

Antifascist Feminist Volunteer Work Stay at the Site of the Former Uckermark Youth Concentration Camp for Girls and Young Women and Later Extermination Site

2-11 August 2019

Who we are

The *Initiative für einen Gedenkort ehemaliges KZ Uckermark e.V* (Initiative for a Memorial at the Former Uckermark Youth Concentration Camp) conducts research on the history of the former youth concentration camp, seeks to engage with the survivors, and is continuously working towards the creation of a worthy commemoration site there.

The yearly Volunteer Work Stays are an important part of that effort.

The site

The former youth concentration camp was constructed approximately 90 kilometers north of Berlin in 1942. It is located right next to the Ravensbrück women's concentration camp, and was built by its prisoners. Only one youth concentration camp was established specifically for the imprisonment of girls and young women during National Socialism, and not many people know about it. Between 1942 and 1945, some 1,200 women and girls were incarcerated in the KZ Uckermark. They were subjected to forced labour in the harshest living conditions.

In January 1945, an extermination site was built on the partially evacuated area for prisoners from the Ravensbrück concentration camp and others. By April 1945, approximately 5,000 people had been murdered there.

What do we want to work on?

We will meet survivors and their relatives and spend time with them. We want to work together at the site and discuss different forms of commemoration and the politics around them, as well as our visions and ideas for a worthy commemoration space. We also plan on inviting an expert on archaeology and preservation of historical monuments for the site who will provide support to anybody interested in a small project at the site. We would also like to learn more about the Slovenian partisans imprisoned in the concentration camp. In addition, there will be a film screening and discussion on the topic of "continuities of exclusion".

Once we are all there together, we will decide as a group exactly what everyone wants to do.

You'll find reports on previous Volunteer Work Stays on our webpage.

Practical information

We will share rooms at the vicarage in Himmelpfort. It is close to the site of the former Uckermark concentration camp – it's easiest to get there by bike. The camp is organized and planned by us. At the beginning, we, the group preparing for the camp, will give you some important information, but after that we would like everyone to feel responsible for shopping, cooking, projects, etc. as well as the general well-being of the group.

Unfortunately, both the house where we are staying and the site itself are not fully accessible; please contact us about any specific needs and we will figure it out together.

If you want to come with children: We don't organize child care, but please feel free to write us an e-mail and we will figure out what possibilities there are together.

When registering, please tell us what languages you speak so we can potentially organize translation.

Who is invited?

We invite all WomenLesbianInterTrans* who want to get to know the site and are interested in its history and antifascist politics of remembrance. There are no preconditions, you do not have to have any prior knowledge to attend.

Costs & Registration

There will be expenses for accommodation, food, travel costs, building materials, fees, ... We apply to several foundations for funding. Additionally, we kindly ask everybody to contribute what they can.

If you are interested, please register by the end of June.

Contact / Registration:
baucamp2019@gmx.de

For more information about the event, the Initiative, and the Uckermark site:
www.gedenkort-kz-uckermark.de

We are looking forward to your participation!