

# Sharing Meals

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## Tips for Leaders

Like travel, food has always been something that brings people together. Sharing Meals offers troops the chance to prepare a meal on their own to share with travelers. We are excited that you and your troop have decided to share a spaghetti dinner with our other hostellers. Not only is it a great opportunity for the girls to interact with travelers from all over the world, but it's also a chance for the girls to be ambassadors for their hometown, the USA and Girl Scouts. Meeting real, live American teens is always a special treat for our hostellers and a memorable experience for any traveler!

### Getting your food

The ingredients for your meal will be behind the front desk at the hostel. When you are ready to begin cooking, ask front desk staff for the ingredients. These ingredients are:

- Spaghetti noodles
- Pasta sauce

If you would like to add to your meal, you are welcome to do so on your own. Hostel staff can point you to the nearest food store. Just remember to have enough of everything for your guests as well!

### Cooking your food

One of the stoves in the kitchen and some counter space will be marked for use by your troop. The sign will include the date and time that you have indicated you will be using the kitchen. As a courtesy to our other guests, we ask you to do your best to make use of the kitchen at that time. Also, as part of your clean up, please remove the sign designating your area to let others know the workspace is free.

Food preparation instructions are included on the food packaging. Please make use of the kitchenware provided.

### Inviting your guests

Staff at Hostelling International Chicago will place signs to let hostellers know about your meal and a sheet at the information desk where up to ten hostellers may sign up to attend. Just before you are ready to serve the meal, pick up the sign-up sheet from the desk so you know who to expect. If you have more food than guests that arrive, have the girls invite any hostellers that might be hanging out in the common area to the free food.

Assign a few of your more outgoing girls to be the welcome team for the dinner. The welcome team should keep an eye out for guests coming to dinner, making sure the guests have signed up, finding guests a seat at one of the tables and helping them start a conversation with a few other people from the group. Please check off the guests that have

signed up or have new ones sign in and leave the sign-in sheet at the front desk before you check out for hostel records.

### **Tips for great conversations**

Sharing conversation over a meal is a great way to get to know new people. Here are some tips to help the girls make the best of this opportunity.

- Encourage the girls to sit with one or more hostellers at their table. They may need to invite the hostellers to join their table to accomplish this.
- Have the girls do one or more of the attached activities. Don't be surprised if the activities look a lot like the activities you see in the Girl Scouts Go Hostelling Patch curriculum. That's because interacting with fellow travelers is the most important part of the hostelling experience. Each activity is full of great conversation starters!
- Meeting young people from different places is not something many travelers get to do. When the girls talk to the travelers, they are representing American teens and Girl Scouts. It's very likely that the travelers will have plenty of questions for the girls as well!
- Because our hostellers come from all over the world, many of them will be speaking English as a second language. Speaking slowly and clearly should help make sure everyone gets to enjoy the great conversation.

## Sharing Meals

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### Who Did You Meet?

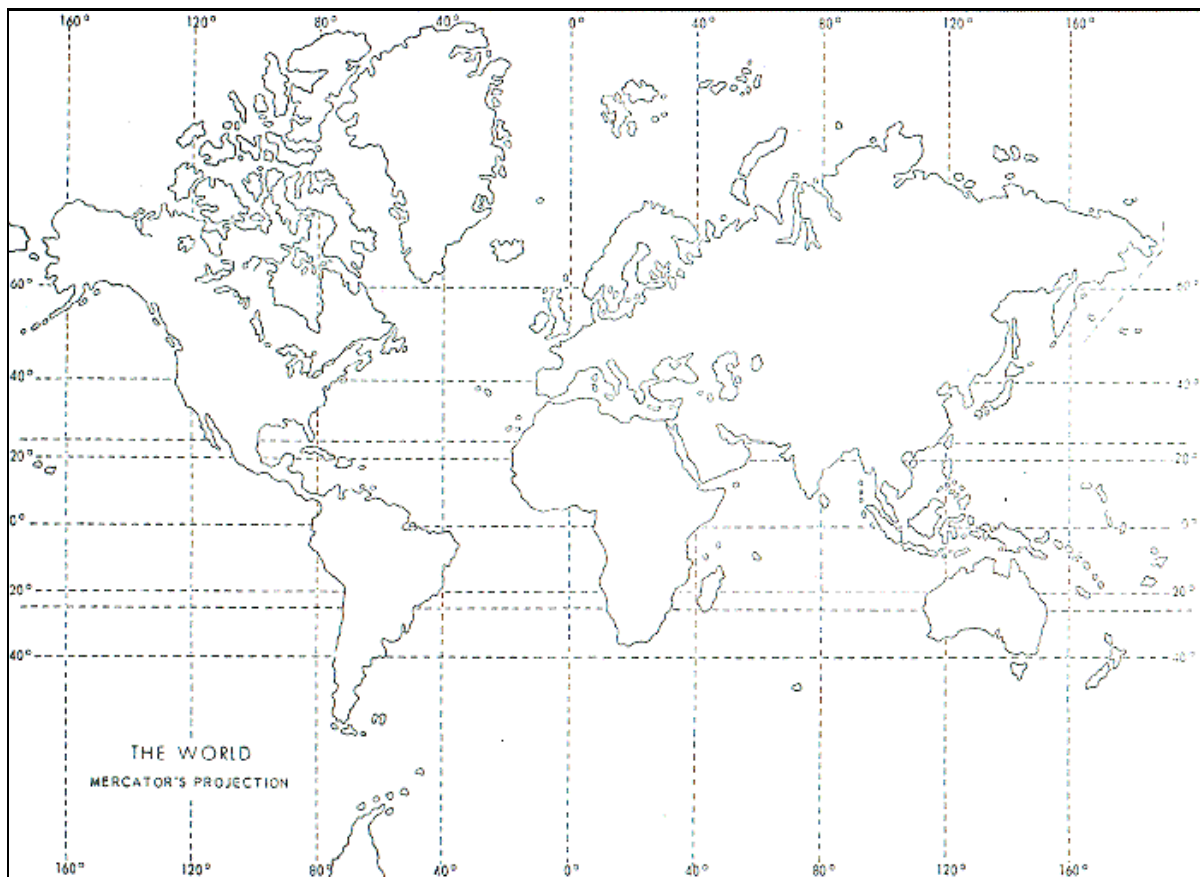
Go to the hostel kitchen, dining room, library, and common rooms and introduce yourself to hostellers from around the world. For each of the following questions, write the names of the people you met, and the country they are from. In the map on the back of this page, ask the hostellers to put their initials on the spot where they live. Use extra space to write any other interesting facts that you learn about the guests at Hostelling International Chicago!

1. Someone who was born outside the United States...
2. Someone who speaks a different language than you speak at home...
3. Someone who has traveled outside the United States (and where?)...
4. Someone who can eat with chopsticks...
5. Someone who can play a musical instrument...
6. Someone who can sing the National Anthem of his or her home country...
7. Someone who speaks more than one language (which languages, and how many?)...
8. Someone who has visited 10 or more countries...
9. Someone who has climbed a mountain...

10. Someone who lives in Chicago, but was born outside Chicago...

11. Someone who was born in Chicago...

12. Someone who has a collection of something...



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## Human Bingo

Use this bingo card to ask questions of people you don't know well. When you find someone who can answer "yes" to your question, have him or her sign their name in that square. The people to finish their cards first will be the winners.

Someone who has climbed a mountain. Where?	Someone who was born in a different country. Which country?	Someone who doesn't eat pork. Why not?	Someone who speaks at least 2 languages. Which ones?	Someone who has volunteered. Doing what?
Someone who has stayed in 10 or more hostels. Where was the best one?	Someone who plays a musical instrument. Which one?	Someone who was born in the same month as you. What date?	Likes to eat Nutella. What is Nutella?	Someone who has an allergy. To what?
Someone who can sing his or her national anthem. From what country?	Someone who is the youngest in his or her family. Of how many?	Free Space	Someone who has traveled outside of the US. To where?	Someone who has met someone famous. Who?
Someone who can eat with chopsticks. How did he/she learn?	Someone who has seen the same movie three times. Which movie?	Someone who doesn't eat meat. Why not?	Someone who is or was a member of Girl Scouts. For how long?	Someone who has moved in the last year. From where to where?
Someone who knows the capital of Iceland. What is it?	Someone who likes to cook. Favorite dish?	Someone who has been to the Eiffel Tower. Did he/she go to the top?	Someone who plays a sport. Which one?	Someone who is from Chicago. What neighborhood?

