

**GRUPO GALES SUMMER CAMP 2008**  
**FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions**

- **Have you got any experience organizing summer camps?**

Beauvalon was established in Canada in 1974 for Canadian citizen. Since 1984 they host international students. Grupo Gales advice students in Colombia since 1999, and since then more than 2000 students have been sent overseas.

- **Can children from other schools, or friends of my son/daughter go?**

Yes. Every child will be part of a unique group from Colombia, who will participate in every activities ran by the summer camp. A designated staff from Grupo Gales will take the group to the Camp, but will not stay on campus.

- **Are there any children from different countries?**

Yes. This summer camp is running all year round, hosting children from over 30 countries.

- **Can parents attend the summer camp?**

Yes, parents can travel with the group to Canada, covering their own expenses. Nevertheless, they will not be allowed to stay on campus, nor participate in the daily activities arranged by the summer camp. However, parents can join their children during the weekend activities organized off campus at Museums, Theatres, and restaurants.

- **Can the Canadian Visa be rejected?**

Yes. Every Embassy is autonomous in approving or rejecting visas. However, Grupo Gales has managed good relations during a decade with Embassies and Consulates minimizing the risk of a negative. All the visa applications will be lodged at the Embassy as a Group. Naturally, every applicant must comply with all the documents require by the Embassy. If there is a former

visa rejection from the United States or Canada, it is fine to apply again, but the possibilities of visa approvals decrease

- **If my visa is rejected, can I have a refund?**

In case that Canadian visa is rejected, the money is 100% refundable, except the enrolment and visa application fees.

- **How can I get the passport for my son/daughter?**

It should be requested at the Ministry of Foreign Trade, located at Calle 100 # 17 - 25. Phone: 522 335. It is not necessary to book an appointment, however, there is many people everyday, so it is highly recommended to arrive at 8:00 AM. The cost is around \$130.000. There are some photo shops available near the Ministry.

- **Do the children speak Spanish at the Summer Camp?**

The aim of the summer camp is to allow students to be immersed in an English System. All on /off campus activities are conducted by Canadian Teachers in English Language. However, as there are children from Colombia, it is not possible to avoid them speak their mother language during some activities.

- **Will my son/daughter arrive in Colombia with a high level of English?**

No. Nobody learns a language in one month. The aim of the program is to improve the level of English of the children, tourism in Canada, and to have a cultural experience, full of Canadian adventure and activities style.

- **Can I pay in USD?**

The payment should be in Colombian pesos according to the daily conversion rate, to Bancolombia, Grupo Gales Account according to the payment chronogram. Nevertheless, the owner of the summer camp is visiting

Colombia next April the 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>. The parents will be able to meet him at Hotel la Fontana

- **Can I phone my child during the summer camp?**

Yes. However there are specific times where children can use internet / telephone facilities to call their parents in Colombia.

- **Is there any uniform for the children?**

No. However, all the children must wear a blue T-shirt (supplied by Grupo Gales) at the airports and during the cultural and tourism activities to identify them easier.

- **Are Mobile, IPOD, MP3 or Camera allowed?**

It is not recommended for children to take any electronic device except photo Cameras. Taking photos is permitted on campus, but children must be responsible for their photo cameras. ....

- **Is there any financial sponsorship?**

No. But some schools are contacting Bank managers. A Visa card for this purpose is being granted with USD 4,000 availability. Payment might be deferred to 2 years

- **Who will wash the clothes of my child?**

In short Summer Programs (one or two weeks) Laundry is not used. Children must take bags for dirty clothes, and take them back home. But in four-week programs washing the clothing is coordinated by the Camp manager. Usually children do the laundry in coin washing machines.

- **What should be taken as luggage?**

A medium suitcase, no heavier than 20kg (luggage), and one hand luggage, no heavier than 8 kg. We recommend weighing the luggage at home the day of departure. No food, scissors, or nail clipper should be taken to the plane.

#### CLOTHING AND NECESSARY ARTICLES

Every personal article must be identified. The outdoors Center is not responsible for lost or stolen objects.

- 1 sleeping bag
- 1 small back pack
- 1 dirty laundry bag
- 1 flashlight
- 1 rain coat
- 1 wind coat
- 1 bicycle helmet
- 1 pair of rain boots
- 2 pairs of sneakers
- 2 bathing suits
- 2 beach towels
- 14 underwear
- 14 pairs of socks
- 10 tee-shirts
- 4 pair of shorts
- 2 warm pullovers
- 5 pairs of jeans or pants
- 1 box of kleenex
- 1 hat or cap
- 1 solar lotion
- 1 insecticide
- 1 water gourd
- 1 English/French pocket dictionary

**TOILETTRY BAG**

- 1 bathing cap
- 1 toothbrush and toothpaste
- 1 soap
- 1 bottle of shampoo
- 1 comb or hairbrush
- 2 wash clothes
- 2 bath towels

**Note:** During outings, the participants often want to buy souvenirs. For this purpose, we consider that 50 \$ to 150 \$ in pocket money is sufficient.

**Can have**

Pocket money, camera and films, baseball glove, writing paper, pencil, stamped envelopes, book.

**Cannot have**

Cigarettes, matches, lighter, knife, dagger, laser pointer, candy, air mattress, radio, cellular phone, beeper, blackberry, walkman, MP3 or equivalent, animals.