

UKRAINE ADVENTURE 2020

Info pack



suscotland.org.uk/ukraineadventure

Armenia : Belarus : England : Russia : Scotland : Tajikistan : Ukraine

Thank you for your interest in

UKRAINE ADVENTURE

In this pack, you will find lots more information about the trip, including the background to our connection with Ukraine and details of the people running the trip.

After reading this pack, if you're ready to apply, please follow the link on the last page.

Thank you!



WHAT IS UKRAINE ADVENTURE ABOUT?

- ▶ Young people **serving God in a different culture**
- ▶ Young people **learning to rely on God**
- ▶ Young people **developing their leadership skills**
- ▶ Young people **developing a Christian world view**
- ▶ Young people **working cross culturally in mission**
- ▶ Young people **learning and growing in faith together**

UKRAINE ADVENTURE AT A GLANCE

- ▶ **Organised by SU Ukraine and SU Scotland**
- ▶ **Based at Vorzel, SU (Open Bible) Ukraine's campsite**
- ▶ **Two weeks in July 2020**
- ▶ **Getting to know young people from Armenia, Belarus, England, Russia, Tajikistan and Ukraine**
- ▶ **Spend time living and serving in a Ukrainian village**

Programme likely to include:

- Bible teaching, worship, creative prayer and seminars
- Small group work
- Serving in a small team
- Planning and delivering a holiday club in a Ukrainian village
- Staying with a Ukrainian family
- Sharing about Scottish culture
- Introducing other cultures to a Scottish ceilidh
- Sightseeing in Kiev
- Participating in a Ukrainian church service

SU SCOTLAND'S PARTNERSHIP WITH OPEN BIBLE IN UKRAINE

Since the mid-1990's, SU Scotland and Open Bible have worked together and various groups of young people have visited Ukraine. In recent years the partnership between Open Bible and SU Scotland has deepened and a number of Open Bible staff and volunteers have visited Scotland, often taking part in training events or the Big Celebration.

The International Leadership Camp began in 2005 and runs every three years. Phyllis Caldwell (an SU Scotland volunteer) has led many trips to Ukraine and in fact visited and took others to Ukraine long before a partnership was formed between the two movements. Phyllis was joined by Jackie Ringan (SU Director of Development) in 2011 and the trips since then have been led by Jackie. Since 2014, SU Scotland's gap year have also visited Ukraine for their Mission experience.

Jackie Ringan is acting as Team Leader again in 2020 and we hope to take at least 8 young people out to Ukraine this summer.

UKRAINE FACTFILE



Population
44 million
Scotland is
5 million



Largest country
in Europe



Currency is
Hryvnia



Capital is
Kyiv



Has a border with
7 countries



World's largest
producer of
sunflower seeds



National animal
is the bear



Football is the
most popular
sport



Huge cafe
culture



Home of
Chernobyl –
world's worst
nuclear disaster



Home of the
world's deepest
metro line



3rd busiest
McDonald's in
the world

1991

Independent
since 1991



Invented the gas
lamp

EUROVISION
SONG CONTEST

Won the
Eurovision song
contest in 2004
and 2016

MEET THE TEAM LEADER, JACKIE RINGAN



Hi, I'm Jackie and I've been involved in Ukraine since 2011 and have visited many times since then. I have had an interest in Eastern Europe and former Soviet Countries since reading God's Smuggler as a young Christian and then by studying history and politics at University.

I love visiting Ukraine and have many SU Staff and volunteers in Ukraine who I see as good friends. Hospitality is hugely important in Ukraine and that always involves food! Sometimes we can't easily understand each other but our love for Jesus often overcomes language challenges.

At home, I live near Glasgow and work for SU Scotland as Director of Development. I'm involved in a church in Kirkintilloch and in my free time enjoy playing golf, walking and visiting the gym. I've also made the effort to learn Russian over the past few years although trying to have a conversation in Russian still eludes me, most of the time!

TIMELINE

2019

- Bookings open

2020

March 31st

- closing date for applications

April

- Team confirmed
- Fundraising begins
- Flights booked
- Training day

May

- Innoculations, passports
- Fundraising

June

- Team training
- Basecamp or LeadUP events

July

- Team fly to Ukraine
- Week 1 at Vorzel campsite
- Week 2 - children's and youthwork in Ukrainian village
- Fly home from Ukraine

August

- Debrief
- Big Celebration

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT ON THE TRIP?

A small group have been working on the programme over the past few months. The group is made up of Ukrainian SU staff, Jackie Ringan and volunteers from NE England. The programme will be agreed a few months ahead of trip.

The Ukraine Adventure allows us to support the ministry of Open Bible as well as develop friendships with young leaders from a variety of countries. In particular, we will be supporting Open Bible's relationship with small churches in villages who work with children and families who have never heard the Good News of Jesus.

Previous trips have included the following:

- ▶ Visiting Kiev and exploring together
- ▶ Enjoying traditional Ukrainian food
- ▶ Learning games from different cultures
- ▶ Preparing crafts
- ▶ Working with vulnerable children
- ▶ Preparing a short talk
- ▶ Sharing testimony
- ▶ Enjoying worship together
- ▶ Exploring the Bible and praying



FAQs



Here are some Frequently Asked Questions about Ukraine. We think this covers most areas, but if you have a question that isn't here, please feel free to contact us.

1. WHERE EXACTLY ARE WE GOING?

We will travel to Kiev and then onto Vorzel, a small forest village, about an hour beyond Kyiv. There will be opportunity to explore Vorzel and to visit Kyiv, the capital city, and see some of the amazing sights. In the second week your small group will travel to a village where you will stay for 6 nights.

2. WILL I BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND?

The main language spoken in Ukraine is Ukrainian. However, the main languages we will use are Russian and English. Many of the Open Bible staff speak good English and some are qualified translators. A good number of the young people will also speak English although they will be shy about trying their English out. Just remember, their English will be much better than your Russian!! In the second week there will always be a proficient English speaker with you.

3. IS IT SAFE?

International travel is never without an element of risk. Ukraine is still at war with Russia but this is far, far away from where we will be based. Currently Kiev is considered low risk. A full risk assessment is produced ahead of the visit and agreed with Open Bible and advice from the Foreign Office is monitored. There is considerable experience of International travel amongst those involved in leadership of the event.

4. HOW WILL WE GET THERE?

We'll fly to Kiev, usually from Edinburgh via Amsterdam or Frankfurt and just sometimes via Paris. The exact route will depend on flight prices at the time of booking. It's likely that there will be an early start on the outward journey but this means arrival in mid afternoon. Onward travel from the airport is usually by minibus.

5. WHAT SIZE WILL THE TEAM BE?

The planned size of the team is 8 along with

a Team Leader. We'll be joined by another team from England and their Team Leader. Altogether we hope to have around 60 – 70 people involved this year.

6. WHAT IS THE ACCOMMODATION LIKE?

We will be based at the Vorzel campsite. It is set in a walled compound with a variety of buildings and grounds. Rooms are usually for up to 4 people and some have ensuite facilities. The facilities are basic but absolutely adequate. All food is provided at the campsite. In fact, previous team members often talk about Vorzel being the Lendrick Muir of Ukraine!

7. WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

We will be involved in a week of leadership training with great bible teaching, worship, small groups and seminars in the first week. As part of that you will be working in a small team getting to know one another and planning together for a week of holiday club in a village. During that week there will also be opportunity to visit Kyiv. The final programme will be available before you go.

8. DO I NEED INJECTIONS?

Yes, it is likely that you will need some depending on those you have had as a child and teenager. Your local doctor's surgery will be able to give you advice and there will be further information available once you have been accepted as part of the team. Please note that the payment for any necessary inoculations is your responsibility.

9. WHAT ABOUT THE FOOD?

Ukrainian food is not too dissimilar to Scottish food. Expect to be served quite a lot of chicken in a variety of forms, mashed potato, pasta and rice. Cakes and biscuits are a firm favourite in Ukraine and in the city "coffee cafe culture" is huge.....and the coffee is good. At main meals, expect to be served food without any kind of sauce and often it will be served with a cup of sweet

tea (without milk) or juice made from fruit. Ukrainian staples are: borscht (all kinds of soup), stuffed cabbage leaves and Napoleon (a delicious cake).

10. £1000 FOR THE TRIP SOUNDS LIKE LOTS OF MONEY – WHAT DOES IT GO TOWARDS?

It may seem like a lot but you will be surprised at how willing people are to help. We have always found that God provides when you pray and share what you are going to be doing. We'll send you a pack of ideas to go to work on and how to set up a Just Giving page if you would like to. We may even set up a group page. On top of this you will need to ensure your passport is up to date and still has 6 months of usage left.

11. WILL I NEED SPENDING MONEY?

You won't need much spending money – the £ goes a long way in Ukraine. You will easily buy ice-cream or a bottle of coca cola for under 50p! We can't obtain Ukrainian currency in Scotland so you need to take money with you to exchange there – the exchange rate is good at the moment. There will be some time to go souvenir shopping in Kyiv and there is a very small shop selling water, snacks and ice-cream near the Vorzel campsite.

12. WHAT WILL THE WEATHER BE LIKE?

Summer weather in Ukraine can be variable. It is likely to be somewhere between 28 – 36F – it could get hotter than that but it could also be a bit rainy and there can be spectacular thunderstorms.



13. IS THERE A TIME DIFFERENCE?

Ukraine time is 1 hour ahead of the UK in July.

14. WILL I GET ANY TIME OFF?

As a team we will spend some time together in the first week and be able to speak only English with each other. Most days there will be some free time and you will be able to go for a walk, play sport or just relax. There will also be time to sightsee. In the second week, when you are in a village, there will be time together as a team and what you do will depend on the village you are placed in. Usually there are a variety of things to see and do and you will find that your Ukrainian hosts will be keen to ensure you have opportunity to explore.

15. AM I THE RIGHT KIND OF PERSON TO GO TO UKRAINE?

We are looking for a team made up of individuals who bring different skills. You don't need to have served overseas before nor do you need to have lots of experience of working with children and young people. You do need to have a Christian faith and want to have the opportunity to meet others from different cultures who share the same faith as well as a desire to share Jesus with others. However perhaps you can: play games, play guitar, tell stories, take part in drama, share your testimony. You need to enjoy meeting new people and be up for the challenge of living in a different culture for two weeks. Flexibility is always important in another culture and things aren't always done the way we do them in Scotland.....and that's OK!

COST BREAKDOWN

Travel costs	£500
Training	£150
Accommodation & Food	£250
Sightseeing	£50
Resources	£50

DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS



What training will there be?

The team will meet together at least twice before travelling to Ukraine and if you have not taken part in SU Scotland's training events Basecamp or LeadUP, we would strongly suggest that you get along to one of these. The cost of attending Basecamp or LeadUP will be covered, in part, by your fundraising.

KATIE'S STORY



It had been such a blessing meeting each morning just as the Scottish team, as it allowed for communication without hesitation as we explored Philippians, prayed, sang and even wept together, and I was nervous about going into week 2 without this team.

Over the following week, through reflection, reading, observing and listening, I learnt some difficult lessons about utter dependence on God, loving through serving, the volume of actions and the need to be bold as the message we have is a message that needs shared.

It was an utter privilege to serve alongside my team which included young leaders from both Russia and Ukraine. Their confidence and passion for making Jesus' name known in a country still hostile to the Gospel challenged me profoundly. Despite speaking different languages, there was something powerful about serving together with them, knowing we differed in so many ways, but were united as God's children.

As I reflect on my time in Ukraine, I can hardly remember that feeling I had as I packed for Tetiv as I can honestly say my time in Ukraine was one of the best weeks of my life. I often cringe when I read posts like this as people talk about 'life-changing trips' etc. but I can honestly say that this trip to Ukraine has significantly impacted my life on a deep level, and if it is in God's will, it won't be long until I return to help on another camp.

Katie Stott, was part of the SU Scotland gap year who travelled to Ukraine in July 2017.

READY TO APPLY?

If you're keen to be part of Ukraine Adventure 2020, please fill out our online application form at:



▶ suscotland.org.uk/ukraineadventure/apply

Thank you very much for your interest in this programme.



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