



2023

Workcamps

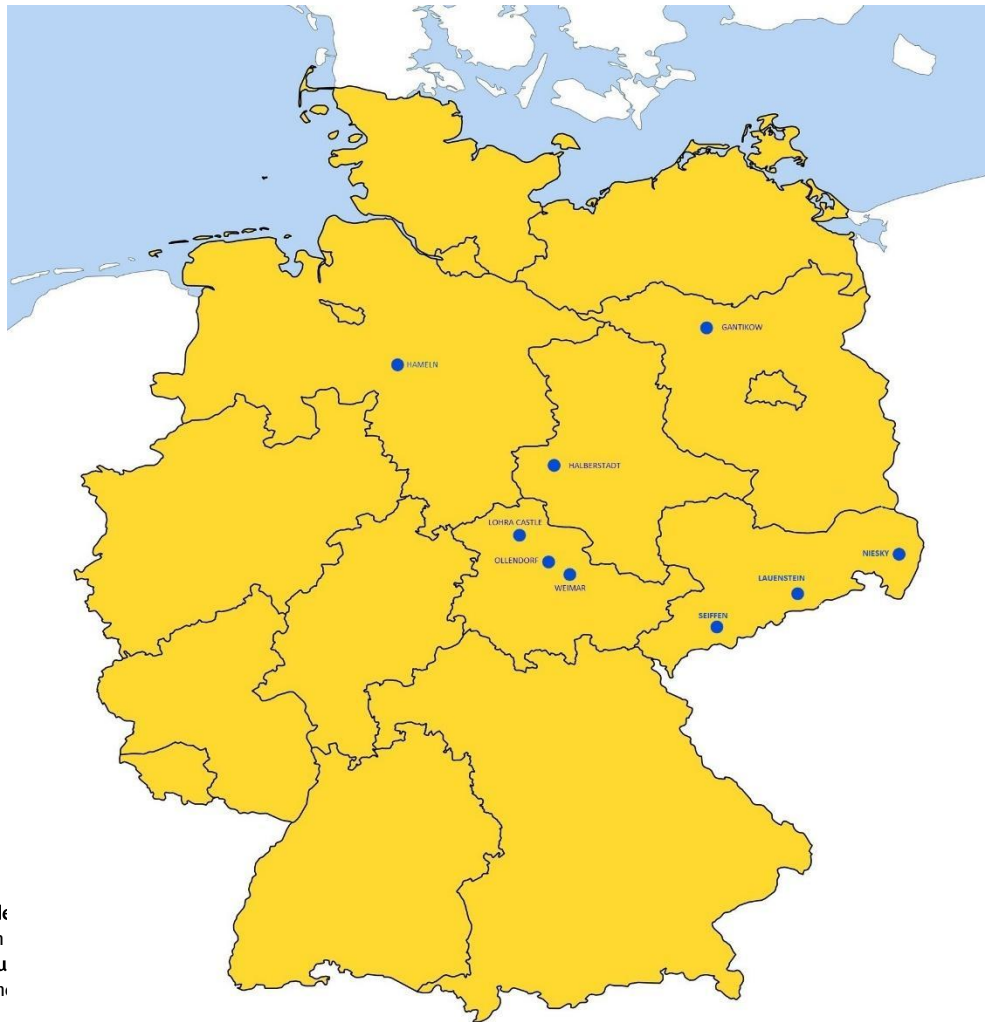
Building Weeks

Heritage Volunteers Projects

Mid Term Volunteering



Open Houses & European Heritage Volunteers Projects in Germany 2023



He
In
cu
th

Sc

people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2006 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage sites have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are also organized specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers for **four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

rganises **Heritage Vol**
on works and provid
capes or on other

2. The initiative was l

Open Houses

www.openhouses.de

f a
on

ng
00

ers

nd

Open Houses – rooms open for those who come along.

Open Houses – not empty buildings, but places with visible and invisible traces of history, places which have grown and decayed over the centuries, places which were shaped by those people who lived there long ago as well those who left only yesterday – places which will be shaped by those who live there or who come as a guest.

Open Houses – rooms which want to be filled with dreams and ideas, with meetings and exchange, by people of different backgrounds, different cultures, different generations and different ideas and visions.



The Idea of Open Houses Network

The history of Open Houses Network dates back to the mid-1980s, when a group of young people started to restore village churches in East Germany in voluntary work to protect them from decay. The engagement for these buildings united people who enjoyed the freedom these activities provided and who filled these rooms with life again in ways which by far exceed the craftsmen's work done – through exhibitions, concerts, making music together or just sitting by the camp fire.

Meanwhile, rooms free of political and ideological pressure are no longer urgently required; however, places have become rare where people can meet without commercial pressure, free of bureaucracy and institutionalism, free of nepotism and the exclusion which it produces. What should be easy – to go somewhere in order to meet people and to work together – has become difficult. The tightrope walk between, on the one hand, public activities in a monetary and

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

functional sense, and the retreat into private life on the other, is very difficult, and it requires a lot of power and permanent efforts to tackle red tape and financial restrictions.

Free spaces are less and less understood as common property, and are permanently being cut back. The idea of public property seems to have gone out of fashion, and places of common responsible work have become rare.

Open Houses Network tries to create and protect such spaces. In this process, we do not want to be the doers, but be people who have a vision, who want to initiate something, but who also are aware of depending on the co-operation of others. We understand our projects and events as offers – as offers to create space for commitment, for changes, for meetings.

1

The different types of Open Houses' projects

Workcamps

For the last 30 years Open Houses has organised international Workcamps at **historical monuments and buildings**. The projects are mostly situated in the **countryside** and the places are **surrounded by beautiful nature**. The Workcamps offer the opportunity to **live together with people from different countries in basic conditions**. The volunteers will take care of the surrounding area and will carry out small renovation works.

Often, the mix of different cultures and the willingness to carry out volunteer work inspires the inhabitants of the region to a new way of working and brings a new view on their own historical buildings, in particular in rural regions where the historic buildings rarely receive public attention.

The volunteers work **six hours per day five days a week**. The afternoons and evenings can be used for nearby cultural attractions, games, group activities, campfires and other similar things. On the weekends the volunteers have the opportunity to visit nearby places.

Building Weeks

In addition to the Workcamps Open Houses offers something quite different: **Building Weeks**. These special projects are tightly linked with the aims and idea of Open Houses: **to restore and protect public places with common responsible work**.

It is important for Open Houses to allow the buildings to preserve their particular spirit, history and atmosphere. Within the framework of the Building Weeks both, **skilled manual workers** and those with no manual training but a certain interest in the topic, are working together to **restore historical monuments** and carrying out other construction works. Participants of the Building Weeks have a bigger opportunity of gaining **real experience in handcraft, restoration** and other manual tasks and to **expand their knowledge**.

To make the work in the Building Weeks as productive as possible, it would be welcome if the volunteers would already have **some technical skills** or **experience in working on a construction site**. Although such previous experience would be an advantage thus enabling the volunteers to **share their skills and experiences** it is not a mandatory condition for the participation at Building Weeks.

Each Building Weeks project lasts for **at least two weeks** and the groups are small. In Building Weeks the emphasis lays on the **manual work** and the daily working time is **six hours**. On the weekends the volunteers have the opportunity to visit nearby places.

2

The different types of Open Houses' projects

Houses and the atmosphere of volunteer work.

3

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

Terms of Organisation

CHARGES

For Workcamps and Building Weeks Open Houses' **does not charge fees** from participants sent by Alliance Members or Partner Organisations.

For Heritage Volunteers Projects Open Houses charges from all participants 100 € per Project and 150 € per Training Course.

Fees, which sending organisations are charging from the volunteers while sending them to Open Houses' projects are not transferred to Open Houses.

AGE

In general participants have to be **at least 18 years old**. For Mid Term Volunteering projects, the age minimum is **20 years**.

The maximum age differs from project to project between 30 and 70 years.

PARTICIPATION TERMS

Participants have to take part for the **whole time of the project**. The **working part consists in six hours per day**. Be informed, that during all projects the work will take place also on rainy and cold days and be prepared for that.

INSURANCE

In cases of **accident and liability** all participants from foreign countries are insured by Open Houses. Nevertheless, **individual travel insurance** is recommended. Participants from outside European Union are insured in cases of illness, too. Participants from the European Union should bring their European Health Insurance Card.

4

FINANCES

All costs linked to the project are covered, including food, accommodation, insurance and transportation during the stay at the project. **Travel costs to and from the camp place are not covered**. Participants should organise their journey to and from the project place by themselves and on their own expenses. Furthermore, participants should bring their **own pocket money**.

ACCOMMODATION

In most of Open Houses' camps the volunteers will live at the same places they also work on, what means that they **live more or less on a building site**. In most of the Heritage Volunteers Projects the accommodation is located in a certain distance to the working site. The accommodation is usually very simple; there are shared rooms with simple beds or mattresses at most of the places. Shower, toilet and kitchen are at the place, but sometimes not in the same building. The equipment is simple but fair. After work, when everybody wants to take a shower, there can be a limit of hot water.

FOOD

The meals will be prepared together as they are part of the community life, what means that **every participant will be responsible for the meal at least once during its stay**. So it would be very nice if the participants could bring typical recipes from home in order to introduce each other to the preparation of food from all over the world.

LANGUAGE

In general, the language spoken in the camps is **English**. But in all camps, there is also the possibility to practice **German** with other volunteers, camp leaders and the local people.

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

Workcamps

Lohra Castle



RENO/ENVI	05.06. – 17.06.2023	OH-W01
CONS/ENVI	18.06. – 01.07.2023	OH-W02
CONS/ENVI	02.07. – 15.07.2023	OH-W03
CONS/ENVI	16.07. – 29.07.2023	OH-W04
ENVI/RENO	30.07. – 12.08.2023	OH-W05
ENVI/RENO	13.08. – 26.08.2023	OH-W06
ENVI/RENO	27.08. – 08.09.2023	OH-W07
ENVI/RENO	03.09. – 16.09.2023	OH-W08
ENVI/RENO	17.09 – 30.09.2023	OH-W09
ENVI/RENO	03.10 – 14.10.2023	OH-W10

Lohra Castle is situated in the heart of Germany in Northern Thuringia. The castle, which is surrounded by a scenic hilly landscape, is located on the edge of a natural reserve area. Being one of the largest castles in Thuringia, the history of castle Lohra begins in the Middle Ages. Its architectural styles which have been preserved in the structures of the ensemble attest to a prolonged period of occupation and historical evolution up until today.

The castle is more than thousand years old, and it is a relic of German medieval past that is still standing at the heart of a region through which the story of the German nation has been written. Today, it includes twenty buildings from different time periods, showcasing this historical evolution to the enchantment of visitors and heritage enthusiasts: medieval fortifications, remnants of a tower from the 11th century, a Romanesque double-floored chapel, a manor house from the Renaissance period as well as stables and granaries from the 19th and the early 20th centuries.

The ensemble is situated in the centre of a beautiful forest. For years Lohra Castle was vacant. In the 1990s a civil society association which became today's Open Houses, began to rescue the castle and to revitalise it through cultural activities.

The process of rehabilitation of cultural heritage not only brought new life and use to an otherwise forgotten monument, but it also provided with a new space where young people could reconnect with tangible heritage while valorising the relevance of preserving a historical monument. Since then, a large number of international workcamps, heritage volunteering projects, heritage training courses, seminars, exhibitions, concerts and other activities with international participants have been taking place every year in the castle.

6

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

Project Description

The projects of Open Houses are based on sustainable principles. Therefore, the activities at Lohra Castle combine aspects of cultural heritage preservation and aspects of natural heritage preservation. The participants of the Workcamps carry out works **in the green areas and the forests** around the castle, **restoration work** and **collaboration in renovation works**.

The castle is surrounded by a vast green area and the volunteers will **help in the maintenance of it**. Near the youth accommodation houses that are part of the Lohra Castle complex there is a camping site which can be used by youth groups, for this reason the area should be made accessible from overgrown grass. The tasks will be **mowing and collecting the grass**. Additionally, the participants of the project will support the work on renovations on the Castle grounds.

ACCOMMODATION:

shared rooms with 2 – 5 beds in 3 guest houses, warm shower (limited hot water), 1 camp kitchen (cold water), coal-burning stoves

LOCATION:

Next towns: **Bleicherode** (6 km), **Nordhausen** (20 km), **Erfurt** (75 km) Region: **Thuringia**

TERMINAL:

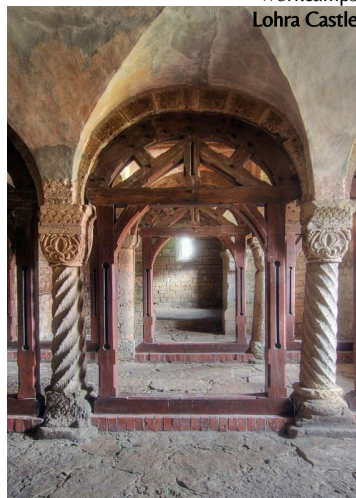
Next bus station: **Großlohra, Friedrichslohra/Wartehalle**

Next railway stations: **Gebra/Hainleite** (5 km),

Wolkramshausen (12 km). Next airports: **Leipzig/Halle** (LEJ), **155 km**, **Frankfurt/Main**

(FRA, 280 km), **Berlin** (BER, 300 km)

AGE: at least 18



Workcamps
Lohra Castle

The hilly massive around Lohra Castle is listed as National Nature Reserve. Open Houses supports the Reserve since several years with volunteering activities. In a forest near the Castle the participants will **remove trees and bushes** which are not corresponding with the protection aims in order to clean the paths and make them enjoyable again. They will also collect the wood remaining after maintenance works, **load it on a truck**, unload it at the castle and **split and**

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading**, **Technical Camp Leading** and **Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

stack it for wintertime or for the fireplace. Besides that, the volunteers will **continue the maintenance of the green area** at the castle.

In addition, in the later part of the summer, they will support the **recollection, assortment, splitting and storage of wood** to prepare the castle for the harsh winter months.

7



CONS/ENVI **14.08. - 25.08.2023** OH-W12

ACCOMMODATION:

shared rooms with beds, warm shower, toilets

LOCATION:

Next towns: **Kyritz** (5 km), **Neuruppin** (40 km)

Region: **Brandenburg**

TERMINAL:

Next railway station: **Kyritz** (5 km)

Next airports: **Berlin** (BER, 100 km),

Rostock (HRO, 150 km)

AGE: at least 18

Gantikow Manor is situated 100 kilometres north of Berlin. The house is surrounded by a nice village with a medieval church and a lake. The manor is a picturing example of a former baroque building, changed in the late 19th century in neo-baroque style.

Over centuries, the houses belonged to the Earls von Platen, which sold it in 1872 to a civil family which started soon, in 1877, with the modernisation of the house and kept it in their ownership till 1945. After World War II, the house was first used as a refugee shelter and after that the community used the house as a village centre, hosting the community office, the local store, the school, the kindergarten, the doctor's room, the kitchen of the agricultural cooperative and several apartments. With its many rooms the large building is perfect to be used as a Youth Accommodation House. The house is surrounded by a beautiful park with old trees which reached originally up to the lake.

Project Description

The Manor is located at a scenic place a few meters away from an idyllic lake in northern Brandenburg. This quiet location is home to a small and peaceful community which every year welcomes the arrival of our volunteering groups.

The volunteers will be enjoying their leisure time between the lake and the green areas surrounding the manor; however, they will also **take care of the gardens** by cutting grass, cleaning and trimming bushes, and minor works of renovation works in the social areas and smaller works. One of the tasks will involve **assisting works** on the construction of a new pipe line of the house, concerning mostly digging.

Workcamps
Ollendorf Water Castle



ENVI/RENO 30.07. - 12.08.2023 OH-W11

ACCOMMODATION:

simple conditions, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets

LOCATION:

Next towns: **Erfurt** (12 km), **Weimar** (12 km) Region: **Thuringia**

TERMINAL:

Next bus station: **Ollendorf**.
Next railway station: **Erfurt** (12 km).
Next airports: **Halle/Leipzig** (LEJ, 120 km), **Berlin** (BER, 275 km)
AGE: at least 18

Ollendorf is situated between Erfurt, capital of Thuringia, and Weimar. The small village is surrounded by a beautiful countryside. Ollendorf Water Castle was probably built in the 13th century as a protective fort at the “via regia”. The “via regia” was the most important medieval trading route which ran from Flanders via Frankfurt and Leipzig to Russia. In 1692 the castle had been destroyed by a fire and only the foundations could remain. The current manor house was built in 1694 in a simple rural baroque style, replacing the former castle. Following the decline of the “via regia” in the 19th century, the site was later used for agricultural purposes, and store houses and barns were built. During the last decades, due to long vacancy, the manor fell into disrepair. Since several years Open Houses is active at the Water Castle and could save it from falling apart. Many works have been done since then, both focusing on the restoration of the historical complex and the renaturation of the castle’s surroundings. Due to the young people from different countries, who have lived there and have taken part in its restoration during the last years, the castle changed into a place of creativity and open-mindedness. Ollendorf is a good place to start excursions to important historical and cultural places like Weimar and Erfurt which are not far from the village.

Project Description

The participants of this Workcamp will help in the conservation of the castle. Thus, the volunteers will do some works from **carrying out small repairs where needed**. Another task will be to help in the **restoration of the stone walls** which

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handcrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

are surrounding the ensemble. Additionally, the participants will clear up different parts of the ensemble and **take care of the green area** around by cutting grass and **cleaning the ditch**, which was previously part of the defensive system around the former water fortress.

Heritage Projects
Sustainable Practices for Heritage Conservation in Times of Climate Change



CONS/ENVI 30.05. - 05.06.2023 OH-F02
UNESCO World Heritage Site Classical Weimar

Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.

Location: Weimar

Region: Thuringia

Next railway / bus station: Weimar (1.4 km)

Next airports: : Leipzig (LEJ, 80 km);
Berlin (BER, 216 km)

AGE: at least 20

CV, Motivation Letter and interview required

Every year, Germany celebrates on first Sunday of June its UNESCO World Heritage Day. In 2023 the city of **Weimar**, which comprises two UNESCO World Heritage sites, will host these celebrations. Representatives of all World Heritage sites in Germany will gather there under the motto “Our world. Our heritage. Our Responsibility” to explore together questions about climate change and sustainability, and to exchange about what is hidden behind the abstract concept of ecological, social and economic sustainability. Open Houses has been invited to contribute to this remarkable event.

In addition, Open Houses jointly with the Classical Weimar Foundation organises in the days preceding the event a European Heritage Training Course on the topic of sustainable practices of heritage conservation in times of climate change which will include presentations, seminars, practical hands-on activities as well as an excursion and will culminate in taking part in the celebrations of the UNESCO World Heritage Day. The Training Course will familiarise the participants with challenges caused by climate change for historic parks and gardens, practical-oriented solutions, and sustainable practices in heritage conservation both concerning built heritage as well as cultural landscapes and park and garden heritage.

The importance of preserving the knowledge on traditional techniques of construction will be underlined by a hands-on workshop during which the participants will learn the basics of the traditional technique of construction of dry stone walls, an important example of methods in which heritage can be used as a tool to create a more sustainable

relationship between human civilisation and its living spaces. The work will be guided by a stone mason specialised on dry stone walls and traditional masonry techniques.

10

Heritage Projects Conservation & Valorisation of Industrial Heritage



CONS/RENO **15.07. - 29.07.2023** OH-H01
UNESCO World Heritage Site Erzgebirge / Krušnohoří Mining Region – Open Air Museum Seiffen
Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.
Location: Seiffen
Region: Saxony
Next railway: Olbernhau (9.3 km)
bus station: Seiffen / Erzgeb. Mitte (2.4 km)
Next airports: : Leipzig (LEJ, 140 km); Berlin (BER, 216 km)
AGE: at least 20
CV, Motivation Letter and interview required

The Training Course will take place at the Ore Mountains Open-Air Museum of Seiffen, where the participants will be working doing conservation work on the roof of the FlöBerwohnhaus, the “Rafters House”, which is an original building dating to the 18th century and forms part of the building ensemble of the open-air museum. The training course will coincide this year with the 50th anniversary celebration of the opening of the museum. The FlöBerwohnhaus is one of the buildings which historically played a role in housing activities related to wood craftsmanship for one of the region’s communities. During spring and autumn, lumberjacks, foresters, charcoal burners and other villagers involved in the wood collection would work the forests and transport the wood through the rivers into the processing facilities where it would be used either in the mining industry, construction or for craftsmanship work. The FlöBerwohnhaus at the museum once housed a rafter who engaged in this activity in the valley of the Freiburger Mulde. The building also contains tools used to create traditional wooden shingles used to cover the roofs of the buildings in the Ore Mountains. The tasks of the participants will involve carrying out the re-roofing of the FlöBerwohnhaus. Plastering and paint work will also be carried out on the exterior of this historic building, as well as working on the window frames and all the preparatory activities needed to carry out the conservation work. In addition, there will be other supporting activities that the participants will carry out to support the open-air museum, where the participants will be able to experience the day-to-day necessary work that requires the upkeep of a large ensemble of historical buildings. The works will be

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

carried out in a rotatory way, which will allow all of them to be able to partake on all the different practical works. The professional guidance for the practical activities will be carried out by the museum’s own restoration manager. The educational programme will be complemented by lectures, guided visits and excursions to historical landmarks of mining heritage of the region will allow contextualising for the participants the works at open-air museum and provide them with an overview of the interactions between the mining history and the local traditions of the communities living in the Ore Mountains.

11

Heritage Projects Restoration of Gravestones



CONS/RENO **30.05. - 05.06.2023** OH-H02
Garnisonfriedhof Hameln

Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.
Location: Hameln
Region: Lower Saxony
Next railway / bus station: Hameln (1.4 km)
Next airports: : Hamburg (HAM, 215 km); Dortmund (DTM, 160 km)
AGE: at least 20
CV, Motivation Letter and interview required

Gravestones represent an important way of preserving a tangible source of historical documental evidence for future generations, and symbolise a continuity of communities in communion with their past. The gravestones found at the garrison cemetery not only provide a visual reminder of the collective history of the community of Hameln, but are in themselves beautiful artistic expressions in stone which are representative of the craftsmanship at the time of their creation.

The participants to the Training Course will contribute to the conservation of this important historical site by taking part on several practical activities to improve the accessibility to the gravestones, securing the structures from environmentally induced degradation processes, direct intervention to the substance of the gravestones and finally documenting the process.

The participants will initially clear the pathways and surroundings of the cemetery to increase visibility and accessibility to the gravestones. As part of preventing further damage and deterioration of the stones, the participants will carefully scrape off moss, lichen and algae to finally clean the surfaces with a brush and alcohol or water. Further cleaning of the surfaces will be carried out by scalpel and micro-steamer, with compresses and other techniques usually employed for delicate surfaces. Samples will also be collected of the surfaces.

The participants will then work on performing small repairs of cracks and other defects that are compromising the stability and integrity of the gravestones, where needed performing consolidation interventions. The works should be

documented by text and photography to create a final report of the work done which may be used for future conservation works. The training course will be guided by a certified restorer with a specialisation in the restoration of surfaces and with vast experience in this kind of work.

In the frame of the educational part, guided discussions and tours as well as an excursion will be organised so that the participants can gain comprehensive and detailed knowledge about the heritage of the region. The visits will also contextualise the training course by providing an overview of the rich history of the town of Hameln and its surroundings.

12

Heritage Projects Translocation of a Wooden Building from the Modernist Epoch



The town of Niesky is considered a model town for modern timber construction representative of the Weimar Republic era in Germany (1918 – 1933). There are almost 100 prefabricated wooden houses in the city area, which blend well into the cityscape with their red tiled roofs, brown façades and light-coloured window reveals.

These timber houses are closely linked to the company history of the famous Christoph & Unmack factory, and the life and work of renowned architects such as Konrad Wachsmann and Albinmüller, are spread over a total of four factory estates. During the heyday of the factory's production, residential buildings were built here for the its employees as well as public buildings that also served as model houses.

One of Christoph & Unmack's best-selling products was the summer arbour "Kleiner Christoph", which was offered in different variations. Listed in the catalog as KC 35 " Kleiner Christoph", was offered as an ideal structure suited for "hunting, weekend escapades and leisure time". Its striking silhouette with log wall and mono-pitch roof had a lasting influence on the design of 20th century German leisure architecture.

The training course will introduce the participants to one of these "Kleiner Christoph" models located in the town of Niesky, as they support the translocation process that will move the structure to be placed in the vicinity of the famous "Konrad-Wachsmann-Haus". The work to be carried out by the participants will involve the delicate work of

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

disassembling the structure and transporting it to its new location. On site, it will be then slowly reassembled, guided by professional craftsmen who will also provide with insights into the process of construction of the wooden structure as it was in the time of its creation. In addition to this, the participants will also be provided with theoretical knowledge about the architectural movement that created these novel wooden buildings and the techniques involved in their production. Guided tours and an excursion will complement the educational programme of the training course, with visits to sites in the region linked to the historical and social processes that motored the industrial and architectural developments that took place in Niesky.

13

Heritage Projects Conservation & Restoration of Traditional Plasters & Surfaces



CONS/RENO 13.08. - 26.08.2023 OH-H04
Former Synagogue in Halberstadt

Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.

Location: Halberstadt

Region: Saxony Anhalt

Next railway / bus station: Halberstadt (2.4 km)

Next airports: : Berlin (BER, 199 km);

Hamburg (HAM, 230 km)

AGE: at least 20

CV, Motivation Letter and interview required

The training course will be focusing on the protection of the remaining ruins of the Baroque synagogue which was destroyed by the National Socialists in 1938/39, a task which had already begun with the training course that took place in the years 2021 and 2022. During that previous training courses the structures and damages of the remains of the former synagogue had been documented, and urgent interventions on the main structure have already begun, thus laying the groundwork for the interventions that will take place in 2023.

The 2023 training course will focus on conservation and restoration interventions on the remaining wall of the former entrance hall as well as at another remaining decorated wall fragment in the garden. The work will begin by doing an examination and securing the top of the wall, reviewing the current status of the interventions done by the training course in 2022. There will be a need to renew joints, and to do colour retouching of the stone additions and completing the damaged masonry joints. The heavily weathered stone surfaces will also be strengthened by adding stone supplements. The fragments of painted surfaces will be secured of any loose parts and lime slurry will be applied to fill in any damaged parts.

The participants will learn the complete process from the preparation of mortars, the manufacturing of the stone supplementary compounds and colour matching with pigments to the adjacent stone surfaces, up to mixing the glazes

for retouching the various stone surfaces.

Other works may also be done by the participants, including removing moss and vegetation that may pose a threat to the stability of the surfaces, and other exploring coloured surfaces with the purpose of documentation and future research / conservation work.

The training course will be guided by a certified restorer with a specialisation in the restoration of plaster, stucco and wall paintings.

In the frame of the educational part, various lectures and guided tours as well as an excursion will be organised so that the participants can gain comprehensive and detailed knowledge about the Jewish history and heritage in Germany and Europe. The visits will also contextualise the training course by providing an overview of the rich history and the high valuable heritage of Halberstadt in general.

14

Heritage Projects Analysis and Conservation of Wall Paintings from Renaissance And 19th Century



Lauenstein Castle is a gem of Saxon Renaissance architecture and still an important landmark or many curious visitors interested in art and culture. Situated close to the border with the Czech Republic, this heritage protected building with its eventful past reflects over 700 years of Saxon history. In connection with the medieval castle ruins, the renaissance castle has an outstanding significance for the Eastern Ore Mountains.

The training course aims to combine practical interventions to rehabilitate elements of a building complex that served as an important administrative centre which was focal to the historical development of the Ore Mountains, with awareness-raising actions that will provide an opportunity for heritage education to the participants, while promoting volunteering for heritage to the general public.

The training course will take place at the historical castle that belonged to the von Büнау Family, who made their fortunes through the wealth of mining in the region. The castle, which has a long history of significance in the mining region since at least the 13th century, today hosts the Eastern Ore Mountains Museum and is a component belonging

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

to the World Heritage property.

The participants will assist in the urgently needed interventions to protect the precious surface decorations of the walls in the castle. The tasks will involve research, fixation and conservation work on Renaissance wall paintings and research and fixation of deteriorated 19th century wall-paintings. The works will be guided by expert restorers that will provide a responsible overview while allowing the participants to learn and practice the delicate process in its entirety.

The educational programme will be completed by guided tours, lectures and an excursion where the participants will engage with members of the local community and further explore the historic progress and developments that made this landscape a world heritage site.

15

Heritage Projects Conservation of Dry Stone Walls & Reconstruction of Historic Paths



The project aims to combine practical interventions to reconstruct and maintain the historic gardens and parks with heritage education and the promotion of the idea of volunteering for heritage.

The practical works of the project will take place at the so called "kitchen garden", situated at the southern edge of Belvedere Palace Park. The kitchen garden had been arranged in the 19th century as a combined fruit, vegetable and flower garden. Time has had its hand on this garden, and some of its elements have been lost to nature's way. Nonetheless, the traces of the original designs remain. As in the previous years, the project will combine two tasks – the conservation of the dry-stone walls surrounding the garden and the reconstruction of its former path system.

The dry-stone walls as the formative element of the kitchen garden are ruinous and need to be protected against progressive decay. During the previous years the structure has been successively repaired. Within the framework of the 2018 project the first steps have been undertaken, which were advanced in 2019 and 2020; finally, in 2021 the works on

CONS/RENO 27.08. - 09.09.2023 OH-H07 UNESCO World Heritage Site Classical Weimar

Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.

Location: Weimar

Region: Thuringia

Next railway / bus station: Weimar (1.4 km)

Next airports: : Leipzig (LEJ), 80 km;

Berlin (BER), 216 km)

AGE: at least 20

CV, Motivation Letter and interview required

one of the main walls was completed. The project in 2022 and the works of 2023 will now continue at one of the lateral dry stone walls that contain the hill beside the pathway leading to the kitchen garden. Plants that damage the walls will be carefully taken away, the instable parts of the walls stone by stone deconstructed and later replaced. Since the dry-stone walls are an important habitat for wild bees and other rare insects the interventions need to be carried out extremely carefully. The works will be guided by a stone mason specialised on dry stone walls and traditional masonry techniques, who will provide additional theoretical knowledge in this field.

Another part of the group will continue to reconstruct a stone stairway connecting the kitchen garden with the other parts of Belvedere Park as well as to uncover and reconstruct the pathway which had been leading to the central area of the kitchen garden, where a small fountain used to be located according to historical records. Eventually, the pathway will be uncovered all the way until the dry-stone wall and be restored to complete the narrative of this area of the site.

The educational part of the project will inform the participants about the background of the project, while providing knowledge about historical gardens and parks, traditional gardening and other related topics. One of the thematic topics to be discussed are resilience strategies against climate change being implemented on historical gardens in Germany.

16

Heritage Projects Conservation Works at Roof Constructions and Roofs of a Historic Ensemble

CONS/RENO 27.08. - 10.09.2023 OH-H06

Castle Lohra

Accommodation: basic facilities, shared rooms with beds, warm showers and toilets.

Location: Castle Lohra

Region: Thuringia

Next railway / bus station: Gebra/Hainleite (5 km)

Next airports: : Leipzig/Halle (LEJ, 155 km), Frankfurt/Main (FRA, 280 km),

Berlin (BER, 300 km)

AGE: at least 20

CV, Motivation Letter and interview required



When dealing with roof structures and roofings the priority is how best to protect the original substance against climatic influences and to avoid damages. The exteriors of a historical structure sustain the battering of the weather with frontal bouts of wind, rain and snow. In the case of Lohra Castle, the structures are more directly hit due to its elevated location above a hill, a situation which has increased during the last years due to the influence of climate change. Its geographical situation places Lohra Castle in the line of stronger storms which have been rampaging over Germany in the recent years dropping copious amounts of water and blowing powerful gusts of wind. Understandably, even the robust structures of these medieval edifices were not built to withstand such an aggressive onslaught by nature. Facing this increasingly unstable climate hazards posed to the historical structures, solutions are being thought to adapt conservation strategies into disaster risk planning. Preserving historic legacy for future generations is an important way to consolidate heritage conservation resilience. Lohra Castle includes architectural relics from the Middle Ages onwards;

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

between the 11th and the 20th every century had left its traces which are still standing tall overlooking the Thuringian landscape. However, some of the structures need conservation interventions. The project in 2023 will be a continuation of the work started in the years 2020 and 2021, and it will concentrate on the roof constructions and roofings of the 19th century barn house. The barn house was used to house sheep, as part of the transformations that the site underwent during the time of Prussian occupation of the castle, when Lohra became an important regional agricultural centre. Today the building is used mostly for storage, but the castle administration envisions a future expansion of the social spaces where volunteers and visitors can gather, therefore it is expected to become in the future a new gathering hall for events. The participants will be involved in tasks to help safeguarding these historical structures by replacing damaged elements on the wooden roof structures and the roofings. The project will be led by a master of carpentry who has additional education as "Restorer in Handicraft". Guided tours and visits to other sites containing wooden structure ensembles of interest will be part of the educational programme that will allow the participants to have a broad overview of traditional construction techniques as found in central Germany.

17

Mid Term Volunteering

SOCI 04.06. – 12.08.2023 OH-C01

SOCI 04.06. – 12.08.2023 OH-C02

SOCI 30.07. – 10.09.2023 OH-C03

SOCI 03.09. – 14.10.2022 OH-C04

SOCI 04.06. – 14.10.2023 OH-C05

Camp Leading

Lohra Castle and possible other camp places of Open Houses' 2022 programme

The camp/ technical leader can apply for longer or less than the dates mentioned (consultation with Incoming officer).

DURATION: Between six weeks and four months,

The beginning dates are fixed because of the introduction course
ACCOMMODATION: Depending on the camp place. Please have a look at the camp place descriptions.

AGE: at least 20

LANGUAGE: very good level of English, basics of German, other languages are helpful

WHAT TO BRING: alarm bell, calculator, purse, working gloves and strong shoes, sleeping bag, waterproof clothes
Motivation letter related to the project, CV + photo and basics of German and valid driver license an asset



Organising and leading an international Workcamp is an interesting challenge for those who enjoy working together

with young people from all over the world, which are willing to take over a big responsibility and who look forward to a great summer in Germany. The camp leader's role lies in building a bridge between the participants of the Workcamp, the organisation as well as the technical leaders who guide the practical part of the camp. S/he supports the group of volunteers from a social and intercultural point of view. **Open Houses is looking for people who are highly motivated and responsible, open minded and which already have some experiences in handling with other people.** The main tasks are to **organise the social life** for all volunteers during the camp period. The leader will **welcome the volunteers** and make them familiar with the camp site. S/he will **prepare the daily schedule, indicating the working and eating times including breaks** and will furthermore be responsible for **organising the cleaning and cooking teams**, alternating within the group. The camp leader will **buy the food** for the group, having an eye on the everyday changing cooking teams with their individual dishes. Additionally, s/he **organises leisure activities** after the working days and is welcome to prepare campfires, barbecues, games or other group activities. For the weekends the camp leader should be ready to **plan little trips to bigger cities nearby or other activities.** A camp leader has **rarely time for personal things** during the Workcamp. S/he is always the person in charge of everything and contact person in any questions and needs of the volunteers. This should be clear to all applicants.

18

Mid Term Volunteering
Camp Leading
 Lohra Castle and all other camp places
 of Open Houses' 2023 programme

It is also important that the camp leader stays in **close contact to the technical leaders**, who are organising the working groups and know which work has to be done. It is helpful to support the technical leaders by **taking over the responsibility for a working group**, if there are no other works to be done for the camp leader. At some camps, especially in environmental camps, it can happen that the functions of camp and technical leaders are running more together. So it is good to be prepared also to organise a little bit the working part. The camp leader is also responsible for **managing the deduction and finances** of the camp and to take care of the **documentation** – writing down what has been done, taking pictures and leading the evaluation of the camp. It is important to do this documentation with a certain care, so that the camp leader which will lead the following camp will know what happened in the past and doesn't need to look for the same information or to do the same mistake a second time.

Project Description

The camp leader has to be able to **work independently as well as in a team.** Since most of the camps are organised by several camp leaders (one or two and one or more technical leaders) it is necessary to agree upon several issues in a team. All in all, leading a camp means a **lot of work and empathy** as well as a lot of fun. Open Houses gives the camp leaders the opportunity to be **creative** and to take over **responsibility** for their own work. Of course, they will not be left alone in their role. **Before getting active as a camp leader s/he will take part in one camp as a volunteer, parallel to the introduction as camp leader.** It will be a good experience to be an "ordinary participant" for one or two weeks and to get to know the camp leader's tasks from the participants' point of view. After experiencing the atmosphere of the first camp and after Open Houses and the potential camp leader have gotten to know each other better, Open Houses will

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative.** The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion.** Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers.**

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding.** For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open

decide if s/he will be able to lead camps or not or if s/he would need an additional introduction time. During the summer season Open Houses organises a lot of Workcamps in different places in Germany. Depending on the camp leader's interests and abilities Open Houses and the potential camp leader will decide together where s/he will lead camps. In general, Open Houses offers two possibilities: The volunteers can lead **several successive camps in one place** (at Lohra Castle) or can lead **different camps at various places.** For each camp leading of two weeks the volunteer receives a 150 € allowance, if the volunteer stays for the whole season, 200 € will be paid per camp led. S/he does not have to pay for food and accommodation. The camp leader will receive the allowance after the camp, when all the camp documents will be checked by the office staff and everything will be fine. After two or three camps, is highly recommended that the volunteer takes a break. S/he can stay as a participant in a project. In that case, the food, accommodation and insurance are covered but the volunteer will not receive allowance.

19

Mid Term Volunteering
**Support of Technical Leading
 of Workcamps**
 Different camp places
 of Open Houses' 2022 programme

SOCI **04.06. – 12.08.2023** OH-C06
 SOCI **04.06. – 12.08.2023** OH-C07
 SOCI **30.07. – 10.09.2023** OH-C08
 SOCI **03.09. – 14.10.2022** OH-C09
 SOCI **04.06. – 14.10.2023** OH-C10

The camp/ technical leader can apply for longer or less than the dates mentioned (consultation with Incoming officer).



ACCOMMODATION:

Depending on the camp place.

Please, have a look in the camp place descriptions.

AGE: at least 20

LANGUAGE:

English, basic knowledge of German and other languages are helpful

WHAT TO BRING:

working gloves and strong working shoes,

sleeping bag, waterproof clothes

Motivation letter related to the project, CV + photo and basics of

German and valid driver license an asset

Organising and leading an international Workcamp is an interesting challenge for those who enjoy working together with young people from all over the world and which are willing to take over responsibility.

For young and older people more **interested in the technical side** of the works than in the organisation of the social life Open Houses offers the possibility to support the technical leading of Workcamps and Building Weeks in the framework of Mid Term Volunteering. This could be an interesting task for those which have own **manual experiences**

and interest in activities related with the environment or for those which want to **train their organisational skills**.

The leading of the technical side of the Workcamps lies in the hands of one of Open Houses' technical leaders. The volunteer who supports him can overtake a part of the technical leaders' responsibility. Depending on the wishes, the skills and the experience of the volunteer this can be the organisation of the schedule of the working day, the responsibility for tools and material, the **leading of a smaller group of volunteers** or more special tasks.

For students of architecture, building engineering and similar fields this kind of voluntary service **can be recognized as internship for their studies**. Open Houses will offer the necessary certificates. For each camp leading of two weeks the volunteer receives a 150 € allowance. S/he does not have to pay for food and accommodation and can take part in all cultural activities and excursions of the camps. After two or three camps, is highly recommended that the volunteer takes a break. S/he have the right to stay as a participant in a project. In that case, the food, accommodation and insurance is covered but the volunteer will not receive allowance.

20

Heritage Volunteers Projects

In accordance to the above-described focus on heritage **European Heritage Volunteers**, a branch of Open Houses, organises **Heritage Volunteers Projects**. Heritage Volunteers Projects combine practical work for the **preservation or restoration of a cultural or natural heritage** site with an **extensive educational part** that gives the theoretical background for the hands-on works and provides deeper heritage linked knowledge. Heritage Volunteers Projects focus on traditional handcraft techniques, on the revitalisation of abandoned monuments, on the restoration of historical parks, on the maintenance of cultural landscapes or on other related topics.

Some of the Heritage Volunteers Projects are organised in the framework of the **World Heritage Volunteers initiative**. The initiative was launched as a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Education Programme in order to mobilise and involve young people and youth organisations in **heritage preservation and promotion**. Since 2008 more than 200 projects at more than 100 World Heritage Sites in more than 50 different countries worldwide have been organised, in which more than 3,500 volunteers from over 70 countries have taken part. The **European projects** of World Heritage Volunteers are **coordinated by European Heritage Volunteers**.

Furthermore, European Heritage Volunteers initiates, develops, supports and mentors **European Heritage Volunteers Projects** which are organised by heritage linked non-profit organisations in other European countries. European Heritage Volunteers also organizes specialized **Training courses**, which follow similar dynamics to Heritage Volunteers projects however are exclusively focused on the training on particular handicrafts and traditional techniques guided by expert professionals in the field.

Mid Term Volunteering

Open Houses offers the opportunity to participate for a longer time in volunteer projects, too. This kind of volunteering enables the volunteers to get to know deeper the hosting organisation, its work and aims. In a time frame **between four weeks and four months** the volunteers will get the chance to learn a lot about Germany, its culture, language and people.

From June till October Open Houses is looking for around fifteen Mid Term Volunteers. There are three different kinds of MTV projects: **Social Camp Leading, Technical Camp Leading and Guest Guiding**. For the time of the Mid Term Volunteering accommodation, food and insurance are covered by Open Houses, the volunteers receive a small pocket money. At the beginning of their service the Mid Term Volunteers as a kind of **introduction for about two weeks** will take part in a Workcamp resp. Heritage Volunteering Project as regular volunteers in order to get familiar with Open