

International Community



European Solidarity Corps individual volunteer project

Idrija, Slovenia

From April to December 2020

THE BEGINNING

Hello guys!

We are so happy writing this foreword, because this means that we managed to finalize the organization of the project and that two volunteers will be able to come to SLOVEnia – this little, beautiful country. We will try our best to organize things in a way that you will enjoy your stay in Slovenia and that you will learn as much as you can in the process.

The main topic of this ESC project will be integrating the intercultural component within the activities of street youth work and the youth hostel's activities for (young) travelers. And, depending on your interest, organizing workshops, open events, visiting schools or initiating your own project. Read more about this in the following pages.

The Youth Center (and your accommodation) is located in Idrija (Slovenia), a small town that is known for its mercury mine and the traditional Idrian lace.

We are really happy that we will be able to welcome you in our green and picturesque country and we look forward to getting to know you.

In case you have questions, we are available through info@mcidrija.si and by phone on +386 51 231 049.

Last year's team with the two international volunteers (at Christmas):



ABOUT THE PROJECT



The project aims to extend and upgrade the activities of the youth center with the focus on its intercultural component through the development of street youth work and an upgrade of the youth hostel's activities for (young) travelers.

The project will include 2 international volunteers who will work together.

Main topics

Street youth work with the MC mobil

- cooperating in designing activities and tools for successful street youth work
- traveling with our youth workers to the center of the town and its surrounding areas with the MC mobil van
- working with youngsters of different backgrounds and those with fewer possibilities

Activities in the Idrija Youth Hostel

- developing socializing activities for the young visitors of the hostel
- developing inventive ways of discovering Idrija and its surroundings
- writing about living in Idrija
- meeting guests and showing them around the Idrija's local spots

Intercultural activities

- interacting with the Idrija locals, residents and visitors in an engaging way

- promoting international projects, such as the ESC and E+ projects
- bringing forward this component in all the other activities

Get involved in the following activities, according to your interest:

- participating in the promotional activities (social media, designing posters, take pictures of events etc.)
- helping out at the hostel
- taking on some technical tasks around the house
- organizing workshops for local youngsters
- organizing open events such as country presentations or language cafe's
- visiting schools and promoting Erasmus+ program, your country
- delivering workshops about culture, human rights, youth opportunities, volunteering
- initiating your own project.

APPLICATIONS

Who are we looking for?

We are looking for motivated candidates who like to work in teams and are passionate about working with (young) people or in youth touristic activities. Background is not relevant, age is from 18 to 30. The working language will be English (or Slovene), so you should be able to communicate in any of these.

Before applying, please get to know our organization (www.mcidrija.si) and the town of Idrija (www.visit-idrija.si). Read the articles from previous volunteers to see what their experience was: Roni (<https://bit.ly/2N22MC7>), Mire (<https://bit.ly/2N5QpF6>) and Inés (<https://bit.ly/2PnmB8N>).

Where to apply and when?

Apply by sending an email to info@mcidrija.si which includes your **CV and a motivational letter**.

The **deadline is 16th February 2020** at midnight, but if you're decided you'd like to come, send us an email it as soon as possible.

When you will be notified about your candidacy, we will start preparing your learning agreement that will be in accordance with our and your expectations.

PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

ESC and other trainings

The two volunteers will be able to participate in an introductory language course of Slovene (organized only for them), costs will be covered by our organization.

The volunteers will take part in an on-arrival and mid-term trainings organized by the National Agency – MOVIT for all Slovenian ESC volunteers.

Travelling

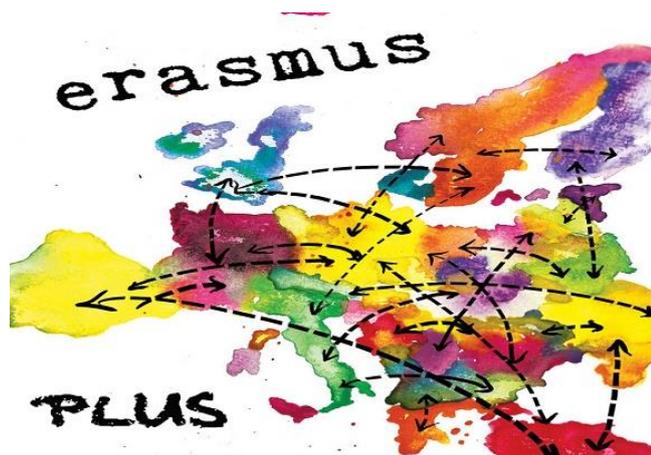
Beginning of the project:

17th April 2020

End of the project:

18th December 2020

Duration of the project: max. 245 days and 2 travelling days



The exact day of the beginning of the project can vary according to previous agreement.

Transportation from your home to Idrija (airplane and shuttle/bus)

As far as the means of transport is concerned, there is plenty of possibilities to come to Slovenia. The most used are the plane connection to Ljubljana (Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport), Graz (airport in Austria), Zagreb (airport in Croatia) or Trieste/Venice (Italy). There are shuttle buses available from all the surrounding airports by a company called GoOpti. It works like the public transport, but it is much faster and adaptable. So as soon as you know your arrival time to sLOVEnia, book your transport either to Ljubljana, Logatec (if you arrive with the shuttle from an airport in Italy) or to Idrija.

You are entitled only to get a reimbursement of travel costs if you use public means of transport. The costs of a car ride or car rental cannot be reimbursed.

!!! Make sure you **keep all travel documents!** Online boarding passes and tickets can be forwarded by e-mail as well.

The travel costs (for a return trip) will be reimbursed up to the amount of 275 €. This amount can also be smaller in case you come from a country that is situated less than 500 km away from

Work load and mentors

Volunteer will work max. 6 hours/day – 5 days/week. The working hours in the center are from 9.00 to 19.00 (from Monday to Saturday). They can take two days off per month.

There will be a work-related mentor who will oversee defining work tasks and other work-related arrangements. Another mentor will be there for monthly reflections and discussions when needed. There will also be a free-time mentor who will be responsible for helping with free time activities and you will be able to turn to them for personal support and reflection.

Food and pocket money

Money for food: 160€/month

Pocket money: 4€/day

This is the money you can use during your stay to buy food and anything else you might need. You will receive it gradually, month by month.

There will be a half-hour break for lunch during working time.

During your stay in Idrija you can cook at home or eat in ...

Restaurant pr' Škafarju (Ulica sv. Barbare 9)

Named after the legendary bucket maker who first discovered Idrija's mercury over 500 years ago, this place has a great atmosphere. You can find us in the small street between the squares of Mestni trg and of Trg sv. Ahacija. Our offer includes daily menus, à la carte offers, pizzas from stove as well as local specialties. The best known of them are the *idrijski žlikrofi* dish, always fresh and of course handmade, following our own traditional recipe.

Restaurant Kos (Tomšičeva 4)

The inn is situated beside the main crossroads in Idrija, next to the confluence of the rivers. Their offer includes daily lunch menus and à la carte offers. They specialise in preparing the *idrijski žlikrofi* dish following the traditional and protected recipe.

Restaurant Barbara (Kosovelova ulica 3)

The guesthouse is located on a quiet location, almost in the heart of the town and in a more than 500 years old miner's house known as Antonijev Rov, the mine entrance and the birth-house of a Slovenian engineer Stanko Bloudek. When visiting the restaurant, you can see why he was called the Slovenian Leonardo da Vinci. In the ground floor of the Barbara Guesthouse, you can enter the Antonijev rov mine shaft, the oldest part of the Idrija Mine.

Accommodation and transportation

The two volunteers will live together in an apartment in Idrija and they will share the kitchen and the bathroom. The youth center is in charge of providing a place to live for the volunteers.

The youth center (the street of Ulica IX. korpusa 17) is located within the walking distance from the apartment. You can borrow a bike, but the streets around here are quite steep, so we are not sure you will want to use it all the time :)

General information, safety and insurance

Police: 113

Ambulance: 112

International code for Slovenia: 00 386

Youth center phone number: 00 386 51 231 049

You will be insured through the CIGNA insurance scheme and you should bring your **European health insurance card** as well.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Location – Idrija

Idrija is a town in the Western part of Slovenia. It is well known for its mercury mine as well as for the miners' living quarters and the miners' theatre. Mercury was discovered in Idrija in the late 15th century. Together with the Spanish mine at Almadén, it has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2012. A year later the town's park was registered in the UNESCO International Network of Geoparks. In 2011, Idrija was given the Alpine Town of the Year award.



Idrija is located in a valley surrounded by steep hills covered by woods. Staying here makes you feel cozy, warm and sheltered. Idrija is a basin and if you would like to come to Idrija, you cannot skip going uphill and driving on winding roads. You will see ☺

More about Idrija: <http://www.idrija-tourism.com/>

Technical heritage: Museum Idrija, Kamšt, Klavže, Mine

Cultural heritage: religious (Holy Trinity Church), lace

Heritage of the 1st and 2nd World War: Slovenian Partisan Printing Workshop, Partisan Hospital Bolnica Pavla

Natural heritage: the lake of Divje jezero, Upper Idrjica Natural park

When visiting the **Slovenia's capital Ljubljana**, we suggest you download **the USE-IT app** and the city's map to help you navigate through the streets of the old town and even discover some local secrets.

Slovenian language

Besides being hard to learn due to its 6 cases that are used for nouns (with different endings for masculine, feminine and neutral genders), 3 different conjugations for verbs by the person and number, 4 tenses (present, past, pluperfect and future) and a bunch of other grammar stuff, it also has the dual grammatical number, which is a rare thing for a language to have, but it sure can sound romantic.

Some useful phrases in Slovenian:

Dober dan!	Hello! (formal, meaning <i>good day</i>)
Zdravo! Živjo! Čau! Bok!	Hi! (informal)
Nasvidenje! Adijo! Čau! Bok! Ajde!	Goodbye! (the first form is formal, the following ones are informal)
Se vidimo!	See you!
Dober tek!	Bon appetit!
Na zdravje!	Cheers!
Lahko noč! Lepo spi!	Good night! Sleep well!
Lačen/lačna sem!	I'm hungry! (the second form is female)
Žejen/žejna sem!	I'm thirsty! (the first form is male)
Koliko stane to?	How much does this cost?
Koliko je ura?	What time is it?
A lahko dobim sok/eno pivo/vino?	Can I order juice/a beer/wine?
Ukradli so mi bicikel/kolo!	They stole my bike
Upam, da me ne napade medved!	I hope I don't get attacked by a bear
Gremo ven!	Let's go out!
Gremo žurat!	Let's go party!
Mi daš cifro/številko?	Can I get your number?

NUMBERS; Ena (1), dva (2), tri (3), štiri (4), pet (5), šest (6), sedem (7), osem (8), devet (9), deset (10)

If you have any dilemmas, questions, ideas, proposals or problems, do not hesitate to ask as – the sooner the better. 😊