

Erasmus+ traineeship in Sicily at the Etna

environmental education – agriculture – nature conservation – climate protection



Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung
für Natur und Umweltschutz
Bremen, Germany
www.m-h-s.org
info@m-h-s.org

Giacche Verdi Bronte
Sicily, Italy
www.giaccheverdibronte.it
gvbronte@gmail.com

Dear students and graduates,

we offer you the chance to engage in nature conservation – up to one year of exciting experiences with other European volunteers in a climate protection project concerning agriculture and food consumption, environmental education, and reforestation.

Hosting organization: Giacche Verdi Bronte at the Etna, Sicily, Italy

Background: In the river valleys between the Nature parks Etna and Nebrodi, shaped by small-scale, partly traditional agriculture, an important corridor of certain animal species, we strive to establish a Biosphere Reserve and conduct different conservation projects containing practical, planning, pedagogical, and experimental elements as well as species monitoring.

Internship time: Preferably twelve months, starting in November 2019 (shorter terms possible on request)

Age of participants: 18 years or older.

Tasks: You have the chance to exercise and to enhance learning contents of your academic studies and, depending on your interest, knowledge and skills, you may take on particular tasks.

We are active in the fields of

- **Agriculture:** Monitoring of species, supporting traditionally (ecologically) producing farmers with new marketing strategies and to receive certification for ecological production and wildlife conservation;
- **Forestry:** reforestation, environmental education
- **Education:** conception and environmental training at schools and in the field
- **Applied environmental protection / Ecology:** restoration tasks, building fences, gardening, collecting garbage
- **Public relations:** design of information material (print and web)

On our website (projects – Sicily – voluntary service) you can find reports of former volunteers – just to have an impression of what is waiting for you. Have a look also at facebook Giacche Verdi Bronte for daily news.

Requirements: Honest and real interest to contribute to our project work! Commitment, self-initiative, enthusiasm, capacity for teamwork as well as working independently. Furthermore you need to be a positive thinking person, able to adapt, learn new skills, show fairness and respect (the latter particularly for local culture and mentality!!), and be patient, modest, and always very flexible. You will have to communicate in Italian, preferably know some Italian already. The minimum are English skills for normal communication.

What do you gain? Experiences abroad and inside a foreign culture, linguistic skills, social skills (and most probably challenges!!). **Experiences in Nature Conservation and Environmental Education.** Learning new things and putting your existing knowledge and skills to test! The placement is neither a vacation nor a training centre; you will expand your horizon in many ways, if you are able to fully engage in the “Sicily Experience”!

Framework conditions: You apply for an Erasmus+ grant for students enrolled in higher education institutions to cover the expenses of your (one off) arrival and departure travel, simple lodging and meals, insurance cover for your placement abroad, as well as small pocket money. If possible, please travel climate-friendly by train or ship to Sicily.



Contact and further info: Please send your application (motivation letter and CV with photo) via e-mail to the Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung: info@m-h-s.org or gvbronte@gmail.com. If possible, please also include a brief applicant profile in Italian.

With kind regards, Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung and Giacche Verdi Bronte

One semester in Sicily

Practical semester, Bachelor thesis, Master thesis or voluntary service at Mount Etna.



Dear Students,

we offer you the possibility to come to Sicily for one semester to become active with us Giacche Verdi. We are a small non-profit association working on environmental projects.

A brief insight: In the small rural river valleys between Etna and the Nebrodi Mountains, the migration corridor of certain animal species, we are working on the establishment of a biosphere reserve and carry out various environmental education projects with children as well as practical, planning and experimental nature conservation activities and surveys on biodiversity.

Erasmus+ your support for going abroad: The Erasmus+ education programme enables students to finance a stay abroad within the European Union. Many students have already taken advantage of support to participate in our projects in Sicily.



Erasmus+ this

The basic conditions: In Bronte, our international team of volunteers and students lives in two accommodation units. There are rooms in an apartment directly above the office and rooms in a beautiful small house in the middle of Bronte. In the office, all volunteers share a workspace, which provides good conditions for working as a team.

Your commitment counts: Half a year in Italy, combined with our practical semester, a bachelor thesis or even our master thesis is possible. The duration of the assignment should be at least four months. In general, all volunteers help in every project. Depending on the possibility, interest, previous knowledge and commitment, a main area often emerges. The project work focuses on environmental education for children and climate-friendly behaviour. Further activities are of a practical nature or are in the areas of territory planning, documentation and public relations, research or monitoring.

Precondition: Environmentally and climate-conscious attitude. Commitment, initiative and the ability to work independently and in a team. Flexibility, adaptability and the will to learn new things are also helpful. Basic knowledge of Italian would be good, but is not a premise.

If you would like to know more: visit our websites [giaccheverdi-bronte.it – terrebiosfera.org] or send a short e-mail to [gvbronte@gmail.com]. **If you want to apply:** simply send us a CV with a picture of you and a motivation letter in which you tell us about your intentions.