



LIONS CLUBS NZ YOUTH EXCHANGE



Lions Clubs from all over the world have created an Exchange programme for young people between the ages of 17 to 21. This is a cultural exchange where you are home hosted although you do not attend school while in your host country. The period of the exchange is four to five weeks during December and January.

"to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world"

WHATS INCLUDED?

Return Airfares

From your home city to your host city plus internal travel within your country of choice. An exception to this is Australia (which may have additional internal travel costs).

Accommodation

Five weeks of the best hospitality in the world living in a family environment.

Travel Insurance

You are covered with full travel insurance for the period of your exchange.

Travel Uniform

You will be supplied a short sleeve polo shirt for the warmer countries, a long sleeve shirt for the cooler countries and a blazer style jacket for Japan.

These all have the Youth Exchange logo on them and should be worn along with your name badge when travelling and also when visiting a Lions Club.



FIVE WEEKS IN ANOTHER COUNTRY

In New Zealand we regularly exchange with many exciting countries around the world. Each country has its own Lions Youth Committee who organise just about everything for your trip. All you have to do is fill out an application form, find the money to pay for your trip and Lions will organise the rest.

Lions Clubs do not fund the exchange but make all the arrangements for you. The Youth Exchange coordinators contact the host country of your choice to ask them to find two or three host families for you. They also book your flights and other internal travel plus arrange travel insurance.

They will organise an orientation meeting with you and your parents a few weeks before you leave so you can learn what to expect during your exchange and it also gives you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

When you are hosted in another country you have a great opportunity to experience another culture by living as a member of their family. As there are no accommodation costs the four to five weeks away is considered great value. You will need to take pocket money for sightseeing and you should also take some souvenirs of New Zealand plus gifts to give to your host families.

What do we as Lions expect from you?

We expect you to have the experience of a lifetime and to make lots of friends and bring back many happy memories.



"to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world"

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Due to the large variations that occur in the cost of overseas travel, we do not finalise our individual Programme costs until April each year.

As an indication here are last year's costs:

USA & CANADA: \$5000-\$7000

JAPAN: \$3400-\$3800

MALAYSIA: \$3000-\$3500

AUSTRALIA: \$1,500-\$2000

NB: You must make your own way to the nearest International airport in NZ. It is possible there may be some additional travel costs within Australia as the above cost only covers limited internal travel.

EUROPE: \$5000-\$7000

Europe and Scandinavia - The cost is approx. Cost can vary depending on the country you choose.

SOUTH AMERICA: \$5000-\$7000 Brazil and Argentina – The cost is approx. Cost can vary depending on the country you choose.



COUNTRIES WE HAVE REGULAR EXCHANGES WITH

USA & CANADA:

Spend four to five weeks being hosted by families in one or more of the areas we exchange with.

This is a chance for you to enjoy a White Christmas and see some great scenery.

AUSTRALIA:

You choose whether you would like to spend four to five weeks in New South Wales, Queensland or Victoria.

Suntan lotion, sunglasses and a swimsuit are essential items to pack in your luggage.

JAPAN:

A very exciting exchange with a different culture and food. Hosting is based around the large metropolitan areas of Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe.

Choose to depart early December and return home for Christmas or depart after New Year and return home at the end of January.

MALAYSIA:

Hosting in the exciting area of Kuala Lumpur.

UK & EUROPE:

You must be 18 years of age or over to travel to the UK under the Lions Youth Exchange programme.

Europe and Scandinavia – Take your pick from one of the many countries in Europe and Scandinavia that we exchange with.

SOUTH AMERICA:

Brazil and Argentina

Experience a new and exciting culture in either Brazil or Argentina.

"to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world"

TIMELINE

Travel overseas for five weeks during December and January.

August 31st is the cut-off date for you to complete an Application Form and send this along with a deposit of \$1000.00 to the local Lions Club or Lions Youth Exchange coordinator. Please include two passport sized photos with your application form. Application form available at www.lionsclubs.org.nz/activities/youth/youth-exchange.

October 31st is the due date for the balance of your exchange cost. You will also need to fill in the Travel insurance application form and send this along with a copy of your passport to the Lions Youth Exchange Coordinator.

Once all of your hosting is arranged you will be advised of the host families contact details so that you can start corresponding with them by e-mail before your departure.

November is the month when you and your parents will have an orientation session with your local Lions Youth Chairman. You will find out what is expected of you when you are overseas with the Youth programme and it is also a chance for you to ask any questions you may have.

Upon your return your supporting Lions Club will invite you to one of their meetings so you can share your experiences. You may also be asked to write an overview of your time overseas and what you got out of the exchange.

F A Q's

Do I attend school while overseas?

No, you become part of the family and experience their lifestyle and learn about the local culture.

What do I have to wear?

We ask you to wear the Youth Exchange Polo shirt or jacket with dark trousers or a skirt when travelling or if attending a local Lions Club meeting. Your own clothes are acceptable at other times.

Will I travel as part of a group?

Not necessarily as there may not be enough exchanges travelling to the same country.

Do Lions help pay for my trip?

No, you and your parents pay for the trip, but the local Club may give you some spending money and souvenirs to give to your hosts.

Do I need to take gifts for my hosts?

Yes, you will need Christmas gifts for the host family you are with at that time plus thank you gifts for each host family.

How much spending money do I need?

This can vary depending on the country you are travelling to. It may be an idea to take a card so you can access funds while overseas.

How do I request an application form?

Go to the Contact Us Tab, find the coordinator for your country of choice and either ring or e-mail to provide your details.

Does my family have to host an overseas youth?

It would be good if they could, but this is not a requirement for you to be accepted.

Do my parents have to be Lions?

No, any young adults between ages 17 and 21 can apply. Your application form will need to be signed off by a local Lions Club.

Where do I find an application form?

www.lionsclubs.org.nz/activities/youth/youth-exchange.

LIONS CLUBS NZ YOUTH EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE COORDINATORS

JAPAN

Alan Harvey
alan.coll.harvey@xtra.co.nz

USA, CANADA, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, UK, EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, MALAYSIA, INDONESIA

Carol McMillan
mdyecusa@lionsclubs.org.nz

INTERNAL YOUTH EXCHANGE COORDINATOR

Stephanie Jordan
md202.interyouthexc@lionsclubs.org.nz