



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Phone: 416-487-5281

Fax: 416-487-5570

www.girlguides.ca

Is your daughter looking for fun, friendship, and adventure?

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada could be the place for her! We offer girls and women a safe place to experience new adventures through challenging activities. All programs and activities are in a safe environment, with adult supervision. Girls of all ages are encouraged to participate in fun activities that aim to increase their confidence, decision-making and leadership skills. The programs are flexible allowing the girl to choose the option she is most comfortable with and parents are always able to discuss the meetings and program content with the adult women leaders.

Our mission is to help girls and young women become responsible citizens, able to lead and serve their community – locally, nationally, and internationally.

It is FUN for girls!

Guides Canada is an organization for girls led by adult women who are young at heart. Guiding offers girls and women a place to laugh, have fun with new and old friends, and participate in new adventures.

Safety Comes First

All of our adult women leaders are screened through an extensive process, including a police records check. And all programs are safe, allowing the girls to accomplish challenges and adventures they didn't think possible.

New to Canada?

This is a great way for girls who are new to Canada to learn more about Canadian culture and society. Guides Canada is a multi-cultural organization, just like Canada, where girls and women of all nationalities and physical capabilities are welcome and encouraged to join. Guides Canada is flexible and open-minded to uniform requirements and any religious or cultural requirements. Guides Canada is a great way for girls and young women to become more comfortable in their new community.

Who Are the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada?

As a member of Guides Canada, you will be part of the largest organization for girls and women, with over 140,000 Members – over 120,000 girls and over 28,000 adults.

Guides Canada is part of the *World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts* (WAGGGS), which is the largest voluntary organization for women and girls in the world, with over nine million members in 144 countries around the world.

Were you a member in a different country?

Some WAGGGS countries are:

- **Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore**
www.wagggsworld.org/aroundtheworld/regions/wr_asia_pacific.html
- **Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka**
www.wagggsworld.org/aroundtheworld/regions/wr_asia_pacific.html
- **Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen**
www.wagggsworld.org/aroundtheworld/regions/wr_arab.html#02

Why Just for Girls?

We believe that Guiding gives girls the unique opportunity to develop their self-confidence and challenge themselves in a safe, all-female environment. Our programs are designed specifically for girls and young women and led by adult women to encourage them to accomplish new challenges, resulting in improved self-confidence, and new leadership and decision-making skills.

We provide adult women with the opportunity to take executive and leadership positions, providing role models for girls.

Programs for Girls and Young Women

Guides Canada welcomes girls 5 – 17+ years old into our different programs. All programs are led by at least two adult women. Keep in mind that you can join any time of year.

Sparks – ages 5 and 6
For Friendship and Fun!

Sparks meet for an hour once a week to learn how to be a friend, play games, sing songs, and do crafts. They participate in different outdoor activities, learning to respect and protect the environment and to foster a love of nature.

Brownies – ages 7 and 8
For Fun and Adventure!

Brownies spend a little more time together, about 90 minutes, once a week. This program gives the girls the opportunity to participate in a mixture of activities while having fun. Adventure is always fun in a safe and encouraging environment, and it promotes friendship, co-operation and helping others. *Brownies* continue to learn about the wonders of the natural world around them, including gaining new respect and learning different ways to protect the environment.

Guides – ages 9 to 12
For Fun and Challenge!

Guides meet once a week for about two hours, to explore their individual interests and further develop an understanding of their community, the outdoors, and their futures. *Guides* may earn badges in various areas of interest from Angler to Writer and Pet Keeper to Dancer and everything in between.

Co-operation and leadership are encouraged through active games and challenges. *Guides* continue to explore the Canadian natural environment through different activities fostering their self-esteem and independence, while gaining a sense of achievement.

Pathfinders – ages 12 to 15
For Fun and Opportunities!

Pathfinders, along with their adult leaders, plan their own programs, including the frequency and length of meetings, and the framework from which they will work.

The program is made up of 500 different challenges, relevant to modern young women, in the seven “Emblems”: Be Prepared, Camping, Community, Home, Leadership, Outdoor, and World. These challenges encourage young women to tap into their natural talents, develop confidence, and nurture both friend and family relationships.

There is the opportunity for young women to earn both a Religion in Life Emblem as well as their Citizenship Certificate as a *Pathfinder*.

Senior Branches – ages 15 to 17+

Senior Branches is made up of three options for young women continuing with *Guides Canada*: Cadets, Junior Leaders, and Rangers. The young women are encouraged to develop their independence through traveling, camping, and service projects.

Cadets gain practical experience as leaders in *different* branches within *Guides Canada*. They still meet as a group to plan activities and exchange ideas.

Junior Leaders gain practical experience as leaders in *one* branch within Guides Canada. They will meet as part of a leadership team to plan the activities for the unit they are working with.

Rangers are challenged to plan and lead their own activities.

Scholarships

Guides Canada offers opportunities for members to receive financial support while pursuing full-time post-secondary education.

There are two types scholarships available, each for \$1,500. The Girl Guides of Canada Scholarship is a general scholarship available to any member attending a Canadian post-secondary educational institution. The Roberta Bondar Scholarship is available to any member continuing her education in science, applied science, mathematics or technology.

Last year, Guides Canada awarded 13 scholarships for \$1,500 each in total. Eleven were Girl Guides of Canada scholarships and two Roberta Bondar scholarships.

[Click here for more information](#) (link leads to an English only page).

International Trips

Members of Guides Canada have many exciting opportunities for international travel. Each year Guides Canada offers financial aid to send girls and women to our World Centres.

At the World Centres, visitors can participate in programs and activities and work with local communities, sharing their culture and experiencing their lifestyle.

Our World Centres are:

- Our Chalet in Adelboden, Switzerland www.ourchalet.ch
- Pax Lodge in London, England www.paxlodge.org
- Our Cabana in Morelos, Mexico www.ourcabana.org
- Sangam in Pune, India www.sangamwagggqs.org.uk

[Click here for more information](#) (link leads to an English only page).

Do You Want to Volunteer?

Guides Canada isn't just for girls and young women. If you are an adult woman and would like to volunteer your time, we would love to have you. You don't even need to have a daughter! By volunteering with Guides Canada you will be helping the girls and young women in your community become active citizens.

You will be able to make a difference in the lives of girls and young women, and be rewarded by helping them accomplish challenging activities they didn't think possible. You will have opportunities to grow through leadership development, peer support, and travel opportunities, while becoming more familiar with Canadian culture. You will have access to coaching, mentoring, training, and conferences, while making new friends.

Just like the girls and young women, you can join any time of the year. And we will work within your schedule, ensuring that you enjoy yourself completely.

Volunteering with Guides Canada gives you a chance to meet new friends, while developing skills to help you make your way through Canadian culture.

Why Guides Canada is so Wonderful?

As a girl, young woman or adult woman new to Canada, Guides Canada is a place to have fun, learn new things, and make new friends. You can join anytime of year to participate in adventurous, activity-based programs. These programs encourage girls to challenge themselves in a safe environment. This is an all-girl setting helping girls and women of all ages gain self-confidence, decision-making and leadership skills.

If you would like more information on Girl Guides of Canada please [email us](#) and we will be happy to contact you - in your own language if you prefer.

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada National Office, 50 Merton Street, Toronto ON, M4S 1A3