

Project Name: Environmental resistance and traditional mountain values in Val Codera

Camp code: IT-SCI 10.2

Country: Italy

Date: 22 Jul 2022-31 Jul 2022

Topic: 10: Environment protection

Number of volunteers: 12

Age range: 18 and over

Required Language: English

Spoken Language: Italian

Wheelchair access: No



Description: The Associazione Amici della Val Codera odv (www.valcodera.com) has been involved for 40 years in the protection and eco-compatible promotion of the Codera valley. The valley is located in the Rhaetian Alps, is carved into the granite and is still wild and intact, despite the climatic changes that have led to the erosion of the soil and the rock. The main objective of the association's activities is the protection and enhancement of the environmental and cultural heritage of the valley, and to promote cultural and environmental tourism that knows how to appreciate the peculiar attractions of the place! The activities take place in the surroundings of the village of Codera, reachable only on foot with a 2-hour walk from Novate Mezzola village.

Type of Work: Manual work in the gardens such as the cultivation of potatoes, beans, corn and seasonal vegetables; clearing fields and paths, digging; reconstruction of dry retaining walls; weeding; clearing ancient paths. Volunteers will work for 6-7 hours a day.

Study Theme: Italian and Alpine mountains, with particular regard to marginal areas such as the Codera valley, where depopulation is high, with consequent loss of identity and traditions. We will hold an open day for the local community on the last day of the project.

Accommodation: Dorm style (you will need to bring your own sleeping bag); shared bathrooms. The village of Codera is located at 825 meters above sea level and there are no shops. The village is a 2 hour scenic walk on a hiking trail from the nearest road (cumulative climb 800 metres). Meals will be

prepared by volunteer members of the Amici della Val Codera Association and the project volunteers will help to serve them.

Language: English and Italian

Requirements: An appreciation of the characteristics of the location, in an isolated place, away from the noises and contradictions of the modern world, but also from the comforts of consumer society. The work is physical, volunteers must be ready for manual work and to use basic agricultural tools. Enthusiasm and interest to relate to the local population.

Approximate Location: Codera, a village of the municipality of Novate Mezzola, in the province of Sondrio, which is part of the Lombardy Region. The closest cities are Milan, Lecco, Bergamo, Como and Sondrio.

Notes: This project takes place in an alpine valley with no road access; the village of Codera, is located about two hours' walk from the nearest road and is accessible only on foot along a stepped path, there are no shops in the town; the only type of shop is the Osteria Alpina Refuge, where meals will be consumed and where it is possible to buy various types of drinks, local cheeses and other basic foodstuffs. Volunteers with food intolerances or specific requests must specify their needs in advance. There is a landline phone in the town; poor mobile phone signal in the areas, internet connection is available on request at the Osteria. In free time there is possibility of swimming in the river.