

Casita Verde Granada Guidelines



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What is Casita Verde?

The first and original Casita Verde was founded in 1993 by Chris Dews in a beautiful valley in the municipality of San Jose on the Mediterranean island of Ibiza. Since its foundation, the original farm and outhouses have been gradually transformed by a group of international volunteers, from a small country dwelling with over 5 hectares of land, into a fully functional and modern environmental education facility.

Casita Verde Granada is an ecological centre in the beautiful Andalusian countryside, approx. 40km from the Spanish city of Granada. We are an 'experiential' learning centre studying the application of permaculture techniques' and situated in and around a farmhouse at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

With a growing number of supporters of our movement from all over the world, Casita Verde centres present many opportunities to see and feel how a more sustainable way of life is within reach of every one of us.

Our General Philosophy

Many human beings are seeking to reconnect with mother Earth again, after discovering the futility of modern western lifestyles. Our main intention here at Casita Verde is to show others what we have learned collectively in our search for a greater understanding and respect for our environment, as well as towards each other. This initiative is very likely to take many of us to a whole new level of social consciousness, as well as positively changing our future possibilities to live in harmony with our beautiful world.



Working in Communal Projects

There's always lots to do at Casita Verde including the improvement of the facilities or maintenance of existing installations.

Although every volunteer may have their own speciality, living in Casita Verde means you're living in the ecological center, so we ask you to help with the daily activities in the centre where needed, including household tasks.

As a volunteer we ask for a minimum commitment of 5 hours work per day.

In addition, we may request an additional effort from our volunteers if it's necessary.

In each centre we offer up to two-weeks of volunteering experience. If you want to volunteer for longer we'll hold an assessment meeting with you where we can discuss the possibilities of an ongoing volunteer programme, always depending on the current needs of the centre and your needs and capabilities.

General Maintenance and Order of the Centre

We are open to the public and receive unexpected visits. It is therefore essential to maintain all spaces at the centre clean and tidy AT ALL TIMES. This means that volunteers must keep their own spaces in good order as well as assist in maintaining the order of common spaces.

Daily Meetings

A general meeting for all the people staying in Casita Verde is held every morning, depending on the season. Other meetings are possible, as the need arises.



Food

In order to save time, energy & resources, food is prepared twice a day.

For financial reasons, a prudent use of food resources is greatly appreciated.

Breakfast: Winter: 09:30 - 10:00

Summer: 09:00 - 09:30

Lunch: 15:00

Dinner: Free hour: Usually we cook a soup, or eat left overs from lunch,

but you can also buy and cook your own food if you prefer.

We are mostly plant-based diet and so the food offered in the centre is generally vegan, but we also have eggs, cheese and honey available.

We cannot prepare specific meals as we prepare food from what is seasonally available.

At no time should you bring any meat products into Casita Verde Granada and if you want to bring food, bring organic food.

Allergies or intolerances to specific products should be communicated prior to arriving.

Alcohol

You are NOT ALLOWED to bring or drink alcohol at the center.

Water

All grey water is reused in gardens or applied directly to plants that need to be watered. Please don't throw soapy water onto edible plants or obviously fragile ones, which may be damaged by the quantity of soap in the water.

Please use water responsibly, it doesnt rain much in Spain and water scarcity is an ongoing issue.



Animals

We love animals, but prefer the volunteer residents do not bring pets as a general rule. However, possible exceptions can be discussed with the centre manager before arriving.

At the center, we have four lovely and friendly dogs, Théo, Silverio, Paco and Charli. You are gonna love them!

Organic Products

In the centre, we ONLY use eco-friendly personal hygiene products such as toothpaste, shower

Internet

We recommend that you have a data connection enabled on your smartphone with an adequate data plan for the duration of your stay, though you are also welcome to use our wifi.

Cars

Cars are only used by the Casita Verde Granada's team. If you want to leave Casita Verde Granada in your free time, you can bring your car or bike.

Conflict Management

All resident volunteers are expected to demonstrate flexibility and adaptability to both the environment, the centre and the people you have to live and work with, considering the big diversity of cultures and minds. In the case of a conflict, it is suggested to attempt to first resolve it between the people affected, to try to find a solution. If this is not possible, you should contact the coordinator of the centre.



Personal Health Insurance

Volunteers working in Casita Verde are NOT insured for accidents or illness. It is therefore essential that volunteers provide their own insurance. You will be asked in any case to sign a responsibility waiver on arrival.

Representation of Greenheart

Finally, living in Casita Verde means that you become the 'face' of our Greenheart philosophy, so please be aware of this when we have any visits.