

IT STARTS WITH YOU.



# Eco Energy +

**Long term ESC project**

**01.12.2023-30.09.2024**

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# Project summary



**Timing:** 01.12.2023-30.09.2024

**Place:** The Municipality of Kazanlak, Bulgaria including all of the settlements that the municipality covers.

**Participants:** 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: [nikolay.ivanov80@gmail.com](mailto:nikolay.ivanov80@gmail.com) with subject "Eco Energy +"



## 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 long-term ESC project enables volunteers to participate in our organization's activities and cooperate with other institutions in order to organize local events. The project will take place in the town of Kazanlak (Bulgaria) and Srednogorovo village. It will be dealing with:

- Maintaining the website theyouth.info
- Carrying out outdoor activities by developing the eco-centre "Green Europe", which will conduct eco-technologies such as composting, upselling, and others.
- Preparing organizing of Eco festival.
- Organizing discussions in the local schools focused on ecology.
- Shooting and screening of eco movies.
- Promote volunteering and non-formal education.
- Creating trash art items and other workshops.
- Organizing events with the local community.
- Promoting our activities through social media.
- Collecting plastics and plastic caps for recycling.
- All project participants agree to their photos and video materials being used for project purposes, as well as part of their personal data (name, nationality, etc.)



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.



# Eco center Green Europe

The organization started to create, the Eco festival at dam lake Koprinka in 2011. After that we move it back to Kazanlak and the village of Koprinka and Srednogorovo. The festival itself was inspired by two volunteers - one from the "Peace Corps" and the second one from Lithuania by EVS program, as a part of the project called "Ecology development" (2011) and continued till today. In order to continue and develop, sustainable and environmental ideas, the organization constructed creating an eco-centre. There we can show, various techniques like an environmentally friendly lifestyle. It will include a lot of demonstrations, workshops, and good practices, in front of kids from the locals in order to build, an ecological way of thinking for the future generation.

The eco center is located in the beautiful village of Srednogorovo near the town of Kazanlak

## About Kazanlak

And also, you have to know as "Kanzas" city and Valley of Roses lie down in the geographical centre 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.

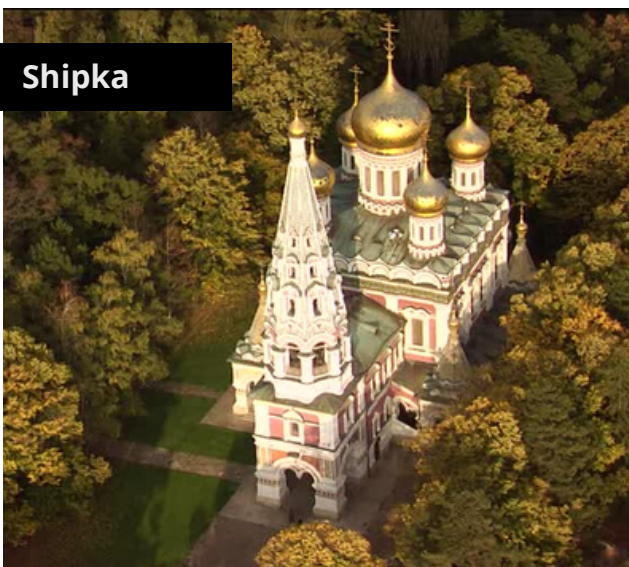


**Buzludzha**

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 43 000 people (2021).

## Accommodation

Volunteers will be accommodated in their own apartment in rooms for two. The apartment is located in close proximity to a park and the city center.



**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 is **150 EUR** for a month.

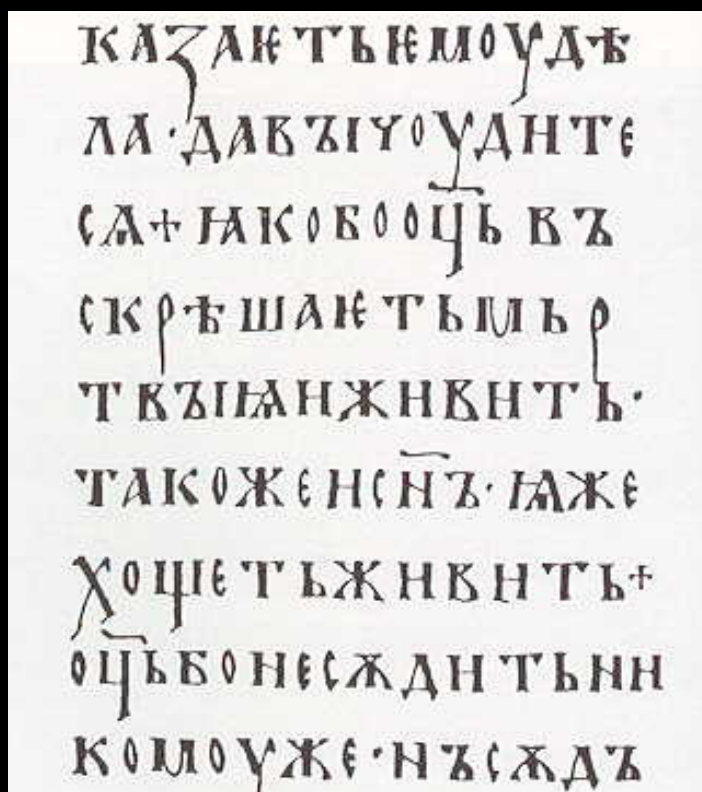
The amount of money for food is **150 EUR** for a month.

The pocket money will be given to every volunteer on the beginning of every month. The money for food will be provided at the end of every month. The financial support includes weekends, holidays and vacation (20 days for the whole period).

## Useful info

Bulgarian is the official language in the country. The alphabet is the Cyrillic **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.**



Yes



No

# How to reach Kazanlak

If you don't have BGN (1 EUR is 2 BGN +/- 0.05), take at least 50 leva from the bank machine (ATM) at the airport because you need money for the transport.

## 1) From Sofia Airport to the city centre

- Please keep in mind that only Terminal 2 (the newer and bigger one) is connected to the metro line. From Terminal 1 you should take a bus to the city centre or the free airport shuttle to Terminal 2.
- A single ticket in Sofia costs around 2 BGN for one trip, for more info :  
<https://www.sofiatraffic.bg/en/common>

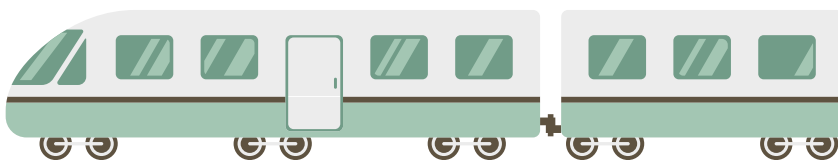


## 2) From Sofia to Kazanlak

A train is a better option. It travels around 3.30 h and is cheaper. A bus will take you to Kazanlak within 4 hours and the tickets would be almost double as expensive. More info:

<https://www.bdz.bg/en>

<https://www.centralnaavtogara.bg/>



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

**Contact Maria Slavova:**

**+359 899 307 090**

**[ydcma2004@gmail.com](mailto:ydcma2004@gmail.com)**

**St. Ivan Rilski**



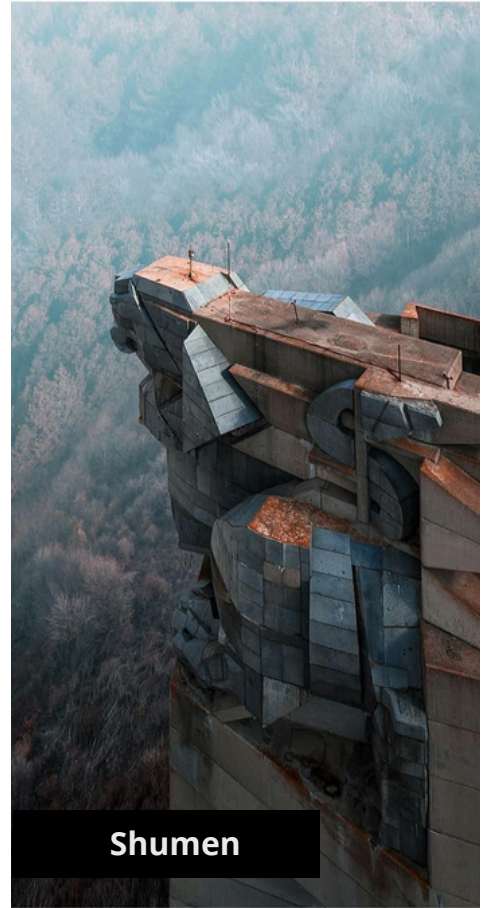
# Why Bulgaria?

You may even don't 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 service.

cheap  
friendly  
traditional



Plovdiv



Shumen



Gurgulyat

## Diversity

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



**Blagoevgrad**



**Rila**



**Pamporovo**



cheap  
friendly  
traditional



Kukeri



**We look forward to  
seeing you!**