

## Sangam



Sangam is the newest of the four World Centres, opened by Lady Baden-Powell in 1966. Set in over seven acres of grounds on the banks of the Mula River, the Centre is approximately three miles from the centre of Pune and 120 miles south east of Mumbai. Sangam offers a rich experience of Indian life within a safe, friendly multi-cultural environment. Cultural activities include trying Indian foods, learning about clothes, music, dance and crafts, Indian traditions and contemporary India, visiting local temples and street markets. The word “Sangam” means ‘coming together’ in Sanskrit.

TRY: wear a Sari, eat from a banana leaf plate, watch elephants at work, watch a snake charmer, play Kim’s game – taken from the Rudyard Kipling novel about an orphan boy growing up in colonial India. Play ‘Snakes and Ladders’ a game that originated in India and represents the life journey from Earth to Heaven.



## About the 4 World Centres

A resource by Kylie Dwyer.

The World Centres are residential development facilities where girls and young women learn leadership and life-skills through international friendship, challenge, adventure and self-development. Girls and young women from around the world and from all backgrounds come together to discover their potential, share experiences, and gain a deeper understanding of the complex global community in which they live. Each World Centre offers a wide variety of programs and activities for all ages. Visitors can enjoy seminars, programs and activities to develop their leadership as well as having fun in an International setting which can include sightseeing and trying local activities.



Our Chalet is the first and oldest of WAGGGS World Centres. It opened in 1932 as a place where girls and adults from all over the world could come together, enjoy an ‘International Jamboree

Experience’, be challenged by the terrain and share the Girl Guide/Girl Scout Spirit while having adventures in the Swiss Alps in the beautiful village of Adelboden in the Swiss Oberland. Our Chalet was built and donated to Girl Guides by an American lady named Mrs. Helen Storrow. The traditional inscription carved over the door says: *Gott behulte dieses Hus Und Alle die gehen yu und us.*

TRY: Wood carving; winter skiing, summer hiking through meadows of alpine flowers; Swiss chocolate and fondue, visit International Red Cross at Geneva.



## Pax Lodge.

Just 20 minutes from the heart of London, [Pax Lodge](#) is located in one of the most popular and exciting capital cities in the world. The centre offers a convenient place to stay whilst exploring the city's historical sights and is an international gathering place for WAGGGS members and non-members.



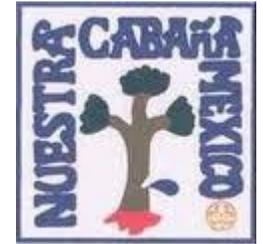
The first World Centre in London was called "Our Ark" and opened in 1939, it was renamed "Olave House" in 1963 in honour of the World Chief Guide, Olave Baden-Powell. This Centre closed in 1988 and the new Centre "Pax Lodge" was opened in 1990. Lord and Lady BP's home in England was called 'Pax Hill' and their home in Kenya was called 'Paxtu'. "Pax" means 'Peace'.

The Pax Lodge Motto is: "Strangers are soon friends"

TRY: Join the Flag raising ceremony at 8.45 Greenwich Mean Time, stay in the Australia Room; visit the Tower of London and see the Crown Jewels, visit Buckingham Palace, Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum, London Bridge, all the streets in the original Monopoly game, try Morris dancing, Hornpipe or Highland Fling, skip, play hopscotch or marbles, enjoy crumpets, scones or Yorkshire Pudding...



## Our Cabaña



The "Chief's Door" is only the beginning of your experience at [Our Cabaña](#) in Mexico. The setting is spectacular, with each building set in its own tropical garden, overlooking the city of Cuernavaca and surrounded by distant snow-capped volcanoes. Opened in 1957, 100 years after Lord Baden-Powell was born, this Centre is about 70km from Mexico City.

Activities give a colourful experience of Mexican culture, food, language and arts and crafts, and include discussions on WAGGGS Global Action Themes as well as providing opportunities to work on local community projects.

TRY: make a clay pot Pinata, swim and play volleyball, try new things at Craft House, visit The Great Hall, make lanterns from steel cans, try the Mexican Hat Dance, help Operation L-Mina build shelters for the homeless from corrugated tar paper.

Members of WAGGGS and non-members can stay at the World Centres as a participant in an event or event or as part of an organized program of activities, or visit as an independent guest dependent on availability. Each World Centre is staffed by a small international team of volunteer and professional staff. Adult members of the Association from around the world can volunteer to work for between six weeks and ten months, helping with program and guest services.