

IT STARTS WITH YOU.



Greener Europe

Short term ESC in ecology

LEARN HOW TO REDUCE WASTE
19. 6. - 16. 8. 2022 KAZANLAK, BULGARIA

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Project summary



Dates: 19.06. 2022 - 16.08. 2022 (59 days which includes 2 days of traveling)

Place: Kazanlak, Bulgaria

Participants: 8 volunteers aged between 18-30 years old from all EU program countries

Topics of the project: ecology, environment protection, culture & creativity

How to apply: send your motivational letter and CV by e-mail to theyouthbg@gmail.com with a subject "Eco Festival 2022"



Hosting organization

"Youth Development Center-Mutual Aid" (YDCMA) organization was founded in 2004. The main goal of the organization is to support the development of young people and their physical, creative and spiritual qualities to be good citizens of Bulgaria and Europe.

**YDCMA
Bulgaria**



For more information visit the website

<http://theyouth.info/>





Project details:

This short-term ESC project enables volunteers to participate in our organization's activities and cooperate with other institutions in order to organize local ecological festival "Kazanlak" for the 12th time in a row. The project will take place in the town of Kazanlak (Bulgaria) and it will be dealing with:

- cleaning nature (collecting trash) in the area,
- presenting home country on "Language cafe" event
- meeting and working on projects with environmental, tourist and accredited ESC organizations,
- shooting and screening of eco movies,
- creating trash art items,
- organizing eco workshops,
- presentations of the festival in local schools,
- organizing concerts with young talents under the brand "A small stage".

A documentary about the project will be shot and recorded.

All of the volunteers participating in the project from EU program countries should be ready to work as photographers, scriptwriters, directors, writers, and artists. Our organization aims to keep you amused in any way and occupy all your senses!

Our project gives an opportunity for young people from different countries to realize their common values by creating different works of art and embody in them their own cultural identities and backgrounds.

Volunteers will appear in the "Wall of Volunteers", an installation to remember the previous projects of the NGO and the volunteers who took part in them.

Volunteers will take part in the publishing process of the local paper journal devoted to the volunteers, "Доброволците" ("The Volunteers"), available also on the web in newsletter format.



History of the eco festival project

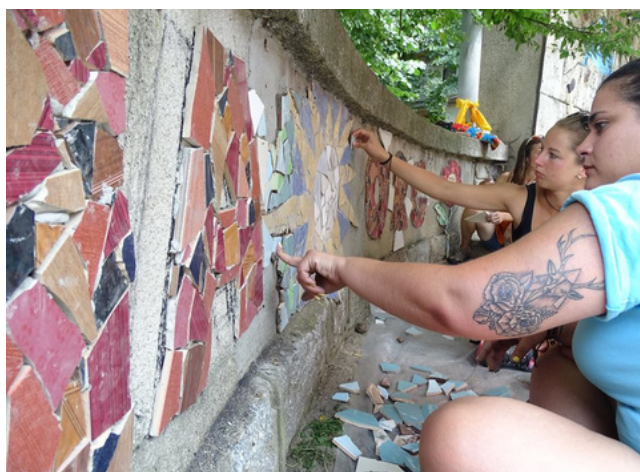
Our organization started to organize the Eco festival near Koprinka lake in 2011. The festival was created by two volunteers -one from the Peace Corps and the other from Lithuania, as a part of our project "Ecology development" (2011). The first edition was very successful, so we decided to continue with the initiative in the following years. We made three short-term projects "Ecology development II" (2012), "Ecology development III" (2013) and "Eco festival Koprinka 2015" (2015) with the participation of 36 EVS volunteers in total. The fourth edition of the project was supported by two Spanish volunteers, hosted by us (project "Friendship in a box"). Thanks to their help, the total quantity of waste we have collected in the last 11 years is around 15 tones.



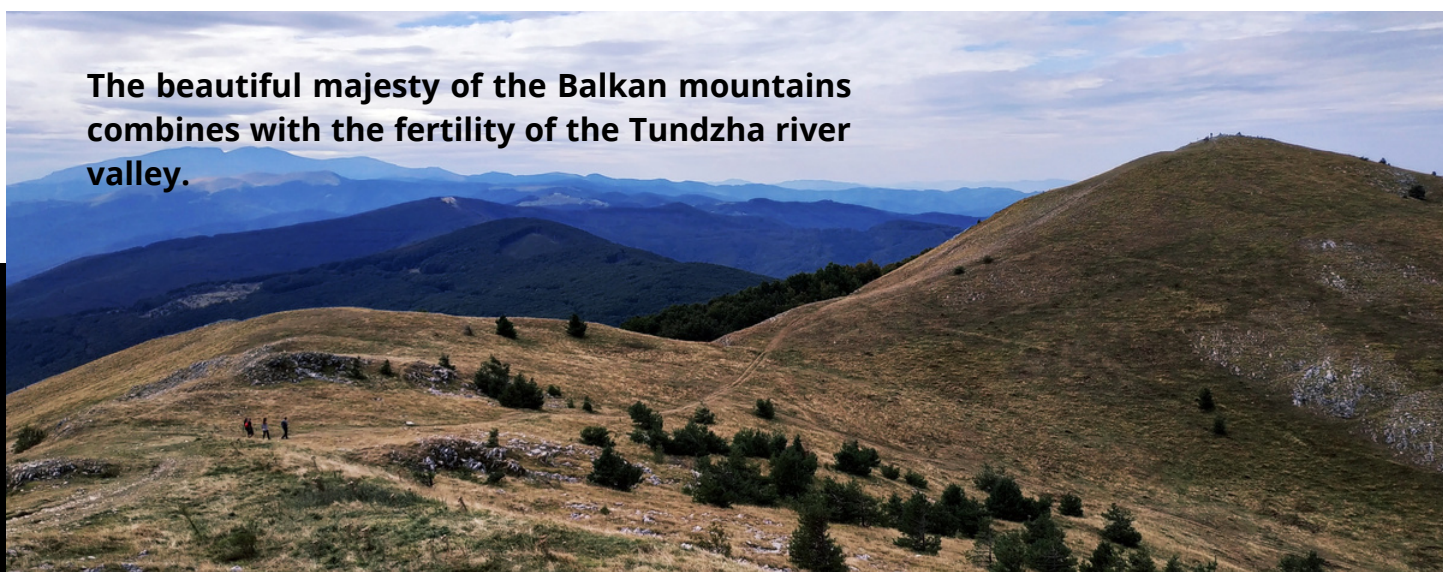
This time the 2022 edition of Eko-Fest will be held in Municipality of Kazanlak.

About Kazanlak

Also known as Kansas city and Valley of Roses lies in the geographical center of Bulgaria, 200 km east of Sofia and 108 km northeast of Plovdiv.



The beautiful majesty of the Balkan mountains combines with the fertility of the Tundzha river valley.





Damask Rose is one of the most important natural treasures in the region. Kazanlak, the main center for the production of the Bulgarian rose oil (85% of world's total), is famous worldwide thanks to this traditional activity that is several centuries long. Rose-picking lasts for about a month (from May 20 to June 20, depending on weather conditions) and it is part of the popular Rose Festival.



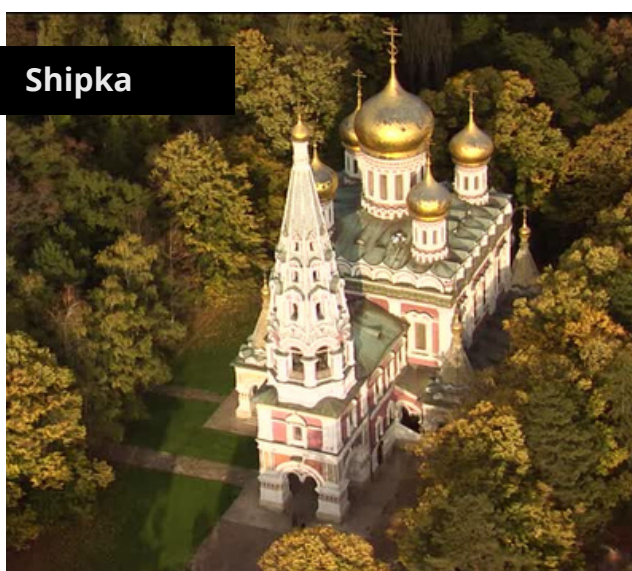
Buzludzha

Kazanlak is among the 15 biggest industrial centers of Bulgaria, also called as city of guns and roses for the Arsenal weapon factory, one of the main employers in the region. The population is around 46.000 people (2016).

Accommodation

In a house where all the volunteers will live and share their place together. In case something is damaged or broken, repair costs will be divided jointly by all volunteers. The organization will provide bedclothes.

Volunteers will be in rooms for 3 or 4 people. Each room has its bathroom. The house has a fully equipped kitchen, washing mashine and Wi-Fi.



Shipka

Travel costs

Travel costs have a limit depending on the volunteer's country (the amount is pre-established and cannot be changed). **Keep all the boarding passes and original tickets from your travel!**

The money will be reimbursed on your bank account after the end of the project, when the volunteers submit all tickets and fill the final report.

Money

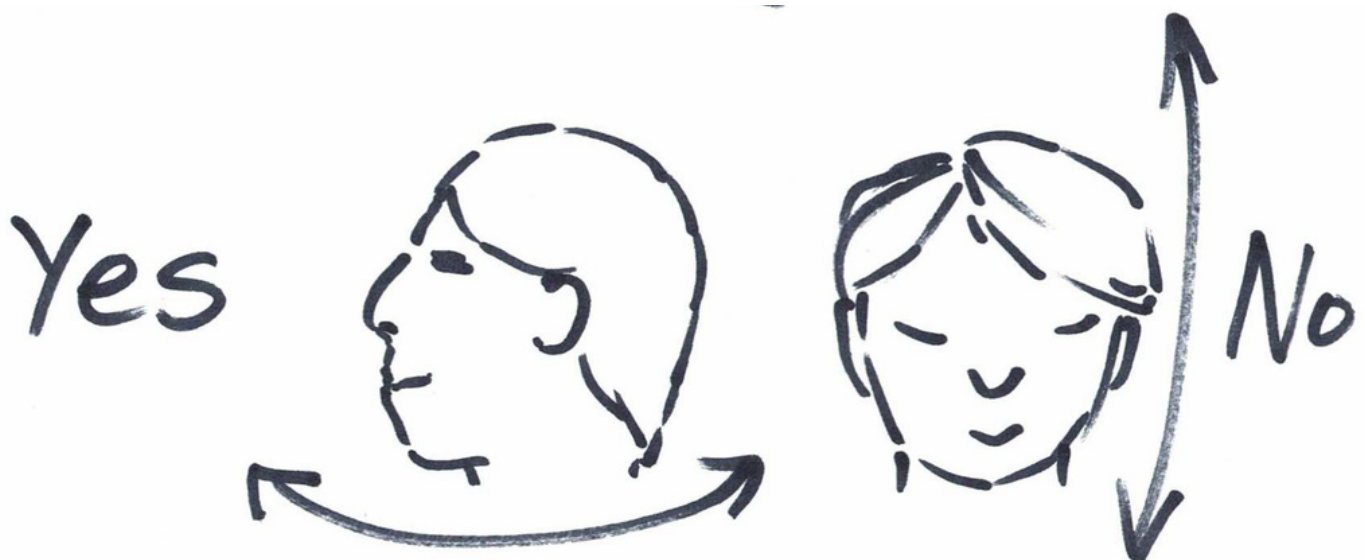
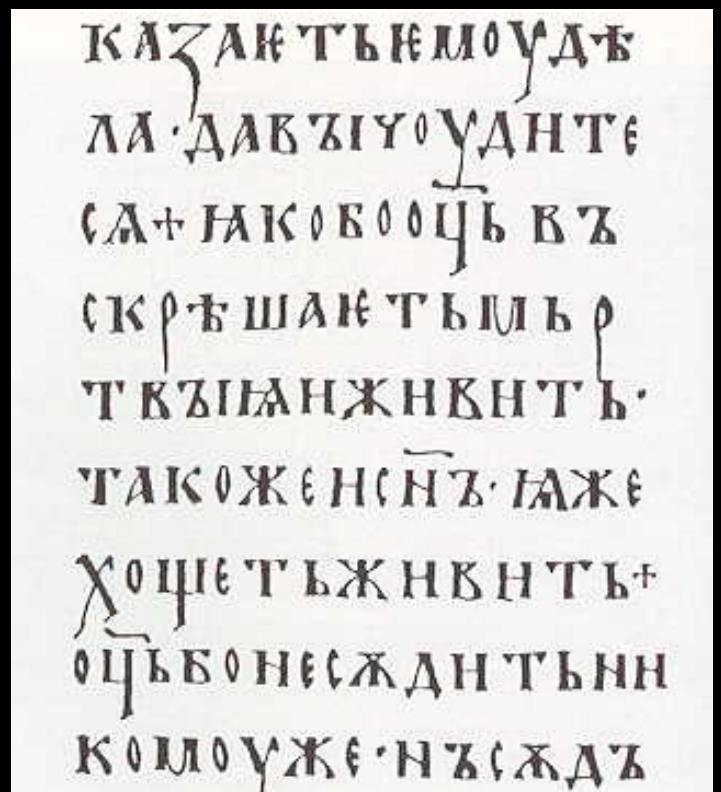
The financial support in the form of Pocket money for the mobility period has a amount of 4 EUR per day which includes 2 days of travel.

The amount of **money for food is 240 EUR for 59 days**. The budget for food will be given every week to all volunteers together. The money for food will be separated into equal parts for each week. Volunteers should cook together and buy food together, thereby being able to prepare more food for themselves.

Useful info

Bulgarian is the official language in Bulgaria. The alphabet used is the Cyrillic alphabet so you need to get familiar with it prior to your arrival. You can also remember some important phrases which will be useful. Of course, most young people speak English, at least at a basic level, but keep in mind that people above 40 years old probably will not be able to communicate with you in English, including officers at the ticket desks of train/bus station as well as drivers.

A curious custom: You should be careful when you ask people about the way or something else, because Bulgarians nod their head for "no", and shake their head for "yes", in contrast with the other parts of Europe.



How to reach Kazanlak

If you don't have BGN, take at least 25 leva from the bank machine (ATM) at the airport because you need money for the transport. Change money at the airport is not recommended.

1) From Sofia Airport to the city center

- Please keep in mind that only Terminal 2 (the newer and bigger) is connected to the metro line. From Terminal 1 you should take a bus to the city center or the free airport shuttle to Terminal 2.
- An individual transport ticket in Sofia (metro, bus, etc.) costs 1.60 leva (BGN). You need to have coins to pay your ticket to the bus driver onboard (drivers usually do not accept notes of 5 leva or more, because they cannot give you change - unless you are 2 people and have to pay 3.20 lev). The price for the metro ticket is the same and you can change metro trains without paying additionally.



Serdika Station

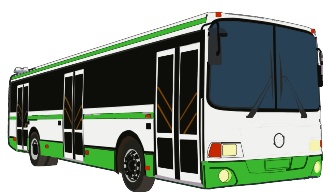
2) From Sofia to Kazanlak

You have two options: to take a direct bus/train to Kazanlak or to take a direct bus/train to Stara Zagora and from Stara Zagora a minibus to Kazanlak.

Click to see the timetables:



Train



Bus



Minibus

We will take you from Kazanlak central bus station or train station. Please send me a text message when you are on the bus/train with your arrival time in Kazanlak

Contact Maria Slavova:
+359 899 307 090



St. Ivan Rilski

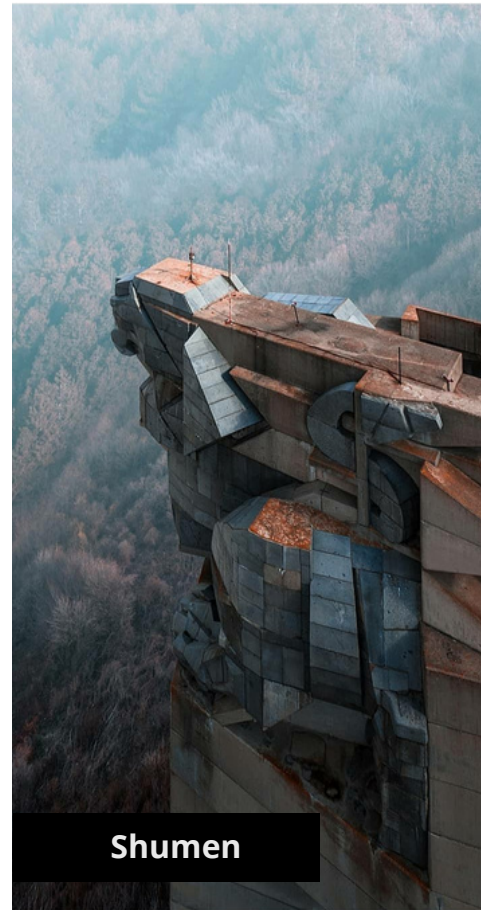
Why Bulgaria?

You may even not know where to find it on a map. And it would be such a pity to overlook this beautiful country. Have a look at what you could experience during your voluntary servis.

cheap
friendly
traditional



Plovdiv



Shumen



Gurgulyat

Diversity

Bulgaria offers something for everybody from. Impressive mountains with wild horses and perfect conditions for winter sports, eko paths, waterfalls, hot springs, seaside, little picturesque villages, ancient remains of different cultures, to socialistic monuments, abandoned houses, factories, sometimes even whole villages. There are many places, where the time's got frozen and the nature rules, besides modern big cities full of life and cultural events.



Stob



Rila



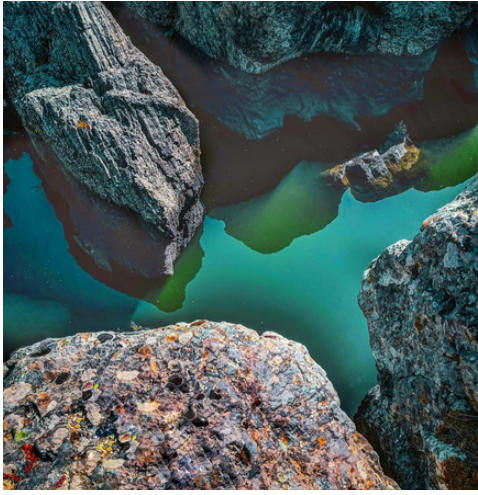
Bansko





cheap
friendly
traditional

Kukeri



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