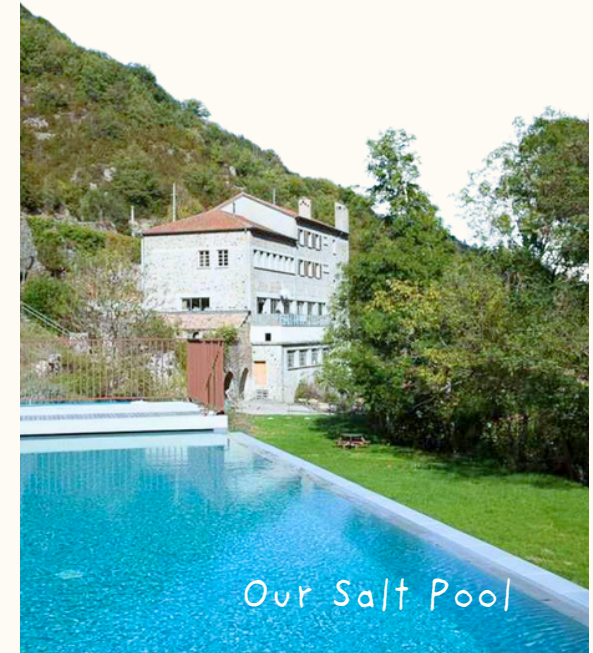


ReCreation

Return to the Village



"It isn't just about having a fun time : the mentors are committed to educating the children while making them feel a part of a whole. Each kid is loved and nurtured and is made to feel part of a creative, inspirational (and quite musical!) community. I could go on. I couldn't have found a better place for my daughter to spend her summer."



A happy Customer
from our UK Camps



This is our Real dog Luna!

www.ReCreationNation.org



Our Philosophy

Knowing The Child

At Recreation, we recognize that every child is unique, with different backgrounds, learning styles, and neurodiverse needs. Our approach focuses on understanding each child's strengths and challenges, helping them feel comfortable as they navigate their learning experiences. As experienced educators, we draw from a rich selection of activities and adventures that foster genuine connection and engagement. We know that clear boundaries, natural discipline and deep attachment are essential. When the children thrive so can their parents.



Our Experiential Learning Programme

Nature Inspired Creativity

We design purposeful moments in nature, anchored in the rhythms of the seasons that will spark each child's imagination. Your child will be guided by educators, artists and makers who help channel their creativity into meaningful, child-led projects.

Community Dining & Evening Celebrations

Celebrate!

Evenings at Recreation are a time for parents and children to come together. Share a meal at our farm-to-fork restaurant, enjoy wood-fired pizza by the fire, or join us for live music and storytelling. These gatherings aren't just events—they're moments of celebration where families connect, laugh, and create lasting memories.

Off site adventures with trusted providers

Adventure Further

Wednesday is our day to venture further in the local area. Discover the Ardèche with trusted guides who know its best-kept secrets. Paddle or zip wire the river gorges, climb rock faces or volcanic summits or cycle to the waterfall for a picnic. We will also help you make the most of your family time at the weekends with tips on local markets selling fresh produce, vintage finds or local crafts.

Parent Time

While the children are immersed in their club, parents can take a moment to relax, recharge, or focus. We offer a range of empowering workshops for adults from yoga to cooking and gardening. Unwind in our café and co-working space, swim in our salt pool or mountain river and simply enjoy the stillness of the surrounding nature. This is your time, designed to be as enriching and restorative as the experience is for your children.

Crafted Learning Journeys for Children...

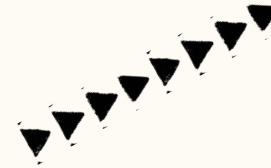
Experience



Create



Celebrate!



Our Philosophy

At ReCreation, every learning journey begins with **Experience**, flows into **Create**, and culminates in **Celebrate**. This simple yet powerful cycle shapes how children learn and grow across all our programs—from our littlest explorers to our teen campers. Whether they're foraging, experimenting in the kitchen, building community structures, or performing original music, each stage of learning integrates hands-on discovery, creative expression, and moments of joyful recognition.

By weaving these three phases together, children and teens gain practical skills, broaden their imaginations, and develop a sense of shared purpose with their peers and families.

Experience: Engage with nature and real-life tasks—sensory play, foraging, gardening, exploring rivers, observing wildlife.

Channel new insights into meaningful projects—cooking, crafting, building, making music or art, or designing solutions that benefit the community.

Share and honour these accomplishments—through mini-exhibitions, festivals, market stalls, communal meals, or campfire performances.



How do we group our children?



How do we group our children?

Wild Explorers

Ages 3-6



Our youngest learners thrive on curiosity and hands-on wonder. They begin by **Experiencing** the world around them through playful exploration—touching, tasting, listening, and observing nature's magic. Whether they're planting seeds in the garden, gathering wildflowers for the mud kitchen, or building with cob, every day offers new discoveries.



To **Celebrate**, we come together for singalongs, nature-inspired stories, and playful forest school games. Each child's small achievements—like planting a seed or identifying a new insect—are honored, building their confidence and sense of belonging.



Guided by their experiences, children **Create** simple yet meaningful projects—mixing herbs into bread dough, making their raw ball snack, or weaving natural materials. These gentle, tactile activities nurture fine motor skills, creativity, and a love of learning.

Dedicated Space - The Old Mill Garden

We have created a safe and natural space for our wild explorer group at ReCreation France. Complete with a deluxe mud kitchen, playful paths and Waldorf inspired toys.



Justin is the co-founder and wild explorers lead. He brings over 20 years of experience with the early years in nature and loves nothing more to create imaginative and nurturing playspaces for little explorers.

Curiosity - Creativity - Resilience

The Village Makers

Ages 7-12



In this stage children become active architects of their own learning. Free from the rigidity of traditional classroom structures, they tackle real-world challenges that spark curiosity, build tangible skills, and foster a deep sense of community. This hands-on, child-led approach empowers them to see the direct impact of their contributions—fueling both their confidence and their passion for shaping the world around them.



After these experiential journeys children are guided by our team to transform their raw materials and newfound knowledge into tangible expressions—turning foraged plants into natural dyes, turning garden fruit into sweets for their shop or soap from wildflowers. Collaboration and problem-solving take center stage, as they learn to adapt ideas and build on each other's strengths.



Our end of journey celebrations here often include small “market days,” pop-up shops, or exhibitions where they can present or sell what they’ve produced such as ice cream for the cinema night or ceramics for our craft market. These moments affirm their capabilities and foster a genuine sense of pride and accomplishment.

Our Village Makers meet in our forest school space by the river then go off to explore the forest, river and mountain side. Wednesdays the children go off site.



Leticia is an experienced psychologist and childhood educator who believes strongly in a play-based, child-led philosophy. She integrates literacy and other subjects into a holistic approach to ignite a lifelong passion for learning.

Passion - Talent - Purpose

The Ikigai Teen Camp

Ages 13-18



Our Ikigai Teen Camp takes the ReCreation cycle to a deeper level, built around the Japanese concept of “ikigai”—finding the intersection of what you love, what you’re good at, and what the world needs. This practical, purpose-driven approach invites teens to discover their passions, refine their skills, and make meaningful contributions.



Inspired by our highly successful UK sleepaway camps for ages 8–16, this special summer program in July and August is exclusively offered to the teens of our guests. Mornings are spent in small groups under the guidance of experienced mentors, focusing on hands-on projects like gardening, natural cooking, or supporting the house café and shop. Teens learn leadership, entrepreneurship, and community engagement in an intimate, supportive environment.



Bell Tent Camp Out -
Optional

Some afternoons bring micro-adventures —like volcano hikes or “Aqvarandonne” giving teens unforgettable experiences in nature.. Through these shared moments, teens can celebrate their journey through music making or spoken word, and building stronger connections with peers, mentors, and loved ones.

This is a boutique optional experience for teens where if they choose they can sleep in bell tents with comfortable beds and separate showers and toilets in the Sous Sol.



Louisa is a former head of literacy and World Schooling rebel mum of 2. She is a natural storyteller, guide and coach. Perfect fit for inspiring our teen guests.

Food -The Great Connector



Sharing a meal is one of the last sacred spaces where we truly come together—crossing divides, celebrating nourishment, and honouring nature's offerings.

From our earliest day camps in London, food has been at the heart of our philosophy. We've harvested vegetables on organic farms, crushed pestos and hummus in a mortar, and roasted sweet potato chocolate mousse over the campfire. This isn't about cupcakes and popcorn—it's about exciting whole food adventures.



At Recreation, that ethos remains, but our facilities have grown. Our 'potager' kitchen garden designed by farm manager and educationalist John Buscarino, is supported by local producers across the Ardèche and southern France. Our Natural Chefs craft seasonal, Mediterranean-inspired menus that nourish families, using:

- ****Organic & Chemical-Free Ingredients**** – Sourced from trusted suppliers.
- ****Local & Seasonal Produce**** – Including wild food and our own homegrown harvests.
- ****Naturally Sweet**** – No refined sugar, using fruits as natural sweeteners.
- ****Gluten-Free & Grain-Free Options**** – Thoughtfully prepared for diverse diets.
- ****Gut-Healthy**** – Diverse, nutrient-rich meals that support digestion.
- ****Child-Centred Recipes**** – A **sneaky veg** and flexible approach for sensitive eaters.



Every meal at Recreation is an experience—one that nourishes, connects, and celebrates the simple joy of eating well together.

****Don't forget that when you want to cook yourself then we can help source ingredients from the nearby Organic Cooperative and you can retreat to your apartment to cook with your family.**

Education Details

A breakdown of our Nature Club Programme

Children's Nature Club	Timings	Included	Wednesday Off Site
Wild Explorers Ages 3-6	Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 9-3pm *Until 1pm July and August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Snack• Lunch eaten in group	No
Village Makers Ages 7-12	9-3pm *Until 1pm July and August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Snack• Lunch eaten in group or picnic	Yes
Ikigai Teen Camp Ages 13-18	9-1pm - Mentoring 1-3pm Micro Adventures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Snack• Lunch eaten in group or picnic	Yes

Accommodation

Loft Living

Stay in our thoughtfully designed loft apartments in our converted French silk factory. Enjoy your private balcony overlooking the river and forested valley below. Each apartment has its own spacious, fully equipped kitchen, family bathroom and lounge with children's area so you can relax and they can play.

"Giulia loved the experiences! The market on the last day had such delicious food and all the kids were so excited to show what they had been doing. Next thing we'll need a first hand experiences cookbook so we can get Giulia as excited about food at home!"

Ciro Chiappini, Giulia's Dad



Breakfast in the Orangery

Outdoor Places to Relax & Play

A River Run Wild

Flowing through the heart of our land, the L'Auzène River is a pristine waterway fed by nearby ancient springs visited by beavers, otters and kingfishers. As the crystal-clear waters flow past the mill our hidden lazy river bank provides a paradise to indulge in wild swimming, sun bathing or plunging into our deep canal. The river's pure waters also feed our infinity swimming pool which is timetabled so everyone gets their time there to rest or play.

Indoor Spaces for Play

The Sous Sol

The "Sous Sol", the former factory floor, is a cavernous, multi-purpose space we've designed for creativity, community and play. This dynamic area features a library and lounge where children and adults can relax, a workshop space for arts and crafts, and our in-house kitchen and family cooking area. By evening, it transforms into a venue for musical and theatrical performances or vintage cinema nights, bringing families together for unforgettable experiences.

A Dedicated Workspace

Place to Focus

Our in-house co-working café and shop provides parents with a dedicated, quiet workspace featuring strong Wi-Fi and fresh coffee during the week. Our shop offers carefully curated essentials and souvenirs featuring local talent and brocante treasures.



Our in house Resto and Cafe

Whole Food Adventures

We believe in food that nourishes both body and soul. Prepared by our talented natural chefs, meals feature fresh, chemical free ingredients, including seasonal produce from our developing garden. Children will often help harvest and prepare their own dishes, fostering a deep connection to their food. Parents can join empowering cooking workshops and memorable dining experiences, from candlelit dinners to shared feasts under the stars.

Wild France at its Best!

Nearby places to visit on Wednesdays or at the weekend



Explore dramatic gorges by foot or canoe



The Ardeche mountains has many hidden villages waiting to be discovered



Love real food? Discover the local markets and festivals



A day out in the stunning emblem of the Ardeche, Pont d' Arc



Explore the colours of the lavender fields



Spend sunday browsing brocantes full of vintage treasures

A Unique and historical Venue

Our thoughtfully designed loft apartments in our converted French silk factory.



Experiences & Workshops

Carefully curated for children, families and parents





Beyond the Ordinary

Our family retreat venue offering!

KIDS NATURE CLUB

Full or half day nature club led by experienced, award winning educationalists with a child centred approach.

EMPOWERING WORKSHOPS

Enjoy workshops with talented educators, artists and chefs or simply dip in our river or relax by the pool.

NATURALLY DELICIOUS FOOD

Food that delights parents and children alike cooked by our natural chefs with clean ingredients available communally or in your private space.

SCREEN FREE ZONES

We are committed to our shared mission that the village beats the screen! Don't worry, our cafe space has wifi for those who really need it!

FESTIVAL INSPIRED EVENINGS

Family-friendly gatherings— theatre, live music, campfire feasts, pizza nights and lots more!

CO-WORKING SPACE

Co-working Space - Dedicated areas equipped for digital nomads to work efficiently.

All Inclusive Pricing

At Recreation, your stay isn't just accommodation—it's an immersive, all-inclusive experience designed for families seeking connection, adventure, and a balanced lifestyle.

- ✓ Inspiring Nature Club Mon Tue, Tour and Fri led by our award winning team of educationalist
- ✓ A comfortable, thoughtfully designed self catering apartment with space to unwind and play
- ✓ All-inclusive meals (Monday–Friday)**—clean, chemical free, and thoughtfully prepared by natural chefs
- ✓ Access to our café workspace—ideal for deep focus or casual collaboration
- ✓ Unlimited access to our mountain-fed river, the L'Auzene, and saltwater swimming pool
- ✓ Three weekly parent workshops, from yoga and resistance training to herbology, whole food cooking, and permaculture
- ✓ 24-hour community support from our host family and beyond—ensuring a welcoming, connected experience

*Dinner included Sun, Wed and Friday

Off-Peak Pricing (September–June)

- Adults: €750/week
- Children (1st + 2nd): €700/week
- Children (3rd+): €600/week
- Under 3s: Free
- Minimum stay: 4 weeks
-

Long-stay discounts (off-peak only):

Stay 8+ weeks: 5% off

Stay 12+ weeks: 10% off

Peak Pricing (July and August)

- Adults: €999/week
- Children (1st + 2nd): €850/week
- Children (3rd+): €750/week
- Under 3s: Free
- Minimum stay: 2 weeks

Special Offer – Village Apartment

For single parents or smaller families

- Adults: €600/week (off-peak)/€750/week (peak)
- Children (3+): €550/week (off-peak)
€650/week (peak)
- Under 3s stay free

Our Family Journeys

We know parents have a lot to juggle — work, travel, schooling.

We do too.

But we've learned that when families start and finish together, the journey feels whole.

Connections run deeper, children feel safer, and no one gets left behind.

That's why our stays follow a shared rhythm — with clear beginnings and endings — so every family can truly be part of the story.

To discover more about each journey click [here](#)



Dates 2025

Spring Journeys

May 5th - May 30th - Journey One

June 2nd - 27th - Journey Two

July 7th - August 29 **Summer Journeys** -
Minimum Stay 2 Week Stay

Autumn Journeys

September 8th - October 3rd - Journey One

October 6th - 31st - Journey Two

November 3rd - 28th - Journey Three

How To Book

You can organise a call with Louisa our co-founder [here](#)

We want you to feel completely comfortable with our program before committing in full. That's why we only ask for a deposit upfront to secure your place. After a short settling-in period and a quick chat to ensure everything feels right, we'll collect the remaining balance. This way, you can get to know us first and pay the rest once you're confident it's the right fit.



We tell stories Here!

Experiences for All

Join Our Nation?

Whether you are a worldschooler seeking a long-term stay or looking for a summer holiday that combines the spirit of a festival with the tranquility of a laid-back retreat, we invite you to become part of our community. Immerse yourself in pristine nature, savor delicious food, and connect with our warm and creative team, ready to make your experience unforgettable.

“Still singing and preparing food in the kitchen with such joy in her heart. The freedom of being able to run barefoot in mud, candlelit dinners with animated faces and quiet chatter and laughter. Magical. The kind of childhood memories that last a lifetime.”

Abbie Smith

Weekly newsletter's from the Mill and beyond!

Read our ReCreation stories



Subscribe to “Playgropund Tales” NOW!



“Our children spent 4 amazing weeks every year with Justin and his team! They take our kids into the wild and give them real back-to-nature experiences they will never forget. Wishing to travel again soon from Madrid!”

Mj Llamas



Email our team to begin your journey

joinus@recreationNation.org
www.recreationNation.org

The Baker Family!



We're a family who believe in the power of community and creative play. After traveling and learning with our own children around the globe, we've poured our passion for nature, culture, and curiosity into this new venture—our very first year at ReCreation.

We know it can feel like a leap to join a budding community, but rest assured: we've seen how transformational experiences in nature and in community can bring families closer together and ignite real learning. We'd love for you to be a part of our story as we grow.

Have questions? Wondering about workspaces, meal plans, or how we handle unique learning styles? Reach out—we're here to help!

From Our Family to Yours,
Louisa, Justin, Baxter and Flora x



joinus@recreationnation.org
| www.recreationnation.org