



Discover

Hostelling Challenge

Girl Guides Go Hostelling

Participatory Challenge for Guides, Pathfinders
and Senior Branches

Come and spend the night at an HI Hostel in British Columbia or Alberta, Canada and discover a new way to travel! Girl Guides can earn the Discover Hostelling crest by completing criteria that focus on trip planning, experiencing other cultures and learning about the benefits or travelling the world through fun and engaging activities.

How do I earn a Discover Hostelling crest?

Get connected to the world of travelling by completing at least one activity in each of the 3 different areas as specified in the curriculum. Activities include hostel scavenger hunts, budget planning, meeting people from around the world, saying hello and goodbye in 4 different languages and many more.

What other activities can you do while at HI?

HI offers accommodation in some of the best locations across BC and Alberta. Why not take advantage of our discount providers and go kayaking, snowboarding and biking just for fun or start working towards another badge while you're staying with us.



crest

To find out more about the Hostelling International Girl Guide Programs or any of the activities that can be done at HI hostels, please log onto our website or contact:

BC Hostels:
groups.bc@hihostels.ca
1.800.661.0020 ext 307

Alberta Hostels:
groups.ab@hihostels.ca
1.403.762.4123 ext 25

www.hihostels.ca

where do you want to go today?



Participatory Challenge for Guides, Pathfinders & Senior Branches

The Discover Hostelling Challenge is fun to earn and can start you on the path to traveling around the world! This challenge can help your unit become global citizens who are connected to people and places near and far. Guiders are responsible for completion of the challenge requirements for each guide receiving a crest.

Get connected by having your guides complete at least **one** activity in each of the following 3 areas: (☐ symbol indicates accompanying worksheet)

SECTION 1. Before You Go: Trip Planning

A. **Find out about hostelling!** Go to the Hostelling International Canada website:
www.hihostels.ca.

1. How did HI-Canada get started and what is its mission?
2. Where are the hostels in Canada?
3. What are the costs involved?
4. Why do so many people love to go hostelling? Share your findings with your troop.

If you don't have time to complete your research before your trip, you can learn about hostelling at one of our hostels! Complete the "Hostel Scavenger Hunt" worksheet during your stay.

B. **Interview** someone who has been hostelling or contact a staff member at the hostel you plan to visit. Get advice about what to pack for a hostelling trip -- and what to leave at home! Learn about why someone would rather stay at a hostel than a hotel. Ask about special tips to help you have a great trip.

☐ **1B** – Hostelling Story worksheet

C. Any good hosteller knows that to travel smart you need to have a **budget**.

How much will it cost for food, lodging, and travel expenses?
How much can you spend on souvenirs?

Create a budget using travel guidebooks and/or the Internet; keep track of your trip expenses during your trip, and then compare your budget to your actual costs. Figure out what budget travel tips you can share with friends and family

☐ **1C** – Travel Budget worksheet



SECTION 2. On Your Trip: Catch the Hostelling Spirit!

- A. Part of living the hostelling life is getting to know other hostellers traveling from around the world. Learn how to **say hello and good-bye** in at least four different languages. By the time you're done, you'll know how to have a good time both coming and going!
- B. Start a hostelling "icebreaker" activity by hanging out in the hostel kitchen or common room with a list of ice breaker questions to get you talking to fellow hostellers. You can also use this opportunity to start a conversation about the place you're visiting, the food you're eating, or whatever you think would be cool to know.
- C. Staying at a hostel is an exciting way to **meet people** from around the world! Learn about the backgrounds, talents, and interests of hostellers by completing the "Who Did You Meet?" worksheet during your stay at an HI Hostel.

SECTION 3. When You Return: Spreading the Word and Keeping Connected

- A. Did you have fun? **Spread the news** about your hostelling experience by writing an article or making a presentation for your school, council, or local newspaper. You can also write into websites that focus on guiding, hostelling, cultural exchange, etc.
- B. Want to keep connected to the hostel you visited? Write a **follow up letter** or e-mail to the hostel staff and let them know what you thought of your trip and what other travel plans you're making. To keep up to date on hostelling news around the world, you can also sign up for the HI newsletter called "Backpackerz Buzz" at:
<http://www.hihostels.ca/region/bc/newsletter/index.htm>.
- C. Now that you had the chance to travel, let others know more about what life is like in your neck of the woods. **Make a binder** of things to do in your home area. Include information on museums, parks, local food specialties, fun places to hang out, and suggestions about how to get around and where to stay. Send the binder to the hostel nearest to you so that future hostellers can get the travel scoop from a native!

Do you have other ideas for a hostelling challenge? The activities above are guidelines, but Hostelling International is always open to hearing new and exciting ideas.

Questions or input to the Girl Guide Challenge?

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