Les Villages des Jeunes

ERASMUS+ SEMINAR

THE ART OF BEING A CAMPLEADER

29 NOV to 5 DEC 2026

CALL OF PARTICIPANTS

VAUNIERES, FRANCE

CAMPLEADING SEMINAR

29 NOV - 5 DEC 2026

CONTEXT ///////

The Erasmus+ seminar '**The Art of being a Camp Leader**' invites you to immerse yourself in the world of international youth exchanges and work camps and discover how to become a responsible, inclusive and inspiring leader.

Being a camp leader is not just about being a leader : it's about **building confidence**, **involving everyone** in decisions, **valuing skills** and transforming **cultural differences** into collective strengths. It also means learning how to manage the challenges of **meeting the local population**, creating a respectful environment (safety, consent, equality, rules of conduct) and making every shared moment – a meal, a daily task, a work session – an opportunity for learning, empowerment and encounter.

The programme includes **discussions**, **role-playing**, **practical tools** and real-life experiences so that you, in turn, can bring to life an international youth exchange or work camp where everyone feels involved, recognised and safe.

The seminar will **also include dedicated moments of self-reflection and introspection, inviting you to explore your role as a leader, your place within a group, and your place in the wider world and society.**

AUDIENCE /////// YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IF…

you have been, or plan to be, a leader on an international youth exchange or workcamp; if you work, or wish to work, with camp leaders; if you work for an organisation that organises workcamps and youth exchanges; or if you are interested informal education, or leadership in general.

LET'S TALK ABOUT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A CAMPLEADER

What we want from youth exchanges and workcamps / What a camp leader is and who they are for / Interculturality in workcamps and youth exchanges / Experiences that have gone wrong and how to avoid repeating them / How to create links with the local population and why it's important....

GOALS //// THIS SEMINAR* WISHES TO

Create an opportunity to exchange insights on camp leadership, discuss real situations and seek advice from others. Nurture links between camp leaders throughout Europe.

We also hope that participants will take the opportunity to propose and lead their own workshop on this topic. This will enable everyone to share their experiences and practices, and to enrich the seminar with a variety of different perspectives.

*THIS IS NOT A MASTERCLASS

An international youth exchange or a workcamp can take many different forms, depending on the camp leader. Political activism, historical contexts, financial constraints, intercultural dynamics and your own personal perspective all influence the way you lead. Our aim is not to tell you what to do step by step, but to share with you the different approaches and experiences we have developed, so that you can find your own way of leading.

LOCATION //// HAMLET OF VAUNIERES

Since 1964, the Les Villages des Jeunes association has managed, run and renovated the Vaunières reception centre in the Hautes-Alpes. This former mountain hamlet is now a welcoming place where young people and adults experiencing difficulties can learn and take a holiday.
The international projects that we organise provide an insight into the wider world. Here, people of all ages and backgrounds come together through work and community life.
We hope that everyone will come with an open mind, as this is at the heart of our project.

FOOD & BOARD //

You will be accommodated in our shared accommodation, L'Hôtellerie, in rooms for 3 to 4 people. Bathroom facilities are located on each floor. A kitchen and dining room with a fireplace are available for your use on the ground floor.

Daily life is organized collectively. You will cook together and take part in the daily chores, such as doing the dishes, cleaning, and keeping the shared spaces tidy.

On the site, it's important to know that **you won't be eating meat every day**. Even if meals are not strictly vegetarian (except for volunteers who request it), Solidarités Jeunesses attaches great importance to protecting the environment and therefore wishes to reduce meat consumption on the work sites.

Please note that there is no mobile phone network coverage or internet access at the venue. The nearest shop is about a 30-minute drive from the venue, so please make sure to bring everything you may need with you.

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MEETING POINT LUS-LA-CROIX-HAUTE

Lus-la-Croix-Haute train station directly linked to Grenoble and Veynes Dévoluy/ check out timetables and book tickets here

Arrival possible from 4:00 PM onwards. Shuttle services will be organised between the train station and the venue.

Airports with the best train connections: Marseille, Lyon Saint-Exupéry, Paris

travel budget 100 to 500km / 285€* / 211€
from 500 to 2000km / 417€*/ 309€
from 1000 to 3000km / 535€* / 395€
*green travel (no flying) **>>>>> more info**

CONTACT //////

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LOOKING FORWARD TO

Find out what it means to be a good youth worker; Meet experienced and novice youth workers; Meet partner organisations across Europe; Inspire one another; Share your ideas; Keep your hopes alive; Spend a week working in the French Alps, in the south of the country!