WORK CAMPS IN FINLAND
2015
## Work camps in Finland 2015

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<td>18+</td>
<td>30 euros</td>
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<tr>
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<td>FAMILY/ENVI</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>50-80 euros</td>
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</tbody>
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Email: vaihto@alli.fi | Website: www.nuorisovaihto.fi

ALLIANSSI

Allianssi Youth Exchanges promotes intercultural learning and global understanding. Our aim is to give young people a chance to do concrete work with others from different backgrounds and ethnic origins. Allianssi Youth Exchanges is owned by the Finnish Youth Co-operation Allianssi which is the umbrella organisation of Finnish youth and educational organisations with 120 nationwide member organisations.

VOLUNTEERS

Usually most volunteers in our camps are 18-25 years old even though there is no upper age limit. The volunteers come mainly through our European partner organisations, but in every camp there is usually representation from other parts of the world as well. This year we have two camps for younger volunteers with the minimum age of 16 years and one family camp.

WORK

The work is very often manual like painting, renovating or gardening; but one of the main aims of the camps is to encourage and increase intercultural learning between the volunteers and the hosting community. No special skills are required. The working hours are about 30-40 hours per week. Most camps are arranged in small communities in beautiful Finnish countryside.

CAMP LEADER

An Allianssi camp leader is present in each camp. (S)he is either a volunteer with work camp experience or a student of youth work.

ACTIVITIES

There is plenty of opportunities to visit local places of interest and enjoy Finnish countryside, lakes and forests. And Finnish sauna, of course! Most of our camp hosts are municipal youth offices or local associations so there will also be local involvement in the activities.

REGISTRATION FEE

Incoming volunteers are expected to pay a registration fee of 30 euros. The partner organisations are requested to collect the registration fee from volunteers on application and Allianssi will invoice the partners at the end of the season. There is no registration fee on teenage camp Alli06 and family camp Alli17 which have extra fees due to special nature of the camps.
HEALTH ISSUES

In some camps volunteers are insured against accident but there are many camps where the volunteers are not insured at all. Since the travel to the work camp and theft of personal property are also not insured, we expect all the volunteers to take their own travel insurance. In addition, we advise all volunteers from EU countries to take the European health insurance card with them. No drugs are allowed at Allianssi camps under any circumstances. The use of alcohol might be restricted.

LANGUAGE

The language on all our camps is English and all volunteers are expected to be able to communicate in English. It is quite widely spoken, so you will manage in English almost everywhere in Finland.

WHAT TO TAKE WITH

Since the work is usually practical/manual we recommend that the volunteers bring with them sturdy shoes (sometimes also rubber boots) and working clothes and gloves which can get dirty. Bring enough warm clothes for cool evenings. Swimming gear is important to bring with since there are plenty of opportunities for sauna and swimming in a lake. A sleeping bag is a must for most camps. Some music, cooking recipes and photos from the home country are always worth taking with, especially for the international evenings!

FINLAND

Finland; Suomi in Finnish, is situated between Sweden to the west, the tip of Norway in the north, a long border with Russia to the east, and Estonia to the south, across the Gulf of Finland. Finland is the northernmost country in the world after Iceland. But the climate is not as freezing as that might suggest, partly because of the warming influence of the Gulf Stream. During summer sunbathing is even possible as temperatures range from 16°C to 25°C. There may be some rainy and chilly days, and therefore the volunteers should have proper outfit for working outdoors. The short but spectacular spring and autumn seasons help to counterbalance the effect of the winter.

Finland has a long coastline. The archipelago to the south and south west of the country contains around 30,000 islands. Finland is also the land of lakes, almost 200,000 at the last count. Two thirds of the country is covered by forest. In terms of land area, Finland is the seventh largest country in Europe while the population is only about five million. Finland has two official languages: Finnish and Swedish. The currency unit in Finland is the Euro.

USEFUL LINKS

http://virtual.finland.fi (General information about Finland including links for local travel options)

https://www.facebook.com/AllianssiYouthExchanges (Our official Facebook page in English)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/883313701711214/ (Allianssi volunteers 2015, a group for the incoming volunteers for chatting and getting to know each other)
W: The organizer of the camp, Keep Lapland Tidy is an environmental organization established in 1987. Its purpose is to help preserve the clean and enjoyable environment in Lapland and to increase environmental awareness by educating, developing waste management and organize projects and volunteer work and camps. The volunteers will be tidying and taking care of the natural surroundings of the National Park area Pyha-Luosto. There will be 15 Finnish volunteers in addition to 5 international volunteers.

A: Accommodation will be either in cabins or in tents (in organizers 1-2 big tents, or your own). Breakfast, dinner and snacks are made and offered by the organizer in the outdoor kitchen.

L: Pyhaluosto National Park. This picturesque national park is located in east part of Lapland.


T: Pelkosenniemi

SR: Volunteers need to have proper camping gear (warm clothes, warm sleeping bag and outdoor mattress, waterproof working shoes). The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.

Extra fee: 30 euros

W: The host of this camp is the Youth Department of Janakkala. The volunteers will work in a summer camp for local children and youngsters. Volunteers will work alongside the local youth workers and international long term volunteers. Camp activities include arts and crafts, swimming and sauna, hiking, campfire and sports. The aim of this camp is to give international and multicultural experiences to the local children and youth and to break barriers between different cultures. This camp is an excellent opportunity to experience Finnish culture, nature and white nights in midsummer.

A: Volunteers will sleep in the camp center where the summer camp is taking place. During the summer camps, volunteers have meals with the children. At the weekend, the volunteers will cook together.

L: The municipality of Janakkala and the camp centre Mallinkainen is situated in Southern Finland, about 90 kilometers from Helsinki.

T: Hameenlinna

SR: Accepted volunteers will need to provide a certificate of good conduct (criminal record sheet) in English one month before the beginning of the camp and bring the original with them. The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.

Extra fee: 30 euros

W: The camp host is a local village association which works for keeping the village and school alive. The volunteers will have a great chance to get to know Finnish countryside, local culture, traditions and people. The volunteers will assist in two villages in various manual tasks such as painting, renovating and tidying the environment. The volunteers will visit and work in many places for example in local farms in order to get to know where the food really comes from. The volunteers will also organise social activities with the locals for example an activity event for local children and young people. The camp will promote intercultural understanding, involve local people and generally encourage local villages to develop further their activities. There will also be other program such as excursions to local nature and cultural sights, swimming in the lakes etc. Volunteers can experience Finnish peaceful nature as its best, not to forget that it will be perfect timing to see the midnight sun.

A: Accommodation will be in a small local school. The volunteers will prepare some meals themselves, lunches are usually provided in work places.
L: The two locations belong to Kauhajoki (www.kauhajoki.fi). The area is beautiful with lakes and nature.  
T: Kauhajoki. The nearest railway station is in Seinajoki, then you take a local bus.  
SR: The volunteers should to be able to ride bicycle because it is the main means of transportation. The volunteers need take travel insurance for the duration of their stay.  
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI04  Vasatokka I  22.6.-4.7.  Inari  ENVI  Vols: 9  Age: 18+  
W: The camp host Vasatokka is one of national youth centers providing services for young people. The work in this camp will be renovating and cleaning the surroundings of Youth Center Vasatokka and Lake Kettujarvi and assisting in building an outdoor gym. During leisure time there are various possibilities for summer activities such as fishing, exploring the beautiful Lappish nature, swimming and sauna, playing games, and canoeing.
A: The volunteers will be accommodated in a log cabin or apartment with a shared kitchen, shower and toilet. They will prepare meals together.
L: Youth Center Vasatokka is located in the municipality of Inari, in Finnish Lapland, near Lake Muddusjarvi. The area is barren, mostly dry pine forest with lakes, rivers and nice sceneries of arctic hills. For more information: www.vasatokka.fi
T: Inari. The nearest airport is in Ivalo (50 km), and railway station in Rovaniemi (300 km).
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay  
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI05  Old Power 2015  Oulainen  28.6.-11.7.  TEEN/CULT  Vols: 12  Age: 16-17  
W: The camp host is the local 4H club. The work will be to assist in organising a local event called National OldPowerdays 2015. There will be about 20 000 people visiting the happening during three days. The volunteers will assist in practical tasks in arranging the event, e.g. arranging a café, selling refreshments and tidying up the area afterwards. The volunteers must be prepared to do different kind of work in various weather conditions. There will be hard work, but also lots of fun with locals and other volunteers. The aim of the camp is to give the volunteers a chance to experience Finnish nature and culture and enable the local young people to meet youngster from other countries. Various summer activities such as swimming, playing games, excursions to nearby sights and fishing are possible.
A: The accommodation is mainly in local host families.
L: Oulainen is a small town, about 7800 inhabitants. It’s about 100 km south from Oulu and about 550km north from Helsinki.
T: Oulainen
S.R: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI06  Camp Vartiosaari Helsinki  5.7. - 12.7.  TEEN/ENVI  Vols: 15  Age: 16-17  
Extra fee: 150€

W: This camp is organized by Helsinki City Youth Department. In this camp the volunteers will do gardening, planting and some building work on Vartiosaari Island. During the camp there are several summer activities such as sauna and swimming, campfire evenings, exploring the beautiful surrounding nature on the island and a day trip to Helsinki. In this camp you will meet youth from Finland and other countries and get to learn about about nature and sea.
A: Accommodation is organized in the Vartiosaari Island in the youth house and in tents outside. Volunteers will prepare meals together. Be prepared to introduce a special dish from your country to other volunteers!
L: Vartiosaari is a beautiful island located in eastern Helsinki.
T: Helsinki
SR: There is an extra fee of 150 euros. The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.

ALLI07 Luukki Espoo 6.7.-16.7. RENO/ENVI Vols:12 Age: 18+
W: Renovation and cleaning work in different outdoor locations in Espoo, like beaches, harbors and outdoor areas. In camp center Luukki the renovation work includes cleaning up and overall maintenance work in the surrounding yard area. Aim of this camp organized by Espoo City Youth Office is to improve safety and comfort in different areas that are popular among children and young people. For daily work the volunteers will be transported to work places so volunteers will be moving around Espoo and its seashore.
A: In camp center Luukki the volunteers will sleep in the main building which have two big rooms with bunk beds. There is kitchen and dining room in the main building. Food will be prepared by the volunteers in groups. There is a sauna building by a lake. There are good facilities for cooking, washing and free-time activities in the sauna building.
L: Luukki camp center is old former school building by a lake Luukinjarvi in Espoo surrounded by fields and forests. Nearest shop is approx. 10 kilometers from Luukki. Location by the lake offers different possibilities for free time activities. There are boats, canoes and yard games. On weekend there is a possibility to do a trip to town nearby.
T: Espoo. Camp center Luukki is 17 kilometers from Espoo Centre and 30 kilometers from Helsinki City Centre. Nearest airport is Helsinki airport. There is connection bus from Helsinki airport to Espoo Centre. A bus will take the volunteers from Espoo railway station to the Luukki camp centre.
S.R: Please note that Camp center Luukki is quite far away from city centre. The camp is totally drug free/non-alcoholic. The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI08 Lamminaho Vaala 5.7-18.7. RENO Vols:10 Age: 18+
W: This camp is organized by the Municipality of Vaala. The theme of this camp is history and nature combined with Lake Oulujarvi’s recreational opportunities such as Geopark. Volunteers will participate in the renovation of local history museum area in Lamminaho, and making a traditional Finnish wooden shingle roof. Lamminaho is a unique complex of buildings that consists of items and buildings that date back to 1700 and onwards. Lamminaho is an exceptionally well-preserved example of the traditional Finnish buildings. The volunteers will also have a chance learn about Rokua Geopark area and experience activities such as hiking and kayaking.
A: The accommodation is in Uiton Maja which is a cottage built in 1930 for the local laborers. There are no showers, only sauna with tap water, and it is possible to heat it up every day and swim as well.
L: Vaala is a beautiful place in northern Finland about 90km from Oulu and 600 km from Helsinki
T: Vaala. The nearest airport is Oulu (100km).
SR: The volunteers need working shoes and travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros
ALLI09 Youth Centre Anjala Kouvola 12.7-25.7.  ENVI Vols: 8 Age: 18+
W: Youth Centre Anjala is one of the 10 national youth centres in Finland, supported and supervised by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture. The Youth Centre has a non-profit civic responsibility of promoting a good life for children and young people. Our main purpose is to serve children and young people as well as support the work of teachers and trainers. The volunteers will be working mainly outdoors to maintain the traditional landscape and park in the area. The volunteers will also join other activities and get to know the everyday life in the Finnish countryside. The goal is to increase multicultural activity in Anjala and its community. More information about the youth centre: www.nuorisokeskusanjala.fi/en
A: Accommodation is organized in a hostel level apartment with shared kitchen, living room and bathroom. The volunteers will get most meals from the canteen of the youth centre, sometimes it might be possible to cook.
L: Anjala is a small village, 25 kilometers from Kouvola and about 140 kilometers from Helsinki. The Youth Centre is situated by a beautiful area by the River Kymijoki. On the same area there is an old manor building and agricultural school. Volunteers can use the facilities and equipment of the youth centre.
T: Kouvola
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI10 Hyvärilä Nurmes 17.7.-1.8. Vols:12 Age:18+
W: Hyvärilä Youth Centre belongs to a national network of 10 youth centres coordinating, implementing and developing youth work and youth policy in Finland. Volunteers will work supporting the Hyvärilä Youth Centre staff in coordinating, organizing and implementing the Nordic 4H Youth Camp organized from 23rd July to 30th July 2015 in Hyvärilä Youth centre bringing together more than 1000 young people from Nordic countries. The volunteers will take responsibilities in supporting practical arrangements of the event (logistics, food service), running intercultural workshops during the 4H camp and generally bringing intercultural flare to the event and working atmosphere of the youth centre.
A: Volunteers will stay in Hyvärilä youth centre’s camping cottages and meals hosted directly in the youth centre
L: Hyvärilä Youth and Holiday centre (www.hyvarila.fi) is located in Nurmes, North Karelia region in eastern Finland. We are located right next to the Lake Pielinen, surrounded by beautiful nature areas.
T: Nurmes, bus and train connections from Helsinki (520 km), nearest airports are Joensuu and Kuopio airports (130 km)
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI11 Keep Lapland tidy II Rovaniemi 19.7.-25.7. ENVI Vols: 5 Age: 18+
W: The organizer of the camp, Keep Lapland Tidy is an environmental organization established in 1987. Its purpose is to help preserve the clean and enjoyable environment in Lapland, Finland and to increase environmental awareness by educating, developing waste management and organizing projects and volunteer work and camps. The volunteers will be cleaning, marking routes and taking care of the nature surroundings of the Arctic Circle Hiking Area. Here you can cross the Arctic Circle and experience the wilds of Lapland just outside Rovaniemi, the home of Santa Claus. A guided tour to a science centre Pilke will be organised for the volunteers. There will be 15 Finnish volunteers in addition to 5 international volunteers.
A: Accommodation in tents (in organizers 1-2 big tents, or your own). Breakfast, dinner and snacks are made and offered by the organizer in an outdoor kitchen.
L: Arctic Circle Hiking Area is situated in Lapland in Rovaniemi area. For more information please see http://www.outdoors.fi/en/arcticcircle
T: Rovaniemi
SR: Volunteers need proper camping gear, warm clothes, warm sleeping bag and outdoor mattress, waterproof working shoes. The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI12 Niva Village Joensuu 26.7-3.8. CULT/RENO Vols: 5 Age: 18+
W: The host of this camp is Niva Village Association. Volunteers will assist in organizing small local events and do some tidying and renovation tasks in Niva village area together with local people. The aim of this camp is cross-cultural learning and to bring multicultural atmosphere to Niva Village. During leisure time, various summer activities such as sports and playing games with locals are possible and there will also be some sightseeing. The volunteers will have the chance to learn about local cultural heritage and traditions in Northern Karelia region.
A: The accommodation is arranged in a Hunters Hut or in tents. Cooking will be done by the volunteers themselves, ingredients will be provided by the host.
L: Niva is a small village, located 30km from a bigger town called Joensuu and it belongs to North Karelia region in eastern Finland. The distance to Helsinki is about 440 kilometers.
T: Joensuu
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay.
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI13 Piispala Kannonkoski 2.8.-15.8. RENO Vols: 10 Age: 18+
W: The camp host Piispala is one network of 10 national youth centres in Finland. One of the main goals of Piispala is to maintain the development of the local, national and international youth work and to serve as a multi-sided centre of sports activities and education. The work is mainly outdoor maintenance work, and it is done in the area of youth centre. The tasks during the work camp include tidying the environment, small renovation and freshening up–tasks in buildings or in the area and gardening/planting. The centre is well equipped for practicing various kinds of sports.
A: Accommodation will be in rooms or cottages. Buffet style meals will be provided by Piispala.
L: Piispala is situated by the beautiful Lake Kivijarvi, 7 kilometers from the village of Kannonkoski. The nearest city is Jyvaskyla, 105 km from Piispala. More information about the region can be found at www.luonnonvoimaa.net
T: Kannonkoski. The nearest railway station and airport are in Jyvaskyla.
SR: The volunteers need to take travel insurance for the duration of their stay.
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI14 WHV Suomenlinna Helsinki 2.8.-15.8. CULT/RENO Vols:15 Age: 18+
W: Suomenlinna (Sveaborg) is a sea fortress, built gradually from 1748 onwards on a group of islands belonging to the district of Helsinki. This very first World Heritage Volunteer project in Suomenlinna aims: Maintaining the most ecologically vulnerable parts of the fortress landscape, speeding up of the most
labour intensive restoration works, raising awareness of Suomenlinna’s sustainability issues among the
visitors and local Helsinki residents and promoting voluntary work and participation for the protection and
development of the fortress. Under supervision of the experts of the Governing Body of Suomenlinna the
World Heritage volunteers will remove harmful vegetation and thereby prevent - especially on the
ramparts – the expansion of harmful species, repair window frames, paint, construct steps on the ramparts,
collect seeds and perform visitor information duties, social media activities and film documentation of the
WHV-experience. There is also reserved time for the exchange of World Heritage knowledge
(presentations, workshops etc.). The volunteers will also be provided with a video camera so that they can
document their own work. The results will be used to promote Suomenlinna’s World Heritage status and
the continuing need to protect and develop it.
A: The volunteers will stay in a hostel, the meals will be provided
L: Suomenlinna is covering an area of 80 ha and consisting of 200 buildings and 6 km of defensive walls, the
fortress stretches over six separate islands. The original fortress was built using local rock and fortified with
a system of bastions over varied terrain.
T: Helsinki. There is a 15 minutes ferryride from the centre of Helsinki.
S.R: The volunteers need to have interest towards World Heritage and prepare themselves before the
camp in order to tell about the World Heritage projects in their home countries. The applicants need to
write a motivation letter explaining why they would like to join the project, if they have any previous
experience in WHVolunteering and what could be their contribution to the project.
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALL15 Remp de Camp Seinajoki 2.-15.8 RENO Vols:15 Age: 18+
W: Organizer of this camp is Youth Services of Seinajoki town. Youth Services are active operator in the
youth work of the town and region. Youth Services offers young people for example youth house activities,
youth information and counseling services, holiday activities, international youth work and events. The
main goal in this camp is to make summer camp area more agreeable for children and other users. During
summertime there are about 400 users in this summer camp area (mostly children and youngsters).
Volunteers of the Remp De Camp are doing little renovation like painting walls, doors and creating some art.
The idea of renovation is to make camp area more modern and comfortable. There will be indoor and
outdoor work.
A: In the camp area there are rooms with beds for 2-3 persons, common shower and sauna and there is a
possibility to go swimming every day. There is a kitchen where volunteers will prepare their own breakfast
and evening snacks. The lunches and dinners are made by a staff member of the camp area.
L: The location of summer camp is 30km from Seinäjoki town center next to the beautiful Sydanmaa lake
in the middle of typical Finnish landscape. There are many buildings and possibilities for spending time
together, also outdoor activities such as football and volleyball fields and camp fireplace.
T: Seinajoki, distance from Helsinki 360km. Nearest railway station is Seinajoki.
SR: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALL16 Nature Poytya 9.8.-16.8. RENO/KIDS Vols: 10 Age:18+
W: This camp is organized together by Municipality of Poytya, local parish and local 4H-club. The volunteers
will be renovating and tidying surroundings and hiking trails. Volunteers should be prepared to present
their own country and its culture to local children and youth while visiting local youth houses. During
leisure time there will be nature activities for volunteers, such as trip to Kurjenrahka National Park (www.outdoors.fi/kurjenrahka) and canoeing and other summer activities, such as sauna and swimming. 
A: Volunteers will be accommodated in the local Youth Centre located in same building with Nature Centre, which runs exhibitions and environmental education.
L: Ylane is a small village surrounded by lakes and forests in Western Finland, about 190 km from Helsinki.
T: Turku
S.R: The volunteers need travel insurance for the duration of their stay
Extra fee: 30 euros

ALLI17 Forest Tikkala 9.8.-22.8. Vols: 16 FAMILY/ENVI Age: 4+
W: Forest is the theme of this family camp. So the volunteers will have a good chance to experience living by the forest, working there as well as picking berries and mushrooms. The work includes landscaping the camp surroundings, cleaning up the forest around the camp, gathering wood and making firewood. Quite easy physical work outside. Kitchen chores are also done by the volunteers. Possibility to learn how to make blueberry jam... The plan is to have classes from local school visit the camp so the children in the camp would have a chance to meet Finnish children and young people. The camp host is a local non-governmental organization called Pohjoisen Korpilahden Yhteistyöyhdistys which aims to improve the living conditions of the local people in the area. It organizes different kinds of events and is also in charge of the Hangasjarvi camp site.
A: In the main building there is a big central room with cooking facilities. Connected to this central room there are four separate sleeping rooms (with doors), each with beds for 6 people. There is a separate sauna building by the lake and some huts. Conditions are basic.
L: Hangasjarvi is a very peaceful area surrounded by woods and by a lake. The area has a long history in using wood – traces can be seen also in Hangasjarvi. Tikkala is the closest village - about 7 km from the camp so this is a real countryside location. Typical Finnish summer activities such as sauna, swimming and fishing are possible, also a visit to a nearby town can be organized during the weekend.
T: Jyvaskyla. Closest big town is Jyvaskyla (about 25 km, 30 minutes) from Hangasjarvi. There are good connections from Helsinki to Jyvaskyla (c. 270 km) by air, train or bus.
Extra fee: This is a family camp meant for nature loving families with children aged 4-15 years. There is an extra fee which is 50 euros per child aged 4-11 and 80 euros per person for 12-15 year old children and adults. We require a motivation letter from each family.