



Hearts. Dreams. Thoughts. Deeds. Connected.

ESTYES WORKCAMP PROGRAM 2026

INTRODUCTION TO ESTYES

Youth Association EstYES is non-profit non-political NGO established in 1991 with the purpose to promote youth, educational and cultural exchanges for understanding, peace and fair world. It is a pioneer organization in the field of IVS in Estonia

Our objectives

- to increase international understanding and solidarity between countries and people;
- to promote continuous dialogue between people all over the world for peace and friendship;
- to enable young people by living and working together to learn from each other, discover the variety of cultures, broaden horizons to build bridges over differences and peace;
- to promote international voluntary service in Estonia as a tool for local development;
- to apply international voluntary service as a powerful method of non-formal education of the population;
- to promote global education as one of the important resources for young people in the globalised world.

Our activities

- organize voluntary camps in Estonia and send Estonian volunteers abroad;
- send Estonian volunteers to mid- and long-term voluntary services abroad and host volunteers from abroad on mid- and long-term projects in Estonia;
- participate in EVS/ ESC program as sending, hosting and coordinating organization;
- organize and run youth cultural exchanges of different kinds, study visits/ group stays with various themes for youth foreign groups in Estonia and for Estonians abroad;
- take part in conferences, seminars, trainings abroad and organize those in Estonia.

Before pandemic, every summer EstYES ran over 50 voluntary camps in Estonia hosting around 600 volunteers from abroad. Annually we host over 30 volunteers from different European countries to the long-term ESC project (for 8-10 months) in the field of social services, youth work and education. Every year EstYES was giving chance to over 200 young Estonians to take part in various project abroad (voluntary camps, youth exchanges, EVS, training activities, seminars, youth meetings, etc.) Now these numbers are a bit low but we work on to reach the same level as before the pandemic.

Target groups EstYES works with

EstYES works mainly with young people 14 – 30, but not only with them. Actually, EstYES voluntary projects are open to people of all ages without too many limits. Young people with fewer opportunities are the group of special consideration of EstYES.

Our partners

From 1994 we have been exchanging with branches of SCI (Service Civil International) and from 1995 - with members of Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations and their partner organizations. From 1999 we cooperate with ICYE (International Cultural Youth Exchange). In 1997 EstYES became a member of Alliance and in 2007 a member of CCIVS (Coordinating Committee of International Voluntary Service) by UNESCO. Most of our partner organisations belong to these networks. In the past decade EstYES has been intensively developing cooperation with youth and voluntary service organisations in South East Asia and China as well as with Mexico through EU Capacity Building projects.

Sources of income

EstYES income consists of contributions and subscription fees from the participants of our programs. EstYES receives grants for the projects from foundations like ASEF, Erasmus+, European Youth Foundation, EuropeAid, Europe for Citizens, European Solidarity Corps, etc. EstYES does not receive any direct support from the state.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO ESTYES INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMPS

Although there were few attempts to organize workcamps in Estonia in the very beginning of EstYES existence in 1991-1992 the first real workcamps took place in 1994, and there were only 2. In 2026 EstYES plans to run ca 30 short- and mid-term voluntary camps by 14 local hosts for adult volunteers + ca 18 teenage camps, offering places to over 400 international participants.

Work

Our workcamps are diverse, so that everyone can find something suitable. They take place from May to September and last from 1 to 4 weeks, some of them is possible to turn to MTV projects. The number of international volunteers in the camp varies from 3 to 10 on adult projects and can be up to 40 on teenage projects. We try to avoid having more than 2-3 people of the same nationality in the camp, except for teenage projects where number of participants from the same country can go up to 10. As a rule, volunteers have to work 5-7 hours a day 5-6 days a week for the benefit of local project and community. Hosts provide food and accommodation and cultural activities in return. The main themes are organic farming, work for communities, animating kids providing language practice and intercultural learning in cooperation with youth centres and language schools.

Conditions for participation

Volunteers should be over 18 years old and 14-17 years old in teenage camps. For the work with kids the min age of volunteers is 20. There is no max age limit, except for some educational projects. Usually no special skills required from volunteers, except camps dealing with kids. In linguistic camps B2 level of English is required. **Participants should be motivated to do voluntary work, be ready to meet realities of local life and have flexibility to accept it, be tolerant and open for the new experience.** A motivation letter is required when applying for camps with kids, organic farms and MTV projects.

Camp leaders

NB! In many of the camps **the local host takes the leader's role and there is no other formal leader.** In other cases there is one group leader whose task is to be a coordinator and a link between the participants and the host. Leader participates in daily life equally with volunteers. **EstYES is open for receiving camp leaders from abroad.**

Insurance

In Estonian camps **insurance is not provided**, therefore volunteers **have to bring their own insurance** against illness, accident, cancellation of trip and third-party risk. Participants from EU countries should bring EU health insurance form.

Some practical matters

Usually, volunteers have to bring sleeping bag, work clothes, summer clothes and swimming suit, but also warm clothes and rain-gear as weather in Estonia is very changeable and unpredictable. It is a good idea to have a mosquito cream.

On request, EstYES can help to book inexpensive hostel to spend some days in Tallinn before/ after the camp.

Meeting point

EstYES usually invites volunteers to meet at the Coach Station in Tallinn the day camp begins to travel together to the camp site. Tallinn Bus Terminal address is Bussijaam, Lastekodu 46. It takes just 10 min by bus nr 2 or 15 to get there from the airport. National buses schedules are available on www.tpilet.ee and www.luxexpress.eu

Emergency contacts

Mobile: +372 50 23 357 - Aleksandr Kurushev, hosting coordinator

Office address: F.J. Wiedemanni 3 Tallinn. Tel: +372 601 3098; e-mail: estyes@estyes.ee ; website: www.estyes.ee

Infosheets

Information about our camps provided in the database is already quite detailed. More details, practical information, travel directions, etc. will be sent to partners 3-4 weeks before beginning of the camp as latest. But if participants need any specific information to organise their travel, they are welcome to turn for the information to EstYES earlier.

Participation fee

As EstYES does not have any support from the state neither from the local authorities, to sustain our activities in future we have to ask volunteers to pay a modest participation fee in all of our camps. It varies between 50 and 80 euros depending on camp. Higher fees asked for participation in teenage camps are going to the hosts to cover their direct costs related to logistics and the camp program. We ask participants to pay fee by bank transfer to our bank account which will be given after the acceptance to the project. If case of high banking fees we can offer another solution – just ask for it.

CODE	NAME	TYPE	DATES	VOLS	FEE
EST 01	OPEN AIR MUSEUM	CULT	12.05 - 21.05	6	225
EST 02	HARGLA NIGHT FAIR	FEST	27.07 - 03.08	7	150
EST 03	MARJAMAA SUMMER FESTIVAL	FEST	28.07 - 03.08	6	175
EST 04	VIHASOO YOUTH CAMP	KIDS	18.08 - 26.08	5	50
EST AL1	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 1	ANIM	04.05 - 31.05	3	80
EST AL2	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 2	ANIM	01.06 - 28.06	3	80
EST AL3	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 3	ANIM	30.06 - 31.07	3	80
EST AL4	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 4	ANIM	03.08 - 30.08	3	80
EST AL5	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 5	ANIM	01.09 - 28.09	3	80
EST KI1	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 1	AGRI	18.05 - 29.05	4	60
EST KI2	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 2	AGRI	15.06 - 26.06	4	60
EST KI3	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 3	AGRI	06.07 - 17.07	4	60
EST KI4	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 4	AGRI	20.07 - 31.07	4	60
EST KI5	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 5	AGRI	03.08 - 14.08	4	60
EST KI6	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 6	AGRI	17.08 - 28.08	4	60
EST KI7	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 7	AGRI	14.09 - 25.09	4	60
EST LE1	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 1	ANIM	25.05 - 25.06	3	80
EST LE2	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 2	ANIM	15.06 - 19.07	3	80
EST LE3	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 3	ANIM	20.07 - 18.08	3	80
EST LE4	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 4	ANIM	18.08 - 14.09	3	80
EST KRI1	KRIUSILLA ORGANIC FARM 1	AGRI	21.06 - 05.07	5	60
EST KRI2	KRIUSILLA ORGANIC FARM 2	AGRI	26.07 - 09.08	5	60
EST ELF1	NATURE CONSERVATION IN SOUTH ESTONIA	ENVI	09.07 - 19.07	7	225
EST ESC1	PAIDE YOUTH TEAM	MANU	09.08 - 24.08	10	ESC
				20 +	275/
EST F1	FAMILY CAMP AT KIIDI FARM	ENVI	19.08 - 26.08	20	195
EST DT1	DOWN TOWN KIDS 1	KIDS/ TEACH	12.06 - 27.06	6	60
EST DT2	DOWN TOWN KIDS 2	KIDS/ TEACH	26.06 - 11.07	6	60
EST DT3	DOWN TOWN KIDS 3	KIDS/ TEACH	24.07 - 08.08	6	60
EST DT4	DOWN TOWN KIDS 4	KIDS/ TEACH	07.08 - 22.08	6	60
EST LTA1	TAEVASKOJA YOUTH CAMP 1	KIDS	01.07 - 08.07	3	50
EST LTA2	TAEVASKOJA YOUTH CAMP 2	KIDS	08.07 - 15.07	3	50
EST LTA3	TAEVASKOJA YOUTH CAMP 3	KIDS	15.07 - 23.07	3	50
EST LTA4	TAEVASKOJA YOUTH CAMP 4	KIDS	08.08 - 16.08	3	50
EST MTV1	LANGUAGE SCHOOL IN DOWN TOWN	KIDS/ TEACH	10.06 - 24.08	2	100
EST TS1	SPARTA 1	TEEN/ ENVI	27.06 - 08.07	30	550
EST TS2	SPARTA 2	TEEN/ ENVI	07.07 - 18.07	40	550
EST TS3	SPARTA 3	TEEN/ ENVI	17.07 - 28.07	40	550
EST TS4	SPARTA 4	TEEN/ ENVI	27.07 - 07.08	40	550
EST TS5	SPARTA 5	TEEN/ ENVI	06.08 - 17.08	30	550
EST TS6	SPARTA 6	TEEN/ ENVI	16.08 - 27.08	30	550
EST TDT 11	TEEN DOWN TOWN 11	TEEN/ STUDY	14.06 - 21.06	12	365
EST TDT 12	TEEN DOWN TOWN 12	TEEN/ STUDY	21.06 - 27.06	12	365
EST TDT 13	TEEN DOWN TOWN 13	TEEN/ STUDY	28.06 - 05.07	12	365
EST TDT 14	TEEN DOWN TOWN 14	TEEN/ STUDY	05.07 - 11.07	12	365
EST TDT 15	TEEN DOWN TOWN 15	TEEN/ STUDY	26.07 - 02.08	12	365
EST TDT 16	TEEN DOWN TOWN 16	TEEN/ STUDY	02.08 - 08.08	12	365
EST TDT 17	TEEN DOWN TOWN 17	TEEN/ STUDY	09.08 - 16.08	12	365
EST TDT 18	TEEN DOWN TOWN 18	TEEN/ STUDY	16.08 - 22.08	12	365
EST TDT 21	TEEN DOWN TOWN 21	TEEN/ STUDY	14.06 - 27.06	12	630
EST TDT 22	TEEN DOWN TOWN 22	TEEN/ STUDY	28.06 - 11.07	12	630
EST TDT 23	TEEN DOWN TOWN 23	TEEN/ STUDY	26.07 - 08.08	12	630
EST TDT 24	TEEN DOWN TOWN 24	TEEN/ STUDY	09.08 - 22.08	12	630

Project

The Estonian Open-Air Museum (Eesti Vabaõhumuuseum) is a life-sized reconstruction of an 18th-19th century rural/fishing village, which includes church, tavern, schoolhouse, several mills, a fire station, twelve farmyards and net sheds. Furthermore, it includes a recently opened 20th century Soviet kolkhoz apartment building. The site spans 72 hectares of land and along with the farmyards, old public buildings are arranged singularly and in groups in a way that represents an overview of Estonian vernacular architecture of the past two centuries from across Estonia. Besides the mission of preservation and presenting the history of Estonian country side, the museum keeps historical cultural traditions running various activities all year around, offering tours and educational programs for families, school children and guests from abroad. This is a very popular place to visit not only for tourist but very much for local people. The museum has thousands of exhibits related to rural life as it was centuries ago. This year they have an ambitious plan of revision and cleaning of those kept in the storage, and volunteers are invited to help out this important task. More about the Museum can be found here <https://evm.ee/exhibition>

Work

The work involves cleaning the items on display at the museum with a vacuum cleaner and brushes. These items will be moved from a storage room to outdoor tents so that the floor there can be repaired and new storage shelves can be put up. The volunteers' work is to clean these ethnographic items, which are quite dusty and black as they have not been accessed. They include, for example, carts, wooden utensils, children's beds, large wooden sieves, threshing machines and other larger items typical of Estonian rural life. The work takes place outdoors under tents on the territory of the Open-Air Museum. And there can be various seasonal jobs around museum large territory. Working hours will be from 10 to 16 with a lunch break from 13 to 14. Weekend is free. All necessary tools, gloves, protective masks and glasses will be provided. Volunteers will be working along side with local workers of the museum.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will have a simple accommodation in the rooms of administrative building. Beds are provided, but you are asked to bring your sleeping bag. Toilets and showers are available. Volunteers will have lunches in the museum tavern on work days, while breakfast and dinner have to be prepared by the participants themselves. Ingredients will be provided and volunteers can use kitchen at their accommodation place.

Location

The museum is located 8 km to the west of Tallinn city center at Rocca al Mare district. It lies in the forest at the seashore. There is a regular public bus connection with the city centre which takes about 20 min. Tallinn is the capital of Estonia, the largest city of the country with a population of 450 000 inhabitants. Tallinn is known for its well preserved medieval Old Town <https://www.visittallinn.ee/eng/visitor/see-do/neighbourhoods/old-town> which makes it popular destination for tourists, especially in summer time.

Terminal

Airport, harbor, bus & train stations in Tallinn; public bus to the Open Air Museum in Rocca al Mare.

Special requirements

Please bring working clothes and suitable shoes. Tools, gloves, masks will be provided by the museum. You have to bring your sleeping bag and pillow. Your interest towards to theme of the museum is appreciated.

Leisure time

Besides guided and free exploration of the museum and joining activities offered in this period you can enjoy spring in the Old Town of Tallinn or at the seaside. Volunteers will be given travel card to be used in public transport around Tallinn unlimited after their working hours. On 16.05 there is a Museums Night in Tallinn when you can visit for free a dozen of interesting museums. Visit to Tallinn Zoo is planned as well.

Participation fee

Due to the lack of financial support for the project the participation fee of **225 Euro** is requested from volunteers to cover the costs of board and lodging, transport and administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.**

Project

This camp is organized in cooperation with Hargla Culture House and Youth Centre. Hargla is tiny village in the south of Estonia near to Latvian border. Once a year Hargla community fills a pine forest with string lights and decorate it to host the Night Fair, UMA ÜÜLAAT in local dialect - a heart-opening, soul-nourishing gathering that brings historic village market square of Hargla back to life for one unforgettable summer night. It is open for local people and visitors from all over the country. There you find

- peaceful presence of pine trees and dreamlike lights
- organic and/or farm-fresh food, produce and local delicacies
- concerts and soulful community buzz
- handmade crafts, children, animals, and a living local spirit
- friends you already know — and new ones waiting to be met

The fair lasts from 7 pm until the midnight. This year international volunteers are invited to help out with installation and cleaning, and to enjoy this unique event. More info about fair <https://fienta.com/hargla-uma-uulaat-160500> And here is a video of past one <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZfwZ8hKlac>

Work

Volunteers asked to help with carrying, decorating, hanging up & making new decorations to get the ground ready. During fair volunteers can help to take care of the kids by offering them some activities at the same time providing intercultural learning. Then, the next day the forest has to be cleaned and volunteers are asked to help cleaning the whole area after the night fair. The work is not heavy but time consuming with no days off (as this is a short project).

Accommodation:

There will be a simple accommodation in the cultural center right in the middle of the village sleeping on mattresses. Please bring a sleeping bag. Toilets and shower are available. Lunches and dinners will be served together with local volunteers, breakfasts have to be prepared themselves at the accommodation.

Location

Hargla is a small village with ca 170 inhabitants on the half way between Valga and Võru. There is a shop and a beach at the river. Larger city nearby is Valga (32 km), an administrative centre of the municipality. Hargla has bus connection to Valga and Võru and if bus timetable is unsuitable, pick up can be organized. More travel information on www.peatus.ee , www.tpilet.ee and www.elron.ee (for trains Riga - Valga).

Terminal

Airport, bus & train stations in Riga (184 km), Tallin (256 km); bus/train to Valga, bus/transfer to Hargla.

Special requirements

Please bring a sleeping bag and pillow. Be ready to introduce your culture. It would be nice if you could bring some national food/snacks/ drinks to share with locals. The camp language is English.

Leisure time

Working days are long but there is a chance to go swimming during day or take a sightseeing break. One day we can visit Tsirgumäe food forest nearby. On Friday evening there will be the volunteers' celebration in the forest and Saturday is the Fair, where volunteers will have some free time to enjoy the co-creation.

Participation fee

Due to the lack of financial support for the project the participation fee of **150 Euro** is requested from volunteers to cover the costs of board, leisure activities and administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your sending organization for solution.

Project

It is long lasting good tradition for EstYES to organize international camps in co-operation with Marjamaa Community. It lies on the half way between Tallinn and Parnu, and it is known for its rich historical and cultural heritage: ancient settlement in Varbola, XIII century church in Marjamaa, numerous German manor houses of XVIII-XIX centuries and active culture life nowadays. International camps are seen by local authorities to be a powerful tool for local development - not only in terms of work done by volunteers but mainly for introduction multicultural dimension to the population of small local communities in the country. The camp will take place in the village of Marjamaa, the centre of the community. The main idea of this camp is to assist running traditional Märjamaa Summer Fest helping different practical tasks at the same time providing activities for local kids and young people introducing own country and culture.

Work

As there will be traditional Days of the Village/ Märjamaa Summer Fest on 31.07-02.08, volunteers are asked to help it out doing various practical jobs related to its organization and running. This will involve cleaning and tidying up and other manual work. But it is also expected that volunteers contribute to the festival by introducing their national culture, music, dances, also food to local people as well as organizing games and fun activities for local children during the Day of the Youth and Children in the frame of the festival.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will have a simple accommodation in the rooms of the Marjamaa Community House right in the centre of the village, sleeping on mattresses. Please bring your sleeping bag. Toilets and showers are available. Volunteers will have meals in the local canteen at their accommodation.

Location

Marjamaa is a village with ca 4000 inhabitants on the half way between Tallinn and Parnu. Distance from Marjamaa to Tallinn is 66 km. Being an administrative centre of community with 7000 inhabitants Marjamaa has several shops, department stores, culture house, cinema, couple of pubs, etc. Marjamaa has good bus connection to Tallinn and Parnu. More information on www.marjamaa.ee and www.raplamaa.ee

Terminal

Airport, harbor, bus & train stations in Tallinn; bus to Marjamaa.

Special requirements

Please bring sleeping bag and pillow. It will be great if you could think about your contribution to the festival and bring some materials, music, games for kids as well as national food/ drinks for it. If you can present folk songs or dances from your country or teach others it you really should not hesitate to do it! English is the camp language.

Leisure time

You can enjoy all activities of the festival. Besides, it is possible to do sport at well-equipped school gym and stadium, swim in the local swimming pool, and go for some visits to the places of interest in the area.

Participation fee

Due to the lack of financial support for this project the participation fee of **175 Euro** is requested from volunteers to cover the costs of board and lodging, leisure activities and administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your sending organization for solution.

Project

Tallinn youth centre IZUM runs children's camp in Vihasoo for over 30 years. The aim of Vihasoo camp is to give children possibility of active and meaningful summer vacations. The base of Vihasoo lies 70km from Tallinn. The camp is located on the territory of Lahemaa National Park. The wonderful nature, proximity to the sea (about 100m), good facilities – all this makes Vihasoo camp ideal place for leisure. Such location brings children closer to nature and gives them an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with Estonian national heritage richly presented in the area. Each summer period of the camp has its own theme. The purpose of this one is to discover the diversity of different countries and cultures through artistic expression which could be dancing or singing, national style party, music or art of any kind – anything volunteer is good at. We want to give children opportunity to discover cultural differences, to learn it and reflect after. To achieve this aim Vihasoo camp invites international volunteers to join it as animators. Most of children are Russian-speaking from minority communities of Estonia. The area of the camp is 1,8 ha. It can host about 80 children on one shift. The age is 13-16.

This camp named "Our Theme" is designed to introduce children to modern art trends and cultural expressions in a fun and engaging way. Over eight days, participants will explore a variety of artistic styles, including hard bass, body art, rap, beatboxing, tectonics, C-Walk, breakdance, hip hop, drums, shuffle, and more. Talented artists and experienced mentors will lead interactive workshops and masterclasses, helping children develop new skills, express creativity, and gain confidence in artistic self-expression. The highlight of the camp is a final live performance, where participants will showcase their newly acquired talents during an open event at a local club, inviting the public to join in a lively party and disco. More information on www.vihasoo.ee

Work

Each day of the camp will have a program completed by local coordinators and volunteers will be helping to realize it. The main activities will be intercultural learning through finding differences and similarities between Estonia and countries, where volunteers come from (history, traditions, language, singing, dancing, etc). It will be done through art, games, drama, sport, discussions. We expect active volunteers with the good knowledge of history and culture of their country and ability to present it. Volunteers will lead workshops connected with their **cultural expression**, which may culminate with small performance on the last day of the project. The duration of each workshop is 2 hours. You do not have to be professional, the most important that it is enjoyable and fun! Besides, each volunteer has to run one cultural night to present own country and culture to others. After placement volunteers will be contacted by organizers to get involved and guided in the preparation of the program before arrival to Estonia. Volunteer will work in partnership with professional local educators and youth workers - 25 staff members.

Accommodation

In the separate house with other staff members in 4-6-bedded rooms. Sleeping bag is not needed. Volunteers will eat together with children and staff in the canteen. Showers, dry toilets and Wi-Fi are available.

Location

Vihasoo is situated tiny village Tammispea in the picturesque Lahemaa National Park 70km from Tallinn. Surrounded by forest, near to the sea, it is the ideal place for summer vacations. The nearest town (7km) is Vosu, spa town with about 1000 inhabitants.

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn, specially arranged car to Vihasoo. The host will organise transfer for the volunteers after their arrival to Tallinn, one day before children arrive to the camp that is to get to know each other and prepare things.

Special requirements

You have to love kids and be well **motivated to work** with them. **The work demands 24-hours commitment and it can be hard sometimes.** Weekend is not free! Experience in work with children is an advantage. We expect active volunteers with good knowledge of history and culture of their country and ability to present it. Volunteer should be good in some art to be able to lead a workshop for kids. English and Russian are the camp languages. **NB! Motivation letter is required along with the application.**

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **50 Euro** each towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your organization for a solution.

EST AL1	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 1	HIIUMAA	04.05 - 31.05	ANIM	3 vols
EST AL2	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 2	HIIUMAA	01.06 - 28.06	ANIM	3 vols
EST AL3	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 3	HIIUMAA	30.06 - 31.07	ANIM	3 vols
EST AL4	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 4	HIIUMAA	03.08 - 30.08	ANIM	3 vols
EST AL5	ALLIKSAARE HORSE FARM 5	HIIUMAA	01.09 - 28.09	ANIM	3 vols

Project

Hiiumaa, according to the Nordic sagas, emerged from the Baltic Sea as a small islet more than 10 000 years ago. The island of Hiiumaa was first mentioned in historical documents as a deserted island called Dageida in 1228. The first inhabitants settled down at the end of the 13th century. Nowadays, Hiiumaa is the second largest island of Estonia with the area of 965 sq. km and a population of around 9 000. It has many historical and nature sights, and there are kind people known for their hospitality and good sense of humor. The island is referred to as a remote area of Europe, and EstYES feels proud developing international voluntary projects for over 20 years there. EstYES has been cooperating with eco-farms all over Estonia to show solidarity and give practical support to local people, who work in the agricultural sector keeping traditional lifestyle and developing new eco-farming despite all difficulties. Alliksaare Farm on Hiiumaa Island is one of such projects. This is a farm promoting sustainable lifestyle, and this camp is offered to volunteers who share its values, want to learn more about it and to help hard working people. Current speciality of **Alliksaare Farm is preserving endangered breed of horses called Estonian Native Horse**. Alliksaare Farm has also a task to take care of coastal meadows which are international birds' migration area under protection of Natura Program. Video of past camp <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEAc2Sch6f8>

Work

Alliksaare Farm's main direction is **horse breeding**, and there are around 150 horses on the farm. Although the work may be diverse: taking care and maintain the pastures located by the sea - clearing around the pastures, building or removing fences, repairing fences, cleaning the stable. Another work is cleaning the coast nearby the farm from rubbish brought by storms. There can be some work for preparing food for horses for a winter time. **However, the major and the most important one is work with horses directly - mostly training them.** There are horses of any age but mostly young ones, so depending on your experience and willingness to learn more, it is possible to practice taking care of and **training young horses**. For example socializing and training foals, halter train yearlings and saddle and/or carriage train young horses. The work will be mainly outdoors. Working time is 6-7 hours a day. Work will be done **mostly independently**, still some supervision and initial guidance will be provided by the local host.

Accommodation

The accommodation conditions are very simple - in caravans, however beds are provided. Please bring your sleeping bag. Toilets and showers are available on site. There is a kitchen with all necessary equipment for cooking. Ingredients for food will be provided, but you need to cook by yourselves. We ask you to keep the living and common areas clean (washing dishes, cleaning the floors, etc.)

Location

Alliksaare farm is located in Nurste Kula, Emmaste parish, Hiiumaa island. Hiiumaa is situated in the western part of Estonia, 130km from Tallinn. More information available on the following websites: www.emmaste.ee, www.hiiumaa.ee, www.visitestonia.com

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn. You can get to the island by bus. For this take bus nr 2 or 15 going to the city centre. Buses stop at Tallinn Bus Station (Bussijaam). From there buses go to Hiiumaa two times per day taking you straight there (including ferry transportation from the mainland). Timetables are available at www.luxexpress.ee (bus from Tallinn to Hiiumaa).

Special requirements

You have to **be open-minded** and **be able to adapt to the simple conditions** of the common life in Estonian countryside. You can **work independently** staying without permanent supervision. The work can be demanding at some time. **It is very important that you already have substantial experience with horses and are able to interact and train them.** Please send a **motivation letter** explaining it. The host will do interviews with every applicant before accepting. It is helpful if you have some technical skills: repair machines, building, use chainsaws, and have a driving license. **Smoking and drinking alcohol are not permitted on the farm.**

NB! The dates or the projects are indicative. It is possible to adapt your arrival/ departure dates to your availability. You can combine periods if you wish to stay longer. This is not a camp but more individual service for 1 – 3 participants.

Leisure time

There are a lot of natural picturesque sights on the island as well as good possibilities for swimming in the sea or hiking in the forest. It is planned to visit other parts of Hiiumaa Island on the week-end. Hiiumaa offers a lot of various cultural events in summer time and you will have a possibility to join them. In spring and autumn you can watch birds on their migration route over island. This camp is perfect for people who love horses, enjoy being close to the nature, and interested in traditional rural way living.

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute a single fee of **80 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. Fee does not depend on the duration of your stay. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp to the bank account.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your sending organization for a solution.

EST KI1	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 1	KANEPI	18.05 - 29.05	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI2	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 2	KANEPI	15.06 - 26.06	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI3	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 3	KANEPI	06.07 - 17.07	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI4	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 4	KANEPI	20.07 - 31.07	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI5	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 5	KANEPI	03.08 - 14.08	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI6	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 6	KANEPI	17.08 - 28.08	AGRI	4 vols
EST KI7	KINGU ORGANIC FARM 7	KANEPI	14.09 - 25.09	AGRI	4 vols

Project

For decades EstYES has been working with eco-farms around Estonia showing solidarity and respect to their work and supporting local people, who keep agricultural traditions and develop eco-farming in Estonia. Organic farm Kingu is one of them. This is a berry, fruit and vegetable micro-farm in the South Estonia. The main berry crops are raspberries, various currants, gooseberries, Japanese quince, but also the grow garlic and rhubarb. Everything is grown in an environmentally sustainable way using straw and hay. The farm promotes sustainable lifestyle, and this camp is offered to volunteers who appreciate and share its values, want to learn and help hard working people

Work

The main task is harvesting various berries and vegetables such as rhubarb, currants, raspberries, Japanese quince, helping juice making and products packaging. But there is also weed control and fertilization with mulch in plantations, mowing grass, cutting branches, removal of bushes and wood chipping, assistance in the construction of various small buildings, vegetable beds and other necessary structures on the site, painting as well. Also, there is ongoing work of planting seeds.

Some days work will be done at neighbouring Järste wine farm <https://jaristeveinitalu.com/en> that produces wine and cider from Estonian grapes, berries, fruits and apples in the historic tavern of Luke manor. It is one of the few in Estonia who make wine from grapes grown in our own vineyard. So, the work is grapevine care (pruning, tying up), apple tree and field grape care (pruning, weeding), and other work in plantation.

Work hours are 6-7 hours/ day for 4-5 days/ week, and it largely depends on season and weather conditions.

Accommodation

Farm life conditions are simple but decent. Sleeping is in a separate house in beds. Bed sheets, blankets and pillows are provided, so no need to bring a sleeping bag. There is outdoor kitchen with all necessary equipment. Volunteers can make breakfast and lunch themselves, and dinner will be prepared by and taken with the family. Washing is in the traditional sauna with no shower. There is a dry organic toilet. Volunteers have to take care of their surroundings by cleaning up after themselves.

Location

The farm is located in Kanepi municipality just 11 km from Otepää and 47 km from Tartu. When coming from Tallinn or Tartu, choose a bus going to Võru and get off at the Saverna stop. Knowing your arrival time and place hosts will pick you up from there. Bus information is on www.tpilet.ee or www.luxexpress.ee. The farm is located in the tiny village of Aiaste. It is important to understand that it is calm and quiet place, there are no events in the village. But it is possible to watch animals like deer on the field, foxes in a strawberry bed and storks. While sitting by the fire at night, enjoy stars in the sky and listen to the nature sounds by animals such as badgers or raccoons. This makes the place ideal for nature lovers who want to escape from busy life of big cities for a couple of weeks.

Special requirements

You have to **be open-minded and be able to adapt to the simple conditions** of the rural life being ready to do farm work which can be demanding sometimes. **The minimum age of participants is 20, no upper limit!**

NB! It is possible to stay for several shifts in a row.

Leisure time

It is possible to swim, make a bonfire, play volleyball, disc golf and other games or go for mushroom picking if you like it. There is a swimming lake in Valgjärv 4 km away. You can use various hiking trails. If interested you can visit nearby farms where you can get to know horses, sheep and other animals and see many other interesting things. **The host plans to take participants for car trip around South Estonia.** It is possible to visit Tartu. It takes just 40 min by regular bus and there are a lot of things to discover in this historical university town <https://visittartu.com/>

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **60 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your sending organization for a solution.

EST LE1	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 1	HIIUMAA	25.05 - 25.06	ANIM	3
EST LE2	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 2	HIIUMAA	15.06 - 19.07	ANIM	3
EST LE3	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 3	HIIUMAA	20.07 - 18.08	ANIM	3
EST LE4	LEPANIIDI ORGANIC FARM 4	HIIUMAA	18.08 - 14.09	ANIM	3

Helping local organic farmers on the romantic island of Hiiumaa

Project

According to the Nordic sagas Hiiumaa emerged from the Baltic Sea as a small islet more than 10 000 years ago. The island of Hiiumaa was first mentioned in historical documents as a deserted island called Dageida in 1228. The first inhabitants settled down at the end of the 13th century. Nowadays Hiiumaa is the second biggest island of Estonia with the area of 965 sq. km and the population around 9 000. It has many historical and nature sights, and there are kind people known for their hospitality and good sense of humor. The island is referred as a remote area of Europe, so EstYES feels particularly proud developing international voluntary projects for over 20 years there. For decades EstYES has been cooperating with farms all over Estonia to show solidarity and give practical support to local people who work in agricultural sector keeping traditional life style and developing new eco-farming despite of difficulties they face. Lepaniidi Farm on Hiiumaa is one of such projects. This is an organic farm promoting sustainable lifestyle, and camp is offered to volunteers who appreciate and share its values, want to learn more about it and help hard working people.

Work

Lepaniidi Farm has currently about 100 sheep for producing meat and wool, over 40 goats, 20 of whom are for milk and goat cheese production. Volunteers will be helping grazing, feeding, milking the goats, processing the milk, but also picking berries and vegetables. So, in the mornings there will be goats milking, at days - picking the berries and fruits (strawberries, raspberries and blackcurrant) and making a jam/juice or there will be work in vegetable garden, removing weeds, picking vegetables, etc. Towards end of summer volunteers will be mainly picking up and sorting vegetables (potatoes, carrots, beetroots), milking goats and making cheese. Participants will have a great chance to get familiar with various farm jobs and even to learn how to make goat cheese! Inside of the house it would be great to give some hand cooking and cleaning around. The working day will be 6-7 hours, 5-6 days a week (NB: milking is every day). Work will be supervised by local hosts with whom volunteers will stay sharing work and leisure as a family.

Accommodation

The accommodation conditions at the farm are simple but decent - in old sauna house or caravan but on beds. Please bring your sleeping bag. Toilets and showers are available in the main house; there is also traditional Estonian sauna in the farm. There is a kitchen with necessary equipment for cooking, which volunteers may use freely – just like at home. Usually, volunteers will have breakfasts and lunch together with farmers cooked and served by the hosts, but you always can help with cooking. Dinners will be prepared by volunteers themselves.

Location

Hiiumaa Island, Kaina parish, Ristivalja village, Lepaniidi farm. Hiiumaa Island is in the west of Estonia, 140 km from Tallinn. More information on www.hiiumaa.ee or www.visitestonia.com

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn. From the airport buses nr 2 and 15 going to the city centre stops by the Tallinn Bus Station (Bussijaam). From there two times per day buses take you straight to Hiiumaa (including ferry transportation from the mainland). Timetables are available online at www.tpilet.ee and www.luxexpress.eu

Special requirements

Motivation letter is required. The host plans to do an interview with every candidate. You have to be ready to adapt to the simple conditions of the common life in the country side of Estonia and be willing to do farm work, which can be demanding sometimes. Not suitable for lactose allergic participants since host offers a lot of dairy products. The host eats a lot of meat products too, but volunteers can always cook vegetarian meals for themselves. **Smoking and drinking alcohol is not allowed in this camp.**

NB! It is possible to adapt the arrival/ departure dates to your actual availability.

Leisure time

There are lot of natural picturesque sights in the area. Sea coast is 7km away and there is a possibility to take the bicycles to go swimming. It is possible to visit other parts of Hiiumaa Island on weekend. Hiiumaa offers a lot of events on weekends in summer. Hosts plan to arrange some tours around the island. This camp is absolutely suitable for people who enjoy nature, interested in traditional ways of rural living, and wish to spend quite time far from big cities.

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **80 Euros** towards the costs of the general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the stay.** If you cannot make it, ask your sending organization for a solution.

EST KRI1	KRIUSILLA ORGANIC FARM 1	ANIJA	21.06 - 05.07	AGRI	5 vols
EST KRI2	KRIUSILLA ORGANIC FARM 2	ANIJA	26.07 - 09.08	AGRI	5 vols

Project

For decades EstYES has been cooperating with eco-farms around Estonia to express a solidarity and respect to their work and to support local people involved in agricultural sector, who keep traditions and develop new eco-farming in Estonia despite of all difficulties they face. Kriusilla Farm is one of them. This is the organic farm dealing with traditional bees-keeping and growing vegetables, also with forestry - all promoting sustainable lifestyle. This camp is offered to volunteers who appreciate and share eco-values, want to learn more about it and to help hard working people. This camp follows positive experience of the camps hosted there for past 20 years.

Work

Kriusilla is a small farm dealing with beekeeping, vegetables growing and forestry. Volunteers will be doing some forestry work (cleaning and weeding forestry, planting trees, building wood construction) but also gardening, harvesting vegetables, collecting honey, cleaning and improving bee houses, possibly helping to build new ones. The working day will be 5-7 hours depending on weather conditions.

Accommodation

The accommodation conditions on the farm will be simple but decent. Beds are provided. Please bring your sleeping bags. Toilets and showers are available. There is kitchen with all necessary equipment for cooking. Volunteers will be served food cooked by the hosts but are asked to assist cleaning.

Location

The farm is located in Anija Community of Harjumaa County. Distance from Tallinn is about 40 km. More information on www.visitestonia.com

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn, train to Kehra.

Special requirements

You have to be open-minded and be ready to adapt to the simple conditions of the rural life and be ready for the farm work, which can be demanding sometimes. **NB! Obviously, the volunteers should not be afraid of or be allergic to bees.**

Leisure time

There are a lot of leisure time possibilities in the area for people enjoying nature and interested in sustainable way of living. There are many interesting natural sites in the area - Jagala River with a waterfall 4 km away, picturesque lakes about 20 km away and the sea 40 km away. Short trips in the area are planned by hosts. It is very easy and quite possible to go to Tallinn on your own in the free time to enjoy its attraction and numerous opportunities flourishing in summer period. Besides, there are usually local festivities in the villages nearby www.voose.ee; www.viikingitekyla.ee; www.korvemaa.ee/en; <https://anijamois.ee/> which can be attended together with the hosts.

NB! The first camp shift in June coincides with Mid-Summer Festival, which is the largest celebration in Estonia, so those joining it can experience this unique Estonian ancient tradition.

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **60 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer, please contact your sending organization for a solution.

Project

Estonian Fund for Nature (ELF) is NGO dedicated to nature conservation. Its mission is to preserve endangered species and their habitats, natural landscapes and natural associations typical of Estonia. ELF has organized yearly nature conservation holidays where volunteers, participants and group managers work together in order to improve the living conditions of a certain species (natterjack toad, black stork) or maintain semi-natural communities. Read more on <http://elfond.ee/en> and check photos of previous years projects <https://www.talgud.ee/talgud/tehtavad-tood/harivesilik> , <https://www.talgud.ee/talgud/tehtavad-tood/verev-lemmalts> , : <https://talgud.ee/talgud/galerii/2025>

This year camp has **two different tasks - wooded meadow management and restoration of breeding ponds for newts**, which have to be accomplished **in two different locations**.

The aim of the **first part is protection of wooded meadows** in Alam-Pedja nature reserve. **Alam-Pedja Nature Reserve** was created in 1994 on the lower reaches of the Pedja river, and comprises bogs, and floodplains. You can find some of the most remote areas of Estonia here, with plenty of wildlife. Palupõhja Nature School was established in an old farm house in 2001, and has housed ELF's Summer School (a 4-day scythe-festival) since 2017.

Wooded meadows rich in flowers and birds have been a characteristic part of Estonian landscapes for centuries. At a time when most of the population lived in the countryside, pastures were needed to graze the animals and meadows to obtain winter fodder. Wooded meadows are areas with regularly mowed natural herbs and sparse trees and shrubs, where the sunniest open areas alternate with individually growing trees and more shady groups of trees. It is these diverse conditions that help woodlands to maintain an exceptional species richness. Source: <https://keskkonnaamet.ee/en/project-woodmeadowlife>

The aim of the **second part is restoring the habitat of endangered amphibian the northern crested newt which takes place in Haanja**.

Haanja National Park is the hilliest part of an otherwise low country. It's locally known for some distinct cultural heritage: smoke saunas and Võru dialect. Haanja hills create a highly diverse landscape with small size fields, hay meadows, forests, and wetlands, which is a perfect habitat for many cultural landscape species that have been lost in intensive farming areas.

The great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is a rare dark lizard-like threatened amphibian species in Estonia, occurring mainly in the southern part of the country. One of the main reasons for the decrease in the crested newt numbers is the lack of small water bodies suitable for breeding. Volunteers will clear the ponds of brushwood and vegetation, which helps to ensure the survival and increase of existing populations. Here are photos from previous camps in Haanja <https://www.talgud.ee/talgud/tehtavad-tood/harivesilik>

NB! The first days of the camp, July 9-12, are part of a bigger annual event called ELF's Summer School. This means that about 50 local volunteers of all ages will be joining. It is a mini-festival, where volunteers are taught to use scythes, and manage the local wooded meadow. There will be a concert and some workshops. See video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOpM-cNSEAY>

Work

In Palupõhja Nature School **at Alam-Pedja Nature Reserve** there will be management of a wooded meadow. We will be mowing the hay with a scythe (July 10-11) and removing the hay with rakes and pitchforks (July 17-18). No previous experience with a scythe is needed, as there will be tutoring on the spot!

The work **at Haanja** will be removing vegetation (bulrushes, reed) from the breeding ponds of the great crested newts. You will get to go into the ponds while wearing waders!

A typical workday will last for 6 hours. Work equipment and gloves will be provided by ELF.

Accommodation

Palupõhja Nature School at Alam-Pedja Nature reserve (July 9-12, and 16-19): immensely simple and basic amenities. The 2 floor has a hall with mattresses for the group to sleep (bring Your own sleeping bag!). There is no shower or toilet with running water, just an outhouse in the garden and a small sauna, where you have to soap yourself up and rinse by pouring buckets of water on yourself. A swimmable river flows next to the school. Some locals are sleeping in the house as well, but the majority of 50 volunteers, who will be joining on July 9-12, will set up tents in the garden. Palupõhja Nature School Facebook page with pictures: <https://www.facebook.com/PalupohjaLooduskool>

Suurepera at Haanja Nature Park (July 12-16): 3-4 beds per room, bedlinens are available on site. Showers, kitchen, sauna. See pictures: <https://suureperapuhkekeskus.ee/galerii>

We will be cooking our own food on July 12-19, taking turns. The Estonian group leader will compile the menu and buy groceries.

Itineraries

July 9

- Around noon: arrival to Tallinn Airport. Public transport (bus) from the airport to Tartu (ca 2.5 h and 14 euros). Pick-up from Tartu and transfer to Palupõhja Nature School with ELF's minivan (ca 45 min).

July 10-11

- Work in Palupõhja Nature School: mowing hay in a wooded meadow with a scythe. Work starts early (ca 6 AM), because there has to be dew on the hay!

July 12

- Wrap up at Palupõhja and transport to Haanja (ca 2.5 h). There will be a stop in Tartu to change equipment.

July 13 and 15

- Work in Haanja: removing vegetation from the breeding ponds of amphibians.

July 14

- Free day to explore the region of Haanja.

July 16

- Wrap up at Haanja and transport to Palupõhja (ca 2.5 h). There will be a stop in Tartu to change equipment.

July 17-18

- Work in Palupõhja Nature School: removing the previously mowed hay with rakes and pitchforks.

July 19

- Wrap up at Palupõhja and drop-off to Tartu coach station. Public transport (bus) from Tartu to Tallinn Airport in the afternoon.

Leisure time

Games, sauna, swimming, hiking and exploring the local surroundings, etc.

Special requirements

You have to bring suitable clothing (long sleeves and pants to prevent scratches), a hat, closed footwear (sneakers or hiking boots) for work, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, personal hygiene supplies, a towel, swim wear. Necessary tools and clothes provided by ELF.

NB! It is important to arrive on 9.07 to Tallinn before noon! Your departure should be scheduled to the evening of 19.07 or later. **If you need to arrive one day earlier in order to make it or stay longer, we can help you booking inexpensive accommodation in Tallinn.**

What to (not) expect

Do expect

- ca 50 local volunteers joining on July 9-12.
- only vegan food on July 9-12.
- physical work and plenty of fresh air.
- self-catering: preparing your own meals on July 12-19.
- cleaning after yourself: sweeping the floors and taking out the trash in accommodation sites.
- basic amenities at Palupõhja Nature School.
- hectic weather conditions: sunshine, rain, wind, warm and cold days.
- many blood-sucking insects: mosquitos, horse flies, ticks. The latter may give you Lyme disease or encephalitis.

Do not expect

- to have everything exactly like at home and the way that you are used to.
- to have luxurious private rooms or room service.
- to have everything handed out for you.
- restaurant meals.
- to always have WIFI and mobile reception.
- a fixed time schedule: everything may change according to the weather.

Participation fee

You are kindly asked to contribute **225 Euro** towards cost of board, lodging, programme, administration and for nature! This fee has to be paid by volunteers either by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp or to the host upon arrival to the camp.

Project

Town of Paide is often called the Heart of Estonia as it is situated in the very centre of the country. Youth work is the high priority of municipality, and it is implemented through very well developed Paide Open Youth Centre (PANK) which consist of several units operating in the villages nearby. The most exciting and popular one is Paide Skatepark. This is indoors skatepark suitable for use at any weather conditions. See photos here https://www.paideank.ee/paide-avatud-noortekeskus-ja-skatepark/ruumid/?ggt_4094=Siseskatepark#pid=1 and <https://www.facebook.com/PaideANK/>

This summer, youth workers together with local young people plan to make light renovation/ refreshment in the rooms of the youth centre and around it as well as in smaller communities around Paide. International volunteers are invited to join local people to help it out.

NB! The project is supported by EU program European Solidarity Corps and therefore it is open for participants from the program countries only, whose age is 18 – 30.

Work

There will be maintenance and repair work at playgrounds, cemeteries, and youth centres in Paide and small communities around. There may be also light renovation of the rooms of youth centres, mainly painting. Volunteers may have a chance to take part in the preparation and running of social and cultural activities for local people. The working day is 5-6 hours. Weekends are free. Work will be done under supervision of local youth workers and together with a group of local youngsters who will join the camp for common work and leisure.

Accommodation

Volunteers will stay in the rooms of Paide Youth Center in beds as well as on mattresses on the floor. Sleeping bags will be give, so you do not need to bring yours. Toilets and showers are available. And you can try Estonian sauna! There is x-box, board games, billiard, table tennis, facilities for watching movies, etc. It is also possible to use skateboard, scooters and roller skates in the skate park. For a few days participants will stay in a neighbouring village Koigi in the house with all facilities provided.

Volunteers will be cooking themselves some days but also eating out some days. There is well equipped kitchen in the youth centre and all ingredients for cooking will be provided by the host. Please let us know if you have any allergies or special food requirements.

Location

The workcamp will take place right in the centre of Paide, which is a small town situated in the middle of Estonia. It has total area of 10 sq km and the population over 8 000 people. Paide is the capital of the County. It is known for its historical castle built in XIII century. But first and most of all it is a very nice typical Estonian town of comfortable size providing many interesting possibilities for various activities and discoveries. Many famous Estonians were born in Paide, among them world recognised composer Arvo Pärt. Distance from Tallinn to Paide is 77 km. It is very easy to reach it by public bus. More information to be found here <https://visitjarva.ee/paide-on-vaike-puust-linn/?lang=en>

Terminal

Airport, bus station, harbor in Tallinn. From the Tallinn bus station Bussijaam at Lastekodu Str 46 bus to Paide takes 1 h 15 min. Camp camp hosts will pick participants up at Paide bus station. Bus schedules are available at www.tpilet.ee

Special requirements

We are waiting for volunteers motivated to meet and interact with local young people. Please be ready to present your country and culture to locals. This could be done using materials you bring or by performance you may prepare (song, dance or a presentation). **The age of volunteers is 18-30.** Camp language is English, local one is Estonian.

Leisure time

There is a plenty of possibilities for active leisure time in the youth centre which is designed to provide meaningful activities for young people aged 7 to 26. And there are many interesting things to see and to do in the city of Paide and smaller villages around. Sightseeing in the town and around will be offered by local youngsters and youth workers. Swimming in the local lake, hiking in the natural area around town, doing sport and many other fun activities are possible. It is possible to explore other parts of Estonia on your own during weekend.

Special conditions

This camp is supported by **EU program European Solidarity Corps** and therefore it is open for participants from the program countries only, whose age is 18 – 30. **Travel costs are covered** according to the ESC program rules, and **pocket money will be paid** to the participants.

Project

For a decade EstYES promotes camps where parents and children can participate together. The idea is to create a kind of temporary community where adults and children can share ideas of voluntary activity for the benefit of rural area. Camp schedule allows adults to act as volunteers like in any other voluntary camp working 4-5 hours a day for practical tasks. Meanwhile children "work" as well, in the sense that they take part in the activities helping parents and sharing easy tasks with them. Local hosts supported by parents care about the children during the working activities, providing snacks, proposing games and activities, etc. In the daily free time and during days off group excursions and other activities will be organised by the local hosts. Parents can join the camp in pair or alone with their children. Some English is necessary for parents in order to communicate among them and with the camp leader. The camp follows a positive experience of almost 20 years

Venue

It is a very long tradition for EstYES to organize international workcamps in co-operation with Kiidi Farm located in the Voru County in the South of Estonia. With the support of the state and local authorities the eco- and farm sustainable tourism has been developed in this area. Besides promoting the environmental tourism, this initiative supports rural development, which is an important issue for Estonia. Estonian Association of Farm Tourism has launched several projects, and Kiidi Farm, where the camp takes place, is one of them. It is run by large Piho family with 8 kids, who were kids when we started our cooperation but are young adults of different age now. Nevertheless they continue to contribute to the camp success. More information on Kiidi Farm is on site www.kiidi.ee

Location

The charm of Haanja Uplands in South Estonia lies in its lovely hilly landscape, winding roads and numerous lakes. Most of its ancient villages, special dialect, handicraft, and customs have been preserved until today. The whole area, called Vorumaa, is an area of outstanding beauty. It is famous for its diverse and very well-preserved nature. Untouched forests with wildlife, deep valleys, hills, 170 small lakes with extremely clean water, numerous rivers with caves in the steep banks - you can find everything there. Kiidi Farm is situated 15 km south of Voru, capital of the County, which has a population of 12 000 people and lies about 250 km south-east of Tallinn, very close to the Latvian border. The closest town to Kiidi Farm is Rouge (3km) with a population of less than 1000 people. More information here www.visitestonia.com; www.visitvoru.ee

Work

Various works in the forest: planting pine trees, cutting unwanted trees and bushes, burning old tree branches and brushwood, preparing firewood for heating the farm; also, some odd jobs around the farm buildings as well as general household work. Most of the work will be outdoors. There can be also some light maintaining works indoors if weather is too rainy. The work will be usually 3-5 hours a day. The rest of the time will be spent to get acquainted with the area, its natural and historical sites as well as with local people. Local people will join the camp for work and leisure.

Accommodation:

In the farmhouse in 2-4-bedded rooms depending on the size of family. WC, showers, hot water, sauna is available. Hosts will prepare meals themselves, however, participants will be asked to help out in the kitchen. There is a possibility to cook your favourite national dish sharing recipe with others.

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus or train station in Tallinn; bus to Voru; transfer to Kiidi Farm. Bus from Tallinn to Voru takes about 4 hours, schedules are available on www.tpilet.ee or www.luxexpress.ee Another possibility is to fly to Riga and come with the local bus to Ape, Latvian town at Estonian border. In any case the host will arrange pick up.

Special requirements

The camp is open for families with their children, generally **aged 3 to 13**, however the kids' age is flexible. Parents can come in pairs or alone. English is the camp common language.

Leisure time

There are many possibilities for leisure time, especially for those who love nature: acquaintance with nature of the area, hiking, swimming, etc. Excursions to the numerous places of interest of the County of Voru, including visit to Haanja National Park with the Estonian highest point are planned. Volunteers will have a very good chance to get in close contact with the local people, experience local traditions and learn some customs – for instance like hot Estonian sauna!

Participation fee

Since we do not receive any funds to support your participation in this camp neither from the state nor from private sponsors, you are asked to contribute towards cost of board, lodging, local transport, leisure time program, etc. The fee has to be paid by participants by bank transfer, and it is **275 Euro for every adult and 195 Euro for every child**.

EST DT1	DOWN TOWN KIDS 1	TALLINN	12.06 - 27.06	KIDS/TEACH	6 vols
EST DT2	DOWN TOWN KIDS 2	TALLINN	26.06 - 11.07	KIDS/TEACH	6 vols
EST DT3	DOWN TOWN KIDS 3	TALLINN	24.07 - 08.08	KIDS/TEACH	6 vols
EST DT4	DOWN TOWN KIDS 4	TALLINN	07.08 - 22.08	KIDS/TEACH	6 vols

Project

This project is organized for local children by The Language School "In Down-Town" and the non-profit educational association "Alternative Language Programs Satellite" (ALPS) as part of their annual activities on multicultural issues for youth. Some international teenage participants may join. The common project's aim is to introduce the diversity of world cultures to children and provide them with good practices in intercultural communication using the learning-by-doing method and organizing alternative English language practice. The project gets youngsters familiar with customs and traditions of the countries from all over the world and encourages them to develop their cross-cultural thinking and tolerance as well as global thinking and individual initiative. This summer we offer you to participate in our project called "LANDSCAPES". We invite volunteers to support our camp participants' learning about a new trend of ecosystems in nature, society, technologies, economy, politics and human relationships. Together, we plan to find out how these complex deeply interwoven ecosystems shape the way we live, learn and thrive, and what those competences are that empower humans to understand, navigate, and positively influence them. Camp participants will try to develop their strategies for a holistic, interconnected view of the world and gain ideas on how not just to survive in a complex world - but to help reshape it toward greater justice, sustainability, and flourishing for all life. Meetings with local and/or international professionals in the field will take place. Thematic photo and video contests for camp participants will be organized.

NB! It is possible and you are welcome to apply for 2 shifts in a row EST DT1 + EST DT2 or EST DT3 + EST DT4

Work

Activating kids in the city camp and providing them with cross-cultural learning experience based on the theme of the year announced above. Volunteers will do it by using various informal methods of teaching as well as small group techniques. The activities to be held by a team of volunteers may include the following: playing the games and performing music that are popular in the countries the volunteers represent; training kids to perform pieces of amateur drama; preparing festivals; providing intellectual and sport games as well as discussions; preparing quests to combine with excursions round the places of interest; organizing actions for peace and nature; leading and supporting kids in their work on the team projects within the topics related to the main theme of the summer. Volunteers are responsible for the day activities in the camp. **The work can be quite demanding, involving long working hours, requiring high level of commitment and responsibility.** You will stay with campers from 10:00 to 17:00 (45-minute lunch is included) and spend about another hour to prepare and finalize next day activities and feedback. Working days are from Monday to Saturday; Sundays are days off except the one after arrival. The local participants are mainly youngsters from minority groups of Tallinn whose family's languages include Russian. Based on the previous year, we expect a number of kids/teens participants in one camp shift as up to 40. Volunteers will work in pairs facilitating and leading a smaller group of 10 - 12 children or less during the day and change the groups every 2-3 days. There are three main age groups: 6-9 years old, 10-13 years old and 14-16 years old.

During the first three days of the workcamp after arrival, volunteers will be given a training on the camp methodology and some time to prepare themselves to meet the kids/teens on Monday and further carry out their tasks in the camp. For this reason, **it is important to arrive on time.**

Arrival

A volunteer is expected to arrive to the camp location **before 20:00 on a day the shift starts** (namely, Friday 12/06/2026; Friday 26/06/2026; Friday 24/07/2026; Friday 07/08/2026). **Please make sure that you are at school on time** and choose to arrive one day before in case there is no flight to be taken to arrive by 20:00 on your first project day.

Accommodation

The premises of The Language School "In Down-Town" located on the 4th and 5th floors of a business building in the city centre. In summer time, a part of the school is reserved for the volunteers' accommodation that includes several separate dormitory bedrooms, a fitted kitchen, a small dining area, a large shower area and two separate toilet cabins. Bed linen, towels, pillows and blankets will be provided, so you do NOT need to bring a sleeping bag. For the reasons of security, volunteers will be issued **only one** set of keys. To facilitate a smooth and safe environment at school during the off-hours, the entrance to the school must be kept closed at all times. The access to the school and accommodation areas will be managed by long-term volunteers or school staff. Please be aware that **from midnight until 09:00 a.m.** the access to the building will be closed. Catering will be organized by the school on an agreement with the volunteers (meals times, provided or volunteers cook, etc.)

Please note: **it is not possible to stay at any of the camp accommodation options before or after the camp arrival and departure days.** If you need a place to stay before or after the workcamp dates, we can help you to book a hostel in Tallinn.

Location

Camp takes place in the school that is situated in the center of Tallinn, Estonian capital www.visittallinn.ee/eng

Special requirements

You have to be **really motivated** to work with kids. **Please provide a letter of your motivation** along with the application form. Please note that before making a final decision about your participation in the camp, **the project coordinator will have a video interview with you.**

Any experience of working with children is an advantage. Your ideas and actual preparation to do the activities for kids are essential, so a successful volunteer will be required to meet the team online to discuss and complete some preliminary preparation. We ask you to bring some materials: postcards, posters, symbols of your country, music or popular national games etc., which can be used during your country presentation. We expect active volunteers with a good knowledge of history and culture of their country as well as with an ability and wish to present it to others in a creative way. **B2 level of English is required. The age of volunteers is from 20 to 30.**

NB! Due to volunteers work with minors, we expect them to provide a **criminal clearance** and a **doctor's check** certificate. Please make sure that you have a **travel insurance** certificate before arrival as well.

Leisure time

There are a lot of possibilities for leisure time activities as the camp takes place in the capital where one can find attractions for all tastes: sightseeing and museums, festivals, concerts, live music, pubs, etc. The camp provides an excellent opportunity to establish contacts with young Estonians and to experience the local life.

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **60 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make it, please contact your sending organization for a solution.

EST LTA1	Taevaskoja Youth Camp 1	POLVA	01.07 - 08.07	KIDS	3 vols
EST LTA2	Taevaskoja Youth Camp 2	POLVA	08.07 - 15.07	KIDS	3 vols
EST LTA3	Taevaskoja Youth Camp 3	POLVA	15.07 - 23.07	KIDS	3 vols
EST LTA4	Taevaskoja Youth Camp 6	POLVA	08.08 - 16.08	KIDS	3 vols

Project

Taevaskoja Youth Camp is adventurous hiking camp that has been active for over 30 years. The aim of Taevaskoja camp is to support children's development through non-formal education. During the youth camp kids participate in different workshops about health, safety, culture and enjoy climbing and hiking activities. Taevaskoja is located in South-Estonia, about 220 km from Tallinn. The camp site is very close to the one of the most popular natural touristic place - Suur Taevaskoda (The Large Heaven's Hall), surrounded by beautiful forest and close to the one of the longest rivers in Estonia. Such location brings children closer to unspoiled nature and gives them an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with Estonian national heritage richly presented in the area. The camp aims also to develop children's knowledges about different cultures and support the growth of tolerance. To do that Taevaskoja Youth Camp invites international volunteers to join the camp as animators. Children come to Taevaskoja camp from all over Estonia. Most of them have basic knowledge of English and are very happy to have a chance to practice it. More information on www.taevaskoja.ee/taevaskoja-noortelaager/ Camp has several periods with different age groups of kids. **NB! It is possible to join for several camp shifts in a row in July.**

Work

Each day of the camp will have a program completed by local coordinators and the volunteers will be helping to realize it. The main activities will be intercultural learning through finding differences and similarities between Estonia and countries, where volunteers come from (history, traditions, language, singing, dancing). It will be done through games, drama, sport, discussions. **We expect that volunteers would lead a workshop connected with their culture (traditional dances, songs, games, everyday life, food specialities, etc.)** It can be an educational one or as a game to play. Therefore we look for active volunteers with good knowledge of history and culture of their country and ability to present it. Volunteer will work in partnership with professional local educators and youth workers – 9 staff members. The age of children is from 8 to 18 depending on shift.

Accommodation

In the same house with kids, separate room for volunteers and staff members (2-3 people in the same room). Volunteers will eat together with children and staff in the canteen. Showers, toilets and Wi-Fi are available.

Location

Taevaskoja is a tiny village in South-Estonia with 90 habitants. Distance from Tallinn is 220 km. But in summer it becomes one of the most visited natural sights. <http://www.taevaskoja.ee/taevaskoja-loodus> <https://www.visitestonia.com/en/suur-ja-vaike-taevaskoda-sandstone-outcrops>

Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn. Alternatively you can arrive to Riga, capital of Latvia. From these cities it is easy to travel to Tartu by bus. From Tartu you can come to Taevaskoja by regular bus or train. Arrival is on the first day of the camp in the evening, around 18-19. Departure is on the last day of the camp in the morning.

Special requirements

You have to love kids and be really **motivated to work** with them. The work demands serious commitment and it can be hard sometimes. Experience in work with children is an advantage. We expect active volunteers with good knowledge of history and culture of their country and ability to present it. All exciting ideas of activities for kids, games etc. are welcome. Good ability to communicate in English is needed, knowledge of Russian may be useful. Please note: **this is a national camp** for local kids, therefore **Estonian language is mostly used** by participants and staff members. However, staff and many kids speak English – just be outgoing and brave to ask and talk to them! **The age of participants is 20-35.**

Leisure time

Plenty of possibilities: hiking, swimming, sunbathing, sports, games, excursions to the places of interest in the area.

Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **50 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. In case of participation in **more than one shift** the total fee is **80 Euro**. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.**

EST TS1	SPARTA 1	NOVA	27.06 - 08.07	TEEN/ ENVI	30 int + 20 loc
EST TS2	SPARTA 2	NOVA	07.07 - 18.07	TEEN/ ENVI	40 int + 10 loc
EST TS3	SPARTA 3	NOVA	17.07 - 28.07	TEEN/ ENVI	40 int + 10 loc
EST TS4	SPARTA 4	NOVA	27.07 - 07.08	TEEN/ ENVI	40 int + 10 loc
EST TS5	SPARTA 5	NOVA	06.08 - 17.08	TEEN/ ENVI	30 int + 10 loc
EST TS6	SPARTA 6	NOVA	16.08 - 27.08	TEEN/ ENVI	30 int + 10 loc

Project

This camp is organized for teenagers by youth sport club Lukas-Basket which has been running national youth camps for 25 years and International ones for the past 15 years. International teenage camps will be hosted on seaside in the West of Estonia in Laanemaa County in the municipality of Nova. Beautiful nature, numerous historical places, 200 years long tradition of health resort, unique cultural events are the treasures of the County. Nova with warm sea bay, white sand, mushroom and berry crops, picturesque lakes, cobble stone road and many places of interest is ideal place for leisure. The aim of Nova camp is to give young people possibility to have active, healthy and meaningful summer vacations with different sport adventures, to enjoy unspoiled nature and to learn to live in harmony with it, but also to explore and realize their own capacities and limits. The program will include water activities, sport and ball games, eco-hikes, bicycle trips to places of interest, horse riding, fishing, rowing, acquaintance with local culture and many other exciting things. ***Mens sana in corpore sano (Healthy Spirit in Healthy Body)*** – this is the main message of the camp! Besides all this, camp gives possibility for intensive contacts between local youth and their peers from abroad, showing youngsters the diversity of world cultures, broadening their horizons and encouraging active communication through games and creative activities. Finally, **there will be some voluntary work for nature protection and to support local community.**

The area of the camp is about 3 hectares and it can host up to 60 youngsters on one shift. The age of local participants is 10-18. Local teenagers are mainly Russian-speaking of minority communities of Estonia. Videos from past camps are available here <https://www.facebook.com/100001353283293/videos/1230983641495965/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwTAJF6pIGs&feature=youtu.be>
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rvqGZRs9FZMcxHtJfCjVJaLo6RT1J7B/view?usp=drivesdk>

Program

There are diverse activities in the camp program: canoeing, water scootering, tubing in the sea, running ATV, paintball in the forest, sport games - football, rugby, volleyball, athletics, table tennis, archery, frisbee, disc-golf, trampolines, different competitions, cross, sport orientation in the forest on and on sea (navigation), fishing, bicycle trips to explore the area, visit to the horse farm with horse riding, excursions historical places of interest in the area, active games, picnics on a seaside, building sand and stones castles on the beach, Estonian sauna party, etc. Bikes are available for the whole camp duration free of charge.

Work

There will be also some voluntary work such as painting of community buildings, repairing benches and tables, cleaning local beach and old local park from garbage, planting trees, little renovation works in the local school, clearing pavement, helping seniors living in the community with some household duties, preparing fire woods for heating, berries and herbs picking to give the crop to the orphanage and seniors home, duty in a kitchen and around the camp once in a shift, etc. The work will be organised in cooperation with local forestry department, municipality of Nova and local school. **Please note that the work described above is planned for the whole summer and it may change from one shift to another depending on local needs, the season and weather conditions.**

Accommodation

In wooden huts set by the local school nearby the seaside (500 m away). Please **bring your sleeping bag** and mat. Showers, toilets are provided in the school and there will be additional bio-toilets set on camping site. You can use traditional Estonian sauna. There is washing machine at the camp. WiFi is available.

Catering

Meals are served 3 times a day. There are water machines with cold water. Catering takes place in the school's mess hall or into the lager tent outside near the mess. Meals are cooked by professional cooks. Participants are asked to help cleaning.

Medical Aid

Camp staff members have medical certificates and are able to provide the first aid. And there is a car on call 24/7 which goes to the nearest hospital, which is 40km away, in more serious case of any emergency.

Location

Nova is one of 11 municipalities of Laanemaa with about 400 inhabitants, located on the seaside 90 km west from capital of Estonia Tallinn and 40 km north from Haapsalu, famous spa town with many historic and cultural sites. More information on www.novavald.ee/index.php/1 The camp is located on former Nova basic school's territory. However, a lot of activities will be taking place at various sites outside Nova.

Surroundings and camp's infrastructure

School building
Sports hall
Table tennis
Wooden houses
Information centre
Refreshments stall with water coolers
Gym equipment for fitness exercises on school's territory
Football field
Basketball court on the school's territory
Volleyball court on the beach
4 lakes within 4 km from the camp side
2 sand beaches in the distance from 0,5-7 km
Forest Management Centre wooden tents with table and grill for picnic near the beach
Hiking paths marked by Forest Department
Grocery store and cafe

Terminal and arrivals/ departure

Airport, bus station, harbor in Tallinn; **specialy arranged bus to Nova**. Pick up in the airport will be organized. Then participants will be accompanied either to the direct public bus or to taxi to go to the meeting point at **Õismäe tee 177, Õismäe Sportmängude Hall** (Sport Hall of Games) where group leaders will be waiting for them.

On arrival day there is relaxation, getting to know each other, ball games in the sport hall, dinner, lodging for the night at the sport hall. Showers and WC are in the facility of the sport hall. On the next day there is a breakfast at 8 am and departure to camp site. On the last day of the camp there is a breakfast and departure at 11:30 am from the camp with the arrival to Tallinn airport by 13:00. If your departure is scheduled to an earlier hour a special transfer from the camp to the airport can be booked at additional fee. In case of earlier arrival or later departure accommodation in hostel can be booked upon request.

Special requirements

Participants have to be sporty, be ready to run up to 3 km and bike up to 40 km, independent enough, adaptable, curious and interested in active life style. **Many activities will take place at different locations outside Nova, so it is crucial that you can ride bike to get there**. Please bring sleeping bag, wind and waterproof clothes, goods shoes, warm and summer clothes. **It's advisable to take thermal underwear**.

If possible, please take tick vaccination before coming. **Please inform us beforehand about allergies, dietary requirements you have or others prescriptions from your doctor**.

Generally, the age of participants is 14-17, however exceptions are possible.

NB! Smoking, drinking alcohol, using drugs is absolutely prohibited in the camp and this policy will be followed strictly! Thus, if you cannot quit smoking for a while, it is probably better not to come.

Camp common language is English. Local languages are Estonian and Russian.

Participation fee

Unlike a "normal" camp there will be not too much of work here. Nevertheless, participants will be provided with board, lodging, local transportation and all equipment necessary to realize camp program. Besides, program involves a lot of extra costs for excursions, trips out, visits, sport activities, equipment, materials and general administration and leadership. Since neither EstYES nor its local camp partner, does not receive financial support for this camp from municipality or private sources, to realize this camp we have to charge participation fee of **550 Euro, which covers all camp and program costs including transfer from Tallinn to and from the camp, and which has to be paid by bank transfer before the camp or by participants upon arrival to the camp**. The bank details will be provided after the acceptance of the participant to the camp.

NB! Participants coming from outside Europe are asked to consult with us before paying fee by bank transfer to reduce high banking charges.

	General Program
1 day	<p>Arrival to Tallinn. Pick up in the airport and assistance with local transportation.</p> <p>Getting to the address: Õismäe tee 177, Õismäe Sportmängude Hall (Sport Hall of Games)</p> <p>Relaxation and rest, possible ball games, dinner, lodging for the night in the sport hall.</p>
2 day	<p>8.00-Breakfast</p> <p>08.30 Departure to Nova camp</p> <p>11.00 arrival to Nova camp</p> <p>11.00-11.45 accommodation and assembly</p> <p>12.00-14.00 sports competitions</p> <p>14.00-15.00 lunch</p> <p>15.30-19.00 sports and social activities</p> <p>19.00-20.00 dinner</p> <p>20.15-22.00 leader's time - play to explore</p> <p>22.00-23.00 free time</p> <p>23.00 time to sleep</p>
3 day-11 day	<p>07.30 waking up</p> <p>08.00–8.30 gymnastics on the seaside</p> <p>09.00–10.00 breakfast</p> <p>10.00–10.10 assembly</p> <p>10.10–11.00 free time (table tennis, badminton, athletics, archery, darts, fishing, etc. by wish)</p> <p>11.00–13.00 trainings (volleyball, rugby, paintball, sports competitions, football, basketball, orienteering in the forest and at sea, bicycle trips, hiking, swimming - one of those every day)</p> <p>13.00–14.00 free time (table tennis, badminton, athletics, fishing, etc. according to wish)</p> <p>14.00–15.00 lunch</p> <p>15.30–19.00 sports and social activities (going with canoe, sea tubing, visiting the horse farm and riding, sea swimming, visit the museum of nature and ethnography, volunteer's work, handicrafts), going with ATV, etc.</p> <p>19.00–20.00 dinner</p> <p>20.15–22.00 group activities time: funny competitions, amusements, games, sauna, bonfire, etc.</p> <p>22.00–23.00 free time</p> <p>23.00 time to sleep</p>
12 day	<p>breakfast</p> <p>11.30 transfer from Nova to Tallinn</p> <p>13:30 arrival to Tallinn airport and further transfer to bus station</p>

EST TDT11	TEEN DOWN TOWN 11	TALLINN	14.06 – 21.06	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT12	TEEN DOWN TOWN 12	TALLINN	21.06 – 27.06	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT13	TEEN DOWN TOWN 13	TALLINN	28.06 – 05.07	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT14	TEEN DOWN TOWN 14	TALLINN	05.07 – 11.07	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT15	TEEN DOWN TOWN 15	TALLINN	26.07 – 02.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT16	TEEN DOWN TOWN 16	TALLINN	02.08 – 08.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT17	TEEN DOWN TOWN 17	TALLINN	09.08 – 16.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT18	TEEN DOWN TOWN 18	TALLINN	16.08 – 22.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT21	TEEN DOWN TOWN 21	TALLINN	14.06 – 27.06	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT22	TEEN DOWN TOWN 22	TALLINN	28.06 – 11.07	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT23	TEEN DOWN TOWN 23	TALLINN	26.07 – 08.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc
EST TDT24	TEEN DOWN TOWN 24	TALLINN	09.08 – 22.08	TEEN/ STUDY	12 int + 10 loc

Project

International language camp is organized for teenagers by The Language School “In Down-Town” and the non-profit educational association “Alternative Language Programs Satellite” (ALP S) as part of their annual activities on multicultural issues for youth. The project’s aim is to introduce the diversity of world cultures to the youth and provide them with good practices in intercultural communication by means of alternative English language practice which includes meetings, visits, contacts to young people from abroad. The project gets teens of 14 to 16 years old familiar with national traditions of the countries from all over the world, encourages them to develop their global thinking and individual initiative, tolerance and resistance to xenophobia and ethnic hatred. Camps give foreign participants a great chance to meet youngsters both from Estonia and other countries as well as to experience local life. This summer we offer you to participate in our project called “LANDSCAPES”. We invite you to explore ecosystems that shape the way we live, learn and thrive in the domains of nature, society, technologies, economy, politics and human relationships. Together, we will try to develop working strategies for a holistic, interconnected view of the world such as seeing connections between parts of a whole, co-evolution or understanding unintended consequences. Camp participants will learn to build supportive peer networks and naturally integrate individual aims into existing ecosystems, manage change for alternative future and take initiative, influence synergetic loops and utilize personal progress for mutual sustained prosperity. We hope you will gain ideas on how not just to survive in a complex world of various ecosystems - but to help reshape it toward greater justice and flourishing life.

Meetings with local and/or international professionals in the field will take place. Thematic photo and video contests for camp participants will be organized.

Program

Camp program **may include but is not limited to** team projects, discussions at the round table, social and sport games, performances in the open air, actions for peace and nature, meetings with people, visits to museums and sightseeing as well as presentations of the countries that camp participants and volunteers represent, etc. Every day the camp will have a country presentation, a subject to learn or discuss and a related activity. Teenagers will stay in the camp activities zone from 10:00 to 17:00. 14-day program includes one day off in the camp and at least one day of travel outside Tallinn. The day off is spent either under the leadership of a member of the school staff or in the host family. Camp activities will take place in the premises of the language school that is situated in the very centre of the city. To activate teenagers and run the program, there will be a group of international volunteers and members of the local school staff.

Special features of this summer:

- 1) **ONLY camp shifts for 8 days and 14 days include one trip outside Tallinn.**
- 2) **A teenage camp participant is welcome to extend their stay for one or two weeks within the camp dates.**

Accommodation

In the premises of The Language School “In Down-Town” located on the 4th and 5th floors of a business building in the city centre. In summer time, a part of the school is reserved for the camp participants’ accommodation that includes several separate dormitory bedrooms, a fitted kitchen, a dining area, a large shower area and two separate toilet cabins. Apart from bedrooms, the tea-room for rest will be also organized where teenagers might watch films, read and play board games enjoying soft sofas. Bed linen, pillows and blankets will be provided, so you do NOT need to bring a sleeping bag. For the reasons of security, minimum one school staff member and one volunteer will be staying with camp participants overnights to maintain life, catering and general order on the site. To facilitate a smooth and safe environment at school during the off-hours, the entrance to the school must be kept closed at all times. The access to the school and accommodation areas will be managed by long-term volunteers or school staff. **Please be aware that you must be inside by 22:00 the latest unless supervised outside by a school staff member.** Participants will have breakfasts and dinners at school, lunches – together with other camp participants.

Please note: **it is not possible to stay at any of the camp accommodation options before or after the camp arrival and departure days.** If you need a place to stay before or after the camp dates, we can help you to book a hostel in Tallinn.

Arrival

Camp participant is expected to arrive to the camp location **any Sunday** within the camp dates, prior to the camp starting on Monday. Please communicate to us your arrival time to get ready to your arrival. Pick up in the airport is possible on request.

Location

Tallinn is the capital of Estonia, country's largest city with 450 000 inhabitants and nearly as many tourists during summer. You can get a lot of information on Tallinn on www.visittallinn.ee/eng

Terminal

Airport, bus station, harbor in Tallinn. Pick up by school or families at the point of arrival is possible upon request.

Special requirements

We will welcome any ideas to improve the program and your active participation in it. **English** is the camp language. **The age of international camp participants is 14 – 16.** Please be aware that during the day program of the camp the participants will be asked to leave their cell phones at their accommodation site to ensure safety of the participants and their engagement with the camp activities. To assure a safe environment for all the campers, we expect all our camp participants will provide their parents' letter of consent (**Parental Authorization**) and **travel insurance** certificate.

Leisure time

There are a lot of possibilities for leisure time activities since camp will take place in the Estonian capital Tallinn where one can find attractions for any taste: sightseeing, museums, festivals, concerts, etc.

Participation fee

Unlike the traditional voluntary camp, there will be mostly informal educational activities and guided language practice. Camp program implementation involves costs for boarding and lodging, domestic transport, materials, excursions, visits, cultural activities and general administration. Since neither EstYES, nor its partner ALPS receive any financial support for this camp from state or municipality, to make the camp happen we have to charge **a participation fee of 365 for one week or 630 Euro for two weeks shift.** This is a separate fee that is different from your country sending organization's fee you pay at home. **Our fee has to be paid by participants upon arrival to the camp in cash or by bank transfer prior to the start of the camp.** If you prefer fee to be paid in cash on arrival, please contact us.