

Workcamps in Großbritannien



Partner: Concordia UK

“Concordia UK” bietet vor allem soziale Projekte an, auch mittel- bzw. langfristige.

Teilweise (siehe Beschreibung) ist ein polizeiliches Führungszeugnis sowie Referenzschreiben (Empfehlungsschreiben von Lehrer oder Pfarrer oder...) erforderlich. Diese Unterlagen können aber auch nachgereicht werden.

Introduction

Concordia is a charity that began after the Second World War. Our aim is to bring people from different countries and cultures to work together towards a common goal. In turn it is hoped this will help break down cultural stereotypes and lead to greater international understanding and peace. There are two ways in which we do this. The first is the long running farm scheme. This enables students from other countries to come to the UK to undertake seasonal paid work and participate in our educational training programme. The second is the volunteer programme which works on an exchange basis; sending UK volunteers abroad and receiving international volunteers to work on volunteer projects in the UK.

The volunteer programme began in 1993 when we hosted our first international volunteer project with the Countryside Service of Brighton. The project involved undertaking environmental work in the beautiful South Downs. Since hosting this project Concordia joined a network of other similar organisations known as the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations and it is through this network that we exchange volunteers. Today we send around 250 volunteers a year and place over 250 volunteers from abroad on short term projects in the UK. We also offer longer term opportunities for individual volunteers to assist our host organisations for several months called our Medium Term Volunteer Programme (MTV) and have a funded scheme which sponsors a small number of volunteers from the South (Africa, Asia and Latin America) to participate in a UK programme which usually runs for a month this is the Richard O'Brien Bursary Scheme (ROBBS).

Our projects in the UK are all community based and can involve either environmental work, working with children or people with special needs or setting up events which need support from volunteers for example helping to run festivals. There are usually between 5 and 15 volunteers placed on a project and when necessary we place 1 or 2 co-ordinators to help the group outside the work programme.

General Information

Volunteers who participate in a Concordia volunteer project come from a diverse range of backgrounds, nationalities and cultures and have different abilities and experience. It is this diversity that makes the projects such a unique and fun experience. All volunteers that participate apply through our partner organisations abroad and must meet the following criteria:

- be over 18 years of age
- be open minded and flexible
- be able to communicate in English without difficulty. Volunteers applying to work on play schemes or social projects must speak English fluently
- be highly motivated if applying to work with children or on social projects

- playscheme, youth and special needs projects require volunteers to produce a certificate of good conduct (the equivalent of a Criminal Record Bureau CRB check)
- be prepared to participate in all aspects of life on the project including the domestic chores such as shopping, cooking and cleaning
- be physically fit enough to do the heavy work involved in some projects
- be prepared to carry out the work that is expected of them in a responsible manner, with due regard for personal safety and the safety of others

Work

Concordia Projects: Generally volunteers work 6-8 hours per day with lunch/tea breaks taken on site. Some social projects may require volunteers to work longer hours depending on the nature of the work. There are two days off each week though these are not always two days together and not always at the weekend.

Social Activities

Concordia: Projects do not offer an organised leisure programme and social activities will depend on the nature and location of the project. Concordia provides a small budget for one or two group based social activities on each project. The group is responsible for organising its own free time activities, with help from the group co-ordinators. Volunteers are expected to bring additional spending money. Important! Leisure time spent with the other volunteers is central to the international volunteer experience. Therefore, volunteers are expected to participate in the group based leisure activities and are requested not to arrange personal trips away from the project at weekends or during the evenings. What the project provides

Food

Most groups will cook for themselves and will receive a food allowance adequate to prepare meals on a self-catering basis. Volunteers will be responsible for organising the shopping, cooking and cleaning themselves. Some projects may be catered (i.e. meals will be provided for you), if this is the case it will be indicated in the project description.

Accommodation: This will vary from project to project and can be quite basic. It will usually be on the project site, or nearby in a local school, youth centre, in tents, etc. with basic cooking and washing facilities provided.

Insurance: Concordia provides medical insurance for volunteers whilst on the project. This covers accident and illness as well as third party liability. Personal possessions are not covered. We advise you to take out your own travel insurance for your personal possessions and travel.

Group Co-ordinators: Concordia place one or two experienced volunteers (usually from the UK) on most projects.

Information sheets including travel information: These are sent to volunteers approximately 6 weeks before the project is due to start.

What the volunteer provides

Volunteers from the European Union should bring with them a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) which will entitle them to urgent medical treatment. Volunteers are covered by our medical insurance policy once they arrive on the project. However, they are **STRONGLY** advised to take out their own insurance for travel, health, luggage and other personal possessions especially for the journeys to and from the project. Neither Concordia nor the host organisation can be held responsible for volunteers' personal possessions whilst they are on the project!

- Volunteers must bring their own sleeping bags/roll mats unless otherwise indicated.
- Volunteers must arrive at the project equipped with the correct work wear and weatherproof clothing. This is particularly important for environmental/renovation and outdoor type projects.
- Volunteers must bring with them sufficient funds to cover their free time activities as well as their internal transportation costs.

Working with children or people with special needs

Under the terms of the 1989 Children's Act UK and in line with OFSTED guidelines on child protection, co-ordinators and volunteers working with under 16 year olds and vulnerable adults, must be checked to ensure that they have no criminal record involving abuse of children. Therefore, all volunteers participating in a project working with children or people with special needs will be required to produce a Certificate of Good Conduct or International Criminal Record Check. This may also apply if the project is not working directly with children but is based at a children's centre. A copy of the certificate needs to be sent to the Concordia office, by fax or email at least 3 weeks before the project is due to start. The original needs to be given to the host by the volunteer on arrival at the project. These certificates are generally obtainable from local police stations and in some cases the forms can be downloaded from the internet. The process usually takes 2-4 weeks and there may be a small charge.

How the project details are presented in the programme

The main details of the project appear in the information bar heading each project description. A brief description of the work, accommodation, project location and special requirements is also given for each project. Applicants should consider all the information carefully before applying.

Project code	Project name	Dates Work	Type	No Vols
CONCUK 01	PEAK NATIONAL PARK	25.04 – 09.05	ENVI	09 VOLS

Work Type - Abbreviations

ART	Cultural/Arts Work
DISA	Working with mentally or physically disabled
ELD	working with older/elderly people
ENVI	Environmental
FEST	Festival
KIDS	Working with children
MANU	Manual
RENO	Renovation/construction
TEEN	Working with teenagers

Programm 2010

CONCUK14	VITALISE SKYLARKS	02.10 – 23.10	DISA	8 VOLS
CONCUK16	VITALISE SANDPIPERS	06.11 – 27.11	DISA	8 VOLS

Vitalise has been providing short breaks for disabled people and carers at accessible Centres in the UK since 1963. Firmly believing that disabled people should have the same rights, freedoms, responsibilities and quality of life as those without disabilities.

Each Centre offers short breaks in a relaxed, holiday style environment with a variety of trips and activities. Guests on our breaks are supported by volunteers who provide companionship and assistance.

Work: International volunteers will be supporting adults with physical impairments on holidays at one of the centres in England. Enabling independence, choice and opportunity. Tasks are likely to involve some basic personal care, social support and companionship, helping on excursions and activities and basic domestic tasks around mealtimes.

Accommodation: Volunteers will sleep in dormitory accommodation in separate male/female rooms with bunk-beds, all bedding will be provided. Meals will be provided as part of the project.

Location: VITALISE SKYLARKS sits in peaceful countryside in West Bridgford, a short distance from the lively city of Nottingham.

VITALISE SANDPIPERS overlooks the tranquil Marine Lake. Sandpipers is close to the centre of Southport, with its renowned promenade and Victorian arcades, and only a short distance from Liverpool.

Terminal: VITALISE SKYLARKS London airports or East Midlands airport. Nottingham train station.

VITALISE SANDPIPERS London airports or Manchester airport. Southport Train Station.

Special remarks: The majority of the guests on this holiday are reasonably independent and they are all great fun to be around. This project is ideal for someone who is interested in working with people with learning disabilities and has a genuine interest in helping someone to get the most of a holiday. There

is a huge emphasis on teamwork as everyone must share in creating a memorable holiday for the guests.

Previous experience is not necessary but a willingness to learn is. A letter of motivation and a certificate of good conduct are required. A good level of English is essential.

CONCUK15 RETURN TO PESTALOZZI 18.10 – 01.11 ENVI/RENO 8 VOLS

The Pestalozzi International Village sponsors young people aged 16+ from low-income families in Africa and Asia to study at the village. The Pestalozzi Estate covers 75 hectares of land and has many different wildlife habitats in it and has many different bird, animal and tree species. There is always important environmental and renovation work on the estate and international volunteers have been invited to help this worthwhile charity with this work.

Work: Tasks are likely to include Rhododendron clearance, gardening, putting up fences, building paths and possibly painting and decorating some of the buildings.

Accommodation: Volunteers will sleep in student accommodation in shared rooms with bunk-beds. There is a communal area and a small kitchen in the accommodation where volunteers will prepare their breakfast, the main meals will be provided in the canteen with other visitors to the village.

Location: Pestalozzi is situated in East Sussex on an isolated hilly but beautiful site 8km inland from the coastal resort of Hastings. The site is surrounded by the scenic South Downs and the historic town of Battle is nearby.

Terminal: London airports. Battle train station.

CONCUK19 ORCHARD BARN AUTUMN 17.10.-29.10. ENVI/RENO 4 VOLS

The Orchard Barn project is managed by OBee Community Interest Company. Their main objective is to promote hands-on, low-tech environmental education. Their vision is to inspire reduce our impact on the environment, improve our quality of life, gain new skills, live in a healthier and more satisfying way and discover the enjoyment of community through co-operative activities.

The development of Orchard Barn is an ongoing project that aims to teach people traditional techniques through the process of locally sourced, recycled and/or reclaimed materials. Facilities are low tech and designed to use a minimum of water and energy. Orchard Barn is about working towards self-sufficiency and having an authentic experience of living lightly on the land.

Work: The aim of the 2 weeks is to finish fitting the oak cleft roof that a previous Concordia volunteer group started earlier in the Summer. This will include making and fitting oak cleft roof tiles on to the barn roof using green wood working hand tools to make and shape the shingles.

Accommodation: Volunteers will sleep at the host's house. Please bring a sleeping bag. Volunteers will be using a compost toilet when on site and will be expected to be aware of using a limited amount of water. Food will be provided and sourced from the vegetable patch and local shops around the area.

Location: Orchard Barn is located in a small village in Ringshall in the beautiful countryside of Suffolk. The site is in a remote area and is about 3/4 miles to the nearest villages and train station.

Terminal: London Airports and Stowmarket train station for arrivals and departures.

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Special requirements: Volunteers will be working outside for the duration of the project. Please be prepared to work in both good and bad weather. Volunteers need to have a strong desire to work and live in a sustainable project and be sensitive to the environment around them. The site is fairly remote so please bring ideas for games and activities to do in the evenings.