

Girl Scouts Go Hostelling

Remember how you felt the first time you traveled somewhere new? Were you excited? Energized? Amazed? Help the Girl Scouts in your life share those same feelings! Take advantage of the collaboration between Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) and Hostelling International-USA (HI-USA) and enjoy discount memberships, a patch program, and experiences that can help girls earn Girl Scout age-level awards while discovering the world.

GSUSA and HI-USA are American traditions that go hand in hand. Since the 1930's, HI-USA (known then as American Youth Hostels) has provided Girl Scouts with opportunities for travel through educational and recreational programs that build life skills and promote global understanding. Together, GSUSA and HI-USA continue to help girls enjoy the wonders of the world through travel in a safe and fun atmosphere.

Now, Girl Scouts ages 11-17 can earn the recently-revised Hostelling International Girl Scout Patch at any HI-USA hostel or Council! Earning the colorful patch, which proclaims "Discover the World", is interesting, fun, and easy to do. Spend a night or two in a hostel, figure out how to create a travel budget, learn greetings in different languages, and take part in local volunteer projects coordinated by the hostel - these are all possible ways to earn the patch. As they do, the Girl Scouts will become more engaged, caring citizens and learn about the world of hostelling!



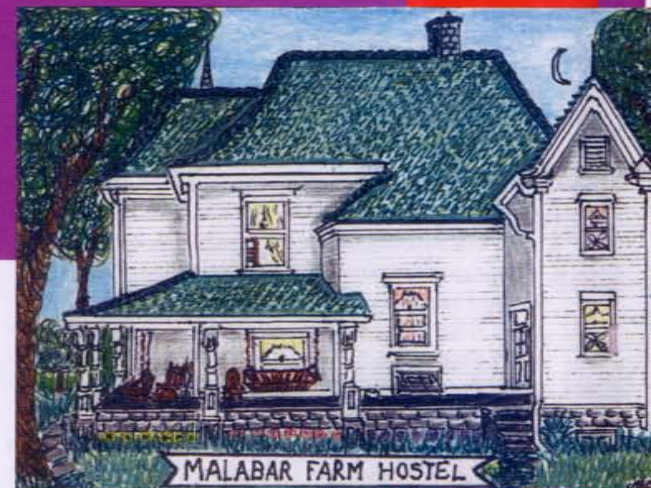
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Directions: Exit I-71 at State Route 13; at Hanley Road turn east (right from south, left from north). Go about 2 miles; turn at 4-way stop at Little Washington Road. Go south about 1/2 mile. At fork in the road bear left onto Pleasant Valley Road. Go about 6 miles; turn right at Bromfield Road. Hostel is the first house on the right.

OPENING DOORS OPENING MINDS



- 19 - 21 BEDS
- 900 - ACRE WORKING FARM
- 6 MILES TO B&O BIKE TRAIL
- FREE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
- KITCHEN AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES



"To help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling."

Louis Bromfield's Malabar Farm

Imagine a world where intercultural dialogue and responsible travel are part of every individual's experience. It's the sort of world that Hostelling International-USA (HI-USA) doesn't just dream about – it's a world we are hard at work creating. Through a dynamic new initiative called "Opening Doors, Opening Minds," HI-USA is taking exciting steps towards fulfilling its mission of international understanding and exchange.

HI-USA, registered with the IRS as a non-profit membership organization under the name American Youth Hostels, Inc., charges itself "to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling." HI-USA achieves its mission through the good quality budget accommodation provided by its affiliated hostels, and through programming that encourages inter-cultural exchange. HI-USA is the American affiliate of the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF), also known under the brand name Hostelling International (HI). IYHF sets the standards internationally for the 4000+ member hostels in over 60 countries.

In the summer of 2002, IYHF launched a global "Youth Hostelling for Peace and International Understanding" campaign, encouraging national hostelling organizations such as HI-USA to provide specific opportunities for youth to learn and work toward peace.

HI-USA responded with "Opening Doors, Opening Minds," a group of programs charged

"To build a new generation of global citizens

- ♦ unburdened of damaging stereotypes
- ♦ emboldened by open minds
- ♦ appreciative of their own heritage and understanding of others

through the dialogue and education that come through hostelling."

HI-USA hostels and hostelling councils (local groups of HI-USA members who provide information and services to current and potential HI-USA members) are implementing "Opening Doors, Opening Minds" through Community Outreach Programs, Travel Scholars Programs, and other projects in various parts of the country.

Ask the people you meet from the Central and Southern Ohio Council of HI-USA about our current projects!

"Malabar" is an Asian word for "beautiful valley," and well describes the 900-acre working farm in Malabar Farm State Park in Lucas, Ohio. Staying at the Malabar Farm Hostel, a 1913 Sears Roebuck Catalog House where Louis Bromfield once lived, is a great way to visit the Park.

Here are some of the highlights . . .

Animal Barn

The lower level of the main barn houses farm animals and is open to visitors everyday.

You may meet close-up:

Beef cows Draft horses Goats Dairy calves Turkeys Pigs
Sheep Barn cats Ducks Rabbits Chickens

From March through May, you will most likely see their babies. You might even witness a birthing!

Be a Farmhand

Visitors may assist with collecting freshly laid eggs, loading hay feeders, milking a goat, brushing the pony, and filling grain and water buckets in the early morning and late afternoon.

Barn Dances

Malabar Farm hosts country barn dances in the big timber frame barn most months from April through October. They're free and open to beginners and veteran dancers alike.

Farm Wagon Tours

Naturalists conduct 45-minute tractor-pulled wagon tours, sharing knowledge about the farm, its evolution, and Louis Bromfield's impact on farming, particularly soil and water conservation.

House Tours

Guides conduct tours of the "Big House," Louis Bromfield's 32-room country home. It has been kept much as it was fifty years ago.

Go Fish

Borrow a fishing pole (no charge) and escape to one of the four stocked farm ponds for a relaxing time fishing.

Trails

The Malabar Farm State Park offers over 14 miles of beautiful back-country trails for hiking, or skiing. The B&O Bike Trail passes within six miles. Some people come here just to bird-watch!

