

World Heritage Volunteers

Maintenance of a Cultural Landscape

Upper Middle Rhine Valley

- ◆ Kaub
Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany
- ◆ Cultural property inscribed
on the WH list since 2002

04/09/2016 - 17/09/2016

The Upper Middle Rhine Valley is an outstanding organic cultural landscape, the present-day character of which is determined both by its geomorphologic and geological setting and by the human interventions, such as settlements, transport infrastructure, and land use, that it has undergone over two thousand years.



Project objectives: The project will focus on the diversity of the cultural landscape Upper Middle Rhine Valley and illustrate – both during the hands-on part and the educational part – different aspects of the maintenance of the World Heritage site. The conservation of the area is not in an optimal state because of the fact that the vineyards are partly out of use, that the maintenance both of the biotopes and the dry stone walls is physically demanding and that the knowledge about traditional techniques is disappearing.

Project activities: Under the guidance of experienced masons the volunteers will restore parts of the historical dry stone wall system between the former vineyards. Beside that, the participants will support the conservation of the former defensive system of Marksburg Castle, one of the most picturesque German castles and the seat of the German Castles' Association. Furthermore, the project will include various biotope maintenance tasks as cutting several hectares of long-grass meadows and working with brush cutters. The study part will give the theoretical background for the project – the volunteers will learn about cultural heritage, cultural landscapes and the endangered fauna and flora.

Partners: Association Upper Middle Rhine Valley; Town of Kaub; Rießling Charta (Regional Vinemakers Association)