



MT09/16

“The Apple Spas and Russian Traditions”

Dates: 15.08- 26.08

Age: 18+

Type: Cult/Manu/Envi

Lang.: Russian

Volunteers: 8

Location: Saint Petersburg/Leningrad Region

PROJECT: Work camp is relocating. There are lot of Heritage sites in St-Petersburg and Leningrad region. For example, Country Estates and Orthodox Monasteries of were built in 12-19 centuries. Among the owners of Country Estates were members of the royal family and famous public officials, military leaders, artists, composers, architects, writers. Nowadays a lot of Country Estates and Orthodox Monasteries are damaged, especially parks, landscapes and interiors. The restoration and renewal of them are very important for saving cultural heritage of Russia. That is why we want to bring the former meaning of country estates and orthodox monasteries as pieces of culture Heritage. These objects are located in the beautiful landscapes and untouched nature near the lakes. It is a unique workcamp for volunteers, who want to get in touch with the spirit of the history of the Estates and mystic of Orthodox Monasteries. Volunteers will have an opportunity to see different parts of the Russian Culture Heritage, learn architectural styles. Participants will have an opportunity to face ancient traditions of Old Rus', get to know with rites, signs, games and learn how to cook Russian traditional dishes.

WORK: Some days volunteers will visit some palaces and parks, which situated in St-Petersburg and Leningrad regions. Volunteers will help in picking up apples (if the apples will ripe) at orthodox monasteries, in gardens and parks. Some days volunteers will be engaged in improving parks: take care of harvest and trees, cure the trees, clean the hollows, clean the paths out of the garbage, etc. Volunteers will be working about 5 hours per day 5 days a week under the supervision. The work will be combined with a cultural program. The big advantage of this workcamp is an opportunity to see both the imperial city St. Petersburg and the real Orthodox Monasteries.

ACCOMMODATION: 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). 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 English speaking volunteers, living in EU. Volunteers from both camps will meet and undertake joint activities. 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 as special features of home country. The museums fees and local transport expenses are not going to be covered, volunteers will have to pay on their own. Due to the euro- ruble, currency this year the journey will be rather cheap.

