

10 good reasons for an Ecumenical Youth Service (EYS)

1. **An EYS camp gives you unique opportunities to gain new experiences**, actively support a social or ecological project and make international friends. The camps are not only about volunteering and developing skills, but also about getting to know other cultures, having fun and going on holiday.
2. **An EYS camp offers great opportunities to get involved**. You can work for a liveable environment, support heritage conservation or renovate a community centre or youth facility.
3. **An EYS camp gives you an impression of fields of work and activities**. Through the camp work, you get to know professions (usually crafts) and can try them out.
4. **An EYS camp creates a framework for taking responsibility**: The camps are usually self-organised, i.e. you and the group decide how to live together. You do the grocery shopping together, cook in turn and organise your own daily routine. Often only the working hours are regulated. Decisions are made jointly.
5. **Volunteering at the EYS camp is meaningful for everyone**: Your work is important and profitable for the local project and for the people concerned and an enrichment for the local community. You will experience special cooperation and solidarity, increase your intercultural competence, get to know new perspectives through exchange and make a contribution to society.
6. **An EYS camp is open to all**. Volunteers come from 5-10 different countries and have different social and cultural backgrounds. You do not have to belong to a church/religion to participate in an EYS camp.
7. **The EYS camp participation is very cheap**: The EYS only charges a small fee (25€) for the placement. Accommodation and meals are free, only the travel costs have to be paid by you. This makes EYS camps attractive even for people with a small budget.
8. **An EYS camp is supported with public funds**. This not only ensures low costs for the local projects and the participants. Above all, you can be sure that the projects' non-profit status and compliance with content-related and organisational standards are regularly checked.
9. **EYS can look back on over 65 years of camp experience!** So we know what we are talking about and why we are so enthusiastic about this exchange format!
10. **EYS is networked** and cooperates in national/international networks.