Girlguiding UK' to the address below, or arrange for a BACS transfer, clearly stating your name and 'INTOPS' in the reference and notify Carrie Myers that your payment has been made.

Bank Name: Natwest Bank
Account name: The Guide Association
Sort Code: 51-50-14
Account No: 46915192

Any Questions?

If you have any questions about the INTOPS weekend please contact Carrie Myers, International Events Coordinator by emailing intops@girlguiding.org.uk or calling 020 7834 6242 (2083) .

We hope to see you there!

Best wishes

Anna Bourne
GOLD Coordinator

Girlguiding UK
17-19 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 0PT

Tel: 0207 834 6242 ext 2083
Email: intops@girlguiding.org.uk