Volunteers and refugees explore the city together

Three times, nine hours – a good chance to get to know our city and new people.

We therefore invite the local people of Köln and interested refugees living in Köln to join each other in three-hour walks of exploration, the “WelcomeWalks”. The walks will focus on places that are of special interest for the refugees.

The Kölner Freiwilligen Agentur (Köln Agency for Volunteers) connects the refugees and the volunteers and the exploring can begin. Both groups profit from the WelcomeWalks: the refugees get to know places that are of interest to them, the volunteers get to see Köln from another perspective.

Every WelcomeWalk takes place 3 times for 3 hours each within 6 weeks. Both participants will arrange the time and place of the WelcomeWalks themselves.

Contact us and be a part of the WelcomeWalk.

Contact person:

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www.facebook.de/welcomewalk

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WelcomeWalk

What qualifies me for WelcomeWalk?
Both sides need to bring with them an enjoyment in exploring an area of the city on foot and in conversation and a certain curiosity and openness towards unknown situations. The volunteers also have to take part in the preparatory meeting and should send us a brief report after the walks. Minimum age is 18.

How are WelcomeWalk-tandems put together?
We try to put together the WelcomeWalk-tandems according to where people live, as usually the best location knowledge on the part of the volunteers and the greatest curiosity on the part of the refugees lies close to home. Another criterion may be a common language.

How do I get to know my WelcomeWalk partner?
After the preparatory meeting for the volunteers, we will give your WelcomeWalk partner your contact details (name, telephone number and e-mail address). He/She will get in touch with you and arrange when and where to meet.

When will my WelcomeWalk take place?
The WelcomeWalk Team coordinate with the volunteers once a month. After that the volunteers will be in contact with the refugees. Then the three WelcomeWalks should take place within six weeks. The exact time and place can be agreed on individually by both participants.

Do I have to take part in a preparatory meeting for WelcomeWalk?
For the volunteers the preparatory meetings are compulsory. That way we get to know you and you get to know us, other volunteers and the project. And an exchange between volunteers offers new ideas for the planning of your WelcomeWalk which will help turn the event into a real experience for both parties.

What do we do if the chemistry doesn’t work between us as WelcomeWalk partners?
In our experience it is very rare in 1:1 Partner projects that both partners fail to communicate with each other. If you are interested, patient and relaxed with each other you will quickly overcome any initial difficulties. Should this not be the case, get in touch with us and together we’ll find a solution. The WelcomeWalk is and remains a voluntary activity for both sides.

How can I register for WelcomeWalk?
We offer online forms, which those interested in the project can fill in. If filling in the form is a problem, you can also register by phone:

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