

IT STARTS WITH YOU.



The Mutual Aid 2

Long term ESC media project

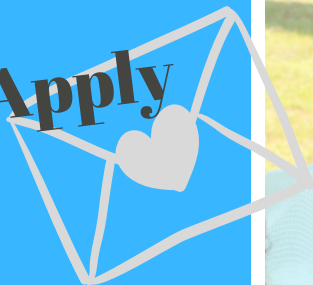
20. 2. - 19. 12. 2020 KAZANLAK, BULGARIA

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Project summary

Apply



Dates: 20.2. 2020 - 19.12. 2020

Place: Kazanlak, Bulgaria

Participants: 4 volunteers aged between 18-30 years old from all EU program countries

Topics of the project: Environment and natural protection, Education and training, Creativity and culture

How to apply: send your motivational letter and CV by e-mail to theyouthbg@gmail.com with a subject "Mutual Aid 2"



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.

For more information visit the website
<http://theyouth.info/>





Project details:

The ESC project combines media work with active work on our activities. The volunteers work as reporters and documentarists, as same as animators, or on organization of local social, educational and cultural events. We aim to promote Bulgarian cultural, historical and natural heritage; Encourage youth to be active, and improve themselves to be successful in the labor market; and promote volunteering and non-formal education.

The main activities of the volunteers will be:

- participating in different projects such as festivals, eco and charity projects or making art installations
- organizing events
- traveling within Bulgaria and learning about historical places
- recording movies, writing articles
- maintaining the website theyouth.info
- promoting our activities through social media

Organizing events

The volunteers regularly work with local institutions like municipality, library, elderly house, daily care center for kids with disabilities and museums to prepare workshops, presentations and other events for the local community. Very popular events are Language cafe or Bez Pari (without money), which provides space for exchange old clothes, devices, tools, and other things among people without paying for them.

The volunteers work mainly as documentarists and reporters. Every event, activity, trip, has to be captured and promoted on the website and social media. We are searching for creative people with different skills and experience, but with common joy from working as a team on videos, the website, the printed newsletter, and marketing.



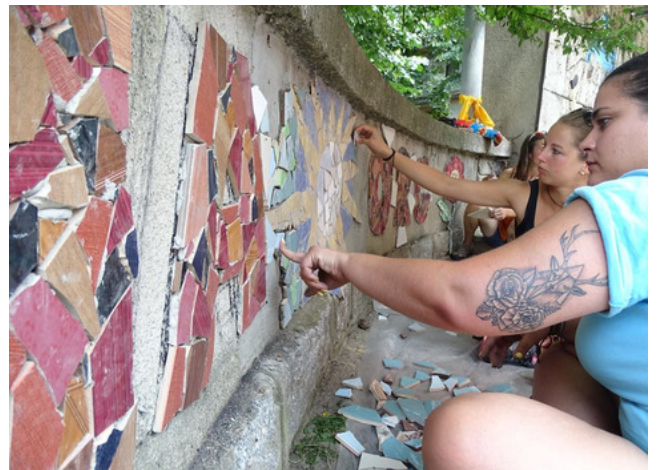
Other projects

The volunteers participate in projects of other organizations with similar topics and aims. It might be visiting festivals, eco-villages, repairing a historical church, attending a conference, or acting in a fire theater. The activities are varied and you will have many incredible opportunities to try and experience things you wouldn't even think of.



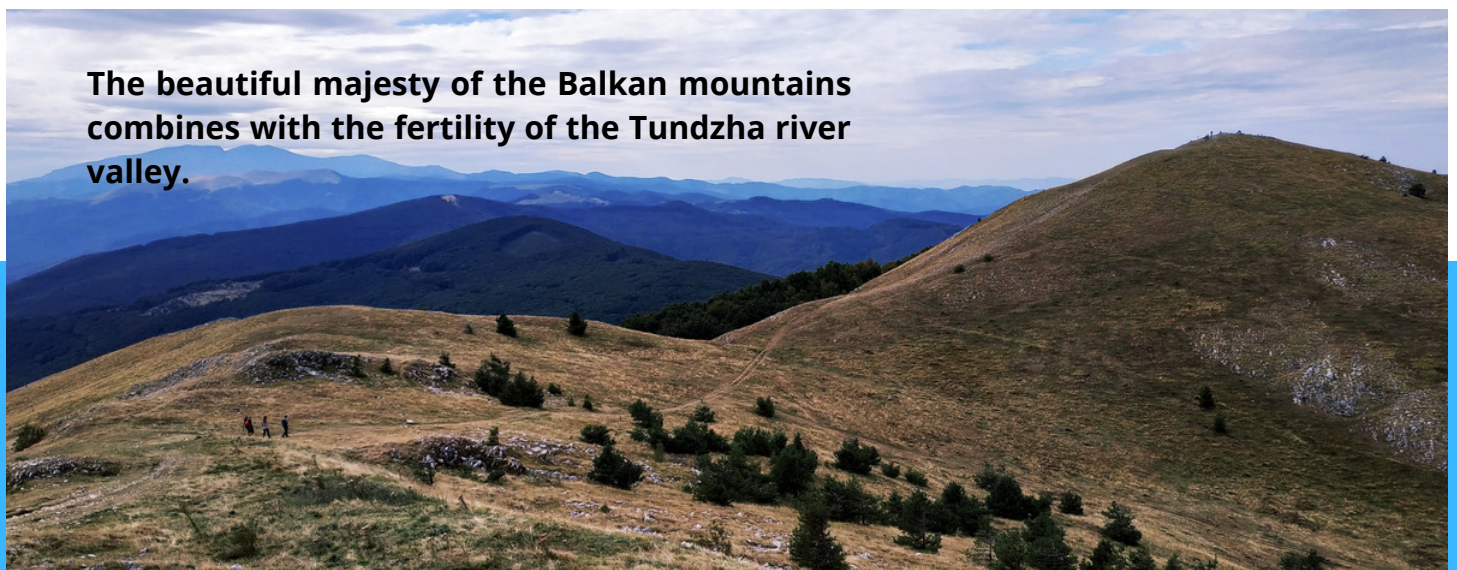
Traveling Bulgaria

We support volunteers to travel, experience Bulgaria from its good and bad sites, and share their impressions through our website theyouth.bg and social media. Bulgaria is a beautiful country, which doesn't have the reputation it deserves. What is worse, neither ourselves, locals, know what a treasure we have. Foreigner's opinion can work as a "wake up" impulse.



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.



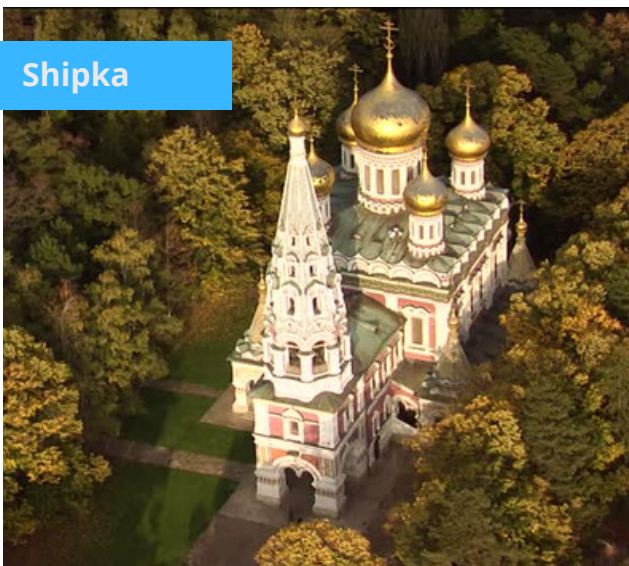
Buzludzha

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 (2014).

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

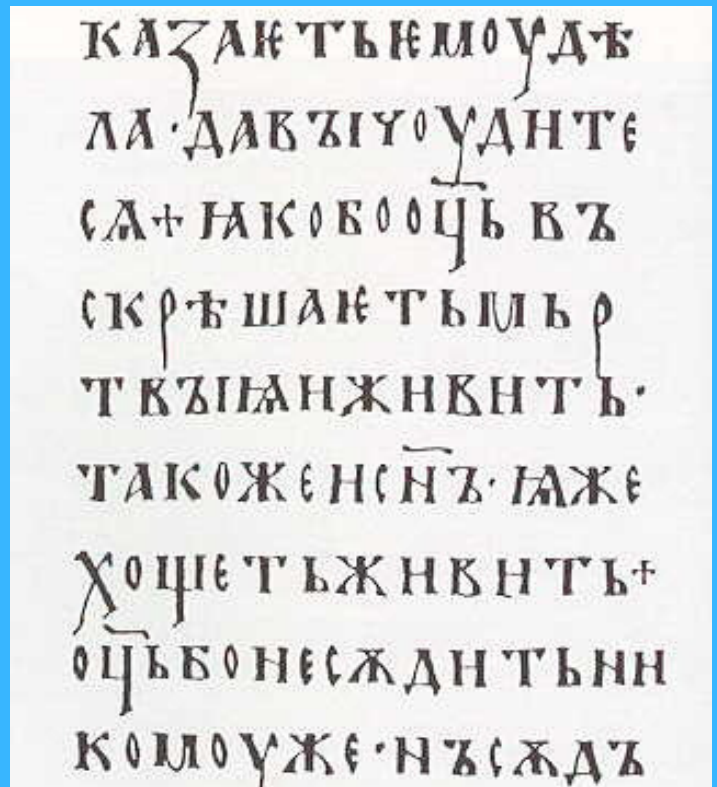
The financial support in the form of **pocket money is 120 EUR for a month.**
The amount of **money for food is 120 EUR for a month.**

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 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.



Yes



No

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

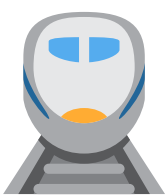
- Please keep in mind that only Terminal 2 (the newer and bigger) is connected to the metro line. From Terminal 1 you should take a bus to the city center or the free airport shuttle to Terminal 2.
- An individual transport ticket in Sofia (metro, bus, etc.) costs 1.60 leva (BGN). You need to have coins 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.



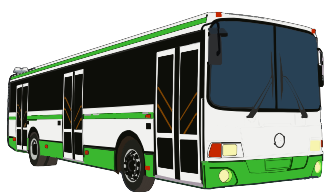
2) From Sofia to Kazanlak

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

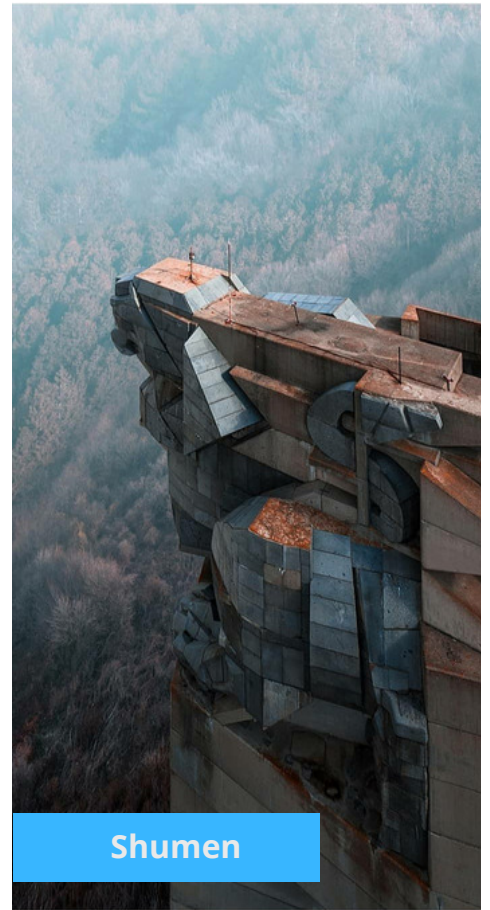
Why Bulgaria?

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



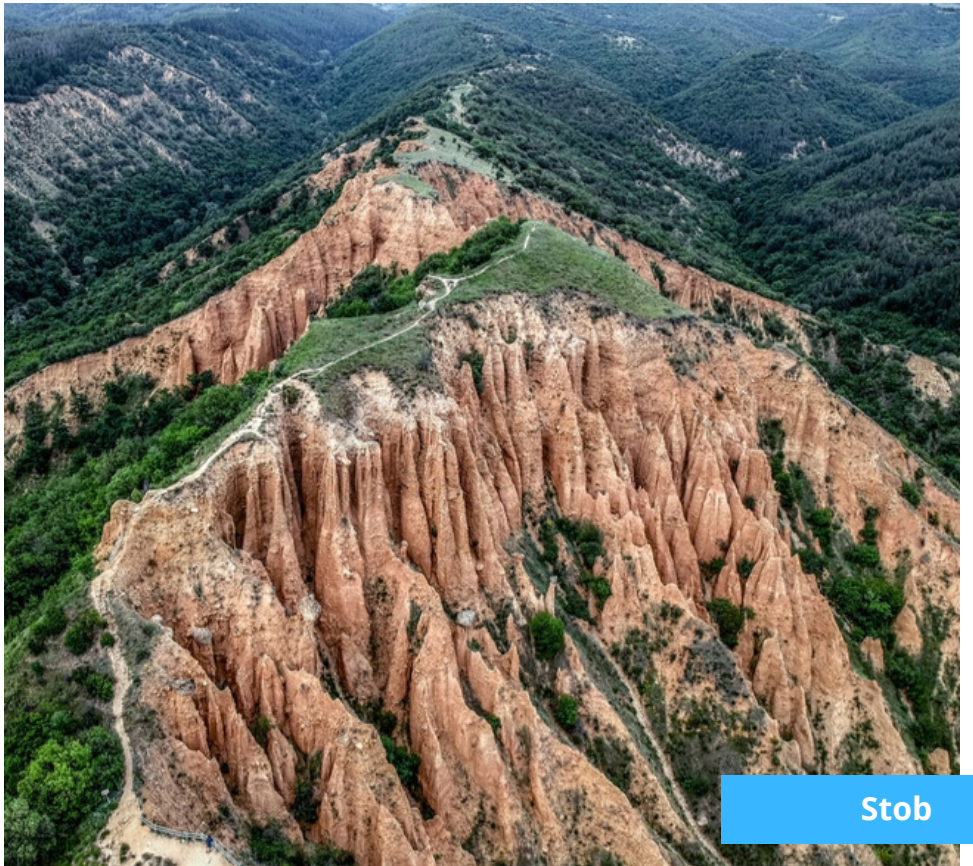
Shumen



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

