

## Helping local farmers on the romantic island of Hiiumaa !

### 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 The island of Hiiumaa was first mentioned in historical documents as a deserted island called Dageida in 1228.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 13<sup>th</sup> century. Nowadays Hiiumaa is the second biggest island of Estonia with the area of 965 sq. km and the population around 10 000. 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, and EstYES feels particularly proud developing international voluntary projects for almost twenty years there. Besides, for years EstYES has been cooperating with eco-farms all over Estonia for solidarity, respect and practical support to local people who work in agricultural sector keeping traditional life style and developing new eco-farming despite of all difficulties. Alliksaare Farm on Hiiumaa Island is one of such projects. This is an organic farm promoting sustainable lifestyle, and this camp is proposed for volunteers who appreciate and share its values, want to learn more about it and to help hard working people. Alliksaare Farm has another important task taking care of coastal meadows which are international birds' migration area under protection of NATURA Program. Videos of past camps <http://vimeo.com/55764079> , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEAc2Sch6f8>

### Work

Alliksaare Farm main direction is horses and cattle farming. At the moment there are around 100 cows and over 50 horses on the farm. Generally, the work will be to take care and maintain the pastures located by the sea (clearing around the pastures, building or removing fences, repairing fences). Another work is cleaning the coast nearby the farm from rubbish brought by storms. There can be some work for preparing food for cows for winter time. In Farm you can work with horses, take care of them and together with owner train horses. Moreover, if you have some experience and interest you can ride horses. The work will be mainly outdoors. The working time will be around 6-8 hours a day. Work will be done under the supervision of the local host as well as independently.

### 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.

### Location

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

### Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn. From the airport, bus nr 2 or tram nr 4 going to the city centre stops at the Tallinn Bus station. From the bus station buses go to Hiiumaa two times per day taking you straight there (including ferry transportation from the mainland). Timetables are available online at [www.tpilet.ee](http://www.tpilet.ee)

### Special requirements

You have to be open-minded and be ready to adapt to the simple conditions of the common life in the countryside of Estonia. Be ready for independent work and stay without permanent supervision. Please consider that the work is mainly farm work which can be hard sometimes. It is very good if you have some technical skills. Having driving licence is an advantage. It would be good if you have some experience in horse riding and/or cows milking. Camp is not suitable for people with allergy, especially lactose allergy since the host offers a lot of milk products.

**Smoking and drinking alcohol is not permitted on the farm.**

**NB! It is possible to adapt the period of stay and its duration to your availability. Feel free to ask it!**

### Leisure time

There are a lot of interesting natural picturesque sights on the island as well as good possibilities for swimming in the sea or hiking in the forest. It is possible to visit other parts of Hiiumaa island on the week-end, which is planned by the host. Hiiumaa offers a lot of various cultural events in summer time and volunteers will have the possibility to join some of them. This camp is perfect for people who enjoy being close to the nature and are interested in traditional way of rural living.

### Participation fee

There is **participation fee of 150 Euro** towards the costs of the general administration. It covers the whole period of stay regardless of its duration. **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**

The project is organized for local schoolchildren in the age of 6 to 16 years old by the Language School "In Down-Town" and non-profit association "Alternative Language Programs Satellite". The general project's aim is to introduce the diversity of world cultures, national customs and traditions to camp participants, develop their cross-cultural thinking and tolerance. At the same time the project opens wide perspectives for the participants (both youngsters and volunteers) to gain and improve their soft skills which will make their educational and future working career more successful – such as communication and teamwork skills, language and intercultural competences. The project's aims are achieved within the framework of international summer language camps where task-based activities, discussion sessions and creative workshops are organized by a team of the local staff and international volunteers providing meaningful summer holidays for local and international youngsters. This year camps' topic is Indigenous Languages.

## **Work**

All summer camps are held under one common idea, though every camp has its own theme within which all the activities for teens are organized. Each day of the camp program has a special topic to be discussed and a related activity to work out the outcome. There is also a creative and interactive presentation of a country-participant every day to introduce general and interesting facts about the country as well as cultural customs and national traditions to schoolchildren. The standard number of days in a shift is 10, and there is a special agenda on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> camp days (camp introductory and final events, the mid-camp event, the day outside Tallinn). Every camp is thoroughly documented.

The samples of the topics to be discussed with youngsters are as follows: "Healthy body, healthy spirit", "Good habits", "My small home in the big world", "War and peace", etc. The related activities suitable to support topic discussions and country presentations are as follows: various intellectual and sport games for youngsters, creative team projects like posters and sculptures or board-games, pieces of amateur drama or other types of performances, actions for peace and nature protection, playing the games and music popular in the countries the volunteers represent, teaching their songs or folk dances, etc.

There are six-seven camps during this summer project which are of different length (5-10 days) and types (city or country), and for different ages. There is a two-week break for the volunteer in July. The working language in most of the camps is English. An average number of volunteers working with schoolchildren in one camp is 8; they work in pairs with one of the camp groups of 10-12 teens and change the groups every 2-3 days. An average number of camp participants is 40 who are split into four camp groups; most of local kids are Russian-speaking of Russian minority community. The volunteers arrive before the actual camp dates and are first trained to do their job in the camp; they have one day off during the camp shift.

Based on what is described, the work and duties of the volunteer include the following: prepare and facilitate topic discussions and camp activities for smaller teams of youngsters as well as larger all-camp events, support and lead youngsters in their work on team projects; help the youngsters and other volunteers in their performances and country presentations; assist the program leader implementing camp activities and trainings for other volunteers; work on the documenting camp events and support the local staff in their work with an international team of volunteers – organizing folders with working materials, making on-line reports and advert, making analysis, compiling the camp albums and leaflets, taking care of other volunteers, providing feedback, etc. The work can be pretty hard, involving long working hours on some days, requiring high commitment and responsibility for the camp program.

## **Accommodation**

Camp will take place in Tallinn, at the premises of the Language School "In Down-Town". School is based on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors in a business building in the centre of Tallinn. In summer time the school doubles as accommodation for the volunteers as a part of International Language Camp. For volunteers' security we have to keep the school safe all the time. As you will be authorized to hold the school's keys, you have to be at the school to provide access to the building whenever needed.

## **Location**

5-6 camps take place in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. More information on [www.visittallinn.ee/eng](http://www.visittallinn.ee/eng) One camp takes place in the country side, near to Viljandi.

## **Special requirements**

You have to be **really motivated** to work with kids. **Please provide a letter of your motivation** along with the application form. Experience in work with children is an advantage. Your ideas and actual preparation to do the activities for kids are essential. 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.** Please note that before making final decision about your participation in the camp, the project coordinator will have Skype interview with you.

## **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 **50 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. 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 solution.

**Project**

Kivisaare Ratsatalu - Horse Riding Farm - is a fantastic place surrounded by wonderful nature where one can learn everything about horses, practice horse riding and go hiking on horse. The farm is visited by adults and kids interested in horses. Moreover, during summer vacations this farm hosts a number of children camps where they can learn taking care of horse and horse riding. Farm welcomes everybody interested in horses and nature! All horses are educated, trained and are calm. Following our mission to support local farmers in rural areas to develop and maintain their diverse programs and products EstYES invites international volunteers to help this farm to run their summer projects with local kids. More information about farm is on <http://www.kivisaare.ee/>

**Work**

Kivisaare Farm hosts a lot of horse riding camps in summer. These camps participants are children and young people aged 8-17. One shift hosts 10-12 kids and lasts 5 full days. Then after 2 days break another shift begins. Children speak Estonian and Russian, only some of them can speak English. Camp program includes, horse riding training, learning about horse riding equipment and taking care of horses, biking and horse riding trips, swimming in the local lake, sport games, adventure trail, learning cooking and grilling, bonfire evenings, etc. Volunteer are asked to assist farm hosts to run all these activities and to help all cleaning between shifts. It includes taking care of horses, cleaning and washing them, cleaning and preparing horse riding equipment on one hand. On the other hand, after each camps is finished, all facilities have to be cleaned to be ready to host the new group. This involves washing and ironing bed linnes, vacuum-cleaning of the rooms and carpets, washing floors, etc. Volunteers can also organise various games and evening activities for children, go with children to horse and bike trips. Also volunteers will be asked to cut the grass and make hey time to time.

**Accommodation**

The accommodation is good – in wooden cottage. We provide bed linen and towels. There is a kitchen with all necessary equipment for cooking. Local traditional food will be provided. Volunteer can use sauna.

**Location**

Kivisaare Ratsatalu is located in Aegviidu, Harju County. This is an area of outstanding beauty well known by Estonians who enjoy hiking there. There are a lot of forests, marshes, lakes <https://loodusegakoos.ee/where-to-go/recreation-areas/aegviidu-korvemaa-recreation-area> It is situated in the north-centre of Estonia, approximately 65 m from Tallinn, 5 km from Janeda known for a nice Manor House and a lot of activities organised there in summer <https://www.visitestonia.com/en/janeda-manor> . Estonian capital is easily accessible by train within one hour journey.

**Terminal**

Airport, harbour, bus station in Tallinn. Train from Ylemiste station to Aegviidu. Pick up by the host.

**Special requirements**

You have to be motivated for work with kids, open-minded, creative, hardworking and ready to adapt to the simple conditions of the common life in the countryside of Estonia. Volunteers should be able to ride horse and bike, be fit and – most important – like horses! Previous experience and skills is an advantage. It is a big plus if volunteer can speak Russian, which will make them able to communicate with kids.

**Leisure time**

There are a lot of interesting natural picturesque sights in the area as well as possibilities for swimming in the lake or hiking in the forest. It is ideal for people who love horses and stay in nature! Besides, there are a lot of cultural activities run at Janeda Manor almost every weekend in summer. Finally, it takes less than one hour to get by train to Tallinn with its vivid life in summer period.

**Participation fee**

There is **participation fee of 150 Euro** towards the costs of the general administration. It covers the whole period of stay regardless of its duration. **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.