

WELCOME PACK

Youth Entrepreneurship in Rural Area

The Youth Mobility in the Frame of the Erasmus + Program



4TH JULY TO 12TH JULY 2018

SMOLYAN, BULGARIA

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Dear Participant,

We would like to invite you to a

Training course

Youth Entrepreneurship in Rural Area

Project Period: 01/01/2018-31/08/2018

Activity dates: 05 July 2018 - 11 July 2018

Arrival date: 04th of July

Departure date: 12th of July

Host and coordinating organisation: Amber Initiatives (United Kingdom)

Project Details

The training course 'Youth Entrepreneurship in Rural Area' will be held in Smolyan, Bulgaria between 05-11 of July 2018 (TBC).

The project will focus on sustainable development and the possibility of sustainable use of environment as a resource for youth enterprises in rural areas. It promotes ideas for young people to establish environment-based enterprises in local communities- ecotourism, bio-agriculture, community development projects, and eco-villages.

Objectives of the project are:

- To increase awareness of social entrepreneurship and environmentally linked enterprises
- To provide participants with the opportunity to exchange experience and expertise in the fields of social entrepreneurship and in work with young people of fewer opportunities.
- To develop the essential entrepreneurial skills and competencies.
- To provide participants with the tools and methods on creation, opening and running a social enterprise.
- to explore practical ways of using social entrepreneurship in order to reach, involve and encourage young migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and promoting fundamental values of our society among them.
- To promote diversity, equality and intercultural tolerance.

Training description

The project was designed in a line with the principles of non-formal education and the main objectives of the project and Erasmus+ Programme. Main contents and activities of the project:

1. Training activities and workshops- Sustainable development, Basic concepts of Social entrepreneurship, Design Thinking: Tools for field research
2. Study visits to local enterprises in Smolyan region; for study visits to environment-linked small enterprises in the region of Smolyan, different enterprises have been chosen which sustainably use environment as source for their business to benefit local community
3. Collecting and sharing good practices from the countries of participants
4. Practical activities- Field research, Collection and analysis of data; preparing report; meeting with local administration; presenting results of research.

Through the entire project visits will be mixed with interactive workshops and presentations which helps to learn by practicing real competences related with the project planning and implementation of social entrepreneurship ideas.

Language

The working language is English.

Methodology

Participants and partners will communicate through emails, Facebook, Google Doc and other social platforms. This will ensure a regular contact between all participating organisations, enabling all to share news and updates on the different stages of the project. All Individual Learning Plans, Individual Action Plans, Application Forms and Medical Consent forms will be sent via email.

Information about the promoters

Amber Initiatives (United Kingdom)

The main area of work is Information, Advice and Guidance service for migrant workers from Eastern Europe and other EU countries.

Amber Initiatives works with young people organising different activities in frame of Youth in Action/Erasmus+.

Amber Initiatives is the organisation with a successful long-term experience in non-formal education. The company works on European level, and implemented projects in the fields of youth and adult education, focusing on civic education, motivation, active citizenship and personal development of children, young people and adults from disadvantage background.

The company is actively promoting the awareness of European values and the opportunities available on the wider European level, namely the mobility opportunities, anti-discrimination practices and awareness of existing EU citizenship rights among general public.

Other organisations involved:

- Center for education and development (Macedonia)
- Sprijin si Dezvoltare (Romania)
- Slou Fud Ograzden (Macedonia)
- Ayuntamiento de Alzira (Spain)
- Passepartout.up (Italy)
- Narodno Chitalische Badeshte Sega 2006 (Bulgaria)
- Polip Ifjúsági Egyesület (Hungary)
- SummerSnow (Latvia)

About Smolyan

Smolyan is a town and ski resort in the far south of Bulgaria near the border with Greece. It is the administrative and industrial centre of the homonymous Smolyan Province. The town is situated in the valley of the Cherna ("Black") and the Byala ("White") Rivers in the central Rhodopes at the foot of the mountains' highest part south of the popular ski resorts Pamporovo and Chepelare.

The oldest archaeological evidence discovered in Smolyan Region date back to the end of the Bronze Age – 13th century BC. The Rhodopes are believed to be a sacred Thracian mountain, the birth place of Orpheus. Evidence of this period (11th century BC) is provided by the studied sanctuaries on Kom Peak (1570m), the mound necropoles near Gela Village, and the unique flat necropolis at Stoykite Village.

The Thracians converted to Christianity in the 4th – 5th centuries, a fact proven by the presence of many early Christian basilicas (7th – 9th centuries).

After Bulgaria was conquered by the Ottomans, the region of the Middle Rhodopes was given to court physician Aha Chelebi with a decree issued by the Sultan in 1519. That is why this area is also known as Ahachelebi.

Smolyan Region remained part of the territory of the Ottoman Empire until 1912.

The Old Houses Architectural Complex in Cheshitska Quarter attracts the tourists' attention. This is the oldest quarter in Raykovo Housing Estate, where the most impressive houses built after 1835 can be found.

The largest Orthodox temple in Southern Bulgaria is also situated in Smolyan. The church was consecrated on 2 July 2006. It is named after Vissarion of Smolyan, a local 17th century bishop and martyr.

Soskovcheto Reserve and the Waterfall Canyon Eco-Trail start at the end of Sredok Housing Estate in the western part of Smolyan. The highest point of the trail is at about 1800 m above mean sea level and has a vertical drop of approximately 700 m. The trail goes up the river and crosses a number of water cascades forming a system of small and medium waterfalls that pour their waters from one to the other. The trail crosses metal and beautiful wooden bridges built over Elenska River. They are always followed by rest and picnic spots.

You can also find more information about Smolyan here:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smolyan>

<http://bulgariatravel.org/en/object/44/smolyan>



The venue

Kipris Alpha Hotel

3 A Bulgaria Boulevard, 4700 Smolyan, Bulgaria

Hotel complex Kiparis Alfa are built in the business and municipality centre of the town, the hotel is located close to the main cultural landmarks - Rhodopean Drama Theatre, History Museum, Art gallery and the second biggest Bulgarian Christian temple - St. Visarion Smolenski. This location makes it the right place for accommodation when there is business or working trips. There is also a great view to the mountain, necessary for having a nice rest amongst the beautiful nature of the Rhodope. Hotel Kiparis Alfa offers comfortable accommodation in 58 standard single rooms, double rooms, triple rooms, suites and a VIP suite. Each room differs in design and layout. The standard room consists of sleeping area and a bathroom fitted with bath or shower cabin. Each standard room features cable and satellite TV, phone, High Speed Wireless Internet (free of charge) and a mini-bar.



Travel

Airports near to Smolyan:

Plovdiv International Airport	Plovdiv	PDV	55.24 km
Sofia Airport	Sofia	SOF	162.53 km

Buses from Sofia to Smolyan depart from Central Bus Station.

Bus connections available between Plovdiv and Smolyan as well.

Travel cost

Country	Distance band	Travel budget per person
United Kingdom	2000 - 2999 km	360 euro
Latvia	500-1999 km	275 euro
Spain	2000 - 2999 km	360 euro
Romania	100-499 km	180 euro
Bulgaria	10-99 km	20 euro
Hungary	500-1999 km	275 euro
Macedonia	100-499 km	180 euro
Italy	500-1999 km	275 euro
Macedonia	100-499 km	180 euro

Exchange rate Feb 2018 (TBC)

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm

Reimbursement will be paid in Bulgarian lev or in euro, if paid by bank transfer, when proof of purchase and official receipts provided. We strongly recommend buying all tickets online and in advance.