“Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.”

- Rumi

22nd Earth Lodge
Tuscany, Italy - August, 11th-17th 2016

an holiday in nature for growing together
Earth Lodge is a summer holiday in close contact with nature and ourselves. It is an event open to everybody with specific activities for all ages: a week rich of experiences and beauty.

Earth Lodge is a place where we nurture hope. Together we experiment that it is possible to live a model of community that promotes growth and personal and collective evolution.

Seeds of beauty that are planting in these days are a small treasure to bring back home and to see sprouting up among our family, relationships, schools, friends, jobs.

It is a very strong experience of change in which awaken the memory of who we really are, remember the project of our soul in order to actualize it.

The Earth Lodge is a ‘womb’ where to find knowledge and learn how to live life as a ceremony every day in our own daily living.
The theme of our experiences, this year, is our capacity of moving forward in any situation in life where we feel stuck.

For example in our intimate relationship, in our relationship to our children, or at work – in any situation where we feel stuck… or we know which the right direction is, but we feel incapable of moving forward.

This week we will explore how to deal with these situations and gain knowledge and tools that may help us making choices and moving on with our lives.

The character that will guide us in our work of this summer will be the Wise Fool.

The Wise Fool is common to many cultures. It represents the capacity of going to the edge of all that which we know and to look courageously in the unknown, with the willpower of jumping into it, in order to find out and learn new things about ourselves and life.

In so doing we go beyond our limits and we learn to know ourselves more deeply. Just like birds that can learn to fly only by throwing themselves into the void, in that same way we can gain knowledge.

Going beyond our limits teaches us how to live in excellence, stepping out of mediocrity.

The other fundamental aspect of this theme is to learn the best side of humor, that can bring light and lightness in every situation and teaches us not to worry about what people think about us. Because until we worry about other people’s opinion, we hardly will plunge in the unknown totally and ‘foolishly’.
Every day at the Earth Lodge starts with a story for children and inner children.

Funny and amazing stories that always offer different levels of reading and hold sparks of reflections. Then the day goes into the teachings, activities and specific ceremonies for all groups of age.

Through sharing, adventure, amusement and confrontation we will engage ourselves for a week, immersed in nature.

Earth Lodge is an opportunity to grow individually and personally, walking side by side with others. Either you are with friends, partners, children or strangers, the promise that every year is renewed for the participants is that one of a change, an evolution, a jump to share with others.

For an adult may be the way to discover a rich and nurturing path of personal research.
For a couple may be an opportunity to open deep channel of communication.
For a parent may be the chance to be present while their own children are growing up, without interfering in their space.
For children and teenagers is an experience to grow having fun and creating wonderful relations of friendship.

“It’s never too late to have a happy childhood.”
- Tom Robbins
For adults
18-135 years

Earth Lodge is an incredible opportunity for young people and couples who are planning their future and setting the bases of their life.

The teachings will be as a map to orient yourself and through which you can learn and transform the old unproductive and ruinous habits in new productive and procreative patterns.

Living on the edge

This summer the adult group we will find out why it is so important to stay on the edge of life without pulling back in what is called “comfort zone” the space of known, where we believe to be safe but in reality we are still because there is neither growth there, nor evolution.

Earth Lodge is rich of moments of pure fun, aggregation and sharing that are a sort of frame to the many opportunities of evolution and personal challenge.

You can experience what is the meaning of growing together, learning from nature, with teachings and ceremonies like the Purification Lodge and Rites of Passage focused on your own age and moment of life.

A map for those who are dreaming their own life

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For children
4-9 years

This space greets children who learn through teachings about nature and living a week in the outdoors.

They will experience their own individuality playing, painting, sculpting, singing at the big drum, walking in nature, listening to the stories around the campfire.

Accompanied by qualified staff, who will take care of them in a protected space, they will express their awe and naturalness.

For kids
10-13 years

Boys and girls go through the age between 10 and 13 feeling no longer children but not yet adolescents.

This is why at Earth Lodge is possible to find an appropriated program and well-finished that involves the bridgers with specific and creative activities that will stimulate their curiosity and their willingness to build deep bonds.

Teachers will stimulate them towards the discovery of their originality and gifts. These 6 days will give them the opportunity to learn acknowledge their own rhythm, special talents and uniqueness.

There will be very intense days, full of playing, learning and fun: a gorgeous adventure where to jump in!
For teenagers
13-17 years

Teen Lodge put together boys and girls from 13 to 17 who will receive teachings, confront with their peers and with adults in order to understand better themselves and have a clear look at their life goals.

Their successes and changes will celebrated so that they can be acknowledged as young women and men.

Qualified adults are with them in this magical adventure to discover their talents, skills and potentials that reside in the uniqueness of their natural selves.

For young adults
18-26 years

The young adults who have just completed their path at the Earth Lodge, as adolescence, desire to continue their personal research, to strengthen the very strong legacy that they have created and to deepen their roots so to become mature adults and more and more responsible.

In this perspective we are working to create a special group, dedicated to this age so that it can nourish the desires of the young adults.
The ceremonies play a powerful role in the integration of the process of change and evolution and in the natural alignment to the Cycles of Life.

Rites of Passage are precise moments in which one is able to experiment physical transformations and changes in awareness.

Recognizing and accepting those moments means getting ready to live life in a creative way, in deep connection with self and others.

“We all come from the same root, but the leaves are all different.”
- John, Fire Lame Deer

Sweet Medicine SunDance Path has a full and complete tradition of Rites of Passage ceremonies for any age.

Some of these ceremonies celebrate the natural transitions that each of us, as human beings, experimented: birth, puberty, maturity, old age and death.

To honour these milestone of our existences helps us to stay in contact with our natural cycles and to align both with the world around us and with our “bigger family”.

“We all come from the same root, but the leaves are all different.”
- John, Fire Lame Deer
From where this knowledge comes?

The Sweet Medicine SunDance Path is a spiritual path, natural evolution of the Twisted Hairs ancient knowledge, knowledge searchers from the Americas and Oceania’s.

This path is the modern incarnation of this long-time tradition, its teachings, its ceremonies and practices are spread through the DTMMS (Deer Tribe Metis Medicine Society), a no-profit organization, a multidisciplinary spiritual shamanic centre whose philosophical and psychological knowledge includes both the oriental and occidental thought.

The purpose of the Sweet Medicine SunDance is to leave behind ignorance, slavery (also mental), war, dogmas, superstition and to plant beauty, power, knowledge and freedom in the future generations.

www.dtmms.org

The teachers

Earth Lodge teachers are qualified on the Sweet Medicine SunDance Path. They have completed an extremely selective training. They provide teachings, lead ceremonies and supervise Earth Lodge activities since the beginning, 22 years ago.

Jannoke Koole
“Laughing Willow”
She teaches in Europe, Canada and USA since 1990.
She’s a Counsellor and Art Therapist.
Trainer in Rites of Passage.

Diane Battung
“Sea Dancer”
She dreams Earth Lodge in Italy and she is the co-founder of the Italian Red Lodge Longhouse.
She teaches in Sisterhood Circles.

Mary Minor
“Flaming Crystal Mirror”
She’s the Medicine Director of the Deer Tribe co-founder of the Italian Red Lodge Longhouse. Trainer in Rites of Passage.

Naide Bruno
“Pushing Beaver”
Chiropractor and Naturopath, she teaches in U.S.A., Canada and Europe. She is in charge of the SMSD Healing Paradigm worldwide.

Walter Alamanni
“Owl Eyes”
He is a Red Lodge teacher and leader in charge of the Teen Lodge. He is the founder of the Brotherhood Circle in Italy. A Rites of Passage ceremonist.

Renata Carnegini
“Light Dragon”
She has been for many years in charge as the Italian Earth Lodge sponsor. Now she puts into play her excellence as Facilitator and Ceremonialist.

If you are not letting your individuality shine, you are cheating the universe
- Twisted Hairs Grandmothers
"Alpe della Luna" Natural Reserve

The Natural Reserve Alpe della Luna – only few kilometres from Sansepolcro – is an uncontaminated place, almost entirely covered by wonderful woods.

The wood of Turkey oak, as you climb up, combines with Maples, Ashes, Hornbeams and slowly leaves the place to the Beeches that overlooks the valleys.

The grazing lands are full of monumental trees of remarkable dimensions.

The reservation takes its name from a peculiar geologic formation shaped as a sickle or ‘half sickle’, the Moon Slope.

For detailed information and registrations contact Monica Dall’Armi:
info@earthlodge.it
www.earthlodge.it

“Drum sound rises on the air, its throb, my heart. A voice inside the beat says, ‘I know you’re tired, but come. This is the way’.”
- Rumi

“Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished”
- Lao Tzu

Important discounts for:
- nuclear family of at least 4 people
- who brings a new participant
- registration within April 15, 2016
- registration within May 31, 2016
- for young adults between 18 and 26 years.

More informations?