

WHV - Volunteer for World Heritage in Finland!

A unique collaboration between two World Heritage Sites organizing a WHV initiative camp together:

Fortress of Suomenlinna / Old Rauma, Finland

Cultural properties inscribed on the World Heritage in 1991

04/08/2019 – 17/08/2019



Fortress of Suomenlinna: Built in the second half of the eighteenth century by Sweden on a group of islands located at the entrance of the Helsinki harbour, this fortress is an especially interesting example of European military architecture of the time. A cultural treasure, it is a popular visitor attraction and a lively neighbourhood of 800 residents.

Old Rauma: Situated on the Gulf of Bothnia, Rauma is one of the oldest harbours in Finland. Built around a Franciscan monastery, where the mid-fifteenth century Holy Cross Church still stands, it is an outstanding example of an old Nordic city constructed in wood. Although ravaged by fire in the late seventeenth century, it has preserved its ancient vernacular architectural heritage.

Project objectives:

Supporting the landscape maintenance of both sites and their vulnerability will be at the core of the project, alongside with the promotion of the World Heritage site by means of visitor tours and social media campaigns. Both sites see voluntary participation as a chance to include everyone in the ongoing process of preserving, enjoying and experiencing cultural heritage worldwide.

Project activities:

The volunteers will participate in landscape maintenance works, including digging, weeding, mowing, seed collecting, erosion repairing, and removing harmful or threatening vegetation at both sites to preserve their environment. In Suomenlinna, volunteers will be introduced to renovating parts of the fortress construction and in Old Rauma, volunteers will have the opportunity to do maintenance work for parts of the protected buildings. Alongside this work, the volunteers will be introduced to visitor management in both sites and will have a possibility to participate in social media campaigns.

Partners:

Allianssi Youth Exchanges, Hostel Suomenlinna, Ehrensvärd-Society, local communities at Suomenlinna and in Old Rauma.

On behalf of both organising parties: The Governing Body of Suomenlinna

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