

**Projet de Volontariat Européen**  
**« Le Patiau »**  
**Saint-Jean-La-Poterie / Redon - France**



*Façade du Patiau*

Open to the public since November 2014, the Patiau, centre for ceramic art and history in Saint-Jean-la-Poterie, is composed of three areas, three atmospheres: the earthenware decoration workshop, managed by the Community of municipalities around the Pays de Redon for the inclusion of a specific group of people, the museum on the history of the town's pottery, and the gallery with temporary contemporary ceramic exhibitions. To make this place alive, we also organise events for children and adults around ceramics: courses, workshops, guided tours, guided walks in the town on the history of pottery, conferences, meetings, etc.

Visitors to Le Patiau are mainly individuals (French and foreigners), but we also welcome groups of all types (schoolchildren, senior citizens, popular universities, adult groups, etc.).

The Patiau is also involved in the dynamics of specific events such as the "European Crafts Days" by hosting temporary exhibitions and participating in the activities linked to this type of event.

This centre is communal, depending on the Culture and Heritage Department of the commune of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie, and its influence is regional, even national.

The commune of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie currently has three ceramists' workshops and a fourth will soon open. The Patiau also aims to bring together and inform about the theme of pottery, so we want to set up tools on our website that will allow us to bring together the contact details of all the potters and ceramists in the region.



## **Environnement**

The sub-prefecture of Ille et Vilaine, Redon has 10,000 inhabitants and is at the heart of a country of 60,000 inhabitants. Located at the crossroads of two administrative regions (Brittany and Pays de la Loire) and three departments (Ille et Vilaine, Loire Atlantique, Morbihan), it offers services that meet the requirements of a

medium-sized town. A river and sea port, Redon is located at the crossroads of the Vilaine (Channel-Ocean link) and the Nantes-Brest canal. The town is located at equal distance from three large cities (Rennes, Nantes and Vannes). The TGV station puts Redon 3 hours from Paris. The local cultural and sporting life is very active thanks to a large network of associations.

Le Patiau, a ceramic art and history centre, is located in the heart of the village of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie, a small town of 1800 inhabitants on the outskirts of Redon (7 km).

### **Duration of the volunteering mission**

**From Spring 2023 to January 2024 (10 months)**

### **Tasks of the volunteer**

The volunteer will be present at all the activities of the Patiau with local volunteers who are passionate about pottery and the professionals who supervise the activities. In addition, he/she will participate in the implementation of the communication around the promotion of the actors of the ceramics in Brittany.

Hosting a young European volunteer is for us the opportunity to share a history, an heritage and an artistic culture, both local and regional, and to have a fresh look at this past and contemporary ceramics in order to create new discovery products for all. It is also the opportunity to participate in a local partnership established around ESC host organisations in Redon.



The volunteer will have different missions :

#### *AT THE PATIAU*

- New activities : The role of the volunteer will be to develop new activities at the Patiau in connection with local partners, a support to the functioning of the place and a link with the people committed in the Patiau.
- Welcoming the public: The role of the young volunteer will also be to receive the public, with the possibility of providing information to visitors or even groups, by reading documents on site and also through exchanges with the people in the "collecting pottery memories" group of the Terre de Potiantes association (in connection with the Patiau, which organises pottery courses throughout the year), who regularly visit the Patiau - these conversations being an opportunity to acquire new keys to discovery and management of the French language.
- Animation: The young volunteer will take part in animation projects in Le Patiau: for example, experimenting with a group of children with a game based on the "potiante" history of the village, created by a class from the primary school "from A to Z".



- Leading earth workshops for children and preparing the feedbacks

- Participating in collaborative projects together with other partners : e.g. the "Journées Européennes des Métiers d'Art" and various exhibitions, la "fête des lises" : large pottery festival in the town in mid-September

Participate in various meetings related to the Patiau projects.

- Communication: the volunteer will participate in communication: WEB, social networks such as Facebook, updates of the website.

He/she will participate in the supervised creation of a directory of ceramists in the region, online on the Patiau website.

These communication activities will also allow the volunteer to practice the French language, both spoken and written, (a proofreading follow-up could be set up), but also to perfect his or her computer and web communication skills.

- The volunteer will also be able to build links with his or her country of origin around the themes developed in Patiau.

With this experience, he/she will develop activities in connection with different partners, which will allow him to practice the French language and to meet many professionals in education and activities, but also to meet potters and ceramic artists.

### THE COLLECTIVE PROJECT AROUND EUROPE WITH THE OTHER VOLUNTEERS

- Finally, he/she will participate in the organisation of a collective project around Europe in connection with the other volunteers hosted in Redon.

Depending on the personality of the volunteer, he or she will have more or less autonomy over his or her actions, and will be able to propose actions if her or his own projects: it is also important for us to have someone who brings a fresh perspective and new ideas.

Young volunteers hosted in Redon are coordinated by the organisation La MAPAR, so the young person will be in daily contact with other volunteers and will be involved in the activities organised together.

### **Selection of the volunteer**

The volunteer should feel comfortable with the aspect of activity leading with young people and adults, he/she should be creative. The volunteer should also feel interested in heritage, and at ease in contact with people, to facilitate the success of the volunteering.

In addition, some basic knowledge of French could facilitate the start of the volunteering mission and the relationships with the various networks of actors around Le Patiau.

Also a good knowledge of digital tools would be a positive point to have a good start.

The volunteer should be aware that he/she will be on mission on some weekends (especially Saturday afternoons) or evenings, depending on the activities of Patiau, and that he/she will have to use a motorised means of transport to get to the project (scooter or car depending on our possibilities). Consequently, the volunteer must have a driving licence.

### **Accommodation**

The volunteer will share a furnished flat in Redon (7 km from Saint-Jean-la-Poterie), with other European volunteers or French people. Each volunteer has a single room. The kitchen, living room and sanitary facilities are shared.

### **Food**

The volunteer will receive an allowance of **7.50€ / day** for all meals. He/she will be able to cook in his/her flat. If he/she wishes, he/she can also have lunch at the MAPAR restaurant at preferential rates.

### **Pocket Money**

The volunteer will receive **€6.00/day** pocket money for the duration of his/her volunteering.

### **To and from the country of origin**

The volunteer will be reimbursed for travel expenses to and from his/her country of origin upon presentation of travel receipts and according to the applicable flat rate (calculated according to the distance per kilometre).

### **French classes**

The volunteer will benefit from French lessons for the duration of his/her stay, at a rate of 3 hours per week. These lessons will be given by a qualified "French as a foreign language" teacher, for all the volunteers hosted in Redon.

The educational costs are covered by the host organisation and MAPAR.

### **Support**

The Patiau is managed by a person in charge of the coordination of the place (tutor of the volunteer), supervised by the elected members of the municipal council of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie. The choices concerning the annual programme, the activities, etc. are decided by a group of elected representatives and volunteers attached to the project. The volunteer's tutor speaks English and is used to supervising traineeships and volunteers.

During the extra-curricular activities, the volunteer will be in contact with the activity leaders.



### **Coordinating organisation**

MAPAR, the coordinating association for this volunteering project, is a Foyer de Jeunes Travailleurs located in Redon. It welcomes students, apprentices, young people in training or working, all aged between 16 and 30.

MAPAR is a place for accommodation for youth, since a social link is developed through the activities offered in the evening or at certain weekends by the socio-educational team, made up of three leaders and a young European volunteer.

MAPAR has also been a sending and hosting association for EVS since 1998. Hosting a volunteer allows the young people of the home to rub shoulders with other young people from different countries, and thus to open up to other cultures, to understand that "leaving is possible". For the volunteer, it is an opportunity to meet young French people of his or her own age, from all social backgrounds, to open up to others and to tolerate different lifestyles and people.

We currently coordinate 9 volunteer projects based in Redon.