



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

*More Choices and More
Reasons Than Ever To Join!*





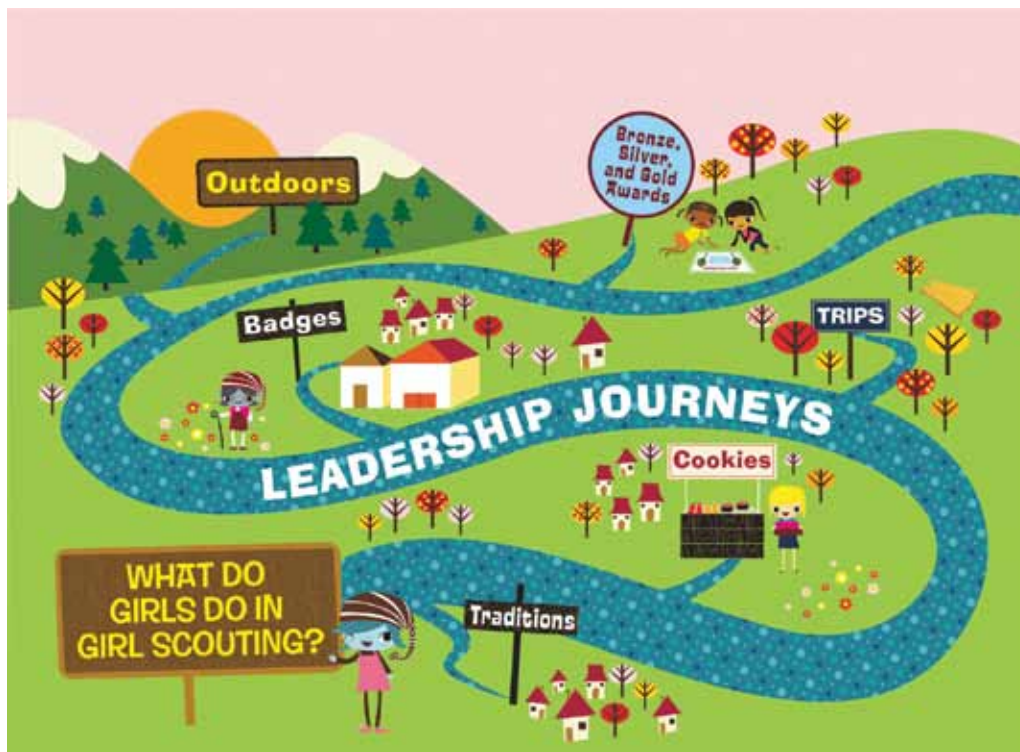
Why Should My Daughter Join Girl Scouts?

Girls develop best among other girls—away from school pressures, social cliques and boys. Your daughter’s leadership potential will blossom in **a safe, fun and social environment** where she can be herself and try out new things.

As a Girl Scout, she will benefit from **hands-on leadership experiences that encourage her to:**

- ☘ Take an active role in deciding and planning what she wants to do.
- ☘ Learn by doing in a supportive, girls-only environment where learning is cooperative, not competitive.
- ☘ Share special ceremonies and meaningful Girl Scout traditions with other girls.
- ☘ Earn badges, awards and national recognitions for new skills and accomplishments.
- ☘ Plan and carry out service projects that benefit her community and foster a lifelong commitment to make a difference in the world.

“I want to discover how the world works and explore fun things, like animals, the environment, and fashion, especially with my friends.”



WE BRING OUT THE BEST IN GIRLS.

In Girl Scouts your daughter will have many opportunities to make **friends**, develop **leadership skills**, boost her **self-confidence** and strengthen her personal **values**.

Her experiences can be as individual and unique as she is. With so many **fun and flexible new ways to participate**, she can choose just one or choose them all!

Camp. She’ll love learning about nature and the environment at a sleep-over camp or a local day camp.

Series and Events. Does she have a passion like art, horseback riding, fashion design? She can explore her talents and have fun with other girls who love the same things, at times that fit her schedule.

Travel. She can broaden her horizons by seeing and experiencing new places, people and things through Girl Scout travel opportunities.

Troop. She can meet with a group of girls regularly, share amazing experiences and learn how girls working together can make a difference.

WHO CAN BE A GIRL SCOUT?

There is only one qualification...you have to be a girl. That’s it! Girl Scouts is open to **all girls, kindergarten through grade 12**, and you can join at any time.

Nearly **24,000 Orange County Girl Scouts**, from every walk of life and zip code, **are already building the leadership values, skills and abilities they need for success**, now and in the future. They’re having a great time doing it, and your daughter will too!

GIRL SCOUTING IS FLEXIBLE AND AFFORDABLE.

Annual national **membership dues are only \$12 per year** (October - September).

Optional costs include uniforms (encouraged, but not required), books, badges/patches, and any fees for camps, series/events or travel opportunities that she chooses to participate in. Troop expenses vary, based on troop members' planned activities, projects and supplies.

Proceeds from the annual **Cookie and Fall Product sales can be used to help cover expenses.** Financial Assistance is available when required.

WHEN CAN SHE JOIN?

Your daughter can join at **any time, in any grade.**

Some girls join in kindergarten or first grade and progress through all six Girl Scout levels. Some girls join later to go camping, pursue a passion, become part of a troop or travel with other girls. The six Girl Scout program levels are:

- Girl Scout Daisy, grades K-1
- Girl Scout Brownie, grades 2-3
- Girl Scout Junior, grades 4-5
- Girl Scout Cadette, grades 6-8
- Girl Scout Senior, grades 9-10
- Girl Scout Ambassador, grades 11 – 12

All Girl Scout levels are based on the varying abilities, needs and interests girls have in different grades.

KNOW WHO TO CONTACT.

Contact your daughter's Troop Leader or other key volunteer if you need more information, have questions or want to know how you can help out. For your convenience, **record their contact information** below and keep it in a handy place.

Troop Leader/Other Volunteer: _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Email: _____

Co-leader/Other Volunteer: _____

Council staff are also happy to provide assistance and answer questions. Call 949.461.8800 or email GirlScouts@gscoc.org.
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

PLAN A VISIT TO CAMP SCHERMAN!

Generations of girls have built self-esteem, courage and a spirit of independence at Camp Scherman, our renowned camp in the scenic San Jacinto Mountains. It is **a special place where your daughter is safe to explore the wonders of nature and learn that she is capable of more than she ever dreamed possible.** Canoeing, archery, rock climbing, swimming, hiking, singing and eating drippy S'mores by the campfire, gazing at a star-studded sky through telescopes – these are just some of the unforgettable experiences Camp Scherman offers.

Our popular summer camp sessions are just for girls, but **families can share in the fun** the rest of the year at special themed weekend camps like Mom and Me, Family Camp and more. Check out the website at www.CampScherman.com.

GIRL SCOUTS CAN EARN WHILE THEY LEARN.

Cookie Sale Program

January – March

Fall Product Sale Program

October – November

Girls in all grades have **fun opportunities to earn funds** for some of their troop costs, event fees, camping, travel, Girl Scout books, badges and other gear through the two Girl Scout product sale programs. Although no girl is required to participate, it is an extremely valuable part of the Girl Scout leadership experience. In fact, the Girl Scout Cookie Sale and Fall Product Sale are **the nation's leading business skill development programs for girls.** They learn and practice goal setting, decision making, people skills, money management, teamwork, leadership, critical thinking and problem solving.

Proceeds stay in Orange County to help provide support and training for Girl Scout volunteers, girl leadership experiences, events and activities, safe facilities and financial aid to help make Girl Scouting available to more local girls.



GET STARTED TODAY!

Register. Complete the girl and adult registration forms that you receive at a Girl Scout information meeting or download the registration forms at www.gscoc.org/join.

Check out our calendar of exciting current and upcoming girl activities at www.gscoc.org/calendar, and sign your daughter up for the activities that interest her.

Subscribe to Tel-A-Scout, our monthly e-newsletter full of ideas and resources for families, Girl Scout activities, news, photos and more, at www.gscoc.org/TAS.

Start a new Troop. If your daughter wants to be part of a troop and there's not one available, you can make it happen! There's no better way to add meaningful days to your daughter's and other girls' lives (and to your own as well). We'll give you the information and support you need. Visit www.gscoc.org/join, or contact a Girl Scout Membership Specialist at 949.461.8800.



FAMILY SUPPORT IS VITAL.

The annual cost to provide the Girl Scout leadership program to just one girl is \$322. With nearly 24,000

Girl Scouts in Orange County, family support is crucial to help cover the full cost. Although your \$12 annual membership dues go directly to Girl Scouts of the USA, there are many ways that **families support Girl Scouting locally.**

- Encourage your daughter's participation in the **Fall Product and Cookie Sale programs.**
- Contribute to the **annual Girl Scout Family Campaign.**
- **Ask your employer** about matching funds and in-kind contributions.
- Purchase all your Girl Scout gear at the Orange County Girl Scout **Shop.** You will be supporting local Girl Scouting, and the shop is a great place for Girl Scout families and volunteers to get valuable information and great resources. Visit the shop at 9500 Toledo Way in Irvine or go to our online shop at www.gscocshop.org.



BE PART OF THE TEAM THAT ENSURES HER SUCCESS.

Your daughter will get the greatest benefit from Girl Scouting if she sees that you are involved too. In addition to becoming a new Troop Leader—they are always needed and appreciated—there are endless flexible ways to be part of your daughter's special team.

Ask how you can help!

It could be as simple as helping to clean up after a meeting, chauffeuring, record keeping or taking photos to share—it's all important for your daughter. You'll **make new friends** working with the parents of your daughter's Girl Scout friends, and you'll **have fun doing it!**

Share your expertise, interests or passions.

Offer to coach a girls' sports clinic, share your appreciation of nature on a hike or campout, help girls plant native trees at a park or work with animals at a rescue center, teach a new skill or share your favorite hobby. The sky's the limit, and the time commitment is up to you.

Learn more about how you can get involved.

Talk to a Girl Scout volunteer in your area. You can also contact a Girl Scout staff member by calling 949.461.8800 or emailing Volunteers@gscoc.org. Visit the Volunteer section at www.gscoc.org for more information.

What
did you do
today?

girl scouts



GIRL SCOUTS IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST ORGANIZATION FOR GIRLS.

Founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low with just 18 girls, Girl Scouts of the USA has grown to more than **3.4 million girls and adult members**. In Orange County, there are nearly **24,000 Girl Scouts and 14,000 adult members** from every zip code, race, income and circumstance.

Did You Know?

- Orange County Girl Scouts demonstrate their values and leadership skills by contributing more than **500,000 hours of community service** each year.
- 66% of **female leaders** in government, business, education, medicine, science and their communities were Girl Scouts.
- 92% of **female astronauts** were Girl Scouts.
- 82% of **high-achieving alumnae** believe that Girl Scouting influenced their success.
- 68% of **women in Congress** were Girl Scouts.

GIRL SCOUTS GROW UP TO BE SUCCESSFUL WOMEN!

All Girl Scout program activities are based on the timeless values of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**Individuals can substitute their own words to reflect their personal beliefs.*

The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Girl Scout Council of Orange County Headquarters and Shop

9500 Toledo Way
Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92618
949.461.8800 or 800.979.9444
Website: www.gscoc.org
Email: GirlScouts@gscoc.org
Business Hours:
8 a.m.—6 p.m. Monday—Thursday

Shop Hours:
10 a.m.—6 p.m. Monday—Thursday
10 a.m.—3 p.m. Friday
11 a.m.—3 p.m. Saturday
949.461.8802
Website: www.gscocShop@gscoc.org
Email: Shop@gscoc.org
Please check the website periodically for current shop hours.

**Building girls of
courage, confidence,
and character,
who make the world
a better place.**