



# World Wood Day

## March 21st

### 2019 Stübing and Graz, Austria

The World Wood Day is a cultural event that is celebrated annually on **March 21**, the International Day of the Forests.

World Wood Day was proposed and jointly organized by the International Wood Culture Society ([www.iwcs.com](http://www.iwcs.com)) and by the World Wood Day Foundation ([www.worldwoodday.org/foundation](http://www.worldwoodday.org/foundation)) as both nonprofit organizations - 2013 first in Tanzania.



#### The goals of the event are:

- to raise public awareness of wood as an environmentally friendly biomaterial
- to show the key role of forest and wood in a sustainable world
- to show the cultural and traditional aspects of wood use
- to promote academic research
- to bring together diverse groups of people from all over the world who are involved with forest and wood and give presentations to the public - especially children

On World Wood Day events, around 400 people from up to 100 countries come together - artists, craftsmen, scientists, etc. For the host country, there is a unique possibility to present the importance of the raw material wood in its own cultural landscape as well as the local forestry. Last but not least, the high number of international guests offers a chance to get to know the fascinating world of using wood from other cultures.



### The program includes:

- Wood carving: 120 artists create works of art in groups or alone
- Joinery: 20 international young adult carpenters individually and collaboratively design and build on their projects
- Symposium: 100 participants meet for multi-disciplinary exchange
- Children's event: Children and young people get to know the wonderful world of wood
- Planting trees: during the ceremony, trees are planted to create a strong common sign for the forest and the use of wood
- Architecture project: 15 craftsmen reconstruct a historic stick mill
- Design project: Teams develop and build wooden design objects by applying different wood and non-wood forest products materials
- Wood music: Dozens of international and local musicians show their wooden musical instruments and their skills - alone and together; during the event and in a concert at the end
- Demonstrations and workshops: Woodturners and folk artists show their skills and products, and interact with audience by onsite DIY

### Who, when and where?

All participants can and should look at the programs of the other groups and exchange ideas. Students, children and the general public are invited to all events. They should get to know and appreciate the diverse world of wood.



The World Wood Day takes place from **March 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> 2019** at the **Austrian Open Air Museum Stübing** and in the city of Graz.

The previous World Wood Day celebrations took place in: Siem Reap (Cambodia, 2018); Long Beach (California, 2017); Kathmandu (Nepal, 2016); Eskisehir (Turkey, 2015); Xianyou (China, 2014); Dar es Salaam (Tanzania, 2013).

