

# LA MAISON DES BATELEURS - SOLIDARITES JEUNESSES



Maison  
  
Solidarités  
Jeunes  
des  
bateleurs

  
**Solidarités**  
JEUNESSES  
RÉVER. CONSTRUIRE. TRANSFORMER

# WHO WE ARE ?



**Solidarités Jeunesses (SJ)** is an association from a movement of **non-formal education** which places in its core values **solidarity, voluntary involvement** and a strong political will. Our choices and our actions are influenced by our vision of the society, in which **the progress is social**, where **the respect of human being** and **the environment** is a fundamental and shared value, where freedom to choose, to dream and to resist is innate or fostered.

Our activities are organised for all, do not matter about gender, social and cultural background, nationalities. Solidarités Jeunesses, since its creation, participates concretely to **Peace construction, fostering intercultural meeting here in France and abroad**. Solidarités Jeunesses works through participative pedagogy which encourages initiatives, valorize commitment and gathers forces and intelligences from all, volunteers, employees.

Solidarités Jeunesses is composed by one **National Secretary based in Paris, eight Regional Delegations**, and one partner association. Our delegations host time to time or all year long volunteers, from France and from all around the world. Furthermore, these delegations and partners support and host also youngsters with fewer opportunities, as part of inclusion and solidarity actions. All these friendly delegations and partners are located in singular and original sites (castle, former camp-site, isolated villages in the heart of mountains, former factory, etc.). These places have been all renovated thanks to the volunteers and the people involved on these projects. People live, meet and enjoy together there.

**Do you know it?** The first workcamps were organized after the First World War, in Verdun region, in France. Several citizens-volunteers, from former opposed countries, decided to join their forces and wills in order to work together on Peace construction in the interest of the communities.



# MAISON DES BATELEURS



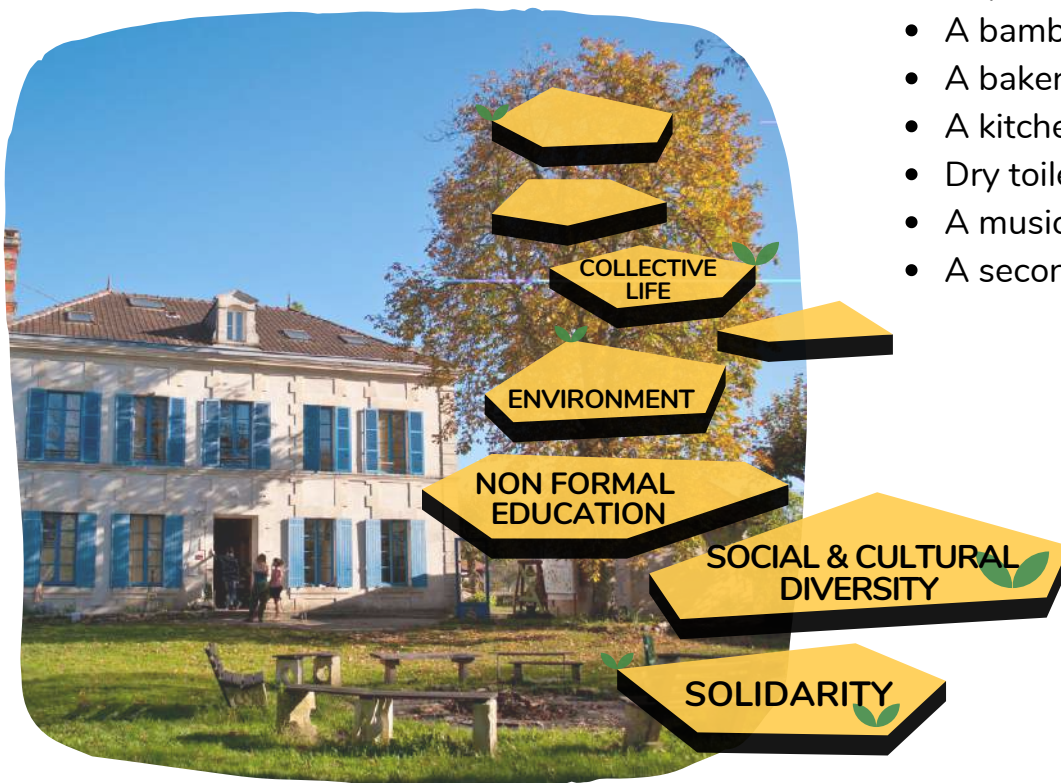
This Regional Delegation has been created in 1993 through the organisation of international workcamps. In 1996, **the association has been invited by the local authority of Montendre to settle in the village in order to foster its actions and its impacts on the territory.** “La Maison des Bateleurs” was born like that, after two years of renovation and work thanks to the volunteers and the local community. Since then this place is dedicated to diversity, wishing to host lot of people from different backgrounds through several kinds of action (events, international workcamps, inclusion workcamps, etc.). Today, this site is able to host 30 people.

**Around 8 volunteers are there all year long** and the others are short term volunteers, interns, employees and participants to inclusion camp according to the season.

The day start by **a cleaning collective time**, then people go working on the project they came for. After that some will **cook**, some others will enjoy gardening or other **workshops**.

## What you will find there !

- A bamboo field
- A baker's oven
- A kitchen garden
- Dry toilets
- A music room
- A second-hand shop !



# VOLUNTEERING & PROJECT

**Volunteering is an exchange**, a meeting, between one person who wishes to offer his/her time, energy, views to a general interest project. It is also **an intercultural ground of learning, experiments and personal construction**. At SJ, volunteering does not mean humanitarian action because we do not deal with emergency. Voluntary service exists almost everywhere around the world and it is **a commitment** which can be really different regarding countries, cultures, fields, etc. It gathers different types of persons and entities, local associations, men, women, local authorities and private entities. **Volunteering is mostly a personal commitment, which invites you to a deep discovery.**



The International Center La Maison des Bateleurs is located in Montendre, a village of 3000 inhabitants. The main goals of the project are to meet and get to know one another, to create a constructive group dynamic, as well as to break stereotypes and prejudices by working together and living collectively and to give new energy to rural areas. We believe in the idea of “non formal education” which holds that everyone can teach and learn each other.

La Maison des Bateleurs animated by the daily presence of volunteers, aims to be a place which foster openness, cultural and social diversity and the respect of environment. **You will actively participate in the life of the house** and in the different **activities: collective life** (cooking, cleaning...), **cultural exchanges** (meeting with the local people, hosting groups...), **manual workshops** (site maintenance, rehabilitation of green spaces, gardening, carpentry...) **ecological practices** (respectful and handmade cleaning products..). From the vegetable garden to the energizers games, through pizza nights, the association is still concerned about **the individual's personal development and voluntary participation of all**. The association regularly hosts groups of children, adolescents and young adults on short breaks to allow them to discover our values in order to increase the importance of doing and living together. Is one of the reason we have to make the site maintenance and pedagogical places like the garden..

You will host these persons, **support** them to work on the project (collective tasks and working time) and **propose** animation activities.



# PROJECT ACTIVITIES

## Site Maintenance and Environmental Project:

The objective is to take care of the place which hosts our project, everyday volunteers work for this. Moreover the objective of the "environmental project" is to develop educational tools to raise awareness of a lifestyle more respectful of nature. There are already a kitchen garden, garden house, dry toilet, phyto purification pool ...



## Group and individual inclusive hosting:

La Maison des Bateleurs regularly hosts groups (between 8 and 15 teenagers) on short breaks to allow them to discover the values of the association through their participation in workshops: construction, work, community life, intercultural exchanges... The volunteers will be involved in hosting and animation of these groups. They will establish the schedules of activities and work, will lead workshops and will support young people in their integration within the association. During these hostings, we work the morning, proposes some activities on the afternoon and on the evening.

Individual hosting is for teenagers with some social, family difficulties, the goal is to include them in the volunteers' group to support them to be more confident, to discover the collective co-construction, to help them in their professional path, to find a place in he society, ...



## Local Animation:

Moreover, they will participate in the logistical organization and animation of various locals events: musical, cultural and artistic events, the Christmas for childrens, the Free Music festival, the annual Open Doors of La Maison des Bateleurs.

### Project with school dropouts:

From December to June, we host 4 local volunteers who stopped the school and who need to experiment the non formal education. The aim is to include them to our project to discover the association environment, the interculturality, the volunteering and the mobility possibilities. With the long term volunteers, they will work and experiment news things, they will help some local associations and participate in the collective life. Moreover is the way for them to define their professional career toward a job or training...



### International work-camps:

Our main activity is to gather people from all over the world through international project to help and work for a public cause. An international work-camp could be around environmental, cultural or social cause, or around building renovation. These camps normally consist of 12 international volunteers and some French people. It could be camp for adults or for teenagers. The long term volunteers can be leader during these work-camps to organize the collective life and exploring local area.

***This house is a place of exchange and sharing  
where all ideas are welcomed!***

## **SCHEDULE AND TASKS**

The project includes 35 hours of work per week, from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm from Monday to Friday. The cleaning time is from 09.00 to 09.30 am.

The pace of work is flexible and may be modified according to the needs and activities.

**During the group hosting we share time with teenagers until 10.30 pm.**

Volunteers could participate in activities during some weekends or evenings. The projects will take place at La Maison des Bateleurs or other spaces.

**Each volunteer will work at his own pace and according to his ability.** It is important for everyone to invest in the technical part of this project. For all work, you will be in the presence of a **technical supervisor** or competent people who will be there to **explain and show the gestures** and the following procedure in order that this project will be a success.



# GROUP

The group will be composed of around **8 international volunteers**. The average age is 20 to 24 years old. Facilitators will support you to create a good group dynamic and the daily life: budget management, schedules, work, outings, etc .

You will also organize the **house cleaning and cooking**: bring with you recipes from your culture/country!

**English and French** are the spoken languages during the project.



## FREE TIME

Solidarit es Jeunesses considers volunteering as **an experimentation of collective lifestyle**. That is why volunteers will **organise their free time and leisures** that could fit to group expectations, regarding time and available leisures. These possibilities can be really diversified (regional tourism, local events, inhabitants meetings, green tourism, etc.). **It is the responsibility of all volunteers to organise their free time and to participate to the good dynamism of the group/workcamp.**



During your free time, you have the possibilities to:

- Visits to nearby cities such as Saintes, Jonzac, La Rochelle or Bordeaux!
- Outputs in the ocean
- Visit of French heritage: historical monuments, wine cellar and cognac, ...
- Trips to the Lake of Montendre,
- Other activities and all activities you can offer ...



# ACCOMMODATION

The **accommodation** will be provided by the hosting center **La Maison des Bateleurs**, a typical regional house renovated during the last international work-camps. You will be accommodated in a dormitory of 6 people with bunk beds. There is a common bathroom with showers and toilets.



The group is **autonomous**. You organize all together: menu, cooking time, cleaning activities.

- A kitchen team, in the team of volunteers will be responsible for preparing and serving meals of the day. This team will change every day.
- Household tasks are made collectively and change daily.

## DON'T FORGET TO BRING WITH YOU

- Sleeping bag
- Security shoes and work gloves
- Working clothes
- Clothes for rain and warm clothes
- Music instruments, recipes, souvenirs, photos...
- Swimsuit
- Student card if you have one



Volunteers will have for their valuable items a safe place to secure it. Nevertheless, if there is no necessity to bring those valuable items with you, we invite you to not bring it.

**Each volunteer is responsible for their stuff!**



# INSURANCE

Solidarités Jeunesses takes an insurance regarding “**Civil responsibility and Accident**” during the project but insurance regarding illnesses is at your charge during it. We invite you thus to contract a complementary insurance for it if you haven't one. French participants must bring with them their **Social Security number**. For EU residents, you should ask for **European social insurance card** and bring it with you. At last, for non-EU residents, bring with you a **document to confirm that you have a social security cover**. Don't forget to be updated regarding vaccination!

## HOW TO COME?

Best connections **by plane** are **Paris** and **Bordeaux airports**. Then, train will be necessary.

Bus makes connection between airport and city where to catch a train.

You can arrive at the airport in Bordeaux Mérignac.

Then you can take the shuttle

<http://www.bordeaux.aeroport.fr/fr/info/jetbus-navette-aeroport-bordeaux>

or bus Liane #1

<http://www.infotbc.com/ligne/1>

to the trainstation (Gare St Jean) and take a train to Montendre.



### BY TRAIN OR BY BUS

You can look at the schedule and book a train at this address: [www.voyages-sncf.com](http://www.voyages-sncf.com)

You have to go to the train station of **Montendre** (direction Saintes or La Rochelle)

**Schedule can change so please check out before booking your plane...!!!**



De PARIS MONTPARNASSE – 13h47

à BORDEAUX - 15h56

De BORDEAUX - 16h53

à MONTENDRE - 18h08



### BY CAR

You can come by car, hitch-hiking or carsharing ([www.blablacar.fr](http://www.blablacar.fr)). The meeting point is **La Maison des Bateleurs**

**Don't arrive during the week-end, please!**

# CONTACT

## Regional Delegation and project adress :

Maison des Bateleurs – Solidarités Jeunesses  
4 avenue de Onda  
17130 Montendre

Mail : [accueil@bateleursj.fr](mailto:accueil@bateleursj.fr)

Site : <https://bateleursj.fr/>

+33 5 46 49 08 34

+33 6 18 10 06 30

Call Solidarités Jeunesses Paris if  
you can't contact the delegation :

+33 1 55 26 88 77



## YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ?

Informations about Montendre : [www.ville-montendre.fr/](http://www.ville-montendre.fr/)

Informations about Solidarités Jeunesses:

[www.solidaritesjeunesses.org](http://www.solidaritesjeunesses.org)

Informations about the regional delegation : [bateleursj.fr](http://bateleursj.fr)



  
**Solidarités  
JEUNESSES**  
RÉVER. CONSTRUIRE. TRANSFORMER

**SEE YOU SOON!**

*Maison des Bateleurs*  
*Solidarités Jeunesses*  
*bateleurs*