

VENTURE'26

AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT

16TH NEW ZEALAND VENTURE WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND



VENTURER SCOUT

HANDBOOK

Itinerary

Date	Key Activities
28 December 2025	Travel Day
29 December 2025	Wellington Explorer Day
30 December 2025	Venture Phase 1 Launch Day; Expeditions Depart
31 December 2025	Phase 1 Expeditions
1 January 2026	Phase 1 Expeditions
2 January 2026	Phase 1 Expeditions
3 January 2026	Phase 1 Expeditions
4 January 2026	Phase 1 concludes and travel to Brookfield for Phase 2
5 January 2026	Phase 2 Activities
6 January 2026	Phase 2 Activities
7 January 2026	Phase 2 Activities
8 January 2026	Phase 2 Activities; Phase 2 Closing Party
9 January 2026	Main Contingent travels to Australia; Post Tour depart to Queenstown
10 January 2026	Post Tour Activities Day 1
11 January 2026	Post Tour Activities Day 2
12 January 2026	Post Tour Activities Day 3
13 January 2026	Post Tour Activities Day 4
14 January 2026	Post Tour travels to Australia

Contingent Organisation

Travel Team	Expedition Unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Contingent member is part of a Travel Team. • These groupings are our support structure for travel to and from Australia, as well as during the Pre Tour in Wellington and Post Tour in Queenstown. • Each Travel Team has a Captain – an adult responsible for overseeing the Travel Team movements. • Travel Teams are on the same flights and the same buses. You will depart from and return to Australia with your Travel Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venturer Scouts and Line Leaders are part of a Unit. • Units consist of 8-10 Venturer Scouts and an adult Unit Leader. • Units are made up of Australian and New Zealand Venturers. Most Units are half-half. • Most Expeditions have multiple Units. • Units will camp together during Phase 2 at Brookfield. Units will be grouped together in Expeditions across the Brookfield campsite.

Travel to New Zealand

Quick tips for our trip to New Zealand

- Wear your Scout Uniform (Venturer Scout shirt, Australian scarf, Contingent name bar and tan/beige pants/skirt/shorts).
- Check your travel details on the 'Travel Details' tab of your online application. You can print your itinerary and store it with your passport.
- If your first flight is an international flight, arrive at the airport at least three (3) hours before your flight.
- If your first flight is a domestic flight, arrive at the airport at least two (2) hours before your flight.
- If you are travelling to Sydney from Canberra via bus, arrive at the bus stop at least 30 minutes before the bus departure time.
- Make sure your gear is spotless ready to clear New Zealand biosecurity.
- Know your Travel Team number before you leave home.
- Complete your online New Zealand Traveller Declaration before you leave home.
- Know your Bus Number from Wellington Airport to your Wellington accommodation.
- Don't forget your passport!

What if I'm sick on travel day?

Sick on the day of or just before we are due to leave

- Contact the Contingent Hotline
- Send a text and leave a voicemail if no response (we might be in the air)

Arrangements may be made for you to catch up

- Travel insurance may cover this cost if it isn't a pre-existing illness

What if I miss my flight?

Contact the Contingent Hotline immediately!

- If you are running late: you must contact the Contingent hotline and/or your Travel Team Captain ASAP (we will not wait!!!)
- You will need to pay for another ticket
- The Contingent may be able to help you book

New Zealand Traveller Declaration

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.

Wellington Explorer Day

Welcome to Te Whanganui-a-Tara

We're kicking off our adventures in Aotearoa New Zealand with a fun day exploring Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington)! This scavenger hunt will challenge your Travel Team to find some of the city's iconic landmarks and hidden gems. Each photo challenge is a chance to show off your street smarts, style, and sense of humour. Your team will also enjoy visits to two of Wellington's most popular attractions, and we're all meeting up at 4pm for the Contingent photo before dinner.

Instructions

- Use the map to plan your Travel Team's route for the scavenger hunt
- Make sure you don't miss your allocated time at Te Papa Museum.
- Must be at Frank Kitts Park by 4:00pm for a Contingent photo and then dinner
- It's important that your Travel Team stays together and always works together
- Travel Teams will receive 1 point for each photo challenge they successfully complete and submit
- Submit your photos by scanning the QR code on your ID card.
- There are bonus points for Travel Teams with:
 - The funniest photo
 - The most creative interpretation
 - The best team spirit
- Remember that you're always representing Scouts Australia, so please be mindful of the public
- Use traffic lights to cross roads and be careful of cars
- In an emergency, call the Contingent hotline on +64 290 254 4933

Pre-booked Activities

Wellington Cable Car

The cable car station is located on Lambton Quay. It runs every 10 minutes. There is simply no better way to experience the hidden charm that Wellington has to offer than to take this cable car ride from the heart of the city centre to the lookout perched high above the city.

Te Papa Museum

The museum is at 55 Cable Street.

Discover the rich stories of New Zealand. Te Papa has something for everyone, from precious Māori and Pacific treasures to the colossal squid and the national art collection.

To visit the museum, your Travel Team needs to opt in and complete the online form before 14 December 2025.

Photo Challenge

Location	Description
Anywhere	Get a group photo hugging a tree.
Anywhere	Get a photo with a random person making a Scout sign.
Bucket Fountain	Located on Cuba Street, get a team photo.
Cable car lookout	View photo with cable car in background
Embassy Theatre	Robot statue, 6 metres high
Oriental Bay	Boat sheds, next to garden
Oriental Beach	Golden sand, next to garden
Plimmers Steps	Get a photo of two of you by a man and his dog.
Te Papa Museum	Get a photo of one person coming out of a cave.
Te Papa Museum	Find the colossal squid exhibit and take a group photo.
Victoria University Law School	Get a photo on the steps on the Southern Hemisphere's oldest wooden building
Waterfront	Capture your team enjoying Windy Wellington with your hair blowing wildly.
Wellington Botanic Gardens	Recreate a famous movie scene and take a photo. Waterfall
Wellington Cable Car	Snap a selfie while the cable car is in motion.
Wellington Railway Station	Get a photo outside Platform 9 ¾.

Travel back to Australia

Quick tips for our trip back to Australia

- Wear your Scout Uniform (Venturer Scout shirt, Australian scarf, Contingent name bar and tan/beige pants/skirt/shorts).
- Be at the bus stop to depart Brookfield 30 minutes before your scheduled bus departure time.
- Complete the Australian Incoming Passenger Card during your flight back to Australia.
- Take care of your passport!

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.

Gear & Baggage

View the gear list for your Expedition here: venture.scouts.nz/gearlists.

Remember, Australian Contingent members do need their Scouts Uniform – we travel to and from Australia in our Scout Uniform.

Name all your personal items.

Personal gear that is not required for your Expedition can be sent straight to Brookfield before you depart from Takina on 30 December 2025. If you plan to do this, we recommend a lightweight bag labelled with your name.

Tents

- You will need a tent for the Venture. It must fit into your checked bag for the trip to/from New Zealand.
- Some Expeditions will be accommodated in tents during Phase 1.
- Everyone will be in tents on Phase 2 at Brookfield.
- Small drop sheet / tarp to stop it getting muddy.
- If buying new – make sure you are familiar with the set up.
- Name everything – including the tent bag!
- Plan to take your tent home!

What to wear when

Formal Scouts Australia Uniform

- Travelling to New Zealand
- Departing from New Zealand

New Zealand Venture Contingent Shirt

- Contingent photo in Wellington
- Departing on your expedition
- Travelling from Wellington to Queenstown on Post Tour

Baggage Information

- Checked luggage weight limit is 20kg
- All your checked luggage must fit in your Contingent bag
- Nothing should be strapped to the outside of the bag
- Check the packing list to see what to bring!
- You must pack your own bag (not parents!)
- Carry on luggage weight limit is 7kg
 - o This should be your day bag
 - o Include a full change of clothes
- Medication should be in its original packaging
 - o You should have minimum 3 days worth of medication in your carry-on luggage
- Make your bag stand out! Add a colourful ribbon, etc.
- Liquid limit on international flights for carry-on luggage
 - o 100ml limit on liquids/powders/gels
 - o OR pack in your checked (under carriage) baggage
- Lithium batteries MUST be in your hand luggage
 - o Battery packs etc.
 - o Devices must be turned off
- Checked luggage
 - o Scissors/tweezers/nail clippers/first aid kits in your check in luggage
- Not permitted
 - o Knives
 - o Whips
 - o Fire twirling equipment

Health and Wellbeing

Who can support when

Whilst travelling: Travel Team Captain

Pre Tour: Travel Team Captain

Phase 1: Unit Leader

Phase 2: Unit Leader or Health Hub

Post Tour: Travel Team Captain

Medication

Contingent members are responsible for keeping and administering their own medication. Medication must be in original packaging with prescription label.

We recommend uploading a doctor's letter with your prescriptions to your online application under Medication Action Plans (in case of customs inspection).

In the days before your flight

Ensure good quality sleep: Flying and changing your “body clock” can be very fatiguing. Ensure you have enough rest in preparation.

Drink plenty of water: Flying is a very dehydrating method of travel – ensure your body is adequately hydrated before your travel.

Avoid unnecessary exposure to transmittable illnesses: In the 2 weeks leading up to your flight consider avoiding unnecessary trips to shops or crowded areas to reduce the risk of contracting COVID/flu/coughs & colds. If you must attend these setting you might like to wear a mask to increase your chances of staying well to travel.

The night before your flight

Plan your bedtime: Ensure you get a good nights rest a few nights leading up to our travel

Arrive at your flight well rested: Most people experience poor quality sleep while flying so you should aim to board your flight having had a good sleep the night before. Flying is a little bit stressful for even the most experienced travellers; you need to be well rested so you can be mentally alert to navigate through the airport and find your flight/travel group at the correct location and the correct time.

While Flying

Drink lots of water: Flying is very dehydrating due to low humidity in the air filtration system. Dehydration may present as dry skin, dry eyes, headaches, fatigue, and dizziness. You need to drink 250mls of water per hour while flying to avoid symptoms

Keep your body moving: To prevent tiredness and swelling of your legs, move and stretch around the cabin once every hour during “daylight hours” (when the cabin lights are on daylight setting). You can also keep your muscles moving while in your seat by rotating your ankles, flexing your calf muscles, leaning your torso forward onto your knees to stretch your back, and stretching out your arms.

Practice good hygiene: A plane cabin is enclosed space with a large number of people in close proximity, with limited airflow. This is a high-risk situation for the sharing of germs/viruses/bacteria. To prevent breathing in airborne germs it's recommended you wear a mask when not eating or drinking. To prevent picking up germs from hard surfaces onto your hands or into your mouth it's recommended to:

- o use a sanitiser wipe to wipe down your tray table/arm rests.
- o use hand sanitiser after using the toilet, touching door handles/inflight magazines, or anytime before touching your face or mouth.
- o use a tissue if you need to blow your nose (and use hand sanitiser after).

Take your medications: Remember to take your medications if you are due to while flying. You may like to set a reminder on your phone but double check the time zone your phone is set to. All medications should be in your Carry-On luggage along with your doctor's letter/original packaging with prescription sticker on it. This includes medications you only need sometimes like an EpiPen, Panadol, hay fever tablets.

Ear pain during take-off and landing: Some people suffer from difficulty equalising the pressure in their ears during take-off and landing, this causes ear pain. You can equalise the pressure by pinching your nose closed, keeping your mouth shut and blowing. You also may like to chew a lolly or chewing gum during take-off and landing to promote swallowing which assist with equalising ear pressure.

Wellness Tips

- Look after yourselves and each other.
- Stay hydrated – drink water.
- Eat healthy and full meals.
- Wear a hat, sunscreen and long sleeves.
- SLEEP!
 - o It's a marathon, not a sprint.
- Shower regularly.
- Wash your clothes

Homesickness Tips

- Bring something from home
 - Blanket, picture
- Try not to contact home
 - Can make it worse
- Talk to people
 - Friends
 - Unit Leader
 - Health Hub/Australian H&W Team
- Keep busy, plan activities

Mental Wellbeing Tips

- Prepare for your trip
 - Bring things with you that will help with your mental health
 - Write a plan of things to help you in hard times.
- Talk to people
 - Friends
 - Unit Leader
 - Health Hub
 - Australian H&W Team
- It will be a highly stimulating environment
 - Take time out
 - Have a nap
 - Have a shower

No energy drinks or caffeine pills

- No energy drinks
 - V, Red Bull, Monster, Lyft+, Prime, any alternatives etc.
- No “No Doze” or equivalent
 - Side effects
 - High blood pressure
 - Dehydration
 - Suppression of appetite
 - Increased anxiety
 - Poor sleep/insomnia
 - Impaired judgement

If it's not okay in Australia, it's not okay in New Zealand.

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

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

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



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