



Asociación Socio-Cultural
VerdeSur Alcalá

Volunteering in Verdesur Promoting European Values in Alcalá la Real

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Dear Applicant;

We are looking forward to meet you at our association in Alcalá la Real, Spain. We are situated in a remote area closer to the main cities of Spain and we hope that this infopack will give you an understanding about our ESC Vacancy and it will give you useful information about our association and the environment we offer to our volunteers.



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About Verdesur

Asociación Socio-Cultural VerdeSur Alcalá is by group of professionals working in the field of youth who would like to create a social change in town of Alcalá while focusing on the young people and involving the young people, teachers and educator to the mobility activities as well as the local socio-cultural activities through its partnerships and its offers.

The association is supported by the local municipality and it is based on the youth building of Alcalá la Real where has a very diverse environment with a great historical trayectoria where it can bring too many oportunites for events and social activities for young people and local population.

What we do?

We work with Erasmus+ program, carrying out training activities, mobility opportunities, research and exchanges, in addition to promoting socio-cultural and socio-educational activities in our town for the variety of community members.

Youth Department (www.verdesur.org) : Since 2019, the youth department provides activities for the young people in cooperation with the youth branch of Alcalá municipality. We have been working hand in hand to promote European Union programmes such as Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps. Our main activities are based on :

- Erasmus+ Mobility Programmes
 - o Training Activities for Youth Workers
 - o Youth Exchanges
- European Solidarity Corps (Solidarity Activities and Volunteering Projects)
- Research Activities focusing the youth population
- Local Workshops

Our main target group are the young people living in Alcalá la Real aged between 13-30. They involve the activities of our association throughout the opportunities that we provide. As Alcalá la Real is a rural town comparing the many towns in Spain, we are focusing on increasing the employability and involvement of young people and internationalization of the schools.

The volunteers will involve in the activities of our organisation mainly based on Art and languages, although, they will have a place to practice their own skills concerning to the program that we will develop jointly with the volunteer and Edificio Joven (Youth Branch) of Alcalá Municipality.

Weekly activities of the volunteer :

- Help social media work of the youth projects of Verdesur
- Take role in implementing English speaking clubs or any other language requested by local community/youth
- Implement workshops with the involvement of young people in Alcalá la Real
- Participate and assist in international youth exchanges/training courses/meetings of Verdesur taking place in Alcalá la Real
- Help the local youth about their activities taking place in Edificio Joven
- Provide new activities according to the skill-set of the volunteer in Edificio Joven
- Publish online articles about the experiences during volunteering
- Administrative work (Finding Participants for International activities, involving in research, facilitating workshops and etc.) (It will be the main work of long-term volunteers)
- Other activities regarding to the skills of the volunteer

Be aware Alcalá la Real is a small town with a lot of opportunities that you will find so give it a time! :)

Information About the City

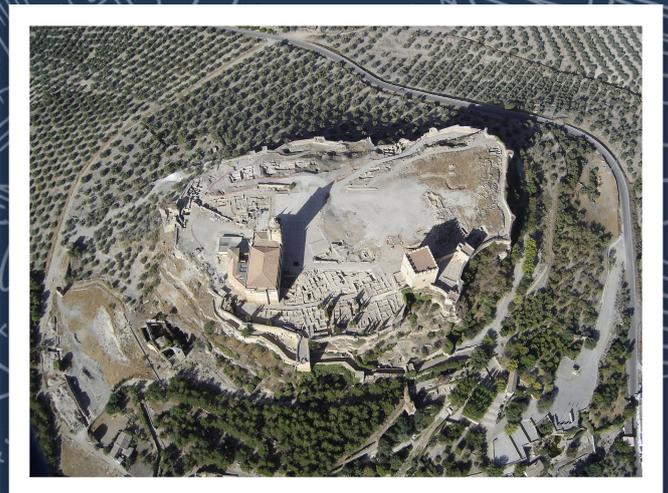
Alcalá la Real is situated 71 kilometres (44 mi) from the provincial capital, Jaén, and 53 kilometres (33 mi) from Granada, on the slopes of La Mota, a hill in the Sierra Sur. It has an area of 261.36 km².^[3] The town is dominated by a large Moorish fortress around which, some centuries ago, the settlement evolved. Alcalá la Real is connected to the Guadalquivir valley via the Guadajoz tributary.



Remains from the Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age show the human presence in the area in Prehistoric times. It has been hypothesized that this was one of the last places inhabited by Neanderthal Man. Despite the presence of remains from the Iberians, dating to the late Bronze Age, the first traces of urban structures (perhaps identifiable with the ancient Sucaelo) date to the Roman times. Archaeological findings include a marble statue of Hercules, now in the National Archaeological Museum of Spain at Madrid.

After the Muslim conquest in 713, the town was renamed Qal'at (قلعة), an Arabic term meaning "fortified city". In the following centuries, Umayyad caliph Al-Hakam II (971–976) had a series of watchtowers built to defend the city from the Viking/Norman incursions; today 12 of the 15 original towers remain. Around the year 1000 the main of these tower, the Mota, became a true fortress, one of the mainstays of the Al-Andalus defence against the Christian Reconquista. In the 12th century it was the fief of the Banu Saïd family, and became known as Qal'at Banu Saïd, or Alcalá de Benzaide in Christian sources.

After the dissolution of the caliphate and its fragmentation in a series of taifa-small kingdoms, Qal'at was a stronghold of the Kingdom of Granada. From here numerous raids were launched against Jaén and other frontier areas of the Kingdom of Castile. The city was finally captured on 15 August 1341 by Alfonso XI of Castile, who conceded it the title of "Real" (Royal), which after that was part of its name.



Alcalá remained under the jurisdiction of Jorquera until 1364, when king Peter I gave it the privilege of a Government Council, under the royal crown and the state of Villena. It was elevated to the rank of city in 1432 by king John II. After a flourishing period, the conquest of Granada in 1492 stripped Alcalá of its strategic importance. The population started to move from the upper hill to the now safer slopes, thus gradually creating the current settlement. The city remained under the marquises of Villena until the early 16th century, when the centralism introduced by the Catholic Monarchs started to reduce the power of the barons, although the marquessate remained in existence until the 19th century. The depopulation of the La Mota hill ended after the Peninsular War against the Napoleonic troops who occupied the fortress from 1810 and 1812. On retreat the Napoleonic forces set fire to the upper city, resulting in partial destruction of the Abbey Church.

Accomodation

The volunteers will stay in single/double rooms and will live with 3-4 different volunteers from different countries. There is bathroom, kitchen, kitchen utilities(pots, plates and etc.), living room, washing machine, hot water and heating (raditors). You will have unlimited internet connection with Wi-Fi in the house.

You will have the pillows,blankets, sheets but each volunteer should bring or buy their own towel, shampoo. We will buy hygienic materials (soap, toilet paper and etc.) for a month for the volunteers in each month. In case it finishes, the volunteers will be responsible together buying the new ones.

The volunteers are responsible of the cleaning of their own place and it will be checked by the mentor weekly basis and if somebody would not obey the cleaning schedule of common places that is all agreed with the volunteers, they will be responsible to call the cleaning people and pay them. Thus, we ask the volunteers to respect that there were volunteers before them who left their place clean and they should leave their places as clean for the new volunteers coming. As it is a shared house, the volunteers should keep the common places cleanduring their stay.

The house has the following rules, the volunteers will involve should accept the following rules before their participation:

- No poster, nothing to hang to walls.
- No smoking is allowed within the house,common places or in kitchen.
- You have to respect that other people are living in the building, thus you have to be silent after 23:00, no partying or loud music.
- You can only invite people, if there is a common agreement between the volunteers. Asss it is a shared place, before inviting any one for overnight stay, you have to ask our permission and the permission of the other volunteers. Without prior permission, nobody is allowed to stay in the house rather than the volunteers.

Work Place and Conditions

You will work in Edificio Joven (<https://www.facebook.com/edificiojoven/>) daily basis and your main work will be involving in their activities or helping the activities of our association within Erasmus+ projects(finding participants for actiivites, communicating with organisations, involving in research, writing blog posts and social media posts). We expect volunteers that would initiate new activities to promote volunteering and active citizenship among our local youth, thus we welcome any ideas which we will talk during the selection process. Thus,for long term volunteers, if the volunteers bring their computers, it would be great as we are not position to provide computer to you during your stay for online activities.

You will have 2,5 days free per month and work hours is going to be 08:00 - 14:00 (which might change according to the activities) every week day. If you work in weekends, you will have free day in the week days.

Holidays are subject to prior approval of the mentor/supervisor.

Team

Natalia Romeo Padilla (Mentor): She will be responsible about your tasks, daily life in Alcalá la Real and communication with the other volunteers. She will be your right hand in any situation that you might face in Alcalá la Real. In case of any situation, you should call her to ask for a help :) She likes artistic stuff so if you are into art, you can do a lot of things with her. She will be as well your Spanish teacher for easing your daily communication skills.

Luis Mariano Zamora Cano (Supervisor): He will be your supervisor regarding to your tasks and he will be available there for unsolvable issues and he has good cooking and plumbing skills in case you have any problem at home. You will have a weekly meeting online or offline with him to talk about your learning process and your issues regarding to the work, life and etc. He is a lawyer and in his free-time, he is a qualified chef.

Onur Tahmaz (Coordinator): He is going to be responsible of money issues, travel arrangements and health issues with insurance and will act as a bridge between you and your sending organisation and us. He will involve only in conflict situations to act as a mediator if necessary. He is your boring paper-work guy and a to be philosopher.

Money & Travel Issues

Every volunteer will receive 150 EUR (5 EUR per day) as given to us volunteer allowance from INJUVE. Additionally, every volunteer will receive 150 EUR (5 EUR per day) for their food expenses or personal expenses. **In total monthly basis you will receive 300EURs.**

For the volunteers from EU, we will send their money to their bank accounts as transfer though for the volunteers outside of EU, we will give them in cash upon the signature of the receipt.

The materials for the activities in case it is necessary to purchase will be provided by us up to a certain amount within the limits of funding. It means, we cannot buy really expensive materials but we will have a budget for stationery or likewise materials.

We advise participants to take a plane to MALAGA Airport (IATA Code: AGP). We will pick you up upon your arrival from the airport as reaching to Alcalá la Real is a bit complicated.

The travel costs will be provided as lumpsum-basis according to the following distances from your home to Alcalá la Real.

Distance Calculator: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources_en#tab-1-4

From 100 to 499 km	:180 Euro
From 500 to 1999 km	:275 Euro
From 2000 to 2999 km	:360 Euro
From 3000 to 3999 km	:530 Euro
From 4000 to 7999 km	: 820 Euro
More than 8000	:1100 Euro

These are the maximum amounts and before buying your flight tickets, you have to confirm with us. We will give you the reimbursement in cash or as a form of bank transfer prior to your departure. Please be noted, that will be given in the last day of your volunteering not before.

Visa & Insurance Information

We will help the participants to receive their visa on timely manner from the consulate in their country. For the visa expenses, we have budget for the projects that are funded by Spanish National Agency (INJUVE), though, for the projects that we are not the lead organisation, please consult about the budget of visa expenses with your support organisation in your country.

Prior to two weeks of the volunteers involvement, we need the volunteer to be registered in European Solidarity Corps System and send their PRN (Personal Reference Number) to us to make their insurance through the system. For the participation regardless, the volunteer is selected through the portal or through other channels, we need the PRN Number. So be registered before starting your volunteering journey.

You will have insurance during your stay in Spain through the European Solidarity Corps. After you accepted the offer from the page, you will receive an e-mail from portal and insurance.

For the visa inquiries in case you are coming outside of EU, the visa expenses regarding to insurance will not be reimbursed as you will have already an insurance through the system.

You can check the insurance information from here:
<https://www.cignahealthbenefits.com/en/plan-members>

If you get sick or if you have any health issue, you will be supported by us during your stay in that process,your mentor and your coordinator will assist you.

Contact Information

If you have any questions. prior to your volunteering or have any concerns and issues,do not hesitate to write to us in a timely fashion during day-time :)

Mariano : +34 658 34 74 14

Natalia : +34 651 45 99 55

Onur : +34 644 829 402

E-mail : asociacionverdesur@gmail.com

To check our activities please check our web-page: www.verdesur.org

General Information about ESC

Please check the INFO-KIT on ESC before applying so you have the general overview of the ESC Activities :

<http://verdesur.org/ESC-Info.pdf>