

# INFORMATION SHEET

## "LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE" SUMMER WORKCAMP

AT THE GRAND SITE DE FRANCE BIBRACTE – MORVAN DES SOMMETS

### **Success for the work camp "landscape and heritage" organized this summer at Bibracte**

*Participants in the "landscape and heritage" work camp have successfully completed the restoration of the ancient path of the Place aux Laides on Mont Beuvray.*

From 20 August to 2 September 2023, young volunteers of Rempart, an NGO working to safeguard and restore exceptional or vernacular heritage, have participated for the second year in a "**landscape and heritage**" summer workcamp at the Grand Site de France Bibracte – Morvan des Sommets.

This "*landscape and heritage*" work camp is **part of the pilot-project led by Bibracte in the frame of INCULTUM** to enhance the more than 1,100 km of rural paths that criss-cross the territory of the Grand Site (400 km<sup>2</sup>). Carried out in collaboration with the partners of the Grand Site de France label, it aims to develop and promote an innovative tourist offer in the area, combining outdoor activities, discovery of the heritage and cultural activities.

The objective of this programme was to **restore a section of about 600 meters of low dry-stone walls bordering an old trail** on the southern flank of Mont Beuvray in the sector known as "Place aux Laides".

Dating from medieval times along a route already active in the Roman period, this magnificent path, located under the forest cover, is lined with trees and low dry-stone walls. Around it, piles of stones marking the boundaries of former plots of land bear witness to former agricultural activities, now fossilised under the forest.

The 8 volunteers (4 men, 4 women) were mainly students in architecture, landscape or art history and were sensitive to environmental issues. They were supervised by Rempart and Bibracte experts.

### **For 2 weeks, participants were able to:**

- restore the drystone walls lining the path under the guidance of a mason from the Tremplin Homme et Patrimoine NGO
- take part in creative workshops with landscape artist Lily Wanat and produce a box of poetic postcards
- learn about the Grand Site de France approach and the challenges facing rural areas and their landscapes in the context of climate change during dedicated workshops organised by Bibracte
- discover the Bibracte archaeological site and meet archaeologists from all over Europe
- .... and contemplate the unspoilt landscapes of Bibracte – Morvan des Sommets while walking along old paths...

**On Friday 1 September 2023, the volunteers had the opportunity to present the results of their work to around 10 elected representatives and members of the rural paths working group involved in the project.**

This path is part of a new cultural route of 7kms that Bibracte plans to open in 2024 on this part of the massif, which is less known by the public. This new itinerary was officially open to the public during the event *Fantastic Picnic* on 10 September 2023. (PLEASE ADD LINK ON THE related ARTICLE)

As Vincent Guichard, Managing Director of Bibracte, explains: "The Grand Site de France approach is resolutely experimental. It assumes that the attachment to their heritage shared by the communities who live there makes it easier to put in place sustainable projects for the region. In this context, our ambition is that the summer workcamp launched in the frame of INCULTUM in partnership with the REMPART federation become a summer school where students can learn about the method deployed by the "laboratory for ecological transition " led by Bibracte – Morvan des Sommets"

**This programme was organized by Bibracte in 2023 in partnership with Rempart Federation and funded by the European Horizon 2020 programme as part of the INCULTUM research-action project, the French State, the Regional Board of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté and the Nièvre Department.**

**Press cover in local media:**

<https://www.lejsl.com/culture-loisirs/2023/09/04/a-bibracte-etudiants-et-associations-reconstruisent-des-murs-du-moyen-age>

*Pictures @Bibracte/Flore Coppin – 2023*









