

# Workcamps in Russia 2016

## Partenaire: World 4 you

- **History**

World4U is a non-profit NGO; it was founded in 1998 as a group of young enthusiastic people with a vision that international communication among youth has a tremendous potential in raising intercultural understanding, tolerance and creation peaceful life in the world-wide community. In the summer of 2000 Voluntary Exchange Russia World4U started to exist as an official NGO. Now we are one of the biggest voluntary organizations in Russia. World4u represents about 2500 creative and bright individuals who are united by the idea of volunteering and cross-cultural understanding. We have partners in various regions of Russia.

- **Activity & Aims**

World4U manages international voluntary exchange – we organize international projects in Russia (workcamps and MTV) and send Russian volunteers abroad. This experience of international voluntary service will help to find a solution on actual problems in Russia and all around the world.

Our aims are:

- to promote different types of activities particularly among young people, which helps to make our world a better place
  - to attract wide public attention to the various environmental, social, cultural problems
  - to promote awareness openness, friendly attitude to different cultures and various life paths
  - to wide knowledge about various countries and cultures among young people
  - to incorporate people of different cultures and lifestyles for getting common good experience in multicultural community
  - to change negative image of Russia in the world
- **Staff members**
    - Diana Sazonova (outgoing officer)
    - Angelina Garipova (incoming officer)

## **The specialties of volunteering in Russia**

- **Invitation & Visa to Russia**

As the most of the foreigners need an entrance visa to Russia we recommend international volunteers to send their applications 1 or 2 months before the project starts.

Our organization provides official invitation letter for getting visa, which we forward by post or fax to the sending organization of a volunteer. Volunteers have to visit [www.russianembassy.net](http://www.russianembassy.net) for a full list of addresses and telephone numbers of Russian embassies and consulates and find all the rules and necessary documents to apply for Russian visa in every particular country there. We kindly ask you to encourage your volunteers to do that the sooner the better.

- **Long distances in Russia**

Russia is a truly big country. Normal average travel distance here is "one night train ride", which means about 7-9 hours by train any direction from Moscow, the main railway hub in the west of the country. The train transportation in Russia is cheap comparing to Europe, and we'll also make estimation on the costs in the travel directions in the infosheets. Please, keep in mind huge Russian distances and ask your volunteers to plan the arrival to Russia 2-3 days prior the project starts, in order to get the meeting point on time.

- **Language**

Foreign volunteers should be ready that English is not as well spoken in Russia as in Europe. Also remember, please, there is Cyrillic alphabet in Russia and most of the signs have no Latin equivalent.

### Workcamps and MTV Terms:

- **Camps and MTV types:**

Most of our camps in Russia are multi-type camps – combining different activities and communication with different people.

**RENO** – renovation/restoration work, usually connected with masonry, manual work, painting, carpentry and other minor assignments without any special professional requirements

**SOCI** – social work with socially disadvantaged people/children/orphans

**AGRI** – work in agriculture, mostly help for monasteries and orphanages. Volunteers work in the gardens, help in harvesting and cleaning the fields, grass cutting, preparing firewood etc.

**ENVI** – ecological / environmental work – cleaning forest, setting up ecological signs, recycling master classes

**KIDS** – working with children, usually 3-16 y.o. as an animator or organizer of free time activities, games or language workshops

**FEST** – work as a part of a prep-team / technical group of some festival / celebration / exhibition

**ART** – project connected with arts and crafts developing activities

**ARCH** – working in an archeological expedition together with professionals in the field

- **Age limits** are usually from 18 y.o. and older, without any upper limit, but in some particular projects there can be special age requirements.
- **Insurance** is NOT provided by World4U, but basic medical assistance is always available. Anyway it's good idea to have all the medicine you are used to from you home country as you know all the weaknesses of your health and what pills normally help you.
- **Workcamp language** of all World4U camps is English, and, of course, the knowledge of Russian is welcome.

## List of "World4U" workcamps 2016

Camp Code	Name	Location	Dates	Type	Vols	Age	Special remarks
W4U-01	Sunlight	Maya village, republic Sakha (Yakutia), Siberia	5 – 25 June	KIDS	8	18+	
W4U-02	Tolstoy World	Museum-estate "Yasnaya Polyana", Tula region	9 – 23 July	ENVI/CULT	9	18+	
W4U-03	STARKA	Old Ryazan settlement, Ryazan region	17 – 31 July	ARCH/CULT	10	18+	
W4U-04	Solovki Botanical Garden	Solovetsky Islands, Arkhangelsky region	17 July – 1 August	ENVI	12	18+	UNESCO World Heritage Volunteers
W4U-05	Perspective	Tutaev, Yaroslavl region	18 July – 05 August	RENO	15	18+	
W4U-06	Not of this world	Saint Petersburg	05 – 17 July	RENO/CULT	15	18+	
W4U-07	Guslitsa	Moscow region	07 – 21 August	ART/CONS/ENVI/MANU/FEST	13	18+	
W4U-08	Kostenki	Voronezh region	08 – 21 August	ARCH	5	18+	<i>Dates and the project are to be confirmed</i>

## List of "World4U" MTV projects 2016

Camp Code	Name	Place	Dates	Type	Vols	Age
W4U-MTV-01	Happy Baby Club	Moscow	01 June – 31 August	KIDS	2	20-35



W4U-MTV-02	Voluntary Forest Firefighters Camp	Island Pieni-Hepposaari, lake Ladoga, Republic of Karelia	15 June – 14 July	ENVIRONMENTAL	2	International <a href="http://www.servicevolontaire.org">www.servicevolontaire.org</a>
W4U-MTV-03	Keskil	Near Yakutsk, republic Sakha (Yakutia)	15 June – 11 August	KIDS	2	18+

## A map of "World4U" projects in 2016



## “World4U” workcamps 2016

**Camp code:** W4U-01

**Name of the project:** “Sunlight”

**Location:** Maya village,  
republic Sakha (Yakutia), Siberia,  
Russian Federation

**Start date:** 2016-06-05

**End date:** 2016-06-25

**Type of work:** KIDS

**Number of vols:** 8 international vols

**Age:** 18-45

**Partner:** The mission of the project is intercultural education of socially unprotected primary and middle school children from a local village. All the activities will be organized in cooperation with local school of Maya village.

**Work:** This project is for those who love kids and would like to spend lots of time with them, as all the activities are based in local school. Volunteers will give master-classes of English and other languages for kids, so that they can improve their language skills and learn about different countries the volunteers are coming from. We will be busy 8 hours a day, but time will be split between morning master classes and evening events.

**Accommodation & Food:** Participants will live in the wooden house, with beds, blankets and bed linen. Meals 3 times a day will be provided in a school canteen.

**Location & Leisure:** The Sakha (Yakutia) is a federal subject of Russia located in Far Eastern part of Siberia. It's famous for its diamond mines. It has a population of 1 million people, consisting mainly of ethnic Yakuts and Russians.

The territory is huge, the eighth largest territory in the world, if the federal subjects of Russia were compared with other countries. Its capital is the city of Yakutsk.

It has extremely cold climate in winter (can reach -72 degrees of calcium), but very warm in summer (can reach +40 degrees of calcium).

You will have a pleasure to observe “white nights” – a very special northern phenomenon, when it never gets dark, twilight during the whole night.

And depending on group decision volunteers can also visit rivers (The Lena River – the longest river in Far East region and The Amga River with beautiful landscape). As a group volunteers can visit local sights, museums, etc. The group can also visit “Buluus” - a landscape and hydrological reserve where a source hits out of the ground all year round. Tourist attraction, parks, bottling line of clean water, etc.

**Requirements:** Love working with kids, interest in remote places and rare cultures

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Nearest terminal is Yakutsk. Distance from Moscow: 6 hours by plane to Yakutsk, then 1,5 - 2 hours by ferry and bus. Meeting point is in Yakutsk, and then the group will travel together to the project place.

**Summary:** You will get a chance to visit one of the most special places in Russia: explore it's pristine nature, learn about the unique culture of Northern people and get to share your worldview and knowledge with local young children.



**Camp code:** W4U-02  
**Name of the project:** "Tolstoy world"  
**Location:** Museum-estate "Yasnaya Polyana",  
 Tula region, Russian Federation  
**Start date:** 2016-07-09  
**End date:** 2016-07-23  
**Type of work:** ENVI/CULT  
**Number of vols:** 9 international vols  
**Age:** 18+



**Partner:** The state memorial and natural  
 reserve «Museum-estate of Leo Tolstoy

«Yasnaya Polyana» is one of the largest museum-reserves in the country. This is where the famous writer wrote his masterpieces such as «War and Peace» and «Anna Karenina». The territory is huge, there is a genuine manor house of XVIII-XIX centuries, Leo Tolstoy's grave, parks, gardens, forests, meadows and agricultural land.

**Work:** Volunteers work from 9 till 15.30 with a break for lunch. They do environmental work – collect branches, work in gardens and greenhouses.

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers will stay in a hotel, 15 minutes walk from the museum. There are showers, bathrooms, beds and tables in each room. Three meals will be provided for the volunteers.

**Location & Leisure:** On the territory of the estate there are unique historical buildings surrounded by forests, gardens and picturesque landscapes. Walking in this place transports visitors into the world of Russian noble estate of the XIX century.

Museum organizes a cultural program – excursion to the museum of Leo Tolstoy, a biking tour around the estate, tour to the exhibition of folk art, master-classes in ceramics and floral design, etc. There is a hall in the hotel where volunteers will meet up in the evenings to relax and have fun. There are more areas outside where they can also spend free time or visit cities around during free days.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Tula, can be reached from Moscow by train, car or bus.

**Summary:** Volunteers will help in the museum-estate of Leo Tolstoy. For those who enjoy culture, history, literature and wonderful landscapes.

**Camp code:** W4U-03  
**Name of the project:** "STARKA"  
**Location:** Old Ryazan settlement,  
 Ryazan region, Russian Federation  
**Start date:** 2016-07-17  
**End date:** 2016-07-31  
**Type of work:** ARCH/CULT  
**Number of vols:** 10 international vols  
**Age:** 18+



**Partner:** Old Ryazan archeological expedition has been organized by the Institute of Archeology (Russian Academy of Science) for more than 20 years now. Many treasures were found on the territory of the Old Ryazan settlement, some of them are now displayed in the Kremlin Armoury in Moscow. The majority of findings date back to the XI-XIII century. Volunteers will get a chance to experience the pristine Russian culture and take part in a real scientific expedition.

Old Ryazan is one of the largest Ancient Russian towns of XII-XIII centuries, it was the capital of the Great Principality of Ryazan and is the biggest archeological settlement in Russia. The city was destroyed in 1237 during the mongol invasion. Old Ryazan settlement is protected by the state as an archeological reserve and historical and landscape monument of federal significance.

**Work:** Assisting during archeological excavation together with other participants of the expedition under guidance of experienced archeologists. Volunteers work about 7 hours per day with a lunch break 6 days a week. There are many different types of work that volunteers can do including not physically demanding tasks, this is why anyone can take part in the project.

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers will live in tents (two people in one tent) in expedition field camp situated close to the working place. There is electricity in the camp, mobile and Internet coverage from volunteers' devices. There is also a shower with hot water and camp sauna.

Volunteers eat with other participants of the expedition 4 times a day (vegetarian menu is also possible).

The camp is located close to the town, which means that if needed volunteers can go to shops, supermarkets, pharmacies.

**Location & Leisure:** Old Ryazan settlement, Ryazan region (4 km from Spassk town, an hour drive from Ryazan).

The camp is located on the banks of a river in a very interesting place from natural and cultural points of view. After work volunteers can go to the town, go for a walk, swim in the river or watch a movie together (there is a projector and a screen in the camp). During the free days some excursions around local sights will be organized for the volunteers and participants will certainly get all the information about the site and the objects they are looking for.

**Requirements:** Motivation letter. The experience of leaving in field conditions is welcomed.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Town Spassk, one-hour drive from Ryazan. Volunteers will most probably meet in Moscow and go to Ryazan together. Early arrival to Moscow on that day or better the day before is recommended, so that there is enough time to reach the place.

**Summary:** This is the biggest archeological expedition in Russia and a very fruitful one. The probability is very high that you will find some of the relics from XI-XIII century yourself!



**Camp code:** W4U-04  
**Name of the project:** "Solovki Botanical Garden"  
**Location:** Solovetsky Archipelago,  
 Arkhangelsky region, Russian Federation  
**Start date:** 2016-07-17  
**End date:** 2016-08-01  
**Type of work:** ENVI/CULT  
**Number of vols:** 12 international vols  
**Age:** 18+



**Partner:** This is a UNESCO World Heritage Volunteers project. It is organized in cooperation with Solovki State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve, which is well-known due to Solovetsky Monastery. Since 15th century Solovetsky Archipelago with its monastery was a religious citadel in the Russian North before being closed by Soviet government in 1920 and turned into a special Soviet prison and labour camp (1926–1939), the Gulag, - for some people the site still reminds of this horrible period in USSR history, a symbol of Stalin's repressions.



**Work:** The project aims at assisting in preservation of the World Heritage site by doing physical work and organizing educational activities. Volunteers themselves will learn about the history and uniqueness of the Solovetsky Islands Ensemble and help enrich biodiversity of the Islands' ecosystem. They will raise awareness on heritage issues as well as promote World Heritage Volunteers initiative among locals and visitors.

During the project volunteers will work at the Botanical Garden founded by the monks in 1822, namely plant, weed, and fertilize trees, herbs and flowers of cultural and historical significance. They will also plant seeds (seedlings) that they are to bring from home to contribute to the variety of the plants on the Islands (more on that will be provided in the information list). Moreover, international volunteers will participate in workshops and presentations of the World Heritage Volunteers campaign and discuss with locals, tourists and Russian volunteers the importance of heritage preservation.

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers will live in tents in a well-equipped camping of the garden. Food will be provided; volunteers will cook by themselves as a group.

**Location & Leisure:** The Solovetsky archipelago comprises of six islands in the western part of the White Sea less than 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle. They have been inhabited since the 5th century B.C. and important traces of human presence from as far back as the 5th millennium B.C. can be found there. Since 15th century Solovetsky Archipelago with its monastery was a religious citadel of the Russian North, there are several churches dating back to 16th-19th century.

**Requirements:** Volunteers are going to live on the campsite of the Botanical Garden. There you'll need some regular clothes for work and rest. But as soon as we decide to have an excursion and visit some monastery or church you will have to follow the rules of the place. Girls should wear long skirts, which should cover their knees. Their heads should be also covered by headscarf or something like this, also your arms should be covered with long sleeves.

Boys shouldn't wear T-shirts and shorts in the monastery, their legs and arms should be covered. They don't have to cover their head while visiting church.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Nearest terminal is Kem, a small town in Karelia. It takes 2 hours to travel from Kem to the island by boat. Volunteers have to arrive at least 2 days before the project starts. We suggest arriving to Saint-Petersburg. Meeting point will be in Saint-Petersburg, then participants will go together with camp-leaders to Kem by train (it takes 16 hours), then by boat to the island.

**Summary:** Volunteers have an opportunity to take part in a volunteering project at a UNESCO World Heritage site, visit magnificent Solovetsky Archipelago, work at the monastery garden, learn about the history of the place, see white whales and so on!

**Camp code:** W4U-05  
**Name of the project:** "Perspective"  
**Location:** Tutaev, Yaroslavl region,  
 Russian Federation  
**Start date:** 2016-07-18  
**End date:** 2016-08-05  
**Type of work:** RENO  
**Number of vols:** 15 international vols  
**Age:** 18+



**Partner:** The workcamp is run in the cooperation with regional government. During the last few years the Children's home (2009) and the House of mercy (2009) in Tutaev, Pensioner's apartments, an accomplishment of parks to the 1000 years anniversary of the Yaroslavl city (2010), schools, kindergartens and social rehabilitation centres (2011-2014) have been repaired.

**Work:** This workcamp is run by the regional government since 2004. The Children's home (2009) and the House of mercy (2009), pensioner's apartments, an accomplishment of parks to the 1000 anniversary of the Yaroslavl city (2010), schools, kindergartens and social rehabilitation centers (2011-2014), museum and monument (2015) has been repaired. This year volunteers will renovate social objects (museums, houses-boarding schools, schools, etc.) and monuments. Volunteers will work together with Russian participants of the camp. Work 6 hours a day except 1 day in week.

**Accommodation & Food:** Lodging, food and excursions are provided by the local host. Volunteers will live in a hostel, located not far from the work place, toilet and bathroom on the floor. There will be a bus to reach a working place. Meals 3 times a day will be provided in the canteen. Alcohol is prohibited in our camp.

**Location & Leisure:** This camp is a great opportunity to see one of the small towns of Russia. Tutaev was founded in 1283. It is situated at the banks of the river Volga between Yaroslavl (38 km) and Rybinsk (42 km).

On days off we offer excursions and free time activities. Volunteers may enjoy hiking around the area, where are many museums, churches and beautiful nature. The trip to Yaroslavl' – a regional center and one of the oldest and most beautiful cities of the "Golden ring" of Russia will be organized.

**Requirements:** Interest in Russian culture

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Yaroslavl, 3 hours by train OR 4-5 hours by bus from Moscow

**Summary:** Volunteers will renovate buildings of social importance in a small town close to Yaroslavl, which is one of the most beautiful cities located in the European part of Russia.

**Camp code:** W4U-06

**Name of the project:** "Not of this world"

**Location:** Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation

**Start date:** 2016-08-05

**End date:** 2016-08-17

**Type of work:** RENO/CULT

**Number of vols:** 15 international vols

**Age:** 18+

**Partner:** Project takes place in Novodevichy Convent, which is situated in Saint-Petersburg.



**Work:** Volunteers will help with renovation works in the monastery school for kids.

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers will stay in a dormitory in the area of Novodevichy Convent. Monastery provides beds with blankets, pillows etc. Monastery provides ordinary (with meat) or vegetarian food. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served in a monastery canteen.

**Location & Leisure:** Participants will be able to see the inner life of the Orthodox monastery. If volunteers would like to ask questions about Orthodox religion, they will be able to have a conversation with one of the nuns. The monastery is situated in the center of St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg is famous for being a "cultural capital" of Russia.

**Requirements:** Volunteers should be tolerant to Orthodox religion, to follow dress code – for girls it is long skirts, which should cover their knee, their heads should be covered by headscarf or something like this. Boys shouldn't wear T-shirts and shorts in the monastery – more details about dress code you will find in the infosheet.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Nearest terminal is Saint-Petersburg.

**Summary:** A great way to learn about the Orthodox religion while staying in the center of Saint Petersburg.

**Camp code:** W4U-07  
**Name of the project:** "Guslitsa"  
**Location:** Moscow region, close to Yegorievsk  
**Start date:** 2016-08-07  
**End date:** 2016-08-21  
**Type of work:** ART/MANU/FEST  
**Number of vols:** 13 international vols  
**Age:** 18+



**Partner:** «Guslitsa» is a creative society of a new type that unites representatives of all creative professions – architects, musicians, painters, curators, directors, actors, journalists, etc. Creative estate "Guslitsa" is also an international art residence and it has implemented a number of programs in the art sphere. Project "Guslitsa" is implemented by a non-profit foundation for development of culture. Activities of the estate are devoted to practical study and support of modern art in its various forms (visual arts, dance, music, cinema, experimental theatre, etc).

Our main aims are to make a cultural and educational place for local people of small villages and towns, develop working places for them by making a production of crafts and refract urbanisation traditions. We see this place as a place of professionals, mostly in art, who will meet together and make synergetical projects with the positive influence on local place and people.

All together we made more than 65 events, including international ones for 3 years.

**Work:** The main target is to reveal human potential through the immersion in creative and educational environment, give him/her the opportunities to implement their own initiatives or projects and interact with the cultural code of the area. The tasks can vary from highly creative to simpler ones depending on the group. But in general volunteers will work 4-6 hours per day 6 days a week helping out in a variety of events that "Guslitsa" is organizing. They will be involved in interior design, landscape design (from planning and implementing your own idea to just helping out with basic tasks), assistance in furniture design, helping during events and festivals, a bit of renovation, cleaning and eco-building and also working with locals.

Volunteers will assist in the kitchen (take turns). Creative people who can perform and share some of their skills in any area related to art are also very welcomed.

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers stay in a hostel on the territory of the estate, they are provided with three vegetarian meals per day.

**Location & Leisure:** "Guslitsa" is located in a very beautiful place with a river, a lake and a forest nearby and only in 77 km from Moscow (near town Yegorievsk). The estate itself is a huge complex built in the end of XIX century.

During their free time volunteers can participate in all of the creative activities and master-classes that will take place in "Guslitsa", walk around and enjoy themselves, communicate with local artists who are residents in "Guslitsa" or local people who live nearby. Cultural evenings will also be organized.

There is WiFi on the territory of the estate and a store in 15 minutes walk.

**Requirements:** Motivation letter, interest in design, architecture, artistic skills (musicians, dancers, photographers, etc. are very welcomed).

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** 77 km from Moscow. The closest town is Yegorievsk, however, volunteers will meet up in Moscow and travel to the place together.

**Summary:** Volunteers will participate in a special project that aims to educate and help local people using different forms of art in 70 km from Moscow.

**Camp code:** W4U-08

**Name of the project:** "Kostenki"

**Location:** The 'Kostenki' Museum-Reserve,  
40 km South from Voronezh, Russian  
Federation

**Start date:** 2016-08-08

**End date:** 2016-08-21

**Type of work:** ARCH

**Number of vols:** 5 international vols

**Age:** 18+

**Partner:** This project is organized in cooperation with the State Archaeological Museum-Reserve 'Kostenki' <http://kostenki-museum.ru/> This museum is famous for its archaeological site of the Stone Age, which is preserved as a monument, including mammoth bones, 25 security zones, where there are about 60 sites of the Paleolithic period. Museum continues doing the research during over 130 years.

**Work:** Volunteers will take part in archaeological excavations together with museum workers and a group of Russian volunteers. They will be integrated in Museum' research activities. Volunteers will work 7 hours per day, with the weekend of 2 days per week. Excavations can take place in various places on the territory of the Museum. All necessary equipment for work will be provided.

**Accommodation & Food:** Participants will live in tents in expedition field camp situated close to the museum building. Volunteers should bring their own sleeping bags. There will be a shower and a field kitchen - meals 3 times a day will be provided, volunteers will cook by themselves as a group.

**Location & Leisure:** The 'Kostenki' Museum-Reserve is located 40 km south from Voronezh and is situated on the bank of Don River. The daily camp life also includes research and education activities (excursions, lectures, meetings), cultural events and sports classes.

**Requirements:** Be prepared for living in tent camp, sometimes the work might be physically demanding

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** The nearest terminal is Voronezh. You can go to Voronezh by train from Moscow.

**Summary:** Volunteers will get a chance to take part in an archeological research expedition, help the museum staff and possibly discover some remains from the Stone Age.



## “World4U” MTV projects 2016

**Camp code:** W4U-MTV-01  
**Name of the project:** “Happy Baby Club”  
**Location:** Moscow  
**Start date:** 2016-06-01  
**End date:** 2016-08-31  
**Type of project:** MTV  
**Type of work:** KIDS  
**Number of vols:** 2 international vols  
**Age:** 20-35



**Partner:** Baby Club is a network of development centers for children where the main focus is to help kids from 8 months to 7 years to develop their intelligence. It is a space for playing where employees of Baby Clubs carefully develop the intellect of children and prepare them for future life in the new information era. The most modern techniques are used in the club, they are based on the results of numerous surveys conducted in the XX and XXI centuries on how our brain functions to successfully develop kids on early stages of their lives.

**Work:** Help make children happier; to enjoy the process and help parents understand the individuality of a child. Volunteers will be helping at a children’s international camp in one of the Baby Clubs in the center of Moscow.

The main task is to make the day of the baby interesting. There are training notes in the club that could be used to prepare. However, creativity and initiative on the part of the teacher/assistant is always welcomed. All materials necessary for working with kids will be provided.

The main responsibilities – games and development activities for children aged 2.5 – 5 years old. No more than 8 people in a group. Maintenance of order in the classroom and ensuring children’s safety are also duties of the volunteers.

Volunteers work 5 days per week (from 9 till 14, from 14 till 18 or a full day).

**Accommodation & Food:** Volunteers will stay in a hostel in the center of Moscow and work in the center as well. They will get allowance for food and pocket money each month.

**Location & Leisure:** Volunteers will work and stay in the center of Moscow, the capital of Russia. When they arrive, the coordinator of the project will organize a welcoming session/training for the volunteers. They can contact this person anytime they need. All sorts of entertainment could be found in Moscow – from museums and galleries to huge parks to restaurants and night clubs.

**Requirements:** Minimum stay – 1 month. Experience in working with children and fluency in English are required. Preferred: Degree in pedagogy, psychology or linguistics. Volunteers will be asked to send in their CV and motivation letter and also if necessary a Skype interview with me organized with them.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Moscow

**Summary:** A unique opportunity to stay in the capital of Russia during the summer while working with lovely children and helping them to develop faster.

**Camp code:** W4U-MTV-02

**Name of the project:** "Voluntary Forest Firefighters Camp"

**Location:** Island Pieni-Hepposaari, lake Ladoga, Republic of Karelia, Russian Federation

**Start date:** 2016-06-15

**End date:** 2016-07-14

**Type of project:** MTV

**Type of work:** ENVI

**Number of vols:** 2 international vols

**Age:** 18+

**Partner:** Volunteer Forest Firefighter Society was established in 2008 by the group of active people who were alarmed by the situation with fires at the Ladoga-Lake region. Local governmental services of natural area protection was not able to handle fire extinguishing at the numerous islands scattered on the lake surface.

The project is aiming for prevention and extinguishing the fire, education of local community, pointing out the problem. Also recognition the value of this area and National Park status assignment for it, as long-term goal.

The islands of the lake have unique vegetation. It is home for many rare species of animals, birds and plants; fragile ecosystem which takes several hundred years to recover from the fire. That's why we consider that this place needs to be protected and saved for next generations.

The people of our organization are engineers, biologists, teachers, architects, students etc. Now it has become a pretty big community that unites very different people with diverse backgrounds and quite wide geography. All participants are volunteers ready to spend their vacation or weekend for the purpose of environmental protection.

Since 2008 we had increased our skills and capacities on field of prevention and fighting the fire. We educate and prepare our volunteers through different trainings and practical seminars right at the campsite. We've gained a lot of experience on how to make our project more sustainable and effective and will be glad to share it with new motivated volunteers.

**Work:** Normally there are 10-15 Russian volunteers in the camp but their number changes all the time. There are no any fixed groups: people come for as long as they can according to the needs of the camp.

The leader of the camp is the person who is in charge for functioning the camp. It is not permanent position, and usually every two weeks he or she passes the duties to next leader.

There is large variety of tasks:

- Detecting and putting out fires;
- Monitoring the land from motor boats.
- Monitoring the land through binoculars from various islands.
- Running the camp (housekeeping tasks, help with meal preparation)
- Also we organise Islands Cleaning Events: group of our volunteers (rubbish team) goes by boat to some popular island often visited by tourists and clean it up from rubbish, install info boards.

Working hours: 3-8 hours/day, however it can vary depending on weather, current tasks and number of people. When it's dry and hot we focus on patrolling and observation of the area. Each volunteer should be ready to move if the alarm appears. It is important to keep in mind that the main goal of this camp is to detect and extinguish forest fires - it is priority task and rest of work, day routines and discipline are built around it.



**Accommodation & Food:** Since there are already 8 years the project exists, we've manage to organize our life in the camp in most convenient way.

We have electricity from the generator: every tree or two days batteries, accumulators and other items may be charged. There is free wi-fi and even water tab made by our ingenious volunteers. We use organic hand-made wash up liquid or purchase eco-friendly one. We separate our rubbish and transport it to St.Petersburg for recycling.

The laundry can be done in the lake or we have several basins and soap.

There is sauna-tent with a stove and hot stones. We use wood to heat it up and make washing process comfortable and pleasant. The wood is taken from the nearest island, which was affected by the fire about 10 years ago and has plenty of dead dry trees.

There are tents for 2-4 people in the camp. Please, bring your own mat and sleeping bag. If you have your own tent, please bring it with you. If not, we will manage to find the tent for you but be ready for neighbors.

Food is cooked on bonfire and on gas stove. Many of our participants are vegetarians and all the dishes made without meat, but if you like you may add can-meat or fish to your plate. We use water from the lake for cooking.

This year we've published Ladoga Cook Book, which is about how we make our menu more interesting and diverse within the limits of low budget and remoteness from supermarkets. But anyway you should be ready for porridge! There is no way to avoid it 😊

And of course if you want bring some specialties from your country you're warmly welcome!

**ATTENTION!** Alcohol in the camp is strictly forbidden!

**Location & Leisure:** Ladoga is one of the biggest fresh water lake in Europe. It is situated in the Republic of Karelia in the north-west of Russia. Closest big city is Saint. Petersburg which locates about 2,5 hours by train South direction.

The camp is based on the island Pieni-Hepposaari in 30-40 minutes from the mainland by boat. One of our coordinators will assist the new volunteers with arrival to the camp.

Free time activities: The amount of free time strongly depends on weather. There may be three days raining, and that case volunteers have plenty of free time to sleep, read, chat, or play games. We like gather around bonfire for singing with guitar.

For newcomers we organise different trainings and practical seminars:

- Sailing a boat;
- How to work with water pumps and different equipment;
- Fire trainings;
- Orienteering: how to use GPS, work with maps, define azimuth;
- First aid;
- Knots;
- What to do if you or your fellow dropped overboard? It's literally practical;
- Radio: how to use walkie-talkie, number codes.

This year in beginning of July we will be hosting Greenpeace firefighters training camp. It's an educational event annually happening in our camp. It is aimed for those who already involved in firefighting protection or want organise volunteer group in their regions, so the event gathers participants from different parts of Russia. The volunteers may joins Greenpeace sessions if the weather allows it.

The nature is very specific Nordic type and it's incredibly beautiful! Sometimes you may spend hours just watching the waves or observing birds. Also swimming is nice especially if you like

cold water☺ In July it's usually warm enough already for people, not only for seals who are our close neighbors.

**IMPORTANT:** In the hot time there might be a lot of fires which means free time for sleep only.

**Requirements:** For those who have no camping experience, life at the island far away from civilization without some regular facilities may be too tough and stressful. Also the weather may be severe and unpredictable what should be taken into consideration.

As the activities taken at the firefighter's camp associates with danger, the insurance is obligatory!

To sum everything up, for this project we seek for motivated volunteers with outdoor camping experience, ready for challenging and sometimes very demanding conditions. Also it's better to have at least basic knowledge of Russian language or be ready to learn it right in the camp. Also we ask the applicants to send the letter of motivation.

**Language:** English, knowledge of Russian or the willingness to learn it would be very helpful

**Airport, train/bus station:** The nearest terminal is in Saint-Petersburg where we usually have the meeting point. From Saint-Petersburg 2 hours by train to Priozersk, then by bus or by taxi to the boat station where our boat will wait for volunteers in agreed time. 30-40 minutes takes the trip to the camp island by boat.

**Summary:** Volunteers will learn how to fight fires and get other handy skills – orientation, boat piloting, first aid while living on an island in the middle of a fantastically beautiful lake in Karelia region.

**Camp code:** W4U-MTV-03

**Name of the project:** "Keskil"

**Location:** 9 km from Yakutsk, republic Sakha (Yakutia), Siberia, Russian Federation

**Start date:** 2016-06-15

**End date:** 2016-08-11

**Type of project:** MTV

**Type of work:** KIDS/ART

**Number of vols:** 2 international vols

**Age:** 18+

**Partner:** Center for Continuing Education, part of the Yakutia Ministry of Education organizes this summer camp for kids.

**Work:** Having classes with children: music (synthesizer, the basics of music theory), painting or interactive language lessons (English or native to the volunteers). 2 hours every day, except Saturday and Sunday.

**Accommodation & Food:** Participants will live in the wooden house, with beds, blankets and bed linen, volunteers will have a room for the two of them. Shower with hot water and bathroom are outside. Meals 3 times a day will be provided in the camp's canteen.

**Location & Leisure:** The Sakha (Yakutia) is a federal subject of Russia located in Far Eastern part of Siberia. It's famous for its diamond mines. It has a population of 1 million people, consisting mainly of ethnic Yakuts and Russians.



The territory is huge, the eighth largest territory in the world, if the federal subjects of Russia were compared with other countries. Its capital is the city of Yakutsk.

It has extremely cold climate in winter (can reach -72 degrees of calcium), but very warm in summer (can reach +40 degrees of calcium).

You will have a pleasure to observe “white nights” – a very special northern phenomenon, when it never gets dark, twilight during the whole night. Also as a group volunteers can visit local sights, museums, etc.

In their free time volunteers can participate in all sorts of master-classes and activities organized on the territory of the camp, which are a lot: playing on local instruments, doing sports, playing with kids, etc. At the same time the camp will be used to host Summer International Children’s Games, so there are probably going to be more foreigners during the projects and volunteers can watch the Games. At least two excursions will be organized by the local host. Volunteers can always go to town if they wish.

**Requirements:** Project specific motivation letter. Experience in working with children, artistic skills (for example, in music or painting). Minimum stay – 3 weeks.

**Language:** English, Russian

**Airport, train/bus station:** Yakutsk, republic Sakha (Yakutia), Siberia, Russian Federation

**Additional information:** Volunteers get pocket money during the project.

**Summary:** Volunteers will get an opportunity to spend more than 3 weeks at Far Eastern part of Siberia sharing their artistic talents with children.

**Envie d’aller faire du volontariat en Russie ? Contactez le SVI :**  
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