

Harvey's World Scout Jamboree Adventure 2019



After an absolutely amazing and adventure packed three weeks I have arrived home.

My adventure started with us all gathering at Hallow Tree Scout Hut in Ipswich the night before our flight. We did our final checks and there was huge excitement amongst all of us! At 9am on Saturday 20th July we set off by coach for Heathrow. After a long 8 hour flight we arrived at JFK in New York. There was 36 Scouts and Explorer Scouts in Unit 19 along with four leaders. Within that 36 we were split into four patrols of 9 plus a leader to make it easier to move around.

We then had a coach journey where we travelled to Hostra University in

New York to spend the night.

After a much earned night's rest we had an early start to make the most of our sight seeing day in New York.

We had a lot to pack in and we split up into our patrols to make it easier to move around.

We visited the 9/11 memorial which was incredibly moving, went to Central Park, Times Square and took a boat trip to see the Statue of Liberty.

Some photo highlights of New York-



It was an amazing but exhausting day.

After our long day we packed up and got back on the coach to head to West Virginia university to stop over before our final journey to Summit Bechtel Reserve. Our body clocks were out of sync and it was a long journey and we ended up having a McDonald's at 1am!!

We stayed the next night at the university and then we made the final journey to Summit Bechtel Reserve.

We arrived in the pouring rain and we then had to build our camp. Sleeping tents, a mess tent and communal areas. Facilities were basic at the reserve and showers and toilets were just divided by canvas, no solid walls here!

Whilst at the reserve there was firstly an opening ceremony for all 50,000 Scouts and leaders and all the support crew to attend. Bear Grylls spoke as he is the International Ambassador for Scouting as well as being Chief Scout for the UK.



Every morning one patrol would collect the breakfast, lunch and dinner supplies for our unit. Rations were basic as were the cooking facilities. As well as having a whole host of activities to do every day each sub camp had a turn to trek up to Mount Jack. It was very wild terrain and there were frequent sightings of bears although I only saw a bear cub. We also had a cultural day where we moved around learning about other countries cultures, foods and traditions. We served tea at our camp of course! It was scouting at its best and we were all quite emotional when it came to the closing ceremony on the final day.





There was no time to hang around though as we were up at 5am to take down the camp before heading onto Washington.

We had an amazing couple of days there, seeing the main sites and attending a baseball camp. The UK Scouts made the news as the Orioles were so delighted with the support that one of the players got and said that American baseball supporters needed our enthusiasm. All 4000 UK Scouts attended the baseball game before going our separate ways. We were now heading by coach to Canada!

It was a really long journey but we were met by our kind hosts. We were staying close to Niagara. The first day we visited a heritage museum where we also visited the site of the 7th World Scout Jamboree (ours was the 24th!!). The second day we went to Niagara falls which was just incredible to see.

The coach journey back to JFK airport in New York was quite tedious, it was a shame we couldn't fly out of Canada, but eventually we got there before the flight home. It took me over a week to get over the jet lag!!





I would really like to go to the next Jamboree in four years time as a leader to give other young Scouts the same experience I have had. The next one is being held in South Korea so very different to America!







Harvey Quick, August 2019