HI-CONNECT PROGRAMME



ARE YOU READY FOR THE EXPERIENCE?



Welcome to the HI-Connect Programme!

Since 2014, HI-Connect has been facilitating capacity building across the Hostelling International network by encouraging the mobility of staff, volunteers and others.

The objective of the programme is to provide staff, and where appropriate, volunteers, and young people with the following personal and professional opportunities

- Experience of life and work in another country
- Enhance skills and confidence
- Engage with our values and sustainable mission
- Embrace the culture and environment of the host country
- Develop and improve language skills
- Create new connections and friendships
- Promote mobility of people across international boundaries.

While supporting and working to achieve the following Sustainable Development Goals









Some benefits of HI-Connect

We've surveyed some participants and here's what they had to say about their HI-Connect experience:

Knowledge & Understanding

95% agreed that they will be able to share their new knowledge with others and also that they have learnt something about tourism & hospitality

Attitudes & Values

94.7% reported higher motivation at work after their experience

Physical activities,
Behaviour and
Progression

95% had the opportunity to explore the area/surroundings of the new workplace

Cultural life

95% have experienced different cultural practices to their own and shared about their own culture

Enjoyment, Inspiration and Creativity

95% had fun during their stay.

Skills

100% learnt words in a new language





A short history of HI

Our history gives us authenticity and our status means you can trust us... We really have been doing this for a rather long time.

1909

 German school teacher Richard Schirrmann sees the need for overnight accommodation for school children so that they have a place to stay during class trips. Schools are then used during the holidays, with classrooms being temporarily converted to accommodate beds.

1912

 Schirrmann sets up the first youth hostel in his own school in Altena, Westphalia. Soon after this is replaced by a permanent hostel in Altena Castle.

1919

 The idea of hostelling spreads across Germany and Schirrmann founds the German Youth Hostel Association.

1932

 The youth hostel movement quickly spreads worldwide so the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF) is founded. Richard Schirrmann is appointed president.

2006

The International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF) operates as Hostelling International (HI).

We are one of the world's largest international membership organisations with more than 3.3 million members, a network of over 2,650 international youth hostels across the globe.



Why participate in HI-Connect?

The real question would be... Why not?!

Some take part in HI-Connect to develop language skills, cultural awareness and open-mindedness, others to learn from best practices in another workplace, and some to put themselves outside of their comfort zone and push their boundaries.

Regardless of what your personal and professional objectives are, you can rely on certain solid elements to guarantee the quality of your mobility activity, to ensure this we provide the following:









Ensuring all details are understood and that expectations are managed by both the host and participant

This person will become the point of reference should the participant have any questions or need help

We want constructive feedback on the programme so that we can continuously make improvements

Recognition of contribution, a great addition to your CV and can serve in your career development!





Have a look which Member Associations are in the HI Connect programme*. Discover the different places where you could enjoy your HI-Connect experience!

*This doesn't mean that all of them are ready to host the participants this year.

Australia Portugal

Brazil Qatar

Canada Spain

England & Wales Slovenia

France Switzerland

Germany Netherlands

Iceland Norway

