

## Learning by doing at eco-farms in the beautiful Estonian countryside

### Project

For years EstYES has been cooperating with farms all over Estonia for solidarity, respect and practical support to local people who work in agricultural sector keeping traditional life style and developing new eco-farming despite of all difficulties. Kaasiku Organic Farm is one of such projects. This is an organic farm promoting sustainable lifestyle, and this camp is proposed for volunteers who appreciate and share its values, want to learn more about it and to help hard working people. Kaasiku Organic Farm is situated in the South of Estonia. It is one of the few functional farms in this area. The major crops grown are apples, strawberries and raspberries, in smaller amounts different salads and radish. In the farm, near to strawberry field also local beekeeper holds its honey bees to collect nectar and pollen from organically grown cultures and from organic hayfield. More on FB-site: <https://www.facebook.com/KaasikuMahetalu/>

### Work

The main task for volunteers will be to weed and picking berries by hand, also to harvest vegetables and salads. Additionally to weeding and harvesting task, volunteers will clean the vegetables and make them together with other farm's products (frozen berries and juices) ready for consumers in different organic shops around the country. Volunteers will be guided to learn the summer-time apple tree cutting methods. Other apple plantation maintenance practices are also available. Volunteers have to be motivated to work outdoors doing sometimes quite physical work under changing weather conditions. Note that volunteers will work all working days and on Saturday mornings as the camp takes place on the peak of the harvesting season.

### Accommodation

In the old sauna or in the attic under the roof sleeping on beds or mattresses. Dry organic toilet, shower, sauna are available. Please bring your sleeping bag. Volunteers will share the duties of cooking meals and cleaning. During this work camp volunteers will be eating mainly local food from the farms. Do not forget some traditional/ typical food from your home country for the international evening.

### Location

The farm is located in Tartu parish near to Vooremaa hilly landscape and it borders with Amme River which feeds The Great Emajõgi - the most water abundant river in South Estonia ("Mother River" in Estonian). One fifth of the area is covered by wetlands. In the east 20 km from the farm is the western coast of Europe's 4th largest lake, Peipsi. Natural and ethnic landscape of Peipsimaa area is as diverse and nuanced as Estonian history. Here you'll find aristocratic mansions, lighthouses, traditional market culture and colorful cottages marking the onion route (the area is known for its onion cultivators). The farm is located 16 km north of Tartu, capital of the County, which is known also as the student capital of Estonia and therefor also the city of good thoughts. Tartu locates about 180 km to south-east from Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia. More info about Estonia on [www.visitestonia.com](http://www.visitestonia.com), South-Estonia [www.southeastonia.info](http://www.southeastonia.info) and Tartu <http://www.visittartu.com/en/>

### Terminal

Airport, harbour, bus or train station in Tallinn; bus and train to Tartu.

### Special requirements

The camp is open for young people who is interested in organic farming and is ready to get real experience of it. Please be prepared to the simple conditions of Estonian country side. Volunteers have to be motivated to work outdoors doing sometimes quite physical work under changing weather conditions. English is the camp language.

### Leisure time

Camp takes place in the area of traditional Estonian landscape. There are many possibilities for leisure, especially for those who love nature: acquaintance with nature of the area, hiking, swimming, etc. There will be a possibility to participate in farmers' fairs. Excursions to the historical places of the County of Tartu and Peipsi Lake area are planned. Some free time activities will be organized for participants such as a day trip with excursions in the area.

### Participation fee

Due to lack of communal resources for this camp we ask participants to contribute **20 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer please contact your sending organization for solution.

## **Give your hand and heart to disable young people !**

### **Project**

Imastu Residential School is an institution for mentally handicapped children and youngsters. It caters for over 100 kids and young adults aged 5 to 35 with serious mental and genetic diseases. Most of them are orphans. Youngsters are divided in to 5 family groups where they live under supervision of staff. Children attend a special school arranged for them in Imastu. Since 1994 Imastu has been hosting international workcamps in summer and since 1999 - long-term volunteers to assist staff with daily work, bringing new ideas and approaches to the daily routine. Volunteers are wanted to support staff and assist work with kids, especially in summer when it is possible to offer a lot more diverse outdoor activities for kids. See more about Imastu Residential School on <http://www.hoolekandeteenused.ee/imastu/pages/galerii.php>

Workcamp in Imastu is the eldest in EstYES – we have been hosting volunteers there for 25 years!

### **Work**

Looking after the youngsters, helping staff in teaching basic skills, playing with them, arranging their outings, assisting in all other required activities. Each volunteer will work in the own family group. Volunteers will work under supervision and with assistance of local staff about 35 hours a week, 2 days a week are free.

### **Accommodation**

On beds and mattresses in the shared room (which is usually used as music class) in the building of the Institution. Bed-sheets, blankets, pillows, towels will be provided, so you do not need to bring your sleeping bag. Shower and toilets is in the corridor, shared with the staff. You will eat together with the staff in local canteen or in your family groups. There is fridge and limited possibility to make own food. There is also staff meeting room, which can be used to spend evenings together.

### **Location**

Imastu is a very tiny village. It lies 90km east from Tallinn and 25km west from Rakvere, the administrative center of the area. The nearest city is Tapa (3km), large railway junction with about 10 000 inhabitants. Useful links: [www.tapa.ee](http://www.tapa.ee) and [www.visitestonia.com](http://www.visitestonia.com) for general information about the country.

### **Terminal**

Airport, harbour, coach station in Tallinn; train to Tapa.

### **Special requirements**

You have to be **really motivated and committed** to the work with physically and mentally disabled young people. Some previous experience or special knowledge is an advantage. Although English is the camp language, some knowledge of Estonian or Russian will make communication with locals easier.

### **Leisure time**

Imastu is laying in a picturesque landscape: fields, forests, lakes and unspoiled nature. It is the ideal area for hiking and cycling tours. Excursions to places of interest in the capital Tallinn, Rakvere (est.1226), Lahemaa National Park as well as trips to the seaside (30km from Imastu) are easy to arrange.

### Project

Would you like to spend two weeks of your summer helping to organize a youth work camp and a big music festival and through that get to know Estonian culture and meet new friends? If yes, then this is the project for you! For many years Voka Youth Centre together with neighbour municipalities organizes a youth work camp, where youngsters aged 12-18 are working 4 hours a day (landscaping, cleaning, building, etc) and after that have diverse fun activities together. We are looking for volunteers who will help us organize the camp as well as doing the same work what youngsters are doing. The workcamp ends on the 5th of July. After that, on the 6th until 7th July, the municipality hosts a big music festival called „Mägede hää!“ („The sound of mountains“) where the help of young volunteers (international together with locals) will be needed. This year camp is organized together with Jõhvi municipality.

### Work

We expect volunteers to help running this work camp for youngsters: organize free-time activities, team-building games, culture nights for participants, etc. Volunteers alongside with local leaders will be responsible for the whole program of the camp. Also volunteers may be asked to help to do the same work of the camp that youngsters are doing, if needed. Work is mainly outdoors. This job requires high level of commitment and responsibility for the camp program and the young participants. Some days may be quite long for late-night orientations, landscape game in the forest, campfire etc. It will be great if you could introduce your country and culture to young people. The first weekend is free, however in the weekend before the departure of participants they are expected to help organizing a local music festival called „Mägede hää!“. You will be asked to work 4-5 hours a day mainly cleaning, organizing parking, providing information to the participants, etc. And after it you are welcome to stay and enjoy the festival ☺

### Accommodation

Volunteers will stay in Voka Youth Center. Beds, bed sheets, blankets and pillows are provided. Toilets are available, and there is x-box, band room, many games and a cinema room for watching movies (see some pictures on Facebook page VokaAvatudNoortekeskus). Shower is available in the nearby sports centre. There volunteers have a possibility to play basketball, table tennis and use the gym. And there is a good chance to try traditional Estonian sauna. Some meals will be prepared and served, some meals participants have to make themselves – there is a kitchen in the youth centre and all ingredients for cooking will be provided. Please let us know if you have any allergies or special food requirements.

### Location

The workcamp will mainly take part in Voka, which is a small village in Toila parish, Ida-Viru County. Ida-Viru County is one of 15 counties of Estonia. It is the most north-eastern part of the country. Ida-Virumaa is also called „adventure land“, as here we have more adventurous activities to do than in any other county in Estonia. Voka is about 170 km away from the capital, Tallinn. It is a picturesque place located just a few hundred meters away from the beautiful coast of the Baltic Sea.

### Terminal

Airport, bus or train station, harbor in Tallinn. From the Tallinn bus station (Tallinn, Lastekodu Str 46) bus to Jõhvi (about 2,5 hours), where camp hosts will pick participants up. **NB!** We expect the participants to arrive as early as possible on the arrival day.

### Special requirements

We are waiting for volunteers who are passionate about organizing activities for youngsters. We expect active volunteers with a good knowledge of history and culture of their country as well as with an ability and wish to present it to others in a creative way. A good level of English is required. The minimum age of volunteers is 18. Previous experience in work with children and teenagers is an advantage. Please provide a short motivation letter along with the application form. Camp language is Estonian and English.

### Leisure time

There are a lot of possibilities for active leisure time around our county, Ida-Virumaa. Voka itself is located next to the sea and we have a lot of beautiful parks and forests around us, which makes Voka a great place for nature lovers. Here we have opportunities like disc golf, riding a boat on the lake, hiking and so on. Near Voka, in Toila, we have a fantastic Spa hotel and quite famous park called Oru park. For more information about our whole county, we suggest you to visit [www.idaviru.ee](http://www.idaviru.ee).

### Participation fee

We ask participants to contribute **20 Euro** each towards the costs of general administration. This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp. If you cannot make bank transfer please contact your sending organization for solution.

<b>EST 48</b>	<b>ENGLISH IN THE CITY 2</b>	<b>TALLINN</b>	<b>01.07 - 14.07</b>	<b>KIDS/ TEACH</b>	<b>2 vols</b>
<b>EST 49</b>	<b>ENGLISH IN THE CITY 3</b>	<b>TALLINN</b>	<b>15.07 - 04.08</b>	<b>KIDS/ TEACH</b>	<b>2 vols</b>

### **Project**

This project partner is ABC Language School situated in the Tallinn city center. The age of young people attending this school varies from 4 to 16. Every year in summer the school runs English language camps for kids which last for a week and are aimed at providing additional studies and real language practice to local young people. International volunteers are warmly invited to join the project and contribute to this alternative learning process. Participation in this camp provides excellent opportunity to practice work with kids and English language teaching as well as to stay in the Estonian capital enjoying numerous attractions it offers to the guests in summer.

### **Work**

The general camp program is worked out by the supervisor of the camp. Volunteers together with a local project coordinator are responsible for the day activities in the camp. The volunteers' task is to provide children with live communication, activate their vocabulary and encourage them to speak English, to perform language activities and games (the vocabulary depends on the topic of the day and level of children knowledge), carrying out the planned activities, taking part in excursions (which are free for volunteers), assisting the teacher. The total number of camp participants is about 20 kids aged 7-16. The volunteers will work in a smaller group of 10 children in each. In addition to the volunteers there are 1-2 main teachers and 2-3 local group leaders. Most of the local children are Russian speaking youngsters. Camp activities will take place in a learning centre situated in the centre of Tallinn. In total there are 5 working days 10-16.00; on Saturdays 10-13.00 Sunday is the day off.

### **Accommodation**

We provide apartment in Tallinn for 2 people with kitchen, toilet and shower. Lunches will be organized for whole camp in the city center, breakfasts and dinners should be cooked by volunteers in the apartment. Ingredients for cooking or money to buy it will be provided by the project host.

### **Location**

Camp will take place in Tallinn, capital of Estonia, [www.tallinn.ee](http://www.tallinn.ee).

### **Special requirements**

You have to be **really motivated** to work with children. **Please provide a motivation letter** along with application form. **Experience in work with kids or youth is an advantage.** Your ideas and actual preparation to do the activities for children are essential. **A good level of English is required.** The **min age** of volunteers is **20**.

### **Leisure time**

There are a lot of possibilities for leisure time activities as camp will take place in the Estonian capital Tallinn where one can find attractions for any taste. Summer period is especially rich with cultural events of all kinds.

### **Participation fee**

We ask participants to contribute **20 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer please contact your organization

<b>EST 43</b>	<b>ALT-LAURI ORGANIC FARM I</b>	<b>VORU</b>	<b>20.06 - 03.07</b>	<b>AGRI</b>	<b>6 vols</b>
<b>EST 44</b>	<b>ALT-LAURI ORGANIC FARM II</b>	<b>VORU</b>	<b>04.07 - 17.07</b>	<b>AGRI</b>	<b>6 vols</b>
<b>EST 45</b>	<b>ALT-LAURI ORGANIC FARM III</b>	<b>VORU</b>	<b>25.07 - 07.08</b>	<b>AGRI</b>	<b>6 vols</b>
<b>EST 46</b>	<b>ALT-LAURI ORGANIC FARM IV</b>	<b>VORU</b>	<b>08.08 - 21.08</b>	<b>AGRI</b>	<b>6 vols</b>
<b>EST 47</b>	<b>ALT-LAURI ORGANIC FARM V</b>	<b>VORU</b>	<b>22.08 - 04.09</b>	<b>AGRI</b>	<b>6 vols</b>

### **Project**

For years EstYES has been cooperating with farms all over Estonia for solidarity, respect and practical support to local people who work in agricultural sector keeping traditional life style and developing new eco-farming despite of all difficulties. Alt-Lauri Farm is one of such projects. This is an organic farm promoting sustainable lifestyle, and this camp is proposed for volunteers who appreciate and share its values, want to learn more about it and to help hard working people. Alt-Lauri Farm located in the Voru County in the South of Estonia. The farm is one of a few organic farms in this area. The two major crops grown are buckwheat and different cabbages; others include different salads, strawberries, kale, lettuce, kohlrabi and turnip.

### **Work**

The main task for volunteers will be to weed and harvest (by hand) vegetables and lettuce and picking berries. Additionally to harvesting task, volunteers will clean the vegetables and make them ready for consumers in different organic shops around the country. Volunteers have to be motivated to work outdoors doing sometimes quite physical work under changing weather conditions. Note that volunteers will work all working days and on Saturday mornings as the camp takes place on the peak of the harvesting season. Then volunteers have 1,5 day for rest and sightseeing.

### **Accommodation:**

In the farmhouse in the room and/or in the attic under the roof sleeping on beds or mattresses. Dry organic toilet, shower, sauna are available. Please bring your sleeping bag and pillow. Volunteers will share the duties of cooking meals and cleaning. During this work camp volunteers will be eating mainly local, organic food from the farm. Do not forget to bring some traditional/ typical food from your home country for the international evening.

### **Location**

The charm of Haanja Uplands in South Estonia lies in its lovely hilly landscape, winding roads and numerous lakes. Most of its ancient villages, special dialect, handicraft, and customs have been preserved until today. The whole area, called Vorumaa, is an area of outstanding beauty. It is famous for its diverse and very well preserved nature. Untouched forests with wildlife, deep valleys, hills, 170 small lakes with extremely clean water, winding rivers with caves in the steep banks- you can find everything here! Farm is situated 16km south of Voru, capital of the County, which has a population of 14 000 people and lies about 250km south-east of Tallinn, close to the Latvian and Russian borders. More info about Estonia [www.visitestonia.com](http://www.visitestonia.com), South-Estonia [www.werro.com](http://www.werro.com) , [www.southeastonia.info](http://www.southeastonia.info)

### **Terminal**

Airport, harbour, bus or train station in Tallinn; regular bus to Voru, pick up by camp host.

### **Special requirements**

The camp is open for young people who is interested in organic farming and is ready to get real experience of it. Please be prepared to simple conditions of Estonian country side. Volunteers have to be motivated to work outdoors doing sometimes quite physical work under changing weather conditions. English is the camp language.

### **Leisure time**

The camp takes place in the area of outstanding beauty. There are many possibilities for leisure time, especially for those who love nature: acquaintance with nature of the area, hiking, swimming, etc. There will be a chance to participate in farmers' fairs. Excursions to the historical places of the County of Voru are planned as well. Some free time activities will be organized for participants such as a day trip and excursions in the area. Participants of the first shift of the camp (EST 43) will have a privilege to take part in Mid-summer festivities at the night 23/ 24.06. This is the largest and most spectacular summer celebration in Estonia with barbeque, beers, socializing, bonfires, music and vivid parties everywhere.

### **Participation fee**

Due to lack of communal resources for this camp we ask participants to contribute **30 Euro** towards the costs of general administration. **This fee has to be paid by bank transfer before the beginning of the camp.** If you cannot make bank transfer please contact your sending organization for solution.