

French Civic Service project
Le Patiau
Saint-Jean-la-Poterie / Redon - France

Development of actions in a pottery center, especially for the young public

This project is open to any EU member, from 18 to 25 years old.

The Patiau is a center of art and history ceramic. Opened in november 2014, the Patiau is composed of three spaces, three atmospheres. The first part is a decoration on pottery workshop managed by the district of Redon. The second part is a museographic space about the pottery history of the town. And the last part is a shop gallery with temporated exhibitions of contemporary pottery. To make this center dynamic and attractive, we organize activities for children and adults around the ceramics : courses, workshops, guided tours, guided walks in the town on pottery history, conferences, meetings.

Visitors of the Patiau are individual visitors, but we also receive various groups – pupils of primary and secondary schools, seniors, groups of adults from different origins.

The museum participates in cultural events as “the European Days of fine crafts”, we offer our places for temporary exhibitions. And also the museum assists in actions connected with this kind of events.

The center depends on the Cultural and Heritage Service of the townhall of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie. His sphere is regional and national also.

There are also two kindergartens and primary schools in the village of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie, where extracurricular activities are organized (called "TAPs"), so that all the children have a possibility to discover cultural practices, artistic, sports, ...

Local community

Redon is the site of the subprefecture of the department “Ille et Vilaine”. Redon has 10 000 inhabitants. This town is the center of a territory of 60 000 inhabitants. Redon is situated on the crossroad of 2 administrative regions (Brittany and the Region of Loire) and 3 departments (Ille et Vilaine, Loire Atlantique, Morbihan).

Redon is situated on the crossing of the river Vilaine and the Canal from Nantes to Brest. It is a river maritime port.

The town is quite close from 3 big cities – Rennes, Nantes and Vannes. It is possible to visit Paris from Redon by the train TGV, it takes 3 hours. Sport and cultural life is active, thanks to a rich number of local associations.

The Patiau is situated in Saint-Jean-la-Poterie, a village of 1800 inhabitants located on the outskirts of Redon (7 km).

Duration

9 months, from the middle of February until the middle of November.

Tasks

The volunteer will participate to all the activities of the Patiau with the volunteers passionate with pottery, and the professional responsible for the activities. The

volunteer will also participate to the TAPs, with the activity leaders and the other professionals responsible of the extracurricular activities (canteen, ...).

Hosting a european volunteer is for us the opportunity to share a local and regional history and heritage, as well as getting a new point of view on our past and the contemporary ceramics, in order to create new discovering products towards young public. It is also a way to get into a local partnership with EVS hosting organizations in Redon.

The volunteer will have 3 main missions :

AT THE PATIAU (60% of the time)

- The role of the volunteer will be to develop new actions connected with the local partners (including the schools), a support to the running of the place, and a link with the people involved into the Patiau.
- Receiving the public : the volunteer will receive the people coming to the center, and after a time of adaptation (reading the documents, discussions with the people collecting the memories of the ceramic workers of the association "Terre de Potiantes", which organizes during the whole year some ceramic classes), he will have the possibility to give information to the visitors and even to the groups. These conversations are also a very good opportunity to learn and practice French.
- Activity program : The volunteer will participate to projects and workshops organized by the Patiau, for instance :
 - creating with the children of a class a game about the history of ceramics in the village.
 - Organizing ceramics workshops for the children.
 - Writing the experience reports about all those activities
 - Participate to projects connected with other partners (for instance "the European Days of Arty professions", and all the exhibition projects)
 - Participate to various meetings connected with the projects
- Communication : the volunteer will participate to the communication of the Patiau.
 - On the social networks (facebook page, ..)
 - Updating the website
 - Taking pictures of the workshops and the exhibitions

These activities will be a good way to practice the french language on oral and writing levels

- The volunteer will also have the possibility to make connections with his home country inside the topics developed in the Patiau.

- WITH THE SCHOOL CHILDREN (30%)

The volunteer will participate to the activities organized by the village during the « TAPS » (extra-curricular activities). During the first months, the volunteer will participate to the workshops organized by the local activity leaders, and after the adaptation period, the volunteer will also have the possibility to propose his own workshops (artistic, cultural, sports, foreign languages...), according to his own skills. In this case, he will be under the responsibility of one of the municipal staff.

The volunteer will also participate to other moments of the school life, like the canteen or some trips, in order to develop another communication with the children.

With these experiences, the volunteer will develop activities and workshops with different people and partners, and through this, he will learn the french language, meet various professionals (formal and non formal education, pottery, ceramics, artists, ...).

THE COLLECTIVE PROJECT ABOUT EUROPE WITH THE OTHER VOLUNTEERS (10%)

Finally, the volunteer will participate to the organization of a collective project about Europe together with the other EVS volunteers of Redon.

According to the skills of the volunteer, he will have more or less autonomy on his actions, and he will have the possibility to propose new projects : it is important for us to host a person who brings a new point of view and new ideas.

- The EVS volunteers in Redon are coordinated by the organization Mapar. Through this organization, our volunteer will be in a daily contact with the other volunteers, and will participate to the activities organized in common.

Selection of the volunteer

A sensibility to being an activity leader, to creative tasks and to the young public, to the local heritage, a good contact with people will ensure a success to the project. The volunteer has to be conscious that some of his missions will be on week-ends or during the evenings, according to the activities of the Patiau. He will have to use a car to go from Redon to the project.

As a consequence, the volunteer needs to have a driving licence.

Accommodation

The volunteer will live in Redon, in a shared flat with other EVS volunteers or French youngsters. To go to Saint-Jean-la-Poterie (7 km), we will provide him a scooter or a car, because there is no public transport between the 2 towns. The volunteer has to be conscious that we will not be able to organize his daily transports, and that he will have to use this vehicle (car or scooter) to go to his project.

Allowance

The volunteer will get a monthly allowance according to the French Civic Service Rules, of 570€/month. With it, he will be able to pay for his rent, his food and pocket money. The volunteer will be registered by the French Social Security, thanks to his status of Civic Service volunteer.

French classes

According to his level in the language, the volunteer will take French classes during all his project, 3 hours a week together with the other EVS volunteers.

Support

The Patiau is managed by a professional activity leader, and governed by the elected council of Saint-Jean-la-Poterie. The choices about the annual program,

activities... are decided by a group of elected officials and volunteers involved in the project. The mentor of the volunteer speaks english, and is used to manage groups of volunteers or youngsters doing an internship.

During the extracurricular activities, the volunteer will be in contact with the activity leaders and the person in charge of the school plannings on the municipal level.

The volunteer will get the support from his mentor in the Patiau, and from team of the council house (staff and elected team), who will motivate the inhabitants and the local associations to integrate him in the local life, and who will take time to listen to him, answer his questions and guide him in his support to the pupils. He will also have the support of the EVS coordinator of Mapar (coordinating organization) with who he will be able to discuss about his project, his personal evolutions, etc..

Coordinating association

The coordinating organization "MAPAR" is a residence for young workers based in Redon (Brittany – France). We host students, workers, young people from various backgrounds aged between 16 and 25 years old. This residence is a "foyer", which means not only a roof for the people living there, but also a place where there is a social life. Three "animators" and a European volunteer are working there to organize activities, discuss or help the residents.

The MAPAR has been also a sending, coordinating and hosting EVS and French Civic Service organization since 1998. Hosting a volunteer gives the possibility to the youngsters of the residence to meet other young people from different countries, backgrounds, with new ideas and cultures. From this, it shows that "going abroad is possible". For the volunteer, this is the possibility to meet French people from his age, to open himself and to tolerate different life styles and different types of persons.

Now, we are coordinating 12 European Voluntary Service projects in Redon, in 12 different organisations, so the volunteer will have the opportunity of meeting with other European volunteers hosted in the town.

Their facebook page is Red_on bouge