

# World Heritage Volunteers

## Solovki Botanical Garden

### *Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands*

- ◆ Solovetsky Islands  
Arkhangelsky region, Russia
- ◆ Cultural property inscribed  
on the WH list since 1992

19/07/2016 - 03/08/2016

Solovetsky Archipelago comprises six islands in the western part of the White Sea, covering 300 km<sup>2</sup>. The islands have been inhabited since the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. and important traces of a human presence from as far back as the 5<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. can be found there. The archipelago has been the site of fervent monastic activity since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and there are several churches dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Project objectives:** The project aims at assisting in preservation of the World Heritage site by carrying out physical work and organising educational activities. The volunteers will learn about the history and uniqueness of Solovetsky Islands Ensemble, help to enrich the biodiversity of the islands' ecosystem and raise awareness on heritage issues among locals and visitors.

**Project activities:** 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. Furthermore, they will also plant seedlings they are asked to bring from their home to contribute to the variety of the plants on the islands. Moreover, international volunteers will participate in workshops and presentations and discuss with locals, tourists and Russian volunteers the importance of heritage preservation.

**Partners:** State Solovetsky Historical, Cultural and Natural Reserve Museum