

**SOLIDARITÉS JEUNESSES**  
**SUMMER WORKCAMPS – 2020 SEASON**

**SJ58 MYSTERY AT LA MÈRE EGLISE 10/08-30/08 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project** : Come discover « La Mère-Eglise », one of the most ancient chapels of the Hautes-Alpes ! Each summer, the stones under the arches vibrate with the songs of musicians that have come far and wide for the Festival of Music in Dévoluy. Built in the Romanesque style, the church is situated on the commune of Saint Disdier in the massif of Dévoluy (Hautes-

Alpes). Classified as a historic monument in 1927, Mère-Eglise was constructed by Clusien monks. Its stone bell tower and its thatched roof is what gives the church its characteristic charm, and inside one can find magnificent frescos. Since 2017, international workcamps have gathered at this idyllic site in order to continue the upgrade and protection of the walls below the church.

**Work** : Do you want to learn ancient masonry techniques ? How to use ancient and ecological materials ? This year, we'll continue the work on the stone walls close to the church. These walls were without a doubt were used as a weapons room, and our aim will be conserving and protecting them. All this will be accomplished with the help of a technical supervisor who'll be there to share their knowledge. Warning, you'll be toning up your arms ! You'll spend around 30h per week working. Evenings and weekends are free for the activities that you'll choose to organise together.

**Accommodation and food** : Under tents on the « Les Auches » campground in Saint Etienne in Dévoluy, situated in the heart of the Dévoluy massif. On the campsite, you'll have a peaceful stay in a mountainous setting with exceptional greenery. You'll have access to amenities like sanitary facilities, a barbecue, a bocce ball court, and WIFI at times. We will

install a large kitchen tent in order to make our meals. You'll take turns cooking, that way we'll be able to taste a number of different specialties ! Here, we pay attention to what we eat, and to reduce our impact on the planet, we try to eat a maximum of local products and we limit eating meat to twice a week. Community life will be organised together : organization of menus, grocery shopping, activities, etc.

**Location** : The workcamp will take place on the surrounding hills of the small village St. Disdier in Dévoluy, around 15 minutes away from the campsite which is in the village St Etienne in Dévoluy with its small neighborhood shops. The main city, Veynes, is about 30km away. Grocery shopping, which will be conducted once or twice a week, will be organised using our vehicles.

**Leisure activities** : You will be in an exceptional location to discover the joys of hiking among the mountains, its rivers, its lakes, the farmers markets, and festive events organized in the surrounding villages (depending on programming). As a group, you'll decide the activities and outings that you'll want to set up (subject to distance).

**Closest train station** : Veynes Dévoluy (05400) – Accessible via the stations Valence TGV, Valence city, Grenoble, Marseille Saint-Charles.

**Closest airport:** Lyon or Marseille.

### **SJ62 IMMERSION AT THE ROCHARD LODGE 15/08-01/09 RENO 9 vols 18+**

**Project:** Rochard is a former farm that has been transformed into a rustic lodge by an association that welcomes groups of children, hikers, and campers into their yurts. The lodge is located in Béceleuf, a small village close to Marais Poitevin, 70km from the Atlantic ocean, between Nantes and Bordeaux. The venue, surrounded by nature, encourages respect for the environment and a sustainable developmental approach. Thus, different projects were executed by the association Camping-Club des Deux-Sèvres through previous international workcamps, which include the construction of a pool with a phyto-purification system, and dry toilets suitable for communities. This association is a loyal partner of the association Maison des Bateleurs-Solidarités Jeunesses, and in 2019 celebrated its 12th international workcamp!

With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

**Work:** This year, the objective of the workcamp will be to continue the restoration of the lodge and most notably to produce new amenities (restoration room, stairs, loft, etc.) Techniques related to traditional masonry, painting, and woodwork will be shared with you. These activities will be accomplished under the guidance of the association's experienced technical supervisors that have volunteered.

**Accommodation and food:** Communal, under a yurt next to the lodge! Food will be provided for you and meals will be prepared alternately by participants as needed. » Location: Béceleuf, department of Deux-Sèvres, 20km north of Niort.

**Leisure activities:** Excursions into the region and activities with residents will be organized in order to have time dedicated to intercultural exchange. You will have the opportunity to conduct visits to Marais Poitevin, artistic expositions, concerts, festivals, the pool, the museum, while also have outings to the ocean, Rochelle, Poitiers, Niort, etc.

**Closest train station:** Niort (79000) **Closest airport:** Paris or Bordeaux.

### **SJ66 SAINT PIERRE WASH HOUSE 02/09-23/09 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** Every year, by hosting volunteers and international work camps, this town of 3000 residents works toward the restoration of its heritage and contributes to the promotion of intercultural exchange. In fact, Montendre is home to one of the international centers of Solidarités Jeunesses: La Maison Des Bateleurs, to preserve and enhance its historical heritage and identity. Each year for the past ten years now, the town sets up an international work camp around its castle.

This year however, the town wishes to bring new life to its wash house: the washhouse of St Pierre, a couple steps away from the host center La Maison Des Bateleurs. With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

**Work:** You will be involved in the restoration of the washhouse while accompanied by two technical leaders. The objective will be to carry out traditional masonry work: to disassemble, dig up, and re-join the existing stone work with lime mortar. You'll also be engaged in roofing to refurbish the existing roof which is in very poor condition, as well as do some finishing of the interior space.

**Accommodation and food:** Accommodation will be in dormitories at the host center La Maison des Bateleurs. Food will be provided, and the meals will be prepared alternately by participants.

**Location:** Montendre, Charente maritime 65kms from Bordeaux

**Leisure activities:** You'll have the opportunity to participate in national heritage days, visits of the region organised collectively according to yours wants, excursions to the ocean, museums etc. Activities with the house volunteers will be organised, such as pizza parties and movie nights. You will also be able to discover how a dynamic association like Solidarités Jeunesses functions, and have the chance to share the richness of your culture with the residents of the associations of Montendre.

**Closest train station:** Montendre (17130)

**Closest airport:** Bordeaux

### **SJ68 THE WITCH'S CLAWS OF LEUCATE 05/09-26/09 ENVI 10 vols 18+**

**Project:** Forget bubbling cauldrons and magic wands, the witches we're dealing with here are a much realer and more dangerous threat, that of an invasive plant species known as the "witch's claws". This workcamp will take place in Leucate, a «Natura 2000» area, that is an area recognized and protected by the European Union for the quality and uniqueness of its environment. For many years now, the city and the syndicate "Rivage", in charge of the preservation of this environment, have organized an international workcamp at the end of the summer to participate in the protection of the area. With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable cities and communities.

**Work:** The participants will continue the work accomplish in previous years to fight against this invasive species. This plant grows on sandy soil, and is covering the space needed by migrating birds to nest. In order to for these protected species of birds to be able to nest in their traditional environment, participants will support this struggle for a more sustainable environment.

**Accommodation and food:** You'll live in a guesthouse in Saint-Laurent de la Salanque, and transportation will be provided to reach the work area around Leucate's pond. Food will be provided, and meals will be prepared in turns by the participants.

**Location:** Leucate.

**Leisure activities:** This project will take place in an seaside area popular with tourists during the summer holidays. At the time of the workcamp however, most of the tourists will have already left and volunteers will be free to enjoy the numerous activities available without being overcrowded. Additionally, the local partner association is excellent at proposing

various activities that will immerse you in the local culture and heritage, most notably local cuisine! Participants will also be engaged in the organization and the celebration of a local cultural and ecological festival.

**Closest train station:** Leucate - La Franqui Train Station.

**Closest airport:** Montpellier.

### **SJ69 THE REAL STORY BEHIND ARZELIERS CASTLE 06/09-19/09 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project :** At the gates of the provençale Baronnies, the site of Arzeliers lies perched on a small mountain where one can marvel at a beautiful view of the Durance valley. This former village that today is in ruins is the birthplace of the Laragne commune. There, we can still find the remnants of a chapel as well as the ruins of several homes. For some years now, the commune of Laragne has mobilized to bring the ruins of the Arzeliers castle, a witness to the rich past of these communities, back to life by upgrading and maintaining it. Since 2013, international workcamps of young volunteers have been organized for this purpose.

**Work :** Do you want to learn ancient masonry techniques ? How to use ancient and ecological materials ? This year, we will continue to work on protecting former homes in close proximity to the castle. With the aim of preserving this heritage and its remains, we will use the same materials used at the time, namely, plaster. We will collect the gypsum on site, and cook it (thanks to an oven built on location), in order to reuse it in the masonry. All of this will be accomplished with the help of a technical supervisor who will be there to share their knowledge ! Warning, this will tone up your arms ! You'll work for 30h a week. We will use a scaffold at times for work at heights. Evenings and weekends are free for activities the you will choose to organise together.

**Accommodation and food :** You'll be living under tents on the « Montéglin » campgrounds in Laragne, a small town steeped in history and typically provençal. On the campgrounds, you will have access to amenities like sanitary facilities, a barbecue, a pool, a bocce ball court, a bar, a restaurant, and WIFI. We will install a large kitchen tent in order to prepare our meals. You'll take turns cooking, that way we'll be able to taste a number of different specialties ! Here, we pay attention to what we eat, and to reduce our impact on the planet, we try to eat a maximum of local products and we limit eating meat to twice a week. Community life will be organised together : organization of menus, grocery shopping, activities, etc.

**Location :** The small town of Laragne is a welcoming town with all kinds of shops (10km from Sisteron and 40km from Gap).

**Leisure activities :** You will be in an exceptional location to discover the joys of hiking among the mountains, its rivers, its lakes, the farmers markets, and festive events organized in the surround villages (depending on programming). As a group, you'll decide the activities and outings that you'll want to set up (subject to distance).

**Closest train station :** Laragne Montéglin (05300)

**Closest airports:** Lyon or Marseille.

### **SJ01 THE HISTORY OF THE ATLANTIC COAST 2 07/09-28/09 RENO/CULT 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** The islands which border the Atlantic coast were, during the last centuries the barrier that protected the French coastline. From those islands, the Island of Aix, small pedestrian island in the Atlantic is a place steeped in history. For several years, the Island of Aix has been jostling international projects as part of the restoration of Fort Liédot. To continue the conservation actions and actions to conserve and restore the island's heritage, while promoting its dynamism and local development, a partnership between the Ile d'Aix municipality, Solidarités Jeunesses and the Conservatoire du littoral has been set up.

**Work:** You will participate on this site in the restoration of the large west stone shooting range, which faces Fort Liédot. The works will consist of de-vegetating the site in order to start masonry work and traditional stone cutting on rubble walls. You will have the mission to cut and replace the stones then to de-grout and regrout the wall, in hydraulic heat.

**Accommodation and food:** Collective in shared rooms (4 beds) at the Armand Fallières housing center, near Fort Liedot. The food and meals will be prepared, in a rotation of roles.

**Location:** In the middle of the sea, 20 km of Rochefort-under Sea; Charente Maritime.

**Leisure activities:** In the Island of Aix, you can profit out of numerous nautical activities as the fish and the sailing with the local clubs. The beach, the bike rides bordering the sea, beach volleyball and other pleasures are to be discovered. You can also visit forts and museums as well as certain cities such as La Rochelle and Rochefort. The time dedicated to leisure activities promote the meeting with inhabitants who wait for you with impatience!

**Closest train station:** Rochefort (17300)

**Closest airport:** Bordeaux-Mérignac

### **SJ71 LET'S BUILD A WALL FOR THE SCHOOL 09/09-30/09 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project :** Saint-Genis-De-Saintonge is a municipality in the southwest of France, situated in the heart of the charentaise countryside in close to the "Lalande" forest, and not far from the Gironde estuary. This municipality is an historical partner of the association with whom we realized the first workcamps within the Charente-Maritime territory in 1996. After not having had a project in the territory for the past dozen years, the community wants to experience the intercultural dynamic generated by the workcamps and use it to renovate the municipality's academic institution. With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable cities and communities.

**Work:** Supervised by two technical advisors specialised in masonry, you will continue the work undertaken last year to restore a wall at the entrance of the Collège de Saint-Genis-De-Saintonge. To start, you'll have to take down the part of the wall that's in very poor condition. Then, you'll have the task of gathering reusable stones to put a new wall in place using traditional techniques.

**Accommodation and food:** Communal, in mixed dormitories with all amenities available (sanitary facilities, kitchens, etc.). Food will be provided for you, and meals will be prepared alternately by participants.

**Location :** Saint-Genis-De-Saintonge, 80km from Bordeaux, Charente-Maritime.

**Leisure activities:** The goal will be to exchange the richness of your cultures with that of the residents and associations of the territory. Excursions throughout the region will be organized collectively according to your wants (visits, the ocean, museums, etc.). You'll also have the opportunity to discover cities like St Emilion, Bordeaux, La Rochelle etc, and your free time is a great time to prioritize meeting the locals of the area, especially the middle school students, who can't wait to see you!

**Location:** Saint-Genis-De-Saintonge, 80km de Bordeaux, Charente-Maritime.

**Closest train station :** Jonzac (17500)

**Closest airport:** Bordeaux-Mérignac

### **SJ72 THE VAUBAN FORT OF FOURAS 09/09-30/09 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** Located at the mouth of the Charente river, the Fouras peninsula is home to 3 ports and 5 beaches on the Atlantic coast. In an idyllic setting with a view of Fort Boyard, the workcamp will be focused on the renovation of Fort Vauban, also known as Fort Sémaphore, that is actually the fortified medieval castle of Fouras. It protected the city from potential invasion of enemies should they choose to disembark by boat from the sea. The fort is surrounded by 17th century fortifications: platforms, curtains, and a massive tower. This workcamp is in line with the partnership established between Solidarités Jeunesses and the municipality of Fouras (for the past 5 years), and its desire to continue local developmental actions (including the renovation of le Fort de l'Aiguille) through the intercultural dynamic offered by workcamps of young volunteers.

With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable cities and communities.

**Work:** You will work on the restoration of a portion of Fort Vauban, namely the northern facade. Accompanied by a technical supervisor, you will begin by having to remove vegetation from the facade, followed by disassembling the facade and re-grouting it with lime mortar. Other traditional masonry work and resizing of stones is anticipated, which will familiarize you with those techniques.

**Accommodation and food:** Communal, under tents on the Fouras campground (pool, multi-sport space, WIFI, snacks, etc.) Food will be provided and meals will be prepared alternately by participants.

**Location:** Fouras-les-Bains, Charente-Maritime, 20km from La Rochelle

**Leisure activities:** You can take advantage of everything living by the ocean has to offer! Fishing, sailing with local clubs, biking along the water, and of course relaxing on the beach are just some of the things you can spend your free time enjoying.

You can also visit nearby forts and museums as well as cities like La Rochelle and Rochefort, and your free time is a perfect opportunity to meet the locals!

**Closest train station:** Rochefort (17300)

**Closest airport:** Bordeaux

## **SJ70 BETWEEN VINEYARDS AND ALMOND TREES 20/09-03/10 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project** : Join us in the heart of the provençale Baronnies, between Alps and Provence, in the village of Moydens. The air there is so pure that a huge observatory was installed ! Under the village lies a path that Henri IV was said to have used as a very practical passageway to get him from Italy to Spain. This path passes below the village and rejoins the trail of Vignes (vineyard in English). The trail is currently neglected and is lined by supporting walls that are degrading. The objective of this workcamp is to restore these supporting walls to bring visibility back to this path and its surrounding agricultural landscape.

The regional natural park of the provençale Baronnies, in partersnhip with the association Les Villages des Jeunes and the Pôle Randonnée de la Communauté de Communes du Sisteronais Buëch, launched an operation to raise awareness about, and highlight the technique of dry stone masonry. Elected officials and residents will be engaged in this operation by helping restoration efforts and promoting the discovery of dry stone built heritage (conferences, visits). The international workcamp is in line with these efforts, and will revolve around the continuation of work that has already been done in 2019.

**Work** : The land that was once cultivated is now wild and abandoned, but the trails that are visible in the landscape offer a magnificent view of the agricultural scenery and the surrounding mountains. It's along this path that you will discover the technique of dry stone masonry through the restoration of the supporting walls (diassembly, earthwork, resuming construction). This workcamp will be supervised by a professional in dry-stone masonry. A day's work is expected to last 6 hours, and the organisation of the days will be discussed and decided on by the group of participants. The pedagogical objective of this workcamp is to discover a traditional construction technique whose only required materials are stones cleared from fields intended for agriculture, or those recovered from former buildings. Theoretical, historical, and practical approaches will be shared.

**Accommodation and food** : You will be housed in tents on private land on the Moydans highlands, along with private access to a communal lounge that is fully furnished and equipped (kitchen, dining room, relaxation room, sanitary facilities). A facilitating team will be present to accompany the participants in the organisation of collective life during the two weeks of the camp : planning housekeeping tasks, developing menus and preparing meals alternately, organizing recreational activities and outings. The purchase of local products will be prioritized, and everyone will come with their own ideas, talents, and tips and tricks to help prepare the meals.

**Location** : Moydans is situated in the south of France, between the Alps and Haute Provence. It lies within 15 km of Serres that offers all the necessary services and shops.

**Leisure activities** : The land of sunshine and amazing flavors, the provençale Baronnies massif is good living personified where you can enjoy outdoor activities in the heart of nature while also just lounging around ! Not far from Moydans, you will be able to explore numerous sites : the Saint André de Rosans priory, Saint-Genis mountain, Clavelière mountain, the village of Rosans, the geological curiosity « dinosaur eggs » etc. The Saint May canyons, located closeby, house an important colony of vultures (wild vultures, black vultures, bearded vultures, egyptian vultures) that one can observe easily while hiking a trail that offers

spectacular panoramic views of the canyon and the massifs of Baronnies.

**Closest train station** : SERRES (05700). Accessible via the stations Valence TGV, Valence ville, Grenoble, Marseille Saint- Charles, Aix en Provence.

**Closest airports** : Marseille or Lyon.

### **SJ74 FORT LIÉDOT ON AIX ISLAND 28/09-19/10 RENO/CULT 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** The island of Aix is a small pedestrian island in the Atlantic. Heavily marked by its eventful seafaring past, this island houses many places steeped in history, most notably Fort Liébot constructed by Vauban which is classified as a historical monument. The island of Aix is a loyal partner of the association Maison des Bateleurs – Solidarités Jeunesses, for several years it's hosted international workcamps that focus on the renovation of different sites that are a significant part of the island's heritage (batteries, forts). The fort Liédot has 3 wall walks, but today, only one is secure enough to be visited by residents and tourists, due to previous work. The objective is to be able to open the Fort completely to visitors.

With this project, you will be actively working for the Sustainable Development Goal n°11 from the United Nations: Sustainable cities and communities.

**Work:** You will continue the restoration work being done of Fort Liédot. The workcamp will consist of removing vegetation from a part of the fort in order to start masonry work. You'll then have to degROUT the stones before regrouting them with lime mortar. The technical supervisor will share traditional masonry techniques with you that are identical to those used during the original construction of Fort Liédot. You'll also need to monitor the state of the stone walls, repair the stones that are in poor condition, and replace or strengthen them.

**Accommodation and food:** Communal living in the buildings of a former summer camp at the center of the village. Food will be provided to you, and meals will be prepared alternately by participants.

**Location:** In the middle of the sea, 20km from Rochefort-sur-Mer, Charente-Maritime.

**Leisure activities:** On the Island of Aix, you can take advantage of everything living by the ocean has to offer! Fishing, sailing with local clubs, biking along the water, and of course relaxing on the beach are just some of the things you can spend your free time enjoying. You can also visit nearby forts and museums, as well as cities like La Rochelle and Rochefort, and your free time is a perfect opportunity to meet the locals!

**Closest train station:** Rochefort (17300) **Closest airport:** Bordeaux.

### **SJ04 LE FORT DE L'AIGUILLE 1 09/09-30/09 RENO 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** Situated at the mouth of Charente, the Fouras Peninsula is home to 3 ports and 5 beaches on the Atlantic coast. Following 8 international workcamps carried out between 2015 and 2019, the town of Fouras-les-Bains and the association Maison des Bateleurs - Solidarités Jeunesses wished to renew their partnership in 2020 in order to continue the rehabilitation work on the Aiguille fort (known as the largest in France). In an idyllic setting



with a view of Fort Boyard, the work will consist of rehabilitating the redoubt, a fortification system built by Vauban to protect the town of Fouras from a possible invasion from an enemy landing by the sea.

**Work:** You work on the restoration of a new part from the northern facade of the redoubt facing the Atlantic Ocean. You will have the mission of de-vegetating the facade and the crowns in order to then de-grouting then grouting with lime mortar. Other traditional masonry work, such as the resumption of stone crowning and stonecutting is planned.

**Accommodation and food:** Collective in tents at Fouras campsite (swimming pool, multi-sports area, WIFI, snack bar, etc.) Food will be provided and meals will be prepared in turns.

**Location:** Fouras-les-Bains, Charente-Maritime, 20 km from Rochelle

**Leisure activities:** You will be able to discover numerous nautical activities; such as fishing and sailing with local clubs. The beach, the bike rides bordering the sea, the beach volleyball and other pleasures are there to discover. You can also visit forts and museums as well as some cities like La Rochelle and Rochefort. Leisure activities will promote the meeting with the inhabitants who are waiting for you with impatience!

**Closest train station:** Rochefort (17300)

**Closest airport:** Bordeaux-Mérignac

## **SJ02 THE HISTORY OF THE ATLANTIC COAST 2 28/09-19/10 RENO/CULT 12 vols 18+**

**Project:** The islands which border the Atlantic coast were, during the last centuries the barrier that protected the French coastline. From those islands, the Island of Aix, small pedestrian island in the Atlantic is a place steeped in history. For several years, the Island of Aix has been jostling international projects as part of the restoration of Fort Liédot. To continue the conservation actions and actions to conserve and restore the island's heritage, while promoting its dynamism and local development, a partnership between the Ile d'Aix municipality, Solidarités Jeunesses and the Conservatoire du littoral has been set up.

**Work:** You will participate on this site in the restoration of the large west stone shooting range, which faces Fort Liédot. The works will consist of de-vegetating the site in order to start masonry work and traditional stone cutting on rubble walls. You will have the mission to cut and replace the stones then to de-grout and regrout the wall, in hydraulic heat.

**Accommodation and food:** Collective in shared rooms (4 beds) at the Armand Fallières housing center, near Fort Liedot. The food and meals will be prepared, in a rotation of roles.

**Location:** In the middle of the sea, 20 km of Rochefort-under Sea; Charente Maritime.

**Leisure activities:** In the Island of Aix, you can profit out of numerous nautical activities as the fish and the sailing with the local clubs. The beach, the bike rides bordering the sea, beach volleyball and other pleasures are to be discovered. You can also visit forts and museums as well as certain cities such as La Rochelle and Rochefort. The time dedicated to leisure activities promote the meeting with inhabitants who wait for you with impatience!

**Closest train station:** Rochefort (17300) **Closest airport:** Bordeaux-Mérignac