

2017 Edition



Youth at the Top 2017 The International Youth Event in the Alps

Hundreds of young people met across the Alps and the Carpathians, all engaging in a great adventure spending one day and one night in the mountains.



The third edition of “Youth at the Top” took place on July 11th and July 12th **in six Alpine countries and three countries of the Carpathians**. This time, the international youth event hosted **48 events** which involved numerous different day and night activities. Hence, **more than 500 enthusiastic young people** from Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Poland, Romania and Slovakia set out on a great adventure to discover the treasures of the mountain environment.

The youngsters took part in several discoveries on nature conservation, learnt about fauna and flora in the mountain environment, built a bat or a bird house, engaged in painting, climbing or treasure hunting.

“We spotted several wild animals such as bouquetins, chamois, marmots, bearded vultures, squirrels and tons of insects!” crows Daniele who participated at the event in the Parco Nazionale Gran Paradiso.

At dusk, children, teenagers and adults sat around the fire, singing songs, gazing at the stars while some of them performed artistic activities.

“The concrete results and the emotions of the young participants are among the things that gratify us the most and that give a meaning to all the work done on this project in the last months” states Elena Maselli, Parc national du Mercantour.



The overall goal of “Youth at the Top” is to reconnect the younger generation with their living environment and raise their awareness regarding the protection of the Alps and the interconnectedness of the Alpine territory. A novelty in the third YAT edition was the distribution of the teaching tool “The Alps in my Backpack” – a large canvas with a map of the Alps including various options for educational purposes.



The time leading up to the next edition of YAT in 2018 is a precious resource for the continued experiencing and preserving of the mountains and nature, gathering new stories and experiences before the youngsters all meet up and reach the top again.



"I love mountains and nature thanks to my grandfather who taught me how important is to preserve them"
 Thomas, Parco Naturale Alpi Marittime

"The most exciting aspect for us was the idea of sharing simultaneously the natural and cultural heritage of the Alps."
 Anna Bonettini, Parco dell'Adamello, Italy

"I am very happy to meet my friends whom I've met at the junior-ranger program in the national park. I love to spend time in nature so that computer and mobil phone are no longer that important"
 Laura, Nationalpark Hohe Tauern

"A magic moment that is imprinted in my mind forever... and in the minds of the young participants too!" Christophe Gerrer, Parc naturel régional du Queyras, France

"It made me wish to visit other mountains!"
 A young participant in Parc naturel régional du Vercors

"Young people at the top, creativity, sense of collectivity and mountains: a beautiful experience." Sandrine Pellegrino, Parc naturel régional des Préalpes d'Azur, France

For more information
 Visit the website: www.youth-at-the-top.org

Or follow us on the social media:   

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