

Our Differences, Our Stories: Learning Beyond Stereotypes

A youth exchange

24th to 30th June
(including travel days)

Estonia



Co-funded by
the European Union

About the Youth Exchange!

Coordinator: Association of Estonian Open Youth Centres

Partners:

- CrossCare (Ireland)
- Youth for participation Association (Hungary)
- Association WalkTogether (Bulgaria)

Welcome to a journey where every story matters and every voice counts. This youth exchange brings together 19 young people aged 16-19, from 4 different countries to explore what makes us different—and what makes us the same. Over the course of this project, you'll step into new perspectives, challenge assumptions, and discover how our unique backgrounds, experiences, and cultures shape the world we share.

Together, we will dive into stereotypes—not just to point them out, but to understand, question, and break them. We'll explore cultural traditions, everyday realities, and personal stories, learning how our differences can become a bridge instead of a barrier. By sharing, listening, and reflecting, we'll uncover the common threads that connect us all, creating a space where diversity is celebrated and inclusion is lived.



*Welcome to
Estonia!*

The project will take place at Laagrikeskus Talu, which is located about 25 km from Tallinn. For indoor activities, there is a large hall on the 2nd floor of the main house. There is a big terrace in front of the main house and a large summer kitchen for activities.

The property borders the Keila River, where in summer we have a safe swimming area, with the river depth up to 1 meter. For making campfires, we have two fire pits and a traditional teepee hut. For ball games, balls are available, and football goals and a volleyball net are installed.

The accommodation is in shared 2-5 person rooms in bunk beds.

Venue and travel

The closest (and the only international) airport is Lennart Meri Tallinn airport.

The transportation from the airport to the venue will be organised by the coordinator.

Budget:

Hungary - 309 €

Ireland - 395 €

Bulgaria - 309 €



Preparation

To contribute to the project, we as each group to prepare:

- 2 favourite energisers (short ones, about 10 min)
- 1 favourite ice breaker/name game (about 30 min)
- 1 workshop /activity/game connected to the topic of inclusion, diversity, and combating stereotypes
- 1 myth or legend from your country's mythology/history
- Presentation about your country

Activities

We would like each group to contribute to the creation of the youth exchange. Therefore should each group prepare an activity for whole group to take part in. Each group has a chance to introduce their country through a presentation and local legends/myths around the bonfire.



General information

Covered by the project

- Flights based on the [Erasmus+ distance calculator](#)
- Local transportation
- Meals 4 times a day
- Accommodation in shared rooms 2-5 persons in the room
- Activities

What else to bring

- Toiletries and personal hygiene products
- Comfortable foot ware (flip flops and sneakers/tennis shoes)
- A warm jacket (preferably wind/rain proof)
- Comfortable clothes (we'll update you on the weather)
- We will provide you with mosquito repellent but you are welcome to bring your own.
- Reusable water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Swimsuit for sauna or dipping into the river
- Estonia uses Type F and Type C outlets - [Irish participants need adapters](#)
- Some snacks or sweets to share with the group on cultural evening

Additional information:

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[Padlet for the project](#)

[Participant information form](#)

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FACTS ABOUT ESTONIA

- ① Estonia, officially the Republic of Estonia (Estonian: Eesti Vabariik), is a country on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea in Northern Europe.
- ② The territory of Estonia consists of the mainland and of 2.222 islands in the Baltic Sea, covering a total area of 45.227 km².
- ③ One of the world's most digitally- advanced societies.
- ④ With a population of 1.3 million Estonia is one of the least populous members of the EU, the OECD, the Schengen Area, NATO, and from 2020, the United Nations Security Council.
- ⑤ It is bordered to the north by Finland, to the west by Sweden, to the south by Latvia, and to the east by Russia.
- ⑥ The official language of the country, Estonian, is the second-most- spoken Finnic language.
- ⑦ 2005 - the first state to hold elections over the Internet
- ⑧ 2014 - the first state to provide e-residency.
- ⑨ Estonian citizens receive universal health care, free education, and the longest paid maternity leave in the OECD.
- ⑩ The sovereign state of Estonia is a democratic unitary parliamentary republic divided into fifteen counties.