

My World
Scout
Jamboree
Experience
Sweden
2011

Abi Armstrong

22nd World Scout Jamboree



How I Managed to get selected

I was fortunate enough to be selected as a Bucks Guide to become a member of the Waterloo Contingent to attend the 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden. The Waterloo Contingent was a group of Scouts from Essex. I was one of 18 Bucks Guides that attended the Jamboree.

I had to raise £2,400 over the course of 18 months. There was a lot of commitment from me and the Essex Scout Troop with spending some weekends together for team bonding, planning and preparation for the adventure ahead.

By the time of the Jamboree I had established friendships with the Essex Scouts and was looking forward to spending 3 weeks with them in 3 different countries during the summer of 2011. I felt comfortable and part of a team and was looking forward to sharing an amazing time and experience with them.

The Scout and Guide Leaders were very keen and committed too in encouraging us to have an amazing opportunity at this Jamboree. I believe they enjoyed the Jamboree too.

Denmark Day 1

I was in Denmark from the 25th of July to the 27th < My birthday :D. In Denmark we got up to amazing things.

On the first day we dropped our bags at our hotel/ hostel , then we went on AMAZING speed boats



Then we went to Tivoli fairground and it was so much fun.. We had a burger for dinner. It was brilliant because in the queue for rides we would talk with other Scouts and Guides from other countries that were at the jamboree 😊



Denmark Day 2



Today was my second day of my adventure.. I got up at 7 o'clock and took advantage of the beautiful shower we had.. (I had 4 in the space of 3 days in Denmark!!) After my shower and breakfast me and my room mate Nikki Burnard went outside the hostel to meet the other Waterloo Members.

We then found out we were doing a sports day at the local sports centre; we were read out the options of what we could choose ie. zumba, hip hop, human football, basketball, rollerblading, hockey, rock climbing and football.

I chose; human football and hockey.. We won the human football 😊

After our activities we had the chance to visit Copenhagen, it was fantastic.. We went shopping and visited a castle and then a museum.



It was our last day in Denmark.. We had a massive party in a warehouse sort of thing. IT WAS AMAZING... We went to the United Kingdom party. We had Alphabeat, Kings of Leon play for us.. At midnight it was officially my 16th birthday 😊 The party was just the beginning.. From then on I knew this trip was going to be the best adventure of my life!

The most amazing selection of slush puppies. I had one of each!

This was the castle we visited. Me and my friend Rob got lost in the castle and ended up in the town hall kitchens.



Dancing in the main square.

Denmark/Sweden Day 3

When we arrived at Sweden we walked only 10 minutes to our camp!!! Yay!

We then set up camp next to Swiss and Americans.. I became very good friends with the Americans and still keep in constant touch over facebook

On the 27th of July we left Denmark and then said hello to SWEDEN!!!!

The camp was massive. I have never seen so many Scouts and Guides in one place. There were 4 Main camps and our contingent was based on Autumn which was then divided into sub-camps. We had 6,000 people on it!.

Jamboree fact:

There was 4000 guides and scouts from the United Kingdom alone, that joined me on the World Scout Jamboree experience.

Activities at the Jamboree

Quest:- Quest was an adventure activity which we did an assault course and then other activities as a patrol.

Earth:- Earth was an activity where we did things about our earth. It consisted of activities called; sand, water wind and posters (natural disasters). Sand was my favourite as we did a USA vs GB competition of who's towns could hold out the longest. GB won of course, as we used our initiatives and created dams which flooded the Americans..

People:- People was a communication activity- it was brilliant. We got to make up our own culture. We made up our own walk (lunges) , rules (not to look at floor) , way to speak(shout or mumble), ways to act towards president-which I took up the role of(hip bump) and we had to wear an eye patch over our right eye. We also did meditation for an hour..

Camp in Camp:- Camping Swedish style 😊 We went to the most beautiful campsite where I had a shower in a beautiful lake after we went swimming and paddle a canoe in it..

Dream :- Dream was an activity we did at night, we learnt about inspirational people like Nelson Mandela and Mother Theresa.



What was my favourite thing about Jamboree?

I couldn't choose just one thing! I loved everything and if I had the chance to go again I wouldn't change a thing! I had the time of my life! I was able to take up many opportunities of trying out different activities which I have never experienced before. It was challenging and made me a stronger person.

I have met so many amazing people from different countries and cultures, whom all share at least one thing in common with me. They love scouts/girlguiding. I will treasure those friendships and I am convinced I will see them again sometime soon.

I loved the ceremonies, they were so dramatic and eventful. It made you understand everything about the jamboree and made you feel so at home. It was breath taking to see how many people were there all for the same thing- to get the best possible experience of jamboree. When the actors made everyone make the 'PLOP' sound it was brilliant.. It was so simple yet as so many people were involved it made so loud.

I have camped with Guides on a number of occasions but have never experienced camping like this. It was so massive and I would love to do it all over again! I would encourage anyone to attend a World Scout Jamboree – it really is an amazing experience you will never forget it or regret it.. So many young people united in one place at one time!

HoHo- Slovakia



Slovakia was absolutely amazing! Me and Hayley (my partner) were split up and asked to become a single. This was scary but we were both up for the challenge. Luckily we had the most amazing hosts who fit perfectly with our own personalities. They were called Barborka (Barbara) and Petka, they taught us slovak and introduced us to kofola (a slovak version of coke). We couldn't get enough of the stuff !! We were lucky enough to have a party thrown for us at Petka's (my hosts) holiday cottage. This was so much fun. We also met with Petka's and Barborka's scout troupe and we slept at the cottage. It was brilliant.

We visited castles in Slovakia, we did some community work there. We painted a wall! IT WAS AMAZING!

We went shopping in Slovakia and the pizza and ice cream was not JUST tasty but it was sooooo cheap!

We loved our hosts to bits- we got on so well that we had a movie night on our last night and we are meeting up next summer.

