



International Team

GILWELL PARK

Summer Camp Planning Guide



Campsite Name:

Gilwell Park Scout Centre

Location: Chingford,
London, United Kingdom

Campsite Capacity: Over
2,500 campers (camping
and indoor
accommodation
combined)

Suitable Age Range(s):
All Scouting sections

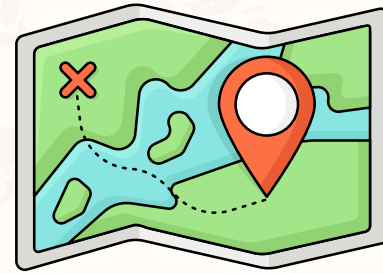


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1. CAMPSITE INFORMATION

Campsite Description:

Gilwell Park is the 'Home of Scouting' and the UK's flagship Scout campsite and training centre as well as UK Scouting Headquarters. Set in over 100 acres on the edge of Epping Forest, it offers a mix of woodland, open fields, and heritage buildings, ideal for outdoor adventure and learning.

Facilities Available:

- Toilet blocks with hot showers and washing up facilities
- Lodges with fully equipped kitchens, indoor hall, beds for between 42-56 people
- Activity barns, meeting spaces, and group shelters
- A range of onsite adventurous activities
- Faith spaces, campfire circle, and Wi-Fi across the majority of site

Booking Contact and Website:

<https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/gilwell-park>

Email: info@scoutadventures.org.uk

Map or Coordinates:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BhhXEWm5arBPL8wv8>



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2. ACCOMMODATION

Type: Tents, Cabins, Dormitories (Lodges)



Sleeping Arrangements:

- Camping on grass fields (bring your own)
- Tented village (pre-pitched, up to 80 people with mats. Includes kitchen cabin and covered outdoor area)
- 4 Lodges with bunk/dorm rooms (1–8 beds per room) maximum lodge capacity of 56
- 2 Patrol cabins (each sleeping 8 with shared kitchen hut)

Equipment Available (with rental):

Tables, benches, ring burners, gas canisters (prices available on request)

Access to Electricity and Water:

Lodges, Tented Villages and cabins have electricity and running water. Campsites have water taps but no mains electricity.





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3. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

How to Get There:

- By Train: From London Liverpool Street, take Greater Anglia to Chingford Station (Zone 5). Journey ~25 minutes. (Covered by an Oyster Card)
- By Tube: Take the Central Line to Buckhurst Hill or Loughton stations.
- By Bus: From Chingford Station, take bus 397 to Sewardstone Road or walk (~30 minutes).
- By Car/Coach: Gilwell Lane is accessible from the M25 (Junction 26). On-site parking available. Coaches must approach site from Bury Road not Daws Hill.

Travel Time and Distances:

- From Central London: ~45–60 minutes
- From Heathrow: ~90 minutes via public transport
- From Stansted Airport: ~40 minutes by car

Transport Options at the Camp:

The site is pedestrian-only. Public buses are nearby, and taxis can access the entrance. Coaches can drop off and pick up at designated areas.





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4. PROGRAMME AND ACTIVITIES

On-Site Activities:

- Off-ground – 3G Swing, Zip Wire, Indoor/Outdoor Climbing, Crate Stacking, Indoor/Outdoor Jacobs Ladder, High All Aboard, Leap of Faith, Gauntlet, Ladder Climb, Wobbly Pole
- On-ground – Archery, Tomahawk Throwing, Pioneering, Team Building, Orienteering, Aeroball, Backwoods Cooking, Bouldering, Fencing, Firelighting, Grass Sledging, Low Ropes, Pedal Go Karts
- On-water – Raft Building, Coracles
- Faith Trail, Campfires, Heritage Walk

Off-Site Trips:

- Day trips to London (museums, Tower of London, Science Museum, etc.)
- Walks and hikes in Epping Forest
- Local trips to Chingford town or Lee Valley Park



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5. SHOPS, FOOD, AND COOKING

Distance to Nearest Supermarket or Shops:

- Local shops in Chingford (approx. 5–10 mins by car or taxi)
- Larger supermarkets (Tesco, Sainsbury's) within 3 miles

Availability of Camp Kitchen or Cooking Fires:

- Indoor kitchens in lodges
- Designated campfire areas
- Gas ring burners and altar fires available

Food Storage Options:

- Fridges and freezers in lodges and patrol kitchens
- Access to communal fridges/freezers for camping groups



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6. SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Nearest Hospital or Clinic:

- King George Hospital, Ilford (~7 km / 15 mins by car)
- Local walk-in clinics available in Waltham Forest and Chingford

Emergency Contact Numbers:

- Gilwell Reception: 02081380191
- Emergency services: 999
- NHS non-emergency: 111



Weather and Environmental Hazards:

- UK weather is unpredictable: bring waterproofs, sun hats, and layers
- Hazards include: uneven ground, forest ticks, campfire safety, and heat/cold exposure
- Risk assessments should be completed for all activities (templates available via Scout Adventures - <https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/>)

