



CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE CATHOLIQUE DU SCOUTISME  
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PFADFINDERTUMS

Euro-Med News



## SPECIAL EDITION

### Scout Week in Taizé 2017

*23<sup>rd</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> July*

Dear Friends,

The committee of the Europe-Mediterranean Region is pleased to invite you to participate in the ninth Scout Week in Taizé, France.

#### About Taizé

Taizé is a small village in the region of Burgundy, France, located between Lyon and Dijon. This small village is also home to the Community of Taizé, a Christian monastic community of approximately one hundred brothers. The brothers come from various Christian traditions, and from many different countries, they live together in a life of prayer and work. The Community offers a unique experience of the spirit of trust, openness, sharing, simplicity and joy. By its very existence, Taizé is a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples.

**Taizé is also a meeting place for young people from around the world.** Throughout the whole of the year many young people visit the Community of Taizé to spend time with the brothers and each other. Like the brothers, they also come from various Christian traditions (Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox etc.). They usually spend a week in Taizé (from Sunday to Sunday) living, praying and working together. During the summer months this could mean three to four thousand young people participating each week.



**For more information and pictures** visit our facebook page ([www.facebook.com/scoutweek](http://www.facebook.com/scoutweek)) or **write us to:** [taize@iccs-em.org](mailto:taize@iccs-em.org). See also the website of the Taizé Community for prayers, music, information: <http://www.taize.fr/en>.



### About the Scout Week in Taizé

Scout Week is an activity of the ICCS EM Region and to date participants have come from Portugal, Spain, Italy, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Ireland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

Scout Week is designed mainly for young people aged 15-29, who wish to deepen their spirituality and experience a unique community with fellow Scouts from different countries.

The number of Scouts participating in Scout Week each year has been on average around 60 persons. This event is organised by the planning team of the EM Region and the community of Taizé have been kind enough to allow us to join in their programme.



As Taizé is primarily for young people who are not Scouts it is not possible to organise a proper Scout camp there. During the Scout Week, Scout participants take part in the regular weekly program of the Taizé meetings. In addition to that, we have our special Scout activities during the Taizé free periods. As a result, there is little space for free time for programs of your own (group) during the week.



### Program

**A normal day in Taizé** includes three common, short, prayers periods: (morning, midday, evening); Bible introduction by the brothers with discussions in small groups; debates on questions of faith or topics of common interest; thematic workshops, practical community work, and the sharing of meals together. In addition, there is the possibility to spend some time in silence or song practice. Our additional Scouting activities include a small hike (subject to weather), Scout games; discussions about our Scout Law and Promise, and presenting and sharing our Scouting traditions. This provides an opportunity to get to know Scouts from many different European and Mediterranean countries.



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## Important practical information

### Timing

Scout Week 2016 will take place from 23.07 to 30.07 (Sunday to Sunday). **Please understand, that because every program in Taizé is calculated on a weekly basis it is only possible to take part in the whole Scout Week**, If you can only come for a few days, then you can register directly with Taizé for a non-Scout (normal) program. You should arrive on Sunday afternoon (23<sup>th</sup> of July) and leave again on Sunday (30<sup>st</sup> of July). **Individual problems and questions should be communicated by e-mail to us, in advance, together with the application.**

### Target group

**The target group is young leaders between the ages of 15-29. Scouts older than 29** may attend, but they should be aware that the average participants will be of a younger age group. There is no limit to the number of participants. Scout Week is open to all Scouts and Guides, but keep in mind that Taizé is a place of Christian worship. **Scouts under 18** should bring a form giving parental authorisation (if not attached, ask for it by e-mail: [taize@iccs-em.org](mailto:taize@iccs-em.org)) for them to take part in the meetings. **15 and 16 year olds** must also be accompanied by sufficient group leaders.

### Travel

**Participants organise and pay their own journey to and from the Taizé camp.**

The program starts and ends in Taizé. The organising team are ready to give advice if needed. The homepage of the Taizé Community also contains travel advice.

### Visa

**People who need a visa to France should contact the French Embassy in their own country (or the Embassy issuing Schengen visa).** The organising team can send an official invitation letter if needed. **You should ask for it by e-mail.** Please bear in mind that a visa application procedure can take several months.

### Costs

The participation fee covers meals and accommodation. **It is calculated according to the country of origin with 70 Euros as a maximum for the whole week.** You also pay your own travel costs. You can check your own country at the homepage of Taizé.

### Medical insurance

**You should bring your own medical insurance** (Scouts from EU/EEA countries should bring their European Health Insurance Card with them. National contact points: [http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=563&langId=en#National\\_information\\_and\\_contacts](http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=563&langId=en#National_information_and_contacts)).

### Living conditions

Conditions are simple; accommodation is usually in tents. You can bring your own tent, or sleep with other Scouts in large group size tents. You should bring your own sleeping bag, sleeping mat. The shower block has hot water in individual shower cabins. Meals are provided and taken together. There is no possibility to light a fire. Electricity (mobile phone charging!) and internet connections are very limited. The consumption of alcohol is restricted.

### Weather

During the summer, **it is possible to have both hot (30°C) and cold weather**, please bring appropriate clothes and shoes to suit the climatic conditions. Remember to bring your **rainwear**.

### Language

Taizé is an international meeting place, so in order to enjoy the week it is useful to be able to speak a foreign language. **Information for Scout Week participants is given mainly in English, so leaders must have a good knowledge of English.** If you are a Leader with a group of Scouts who do not have English it will be necessary for you to organise translation for them.

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## Applications

Registration will be done by the Scout Week organising team. Please **Do NOT register individually at Taizé**, we will register together as a group to get the same timing of programmes.

You can apply online at <http://iccs-em.org/en/activities/scout-week-taize-2017>

After receiving your online registration we will e-mail you an official application form to be signed by your National Scout Chaplain, or the International Commissioner of your Scout association. This form should then be scanned and e-mailed to us ([taize@iccs-em.org](mailto:taize@iccs-em.org)).

**Application deadline is 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**



*Please feel free to distribute this information to all of your Scout friends.*

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