



Avola, Sicily, Italy

APV: 2023 - October 13th - 15th

Youth Exchange: 2023 - November from 08th to 15th

PARTNERS AND PARTICIPANTS INFOPACK

DEAR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

We are happy to inform you that the Erasmus+ KA1 mobility of young people **“Oranges”** was approved by the Italian National Agency and supported by the Erasmus+: Youth in Action grant.

This youth exchange will take place in **Avola, Italy**.

Avola is set in a beautiful environment with an impressive number of masterpieces of architecture and art.

Now you are reading the **Info-Pack** that will provide you with the basic information you will need during your stay in Italy.

Avola, Lakes of Cava Grande Natural Reserve



The old tuna factory in Avola



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NOTO 5 min by car from the venue



The Cathedral of Noto



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DESCRIPTION OF THE YOUTH EXCHANGE

Environment and climate action are key priorities for the EU now and in the future. The European Green Deal is the European new growth strategy and recognizes the key role of schools, and training institutions to engage with youth on the changes needed for a successful transition to becoming climate neutral by 2050.

This project is a key instrument for building knowledge, skills, and attitudes on supporting sustainable development in Europe. The project will be an opportunity for young people to connect with nature. And what's better than implementing this project on a farm in rural Italy, surrounded by orange trees, learning how to cultivate them, take care of them, collect the fruits and learn about all the health benefits of this wonderful and highly nutritious citrus fruit? Of course, a youth exchange in nature, surrounded by fruitful trees and living a week as a local.

Our project will educate young people and promote the culture of sustainable development goals, developing green sectoral skills strategies and methodologies.

Coming from cities that boast a long tradition of oranges production, we believe we have a lot to share and receive from our partners. This project will guide the participants to rediscover the health benefits and nutrition facts of the oranges, to learn how important our well-being is in order to achieve our goals, and also to learn professions related to the orange tree, providing them with stimulating ideas on innovation and entrepreneurship, giving them skills to care and take all the advantages from nature, in order to learn that everything comes from the nature and that we must take care of. Thanks to the practical structure of the workshops and the close relationship with agriculture and wellbeing, this project has made it easier to involve people with fewer opportunities and difficulties learning.

European rural areas provide us with our food, homes, jobs, and essential ecosystem services. We believe that is very important to ensure that rural areas can continue to play these essential roles. That's why European Commission communication has set out a long-term vision for the EU's rural areas up to 2040. It identifies areas of action toward stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas and communities. We as stakeholders of this European challenge want to be involved in building an impact through our project.

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The Main Objective of the youth exchange :

- - Acquire knowledge about oranges, traditions, and professions related to orange products of the participating countries
- - Gain information from discussions with people/professionals who still practice this traditional cultivation
- - Possibility to learn about agriculture and home-made products
- - Promotion of entrepreneurship and creativity in transforming oranges traditions into modern ways of employment,
- improving the skills and employment of the participants
- - Promote social inclusion, involving young people with fewer opportunities in our group
- - Promote well-being by promoting the advantages of living in rural areas and the health benefits of it
- - Establish lifelong connections between participants and create partnerships with respect to environmental and sustainable
- projects Erasmus +
- - Involve the local community by sharing their experience with young people
- - Encourage social inclusion through agricultural practices
- - Increase understanding and intercultural communication among EU citizens.



PARTNERS, PARTICIPANTS AND TRAVEL COSTS REIMBURSEMENT

The APV will host **2** leaders. The Youth Exchange will host **36** young people **aged 18 - 25 (5 + 1 group leaders with no age limits)**, coming from **6** European and Non-European countries.

List of countries, partners and travel costs limits:

Country	Organization	Number of participants	Travel cost limit per participant (€)
Italy	Associazione Usamborgia	6	23

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Greece	Growth Hub	6	275
Turkey	BİLİM DİL KÜLTÜR DERNEĞİ	6	360
Cyprus	Plan Be Plan it Be it	6	275
Morocco	MFFSD	6	360
Spain	Ticket2Europe	6	275

It is possible to come to **Italy max. 1** day before the official arrival day OR leave max.1 day after the official departure day.

If you can prove there is a better/cheaper travel connection. Please be aware that **we are not able to refund any costs for your accommodation, food etc. during these extra days.**

Please, before buying your tickets, send them for approval:

associazioneusamborgia@gmail.com

We will refund only travel tickets that we approved prior purchase!

We kindly ask you to choose the most economical and eco-friendly way of transport (e.g. student fares, low cost airlines, 2nd class trains, etc.). Also, be aware of your travel cost limitation. We reimburse the travel cost **ONLY** up to the limit designed for your country. We will also reimburse only those tickets that will show the currency, dates of your travel, places you are traveling from/to and your name (or number of passengers). It is important **to keep all your tickets** (also from your local buses and trains). **It is NOT possible to travel by car or taxi!**

The **travel costs** within the budget limit of your country (please see above) **will be reimbursed after the training course to the bank account of your sending organization and only if these 3 conditions are fulfilled:**

- 1) You gave all the ORIGINAL tickets to our organization. It's fundamental to bring the invoices or the travel confirmations where is clearly shown the price;
- 2) You attended the full duration of the youth exchange;
- 3) You submitted all reports that our organization or EU requested.

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ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

You will be accommodated in B&B Blued and Masseria Usamborgia (in rooms for 3-4 persons).

There are bed sheets, towels, TV and bathroom in each room. The pension also offers free Wi-Fi, swimming pool and a terrace.

The venue is situated in Avola, no transportation needed to go to the city center, it is situated in a peaceful surrounding.

Noto or Avola are beautiful, unique and safe touristic cities, most of its historical monuments are part of the UNESCO heritage.

The **contact details of the venue** are the following:

(Address: Contrada Bochini, Via del mirto *or* Via dei genovesi, 96012, Avola)



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All meals will be served in the hotel including (Breakfast-Coffee breaks-Lunch-Dinner).

Please inform us about your special needs, allergies and food (dietary) requirements when filling-in the application form.

INTERCULTURAL EVENING

During the project, we plan to arrange an Intercultural evening. You will present your own cultures – national, regional, personal or any kind of culture you feel you belong to. A culture may be presented by a song, a story, a poem, a dance, some drink or food, etc. You may bring pictures, music or anything which you consider to be most appropriate to present your culture.

We appreciate it if you find some creative way to present your culture. We will not have a kitchen to prepare the meals for the intercultural evening, so we suggest that you adapt your food and drinks to that reality.

So, in short it should not be a presentation, it should be an activity or something and it is up to you to replace the word something.

WEATHER IN AVOLA

December is usually cold, with temperatures about 20 to 29 °C. It might be Warm in the morning, sunny, during the day and cold at night. The weather can vary, so please do check the weather forecast for Avola before you pack your suitcase.

Most of the course will be held indoors. Take your medication – it is good to take pills from your country (you know yourself the best so take painkillers, antipyretic, something against cold that works for you).

In case you need visa, please apply for them immediately as we confirm your participation because it may take a long time. If you need an invitation letter from us, please let us know. There is a budget of **80 Euro** per person for participants who are applying for the visa to enter Italy.

INSURANCE, MEDICAL AND SAFETY ADVICES

Please, be aware that it is compulsory for all participants to have **travel insurance** covering the whole duration of your stay in Italy, including the days of your arrival and departure. Travel insurance cannot be covered by us, but you are obliged to arrange it, please make sure to be vaccinated against COVID before you come to the project, it's mandatory to have your COVID pass with you when you enter Italy.

Please bring your European Health Insurance Card (the blue one) in case of some emergency.

PCR TEST COVERED: in case you need a PCR test to enter Italy, we have a budget of 100 Euros per person to cover the mentioned cost .

CURRENCY AND PRICES

The Italian national currency is **Euro** ~

In general, Avola is a touristic place some areas are cheaper others are expensive, you can expect prices as following:

Some words to know

Hello	Ciao
Thank you	Grazie
No !	No !
I want	Lo voglio
Please	Perfavore

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(CONTACT PERSONS (Alice: Coordinating organization)).

If you have any questions regarding logistics, food and hotel, please contact:
Alice Milintenda – aliceusamborgia@gmail.com

(CONTACT PERSONS (Federica: Travel info)

If you have any questions regarding your flight confirmation and reimbursement please contact:
Federica Fronte – federicausamborgia@gmail.com

(CONTACT PERSONS (Eleni: Facilitator)).

If you have any questions regarding activities and organizational things, please contact:
Eleni Ivasina – eleni.ivasina@gmail.com

See you soon in Avola !



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