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Short term EVS

## GREEN FINGERS – LITTLE SCHOOL GARDENERS

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19<sup>th</sup> of April - 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2017

Zagreb, Croatia



# INFO PACK

All the flowers of all  
the TOMORROWS ARE IN  
the SEEDS OF TODAY



AGENCIJA ZA  
MOBILNOST I  
PROGRAME EU



Erasmus+



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Dear new EVS-er,

we want to warmly welcome you at our organization O.A.Z.A.!

we are happy you want to do your EVS with us and very excited we'll meet you soon in person and get active working together on our wonderful school gardens project in Zagreb!

To help you prepare for this experience and have a good time we have prepared some useful information for you in this document.

If you have any more questions just write an e-mail to our helpful EVS coordinator Andrea at [volunteers@oazainfo.hr](mailto:volunteers@oazainfo.hr)

And if you want to get an impression of O.A.Z.A.'s other EVS-ers adventures and experiences, check out our EVS blog at <http://blog.oazainfo.hr/>

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## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The "GREEN FINGERS – Little School Gardeners" is a short term EVS project that will take place over a period of 2 months from April 19th to June 16th 2017 in Zagreb, Croatia. The project will bring together 12 volunteers from 5 countries (Macedonia, Portugal, Greece, Italy and Serbia) and engage them in the realization of activities on maintaining 3 school gardens together with around 1200 children and teachers. The volunteers will also have as tasks teaching their native languages to children with non-formal education methods, will organize workshops on the topic of environmental protection, work on crafting projects in the school yards and organize and promote public events (2 "Urban Garden Party" events on 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May and awareness event for the Environment Protection Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June).

The project is a continuation of an ongoing urban gardening with children project that started in 2013. The main objectives are (1) to work on reconnecting children and young people to nature in an urban environment, (2) to offer experiential education for children and young people about sustainability in the most practical way that will give them knowledge and skills they can later apply on their own and share with others (multiplying the effects of the project in broader community), and (3) to offer a ground for intercultural interaction, exchange and learning between volunteers, children, and teachers in order to promote integration of different European nations and awareness of our common European Citizenship.

The following activities are planned to realize those objectives:

### SCHOOL ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN:

- (1) gardening with children
- (2) language workshops for children ("Garden Dictionary")
- (3) craft, recycling and garden decorations workshops
- (4) environment education with children

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

(5) organising the "Urban Garden Party"

(6) organising a public awareness activity for the International Environment Protection Day (June 5th)

(7) "Love Your Greens" promotion of vegetarian cooking.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES:

(8) On-Arrival Training,

(9) Introduction to working with children,

(10) Introduction to sustainable gardening,

(11) Educational excursions.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY:

(12) personal project



The project will be implemented on several locations in the City of Zagreb and realization of its activities will bring together 12 volunteers from different European countries. All methodologies used will promote active participation, learning by doing, non-formal and informal education. The main methods will be: experiential learning, cooperative learning, participatory learning, transfer of expert

experience, peer learning, brainstorming, team work, team building and energizers, presentations, evaluations, group and individual work.

Through project implementation we plan to achieve following results:

- maintaining 3 sustainable urban gardens in cooperation with 3 primary school in the city of Zagreb
- organizing 3 trainings for volunteers
- organizing three promotion events (two "Urban Garden Party" events in May and a public awareness activity for the International Environment Protection Day in June)
- holding minimum of 10 creative & educative workshops with children
- producing minimum of 3 short videos about project activities
- promoting healthy life styles (growing your own food, adopting vegetarian diet, physical activity in nature, etc.)
- promoting and encouraging European values (mobility, cosmopolitanism, cooperation, solidarity, mutual understanding, intercultural exchange etc.)
- gaining new logistical and organizational skills through active involvement of volunteers in organization of project events
- practicing intergeneration exchange and learning (while working together in school gardens)
- encouraging community spirit through cooperation between school children, teachers, youth and volunteers
- supporting individual development and creative contribution

Long term benefits of the project will be reflected in increased environmental awareness, intensification of sustainable practices within the local community, and in increased number of urban gardeners among children, youth and young adults. The project will encourage volunteers and local youth to take part in other mobility projects, increasing their levels of intercultural understanding, European awareness and cosmopolitan spirit.

## ON-ARRIVAL TRANSPORT

If you are arriving in Zagreb by plane you should take a shuttle bus from Zagreb Pleso Airport which will bring you to the Zagreb central bus station where we will pick you up. The ride takes around 30 minutes, shuttle buses go every half an hour and cost 30kn (around 4.5 euros). If you are arriving by train/bus we will pick you up at central train/bus station. We will arrange each pick up individually through email communication (cooperate with us :P ). Once we pick you up we will bring you to the place where you will be accommodated during your EVS where there will be few copy of the keys you will share. We will instruct you on the flow of activities during the next few days.

## CONTACTS AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS

### **Our office address:**

O.A.ZA. - Održiva Alternativa ZAJednici  
Petrićeva 5 (6<sup>th</sup> floor), 10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
Tel: +385 1 550 3010

### **The mobile phone contacts of our key staff:**

Andrea Rutnik (project coordinator): +385 98 978 2928  
Mile Drača (your supervisor): +385 91 750 6390  
Roberto Rosandić (mentor): +385 91 572 6500  
Filip Brničević (president): +385 95 9050 111

## PROJECT STAFF

People who will work on the EVS Greening Urban Environment are:

### **Andrea/Talpa Talpa**

Project administration and coordination of activities (your "go to" person for all questions of logistical and practical nature).

### **Filip/Šef**

Our visionary president and coordinator of personal development department.

### **Mile**

Your supervisor urban gardening workshops in school gardens, terrace gardens and all other places in the city his green fingers will take you to

### **Roberto/Robi**

Your mentor and coordinator of social entrepreneurship department for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects who will take care that our energy footprint is lighter on Mother Nature

### **Patrycja /Patrisha**

O.A.ZA.'s ex long-term EVS volunteer from Poland who stayed with us and who will be teaching you some Croatian and show you around in the city. Feel free to ask us for any inside-EVS-information or tips what to see and do in Zagreb ☺

### **Damir/Yes-peace/Denu**

Our cook who has years of experience working in Zagreb's vegetarian restaurants



## HEALTH INSURANCE

Before your arrival, your sending organizations will register you for the *CIGNA health insurance* plan. You should bring the signed insurance documents with you together with the universal EU health insurance blue card. (If you don't have it yet, please apply for it and if possible ask that the card is sent to you in Croatia to our office address).

## ADMINISTRATION

As you will be working with children you should ask your general practicing doctor to issue you a simple note **confirming you don't have and infectious diseases and or mental illness** and send us a copy before your arrival. This is required by the Croatian law for volunteering.

Upon your arrival you will be registered for temporary residence in the Police Station. This will be done by the owners of the apartments you will be accommodated in and you will have to be personally present.

You will receive your pocket money, travel expense reimbursement and food money for any free days you are traveling out of Zagreb in cash. You will have to sign a receipt that you received the money.

## ACCOMMODATION

You will be accommodated in a [Hostel Zagreb](#) close to other student housing dorms in Zagreb. The rooms will be shared between 2-4 other volunteers on our project. Each room will have it's own bathroom while kitchen and living area space will be shared together between all volunteers. have shared places including kitchen, bathroom and living/dining room. The housing will have Wi-Fi and use of washing machine.

The rooms in hostel cannot be used for organizing parties, and you will have to respect the house rules of the hostel. As the hostel is in the student area of the city and close to Jarun lake there are many cafés and clubs close by, and hostelrules will not prevent you from having a great night life just outside of it. You should also take proper care of the space, furniture and equipment and in case something is broken due to improper care you will have to replace it with your own means.

## FOOD

The food provided during the project will be vegetarian/vegan. We know that most of you are not vegetarians and we are happy for your readiness to be a vegetarian/vegans on a 2 months trial during your EVS. Promoting vegetarianism is important to us from two aspects – **sustainability** and **nonviolence**. The excessive consumption of meat in the modern societies has a big negative ecological footprint. We think it is important to correct this negative trend and show by example how it is possible to consume little or no meat at all, be healthy and eat tasty happy food! The second reason we insist on alternative food habits is grounded in nonviolence, compassion and care for other beings, which we believe, makes us better humans in return.

To make this vegetarian experiment easier for you we have engaged an experienced vegetarian cook who has been working in vegetarian restaurants in Zagreb for several years. During the working week from Monday to Friday he will be preparing cooked opulent lunch. For breakfasts, dinner and meals over weekend you will be responsible yourself and we will provide you with with food allowance.



## WORKING HOURS

Official working hours of O.A.ZA.s office are Monday-Friday, 9am – 5pm. However, due to the participation in different events the working hours can vary and include work in the late afternoon/evening (5pm-9pm). You will be working 6 hours per day, some days all done during our official office time, and other days divided differently. On the beginning of each week we will let you know about the weekly schedule of working hours.

## POCKET MONEY

Your monthly allowance will be 120 EUR in Kuna equivalent (~ 900 kn, Croatian national currency) and you will receive the first payment within the first week of your arrival for the first month and by 7<sup>th</sup> of May/June for the rest of your EVS. The money will be paid out to you in cash.

## LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Monthly transportation cards will be given to you so that you can use the city trams and city buses in Zagreb unlimitedly. Please bring one ID size photo with you for this purpose (dimensions 0,25cm x 0,35cm)!



## LIFE IN ZAGREB

The Zagreb is a great place to be in spring and summer. A lot of excellent festivals are taking place in this period with a vast variety of events open to public and free of charge, such as:

- **Subversive Festival**, <http://www.subversivefestival.com/>
  - **FloraART** – international garden exhibition, <http://www.zrinjevac.hr/floraart/>
  - **"CEST is d'BEST"** Street Festival , <http://www.cestisdbest.com/>
  - **Summer on Stross**, concerts and music program on Strossmarte walk with the best view on the city, open air cinema, <http://www.ljetonastrosu.com/engleski/index.html>
  - **Zagreb Time Machine** (April-October), <https://www.facebook.com/zagrebackivremeplov>
- ...and many, many more. Ask us for more suggestions!



## PRESENTING YOUR COUNTRY & ORGANISATION

Don't forget to prepare a little presentation about your country and to bring something with you to show on intercultural gatherings which we'll be organizing while you are here. Also prepare something about your organization to present it to the rest of the participants (a 10 minute presentation). Remember that this is a great chance for you to promote your organization internationally and establish new partnerships and future cooperation.

## WEATHER AND CLOTHES

Weather in April, May and June in Zagreb is in average 15 – 25 °C during the day and 5 – 15 °C during the night with someamount of rain.

For working in gardens we recommend to bring old clothes and old shoes, as you are going to get dirty. Bring a hat so you don't burn your head on the sun. There is a mountain close by so if someone likes hiking they can go to Sljeme (the mountain top all Zagreb citizens like so much). Bed linens and towels will be provided in Hostel.



## REMINDER (what to bring/take/send)

1. Signed CIGNA health insurance documents
2. Universal EU health insurance blue card (if you have it or apply for it)
3. Simple note from general practicing doctor confirming you don't have and infectious diseases and or mental illness (send it to us before arrival)!
4. ID sized photo (dimensions 0,25cm x 0,35cm)
5. Item for intercultural event (such as typical food – but vegetarian, instrument, etc)
6. Information about your country/organization ( 10 min presentation )



**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AND WORK WITH YOU :)**

*Andrea, Filip, Mile, Patrycja, Roberto, and Denu*