



Volunteering team project
Smells like green
spirit

27.4.-26.5.2023



**EUROPEAN
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Smells like green spirit

Volunteering team project, Kokkola 27.4.-26.5.2023

Welcome to Villa Elba!

In this project 10 volunteers will help us to take care of the environment and promote sustainable lifestyle by doing different physical and practical tasks like:

- start a garden plot at Villa Marina, our traditional Finnish summer cottage
- help to clean the river by canoeing along it and picking up trash
- help to clean beach areas in Villa Elba and public beaches and places in Kokkola
- help a local football team during a football tournament with cleaning and practical arrangements

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Youth Centre Villa Elba

Villa Elba is a National Youth Centre supported and observed by the Ministry of Education. We are specialised in youth work and our function is to develop the methods used in the field of youth work. We work under the Finnish law covering youth work and by the Ministry of Education.

Our goal is to offer youngsters the possibilities of learning in multicultural environment and finding their own strengths and abilities through international activity.

Our work consists of international camps and programs, education, practical training and voluntary work for young people, information and guidance about international programmes, projects and coordination of volunteering projects.



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Profile of participants:

The participants are young people seeking new possibilities to their lives. The volunteers can be unemployed, face educational, economic, social or physical challenges or have low language skills. We wish that the volunteers are interested in sustainability and environment. There is no need of previous experience, just the interest to try it out and learn more!

We offer the volunteers:

- a chance to live in a new culture
- possibility to do volunteer work for the local community
- a chance for intercultural learning
- a project where you can use your talents
- opportunity to meet other international volunteers and make friends
- develop your skills and abilities

Volunteers should be prepared for:

- changes
- cold
- adventures
- new experiences

We expect from volunteers:

- flexibility
- respect
- ability to follow and respect the rules of Villa Elba and schedule of the project



Tasks:

In this project the volunteers help us to take care of the environment and promote sustainable lifestyle by doing different physical and practical tasks:

- start a garden plot at Villa Marina, our traditional Finnish summer cottage
- help to clean the river by canoeing along it and picking up trash
- help to clean beach areas in Villa Elba and public beaches and places in Kokkola
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During the project, volunteers:

- learn how to garden and take care of plants
- have a chance to try out Finnish summer cottage lifestyle
- learn about sustainability practices in Finland and promote them
- learn about work in international team



Accommodation

Accommodation is organised in Youth Centre Villa Elba in beautiful summer house Villa Marina by the sea. It is a simple house with no modern comforts: there are not indoor toilets, no indoor shower or running water in the house. Water is available from the well outside and there is an outdoor shower and sauna tent. House is heated with the help of the fireplace and electric radiators. Therefore, it requires patience and flexibility, as volunteers must adapt to a modest living environment. On the other hand, the Villa has a beautiful environment and offers participants a unique chance to try out traditional Finnish summer cottage lifestyle.



Working hours :

The volunteer will work 5 days a week, approximately 35 hours. The working hours are usually from 8-16 including lunch break, but sometimes work times can vary depending on events that we are taking part in. In that case, work can also be in evening time. If that is the case, volunteers get free time during other days of the week.



Meals:

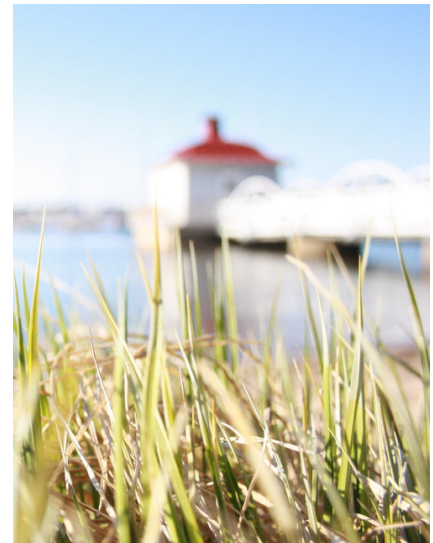
During on-arrival training volunteers will get breakfast, lunch, dinner and evening snack from our kitchen. After that lunch is served during working days and volunteers get food money to prepare the other meals themselves.



Orientation day and on-arrival training

First 3 days of the project will be orientation day and on-arrival training in Youth Centre Villa Elba. The aim of the training is to get to know the other participants and learn about ESC. We will also tell about the aim of the project, intercultural learning and about volunteer's rights and responsibilities.

Also during on-arrival training you will get to know better other volunteers, think about your goals and motivation for the project, learn about Finnish culture and of course try sauna yourself!





Support measures:

Extra support is available for volunteers 24/7 during the whole project. The support persons helps with everyday issues (cooking, cleaning, shopping), to get familiar with local community and culture, helps in difficult situations and supports the volunteers to reflect on their learning outcomes. There will be organized mentoring meetings weekly and volunteers are entitled to take part in the mentoring meetings.

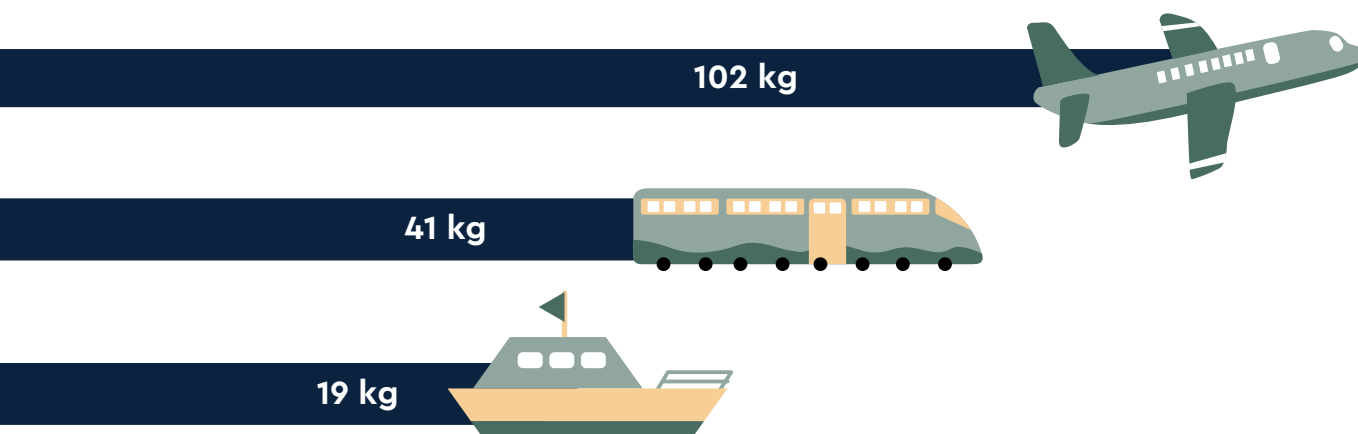


Tips for travelling to Kokkola:

How to get to Kokkola:

We encourage volunteers to use green means of transportation, for example with Interrail ticket (more information: <https://www.interrail.eu/en>), but we understand that it might be difficult for some people. If you have to fly to Helsinki, please remember about sustainability and pay extra fee for CO2 emissions.

CO2 EMISSIONS IN COMPARISON *



TRAVELLING BY TRAIN/FERRY WILL LOWER YOUR CO2 EMISSIONS BY MORE THAN HALF

*** 1000 KILOMETERS**

From Helsinki Airport the most convenient and green way to travel to Kokkola is by train. You can find tickets here: <https://www.vr.fi/en>

! We recommend to buy tickets in advance because prices are increasing dramatically closer to departure day

If you are taking train from Helsinki Airport, then on your way there will be one short transfer at Tikkurila station. Please, be very careful and check all the information: train track number etc. in order not to miss the train. There are displays everywhere as well as information via speakers.

What to bring along:



- In May the average temperature is around +12 Celcius. Sometimes it gets for up to +17 Celcius, but it still quite chilly during evening and night. Take spring clothes with you (jacket, hoody, sneakers) as well as something warm (sweaters, thermo clothes). We would strongly recommend taking wool socks with you because sometimes floor can get cold in the house.
- Outdoor clothes and shoes since you will have work outside
- European health card (very important, you will need it if you need to go to health center / hospital!)
- Personal medication and hygiene products
- Swimming suit if you want to wear them in sauna or want to go to swim
- Something typical from your country to present your culture (music, songs, dances, something to eat etc.)

Villa Elba project staff:

Work leader:

Is in charge of instructing the volunteers in daily work tasks. Supervisor organizes the work and gives instructions how to do the work.

Support persons:

Support the volunteers during the whole project. Their task is to help volunteers to fulfill their commitments and to support them to manage their everyday life: cooking, cleaning, free-time activities etc. In case of problems, the support persons are available 24/7.

Mentor:

Helps the volunteers to get to know the local community and meets the volunteers regularly to help them to reflect their learning outcomes. Mentor presents free-time activities and helps volunteers to find meaningful things to do in their free time.

Project administration:

Project coordinator deals with administration: applications, final reports and collection of travel documents, organizes practical arrangements like pickups from train station or airport, accommodation and other practicalities.

Office clerk deals with the financial issues; pays the pocket money, and makes payments to sending organisations.

Development manager has the overall responsibility for the project.



Financial issues:

Travel grants

Travel grants are paid after the project according to the funding rules of Erasmus+: Travel grants depend on the length of the journey and for measurement of the journey we use Erasmus+ distance band calculator: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/distance-calculator_en

Regular travel:

10 – 99 km	23 €
100 – 499 km	180 €
500 –1999 km	275 €
2000 – 2999 km	360 €
3000 – 3999 km	530 €
4000 – 7999 km	820 €
8000 -> km	1500 €

Green travel:

100 – 499 km	210 €
500 –1999 km	320 €
2000 – 2999 km	410 €
3000 – 3999 km	610 €
4000 – 7999 km	820 €
8000 -> km	1500 €

Pocket money

The pocket money is 5€ / day which will be paid in parts in cash during the project.



Hopefully, this infopack helped you to get to know more about the project. You are about to start an amazing adventure so don't hesitate and participate in everything! We have a very supportive staff, in case you have any kind of questions - you are more than welcome to ask.

See you in Villa Elba!

www.villaelba.fi

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