



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

INTERNATIONAL

Visiting an Embassy or Consulate

Did you know that there are more than 175 embassies, ambassador's residences and international cultural centers in Washington D.C.? In addition, most cities, from Denver to Des Moines and Phoenix to Pago Pago, have official foreign consulates. These embassies and consulates are often open to Scout group visits and events. The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) regularly coordinates events with embassies in Washington D.C. Every event is different, but in the past they have included:

- Welcome by a representative of the embassy or consulate, explaining what they do and the role they play in diplomacy and service to their citizens
- Musical performances
- Cultural demonstrations
- Food from that country
- Games
- Celebration of indigenous holidays
- Flag ceremonies, exchange of gifts
- Involvement of children of deployed diplomatic staff
- Video conference with scouts from their country

Tips for an embassy/consulate/cultural center visit:

- Contact your local Scout Council's International Representative, as they may have helpful contacts and ideas.
- Contact the embassy, consulate or cultural center and ask about possible opportunities to coordinate a visit or create an event.
- If you are planning a trip to Washington D.C., contact the NCAC International Representative Jay Eidson (ir.ncac.je@gmail.com), who could brief you on future events.
- Consider what your unit or group can do to contribute to the event, such as cooking/bringing food, preparing a presentation, or making a contribution to a charity that is connected to the cultural organization.

This can be a great event for a unit, but consider partnering with other units in your district or council to bring more energy and participation.