

Open call for

ESC IN OLTRE IL BLU

FONDAZIONE
Oltre il Blu
ONLUS

Coordinated by



Financed by



COORDINATING ORGANISATION

WHO WE ARE  **NO BORDERS**

No Borders is an association of ex-volunteers based in Milan since August 2014 to promote mobility and intercultural learning for youngsters.

We are the coordinating (lead) organisation. We coordinate the selection of volunteers, handle all project-related administrative matters, and organise ESC trainings.

No Borders leads around 20 ESC volunteers in projects with topics of non-formal education in youth centres, NGO support, dog shelter, eco-hostel, etc.



HOSTING ORGANISATION

Fondazione Oltre il Blu is the hosting organisation. Founded in 2021 by families and educators of the social promotion association L'Ortica (established in 2010), the foundation builds inclusive educational, vocational and life pathways for autistic adults, valuing each person's abilities and desires.

The location of Oltre il Blu is Cascina Croce Piaggi

Cascina Croce Piaggi is located in **Ponte Nizza (PV)**, in the Apennine hills of the Oltrepò Pavese.

It is home to about 10 autistic participants (18-30 years old) who live alongside families and educators.

Isolation — what to know

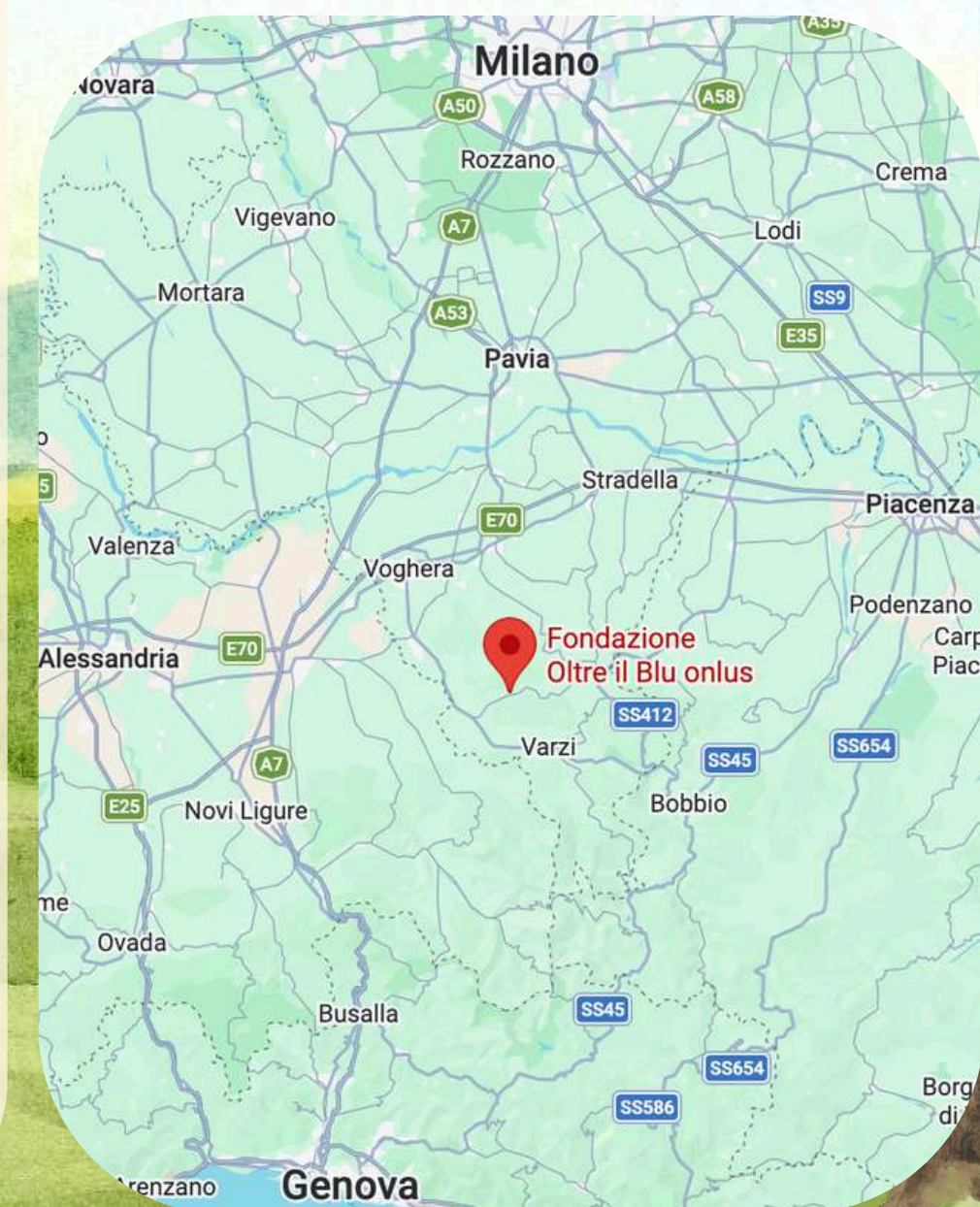
The setting is rural and hilly, and this should be considered realistically before applying: the area is characterised by small hilltop villages, woods and farmland, with limited public services and international mobility — a genuinely peripheral, quiet setting rather than a touristic one.

The nearest village is about 6 km away.

The farmstead can be reached by train and bus from Milan: volunteers typically travel by train towards Voghera and then continue by local bus to Ponte Nizza. Voghera is the nearest town with a train station, hospital and broader services (about 26 km from the farm); Pavia and Milan are the closest larger cities, about one to one and a half hours away by train and bus combined.

Detailed written travel instructions (route, stops, what to bring) are sent to volunteers before departure.

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ACTIVITIES

- **Farming activities:** care of the vegetable garden and orchard, wild herb gathering, henhouse care, honey production, seasonal firewood collection;
- **Food laboratory "La banda dell'Ortica":** taking part in production food processing jams, juices, compotes and preserves (HACCP production);
- **Meal preparation,** together with one participant and one staff member;
- **Cleaning, tidying and care of common spaces;**
- **Craft workshops:** clay, hand weaving, painting;
- Each volunteer also develops one or two personal projects (e.g. a diary/social media channel about the experience, intercultural exchange activities with participants), agreed with the tutor.



ACCOMODATION

Volunteers live directly at Cascina Croce Piaggi, in one of the available double rooms.

The appartamento is equipped with kitchen, washing machine and internet access.

No spirits/hard liquor in the presence of participants; mobile phone use limited to defined time slots. On arrival, volunteers receive written information covering house rules, useful contacts and emergency procedures.

FOOD

Meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) are provide and shared with participants and staff according to the community's schedule.

The kitchen is also available for independent use during free time.



THE CASCINA

living room with a fireplace and TV



outdoor area



dining room



SUPPORT & TRAVEL



The volunteers will receive **pocket money** of 6€ per day. The pocket money will be paid each month by bank transfer.



The food will be provided by the hosting organization. The host organization provides an additional 30 euros per month for extra beverage, sweets or personal items; volunteers with the staff prepare their own meals as a group.



The travel expenses (home - Italy - home) will be reimbursed depending on a distance defined by the European Commission.

If more than 51% of the trip is done by bus or train, it qualifies as green travel and the budget of traveling can be increased.



The Online Language Support (OLS) - **online** basic Italian course will be provided.



HOURS



Activities begin at 07:00 each morning. Punctuality is essential!

Volunteers will have activities for maximum 35 hours per week.

Volunteers will have activities **5 days per week**,
with **2 days off** (not always Saturday and Sunday).

Volunteers will have **2 days of vacations** per month
(possibility to use them with 15 days' notice in advance).



VOLUNTEER'S PROFILE

- **Aged 18–30** and a citizen or resident of an **EU country**;
 - Available for the entire period (**October 2026 -March 2027**);
 - **Intermediate Italian**;
 - Ready to do manual tasks;
 - **Willing to share** living spaces, including bedrooms;
 - Willing to contribute to **cleaning of the house** and territory.
 - Ready to **cook for the team**;
 - Love for **nature and animals**;
 - Comfortable living in a rural and **isolated area**;
 - Community-oriented, comfortable with shared **group life**;
 - **Proactive, empathetic, respectful**
 - Willingness to communicate with people who express themselves in non-conventional ways;
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- **The following are considered a plus, not requirements:** previous experience with people with disabilities or in care settings, familiarity with rural/farm life, specific motivation towards autism and inclusion.



APPLY

Please send us your CV and motivation letter to
apply.esc@associazionenoborders.org

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted back to have an online interview.
We look forward to hearing from you! 🧡💙

Find out more information at:

Fondazione Oltre il Blu
<https://www.oltreilblu.org/>

Associazione No Borders
<https://associazionenoborders.org>
[IG: noborders_association](#)

More about ESC
youthforeurope.eu/european-solidarity-corps

