

Husfolk at Lia Gård

- Important information about life at the Lia Gård community

THE FOUR PILLARS OF COMMUNITY-LIFE AT LIA GÅRD

- **Living with God**

Being a christian community, God is at the centre of our lives. Not only do we want our guests to meet up with God. We as a fellowship and each of us as a person have a desire to live with God. Our living relationship with him is expressed through the daily prayers, personal times with God, the weekly life group and many other things

- **sharing your life**

We live and work together on the site, and the experience is much more than just being 'staff'. There is a real depth of relationship, a sharing of our lives, as we support and encourage each other. You need to be a person who enjoys being with other people. Community is also being lived outside of working hours through common meals and other activities.

- **serving God through serving others**

The vision of Lia Gård is: As a community we want to offer people a place where they can experience God. To make that possible we as a community are serving the guests through offering clean and proper housing, good food, different kinds of programs and many more things. Although serving at Lia Gård is sometimes costly it is also great to experience God touching and healing people through our willingness to serve him.

- **growing as a person**

There are many opportunities to try new things, to be challenged and stretched and to discover what your gifts and strengths are. Being thrown together so closely with people of different backgrounds can be difficult, thrilling and an intense time of growth! God works powerfully through the community to heal, change and mature people.

WHO WE ARE • 240 km north of Oslo Lia Gård lies high up in the mountains with Lake Storsjøen below. The nearest neighbour lives 4 km away. The view is astonishing and the nature is powerful. The estate on which the farm lies, is varied and offers many opportunities for walks - both in the summer and the winter.

Lia Gård aims to be a place where people of all ages, regardless of family or church background, can come and experience the forgiving and healing presence of God. A place to feel, touch and listen. A meeting place. A place where one can just be. The three daily prayers make an important rhythm for the day. Stillness is also an important element here at Lia Gård. We often make the experience that through giving people the opportunity to be silent they are able to hear and feel God in new ways.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE WE LOOKING FOR? You need to be in good physical and mental health, active, happy in a people environment, keen to serve God, keen to serve others and drawn to being part of a community. Our experience is that people who are suffering from psychological or physical problems are not finding life at Lia Gård helpful.

You need to be willing to live a life based on the christian faith. Being a part of the community, your life will influence the life together here at Lia Gård. Living as „husfolk“ does not mean you have to be perfect, on the contrary we learn to accept each other with our many faults. However if you live here you need to keep certain boundaries: Treating others badly, stealing, getting drunk, using drugs, sex outside marriage or sexual assault are not acceptable to life here at Lia Gård. To protect Lia Gård and the fellowship you could be asked to leave the community if you step outside of these boundaries.

HOW LONG? Usually we want people to come for a year or longer. We also take on some extra people to help out if there is special needs.

ACCOMMODATION, ALLOWANCE... You may need to share a room or you are given your own room. Food and accommodation are provided and you are given pocketmoney on top of that.

WORKING HOURS: Community Membership at Lia Gård is essentially a way of life, and does not include work for which hourly rates of pay would be applicable. Your times of work may vary according to the particular task that you are assigned to at any given time. At the kitchen you normally work a morningshift (06:45 - 14:45) or evening shift (14:00 - 22:00). If you are cleaning or work outside the working times as 09:00 - 17:00. The work with the guests means having different kinds of tasks throughout the day with breaks in between.

DAYS OFF AND HOLIDAYS: Each Community member has one weekly day off and one extra monthly day off. In addition you get two days of holiday per full month you work here. (If for instance you work here 10 1/2 months you will get 20 days of holiday.) People staying here 2 years or more get 28 days of holiday per year and in addition to that a retreat at Lia Gård.

Lia Gård is closed around christmas. That means 3 weeks of the holidays must be taken during this time. Because of the bank holidays and as compensation for working on other bank holidays the three weeks of holiday will just count as 2 weeks of holidays if you work at Lia Gård 10 months or longer

Lia Gård pays up to 250 Euro of the travel costs for going home over christmas.

If the stay is for 12 full months or more Lia Gård will also cover the travel costs with up to 250 Euro when you arrive and leave Lia Gård.

VISITORS: You are very welcome to receive guests. If you stay here for 10 - 12 months you will get 14 guest days: If for instance your parents come they can stay here 7 days (7 days + 7 days = 14 days)

If you have more visitors they pay 200 NOK per night per guest.

Another possibility is to have friends and family coming as short time husfolk. The stay must be for at least a week. This kind of stay will not count as „guest days“.

However: there will be times when we have no free beds for Husfolk-guests and no need for short time husfolk, so you do need to speak to Ingeborg before inviting people to come for a visit.

HEALTH INSURANCE: As husfolk you are an employee registered in Norway. Your health insurance is fully covered. You are part of „Folketrygden“ (National Insurance Scheme) as the norwegian citizens.

However:

1) The health insurance is only running when you are fully registered in Norway. That can take some time. Therefore you have to make sure that you are insured for the first two months of your stay at Lia Gård. Through a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC card), you will be entitled to necessary medical treatment, just like nationals of that country. Please make sure to bring such a card.

To get registered in Norway you need a passport. (If you have an ID-card you also need a birth certificate)

2) The Norwegian health insurance does not include transport back to your home country if you are too ill to go by yourself. It is therefore important that you take out private travel insurance.

If you are working at Lia Gård on short-term you need to bring your European Health Insurance Card. If you are not from a EEA country, you need to have an international health insurance.

A TYPICAL WEEK AT LIA GÅRD

Monday; normal working day

Tuesday; normal working day

Wednesday; „Community day“ - work around community commitments

09:00 - Meeting: Information about what's coming up and other issues concerning the running of Lia Gård

18:00 - Holy communion

20:00 - Life Group: Community meet up to socialize, talk about a biblical topic and pray together

Thursday; normal working day

Friday; normal working day

Saturday: normal working day

Sunday: As far as possible community work half a day. Evening meal together and then a social activity.

STRUCTURE OF THE DAY

Each working day: breakfast 07:30, Personal time with God 08:00, Lunch 13:00 & Evening meal 18:45

Prayers: Each day at 08:30 and 12:45. Evening Prayer at 21:00. We attend at least two of these unless on day off or due to work commitments. The prayertimes could change due to the program of a retreat or a conference

We do have the experience that some people stay up late with the result that they are very tired the next day.

We therefore ask you to make sure you get enough sleep if you are working the next day

WORK: The most important work of the house people is work for and with the guests. This includes many types of activities which are mostly practical:

Preparing the meals, dishwashing and cleaning are the major tasks. Doing beds and shopping need to be done. There are also outside work such as snow clearing, carrying wood, cutting grass, weeding. The work might also include office work, receiving guests, responsibilities concerning children and youth groups and leading prayers. With the possibilities we have, we try to match the interests and gifts of a person to the tasks they are asked to do.

BENEFITS FOR YOU

Grow and learn many new things, Getting to know many different people, Getting to know yourself better

Getting to know God better, Help to learn norwegian, Visit different places and cities in Norway

Regular, personal talks with one of the leaders