

Happy Hosteller BREAKS

APPLICATION GUIDANCE NOTES

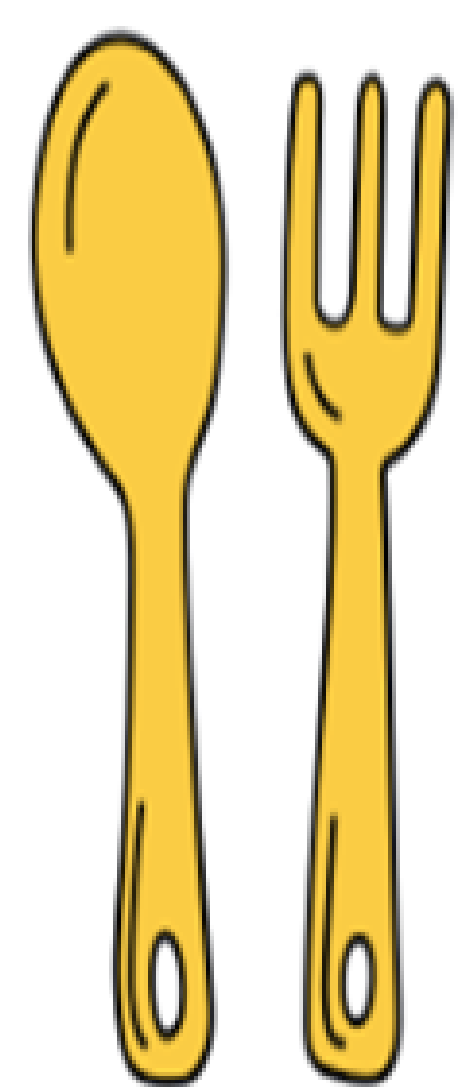


What is included?



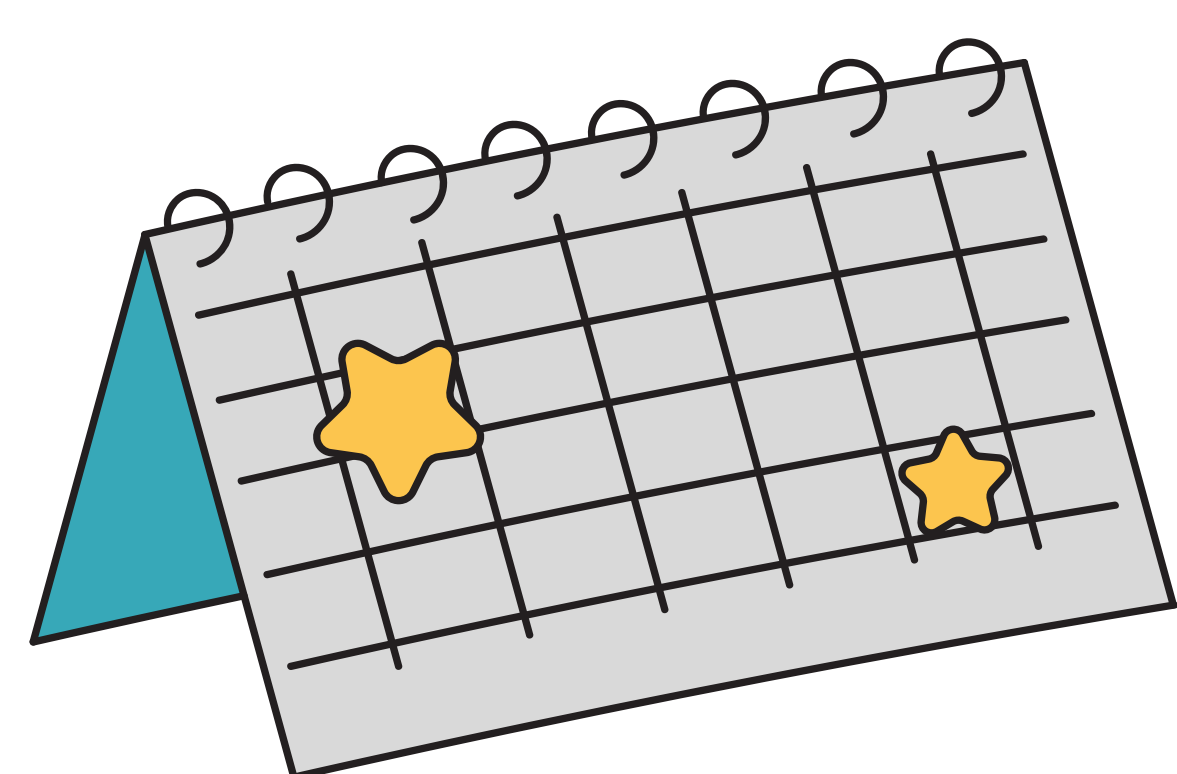
Groups can apply to stay at their preferred Youth Hostel from a wide selection. You can give us up to three possible Youth Hostel options. See page 4

- Accommodation will be in shared private rooms for young people with separate rooms for leaders. Bedding and towels provided.
- Breaks can be for 1 night minimum up to 2 nights maximum.
- Group sizes should be approximately between 5 and 25 people plus leaders. Bigger groups can be considered for Rentahostel funding (Sole use of a whole hostel, no catering).



Our “Wee breakfast” will be included in your booking and other catering options are available depending on the hostel and group size. See options in page 4; subject to availability

We encourage groups to consider catering at least one meal themselves, as a good way to help young people develop their skills. We have well-resourced self-catering kitchens in every hostel. *Groups can arrange a supermarket delivery to the hostel (depending on location).*



Breaks can take place anytime between September and June. We will ask you to give us up to three sets of preferred dates for your trip. Alternatively, you can give us a date range.

Who is eligible?

- ✓ Schools, Early Years Centres, Youth Groups and Registered charities in Scotland working with disadvantaged young people and families. Families cannot apply individually.
- ✓ Target groups include people living in areas of deprivation, young people receiving free schools meals, young carers, refugee and migrant groups, young people in the care system or care leavers, LGBTQ+ support groups and young people and families who have never had a residential experience due to cost or other barriers.
- ✓ The age range for youth groups is 6 to 25 years.
- ✓ Early Years learning centre and Family Groups can include children under 6 years old if the parents/guardians are included

Apply Now!

**Complete the Application Form on
Hostelling Scotland Website**

Important dates

**Application opening
24th of March**

Closing date - 9th of May

Decision - 6th of June

**A new round of application will
take place in autumn-winter**

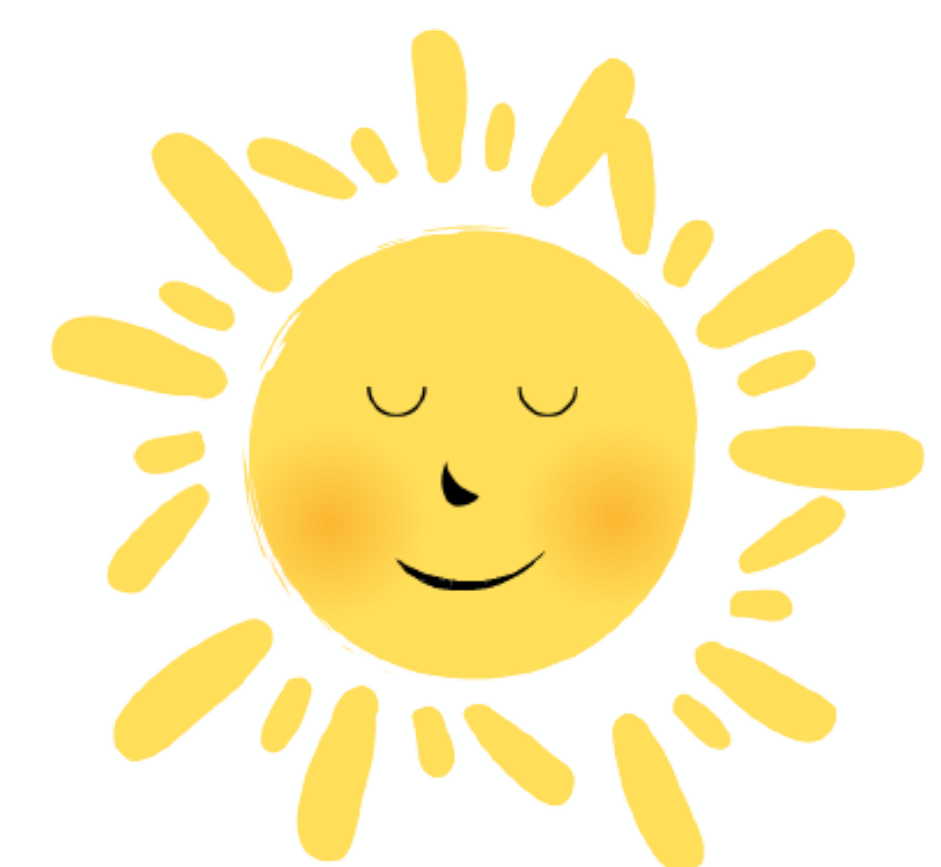
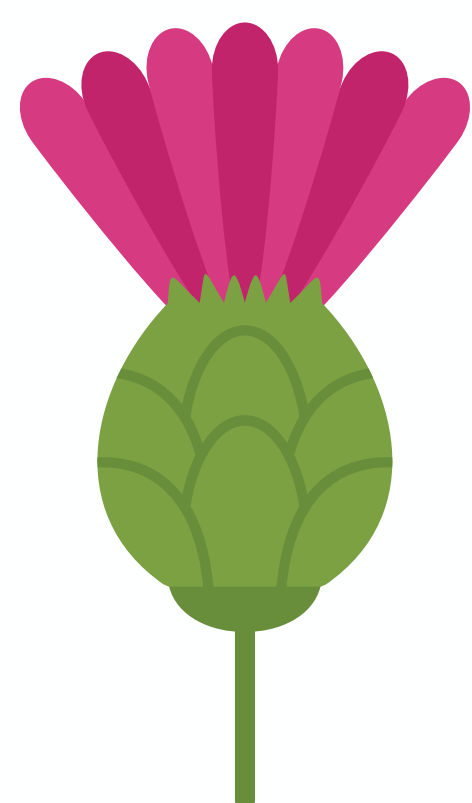
What happens next?

- A panel will assess all applications after the deadline date.
Unfortunately, we have a limited amount of funding available, and it is not guaranteed.
- If your application has been successful, we will also let you know the hostel and dates we have provisionally reserved for your trip. You will be required to confirm whether you wish to accept this offer within two weeks.
- If your application is successful, we will ask for commitment £100 deposit to secure the booking.
Refund will be processed at check out.

Is there anything else groups should consider when applying?

- The number of leaders per group should refer to the NSPCC ratio. [Recommended adult to child ratios for working with children | NSPCC Learning](#)
- Ensure the trip is inclusive and affordable for all participants (including travel costs or any additional activity costs).
- Most of our hostels are located in historical buildings, which may not be suitable for everyone in terms of accessibility. The room setups can vary, including bunk beds and ensuite or shared bathrooms. If your group includes participants with mobility issues or other specific needs, we recommend contacting us for accessibility information and encourage you to visit the hostel site if possible.
- We value trips that are co-designed with the participants. If you are a school, we recommend you to get inspiration from Brilliant Residential [Our campaign - Learning Away](#).
- We would like to hear details about the purpose of your trip, the activities and visits you plan to include, or any information that will offer participants of your funded break a unique experience.
- If your trip programme involves different activities, you can apply to two of the three categories

Nature & Environment – Culture & Historic Heritage – Wellness & Play



To ensure fairness and inclusivity in the selection process, we encourage you to provide all required information. If you have any questions, please reach out to us before submitting.

Booking option 2025-2026

Please visit our website to access the Hostels map and each Youth Hostel page with details on the facilities: [View all Hostels](#)

	Group booking options 2025 - 2026										Wee breakfast	Packed lunch	Catering diner (2 courses)
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Included	*Subject to funding availability	
Aviemore											x	x	> 20 Pax
Braemar											x	x	
Cairngorm Lodge											x	x	x
Crianlarich											x	x	
Edinburgh Central											x	x	x
Gairloch Sands											x		
Glasgow											x	x	> 20 Pax
Glen Nevis											x	x	> 20 Pax
Glenbrittle											x		
Glencoe											x	x	
Invemess											x	x	> 20 Pax
Kirkwall											x		
Lochranza											x		
Oban											x	x	>10 Pax
Pitlochry											x	x	
Ratagan											x	> 20 Pax	
Rowardennan											x	x	x
Stirling											x	x	> 20 Pax
Tobermory											x		
Torridon											x	x	
Ullapool											x	>10 Pax	

	Available for group booking
	*RAH booking / no catering
	*RAH Wed & Thur/Available Fri to Sun
	Unavailable

*RAH: Rentahostel