



atelier balancê

BASKET WEAVING IMMERSION

19-22 September 2024

Soul Farm, Aljezur, Portugal

ABOUT

Explore the art of basket weaving during a 3-day immersion at Soul Farm, a magical place nestled in the spectacular landscape of the Costa Vicentina. Led by Ysaline from Atelier Balancê, this series of workshops offers a hands-on experience in various traditional and contemporary basket weaving techniques. Whether you're new to weaving or a seasoned enthusiast, you're very welcome to join us on this creative journey. We'll dive into ancient crafts, embrace slowness and create a variety of tiny baskets, all this using our hands as main tools.



THE WORKSHOPS

TWINING WITH DISCARDED ROPES

In this 3 hour workshop you'll learn the twining technique. We'll apply this traditional basket weaving technique on discarded ropes recycled from agriculture, fisheries, electric work, etc. You'll learn how to start and build up a little basket, different ways to finish it and how to manipulate the shape.



CORDAGE WITH LOCAL PLANTS

In this workshop you'll learn how to turn plant fibers into cordage. During 2 hours we'll work with various materials, thicknesses and colors, in order to create different samples, to get a good understanding of the technique and to inspire you to use cordage in your daily life and craft projects.

EMPREITA DE PALMA

'Empreita de palma' is a traditional Algarvian basket weaving technique, using palm leaves from the Palmeira-anã (*Chamaerops humilis*). The leaves are handpicked in the wild and dried for a month. In this 4 hour workshop you'll get to know everything about this traditional craft, its origin, its history, its technique and material. You'll learn the different steps from braiding the leaves to sewing them into a little basket and you'll bring home your very own creation.



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COILING WITH LOCAL PLANTS AND DISCARDED ROPES

In this 3 hour workshop you'll learn the basics of a coiling technique and you'll create a small basket/plate/wall hanging. We'll use found materials : locally handpicked and dried plants, discarded fishing ropes and agricultural ropes.

ABOUT ATELIER BALANCÊ



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Atelier Balancê applies traditional basket weaving techniques on found materials, such as natural fibers and discarded ropes, and aims to convert them into new shapes and objects through experimental manipulations. Hands become tools to interweave research, craft and art. Stories become tangible. Atelier Balancê honours the process of making, the poetry of time and traditional craftsmanship, it's a sculptural exploration and a call for ecological awareness.

I'm Ysaline Ophoff, born in Belgium and currently based in Portugal. After working as an architect for several years, I decided in 2019 to put my fascination for crafts into practice. I went to the Brazilian Amazon, where I learned various basket weaving techniques with local basket weavers. By discovering the different layers of this craft - the technical know-how, the connection with nature, but also the social aspect of it - my curiosity and the desire to discover more only grew. In 2020 I founded Atelier Balancê.

LOCATION



Soul Farm is a peaceful ecotourism project, surrounded by the stunning nature of the Costa Vicentina Natural Park in Southwest Algarve. In this setting filled with nature's beauty, colors, sounds and perfumes, you'll find two traditional farmhouses, handmade wooden facilities, hammocks, a yoga deck and much more.

Take a walk in the narrow streets of the old town of Aljezur (7km away), enjoy the wild beaches and dramatic cliffs along the coastline (Arrifana beach is only 2km away), prepare yourself to be swept off your feet by breathtaking sunsets.

www.soulfarmalgarve.com

IG : @soulfarm.algarve



ACCOMMODATION

Soul Farm's two farm houses are traditional Portuguese country homes, with a lot of space inside, terraces around and a patio nestled in between both houses. You'll find all the comfort you need.



CATERING



Danila will bring some delicious, nourishing food to the table. All meals are vegetarian and prepared with seasonal ingredients. Let us know if you have any food allergies or intolerances.



SCHEDULE

Thursday 19nd of September 2024

afternoon
19h00 Check-in
 Welcome dinner

Friday 20th of September 2024

10-13h Workshop : Twining with discarded ropes
13-14h Lunch
14-16h Workshop : Cordage with local plants

Saturday 21st of September 2024

13-14h Lunch
14-18h Workshop : Empreita de palma
18h Apero on the cliffs

Sunday 22nd of September 2024

10-13h Workshop : Coiling with local plants and discarded ropes
13-14h Lunch



PRACTICAL INFO

Price :	€420 *
What's included ?	4x workshops 1x welcome dinner (vegetarian) 3x lunch (vegetarian) 1x apero on the cliffs 3x nights of accommodation** 3x breakfast
Optional :	yoga/surf classes extra nights of accommodation (depending on availabilities)
What's not included ?	transport dinner (you can make use of the kitchen or find several restaurants in the area)
Participants :	maximum 7
Booking :	Contact us on hello@atelierbalance.net and we'll get back to you with all the details.

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* Cancellation policy: If you cancel more than 30 days before the immersion start date, you will receive a full refund of your pre-payment. Unfortunately, no refunds can be issued for cancellations made within 30 days of the immersion start date. However, participants are welcome to arrange substitutions if they are unable to attend. In the event of a cancellation by the organizer due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, such as natural disasters or emergencies, a full refund will be provided.

** Accommodation is included from Thursday 19/9 until Sunday 22/9. You'll share a room in Casa Grande or Casinha, which will be entirely reserved for participants of the retreat.

