



Before You Go Worksheet: Section One, Option 1

With this worksheet you can start earning the hostelling badge when you arrive at an HI Hostel. This worksheet completes the requirement for Section One: Before You Go. You will learn about hostelling around the world, in Canada and your province.

Hostel Scavenger Hunt

Find out about hostelling by completing a hostel scavenger hunt! You will find the answers to the following questions on the big posters in the common areas, in the dining room, and at the information desk. Good luck!

1. Where did hostelling get its start?
2. When was hostelling started in Canada?
3. There are hostels in over how many countries?
4. When was this hostel opened?
5. When was this building constructed?
6. What is the mission statement for Hostelling International?



Before You Go Worksheet: Section One, Option 2

This worksheet explores the experiences of travel while staying at a hostel. Use this worksheet to learn about hostelling and to complete Section One: Before You Go. You will be on your way to earning your Discover Hostelling Challenge Crest.

A Story About Hostelling

There are thousands of hostels in over 70 countries in the world! Millions of travelers around the world stay at hostels. What is a hostel? Why do people like staying at hostels? One hosteller wrote a story about her experience staying at hostels. Read the story, and then answer the questions on this worksheet.

Name of Storyteller: Karin From: Calgary, Alberta

I have been hostelling for 18 years, since I was 21. I've stayed in hostels in England, Scotland, Wales, South Africa, United States, Canada and, most recently, Ireland. As a parent, I have always made it a priority to provide travel as an important part of my child's education. For several years, I have been traveling with my daughter Tori, who is now 11 years old.

During our most recent trip to Ireland, I had a wonderful and "world-broadening" experience that I will try to relate here. We checked into our hostel on our first night in Ireland. Almost immediately, Tori began interviewing fellow hostellers, introducing herself, and asking where they were from.

Seeing her inquisitive nature and her notepad, Shaheb - a young man from Sudan - asked for the notepad and drew out a game for her to play. Then a Riddle for her to guess. This led to a 2-day-long riddle-fest between the two, which was wonderful to see.

During that time, I watched each of their eyes light up as they thought of a new riddle to share. I also watched Tori as she recognized that some of her "old standby" jokes had no meaning for someone whose first language isn't English (Shaheb's was Arabic, though he spoke several others). I could see the recognition in her eyes as it occurred to her that our language is ethnocentric, and that she had to adapt her communication style to communicate better with her new friend. (How would I have taught THAT at home???)

As I watched the two of them, in my eyes, the puzzles became larger than themselves. As I stepped back to watch, I was able to see with some awe how wonderful an experience this was. A young, Arabic-speaking, Muslim man from Sudan sharing time, stories and friendship with a young, English-speaking American girl. Both far away from home - and ALL of our lives richer for the experience.

In the hostel kitchen, over our last shared breakfast, Shaheb, a man from Japan, and a woman from the U.S., all told me how amazing they thought Tori was. It made me proud of her, but also proud of myself for making travel an important part of her education. As a single parent, it has not ever been easy to make this happen, but this experience reminds me why I make it a priority.

A last word on this subject: I do not think this kind of experience would have occurred if we had been staying in a traditional-type hotel. I firmly believe that the international network of hostels encourage this kind of connection. For that reason, I will always prefer hostels to any other kind of accommodation as my daughter and I explore the world together.



Questions about the Hostelling Story

Use clues from the story to answer these questions. After your stay at the hostel, you can look at your answers and decide if any of them changed!

1. What is a hostel?
2. Who can stay at a hostel?
3. How do you think Tori's stay at the hostel would have been different if she had not introduced herself to the other people staying at the hostel?
4. What did Tori and Shaheb have in common?
5. What do you think Tori learned from her stay at the hostel?

Are You Ready to Visit a Hostel?

Just like Tori, you can meet many people from different parts of the world while you stay at an HI Hostel. Be brave, have an open mind, and introduce yourself to other hostellers. You never know what you might learn!



Before You Go Worksheet: Section One, Option 3

With planning and preparation, any trip you take will be a success. The Internet is a good resource for trip planning, and most experienced travelers know that there is nothing better than a good guidebook to learn about a destination and plan a fun, safe, and exciting trip. The following questions are questions you should answer before going on any trip. Using Internet resources and a Canada guidebook, work in teams to answer the following questions about the city of your choice.

Destination City:

Getting There

Keeping in mind cost, convenience, and time, what is the best way to get to your destination city?

Mode of transportation from home to destination city	Roundtrip cost

Accommodation

Choose a place to stay in your destination city. Look for a place that is cheap, has a good location, and is safe.

Name of hostel, hotel, B&B	Address	Phone number	Cost per night
Mode of transportation from airport to hostel, hotel, B&B			Roundtrip cost



Let's Eat!

Is there a special kind of food that is famous in your destination city? What is it? Choose two restaurants you would like to go to for dinner in your destination city.

Restaurant name	Type of food	Average dinner price
Mode of transportation from hostel, hotel, B&B		Roundtrip cost

Having Fun

According to your guidebook, is there something special about your destination city that your should not miss? What is it?

Choose two additional things you'd like to see or do in your destination city.

Activity or Attraction	Cost of admission
Mode of transportation from hostel, hotel, B&	Roundtrip cost

Safety

No matter where you travel, you should always be smart and stay safe. Stay with your group, don't give out personal information to strangers, and know where you're going. According to your guidebook, is there anything about your destination city you should know about to help you stay safe?



Money, Money, Money!

How much money should you bring with you on your trip? Refer to your worksheet to determine your costs. Remember to multiply costs by how many days and nights you'll be spending in your destination city!

Budget Item	Cost
Round trip transportation to and from destination city	\$
Accommodation: price of one night x number of nights	\$
Food: budget \$15 per day for breakfast and lunch + the cost of dinner at the restaurants you like (remember that the hostel has a kitchen where you can make your own food)	\$
Having fun: admission prices to attractions	\$
Getting around the city: budget \$5 per day for local transportation	\$
Spending money: Souvenirs, snacks, etc. This amount is up to you!	\$
Total	\$

Packing

Read your guidebook to find out what the weather will be like when you travel to your destination city. This will guide you as you pack. Remember, pack light! When in doubt, leave it out! Here is a list of suggested items.

Clothing:

- pajamas
- changes of clothes
- jacket
- walking shoes
- underwear
- socks
- flip flops or sandals for shower

Toiletries:

- soap/container
- toothbrush/toothpaste/floss
- shampoo/conditioner
- deodorant
- towel/washcloth
- contact lens solution
- prescription medicines (in original containers)
- comb/brush
- cosmetics

Miscellaneous:

- guide book
- camera/film
- playing cards/board games
- snacks
- travel alarm clock
- watch
- reading material
- insect repellent
- hand sanitizer
- Hostelling International membership card
- mini blow-dryer
- money belt
- sunscreen
- umbrella

Note:

Hostels provide clean bed sheets, a blanket, pillow and a towel for each guest.



Catch the Hostelling Spirit! Worksheet: Section Two, Option 3

This worksheet completes Section Two: Catch the Hostelling Spirit! At the hostel you can use this worksheet to meet people from around the world and around the country.

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. Use the back of this paper to write any other interesting facts that you learn about the guests at the HI Hostel!

1. Someone who was born outside of Canada...
2. Someone who speaks a different language than you speak at home...
3. Someone who has traveled outside of Canada (and where else?)...
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 your province, but was born outside your province...
11. Someone who was born in your province...