



Workcamps in Belgien

Partner: CB Belgien

“Compagnons Bâisseurs” bietet auch Workcamps für Teenager an (zu finden auf der Teenage-Camps-Seite).

Alter: ab 18 J.

Compagnons Bâisseurs asbl is a non-profit organisation established in 1978 and a member of the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations since 1997. All its activities aim at helping young people to develop their abilities in order to facilitate their integration into the society. Accordingly, the main targets of the organisation are: to assist youngsters in becoming active and responsible citizens; to enable meeting of people regardless their cultural, social or mental differences; to support the foundation of new non-profit projects; and at last but not least, to promote travelling and discovering the world.

In relation to these goals, the association develops different kinds of voluntary activities for youngsters: weekend workcamps; leisure activities for and with disabled people; international summer workcamps both in Belgium and abroad; or medium and long term voluntary services (L'Association des Compagnons Bâisseurs participates in the EVS programme as sending, hosting and coordinating organisation).

The realisation of all these activities would not be possible without the network of 350 Belgian volunteers, 100 volunteers from abroad, who participate in projects during summer holidays, and a team of seven employees.

General conditions of participation:

- * There is no upper age limit for participants, but the volunteers must be ready to integrate in a group of young people and to live in basic conditions.
- * If not specified, the camp language will be English and French.
- * There is no extra fee for adults' camps. Food and accommodation are covered. Volunteers are responsible for the costs of their leisure time activities though.
- * For the teenager's camps, there is a participation fee of 150 Euro. In this case, all costs are covered.
- * CBB insurance only covers participants with third party liability. Volunteers need a personal insurance in case of injury or disease.

Programm 2010

CBB06

Centre de réfugiés, Rixensart

6/08/2009 – 28/08/2009

MANU-KIDS 7 VOLS

20+ y.o.

PREPARATION DAYS (Obligatory and free)!

Location: Marche-en-Famenne

Dates: From Friday 6th to Saturday 7th of August

Purpose: To gather all the volunteers and camp leaders who participate in projects that start on the same date. This is also the official welcome session offered by the CBB team.

On Saturday, all the volunteers will leave for their own workcamp place.

The project:

The Rixensart Refugees Centre accommodates people or families who have asked for asylum in Belgium. Refugees come from Kosovo, Chetchnia, Iran, Congo etc. Many of them fled from war or from countries that were under a dictatorship or devastated by an ecological disaster. Thus they came to Belgium with dreams of stability, richness and comfort in life. It is not, however, that easy to be allowed to settle in Europe, especially for somebody from the South or the East. Before these people may start their new lives, their refugees status has to be proven and accepted. While waiting for the documents that will enable them to remain legally in our country, the immigrants are accommodated in this centre in the Brussels vicinity.

People living there await the solution concerning their administrative status. They never know what tomorrow may bring to them. There is a possibility that they will not obtain the authorisation to remain in Belgium and will have to leave the country. But on the other hand, they might see their dreams come true and get the chance to take a new start in life.

Therefore, residents often found themselves overwhelmed by feelings of relief and anguish, hope and disappointment. The life of Rixensart Refugees Centre reflects these individual dramas and big international tensions. Refugees often come with their children, who attend the school in the village in order to help their integration in Belgium. Many inhabitants work in the capital and return each day to this peripheral village to enjoy its calmness.

Website (available in English): <http://www.fedasil.be>

Work:

The volunteers will give a hand and a fresh air to the Centre's animation team. They will also help with manual work like cleaning the park of the centre and making a compost box. When the work outside is done, the volunteers will do some paintings inside.

They will be required to get actively involved in the daily life of the Centre. Half of the time will be devoted to proposals of activities for children and adults (according to the population currently present in the Centre).

The management team of the centre is very well used to work with volunteers as they have been hosting this workcamp for several years.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will be lodged in a common room (dormitory), which will be reserved only to them. Showers are accessible.

Food:

Meals will be provided by the Centre.

Location:

Rixensart is located in the Brabant Walloon province, 25 km from Brussels and 7 km from Wavre. The zone is highly urbanised and has all the usual conveniences. Although, in the past, it used to be a rural and agricultural area. Thus, Rixensart still keeps its countryside charm but one can feel the proximity of Brussels (40 minutes by train, 20 by car). Refugees Centre is located outside the town centre. Website (in French): <http://www.rixensart.be>

Specific information:

The volunteers are required to be at least 20 year old and to have basic knowledge of French. They will also be obliged to send us a motivation letter in French as well as to answer a questionnaire for the Centre.

Besides, it is necessary to have knowledge of animation (songs, music, dance, plays...) and to be able to assume responsibility for a small group. In addition, it is recommended that they have an idea about the policy concerning refugees in their own country, what the public image of the refugees is there, the place that is assigned for them. Some of these issues might be put on the table during the evenings. Being able to listen to others is very important there. This kind of workcamp is a very rich personal and human experience. It makes people aware of the complexity of certain social conditions related to the great inequalities on our planet.

Alcohol is formally prohibited in the Centre.

There is a possibility to host a volunteer in a wheel chair, but the adapted bathroom is not on the same floor as the bedroom.

Meeting point:

Marche-en-Famenne train station, on Friday 6th August between 4.30 and 5.30 pm.

Volunteers will go to Rixensart together on Saturday.

Camp language: French

CBB07

GRIMM, Marche-en-Famenne

6/08/2010 – 22/08/2010

MANU-ENVI 11 VOLS

18+ y.o.

PREPARATION DAYS (Obligatory and free)!

Location: Marche-en-Famenne

Dates: From Friday 6th to 7th Saturday from of August

Purpose: To gather all the volunteers and camp leaders who participate in projects that start on the same date. This is also the official welcome session offered by the CBB team. On Saturday, all the volunteers will leave for their own workcamp place.

The project:

The Marche-en-Famenne workcamp is the outcome of the collaboration between municipal authorities and a local non-profit organisation. Six years ago, the mayor and deputies wanted to develop international contacts for the local youngsters. GRIMM association was just beginning to work on the protection of the local life framework and promoting models of sustainable development. Their members had a full load of ideas but were short of hands to realise them. Thus, they came to the idea of involving volunteers from all over the world. Since then, the municipality provides its buildings every summer and welcomes foreign youngsters. GRIMM members organise the work. With the help from the volunteers, they are finally able to realise the projects they dreamt about. Their actions are based on the following philosophy: Nature belongs to everyone. And that each of us may enjoy it, it has to be protected.

Work:

Volunteers will do the construction of two shelters and take care of objects constructed by previous workcamps – a barbecue area, benches, shelter. This workcamp is only based on manual and outdoor tasks and the work might sometimes be exhausting. On the other hand, GRIMM team will prepare a good barbecue for the volunteers to encourage them.

Accommodation:

Accommodation can be compared to a boarding school: a corridor with double bedrooms; toilets and showers are at the same floor. No smoking inside.

Food:

Self-catering. Bring your recipes to enjoy 'kitchen life'!

Location:

Marche-en-Famenne is a city in the countryside. One can find everything there: schools, supermarkets, industries... But still, it is surrounded by woods, fields and small villages

where the life rhythm remains rural. Liège, Namur, Brussels and Luxembourg can be easily reached by train in about one hour. For more information see: <http://www.marche-tourisme.be>

Specific information:

During the day, from 7 am to 5 pm, volunteers will cohabit with a group of children using the same refectory. Volunteers will therefore be required not to smoke or drink alcohol in front of the kids.

Next, the working place is not the same as the accommodation place so volunteers will leave the town everyday. Sleeping in town, working in the countryside.

Please, bring some working clothes and boots you do not mind to get dirty. And rainy clothes in case of wet weather can also be useful.

Meeting point:

Marche-en-Famenne train station, on Friday 6th of August between 4.30 and 5.30 pm.

Camp language: English and French

CBB08

Institut ACIS, Cerexhe

06/08/2010 – 22/08/2010

CONS 9 VOLS

18+ y.o.

PREPARATION DAYS (Obligatory and free)!

Location: Marche-en-Famenne

Dates: From Friday 6th to Saturday 7th of August

Purpose: To gather all the volunteers and camp leaders who participate in projects that start on the same date. This is also the official welcome session offered by the CBB team.

On Saturday, all the volunteers will leave for their own workcamp place.

The project:

Institute Notre Dame ACIS is a centre dealing with mentally disabled children and youngsters (light and deep). One can find a residential service and a warm welcome during the day there. Institute also offers a service of inclusion assistance that is addressed to young people aged from 7 to 18 years with behavioural problems. Group workshops and individual follow-ups are set up to accompany them. Professionals from the institute use psychomotricity, psychoanalysis, behaviour analysis, and hippo therapy techniques in order to help the youngsters to live with their handicap. The institution is located in a vast masonry from the 19th century, surrounded by a large park, which is suitable for outdoor activities. Each year, volunteers come to help with the maintenance of the park, while bringing a little dynamism into the daily life of the institute.

Work:

The volunteers will do some manual work inside. The volunteers will refresh 4 rooms by painting the walls, renovating floor and stairs. Also the volunteers will maintain the park cleaned, cutting trees and hedge.

Another important task will be preparation of big celebration of 15th August.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will live in a big room of the institute, with kitchen, toilets, shower, bathroom and beds.

Food:

A hot meal, catered by the institute cooks, will be served every day for lunch. For evening and weekends, volunteers will prepare their own meals.

Location:

Cerexhe-Euseux is a small village located 20 km from the town of Liège and surrounded by green hills. The place is quite isolated, but connected to Liège by several daily buses. Germany and the Netherlands are also very close. The towns of Aachen, Köln and Maastricht can be reached very easily and therefore offer pretty city-trips projects. Within the wide range of local tourist curiosities, it is also worth visiting the former coalmine of Blény Trembleur. It used to be one of the sources of the richness of Belgium during the last century. In the course of time, the reserves have, however, become exhausted. Today, it is

possible to visit the mine and to go down, up to 60 m under the ground (See the website: <http://www.blegnymine.be>). Also, during summer, many festivities are organised in the area.

Meeting point:

Marche-en-Famenne train station, on Friday 6th of August between 4.30 and 5.30 pm.

Camp language: English and French