



La Sabranenque

La Sabranenque, created in 1969, is a non-profit association in southern France that works with volunteers on projects dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and revitalization of villages and rural sites. The goal of La Sabranenque is not only to preserve, restore and rebuild historic sites, but also to revitalize the traditional building techniques, and to give participants the chance to take part in the preservation of rural Mediterranean village architecture.

The Mediterranean basin represents a historical and cultural entity that, since ancestral times, has reunited different countries with similar cultures. Even today this cluster of countries is still considered a home of rural life. However this rural culture is in danger. It is essential to preserve this culture as it represents a richness and a cohesive and balanced element for the social, cultural, and economic development in these mediterranean countries. The traditional rural habitat is indeed a fragile one, threatened by

urbanization. Its preservation is the first step towards protecting the identity of certain places. The local characteristics of the rural habitat depend on several important factors; the geography of a location, the geological make-up, and the materials found at the locale, and of course the traditions and the activities created by the people who have settled there.

La Sabranenque works under the assumption that if one is to preserve these rural havens, one must also renovate or restore them using the traditional methods and local materials, keeping within the idea that rural constructions are simple, modest and perfectly integrated and adapted to the surrounding environment.

Since 1990 La Sabranenque has worked closely, and continues to do so, with certain Eastern European countries, finding opportunities for students to become involved in this important practice. We would like to continue in our endeavors to resist against the urbanization that is

clearly present today. I am transmitting our new dates and our web page in this newsletter in the hopes that you may have the opportunity to circulate the information as you see fit.

I thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Kindly,

Sarah Grant, Program coordinator,
La Sabranenque

Sessions offered from May through October:

Volunteer & visit

- . May 9-14
- . May 23-28
- . October 3-8

Volunteer & hike

- . May 16-21
- . October 10-15

Volunteer in Provence

- . June 6-18
- . June 20-July 2
- . July 4- 16
- . July 18-30
- . August 1-13
- . August 15-27
- . August 29-September 10
- . September 12-24

To find out more please visit us
online: www.sabranenque.com



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