

2026



The THIRD Annual International

# JAMBOREE-ON-THE-WATER



## What is a Jamboree?

- A Jamboree is a “*festive gathering*.” A Scouting Jamboree is when Scouts from multiple units get together in one place, at the same time, to share the Scouting experience (*usually at a multi-unit campout or other Scouting event, often with competitions, service projects or social events*).

The first World Scouting Jamboree took place in London, England, in 1920 and today is held every four years at different locations around the world. Advances in technology have made it possible for Scouts to connect internationally without actually meeting in one single location and a number of “join-in” Jamborees were created to unite Scouts everywhere by “joining in” with an activity at the same time. We currently have a Trifecta of international Scouting Jamborees: On Land (JOTT and TrailJAM), on the Water (JOTW) and on the Air (JOTA/JOTI).

## What is the Jamboree-on-the-Water?

- JOTW is an annual international celebration of Scout solidarity where Scouts everywhere “join-in” and undertake an activity *on the water* at the same time.



## When is it?

- The Jamboree-on-the-Water is held every year on any day in July. The preferred focus week is the second week or second weekend of July to commemorate the July 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of Sea Scouting (Those with southern hemisphere reversed seasons can do January).

## ***How do I participate?***

- Open to all Scouts. Cubs Scouts and younger Scouting units could visit a local pond or lake or beach as part of a weekend camp. A Scout troop can do water activities of any kind, particularly involving ships, boats, canoes, kayaks or paddleboats; or they could do some educational presentation or activity, or work on water-centered projects and Merit Badge requirements. Summer camp activities are encouraged. Older Scouts in Explorer units or Venturing and Rover crews can make a service project out of restoring or maintaining portions of a dock or help with harbor cleanup or hold SCUBA dives. Any water-based activity in, on, under or over the water qualifies.
- Participation is easy and fun. Plan any activity involving the water during the month of July (preferably the second week or weekend of July). If you are in the Southern Hemisphere, any date you did in January will qualify. Register your activity and unit or individual participants online to receive an official JOTW certificate for the unit and individual participants after the event. To participate, see *Jamboree-on-the-Water* on FACEBOOK and register online at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-114488>

## ***Is there a badge?***

- It would not be a Scouting event without a badge or patch. Participants will be able to purchase a JOTW patch separately online as recognition of having participated in this worldwide event. All registered participants will be sent an official Jamboree-on-the-Water certificate by e-mail.
- There is also an International Jamboree Trifecta patch available for purchase for doing all three “join-in” jamborees (*Air + Land + Water*).
- Scouts around the world are invited to suggest badge ideas for next year. Suggestions to improve the event and volunteers are also welcome.

- **DETAILS ONLINE:** See in NCAC newsletter *WE OWN ADVENTURE* at: <https://weownadventure.com/coming-in-july-2024-jamboree-on-the-water-jotw>
- **SIGN UP ONLINE:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-114488>
- **POST YOUR EVENT ON FACEBOOK:** (1) *Jamboree on the Water* (2) *Sea Scouts BSA*
- **ORDER JOTW PATCHES:** <https://councilstuff.com/082?item=4063214>

## History of Scouting Jamborees

World Scouting was founded by Lord Baden-Powell in 1907 on Brownsea Island (UK). The first World Scouting Jamboree took place in 1920 when Lord Baden Powell, the creator of the Scout Movement, called together Scouts from around the World to meet in one place (and share the Scouting experience). It was held in London, England with 8,000 Scouts from 34 nations. Today World Jamborees are held once every four years at locations around the world. The last World Jamboree was held in Korea in 2023. The next World Jamboree will be in Poland in 2027.

The Boy Scouts of America (*Scouting America*) was founded in 1910) and the first USA National Jamboree was in 1937

Advances in technology have made it possible for Scouts to connect internationally without actually meeting in one single location at the same time. As a result, a number of international “Join-in” Scouting jamborees have been created where scouts can join in and participate by undertaking their own Scouting event locally, at the same time as other Scout activities around the world, and reporting on their event on social media.

### “JOIN-IN” JAMBOREES

- JAMBOREE-ON-THE-AIR (JOTA) (*Air*)(*Fall*) (*Since 1858*): Scouts communicate globally using Ham radios on the third weekend in October.
- JAMBOREE-ON-THE TRAIL (JOTT) (*Land*)(*Spring*) (*Since 1912-2023*): & TRAILJAM: Scouts Worldwide can organize a hike on the second weekend in May and post their event on Social media. The last JOTT was 2023 and was succeeded by TRAILJAM starting in 2024.
- JAMBOREE-ON-THE-INTERNET (JOTI) (*Web*)(*Fall*) (*since 1997*): Scouts use the format of the JOTA to connect by Internet. It was added to JOTA to create a double "join-in" Jamboree in 1996 (JOTA-JOTI).
- JAMBOREE-ON-THE WATER (JOTW) (*Water*)(*Summer*) (*Since 2024*): Scouts “join-in” by holding any event on the Water in July (to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of Sea Scouts in 1912). JOTW was created by Sea Scouts with the National Capital Area Council (NCAC) in Washington, DC, USA.