

VENTURE'26

AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT

16TH NEW ZEALAND VENTURE WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND



Newsletter Edition 4
December 2025

For your immediate action!

☐

Read the Venturer Scout Handbook to ensure you are up to speed with all the plans.

☐

Complete the online New Zealand Traveller Declaration within 24 hours of your international flight.

☐

Ensure you know your travel details as listed on the 'Travel Details' tab of your online application.

☐

Do a final check of your Expedition gear list and ensure you have everything you need.

☐

Keep your medical and contact information up to date on OLMES.

☐

If you are on Post Tour, check your activity allocations on your OLMES application.



Contingent Leader's Welcome

It's almost time to pack our bags for New Zealand. Our adventure is just weeks' away!

This is our final newsletter with some important information for everyone.

On advice from New Zealand Customs Service, all Contingent members must now complete the online New Zealand Traveller Declaration, rather than the physical form that is traditionally distributed on the aircraft. The online form can be completed up to 24 hours prior to your flight. Further instructions are on page 5.

At this point of our journey, I'd like to thank every adult volunteer who is part of the Australian Contingent. Every adult volunteer in our Contingent has a critical role to play to ensure the overall success of our adventure. Thank you for what you have done and what you will do to support our Contingent.

If you have any questions, please reach out by emailing nzv2026@scouts.com.au.

Wishing everyone a joyous festive season,

Tom Dowsley
Contingent Leader



Venturer Scout Handbook

We've summarised the key info from the Orientation Days into our Venturer Scout Handbook. We encourage you to read this in the lead up to and during the Venture.

Access it [here](#).

Program

By now, your Travel Team captain should have introduced themselves to you via email. All Travel Teams are encouraged to meet online prior by 14 December 2025 to plan your schedule for the Wellington Explorer Day on 29 December 2025.

Post Tour

Activity allocations for Post Tour have now been added to your online application. Visit the 'activity allocations' tab to see your assigned activities.

Make a note of your activity allocations so that you are aware of your activity for each day of the Post Tour.

If your activity requires a wavier, you will have been emailed this by now or in the coming days by our Program Team. Please sign and complete these ASAP.

Contingent Hotline

We now have established our Contingent Hotline Number. The hotline will be monitored 24/7 from 27 December 2025 until 14 January 2026.

The number is **+64 2902 544 933**.

Use this number to contact the contingent management team with urgent enquiries only.

If you are not able to contact your youth member during the trip, it is likely due to a service/internet issue or a battery/power issue. Email the contingent management team and we will pass on a message to your youth member.

Other Non-urgent matters can be directed to nzv2026@scouts.com.au.

Travel Arrangements

Flights

You can view your flights on the 'travel details' tab of the online application system (OLEMS). We recommend you take a printed or digital copy of this with you – perhaps store it safely with your passport. You may also like to leave a printed copy with your family, so they are aware of your travel movements.

Airport Arrival Times

It is extremely important you check your flight times on OLEMS the day before your flight in case there are any last minute changes by the airlines. We will communicate this to you by email as well if this happens.

If your first flight is domestic, you are required to check in with your Travel Team Captain two hours prior to the departure time listed on your itinerary.

If your first flight is international, you are required to check in with your Travel Team Captain three hours prior to the departure time listed on your itinerary.

If your first leg is a bus transfer, you are required to check in with your Travel Team Captain 30min before the bus departure time.

On the day of departure your Travel Team Captain will be near the check-in area of the relevant airline to assist you with a smooth check-in process. Please do not line up to check in with the airline until directed by your flight leader. Remember some cities have separate international and domestic airports so make sure you go to the right one. You will not receive your e-ticket before leaving. All you will need to check in at the airport is your passport.

A very small number of people won't have a flight leader on their first leg due to small numbers of participants from your location. You will be contacted by email shortly to discuss travel arrangements in more detail. All youth members traveling without a flight leader will be met by an adult on arrival.

Missed Planes and Transport Issues

If you are late for your bus or plane, they will not wait for you. This will be a huge inconvenience for us and at a huge cost to you! If you do miss your flight or have any other major issues, contact the Contingent Hotline on **+64 290 254 4933**.

Rebooked flights will be at your cost, and it may be difficult to reunite you with the Contingent.

New Zealand Traveller Declaration

On updated advice from the New Zealand Customs Service, our Contingent will need to complete the online New Zealand Traveller Declaration form. Please note this is a change from what was communicated at the Orientation Days.

All travellers to New Zealand must complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration before reaching passport control in New Zealand. For Contingent members under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must complete the online New Zealand Traveller Declaration. The form can be completed up to 24 hours prior to your flight departure time.

On arrival at your departure location, you will be required to inform your Travel Team Captain that you have completed your online form. The form can be completed by parents/guardians online using a mobile device at the airport if necessary.

The New Zealand Traveller Declaration can be accessed here: travellerdeclaration.govt.nz. Key information from the New Zealand Customs Service regarding the New Zealand Traveller Declaration is:

- Everyone entering New Zealand needs to submit a declaration.
- It is free and takes about 10 minutes.
- You can do it on the NZTD app or online form, using your phone or computer. New Zealand Traveller Declaration - Start Your Declaration | New Zealand Traveller Declaration
- The earliest you can submit your declaration is 24 hours before you start your trip to New Zealand. It needs to be submitted by the time you reach passport control in New Zealand. Someone you trust can help you fill it in or do it on your behalf (with your permission).
- A declaration needs to be completed for each traveller.
- Your digital declaration is linked to your passport and is checked when you arrive at the eGate or by a border officer. There is no QR code issued and you don't need to print anything out.

You will need to provide the following information to complete the New Zealand Traveller Declaration:

- Your passport, flight details and contact details including where you will be based in New Zealand. For this question, use the address of the Venture site, Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre 562 Moores Valley Road Wainuiomata 5373
- Your immigration status (if required).
- Details about your trip, including your recent travel history.
- Items you are bringing into New Zealand.

You will receive an email with a reference number which you can use to update your declaration at any time, up until you reach passport control.

Health and Wellbeing

It is important that your medical and dietary information is up to date in the online application (OLEMS). At this stage, if you do make changes, please email our team at nzv2026@scouts.com.au.

A final reminder to ensure you pack your medication and enough of it for the duration of the trip. Make sure you have some in your carry on baggage for easy access. If you have asthma or anaphylaxis, it is important that you bring the appropriate medication on the aircraft.

Your first provided meal will be on your international flight. It is recommended to bring some snacks of your own. Consider peoples allergies to nuts that may be around you and a reminder that some food items you will not be permitted to enter New Zealand with so must be consumed before you get there!

Ventures are demanding adventures. It does not help if you start our trip with nothing left in the battery. Prior to leaving Australia, get a few good nights' sleep so you are not fatigued before the Venture begins. For some contingent members, the travel day is a long one, get sleep where you can!

More information, including helpful tips and tricks are now available in the Venturer Scout Handbook on our website and linked above.





Uniform

Contingent members are required to wear Venturer Scout Uniform when travelling to and from the New Zealand:

- Australian Scout Shirt (for your relevant section) - including Australian Contingent NZV2026 Name Bar, (which is to be worn on your pocket opening or scarf) and the Contingent Badge (sewn on the right-hand side of your shirt) - please remove all other event badges
- Beige or Stone Coloured Pants or Skirt in line with the Scouts Australia National Uniform Policy
- Scout Belt (optional)
- Suitable Shoes for Uniform
- Australian Scarf with Friendship Knot

Don't forget your pink lanyard issued in your merch kit. You will need to present this at your Wellington Hotel for issue of your ID card and room key

Biosecurity

To enter smoothly through New Zealand biosecurity, all clothes, tents and boots must be cleaned and dry.

To return smoothly through Australian biosecurity, all clothes, tents and boots must be cleaned and dry.

Travel Insurance

Please be advised that there has been an update to our travel insurance policy. The updated version can be found on our website [here](#). Note that the version is also available on the 'Travel Details' tab your online application.

Australian Contingent NZV2026 Code of Conduct

Behaviour we would like to see:

- Being respectful, kind, helpful and caring
- Encouraging and supporting others
- Being prepared and organised
- Being inclusive of others

Behaviour that needs permission:

- Touching anyone, including hugs
- Take or share photos or personal information
- Touching equipment that isn't yours
- Putting costumes on someone else.

Behaviour that is inappropriate:

- Not fulfilling your duties
- Swearing or yelling
- Excluding others
- Being impatient
- Name calling
- Being somewhere you shouldn't be

Behaviour that is harmful or unsafe:

- Not asking permission before touching someone or something
- Persisting with inappropriate behaviour
- Bullying, harassment or discriminating behaviour
- Partaking in drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or vape.
- Any sexual interactions
- Any violent or threatening behaviour
- Any illegal behaviour

Participating in behaviour that is harmful or unsafe will result in consequences, and may end in your removal from camp.



SCAN THE QR CODE ON
YOUR ID CARD TO ACCESS
A REPORT OR CALL US.

Contingent Hotline
+64 290 254 4933



nzv_auscontingent



NZVentureAu

scouts.com.au/event/nzv2026