

# ESC “Living Permaculture” in Mas Les Vinyes, Spain

## PROJECT CALLS, VOLUNTEERING

In this **6 months ESC voluntary service in rural Catalonia (Spain)**, you will learn how a permaculture farm was designed from the beginning and experience and practice regenerative agriculture, natural building, holistic management of animals and living in community.

**Dates:** 1st May 2023 – 1st November 2023

**Location:** Sant Martí d’Albars, Spain

**Hosting organisation:** Mas Les Vinyes

**We are looking for:** 20–30 years old people who reside in programme and partner countries.

## About the hosting organisation

Mas Les Vinyes is a non-governmental organization that was born 9 years ago with the aim of creating a system that would become a more sustainable way of living that respects nature and, at the same time, it represents a formative and demonstrative space of an ecological and regenerative system for people.

We are an **intentional community** with 4 adults, 3 youth, 3 dogs, 2 cats, ducks, chickens and sheep.

**Website:** <https://www.maslesvinyes.com/es/contactar/volunteering-on-a-community-and-permacultural-farm/>

**Youtube:** @MasLesVinyesPermacultura

**Instagram:** @maslesvinyes\_permaculture

Our main activities relevant to the European Solidarity Corps are the following:

- Share our project to stimulate people who come to know us

- Show different ways of agricultural production, farming, forestry and community living experiencing values such as fraternity, respect and regeneration of the territory.
- Build a community where mutual help predominates, adapting the tasks to the capacities that every person can provide in each moment, achieving a respectful environment for people.
- Plan group projects to give value to individual capacities and work in groups with shared responsibilities
- Make weekly planning with the whole group to integrate all the people of the project (house members and volunteers).
- Give the volunteers the opportunity to participate in a *Permaculture Design Course* (in Spanish).

Your tasks as a volunteer include:

- Take care of the animals: chickens, ducks and sheep
- Learn and practice regenerative agriculture techniques and strategies
- Develop a group and a personal design in the farm
- Commit and assist in a Permaculture Design Course that we are going to offer you during your stay in the farm
- Support with cleaning and cooking
- Help building with natural materials and repairing our purification water system

Working hours are approximately **30-35 per week**. You are entitled to 2 consecutive free days per week and 12 extra days off. Holidays have to be agreed with your hosting organisation in advance.

You will be **supported by members of the organisation** throughout your voluntary service, to discuss your weekly schedule, and to learn the hands-on activities in the farm. You will meet your coordinator on a regular basis to discuss your development, ideas and tasks. As a volunteer, you are expected to be an active contributor – you will provide a new vision and perspective and be a valuable member of the team.

What can you learn during this project?

The activities of the project will be related to **soil health, food sovereignty, resilient communities, holistic management, water management, efficient energies, forestry**, etc.

Thus, you will be able to **meet a lot of interesting people** that visit us or engage in one of our courses. These are great opportunities to **find like-minded people, spread your networks** and share and **make your dreams bigger**.

In addition, you will be able to **improve your Spanish** and enjoy the variety of cultural and traditional parties and events we are going to have during your stay in the farm.

Please, be aware Catalan is the main language in Catalonia, as it is in our house, but everyone can speak Spanish. We speak English and Spanish with volunteers. We are going to ask volunteers to engage in a Spanish course before getting here as we would like them to join a **Permaculture Design Course** that we are going to give (no cost for volunteers) in June and July. This is a certificated and official course and it's very complete so we think it's a great opportunity for volunteers to join it and learn more about Permaculture and what we do in our farm.

## Accommodation, logistics, finances

**Accommodation is fully covered by the project.** You will stay for 6 months in a **twin room** with another ESC volunteer. As we will host 4 volunteers, you will **share the bathroom** and a common space with them. We expect that you take care of these spaces and that you have a daily cleaning and maintenance routine.

**Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided by the venue.** As we live on a farm and we are compromised with food sovereignty, we follow an **omnivorous diet**. We won't be able to host vegan people as we also eat eggs, milk, cheese, honey, etc.

During the free days you will receive **4€ per free day to cover food** (in case you decide not to eat at the farm).

You will also receive 5 euros per day as pocket money. Approximately **150 euros/month**.

Your hosting and sending organisations will help you organise your trip to and from Spain. Your **travel costs** will be reimbursed up to 275€ in total. As we want to **lower the carbon footprint** of our projects as much as possible, we encourage you to travel without using planes – we are happy to support you finding a route that uses trains and buses whenever possible.

You will be entitled to **free health insurance** with the HENNER program in addition to your European Health Insurance

Your participation in the ESC programme is **free**.

## Who are we looking for?

You can apply if the following criteria applies to you:

- You are between 20 and 30 years old
- You reside in programme and partner countries.
- You have an interest in physical work, learning, and gaining new experiences and skills
- You have an **interest in Permaculture**, living in community and personal development
- You are motivated to contribute and help the local community with your own ideas
- You are confident that you can live in a smaller community in a foreign country with basic living conditions
- You are a **team worker** who is also confident to carry out tasks **independently**

*Application Deadline: 15.03.2023*

Please **send an email with your CV, a picture of yourself that you like the most, and a motivation letter** to [voluntariatmaslesvinyes@gmail.com](mailto:voluntariatmaslesvinyes@gmail.com)

**Also, please fill the following form:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4R3G2aa6PoMmi7G8-khYKwus8jD0vlvxBnHeS9uu1FBu9FQ/viewform>

For questions about the project, please contact the Hosting Organisation directly. Marta is the ESC Coordinator: [voluntariatmaslesvinyes@gmail.com](mailto:voluntariatmaslesvinyes@gmail.com)