

## **My stay in Sicily – 18.9. 2017 - 28.2.2018**

**Petra Stárková – The Czech Republic**

I arrived to Bronte with no high expectation. I was curious what the program, where I applied, will be about. It was my first volunteer's program.

I really enjoyed the first month with other volunteers at the sunshine days like in summer. We visited many places in forests, talked about the nature in Sicily and started to learn something about our project Boschi per la Biosfera. We enjoyed a lot of excursion and tasted a lot of delicious Italian food.

I had a very big problem with Italian language at the beginning. I didn't understand so much. Unfortunately, better volunteers helped me with translation. After that, when everyone learned successfully his presentation in Italian, everything was going even better. We visited many schools and met a lot of children. They were mostly very cute, gentle, and educated. The program and the time was running here well.

After New Year, in the second half of program I was sent together with another volunteers to Mascali, where we were going out with children and educated them about nature, played games and grew up oak trees.

At the end of program, we took care about new park. We worked long time on it, until the area was completely clean and we could grow up new trees.

People from Giacche Verdi were all of them nice and patient with us. In the location was created very friendly atmosphere and we had plenty of time to know each other.

The winter in Bronte wasn't so much comfortable, but I was lucky to spend my time also at the sea, where the weather was going better.

At the end I would like to say, that I learned new skills here, met new cool people (some of them I really would like to visit in their own country), I started to speak Italian. I also know myself better after this program. I also enjoyed travelling on this beautiful island. It was my first stay so long time in abroad and I really don't regret of the time I spent here.



Mascali team