

# Master Workshop

## *Introduction to Chestnut woodcarving*

This course provides a new approach to an ancient wood carving technique using local materials, in this case chestnut wood. Given by an experienced woodcrafter in a hidden treasure village of central Portugal this course is the perfect opportunity to gain craft knowledge while discovering a beautiful culture.

After an introduction to the techniques and raw materials, each participant will develop their own project, accompanied and supported step by step by the course tutor. In a friendly environment of cooperation and mutual assistance among all participants.

Participants will be provided with accommodation, full pension, materials, recreational activities, an introduction to Portuguese language and the opportunity to connect with a new culture as well as new craft technique.

Duration of the Master Workshop: 7 days

Number of participants: 4-6

Target: all interested artist and creative individuals, with or without experience

Skills required: interest, patience and persistence

Training hours: 18

Hours of individual and assisted work: 24

Working languages: English, German and Portuguese

Learned knowledge and skills:

Basic drawing techniques

Basic carving techniques

Finishing techniques

Tool maintenance techniques

Working with the chestnut wood

Course tutor:

Kerstin Thomas was born in 1964 in Germany. After taking visual arts, she learned woodcarving in a wood-designing studio. She studied Social Sciences and completed a degree in Portuguese Language and Culture at the University of Coimbra. Settled in Portugal and lives in the village of Cerdeira where, since 1990, has a workshop herself. Although her work in the woodcarving field has different approaches, she has a preference for native wood.

Participated in several national and international fairs and exhibitions, especially Eunique, Germany. Won several awards and distinctions. Mentors and organizes the annual event in Cerdeira "*Elementos à Solta*" (Elements on the loose), which is now on its 9th edition.

For more information and details on the program:

[artandcraft@cerdeiravillage.com](mailto:artandcraft@cerdeiravillage.com)



