

Jordi

My name is Jordi, I come from Spain and I'm an EVS in Brønderslev Ungdomsskole this year. I decided to be an EVS because I wanted to do something different while living somewhere else. It is a nice experience, I've been surprised by the way the danes work, which is quite different from what I'm used to, you are expected to be creative and show initiative instead of sitting down waiting to be told 'do this, do that', this can be a bit challenging and shocking sometimes before you get used to it, also, the language can be a challenge.

I am working in TV Ungdom (where I mainly record and edit video) in Brønderslev during the day and on Tuesday evenings I teach Spanish to youngsters.

I would highly recommend this experience to others.

Just remember that you will be going to live in a different country which can probably be quite different to yours and that you are going to be living with people of other nationalities, so being open minded and easy to adapt is a must.



Marta

Hej! My name is Marta. I'm 26 years old and I am Spanish.

I have graduated in Business Administration and I own two master degrees in Marketing Management and Online Marketing in addition to other courses and work experience in Spanish companies.

The EVS program is a great opportunity because the program offers you the chance of living and working in another country, learning a new language and getting to know a new culture and enjoying the great experience. Because of all these things I decided to become a volunteer.

When you participate in the EVS program, you want to be a good volunteer. Helping, working, learning and teaching are a lot of things and the time is going by very fast.

The first challenge is the first weeks because everything was new to me. There are lots of new things: The language, the country, the job, people, culture, the weather, the currency (Danish krone) ... Many things are different, for example the time for lunch and dinner. I think I have adapted very fast to many of these things.

I was surprised the most about my work. I work with children and teenagers every day and I think it is one of the best ways to learn how the life in Denmark is, try to talk and to improve the Danish language. They try to integrate me in the club.

I work in Dronninglund Fritidsklub. It is a leisure time center for children and teenagers who can visit it after school.

Dronninglund Fritidsklub has different rooms and places. It has a gym, a creative room, a computer room, a room for playing games, a movie room, a cafeteria, kitchen and a place to play outside.

My work consists of encouraging children and youths to develop activities and new experiences, of improving intercultural relations, of planning and organizing activities and games with children and youth and of transmitting values of responsibility, solidarity, respect and teamwork.

I really recommend to become a volunteer because is amazing how much you can learn being a volunteer in another country.

To prepare living in another country and to get settled into your lifestyle can be difficult at first.

Living in a flat with other people can be difficult, so you need to be respectful, orderly and patient. To put some common rules always helps.

You'll meet new people of different nationalities, ages, cultures and thoughts and you have to be open-minded.

You must be patient. Everything is not perfect the first day; things will slowly take your time to enjoy them.

There will be bad days and difficult but remember that this experience will help you to grow and improve as a



person.
Just enjoy it.

Lea

Hey, my name is Lea Böckstiegel and I'm 18 years old. After my graduation in Germany I decided to become a volunteer. I wanted to experience something whole new and different from the things I have done before in my life. After the graduation was the perfect opportunity to go out and learn more about myself and another country.

I didn't really know much about Denmark before I came here, so I had a lot to learn. The first weeks were exhausting, because you need to focus on every small thing you do and even if you just sit and watch something happen, it takes so much energy in order to try to understand everything, which of course doesn't work. But as soon as you got to know your work and you are able to communicate a little bit, things will get a lot easier and you will realize how amazing a life as volunteer is. In my view I got the best job in the world: I work and play with kids all day and am part of their everyday life, which makes me really happy. I am part of their joy and am there for them if something is wrong.

I would recommend doing an EVS to everyone who is open minded and interested in a new culture. During your stay you will experience many amazing things, but you have to cope with some challenges as well. I personally learned so much in this year and the willingness to learn and adapt is a big factor of volunteering, too.



Fabian

Hej med dig! My name is Fabian, I am 18 years old and I am from Germany. After graduating from school, I didn't really know how my future would look like.

Besides that, I wanted to see more of the world, so I decided to take a gap year and take part in the EVS program.

Denmark is definitely a nice place for doing your voluntary service. People are really warmhearted and friendly. They often tell you about "hygge" in that context, a typical Danish word worth knowing.

I work in the Fritids- and Ungdomsklub in Brønderslev.

In my freetime, I like to practice sports, which is something that I can do at my work. Therefore, I am mainly playing with the kids in the gym or outside. But there is a wide range of other activities which are also part of the project as well. Sometimes I am in the kitchen or in the creative room, where I have developed, for example, a cryptographic map for a treasures hunt game along with a kid of the club for the christmas party.

The project is an experience, that I will never forget in my life.

