



Volunteering team project

***Project
Friendship***

12.4.-8.5.2024



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

Project Friendship

*Volunteering team project
Villa Elba, Kokkola 12.4.-8.5.2024*

Welcome to Villa Elba!

10 volunteers will work in Kokkola and surrounding villages in schools with the theme of friendship. They are going to plan and lead functional workshops about friendship and interaction skills. Volunteers work with the people they meet to think about what a good friend is like, how to maintain a friendship and how to create friendships.



Contact information:

Youth Centre Villa Elba
Sannanrannantie 60
67200 Kokkola, Finland
www.villaelba.fi

Emilia Eteläaho
emilia.etelaaho@villaelba.fi
+358 50 9172224



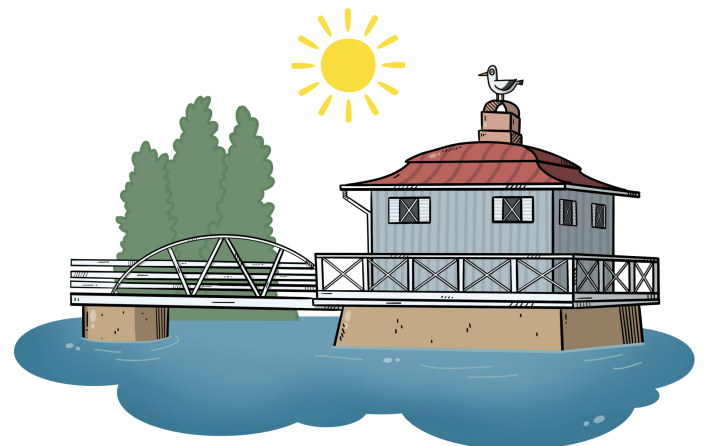


Villa Elba

Youth Centre 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 mobility for young people and those working with young people, voluntary services, training courses, international Club activities, advice and guidance on international programmes, project activities and coordination of volunteering projects.



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 working with children. There is no need of previous experiences 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 creativity
- 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 the rules and schedule



Tasks:

Volunteers will work in Kokkola and surrounding villages in schools and kindergartens with the theme of friendship. They are going to plan and lead functional workshops about friendship and interaction skills for children of different ages.

Volunteers work with the people they meet to think about what a good friend is like, how to maintain a friendship, and how to create friendships.

We encourage participants to bring their own ideas and competences when planning and realizing the content of the different events and activities organized during the project.



Working hours :

The volunteer will work 5 days a week, approximately 35 hours. The working hours are usually from 9-16 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 for example from 14.00-20.00 or 7.00-14.00.



Accommodation and meals:

During the project, the volunteers will live in Youth Centre Villa Elba in **Lassela**. Lassela is an atmospheric wooden house in Villa Elba, right by the sea. It can accommodate up to 12 people downstairs. The building has a toilet, shower, kitchen, room with fireplace / dining room. Volunteers will share a room with others (up to 6 people). Therefore it requires patience and flexibility, as you will share the space with other people during the whole project.



Meals are served in Villa Elba during On-arrival training, and during the rest of the project on working days volunteers will get lunch either at Villa Elba or schools but other meals will be prepared themselves together (food money for groceries are provided).





On-arrival training:

First 2 days of the project will be on-arrival training in Youth Centre Villa Elba. The aim of the training is to get to know other participants and learn about European Solidarity Corps. Volunteers will learn about aim of the project, intercultural learning and about their rights and responsibilities.



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.



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.

Tips for travelling 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 depending on your location. If you have to fly to Helsinki, please remember about sustainability and pay extra fee for CO2 emissions.

Tips for green travel at Green Erasmus website:

<https://www.greenerasmus.org/before-mobility/travel>

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> (Helsinki Airport -> Kokkola)

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 in english.



What to bring along:

- In April the average temperature is around +5 to +10 Celcius. During evening and night temperatures can drop to around -2 Celsius. Take spring/winter clothes with you (jacket, hoody, sneakers) as well as something warm (sweaters, thermo clothes, winter shoes). We would strongly recommend taking wool socks with you because sometimes floors can get cold in the house.
- Villa Elba provides bedsheets and towels so no need to take those with you
- 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.)



Weather in Kokkola and Finland can be checked here:

<https://www.foreca.com/100651943/Kokkola-Finland>

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

Villa Elba will arrange pick up for volunteers from the train station in Kokkola, costs for transport are deducted from the travel reimbursement. We try to organize common rides to keep costs as low as possible.

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 €

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 €

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

Contact person: Emilia Eteläaho
emilia.etelaaho@villaelba.fi, +358 50 9172224



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