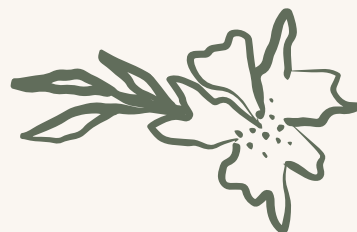




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EUROPEAN FUTURE - GREEN & SUSTAINABLE

STUDY VISIT

GOOD PRACTICES

STARA ZAGORA, BULGARIA

11 - 18 October 2023



EUROPEAN FUTURE
GREEN & SUSTAINABLE



DISCLAIMER

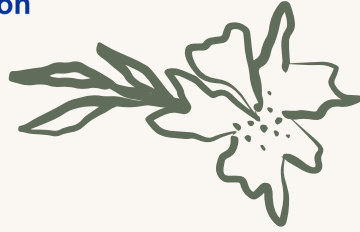
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Participant countries:

France, Serbia, Spain, North
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- 'JUST DO IT'
- 'ASOCIACIJA TAVO
EUROPA' & 'POSITIVE
YOUTH'



EUROPEAN FUTURE LINKS



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STARA ZAGORA AQUAPONICS

At the Trakia University in Stara Zagora the first Aquaponics centre in Eastern Europe was built and opened during 2023 as a start up. The estimated yearly production of vegetables will exceed 120,000 plants of all sorts and way over three tons of fish.

Aquaponics is a technique that works via a symbiosis between the fish and the plants, where the plants live and thrive off the nutrients provided by the fishes manure, while also cleaning the water that circulates back to the fish.

This is a very environmentally friendly method that not only uses less resources than traditional farming, it is also predicted to produce about 30% more food per sqm.

Farming like this can easily be made organic and requires neither herb nor pesticides.



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SAMARA FLAG MONUMENT

The Samara Flag Monument commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Stara Zagora, one of the most significant battles of the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878.

The sculptural composition, depicting five Bulgarian volunteers and a Russian officer, celebrates the exploits of the six Bulgarian volunteer units that fought under Russian command.

A monumental staircase with 100 steps, reminding visitors that the monument was constructed a century after the battles for Stara Zagora, leads visitors to a 50-metre-high concrete structure symbolizing the waving of the "Samara flag".

The monument's walls tell the story of the journey of the Samara flag, which was given to the Bulgarian Volunteers by the inhabitants of the Russian town of Samara.



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SOLAR PANELS

The quest for sustainable and renewable energy sources has never been more crucial than it is today.

Solar energy, harnessed through the use of solar panels, offers a promising solution to our growing energy needs while simultaneously reducing our carbon footprint.

Ground-mounted solar panels have a positive environmental impact. By harnessing solar energy, they reduce the need for fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, they contribute to energy security by diversifying our energy sources, thus reducing reliance on non-renewable resources. These installations can also benefit the local environment.

By generating clean energy, they reduce air and water pollution and minimize habitat disruption when installed in previously disturbed areas. Furthermore, solar farms can serve as pollinator-friendly habitats, supporting biodiversity.



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TZERA ZAGORA BEEKEEPING

Tzera Zagora is an organic honey producer outside the regions Stara Zagora and Burgas.

They have over 800 families of bees in the surrounding areas and produce various honey products like medicinal propolis products, bees pollen, candles from the wax and of course the large selection of honeys.

The honey from Tzera Zagoras hives is produced from Rapeseed, Lavender, Forest and Polish and they taste amazing! Producing honey is not only a positive environmental process but also a product. It's also an amazing aid for all the surrounding areas as the bees are pollinating fruit and vegetables everywhere in the area.



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VINEYARD ON A HILL

As wild as possible, eco friendly, without herbicides, deep ploughing and chemical fertilization.

It was planted in 2016, primarily by hand. After arriving on the spot, the owner greeted us with mouthwatering snacks, natural Bulgarian wine and engaging stories about wineyard. The wine is made without heavy machinery so it is environmental friendly. This is the list of wines we tried.

- Flirt (Pinot Noir 2022 - red, dry)
- Boheme (Pinot Noir 2019 - red, dry)
- Gewurztraminer 2022, kis-nat (orange, barrel aged, dry)
- Mimi (Gewurztraminer 2022, kis-nat, orange, dry)



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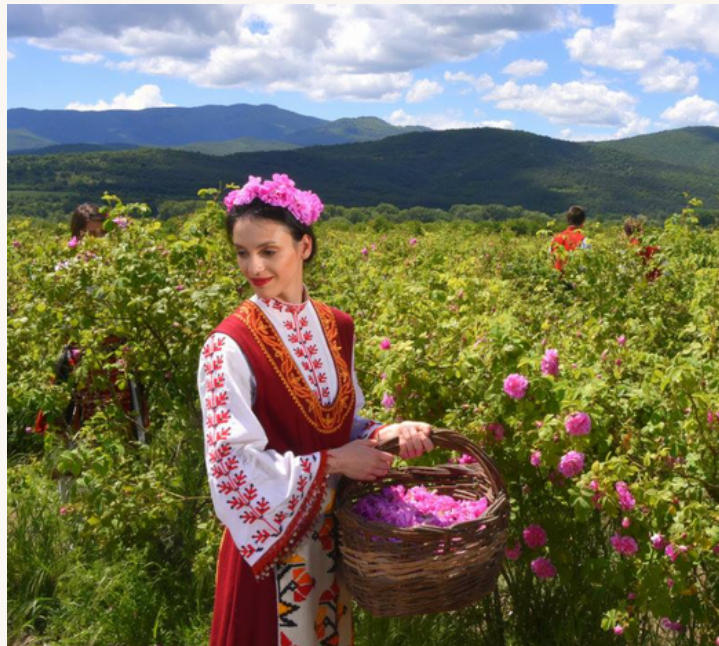


ROSE MUSEUM

Kazanlak is known for being the town of roses. Rose culture in Bulgaria whose purpose is extraction of rose oil, is not only the oldest and the most charming industry in our country but also exceptionally and specific in the region.

Not surprisingly, the only Museum of Roses of its kind is located in the Town of Roses – Kazanlak.

The first museum exhibition of the Kazanlak rose was displayed in 1967 and from 1969 onwards it turned into a rose museum that is globally unique. The museum's look, as we know it nowadays, dates back to 1984. It is located in a new building in Rosarium park and is part of the Iskra historical museum in the town of Kazanlak.





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BUZLUDZHA MONUMENT

The Monument House of the Bulgarian Communist Party also known as the Buzludzha Monument was built on Buzludzha Peak in central Bulgaria by the Bulgarian communist government and inaugurated in 1981.

It commemorated the events of 1891, when a group of socialists led by Dimitar Blagoev assembled secretly in the area to form an organised socialist movement that led to the founding of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, a forerunner of the Bulgarian Communist Party (itself a forerunner of the current Bulgarian Socialist Party).

The monument exemplifies the futurist architecture common to many state-constructed communist buildings. All maintenance ended with the fall of communism in 1989, and the building remains closed to the public due to the hazards of the weakened structure. The Buzludzha Project has helped to begin work on the monument's preservation, with the eventual aim of creating an interpretation center for Bulgarian history.



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ECO FARM IN THE MOUNTAINS

Bozhentski Chiflik is a family-run business with a farm and a tourist complex with dairy cows, beef sheep, horses, and a licensed dairy. Bozhensky Chiflik products consist of 100% milk from its pasture-raised animals.

The farm's owners shared their ten years of experience working on a farm with animals and the challenges they face in creating natural products such as yogurt, milk, and cheese. The owners' main goal is to promote and preserve Bulgaria's nature, cultural heritage, customs and traditions, which is why it's no surprise that we learned the most famous traditional Bulgarian dances here.

At the farm, the owners demonstrated how natural yogurt is made and served a wonderful lunch made entirely with their products!



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STARA ZAGORA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTER

The international youth center of Stara Zagora on October 16th, we were invited to Stara Zagora, to discover the International Youth Center of this town and meet their youth workers.

In a quite huge building that used to be a cinema during the communist time, we sat in conference and listened to the stories and the goals of this Center.

Rebuilt and arranged for the use of the youngsters of the town, the Center was created around 8 years ago, as a unit from the Municipality, to create and organize some youth activities and accompany the youngsters in their youth. It is aimed for people from 15 to 29 years old, coming from different walks of life. All kinds of activities are offered there: leisure activities, educational or even international activities.





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**Next
Generation**

PARTNERS

**back
slash**



Positive YOUTH



TAVO EUROPA

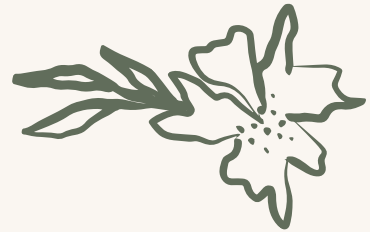


**YOUTH WORKERS ALLIANCE
VRANJE**





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THANK YOU!



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