

Volunteering Information for Bonnevaux 2018

Purpose: To assist during in the first stages of the development of a new centre for contemplation and meditation at Abbaye de Bonnevaux starting April 2018.

Location: Abbaye de Bonnevaux, Marçay, near Poitiers, France ([link to Googlemaps](#))

Duties likely to include: Assisting with woodland and forest clearance, establishing a vegetable garden, creating a system for composting, creating a system for rain collection, creating future accommodation for other volunteers, cleaning and general house-keeping, running local errands including shopping and laundry, and help with administrative tasks as required.

Reports to: Volunteer Coordinator

Duration: Two weeks minimum, one month maximum (with review after one week).

Time Commitment: 5 hours per day for 5 days per week.

What you will gain from the experience: You will gain insight into community living, you will be working with people from different nationalities and backgrounds. You will also be able to join and learn to practice as taught by WCCM. The spirit of this community encourages a simple way of living, openness, engaging in tasks in a contemplative mindful way and an opportunity to deepen your spirituality. Space for yoga practice will also be offered as part of the weekly rhythm.

Desired Qualities:

An established meditation practice or open to learning
Physically fit
Flexibility and cultural sensitivity
Dependable and self-reliant
Happy to take the initiative with tasks when necessary
A sense of humour!

Practical skills and Experience:

Working knowledge of English and French
Computer literate
Full driving license (desirable, not essential)

Support:

This role will be fully supported and instruction will be given for all tasks. A meeting will be held daily to decide on the tasks for the day. Vegetarian food and accommodation will be provided.

Age Requirement: None

Information about Bonnevaux

Abbaye de Bonnevaux is the new centre for contemplation and meditation of the World Community for Christian Meditation. During the next months the Abbaye will be undergoing major renovation works and a small international community will be established alongside the development of the buildings. At the heart of the life of this community is the practice of silent meditation and a rhythm of work, study and prayer. Any volunteers applying for this post are welcomed to become part of this rhythm by attending the times of meditation. Some experience of a spiritual practice is therefore recommended, but we also welcome those with little or no experience and an open-minded spirit and heart.