



SCI Switzerland

Volunteering for Peace

Service Civil International Swiss branch • Monbijoustrasse 32 • 3011 Bern

+41 (0)31 381 46 20 • info@scich.org • www.scich.org • IBAN: CH26 0900 0000 8003 3387 4

CH-SCI vegan-organic Weekend in Sornetan (Sornetan BE)

August 4th – August 6th 2023

[max. 6 volunteers]

Introduction: The aim of the local workcamp hosting partner, who is organizing the mini-workcamp, is to create a vegan-organic and sustainable permaculture farm, where they will be able to show people that truly ecological (and vegan) lifestyle is also possible in the mountains.

Transport hub (incl. exact meeting point & time):

Arrival: bus stop «Sornetan, Le Pichoux» at 16:42 on Friday. Attention: you have to change the bus in „Souboz, village“, but it is not written in the timetable (there is only one other bus, when you change in “Souboz, village”, so you will for sure take the right one. It might be, that you will need to wait 2-3 minutes for this second bus). When you are in the second bus, the next station is already ours.

Departure: You can start packing *after* lunch in the afternoon and depart at your convenience after that.

For more details about travel connections by train and bus from these and other cities in Switzerland, please check <http://www.sbb.ch/en/home.html>. Please note that it is possible to travel cheaper by booking a “supersaver” ticket. These tickets are only valid for the chosen connection; in case you miss the train the ticket will be lost (except in case of delays caused by SBB). It is only possible to buy the supersaver ticket in forehead (at least 1 day before your travel).

Volunteer age: International volunteers: 16 – 99, National volunteers: 16 – 99

Volunteers with kids and minimal age?

This camp is family-friendly, which means volunteers can be accompanied by children. There is no minimum age for children (maximum age is 15 to still count as a child). There is space for max. two children. The children are not included in the max. number of 6 volunteers.



Type of Work [Environment / Manual]:

You will rake the low-nutrient meadow. The purpose is: low-nutrient meadows only stay with a lot of different wild flowers, if one cut the meadow every year and bring the grass away; the other two reasons are to initiate mulch production that will fertilize the soil of the garden, and to maintain the area for those animal species that live in mulch piles, such as wild bees, blindworms, and even snakes. On Sunday morning we will plant some trees/bushes for the forest garden.

When it's hot, you will mainly work in the evenings and in the early mornings, while when it's cold/rainy – during the “office” hours.

You will cook organic, vegan, and seasonal food together with the workcamp hosting partner, as well as



Exchange with quality

hand wash and dry the dishes.

After lunch on Sunday it is time to travel back home (the bus depart on Sundays only from Souboz, village (= half hour walking) at 16:24).

Study Theme: You will discuss such topics as:

- Why being vegan is essential for peace;
- What vegan-organic agriculture is;
- What vegan-organic permaculture is.

Apart from that, you can also talk to the workcamp hosting partners about homeschooling, as they adhere to the methods of homeschooling or ask what open pollinated seeds have to do with food sovereignty.

Accommodation: There are two to three rooms for volunteers - one with a door (also possible: sleeping outside on the mulch/under the linden tree). Things to take with you are **a sleeping bag and a comfortable camping mattress.**

Required spoken language: English

Camp spoken languages: German / French / Dutch / a bit of Italian

The camp spoken language depends on the participants of the group – if the group is international you will stick to English, but if you have any questions, the workcamp hosting partner can speak German, Dutch, French, and Italian. You don't need to speak all these languages to participate in the camp. :-)

Costs: The participation fee for the mini-workcamp is **CHF 120***.

The membership fee of CHF 90 is included in the participation fee. If you have already paid this, you will receive a corresponding reduction – also for the **second workcamp in the same calendar year (second workcamp: abroad CHF 150, in Switzerland CHF 100; second mini-workcamp: CHF 30).*

Please be aware: Sufficient insurance coverage is the responsibility of the participants in any case! SCI does not provide insurance for this vegan-organic Weekend.

Wheelchair accessible? Unfortunately, not

What to bring?

- A sleeping bag and a camping mattress
- Slippers
- Good sturdy shoes
- Sun protection, rainwear, and a scarf (in case it is drafty)
- Ecological body wash
- In order to reach the bus stop on your way home you will have to hike up a gravel path, therefore it is advisable to take backpacks and avoid suitcases.

What NOT to bring:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco products
- Animal products
- No pets