

ESC-volunteers in de Hoge Rielen Project 2021

2 volunteers wanted - Period of 5 months, from 1/07/2021 (or ASAP) until 13/12/2021 - Help at youth domain, reception work, technical service, help at the bar and restaurant, guiding workshops – living in a house at de Hoge Rielen.

!!! The project and the description of tasks and activities are under reservation. The current situation due to Covid-19 seems to be rather stable so we are confident to start our program. However, we want our candidates and future volunteers to be aware of eventual changes in the project description and program due to new measures in the region. !!!



DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION

De Hoge Rielen offers quality accommodation (buildings and camp grounds) to groups and individuals, in priority to youth groups. De Hoge Rielen has a major asset: it's pure nature. Respect for the environment is very important here. As are adventure, playing in the woods, forest workshops, educational, adventurous and sports activities. You'll never have a dull moment here!

PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

De Hoge Rielen was once a military domain. Today, freedom is the dominant force here. Whatever you do: we will do everything possible to boost your creativity and stimulate own initiatives.



This domain is one of the largest children's and youth forests in Flanders, it's over 230 ha. It is a delightful destination for people with a youthful spirit. Each group has its own spot on the domain. Youth groups come to de Hoge Rielen for multiday group activities, a youth camp, with school, for welcome days or a training. The domain offers many possibilities such as vast forests and nature, sleeping accommodations, camping facilities and campfires, a theatre, a sports hall and fields, a bar and a restaurant.

De Hoge Rielen is located in the forests of the small municipality of Kasterlee, in the province of Antwerp. Kasterlee is situated in Flanders, the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium. Dutch will also be the main language used during the project here and volunteers are given the opportunity to learn and practice it.

ESC – VOLUNTEERS

De Hoge Rielen is both a hosting and a coordinating organization. In 2021, we want to host 2 European volunteers at de Hoge Rielen.

Learning opportunities for the volunteer:

- ♣ Getting to know the different aspects (organization, impact, partners...) of youth work in Belgium
- ♣ Learning how to work in a team (by setting up small scale projects together)
- ♣ Learning how to guide different youth groups and how to prepare activities and workshops
- ♣ Learning new communication skills
- ♣ Getting to know yourself better and increasing self-confidence
- ♣ Gaining experience in your specific field of expertise
- ♣ Expanding your network with connections all over Europe
- ♣ Getting more respect for (inter)cultural diversity and different people
- ♣ Building work experience in a non-formal learning context
- ♣ Learning to speak Dutch



Role of the volunteer:

- ♣ Increasing the interculturality in the organization
- ♣ Being yourself but into other values and norms
- ♣ Giving new impulses and ideas
- ♣ Supporting the daily activities of the different services, as there are: helping at the reception and informing groups about their stay, making deliveries to the groups, assisting in the technical service of the domain, keeping the bar open in winter and summer, guiding groups in activities and workshops, guiding the rope course and activities in the climbing forest.

As a volunteer you:

- ♣ are eager to learn
- ♣ have a sense of responsibility
- ♣ have a flexible attitude
- ♣ have a great independence
- ♣ like to work with youth groups
- ♣ like to be outdoors, in nature
- ♣ have the ability to work independently
- ♣ are able to and want to take initiative





PRACTICAL ISSUES

Volunteers live on the domain in a compact house, near the reception. The house has different bedrooms, a shared bathroom, a kitchen and a living room. Meals are available in the restaurant. Budget is provided for shopping at the nearest supermarket. The volunteers receive pocket money, travel support and extra food allowance. All travel costs of the trip coming here and going home are covered by the organization. We provide any practical support: internet, laundry, transport. All basic facilities are foreseen. Considering travel restrictions due to the covid-19 pandemic, we limit our vacancy to volunteers who don't need to apply for visa.

CONTACT PERSON

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Extra infopack can be sent by contacting Evelien Peeters

CANDIDATES

Applying for the volunteership at de Hoge Rielen is possible through your sending organization or directly to the educational service of de Hoge Rielen. We expect you to write a motivation letter, in which you tell us specifically why you want to work at our domain and tell us more about yourself, your talents, competences and experiences. We also expect a resume.


