

EUROPEAN PHOTOSYNTHESIS

- A PHOTOGRAPHY CHANGES LIFE BY HOLDING IT STILL -

EUROPEAN
CULTURAL DIVERSITY
POSTCARDS

08-16 SEPTEMBER 2019
PORTUGAL



Co-funded by
the Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Dear participant,

It is our grand pleasure to welcome you to our Youth Exchange EUROPEAN PHOTOSYNTHESIS in Maceira - Fornos de Algodres, Portugal.

Laipni lūdzam - **Добродојдовте** - **Bienvenido** - **Vítejte**
Bem-vindo

This Welcome Infopack will provide you with information about the project, its venue and how to get there, timetable of the activities, accommodation details, reimbursement of travel costs, contacts and other useful and practical information that you need to know before coming to the project.

Please, read all the information carefully, and note that if you participate in this Youth Exchange, you will be engaged in interacting and having unforgettable time with wonderful people from different cultures and with different cultural, social, religious or other specific background, coming from different parts of Europe.

We hope that you are looking forward to this Youth Exchange as much as we are, or maybe even more than that.

Your Project Organization Team



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The idea to organize this project stemmed from the observation and conclusion that, in this modern ICT age, when social networks and their revolutionary ability for instant worldwide information spreading have an immense and proven power to shape people’s way of thinking, photography can be a very effective instrument for promoting cultural diversity and bonding people with different cultural, religious, social, economic background, or other status that makes them “different” from one another.

The meaning of the word “photosynthesis” is well known in the context of biology; in this project, however, we dare to use it giving it a different meaning: “photo-”, because photos have central role in the project, and “synthesis”, since it means mixture, blend, fusion of different things into a whole. Our project aims precisely at that: connecting, mixing young Europeans through photographing Europe’s cultures, and presenting Europe’s cultural diversity through photos.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ fostering cultural diversity and intercultural learning through providing young people with knowledge on photographing and visually presenting their experiences of encountering new cultures;
- ❖ stressing the importance of accepting cultural diversity through non-formal and informal learning activities focused on breaking stereotypes and prejudice;
- ❖ upgrading the capacities of youth organizations and competencies of youth leaders for delivering beneficial cultural activities in their communities aimed at promoting diversity and activating young people, including people with fewer opportunities;;
- ❖ stimulating active European citizenship through non-formal learning workshops promoting the uniqueness of the EU.

During the Youth Exchange EUROPEAN PHOTOSYNTHESIS, the participants will have the chance to learn more about how to photograph unique culture in the form of customs, items, cuisine, religion, music, art and everyday life, and how to create and use photography products, such as DIY postcards to present and promote cultural diversity. In this way, the project addresses the need for emphasizing the importance of understanding and accepting cultural diversity and fighting the rise of nationalism for Europe's prosperity, a need that is especially evident in recent years, as one of Europe's primary issues at the moment that threaten the multicultural face of the EU. In addition to this primary activities, the programme of the Youth Exchange includes a presentation of partner organizations, team building activities, intercultural learning workshops, European citizenship workshops, intercultural evenings, field work, group discussions, cultural diversity workshops.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

The Youth Exchange will gather young people from Portugal, Latvia, Spain, North Macedonia and the Czech Republic. Each of the countries will participate with 6 participants (5 young people + 1 group leader).

DATES

Participants are expected to arrive in the hostel where the Youth Exchange will take place by 19:00 on **08 September (arrival day)**, and depart on **16 July (departure day)**.

You may arrive a maximum of 2 days **before 09 September** or leave a maximum of 2 days **after 15 September** (these are the activity dates of the project). If you decide to arrive a day or two before the Youth Exchange or leave a day or two after it, all your expenses regarding your accommodation and food for these extra days cannot be reimbursed from the budget of the project.

LOCATION

Maceira - Fornos de Algodres, Portugal

Fornos de Algodres has very good connections to Porto and Lisbon by bus and train. Please check the links bellow for the train and bus schedule to Fornos de Algodres.

Trains to Fornos de Algodres: <http://www.cp.pt/passageiros/en/>

Buses to Fornos de Algodres: <http://www.rede-expressos.pt/default.aspx>

As soon as you inform us about your travel plan and times of arrival, we will coordinate your arrival to Fornos de Algodres and to the hostel.



COSTS

Participation in this Youth Exchange is free of charge. Expenses for activities, food and accommodation are covered with financial support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

Travel costs will be reimbursed following the rules of the Erasmus + Programme for calculating the travel costs in accordance with the distance from the city of your departure to Fornos de Algodres, measured using the Distance Calculator of the European Commission. We will reimburse 100% of your travel costs in the limits that we informed you about in advance.

The total amount per person for two-way tickets that we can reimburse is:

- SPAIN (distance between 500 – 1999 km): 275 EUR/participant
- NORTH MACEDONIA, LATVIA and CZECH REPUBLIC (distance between 2000 – 2999 km): 360 EUR/participant

Please be aware that if you spend more money for travelling than this amount, the difference between this amount and your actual travel costs will be paid by you.

VERY IMPORTANT: Travel costs will be reimbursed only if you present your original tickets, invoices, boarding passes, and any other paper/online ticket or reservation connected with your travel. If you lose the tickets, we cannot reimburse you, so make sure that you keep everything.

Taxi is not an eligible travel cost according to the Erasmus +, so it cannot be reimbursed.

Please also be aware that reimbursement will be done after the Youth Exchange, after the following steps are completed:

- after you send the organizers all your original tickets and boarding passes;
- after the group leaders complete the online Mobility Tool survey;
- after the national groups send the organizers proof (photos, links, articles, photos of presentations and/or suchlike) of dissemination of the project results in their communities.

TRAVEL DETAILS

Which means that the reimbursement may take longer than one month.

It is preferable that you arrive at the airport in Porto due to its proximity to Fornos de Algodres. If applicable to the majority of the participants, transportation from Porto airport to Fornos de Algodres and from Fornos de Algodres to the airport will be provided by the hosting organisation. This will be decided after we receive detailed information about your times of arrival/departure.

ACCOMMODATION

Hostel “Entryfik”

WI-FI
?

Yes

Website: www.hostelentryfik.com E-mail: geral@hostelentryfik.com

Address: Rua do Vale da Vinha, 1, 6370-341 Maceira - Fornos de Algodres, Portugal

Telephone: (+351) 271 789 817 Mobile Phone: (+351) 926 844 919

MEALS

Meals will be served at the hostel. All special food requirements will be respected if there’s prior information sent to the hosting organization.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Health insurance is normally not provided by the Erasmus + Programme and will not be reimbursed. However, we strongly recommend you to contact your health/travel insurance companies in your country and obtain insurance cover that would be valid in Portugal.

**LOG IN
AND JOIN US**

We have created a Facebook group for all the participants in this Youth Exchange, where we will start getting to know each other and share information. Find us on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/840025683106203/>

THE PROJECT VENUE

Maceira is a Portuguese parish of Fornos de Algodres.

Fornos de Algodres is a municipality and town in Portugal with approximate population of 5,000. The municipality is located in the Guarda District, Central Region.

The seat of the municipality, Fornos de Algodres, is a historic town that boasts panoramic views of the upper Mondego river valley and a nineteenth-century market with nearby winding cobbled streets, as well as the Serra da Estrela, the highest mountain range in mainland Portugal.

WEATHER

MONEY

In Portugal we use Euros.

We will probably have sunny, hot weather. The average low temperature in Fornos de Algodres in July is 14 degrees, and the average high is 28 degrees.

SOME LOCAL PRICES

Coffee in a café = 0,65 € Hamburger = 3,00 € Pizza = 4,00 €
Juice 1,5L = 1,00 € Mineral water 1,5L = 0,40 €

YOUR TURN TO PRACTICE SOME LANGUAGE

The Portuguese are such friendly people, so feel free to have a chat with locals. Here are some useful everyday phrases that might help you get around:

ENGLISH	PORTUGUESE
Good morning	Bom dia
Good evening	Boa noite
Thank you	Obrigado
Yes/No	Sim/Não
Left/Right	Esquerda/Direita
Good/Bad	Bom/Mau
I don't understand	Não compreendo
Where is the main bus station?	Onde é a paragem de autocarro?
Where is the train station?	Onde é a estação de comboio?
What time is it?	Que horas são?
I like you	Gosto de ti
Cheers	Saude
You look really good, honey!	Tu pareces realmente bem, querida(o)!

HOMEWORK

As part of the programme of the Youth Exchange, we will have intercultural evenings where you will have an opportunity to present your country, so please bring your traditional clothes, flags, music, food, drinks, souvenirs, show us your national dances or games. Make us speechless, hit us with the most creative way of presenting your country that you can think of, make us beg to visit you!

Homework is always good, isn't it? We have one more task for you: please prepare a presentation of your organization, since we are going to have a presentation of participating organizations, where we can all present and learn about our organizations, so that we can create grounds for initiating future cooperation.

WHAT TO BRING

- your homework ☺;
- smartphone (or a camera, if you have one);
- considering the nature of this Youth Exchange and the need for considerable work with photos on a laptop/tablet, in order to have a more efficient and quality flow of the work during the YE, we strongly encourage each national groups to bring as many laptops as possible. In any case, each national group should be able to bring at least one laptop.
- bring any medicine if you have some illness or medical condition. We will have a first aid kit, but we won't have specialized medicine. If you have allergies/conditions that you think we should know about, please inform us beforehand. We promise that we will keep it confidential.
- towels, comfortable clothes and shoes, slippers for moving around indoors;
- you play some musical instrument? Feel free to bring it;
- all papers connected to your travel;
- lots of good mood, positive energy, smiles, more smiles...

PROJECT PARTNERS AND COOPERATION

The cooperation of all partner organizations in this project includes active involvement of all partners in each stage of the project. Special attention is paid to the promotion of the project and the dissemination and visibility of its results. In this sense, **all partners and participants are obliged to actively take part in promoting the project** by spreading and sharing information via their websites, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and/or other popular Internet sharing platforms that they have at their disposal, and organize a presentation about the project in their local communities after the Youth Exchange and the return of the participants back home.

The Youth Exchange “European Photosynthesis” is organized and hosted by *Associação de Promoção Social, Recreativa, Desportiva e Humanitária de Maceira* from Portugal, in collaboration and partnership with *Zdruzenie za volonterizam VOLONTERSKI CENTAR BITOLA – Bitola* from North Macedonia, *Artilt-D* from Latvia, *EVROPSKE CENTRUM MLADEZE BRECLAV - EUROPEAN YOUTH CENTRE BRECLAV Z.S.* from the the Czech Republic, and *Associacio Programes Educatius Open Europe* from Spain.

ERASMUS + PROGRAMME

This project is funded with the support from the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union and the National Agency of Portugal.

Erasmus+, the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport covers the period 2014-2020. Aimed at boosting skills, employability and supporting the modernization of education, training and youth systems, the seven-year programme has a budget of €14.7 billion. More than 4 million people will receive support to study, train, work or volunteer abroad, including 2 million higher education students, 650 000 vocational training students and apprentices, as well as more than 500 000 going on youth exchanges or volunteering abroad. Students planning a full Master's degree abroad, for which national grants or loans are seldom available, will benefit from a new loan guarantee scheme run by the European Investment Fund. Erasmus+ will also provide funding for education and training staff, youth workers and for partnerships between universities, colleges, schools, enterprises, and not-for-profit organizations.

CONTACT

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions:

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E-mail: erasmus.maceira@gmail.com

WhatsApp: +351 917 395 954

USEFUL LINKS

Cheap flights to Portugal: www.skyscanner.net/

Weather forecast: <http://www.yr.no/>

Erasmus + Programme: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm

More about Fornos de Algodres: <http://www.cm-fornosdealgodres.pt/>

Associação de Promoção Social, Recreativa, Desportiva e Humanitária de Maceira

Lugar do Serrado, 1, 6370-341 Maceira, Fornos de Algodres, Portugal

E-mail: associacao.maceira@sapo.pt

Tel: (+351) 271 789 817

YE EUROPEAN PHOTOSYNTHESIS programme

08-16 September 2019, Maceira – Fornos de Algodres, Portugal



Time	Arrival Day 08-Sept	Day 1 09-Sept	Day 2 10-Sept	Day 3 11- Sept	Day 4 12- Sept	Day 5 13 - Sept	Day 6 14- Sept	Day 7 15 - Sept	Departure Day 16 - Sept	
08:00 - 09:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
90:30 - 11:00	Arrivals	Getting to know each other, aims and goals of the YE	Culture: what is it, and what it is not?	Photography basics	European citizenship	Erasmus + Programme presentation, Youthpass	Fieldwork: photographing culture	Work on creating postcards and selection of photos for online photo gallery	Departures	
11:00 - 11:30		Break	Break	Break	Break	Break		Break		
11:30 - 13:00		Fears, expectations, and contributions. Setting basic rules	Cultural diversity	Photographing culture	Europe is always a good idea	Presentation of partner organizations	Work on creating postcards and selection of photos for online photo gallery			
13:00 - 15:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch			
15:00 - 16:30		Team-building	Intercultural learning	Fieldwork: photographing culture	Fieldwork: photographing culture	Open space for participants' proposals	Online photo galleries and photostories	Presentation of final products		
16:30 - 17:00		Break	Break			Break	Break	Break		
17:00 - 18:30		Team-building	Ideas for culture projects engaging marginalized youth			Open space for participants' proposals	How to create a postcard	Final evaluation		
18:30 - 19:00		Reflection meeting	Reflection meeting	Reflection meeting	Mid-term evaluation	Reflection meeting	Reflection meeting			
19:00 - 20:00		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner		Dinner
		Welcome evening	Socializing games	Intercultural evening	Intercultural evening	Intercultural evening	Movie night	Free evening		See-you-again party