

The Zodiac Award – A Brief Introduction.

The Zodiac Award is a uniquely Scottish award that aims to encourage outdoor experiences that include camping, bivouacking, and expeditions in different, and sometimes unusual, environments at different times of the year.

There are four awards - Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum each requiring a different number of night's away experiences and each experience has to include at least one Zodiac Award Challenge.

The 3 main awards are outlined below:

Zodiac Award Bronze

Complete 6 Nights Away under canvas, bivouac or bothy. The nights away must cover four different seasons – spring, summer, autumn & winter. The nights away must feature 6 of the 30 Zodiac Award Challenges.

Zodiac Award Silver

Hold the Zodiac Bronze Award. Complete 8 additional Nights Away under canvas, bivouac or expedition. The nights away must be in eight unique months. Camps of a longer duration that include more than one month can count. The nights away must feature 8 of the 30 Zodiac Award Challenges (not including those (6) featured in the Bronze Award).

Zodiac Award Gold

Hold the Zodiac Silver Award. Complete 12 additional Nights Away under canvas, bivouac or expedition. The nights away must be in twelve unique months. Camps of a longer duration that include more than one month can count. The nights away must feature 12 of the 30 Zodiac Award Challenges (not including those (14) featured in the Bronze and Silver Awards).

The Challenges.

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| 1. In a lightweight tent | 16 At an "event" out with your own District |
| 2 In a hammock | 17 As part of a competitive camp |
| 3 In a patrol tent | 18 As part of an expedition |
| 4 In a bivouac | 19 As part of a training experience |
| 5 At one of the National Activity Centres (Fordell Firs, Meggernie or Lochgoilhead) | 20 As part of a campsite or community service project |
| 6 With another Troop or Unit | 21 For 7 consecutive nights |
| 7 At a District organised event | 22 With at least 40 other people |
| 8 At a District or Regional Campsite out with your own District | 23 On or above water |
| 9 On a beach/waterside | 24 Under sail |
| 10 For 3 consecutive nights | 25 On an island (UK as an island doesn't count!) |
| 11 In a bothy | 26 At a Greenfield camp |
| 12 In a forest or woodland | 27 With overseas Scouts |
| 13 In an unusual tent (German jurte, tipi etc) | 28 In a place you wouldn't normally expect to camp |
| 14 On a sports field, pitch or park | 29 At least 6ft above ground |
| 15 At a peer-led camp | 30 In sub – zero freezing temperatures |

Members can start "collecting" camp nights from the age of 10. At bronze level, 3 (summer) nights can be claimed for summer camp or two nights (summer) could be claimed for Family camp. October 2019 Zodiac camp is an autumn camp. Unfortunately indoor camps do not count for the award.

Given the need to complete different challenges are each level, there will need to be some strategic thinking around the challenges used for each month.

For more information on the award visit www.scouts.scot/media/1094/zodiac-award-faq.pdf