

# ESC PROJECT

LA MAISON DE  
L'EUROPE  
LE MANS-SARTHE



## "LET'S LIVE EUROPE IN SARTHE"

*1 volunteering project from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024*



**LE MANS, SARTHE, FRANCE // EDUCATION & YOUTH**

*14 volunteers in total*

*"Let's live Europe in Sarthe" is a collective ESC project in the region of Le Mans, in France, that involves 14 volunteers in different places of volunteering, with a common goal: to educate on Europe, cultural diversity, mobility, and help people to get more easily in touch with Europe in making it more concrete by exchanging with people from different European countries. We strongly believe that meeting others can help strengthening open-mindedness, equality, diversity, and citizenship, and our team of volunteers is taking on this challenge all year long!"*

The House of Europe ("Maison de l'Europe" in French) manages several European mobility projects, in particular European volunteering projects (European Solidarity Corps).

This guide provides information about the **Volunteering at the municipality of Saint-Georges du Bois**.

### **The role of the House of Europe**

The House of Europe has a coordination role and provides the financial and administrative management of the project. Administrative work, management of accommodation and transport for the volunteers, payment of allowances, are as well organized by the House of Europe. Questions about daily life at the volunteering place, the missions and the activities are managed by the host institution and the tutor. The House of Europe has a supporting and mediating role. For every project, the volunteers have a tutor in each place where they daily volunteer.

### **Aims of the projects**

The goals of the different projects are very similar: the idea is to make people in our region Sarthe aware of the European Union, to encourage interculturalism and openness to others, and to make the (young) people you work with aware that European mobility is also possible for them. By welcoming European volunteers all year, the public of the different places will be able to deconstruct their prejudices and be less afraid of differences, while learning to interact with someone from another culture. All the volunteers are linked to develop common projects and enhance the presence of European volunteers in the region of Sarthe.



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

*Your food, accommodation, insurance, pocket money and your travel costs will be covered by the European Solidarity Corps program.*

**Travel:** You will be reimbursed on a base of a budget depending on your means of transportation and the country you are traveling from (from 180€ to 410€ for roundtrip.)

**Accommodation:** You will have your own room in a shared house near the center of Le Mans, with easy access to local transportation for your daily commutes. Common spaces are shared with other volunteers.

**Monthly expenses:** You will get each month money for your food, and pocket money, transferred in your bank account at the end of the month you have just done. Pocket money is 210€/month, and food money is either 210€/month + lunch offered at the school canteen on workdays or 240€/month if no lunches are covered.

**Language:** You will have access to the EU Academy platform for online French classes, and you will have the possibility to take part in French classes at the university of Le Mans.

**Dates:** 6 months mission from the 16th of January (arrival day in France: 15th of January) to the end of July.

**Planning:** You will volunteer for about 30 hours per week smoothed over the year. You will not volunteer on weekends -excepts maybe 3-4 times during the year-. For every volunteering month you have 2 days off, so 12 days for the whole mission.

**Training:** The French ESC Agency organizes 2 seminars (one on arrival and one mid-term for about a week, with other ESC volunteers in France). All expenses are fully covered.

**Common project:** You will take part in common project in between volunteers and common meetings throughout the year.

**Insurance:** You will be covered by Henner insurance scheme from the European Commission.

**Local transportation:** You will be provided a card to use tramways and buses of Le Mans and surroundings unlimited + the mean of transportation for your daily commute + a bike + a discount card for French railways.

*Application process: After reading our info pack, you want to be part of this adventure?*

*You can go on our website to download the application form:*

<https://europe-en-sarthe.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Application-Form-ESC-Candidates-2024-SGDB.docx>

*Application is complete with the application form, your cv, and a little video. Once complete, you can send it to [evs@europe-en-sarthe.eu](mailto:evs@europe-en-sarthe.eu)*

*Zoom calls will be organized to meet and check if the project is right for you on the:*

- 28/11 morning
- 30/11 afternoon
- 04/12 afternoon
- 05/12 morning

## THE TOWN OF SAINT-GEORGES-DU-BOIS

Saint-Georges-du-Bois is a French commune in the Sarthe department, in the Pays de la Loire region. Located 8 kilometers from Le Mans, this peri-urban town has about 2,200 inhabitants and hosts many services: bakery, restaurant, bar-tobacco shop, supermarket, medical and paramedical office, pharmacy, dentist, nursery school, etc. It is part of the urban community of Le Mans Métropole. It is the first time the municipality of Saint-Georges-du-Bois will be welcoming a volunteer, as they are the latest hosting organisation to join our project in 2023, motivated by the experience in other towns nearby.

Under the authority of the mayor and the municipal council, municipal services are divided into several poles:

- The Trompe-Souris school welcomes 220 children from 3 to 11 years old, divided into 9 classes (3 kindergarten classes and 6 elementary classes).
- The school canteen serves children meals prepared on site by the cook and his assistant cook. The school restaurant highlights quality products (organic, Label Rouge, etc.), favoring short circuits, which has allowed it to be rewarded by obtaining the maximum level of labeling of the Pays du Mans.
- The extracurricular reception allows children to be welcomed before and after school (from 7:30 a.m. in the morning and until 6:30 p.m. in the evening). The team in charge of taking care of the children offers a variety of activities adapted to the age of the children.
- The town hall, located in the center of the town, is the privileged place of information and information for citizens. The administrative services offered concern civil status (marriages, deaths, births), town planning (requests for building permits), the Post Office (sending and receiving mail and parcels), and all the problematic everyday situations that require an accompaniment.
- The cultural space, located opposite the town hall, houses the library (loan of books to the inhabitants of the town) and organizes various cultural activities, particularly for the children of the town. It is labeled Point Europe by the Maison de l'Europe "Le Mans – Sarthe."
- The technical services are responsible for the maintenance of municipal buildings and green spaces (flowering of the municipality, size and maintenance of municipal roads and paths).





The European volunteer hosted in the municipality will be integrated into the operation of cultural, school, and extracurricular services. The common thread of his presence will revolve around activities with children to contribute to their openness to a European culture in general and to the country from which the volunteer will come from.

The volunteer will work on two main sites:

- The Trompe-Souris school group: this site brings together the nursery and elementary schools, the school canteen, and the extracurricular reception.
- The Communal Cultural Space, for activities related to the library.

The activities offered during the presence of the European volunteer will be geared towards cultural openness, solidarity, and mutual aid. The municipality has already experimented with welcoming Ukrainian families and the children of the municipality are encouraged to meet Ukrainian children at school. The presence of a European volunteer will broaden the scope of interactions and the discovery of another European culture.

These exchanges and this openness will also benefit the entire population, through the activities that may be offered by the volunteer within the cultural space.

The municipality wishes to carry out these activities and these exchanges with a national of another European country, and not by using a French trainee. Indeed, the nature of these activities and the richness of the exchanges, the discovery of a culture and a foreign language are at the heart of the mission that the municipality wishes to develop in connection with the House of Europe.

## / Mission /

- Setting up individual or group activities.
- Designing educational projects with the other animators present in the structure.
- Organization of an activity program.
- Setting up activities and games with the material provided.
- Sensitization and mobilization of the public and partners on the different projects.
- Accompaniment of the different persons.
- Interaction and exchange with the different actors of a project and with the colleagues of the team.

***This mission is for you if: you are not afraid to be the first volunteer, you are flexible and willing to help the hosting organisation on this first project. You are eager to work in different teams. You want to spend time with kids and teenagers. You are interested in discovering the life of a small french town.***