

**Project Name:** Art beyond the walls

**Camp code:** IT-SCI 12.1

**Country:** Italy

**Date:** 10 Jun 2022- 20 Jun 2022

**Topic:** 12: Art, culture and local history

**Work Types:** Social / Art / Restoration, renovation

**Number of volunteers:** 12

**Language:** English (Italian also spoken)

**Motivation letter:** In addition to the application form, please send a one-page motivation letter to explain in more detail why you would like to volunteer on this project.



**Description:** The project is organised with the Director of the Gorgona prison, where SCI ran volunteer projects in the 90s. The prison is located on an island 37 km from Livorno. It is an open style prison, unique in Italy, inhabited exclusively by about 80 inmates, all men and adults, engaged in agricultural work and with animals along with 30 staff. There are no other inhabitants. Cultural, educational and voluntary activities are organized in the prison.

The volunteer project involves the creation and restoration of mural paintings. The project also aims to promote principles of international volunteering such as sharing, solidarity, peace, fight against prejudice and inclusion.

**Type of Work:** Volunteers will work together with prisoners and staff mainly on the remaking of a mural painting created in the 1994 SCI project here, as well as on a new mural on Article 27 of the Italian Constitution, relating to human rights in prisons. Volunteers will also join in workshop style

activities with the prisoners in the village. Please note, the work is not strenuous but can take place in the heat and on scaffolding.

**Study Theme:** There will be a presentation of the prison system in Italy and the particular example of the island-prison of Gorgona, an orientation to life on the island, a mainly male and closed community, which is opening up to the presence of volunteers and tourists. Volunteers are invited to



bring information about prisons in their countries and any examples of volunteer activities in prisons. The volunteers will also have discussions with the prisoners, who come from different countries, on the themes of volunteering, peace, solidarity, inclusion, prejudice, and discrimination.

**Accommodation:** Accommodation is in shared bedrooms in two apartments. You will need to bring a sleeping bag and towel. Running water is available for cleaning and showers, drinking water is from the public fountain in the village. Volunteers are responsible for sharing the cleaning and cooking. Breakfast in the apartments, other meals in the village. Food is brought mainly from Livorno and also from the prison farm. No bank available locally. Limited internet access.

**Language:** English, French, Albanian, Arabic

**Requirements:** No special skills required. Drawing skills welcome. Flexibility and motivation are needed to live for 10 days in a beautiful but isolated place with no recreational opportunities. The consumption of alcohol is limited.

**Approximate Location:** This project takes place in an isolated location. The island of Gorgona is a



natural reserve of the Tuscan Archipelago Park and can be reached by boat on only two days a week. The prison is adjacent to the old village that is being renovated. The management is also working on the island's energy self-sufficiency. There are no recreational places, but 5 km of rocky coast. You can go swimming. Bring swimsuits and shoes suitable for walking on the rocks.