



SCI Switzerland
Volunteering for Peace

European Voluntary Service

EVS VACANCY 2022

VEREIN NATURKULTUR, GANTRISCH REGION

2 volunteer for 1 year (01.08.2022 – 31.07.2023)



Description:

Association Naturkultur is an organisation for intercultural and environmental volunteer programs in Switzerland, Israel/Palestine and Ireland. Our activities always have an intercultural as well as a nature and social character. The aim is to get to know the environment of the exchange location and its local population. Through the European Volunteer Service (EVS) program, we would like to give 2 young adults the opportunity to experience farming culture, rural life and working in a social institution in the wider Bern area. Our partner organisation in the area is the Foundation "Stiftung Urgestein" in the picturesque village of Guggisberg in the Gantrisch mountains region, part of the world famous Swiss Alps. Through the foundations network, you will volunteer in social, agricultural and nature institutions that operate both in summer and in winter.

We are looking for an EVS volunteer from **August 2022**. The EVS is for **12 months**. It is part of the Swiss Programme to Erasmus + - "European Voluntary Service (EVS)".

More info about the EVS program you find here: <https://scich.org/en/european-voluntary-service/>

Your tasks

There are different tasks during your stay. Most of the tasks are involving working and living in rural Switzerland, outdoors and indoors:

Work in a social institution with disabled adults

- Help in the Christmas cookie factory process
- Help in the gardening, farming and sewing

Work with shepherds and farmers in the mountain regions

- Daily and weekly outreach to the local farming community
- Putting up and taking down fences
- Farming (cows, goats, sheep)
- Work on the fields and local organic food shop
- Other handicrafts work outside

Work in the ski resort there during the winter season

- Taking care of the little children in the ski school
- Help in the office of the ski school
- Work around the lifts and trails

Work for the office of the association Naturkultur/ foundation Urgestein

- Editing Social Media and Websites
- Help with administrative work

Environment and benefits of this program

You are going to live on the countryside near the capital Bern and/or in the Gantrisch region up in the Swiss Alps. On top of that you have the possibility to experience the following things:

- Loads of outdoor sports: hiking, biking, climbing and more
- Learning how to ski, snowshoe walking, cross country skiing and loads of more winter sports
- Travelling around in Switzerland: We will pay for a half-fare travelcard, which allows reduced fares for public transport
- German language course: you will get a language course for free to get to know the culture even better
- You will get a certificate that documents all your working and cultural experience which you can add to your personal CV

Accommodation:

You will either stay in a accommodation with the other volunteer or you will live with a local host family. If you have to cook for yourself you get a budget for food. The organization is also taking care of your insurance expenses, and you will get some pocket money for every month. We will make it possible to live with host families/persons in one of the villages in order to get to know the Swiss rural cultural life better

Requirements:

- You are between 18-30 years old and available for the full 12 months
- You have good knowledge in English and ideally a bit in German
- You are motivated to work outdoors in all weathers and would like to get to know the Swiss mountains and their culture
- You are interested to get to know rural life in Swiss villages
- You commit to a reliable and quality engagement that will prove satisfactory for both sides

Basic conditions offered to long-term volunteers:

- Organising you a working visa
- Organising you the travel logistics
- Provide you with accommodation, food and some pocket money
- A half-fare ticket for all Swiss public transportation
- A prepaid smartphone valid for Switzerland (to be returned by the end of your EVS)
- Health insurance
- Regular mentoring for both your working and free time setting
- Slots for exchange with local people from Switzerland and your personal projects
- Support the progress of your skills in mountain / winter sports
- Language course in German



How to apply

Please write to evs@scich.org if you are interested in becoming an Erasmus+ volunteer or if you have some questions. Please note that you can only apply if you are between 18-30 years old and if you have not volunteered through the Erasmus+ before.

Send your application via email to your Sending Organisation with the subject: **“Verein Naturkultur”**, and include all the following documents in English:

- 1) CV, Curriculum Vitae
- 2) Specific motivation letter for the project

Deadline for the application: **as fast as possible**



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