



AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT 16TH AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND VENTURE 2026

Information Pages

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants are reminded that attendance at the 16th Aotearoa/New Zealand Venture 2026 is a privilege, not a right, and that behaviour standards will be monitored prior to the event before final approval is granted for attendance.

Venturer Scouts

- Born between 16 January 2008 and 28 December 2011 inclusive (i.e. minimum age 14 years, maximum age up to and including 17 years at the time of the Venture).
- An invested Venturer Scout and have completed Outdoor Adventure Skills Camping Stage 4 prior to departure.
- A minimum of ten (10) nights camping under canvas within Scouting, with at least three (3) of them consecutive.
- Must be recommended as suitable to attend by your Venturer Scout Leader and Group Leader and be approved by the Contingent Leader and your Branch Headquarters.

Adult Members (IST and Line Leaders)

- Registered members of your Branch as a Rover Scout or Adult Leader.
- Must be recommended as suitable to attend by your Group Leader or next appropriate level of Commissioner, and be approved by the Contingent Leader and your Branch Headquarters.
- Adult members will be selected to meet required quotas for Line Leaders and IST as prescribed by the Venture 2026 Organising Committee. Adult members attending as Line Leaders must be at least 23 years of age at the commencement of the Venture. Adult members attending as IST must be at least 20 years of age at the commencement of the Venture.

GOVERNMENT TRAVEL ADVICE NOTICE

The safety of all Scouting members is always our highest priority. Scouts Australia and the Contingent Management Team (CMT) look forward to a successful Contingent travelling to New Zealand.

In preparation for any Contingent, the Australian International Team obtains the very latest updates and advice from the Event Organising Committee, our Travel Insurer and the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Should official advice ever change in the future, the International Commissioner of Australia will make an informed determination on cancelling Contingent travel to New Zealand when necessary.

It is a condition of your Contingent application that members of Scouts Australia cannot attend the site of the Venture if such a determination is issued, irrespective of whether the Venture continues for local members.

If the Contingent is cancelled (e.g. on medical advice or due to border restrictions), Scouts Australia will provide a refund of all recoverable amounts paid.

APPLICATIONS

Applications open on 8 January 2025 and close on 23 February 2025 or when all available positions are filled. All applicants must register using the Australian Contingent's online application system, OLEMS:

<https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au>

An application is not considered complete until the digital authority form is signed in your online application and your deposit has been received.

CONTINGENT INCLUSIONS

The Contingent Fee includes all meals, accommodation, activities, flights and ground transportation between the date of departure from Australia and the date of return to Australia. A merchandise pack including two shirts, travel bag, luggage tags and Australian Contingent badges is also included.

There are four fee options available to members of Scouts Australia:

Venturer Scout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Depart Australia on 28 December 2025 for two days in Wellington with the Australian Contingent• Travel to the Venture Opening for the commencement of Expeditions on 30 December 2025• Tackle your chosen Expedition from 30 December 2025 to 5 January 2026• Experience the Core Camp at Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre from 5 to 9 January 2026• Fly home from Wellington to Australia on 10 January 2026
Venturer Scout + Post Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Depart Australia on 28 December 2025 for two days in Wellington with the Australian Contingent• Travel to the Venture Opening for the commencement of Expeditions on 30 December 2025• Tackle your chosen Expedition from 30 December 2025 to 5 January 2026• Experience the Core Camp at Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre from 5 to 9 January 2026• Travel to post-tour on 10 January 2026 to experience an itinerary of adventure and cultural activities• Fly home to Australia on 15 January 2026
Adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Depart Australia on 28 December 2025 for two days in Wellington with the Australian Contingent• Travel to the Venture Opening for the commencement of Expeditions on 30 December 2025• Tackle your chosen Expedition from 30 December 2025 to 5 January 2026• Experience the Core Camp at Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre from 5 to 9 January 2026• Fly home from Wellington to Australia on 10 January 2026
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INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

There is no independent travel option for youth members. All youth members must travel with the Contingent between Australia and New Zealand on flights arranged by the Australian Contingent.

Adult applicants may submit a request to travel independently. Requests will be reviewed in line with operational requirements of the Australian Contingent. In order to request independent travel, adult applicants should email nzv2026@scouts.com.au and an independent travel request form will be made available. Please be aware that independent travel will not be approved until after applications close, when the operational requirements of the full Australian Contingent are known. Your request for independent travel must be approved by the Contingent Management Team; we recommend waiting for this approval prior to making any travel bookings. If approved, independent travel will be both ways – there is no option for one-way independent travel and one-way Contingent travel.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payment	Venturer Scouts	Adults	Venturer Scouts with Post Tour	Adults with Post Tour	Due Date
Deposit	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750	23 February 2025
2nd Payment	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750	1 April 2025
3rd Payment	\$750	\$750	\$1,450	\$1,450	1 June 2025
4th Payment	\$750	\$750	\$1,450	\$1,450	1 August 2025
5th Payment	\$860+ Exped fee	\$150+ Exped fee	\$1,410+ Exped fee	\$700+ Exped fee	1 October 2025
TOTAL	\$3,860	\$3,150	\$5,810	\$5,100	

Submitting an application is no guarantee of acceptance to attend the event.

Payments more than 14 days late may result in withdrawal.

The Contingent reserves the right to refuse any application at any time, in which case a full refund may be made.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

There are some additional costs you need to account for:

- your chosen Expedition – all members of the Australian Contingent will choose from a selection of Expeditions that range in price. Based on previous Ventures, Expeditions range in price from \$100 up to \$1,000.
- obtaining a passport if you do not already have one
- any visa costs that might be applicable based on your passport's country of issue (Australians do not need a visa)
- any spending money for souvenirs or incidental items (you will not need much)
- clothing and gear requirements outlined by the Contingent Management Team and/or the organisers. The Australian Contingent will offer some optional merchandise items through the online application system.
- any additional optional activities during Phase 2 of the Venture or on the Post-Tour.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Members withdrawing from the Contingent must notify the Contingent Leader in writing as soon as possible. Since many expenses must be paid well before our departure, it is not possible to provide full refunds upon withdrawal. The following table highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Notification Received	Refund Amount
On or before 31 March 2025	Full Refund
1 April 2025 – 31 May 2025	Amount paid less \$500
On or after 1 June 2025	No Refund

CANCELLATION POLICY

If the Contingent is cancelled by Scouts Australia or by Scouts Aotearoa the decision will be promptly communicated to all registered Contingent members. The following table highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Date of Cancellation	Refunds
On or before 31 March 2025	Full Refund
After 1 April 2025	Scouts Australia will refund all recovered funds. Non-recoverable expenses may include travel insurance, bank charges, international exchange fees, accounting license fees and expended Contingent planning costs.

MEDICAL OBLIGATIONS

As part of your application, you are required to disclose all medical conditions, medications, allergies, dietary requirements and mental health conditions that may impact your participation in the planned itinerary, together with any applicable Action Plans for these conditions. Failure to disclose any relevant information may result in you being withdrawn from the Contingent. Furthermore, your insurance cover may be invalidated.

Should your medical situation or conditions change, from the information you enter into your application, you will need to log back in and update this information immediately to ensure correctness and completeness.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to seek medical advice from their own medical practitioner with regard to any vaccinations and immunisations. Applicants should be aware that some airlines and some countries might require evidence of COVID-19 vaccination prior to departing Australia. Known restrictions will be advised once confirmed.

CONTINGENT CONTACT DETAILS

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