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SCOUTING



16th Africa Scout Day

Info Pack



Africa Scout Day is a regional flagship event commemorated annually on 13 March, as designated by the African Union (AU). The day brings together Scouts, Adult Leaders, and partners from across the continent to reflect on the achievements of the Scouting Movement and to strengthen partnerships aimed at increasing social impact in Africa.

The observance of Africa Scout Day is in line with Resolution CM/Res.1607 (LXII) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the former Organisation of African Unity (OAU), now the African Union, during its 62nd Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995.

The 16th Africa Scout Day 2026 will be celebrated under the theme “Strong Roots. Bright Future” The Celebrations also align with the broader goals of the African Union’s Agenda 2063, which envisions a prosperous and peaceful Africa driven by its own citizens, especially its youth. By focusing on self-leadership, Africa Scout Day 2026 will contribute to building a generation of Scouts who are empowered to shape their own futures and, in turn, contribute to the growth and wellbeing of their communities and nations.

Purpose, Goal, and Theme Rationale

The purpose of the annual Africa Scout Day is to celebrate the Scout Movement’s contribution to the development of Africa. Africa Scout Day 2026, under the theme “*Strong Roots. Bright Future.*” celebrates growth, continuity, and the power of a solid foundation. Just as a tree can only rise tall when its roots run deep, so too can Scouts succeed when grounded in values, heritage and teamwork.

The theme invites Scouts to reflect on their past – their roots in Scouting, family, and culture – and to look forward to a bright future filled with leadership, innovation, service and unity. In the words of an African proverb about growth: “*It is from a small seed that the giant iroko tree has its origin*”. If we have a firm foundation of character and tradition, our future will flourish with meaning and hope.

Dates and Venue

The Africa Scout Day 2026 celebrations will take place from Thursday the 12th to Sunday the 15th of March 2026 at Arrowe Park Scout Camp in Johannesburg, South Africa. Participants are expected to arrive during the afternoon on the 12th of

March or before 9am on the 13th of March and depart after lunch on the 15th of March 2026. Those wishing to leave later will have to make their own accommodation arrangements for the night of the 15th.

While the main celebrations will be hosted by SCOUTS South Africa, other Member Organizations across Sub-Saharan Africa are also encouraged to host national celebrations in their respective countries. A resource pack developed by SCOUTS South Africa, which includes Africa Scout Day programmes and activities for various age groups, will be made available.

Participants

While the 'Africa Scout Day' celebrations are open to all Scouts and Scouters from all over Africa and beyond, it is recommended that participants travelling from outside South Africa should be at least 14 years old.

Member Organizations interested in participating are asked to organise their youth delegations into Patrol sized groups (maximum of eight Scouts), accompanied by an adult Scouter, which will be paired with a local Patrol of Scouts for the event. The local Patrol will take care of providing tents and meals for the visiting Patrol.

Adult Leaders wishing to participate in the Africa Scout Day event, who are not responsible for a youth delegation and who do not want to camp at Arrowe Park, are welcome to register and make their own accommodation arrangements. There are several affordable hotels and bed & breakfast establishments in the area. A discounted fee will apply if not camping at Arrow Park.

Objectives

The following objectives will ensure an exciting and educational Africa Scout Day experience.

1. To showcase Scouts for SDGs as a method for addressing societal challenges, while highlighting the impact of Scouts as agents of change who are making a difference in their local communities.
2. To encourage Scouts to take active roles in community development and to see themselves as leaders who can shape their communities for the better.

3. To highlight and amplify the partnerships that support the growth and development of Scouting in Africa.
4. To connect Scouting activities with the African Union's development goals by fostering qualities that contribute to a peaceful, inclusive, and sustainable Africa.
5. To encourage a sense of unity and togetherness amongst Scouts and Member Organizations across the continent.

Programme

The main event will bring together Scouts from different countries in Africa and beyond for a Patrol-based, 3-day camp at Arrowe Park Scout Camp in Johannesburg, during which they will undertake numerous learning and community-based activities. The tentative programme for the celebrations will be as follows:

Day & Date	Activities
Thursday, 12 th March	Afternoon arrivals, registration of participants and camp set up
Friday, 13 th March	Morning – Africa Scout Day Official Ceremony Afternoon – International Camp Activities
Saturday, 14 th March	International Camp Activities
Sunday, 15 th March	Morning – Camp Activities and Closing Ceremony Afternoon – Participant departure

NOTE: Those who wish to take part in any pre- or post-event programme should get in touch with the hosts for assistance.

Key Activities

1. Scouts for SDGs

- Develop an understanding of Scouts for SDGs initiatives and showcase inspiring projects, which participants can take back to their Member Organizations.
- Discussion groups focused on personal development, leadership, emotional intelligence and values-based decision-making.
- Panel discussions allow Scouts to discuss and understand their role in achieving the goals of the African Union's Agenda 2063.

2. Community engagement projects

- Scouts participate in community service projects that address local needs, such as environmental conservation, health awareness campaigns and educational support for underprivileged communities.

3. Scouting skills (The Patrol System)

- Provide a series of small group challenges and fun activities that require teamwork, innovative ideas and collective effort to achieve.
- Rafting and/or boating on Homestead Lake, under the supervision of the local Sea Scout Groups.

4. Connecting and sharing experiences

- Providing a platform for Scouts to share their personal stories of self-leadership, resilience and how Scouting has shaped their lives.
- Online link-up with other Member Organizations celebrating Africa Scout Day, to share experiences and present best practices in implementing the SDGs.

ASD Logo Design



The generic Africa Scout Day logo embodies the spirit of African Unity through Scouting. It consists of a section of the reef knot cutting across the continent of Africa. The name of the event is presented in both English and French, which are the official languages used in the region. The colours orange and red signify the youthfulness and vibrancy of the Scout Movement in Africa and its readiness to impact the continent through Scout values.

Since it is a World Scouting Africa Regional event, the World Scouting emblem is also featured. Every year, the logo is slightly edited to include the official National Scout symbol, or natural feature from within the host country, and the name of the country hosting the main celebrations.

Participation Fees

- International participants will pay Seventy US Dollars (USD 70).
- A discounted fee of Thirty-five US Dollars (USD 35) is applicable to Adult Leaders who opt NOT to camp at Arrowe Park and who will find their own accommodation and ensure their own catering during the event.

The participation fee will cover the following:

- Event scarf and badge.
- Camping fees at Arrowe Park Scout Camp.
- Meals for international participants camping at Arrowe Park Scout Camp.
- Transportation from the airport to the event site and back.
- First aid / medical care in case of minor illness and incidents not requiring hospitalisation.

The participation fee does not include:

- Treatment of pre-existing illnesses.
- Long-term medication.
- Costs related to hospitalisation.
- Medical evacuation of the participants to their country of origin.
- Personal camping equipment, including sleeping bags.
- Travel and VISA expenses.
- Transport to outside accommodation.

It is recommended that delegations arrange their own travel insurance to cover the costs of hospitalisation and medical evacuation should this be required.

Registration and Payments

Those interested in taking part in this celebration should complete the attached Registration Form and return it to SCOUTS South Africa via email to asd@scouts.org.za with a copy to africa@scout.org by no later than the 22nd of February 2026.

Please email asd@scouts.org.za for the invoice to make payment for your delegation no later than 8 February 2026. Proof of Payment for all participants is also required no later than the 22nd of February 2026. Please note that any forex/bank charges for making the payment are for the cost of the transferring Member Organization.

Both registration and payments are due no later than the 22nd of February 2026, to ensure that the host Patrols have sufficient time to prepare for their guests.

VISA Arrangements

Please check with your local travel agent whether you require a VISA to enter South Africa. An official invitation letter from SCOUTS South Africa for the Africa Scout Day event can be made available to assist with any VISA applications. Requests for the invitation letter can be made via email to asd@scouts.org.za, with a list of names and passport numbers to be included on the letter.

Enquiries

For any other questions or enquiries, please send an email to asd@scouts.org.za with Africa Scout Day Enquiry in the subject line.

Programme ideas and resources

Scouting takes place in Groups all around the continent, so let's unite this Africa Scout Day and run the same programmes-on-a-plate or similar activities to emphasis our shared roots, and the bright futures we are enabling through Scouting. Find some ideas in the 16th Africa Scout Day Resource Pack that will be provided closer to the event.



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