

## **Workcamps in Tschechien**



**Partner: INEX SDA**

“INEX – Association for Voluntary Activities” mit Sitz in Prag bietet thematisch orientierte Workcamps an. Es gibt vier Bereiche, denen die einzelnen Camps zugeordnet sind.

Alter: ab 18 J. (Ausnahmen ab 17 J. möglich)

### **INEX - Association for Voluntary Service (INEX-SDA)**

Founded in 1991 as a non-governmental, non-profit organisation whose primary goal is to promote international youth volunteering as a way to tolerance, understanding, community support and self-development. Our core activities consist of arranging short-, mid- and long-term international voluntary projects where volunteers from all over the world come to exchange ideas, share their cultural knowledge and work for the benefit of the local community. Furthermore we are concerned with promoting global development education. Since 2003 we have been involved in GLEN (Global Education Network of Young Europeans) sending volunteers on 3-month work- and study projects to the Global South and helping them multiply their experience of global development issues after their return. Last year we organised 40 workcamps hosting a total of 360 international volunteers and we sent more than 700 Czech volunteers abroad. Besides we hosted long-term foreign volunteers participating in the European Voluntary Service programme.

### **OUR OBJECTIVES**

Our main objective is to promote active participation in global issues on a local level and a responsible approach to the society and the environment. We try to use the potential of young volunteers to support local NGOs and civic associations in various environmental, social or rural development projects. On one hand, volunteers contribute their time, work, skills and ideas, on the other hand, they obtain valuable life- and work experience. Besides, our voluntary projects strongly promote inter-cultural learning. We want our participants to experience an intensive inter-cultural exchange, make friends from all over the world and spread the idea of cooperation and understanding.

### **OUR VOLUNTEERS´ PROFILE:**

We appreciate motivated and open-minded people who are ready to learn, experience, help and share. No special knowledge or skills are required but enthusiasm and interest in the project is necessary. Own initiative and active approach to the project is essential, as well as a respectful and a friendly attitude towards the local community. Flexibility, modesty and tolerance are desirable as the camp facilities and board are often rather basic.

### **CAMP LEADERS:**

Our workcamps are led by one or two trained camp leaders who are responsible for the camp budget and who coordinate the work. They co-operate with the local partners and facilitate the group decision-making. They suggest possible freetime activities and organize the work but they make common decisions with the group. Our camp leaders are required to complete an intensive 3-day training especially designed for the camp leaders´ needs.

### **BASIC GENERAL INFORMATION FOR WORKCAMP PARTICIPANTS**

**AGE LIMIT:** Minimum age is 18 years, no maximum age limit

DURATION WORKCAMP: 10 - 21 days  
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS PER WORKCAMP: 5 – 18  
CAMP LANGUAGE: English

INSURANCE: INEX-SDA does not provide any insurance for the workcamp participants. We expect volunteers to arrange their own health insurance and insurance of responsibility and bring the necessary documents along with them. In case of an accident INEX-SDA does not take any responsibility for their harm or damage.

MOTIVATION LETTER: Please send us your motivation letter where indicated. We need to know:  
WHO is coming so we can adjust the programme to the participants needs.  
WHY do you want to take part in the project.  
WHAT kind of interests and experience you can contribute.

**SDA 110 Harvest season in Kostelecke Horky**  
**1/10 – 18/10/2010 ENVI/AGRI/CONS VOLS: 12+2 AGE: 18+**

Project: The workcamp will take place in the small village Kostelecke Horky in Eastern Bohemia with about 140 inhabitants. The village is the seat of a branch of the NGO INEX-SDA, which mainly organizes environmental programs for schools and the public in a complex of rural buildings known as "Blue house". There is a tiny museum on rural lifestyle and a barn for sheep and goats, which European longterm-volunteers are taking care of.

Work: The work will be mainly manual: The volunteers will prepare the center for the winter and help with maintaining and repairing the center's buildings. Besides they will perform typical autumn farming tasks such as harvesting, processing fruits and planting trees. On last weekend the international "Day of the trees" is celebrated as a public event with a program. You will help with the preparations of the event.

Leisure time: Trips to nearby historical towns (Litomyšl, Rychnov nad Knežnou, Letohrad), hiking in the beautiful Orlické mountains.

Accommodation/Food: Basic accommodation in the former school of the village. Bathrooms and showers with hot water are available. The volunteers will prepare their own meals. Bring your local recipes!

Location: Kostelecke Horky (next train stop: Chocov or Plchovky)

Note: Bring your own sleeping bag, working boots and warm clothes, for the nights can be quite cool.

**SDA 412 New Virgin Forest**  
**12/09 – 25/09/2010 ENVI VOLS: 14+2 AGE: 18+**

Project: The project is organized in cooperation with the local NGO Friends of Nature Society (Společnost přátel přírody), whose activities are focused on practical nature protection and on environmental education. The goal of their projects is to restore the natural woods on specific pieces of land and to save some endangered tree species. The workcamp takes place on one of those pieces of land in a mountainous area at the foot of the Jizerské mountains in the north of Bohemia, close to the Polish border.

Work: Planting seedlings of trees and cleaning branches after cutting down trees in the area, so that a new and mixed forest can grow, which closely resembles the natural state of a forest. According to the current needs this work could be replaced by similar tasks (help with growing the seedlings) in a tree nursery.

Leisure time: You can go hiking in the beautiful surrounding landscape and take trips to Liberec and other nearby towns.

Study part: Ecological discussions

Accommodation/Food: You will sleep in a scout dormitory in Liberec with two bedrooms. There is a small kitchen for preparing meals. A bathroom with 2 showers is available.

Location: Liberec, near the Jizerské mountains in the north of Bohemia.

Note: Be prepared to work in all types of weather. Water-proof clothes and boots are necessary. The work will be manual and rather hard. Bring a sleeping bag, good rain gear and a light mat with you!