

ISL 02 - ESC OBISOVCE CASTLE

OBISOVCE, reg. KOSICE
19/07/2023 – 03/08/2023
Type: RENO/ARCH
Vols: 10
Language: English
Age: 18 – 30



Partner: The Civil Association *Rakociho cesta* carries the idea of a touristic path that would connect places related to the history of the Rakoci's family tree. The aim of the movement is to preserve and renovate historical monuments and traditions. They would like to continue with the original "Rakoci's path" goal which was to contribute to the development of the region. Rakociho cesta is currently involved in the renovation of the following castles: Saris, Kapusany, Sebes, Solnohrad (Salt Castle), Lipovce and Obisovce. The workcamps are organized with the association since 2008.

Work: Volunteers will be helping with revitalizing the old ruins of the small Obisovce Castle in Slovak Carpathians. The Obisovce Castle was the first completely uncovered castle in Slovakia. Almost no information has been preserved about the history of the castle. After its discovery in archeological research in 1961 it was not preserved. Only many years later, in 2012 Association *Rakociho cesta* prepared plan to restore the castle to save this heritage for future generations. The volunteers will be involved in renovation work, cleaning the area, help with masonry work using the traditional techniques, transport of the material (like sand, rocks, and water.) The volunteers will learn about the history of the castles in Eastern Slovakia. No building and archeological experience are needed. The working hours will be from Monday to Friday, approximately 8:30 – 15:00, including a lunch break. By participating to this project you contribute to protecting the local cultural heritage (UN SDG 11).

Accommodation & Food: The volunteers will stay in the village Obisovce (21 km from Presov, 23 km from Kosice) in the eastern part of Slovakia. The volunteers will sleep in the local cultural house that's why **sleeping bag and mat are necessary**. Meals will be prepared by the volunteers themselves. Volunteers will be divided in the kitchen teams and cook together; the groceries will be provided. Vegetarian catering is possible. Showers, toilet facilities and fully equipped kitchen are provided in the house.

Location and leisure: Obisovce is a small village in eastern part of Slovakia, that is located between Kosice (second biggest city in Slovakia) and Presov (third biggest city in Slovakia). There is possibility to visit other castles in the area – Slat Castle, Sebes Castle. The village is surrounded by beautiful nature with many touristic routes and hiking opportunities, for example Licartovske skaly.

Terminal: Airport – Bratislava, then train or bus to Kysak. Please keep in mind that the journey from Bratislava to Kysak takes around 5 hours. So please plan your journey to Bratislava with arrival in the morning or try to find the flight connection directly to Kosice and then bus/train to Kysak. The best way to get from Kysak to Obisovce is to walk. It will take around 30 minutes.

Meeting point: Obisovce, on 19.07.2023 around **5 pm**. More info will be provided to accepted volunteers in the infosheet sent at least 4 weeks before the start of the workcamp.

Remarks: Bring a **sleeping bag and mat**, working clothes and gloves, warm clothes, raincoat, strong boots, swimming suit, insect repellent and a smile on your lips :) You can also bring some games from your country.

Study Part: The volunteers will prepare the "Feast of cultures" - an international food evening for the local community and will join the "volunteering footprint" workshop. Our camps will follow the rules of Sustainability campaign.

Important: This project is supported by the program European Solidarity Corps (ESC) for young people between 18 and 30 years. It is open to all volunteers that fit the ESC criteria. Volunteers will receive a financial support for their travel, according to a maximum amount established in accordance with their travel distance and upon the presentation of original tickets; volunteers need to enrol in the PASS, the ESC Portal; then INEX Slovakia will organise their matching, on the online system, with the volunteering project. Volunteers will receive pocket money once they arrive on the project in Slovakia.

Summary: Would you like to spend 2 weeks helping with the renovation of a castle in the middle of the beautiful nature in Slovakia? Get ready for the adventure, open your mind and develop yourself!