



International Initiatives
for Cooperation

STREET ART FESTIVAL

Macedonia Square 8
2760 Razlog, Bulgaria

Why was “Street Art Festival” born?

In June 2013, the Association „International Initiatives for Cooperation” (IIC) with volunteers from "WINNEVS 2" project successfully implemented the territory of Razlog two-day Street Art Festival with 20 artists from Bulgaria. The effect and the echo among the local community were extremely positive and sustainable and to this day you can see the works of artists in the streets of the city. This is the main reason we want to we are organizing a street art festival again, but in the form of intercultural exchange. We will upgrade the results of the past and we will move the atmosphere in the town of Razlog.

Also, through this project we want to emphasize the central role of young people by giving them an opportunity to express their emotions regarding the personal and social changes that are taking place in moment, emphasizing intercultural communication through the tools of applied art. The participants will get acquainted with a model of peaceful and tolerant coexistence, without any forms of violence, discrimination, and radicalism that they can "transfer" to their cultures. Applied art will be the tool that gives them that opportunity. Art is an extremely strong unifying tool in working with young people from different cultural groups with different national and cultural identities, as well as for creative and free expression of personality, including focusing on significant social and political issues. Participants will communicate in mixed international and intercultural teams, analysing, creating, and expressing themselves through diverse techniques and forms of applied art.

The summary of the project

“Street Art Festival” is a multilateral multicultural youth exchange which main topic is to promote and encourage the social inclusion, to initiate multicultural dialogue, to stimulate tolerance and mutual understanding and to propose methods to fight aggression and radicalism. The project will involve 35 young people and youth leaders from Greece, Croatia, Poland, Italy, Portugal, Lithuania, and Bulgaria. The project activities will be held from 1 to 9 July 2021 in Razlog, Bulgaria. During the project young people from 7 countries from different social, economic, and cultural background will live and create together for 9 days.

The working program includes sessions that will contribute to the development of solidarity and tolerance between young people, the acceptance of differences and values of the other cultures, the active social inclusion and participation of young people in the community life as well as the manifestation of their creativity. Non-formal, informal, and formal methods of education will be applied.

Art as powerful form of expression will be also used as a method and means during the project activities. The participants will cooperate closely with representatives of the local community and in this way, they will be able to improve their communication skills, skills to work in team and to communicate and work in multicultural environment.

Throughout the activities of the project deteriorated and desolate places will be repaired/ painted which will totally change the appearance of the town. The town will transform entirely and will become a centre of art during the project. The products of the art workshops will be an open exhibition of awareness and accepting differences, of free communication and expression by bearing the messages “No to aggression” and “No to radicalism”.

A big part of the activities will be organized in open air which will allow the participants to share their culture, attitudes, and opinions with members of the local community and at the same time to promote the project activities among wide circle of people. The project will give the opportunity to the local community to directly get involved in the project activities.

Participating organizations

- ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES FOR COOPERATION, RAZLOG, BULGARIA- **lead partner**
- INSTITUT ZA POTICANJE MLADIH, CROITIA
- SOCIAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CIVIL NONPROFIT SOCIETY, GREECE
- Associazione culturale “MediterrArt”, ITALY
- Mano Europa, LITHUANIA
- FUNDACJA DOBRA WOLA, POLAND
- Associação Cultural e de solidariedade Social Raquel Lombardi, PORTUGAL

Profile of the participants

From each partner country we need 5 participants – 2 girls + 2 boys (16+) and 1 group leader (no age limit).

Motivation for participation and skills in the field of applied arts will be the main criteria in the selection of the participants. The youngsters should speak English language at a level that will allow their effective participation and active involvement in the activities because English will be the official language for the exchange.

Each participant should have a negative PCR test before the participation in the project according safely issues of the project implementation.

Travel costs: travel costs are according to distance calculator of European Commission

Croatia	275 Euro per participant, round trip
Greece	275 Euro per participant, round trip
Italy	275 Euro per participant, round trip
Lithuania	275 Euro per participant, round trip
Poland	275 Euro per participant, round trip
Portugal	530 Euro per participant, round trip

Arrival day in Bulgaria: 30 June 2021

Departure day from Bulgaria: 10 July 2021

We need the time schedule of the arrival and departure of the participants one week before the project dates in order to organize the picking up from bus station in Razlog.

Insurance

Please each group of participants to have health insurance for the days of their stay in Bulgaria. You can take out insurance covering luggage loss and treatment at COVID -19. It is also very important to have a European health card. You can ask your sending organization to help you with these steps.

Accommodation

The participants will be accommodated in <http://rusaliite.bg/en/>

The participants of the project will be the only customers in the hotel.

Bulgaria

Of all the Eastern European countries, Bulgaria is the most enigmatic: the last European terra incognita. Its geographical situation represents a natural bridge between the Orient and the Occident, also the North and the South. Bulgaria is populated by 7,1 million inhabitants.

Many civilizations, languages and cultures crossed themselves on this territory, natural crossroads at the heart of the Balkans. After five centuries of Ottoman occupation having necessarily left an imprint in the landscape. The independence, acquired after a hard fight in 1878 with the support of the Russian army, expressed in the sophisticated constructions of the "National Renaissance". Bulgaria counts among the richest archaeological sites in Europe.

Practically every city possesses its own museum and treasure, witnesses of Neolithic, Thracian, Hellenistic, or Roman periods.

Bulgaria's biggest city, Sofia is one of Europe's most compact and walkable capital cities, populated of 1 378 000 inhabitants. Sofia has a young and dynamic vibe, like a city waking up after decades of slumber, and is becoming a confident and cosmopolitan European capital. Bulgaria is member of NATO and since 2007 the EU.

Razlog

Bulgaria's lush mountainous and forested landscapes, especially around the Rila and Pirin Mountains, inhabited by bears, lynx, rare birds, and other kinds of wildlife now becoming scarce elsewhere in Europe.



Mood food good

Bring your best mood and whatever you find appropriate.

Bulgarian lifestyle!

Instead of doing like other countries, in Bulgaria people shake their heads Up and Down for “No” and Left and Right for “Yes”!



The sign “Ж” doesn’t mean “beware of spiders”, it is the sign for ladies room.

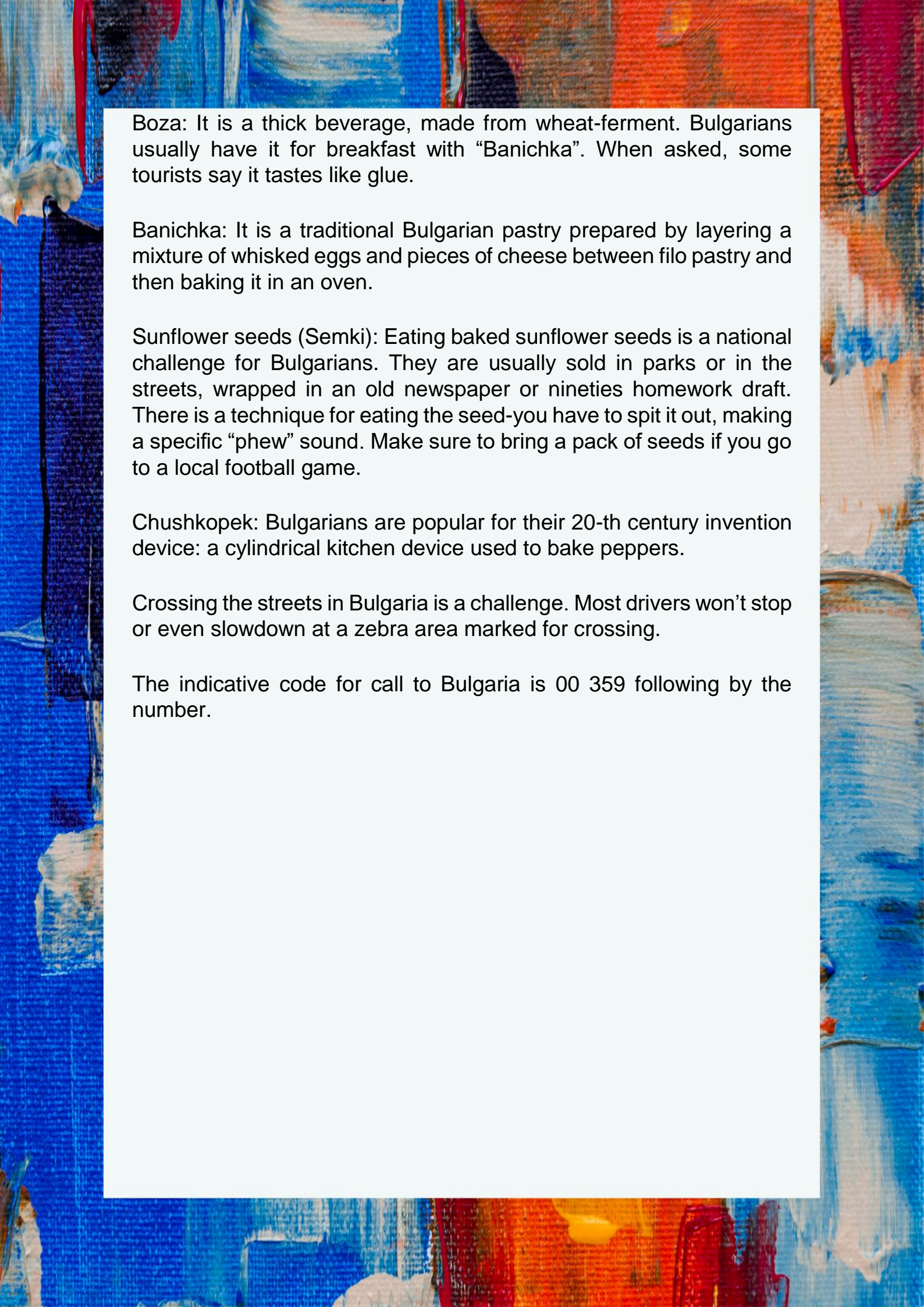
Tap water is safe to drink especially in the region you are going to stay.

The Bulgarian cities: Plovdiv, Veliko – Tarnovo, Sofia, Varna, Ruse and Burgas will run for a European Capital of Culture in 2019.

Rakia is a national strong drink. It is made from fermented fruits. The most popular Rakia is made of plums, grapes, or apricots. Its alcohol by volume is 40 degrees and goes up to 50-70 degrees when home-made.

Bulgarians have their own way to make it through hangovers. It is called Shkembe chorba, it’s a tripe soup cooked with milk and spices. It is served with vinegar and dried chilli peppers. You should try it. For the vegetarians we also have something, a nice juice from pickled cabbage.

Typical Bulgarian food to try: Giyvetch, Moussaka, Kiufte, Kebapche, Karnache, Shishche, Sach, Tarator, Shopski style cheese, banichka, boza, baklava, lokum.



Boza: It is a thick beverage, made from wheat-ferment. Bulgarians usually have it for breakfast with “Banichka”. When asked, some tourists say it tastes like glue.

Banichka: It is a traditional Bulgarian pastry prepared by layering a mixture of whisked eggs and pieces of cheese between filo pastry and then baking it in an oven.

Sunflower seeds (Semki): Eating baked sunflower seeds is a national challenge for Bulgarians. They are usually sold in parks or in the streets, wrapped in an old newspaper or nineties homework draft. There is a technique for eating the seed-you have to spit it out, making a specific “phew” sound. Make sure to bring a pack of seeds if you go to a local football game.

Chushkopek: Bulgarians are popular for their 20-th century invention device: a cylindrical kitchen device used to bake peppers.

Crossing the streets in Bulgaria is a challenge. Most drivers won’t stop or even slowdown at a zebra area marked for crossing.

The indicative code for call to Bulgaria is 00 359 following by the number.

Coming to Razlog from Sofia Airport

Travelling Around Sofia

METRO: The best and the cheapest way to travel around Sofia is the Metro. The price for one-way ticket is 1,60 BGN.

To get the Metro from the Terminal 2 of Sofia Airport you have to go out from it and turn left (after 50m you will find it).



To get the Metro from the Terminal 1 of Sofia Airport you have to take the Shuttle bus to Terminal 2 which is in every 15 min.

The time to go from the Airport to the Central Bus Station by Metro is around 1 hour.

TAXI: You can stop a taxi anywhere by waving your hand. Every taxi must have rates sticker at the passenger window with rates for price per km, price for waiting, day and night rate. When travelling by taxi, check the meter regularly.

Average fare for taxi ride from the airport to the city center should be around 16 leva and from the city center to the railway/central bus station – around 6-7 Leva.

If you want to go directly from the airport to the central train/bus station it won't be more than 20 Leva. It's a good idea to ask the driver how much it would cost before you get on.

One of the most famous and reasonable TAXI companies.

“OK TAXI”. Usually, the number of the company is written on the cars, it is: 02/973 21 21.

Be careful and check the phone number because there are many fake "OK TAXI"! When you get back your luggage at the airport, on the way to go out, OK Taxi has a desk.

Better to ask the person on the desk, who speaks English, for a taxi.

If you stay one night in Sofia, we recommend the hotel Hostel Mostel to you. It is close to the city center and to the central bus station. More information in their website: <http://www.hostelmostel.com/>

How to get Hostel Mostel from the airport

The best and easiest way to get Hostel Mostel is by Metro. Take the metro from Terminal 2 and go to Serdika (Сердика) Metro station. When you go outside you just need 10 min walking to get the Hostel Mostel.

From Hostel Mostel you have to go back to Serdika Station and to take the blue line Metro to the Station Central Railway Station (2 stops from Serdika Station). When you are there, go out, and in front you is the Central Bus station where you can find your bus to Razlog.

Travelling from Sofia to Razlog

To come from Sofia to Razlog the only way is the bus. You will take a bus from Sofia central bus station to Razlog as the first one leaves at 7:30 am and the last one at 4:45 pm. Somebody from the IIC team will welcome you at the bus station in Razlog. Below you have the time schedule, when you arrive to the bus station you can go to the right sector and buy your ticket directly to the driver; it is 15 BGN for one way.

Bus schedule Sofia to Razlog, departures at 8.30 am (sector 30), 9.45 am (sector 31), 11.25 am (sector 31), 1.15 pm (sector 27), 2.00 pm (sector 31), and 4.45 pm (sector 30).

The time to go to Razlog from Sofia is around 3 hours.

Attn. Do not fall asleep because the bus is passing through Razlog and will continue to another town and you can miss it.

An abstract painting with a textured surface, featuring bold strokes of blue, red, and white. The colors are layered and blended, creating a vibrant and dynamic composition. The texture of the canvas is visible throughout the artwork.

First steps in Bulgarian!

Hello	Zdrasti
Good morning	Dobro outro
Good afternoon	Dobeur den
Good night	Dobeur vetcher
Goodbye	Ciao/Chao
How are you?	Kak si?
I am...	Az sam...
I come from...	Az sam ot...
Yes	Da
No	Ne
Thanks you	Blagodaria/Mersi
Please	Molya
I am sorry	Izvinete/Opa
Excuse me	Izvinete
What is your name?	Kak se kazvash?
My name is...	Kazvam ce...
Good, Nice, Ok	Dobre
Exit	Izhod
Entrance	Vhod
Open	Zatvoreno
Closed	Zabraneno
Help	Pomosht
Very cool	Mnogo yako
Come on! Let's go!	Ayde Ayde!
To drink	Piya
To eat	Yam
Water	Voda
Wine	Vino
Beer	Bira
Tea	Tchai
I want	Iskam
Cheers!	Nazdrave!
I love you!	Obicham te!

Contacts

For any issues please do not hesitate to contact the organisers!

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