



MT03/16 “Country Estates”

Dates: 04.07- 15.07

Lang.: English

Age: 18+

Volunteers: 8

Type: Cult/Envi/Heritage **Location:** Saint Petersburg/Leningrad Region

PROJECT: Work camp is relocating. Country Estates of the St-Petersburg region were built in 18-19 centuries. Among the owners, there were members of the royal family and famous public officials, military leaders, artists, composers, architects, writers, such as Vranghel, Repin, Nabokov, Rerikh. Many of country houses were damaged, especially the parks, landscapes and interiors. We want to bring the former meaning to the country estates as pieces of world heritage. Today the restoration of the country estates is an important deal together with the renewal of the unique parks. We expect our workcamp will help volunteers to achieve the following object: to raise awareness among the local population regarding heritage and the importance their participation to preserving this site. As the workcamp will be mobile, it gives volunteers a great opportunity to learn about historical events, concerned country estates of famous Russian artists and poets of the 18-19 centuries and to see both the imperial city St-Petersburg and the real Russian countryside.



WORK: The volunteers will be engaged in improving estates parks: take care of trees, mow the meadows, clean the hollows, sweep and clean the paths out of the garbage, etc. Volunteers will be working 5 hours per day 5 days a week under the supervision. During the workcamp volunteers will work on different sites: some days volunteers will live and work on one estate, other days volunteers will visit and work on other country estates located in St-Petersburg region. The work will be combined with a cultural program.

ACCOMMODATION: Host organization provides a basic condition accommodation and food in St-Petersburg and in Leningrad region. Due to the relocating status of the camps, volunteers will live in different places (wooden house/school/office/dormitory/rental flat/pilgrim hotel). More information will be announced in Infosheet later.

LEISURE TIME: St-Petersburg is a cultural capital of Russia. Volunteers will have an opportunity during the weekend to visit numerous museums, theatres, galleries and exhibitions, country residences of Emperors, Grand Princes and grandees: Peterhof – city of fountains (www.peterhofmuseum.ru), Lomonosov, Tsarskoye Selo (www.tzar.ru), Pavlovsk (www.pavlovskmuseum.ru) and just restored palace in Gatchina. Also at this time of the year, the city hosts a variety of festivals, concerts and folk events. At the monastery sites, volunteers will be able to take boats for little trips, swim in the lake, go fishing or pick different berries, drink tea from samovar and even go to the banya. In addition, there will be organized sport activities, meeting with local people and evenings of international cuisine will be organized, so it would be great if volunteers bring their traditional recipes and food.

SPECIAL REMARKS. Dates coincide with the camp for Russian speaking volunteers, living in EU. Volunteers from both camps will meet and undertake joint activities. The museums fees and local transport expenses aren't going to be covered, volunteers will have to pay on their own. However, due to the euro-ruble currency this year the journey will be rather cheap. Volunteers should bring working clothes, gloves and sleeping bags. Besides, it would be great to take something special from their countries (photos, food or small flags and souvenirs) for international party in the workcamp and demonstrate them as special features of home country.

