

JAUNATNE SMAIDAM / YOUTH FOR SMILE



INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP PROGRAMME

LATVIA 2026

www.jaunatnesmaidam.lv

E-mail: camps@jaunatnesmaidam.lv

Phone: +371 28663569 (WhatsApp)

Linktree*



<https://linktr.ee/youth4smile>

CODE	NAME	TYPE	DATES	VOLS	FEE (euro)
YS-2026-01	REgenerate I	ENVI/AGRI/MANU	17.06.2026 - 25.06.2026	10	50,00
YS-2026-02	REgenerate II	ENVI/AGRI/MANU	29.06.2026 - 12.07.2026	10	300,00
YS-2026-03	Lauderi I	ENVI/MANU/RENO	06.07.2026. - 19.07.2026.	8	300,00
YS-2026-04	REgenerate III	ENVI/AGRI/MANU	13.07.2026. - 26.07.2026.	10	50,00
YS-2026-05	Lauderi II	ENVI/MANU/RENO	20.07.2026. - 02.02.2026.	8	50,00
YS-2026-06	Svitene palace I	ENVI/MANU	20.07.2026. - 29.07.2026.	10	300,00
YS-2026-07	YOUTH4SMILE I	CULT/SOCI/FEST	27.07.2026. - 09.08.2025.	10	50,00
YS-2026-08	Lauderi III	ENVI/MANU/RENO	03.08.2026. - 16.08.2026.	8	300,00
YS-2026-09	Svitene palace II	ENVI/MANU	20.07.2026. - 29.07.2026.	10	300,00
YS-2026-10	REgenerate IV	ENVI/AGRI/MANU	10.08.2026. - 23.08.2026.	10	300,00
YS-2026-11-ESC	Lauderi IV	ENVI/MANU/RENO	17.08.2026. - 01.09.2026.	10	FREE
YS-2026-12-ESC	YOUTH4SMILE II	CULT/SOCI/FEST	24.08.2026. - 08.09.2026.	14	FREE

Welcome to Jaunatne smaidam / Youth for Smile

Founded in 2005, Jaunatne smaidam / Youth for Smile is an energetic non-profit and non-governmental organization dedicated to enriching the lives of young people in the Bauska region and beyond. At the heart of our mission, we are a values-driven community committed to empowering youth to innovate, share experiences, and foster a sense of togetherness.

Our Vision: Empowering Youth, Enriching Communities

Create: We ignite local and international projects that open doors for learning, participation, and self-expression in safe, nurturing environments.

Experience: We offer dynamic experiences that are both local and global in scope, designed to enhance personal development and prepare young people for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Be Together: We are dedicated to building a vibrant community where young people can develop essential competencies that contribute to the growth and vitality of their local communities.

Our Impact: From sparking youth-led initiatives to providing enriching educational opportunities through non-formal settings, our work is centered around fostering intellectual and creative growth. We ensure that young individuals enjoy their leisure constructively, gain access to critical developmental resources, and acquire life skills that are integral to lifelong success.

Join Us: Our community thrives on the contributions, energies, and passion of our members, ranging from children to young adults aged 7-30. We sustain our impactful programs through memberships, contributions, and significant grants from prestigious sources such as Erasmus+ programs, European Solidarity Corps, and State youth programs.

Embark on a journey with Jaunatne smaidam / Youth for Smile—where you create, experience, and connect in meaningful ways. Together, let's smile, share, and inspire!

Get Ready for an Adventure with Jaunatne smaidam / Youth for Smile Work Camps!

 **Make a Difference:** Dive into the heart of local communities with our work camps and embrace voluntary work as a stepping stone to active citizenship.

Whether you're an experienced volunteer or new to the scene, our camps are the perfect place to contribute, learn, and grow.

 **Dynamic Teamwork:** All our camp leaders are equipped with top-notch training in intercultural learning, team building, conflict management, and more, ensuring you have the support and guidance you need for a rewarding experience.

 **Camp Schedule:** Join us from the end of June to beginning of September for 1 to 2 weeks of transformative work. With 8 to 12 international volunteers in each camp, you'll work alongside people from diverse backgrounds. **Families, individuals of any age, and groups are all welcome!** Plus, teens have their own special camps tailored just for ages 14 to 17.

 **Language and Work:** English is our lingua franca, keeping everyone connected. Expect to work 4-6 hours a day, five days a week, making real impacts in local communities or assisting non-profits.

 **Who Can Join?:** If you're over 16, motivated for volunteer work, and ready to embrace local life with an open heart and mind, you're set to join us! Don't worry about special skills; bring your enthusiasm and a readiness for new experiences!

 **Practical Bits to Pack:** Gear up with a sleeping bag, work clothes, gloves, and don't forget your swimwear and a cozy jacket—Latvian weather loves surprises! You'll find yourself at a youth center, local farm, or camping in tents. Remember your mosquito cream and anything fun from home—photos, music, games, or musical instruments to share your culture!

 **Stay Safe:** We cover third-party risks, but please bring your own health and accident insurance. EU folks, don't forget your EU health insurance card.

 **Lead and Connect:** Each camp is steered by one or two dedicated leaders who not only coordinate but also jump right into camp life alongside you.

Ready to join our community of changemakers? Pack your spirit of adventure and let's make smiles happen across communities together!

Emergency contacts

+371 28663569 – Renārs Manuilovs, executive director

YS-2026-01	REgenerate I	Bärbele	ENVI/AGRI/MANU
17.06.-25.06.	Vol. 10	Age: 16+	50,00 EUR

YS-2026-02	REgenerate II	Bärbele	ENVI/AGRI/MANU
29.06.-12.07.	Vol. 10	Age: 14-17	300,00 EUR

YS-2026-04	REgenerate III	Bärbele	ENVI/AGRI/MANU
13.07.-26.07.	Vol. 10	Age: 16+	50,00 EUR

YS-2026-10	REgenerate IV	Bärbele	ENVI/AGRI/MANU
10.08.-23.08.	Vol. 10	Age: 14-17	300,00 EUR

Description of work:

The REgenerate workcamp is initiated by Jaunatne smaidam / Youth for Smile and is rooted in the experience of the Outdoor Education Center established in 2010. The project aims to develop a sustainable farm-training center that serves as a living laboratory for environmental sustainability, regenerative practices, and community-based learning.

This workcamp invites international volunteers to take part in a holistic lifestyle experience, where daily work is directly connected to ecological responsibility and sustainable living.

The offered tasks may change depending on weather conditions, seasonal priorities, and the real needs of the farm and surrounding environment. Flexibility and openness are therefore essential parts of the learning process.

Main Areas of Work

Permaculture Garden Development

Volunteers will contribute to the creation and maintenance of a permaculture garden, applying principles of regenerative agriculture, soil care, composting, planting, and harvesting.

Animal Care and Farm Support

Participants may assist in caring for farm animals such as sheep, goats, and other animals. Tasks can include building and repairing pasture paddocks, cleaning spaces, and preparing food supplies for the winter season.

Restoration of Natural Areas

The camp supports the restoration of natural meadows by clearing bushes and maintaining biodiversity. Volunteers may also help in cleaning and restoring small rivers or water systems affected by overgrowth.

Nature Path Creation and Maintenance

Work may include developing and maintaining a forest nature path – clearing bushes, planting trees, improving accessibility, and creating educational elements for visitors.

Learning Dimension

Beyond practical work, the camp includes non-formal education sessions focused on eco-activism, sustainability, and community engagement. Volunteers will reflect on their experiences and develop competences that can be applied in their own communities.

The educational methodology is based on the Erasmus+ project “Youth Action for Nature and Well-being”, which promotes environmental responsibility, well-being, and active citizenship.

REgenerate is not only about physical work — it is about reconnecting with nature, understanding sustainable systems, and learning through doing. By adapting to real conditions and working together, volunteers contribute meaningfully to environmental regeneration while developing practical, social, and ecological competences.

Description of accommodation and food:

Living conditions during the project will be very basic and close to nature. Volunteers will stay at a rural farm and experience simple, environmentally friendly living.

Accommodation will be in tents provided by the organisers, with mattresses included. Volunteers should bring their own sleeping bags. Tents will be shared by two participants.

In case of extreme weather conditions or other emergency situations, accommodation may be moved to adapted farm buildings (such as a barn, granary, or another agricultural building). In such extraordinary situations, it may not be possible to separate sleeping arrangements by gender.

Sanitary conditions are simple and ecological:

- An outdoor solar shower will be available.
- A dry toilet (compost toilet) will be used.
- Washing facilities will be basic.

As the farm uses a biological sewage system, all volunteers are required to use environmentally friendly personal hygiene products (biodegradable soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.). This is an important part of the project's sustainability approach, and through daily practice we will actively integrate eco-friendly habits into our everyday lives.

Meals will be prepared by the volunteers themselves in the outdoor kitchen, including cooking on an open fire when appropriate. This will be organised in teams, encouraging cooperation and shared responsibility.

Volunteers are kindly asked to bring some traditional or typical food from their home country for the International Evening.

Description of location and leisure:

The workcamp takes place in Bārbele village, Bauska municipality, in a peaceful rural environment surrounded by forests, meadows, and wetlands. The farm is located approximately 6 km from the village centre, offering a quiet and nature-based living experience. The nearest bus stop is 3 km away.

The administrative centre of the region is Bauska, situated about 60 km from Riga, the capital city of Latvia.

The location provides wide opportunities to explore Latvian nature. Volunteers will have the chance to:

- Go for forest walks and discover local biodiversity
- Explore nearby wetlands and learn about bog ecosystems
- Observe wildlife and experience authentic rural landscapes
- Enjoy silence, dark skies, and connection with nature

The camp environment encourages outdoor living and physical activity. On-site there are possibilities for sports and active leisure, including volleyball, basketball, and football. Informal evening games and outdoor activities are often a natural part of community life in the camp.

Volunteers are also encouraged to actively plan their free time. Small group excursions can be organised to Bauska or Riga, where participants can explore cultural and historical sites, museums, cafés, and urban life.

During the camp, there will be opportunities to organise intercultural evenings, share traditions, food, music, and stories from your home countries.

For more information about the region:
<https://www.tourism.bauska.lv/en/>

More about Latvia:
<https://www.latvia.travel/en/>

Meeting Point and Time:

International arrival terminals are Riga International Airport or Riga International Bus Station.

The final meeting point will be at Gaisma bus stop. Please inform us about your arrival time at least one day before the camp starts.

We strongly encourage participants to see travelling to the camp not only as a transfer, but also as a valuable learning experience. Planning your journey, navigating public transport, communicating in an international environment, managing time and budget – these are all important life skills and competences. Travel itself is part of the non-formal learning process.

To support smooth communication, we will create a WhatsApp group for practical questions. This will also be a great opportunity to connect with other participants in advance and possibly organise parts of your journey together.

We invite you to use this opportunity to learn, explore and grow already on your way to the camp.

Participation Fee & Confirmation Policy

To cover general organisational costs of the workcamp (food, materials, local transport, coordination, and educational activities), participants are asked to contribute a participation fee.

Payment Conditions

The participation fee must be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.

Payment options:

- Bank transfer to Youth for Smile bank account (available for EU member states).
- Online payment system allowing payments via VISA, Mastercard, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Revolut, Wise, and N26.

If you are not able to make a bank transfer, please contact your sending organisation to find a suitable solution.

Confirmation Procedure

To ensure responsible participation and preparation:

Within 30 days after receiving the official acceptance confirmation, the participant must confirm their participation by sending travel information to Youth for Smile.

The participation fee must also be paid no later than 30 days after confirmation.

Failure to confirm participation or complete the payment within this period may result in cancellation of the placement.

Cancellation Policy

If a participant cancels their participation:
At least 45 days before the project starts, or
Within 14 days after receiving the acceptance confirmation,

→ 100% of the participation fee will be refunded.

If cancellation happens at least 14 days before the project start,

→ 50% of the participation fee will be refunded.

Cancellations made less than 14 days before the project start are non-refundable.

This policy helps ensure responsible commitment from participants and allows the organising team to plan the camp sustainably and fairly for all involved.

YS-2026-03	Lauderi I	Lauderi	ENVI/MANU/RENO
06.07. - 19.07.	Vol. 8	Age: 14-17	300,00 EUR

YS-2026-05	Lauderi II	Lauderi	ENVI/MANU/RENO
20.07. - 02.08.	Vol. 8	Age: 16+	50,00 EUR

YS-2026-08	Lauderi III	Lauderi	ENVI/MANU/RENO
03.08. - 16.08.	Vol. 8	Age: 14-17	300,00 EUR

YS-2026-11-ESC	Lauderi IV	Lauderi	ENVI/MANU/RENO
17.08. - 01.09.	Vol. 8	Age: 18-30	FREE

Description of work:

“Youth for Smile”, in partnership with a local NGO, is revitalising the former orphanage building in Lauderi village and transforming it into a centre for non-formal education and community activities.

Volunteers play a key role in this transformation. Through practical work and shared initiative, you will help prepare the territory and the building for its new purpose.

Your Tasks and Activities

Outdoor Area Maintenance (approx. 4 hectares)

The area surrounding the former orphanage is about 4 hectares large. Volunteers will help:

- Mow the grass
- Clear bushes and overgrown areas
- Clean and organise the territory

This work is essential to make the area safe, accessible, and ready for future community use.

Building Preparation

Inside the building, volunteers will assist with:

- Dismantling damaged interior finishing (such as wall panels or other worn elements)
- Clearing debris
- Preparing rooms for future renovation works

This is preparatory work — the goal is to create clean and ready spaces for the next phase of reconstruction.

Community Engagement

The local community is currently not very active, and hosting international volunteers is also a new experience for them. One of our aims is to gently encourage the start of dialogue and cooperation.

Together with volunteers, we will take the first steps toward building communication with local residents — through small meetings, informal conversations, and shared moments. This is an important social aspect of the project, alongside the physical renovation work.

This workcamp is not only about practical tasks, but also about creating connections — with the place, with its history, and with the people who live there.

Description of accommodation and food:

Accommodation

Volunteers will stay in a rural house close to the project site. Beds will be provided, but living conditions are simple and basic. The accommodation reflects the rural environment and offers an authentic experience close to nature.

Please be prepared for modest comfort and a shared living space. This is part of the experience of simple and environmentally conscious living.

As the project promotes sustainability, volunteers are strongly encouraged to use environmentally friendly personal hygiene products (biodegradable soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.). Through daily practice, we aim to integrate eco-friendly habits into everyday life.

Food and Cooking

Meals will be prepared by the volunteers themselves in a shared kitchen. Cooking will be organised in small teams, encouraging cooperation, responsibility, and teamwork.

This is also an opportunity to exchange recipes, learn about different food cultures, and enjoy time together beyond the working hours.

During the camp, we will organise an **International Evening**. Volunteers are kindly asked to bring some traditional or typical food (or small items/ingredients) from their home country to share with the group.

Living conditions are basic, but the experience offers closeness to nature, community spirit, and shared responsibility — all essential elements of this workcamp.

Description of location and leisure:

The project takes place in Lauveri village, located in Ludza municipality in Eastern Latvia. The area is rural, peaceful, and surrounded by forests and natural landscapes. It is a good place to experience quiet countryside life and nature.

During free time, volunteers can explore the surrounding area, go for walks, and enjoy the calm environment. There are also opportunities to visit nearby towns and historical places in the region.

Life in a small village allows volunteers to meet local residents and learn about their daily life and traditions.

Volunteers will plan their free-time activities together as a group. This can include small excursions, cultural visits, outdoor activities, or simply relaxing in nature.

More information about Latvia can be found on the official tourism website: <https://www.latvia.travel/en> (<https://www.latvia.travel/en>)

This location offers a simple and authentic rural experience, with time for both exploration and community life.

Meeting Point and Time:

International arrival terminals are Riga International Airport or Riga International Bus Station.

The final meeting point for the camp will be at Zilupe train station.

Please inform us about your arrival time at least one day before the camp starts. This helps us organise your pick-up and ensure a smooth arrival.

A WhatsApp group will be created before the camp for practical communication and coordination. Through this group, participants can also stay informed and connect with each other before arrival.

Participation Fee & Confirmation Policy

To cover general organisational costs of the workcamp (food, materials, local transport, coordination, and educational activities), participants are asked to contribute a participation fee.

Payment Conditions

The participation fee must be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.

Payment options:

- Bank transfer to Youth for Smile bank account (available for EU member states).
- Online payment system allowing payments via VISA, Mastercard, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Revolut, Wise, and N26.

If you are not able to make a bank transfer, please contact your sending organisation to find a suitable solution.

Confirmation Procedure

To ensure responsible participation and preparation:

Within 30 days after receiving the official acceptance confirmation, the participant must confirm their participation by sending travel information to Youth for Smile.

The participation fee must also be paid no later than 30 days after confirmation.

Failure to confirm participation or complete the payment within this period may result in cancellation of the placement.

Cancellation Policy

If a participant cancels their participation:

At least 45 days before the project starts, or

Within 14 days after receiving the acceptance confirmation,

→ 100% of the participation fee will be refunded.

If cancellation happens at least 14 days before the project start,

→ 50% of the participation fee will be refunded.

Cancellations made less than 14 days before the project start are non-refundable.

This policy helps ensure responsible commitment from participants and allows the organising team to plan the camp sustainably and fairly for all involved.

YS-2026-07	YOUTH4SMILE I	Bärbele	CULT/SOCI/CHIL
27.07. - 09.08.	Vol. 10	Age: 16+	50,00 EUR

YS-2026-12-ESC	YOUTH4SMILE III	Bārbele	CULT/SOCI/CHIL
24.08. - 08.09.	Vol. 14	Age: 18-30	FREE

Description of work:

“Youth for Smile” implements mobile youth work with children and young people in rural areas. During this camp, volunteers will play an important role in supporting these activities.

The activities will take place in small and remote villages such as Bārbele, Stelpe, and Dāviņi, where access to youth opportunities is limited due to low population density and distance from larger towns.

Main Activities

Volunteers will help organise and support:

- Creative workshops for children and young people
- Outdoor and team-building activities
- Orientation games and sports tourism activities
- High ropes and adventure-based learning elements
- Non-formal education sessions

The target group includes children and young people aged 7 to 25.

Before the activities begin, volunteers will receive preparation and guidance to understand the methods used in mobile youth work and non-formal education. You will work together with experienced youth workers and learn by doing.

This workcamp is about bringing opportunities to young people in rural areas, supporting their development, and creating meaningful and active experiences in communities where such activities are not regularly available.

Description of accommodation and food:

Living conditions during the project will be very basic and close to nature. Volunteers will stay at a rural farm and experience simple, environmentally friendly living.

Accommodation will be in tents provided by the organisers, with mattresses included. Volunteers should bring their own sleeping bags. Tents will be shared by two participants.

In case of extreme weather conditions or other emergency situations, accommodation may be moved to adapted farm buildings (such as a barn, granary, or another agricultural building). In such extraordinary situations, it may not be possible to separate sleeping arrangements by gender.

Sanitary conditions are simple and ecological:

- An outdoor solar shower will be available.
- A dry toilet (compost toilet) will be used.
- Washing facilities will be basic.

As the farm uses a biological sewage system, all volunteers are required to use environmentally friendly personal hygiene products (biodegradable soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.). This is an important part of the project's sustainability approach, and through daily practice we will actively integrate eco-friendly habits into our everyday lives.

Meals will be prepared by the volunteers themselves in the outdoor kitchen, including cooking on an open fire when appropriate. This will be organised in teams, encouraging cooperation and shared responsibility.

Volunteers are kindly asked to bring some traditional or typical food from their home country for the International Evening.

Description of location and leisure:

The workcamp takes place in Bārbele village, Bauska municipality, in a peaceful rural environment surrounded by forests, meadows, and wetlands. The farm is located approximately 6 km from the village centre, offering a quiet and nature-based living experience. The nearest bus stop is 3 km away.

The administrative centre of the region is Bauska, situated about 60 km from Riga, the capital city of Latvia.

The location provides wide opportunities to explore Latvian nature. Volunteers will have the chance to:

Go for forest walks and discover local biodiversity
 Explore nearby wetlands and learn about bog ecosystems
 Observe wildlife and experience authentic rural landscapes
 Enjoy silence, dark skies, and connection with nature

The camp environment encourages outdoor living and physical activity. On-site there are possibilities for sports and active leisure, including volleyball, basketball, and football. Informal evening games and outdoor activities are often a natural part of community life in the camp.

Volunteers are also encouraged to actively plan their free time. Small group excursions can be organised to Bauska or Riga, where participants can explore cultural and historical sites, museums, cafés, and urban life.

During the camp, there will be opportunities to organise intercultural evenings, share traditions, food, music, and stories from your home countries.

For more information about the region:

<https://www.tourism.bauska.lv/en/>

More about Latvia:

<https://www.latvia.travel/en/>

Meeting Point and Time:

International arrival terminals are Riga International Airport or Riga International Bus Station.

The final meeting point will be at Gaisma bus stop. Please inform us about your arrival time at least one day before the camp starts.

We strongly encourage participants to see travelling to the camp not only as a transfer, but also as a valuable learning experience. Planning your journey, navigating public transport, communicating in an international environment, managing time and budget – these are all important life skills and competences. Travel itself is part of the non-formal learning process.

To support smooth communication, we will create a WhatsApp group for practical questions. This will also be a great opportunity to connect with other participants in advance and possibly organise parts of your journey together.

We invite you to use this opportunity to learn, explore and grow already on your way to the camp.

Participation Fee & Confirmation Policy

To cover general organisational costs of the workcamp (food, materials, local transport, coordination, and educational activities), participants are asked to contribute a participation fee.

Payment Conditions

The participation fee must be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.

Payment options:

- Bank transfer to Youth for Smile bank account (available for EU member states).
- Online payment system allowing payments via VISA, Mastercard, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Revolut, Wise, and N26.

If you are not able to make a bank transfer, please contact your sending organisation to find a suitable solution.

Confirmation Procedure

To ensure responsible participation and preparation:

Within 30 days after receiving the official acceptance confirmation, the participant must confirm their participation by sending travel information to Youth for Smile.

The participation fee must also be paid no later than 30 days after confirmation.

Failure to confirm participation or complete the payment within this period may result in cancellation of the placement.

Cancellation Policy

If a participant cancels their participation:

At least 45 days before the project starts, or

Within 14 days after receiving the acceptance confirmation,

→ 100% of the participation fee will be refunded.

If cancellation happens at least 14 days before the project start,

→ 50% of the participation fee will be refunded.

Cancellations made less than 14 days before the project start are non-refundable.

This policy helps ensure responsible commitment from participants and allows the organising team to plan the camp sustainably and fairly for all involved.

YS-2026-06	Svitene palace I	Bārbele	CULT/RENO/MANU
20.07. - 29.07.	Vol. 15	Age: 17+	300,00 EUR

YS-2026-09	Svitene palace II	Bārbele	CULT/RENO/MANU
08.08. - 17.08.	Vol. 15	Age: 17+	300,00 EUR

Description of work:

The project focuses on historical preservation and gardening at two important Latvian heritage sites. The project is organised by the youth organisation “Mums pieder pasaule”.

Svitene Palace – Cellar Excavation

Volunteers will work in the cellar of Svitene Palace, a historic building originally constructed in the 16th century. The main tasks include:

- Digging with shovels
- Carrying soil in buckets
- Transporting earth to a nearby compost area

This is physical outdoor work. As the palace has a long history, there is a possibility of discovering historical remains during the excavation process.

Rundāle Palace – Garden Work Bee (One Day)

Volunteers will also participate in a one-day community work bee in the formal gardens of Rundāle Palace. Tasks may include basic gardening and maintenance work to help preserve the beauty of this important cultural site.

Important to Know

The work is mainly outdoors and depends on weather conditions. The schedule or tasks may change if necessary.

No previous experience is required. However, volunteers should be in good physical health and ready for manual work. Motivation, flexibility, and a positive attitude toward outdoor activities are essential.

Why This Project Matters

This project contributes to the preservation of Latvian cultural heritage. Work in Svitene Palace supports the preparation of the site for future research, restoration, and possible community use.

Participation in the Rundāle Palace garden work bee highlights the importance of collective effort in maintaining public heritage spaces.

Through practical, hands-on experience, volunteers learn about heritage preservation, teamwork, and community-based volunteering while contributing to meaningful local initiatives.

Description of accommodation and food:

Volunteers will stay at the Svitene Youth Center, located near Svitene Palace Park. The Youth Center is situated on the second floor of the Svitene Community Center building.

Accommodation is simple but comfortable. Volunteers will sleep in shared rooms, with up to 6 people in one room. There is one large common space where the group can spend time together. Showers are available on the same floor, and the kitchen is located on the ground floor.

Please bring your own towel and sleeping bag.

As everyone will share the space, participants are expected to behave respectfully and considerately toward others.

Wireless internet is available in the Community Center.

Food will be provided three times a day. Volunteers will receive ingredients and will be responsible for cooking and cleaning.

Breakfast: prepared individually

Lunch and dinner: prepared in daily cooking teams

Each day, a small team of volunteers will cook lunch and dinner for the whole group. This encourages teamwork and shared responsibility.

Please note that the organisation "Mums pieder pasaule" provides vegetarian food only.

An intercultural evening will also be organised. Volunteers are encouraged to bring traditional food, recipes, or drinks from their home country to share with the group.

Living conditions are basic, but the experience offers community spirit, shared responsibility, and a chance to live close to a historical and natural environment.

Description of location and leisure:

Svitene is a small rural village located about 20 km from the municipal centre of Bauska and 89 km from Latvia's capital city, Riga. The area offers a peaceful atmosphere, surrounded by nature, historical buildings, and countryside landscapes.

During the camp, volunteers will have the opportunity to explore the local environment. One day will be dedicated to a hike to a nearby nature park, including a visit to an observation tower and the Lielupe River.

Evenings will include intercultural activities. Volunteers from different countries will take turns presenting their country and culture in an informal and creative way. This can be done through a presentation, games, music, theatre, or any other format you prefer.

Participants are encouraged to bring traditional food, photos, music, small objects, or anything interesting that represents their country. These evenings are a great opportunity to learn from each other and share cultural experiences in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

The location offers a mix of nature, history, and intercultural exchange, creating a meaningful and enjoyable experience for all participants.

Meeting Point and Time:

International arrival terminals are Riga International Airport or Riga International Bus Station.

The final meeting point will be at Bauska bus station. Please inform us about your arrival time at least one day before the camp starts.

We strongly encourage participants to see travelling to the camp not only as a transfer, but also as a valuable learning experience. Planning your journey, navigating public transport, communicating in an international environment, managing time and budget – these are all important life skills and competences. Travel itself is part of the non-formal learning process.

To support smooth communication, we will create a WhatsApp group for practical questions. This will also be a great opportunity to connect with other participants in advance and possibly organise parts of your journey together.

We invite you to use this opportunity to learn, explore and grow already on your way to the camp.

Participation Fee & Confirmation Policy

To cover general organisational costs of the workcamp (food, materials, local transport, coordination, and educational activities), participants are asked to contribute a participation fee.

Payment Conditions

The participation fee must be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.

Payment options:

- Bank transfer to Youth for Smile bank account (available for EU member states).
- Online payment system allowing payments via VISA, Mastercard, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Revolut, Wise, and N26.

If you are not able to make a bank transfer, please contact your sending organisation to find a suitable solution.

Confirmation Procedure

To ensure responsible participation and preparation:

Within 30 days after receiving the official acceptance confirmation, the participant must confirm their participation by sending travel information to Youth for Smile.

The participation fee must also be paid no later than 30 days after confirmation.

Failure to confirm participation or complete the payment within this period may result in cancellation of the placement.

Cancellation Policy

If a participant cancels their participation:

At least 45 days before the project starts, or

Within 14 days after receiving the acceptance confirmation,

→ 100% of the participation fee will be refunded.

If cancellation happens at least 14 days before the project start,

→ 50% of the participation fee will be refunded.

Cancellations made less than 14 days before the project start are non-refundable.

This policy helps ensure responsible commitment from participants and allows the organising team to plan the camp sustainably and fairly for all involved.