

Ayuntamiento de Ribadavia

ESC opportunity in Spain



Support the local community
in a medieval town



ESC INFOPACK for the project:

AYUNTAMIENTO DE RIBADAVIA

Ribadavia (Ourense)
Galicia - SPAIN

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E-mail: omix.ribadavia@gmail.com
Tel.: +34 988 471 929



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Where you are: Ribadavia

Ribadavia is a rural village and municipality located in the northwest of Spain, in the autonomous community of **Galicia**, in the southwest of the **province of Ourense**. It has about 5.000 inhabitants. Ribadavia is located about a 25 minute bus ride from the city of Ourense and 1 hour bus ride from Vigo. Ribadavia lies between forested hills on the banks of the **Avia river**. It is the capital of the **comarca of the Ribeiro**.

The town is a former part of the **Kingdom of Galicia** and was declared a **Historic-Artistic ensemble** in 1947. One can find there the ruins of the **Castle of the Sarmientos**, the Counts of Ribadavia, dating from the XVth century. It still preserves the interior, towers and walls.

Ribadavia is famous for its **wine**, but also for the presence of **Jewish history**. Its Jewish quarter is the most significant in Galicia, both because of its importance and because of its good state of repair.

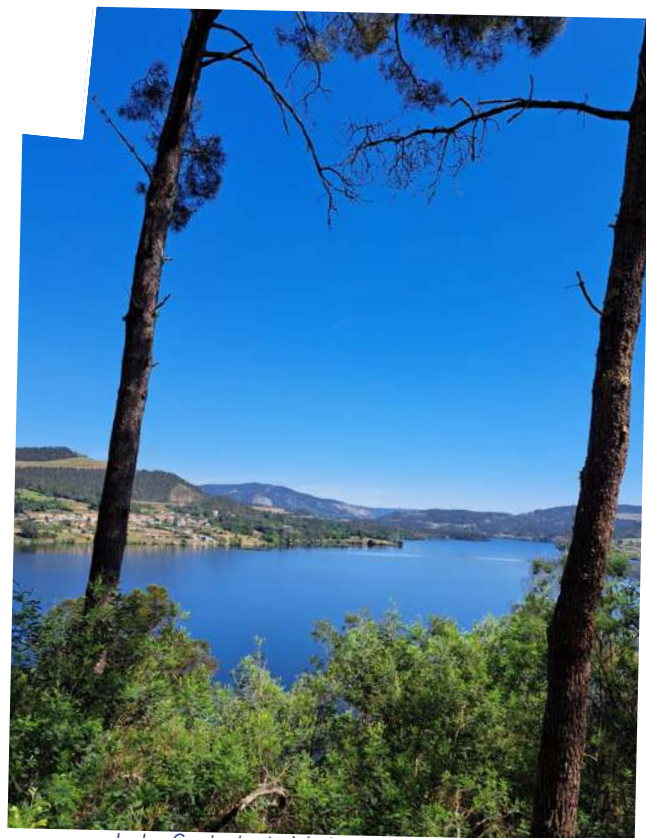
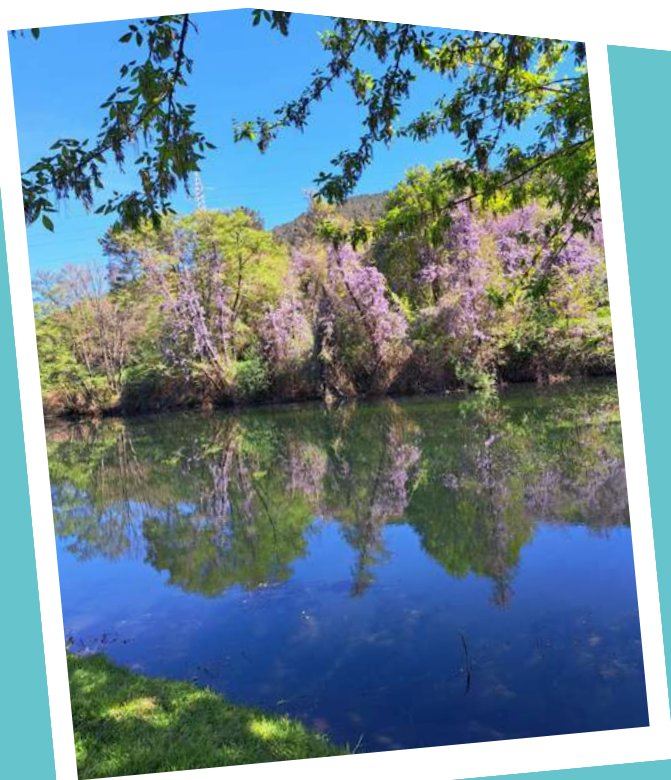
Ribadavia and Galicia is well known for its **rainy winters and warm but not too hot summers**. In comparison to the rest of Spain, the weather is more mild and humid.

Despite Ribadavia's small size, it is a very **lively and active town** and there are events and festivals every few days, especially during the summer. As it is an important center for the surrounding rural area, it has an **urban character**. Since Galicia is very rich with beautiful natural and cultural heritage, there are many places around to visit – the downside is, that bus connections to these places are often not good.





Ribadavia



Lake Castrelo de Minho, nearby Ribadavia

What you do

The volunteer will be integrated in the activities carried out in the Municipality of Ribadavia, in the Youth Centre. The purpose for our volunteers is to give young people – in our organization and in the region – a better European awareness. We wish to widen young people's acceptance and understanding of different cultures. With a volunteer present it helps spreading the knowledge about Erasmus+ and its various actions and cooperate with our local community in different local activities and projects in the frame of culture, education, environment and youth.

ACTIVITY DATES:

April 2024 – April 2025

TASKS OF THE VOLUNTEER:

We are willing to host 4 volunteers to be actively involved in the local social life. **The hosting organization** of the ESC in Spain **will be the Town Hall of Ribadavia**, however within this project is implicated the **cooperation with other institutions and organizations from Ribadavia**.

The Town Hall of Ribadavia is linked to local associations, and the volunteers – together with the full-time staff of the Youth Information Centre (OMIX) – will work together with these associations, and with the Cultural House, Social Services, Enviromental area and Tourist Information Office of the Municipality of Ribadavia. The volunteers will be organizing, developing and creating cultural events at local and international level.

The volunteers will support particularly in the field of **youth information on the local, regional, national and international level**. They will spread information about upcoming events in town and help get young people and children to participate more actively in the decision making of the town hall and other local activities.

Furthermore the ESC will have the opportunity to cooperate in **local events** that take place in Ribadavia during the year, like Festa Da Istoria (Medieval festival), Noite Meiga (Halloween night), Arteficial Music Festival, Mostra Internacional Teatro (International Theater Festival), in the Podcast of OMIX, in our ecological garden, etc.

WORKING HOURS OF THE VOLUNTEER:

In the morning, the ESC will work **from 9:30 until 14:30h from Monday to Friday** and occasionally in the afternoons **from 17:00 to 20:00h**.

The volunteer will work **30 hours per week** from Monday to Friday and has **24 days of holiday**.

The tasks are going to be divided into different municipal institutions like the Youth Information Centre and the Cultural House. In the afternoons they will also participate in language classes on the Online Linguistic Support, depending on their need to learn.

ACTIVITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER:

The responsible of the activities (supervisor) will be **Manuel Araujo Montero**, also responsible of the Youth Information Office (Oficina Municipal de Información Xuvenil - OMIX). The volunteers will be based in OMIX but will be involved in many activities and events around the town. The following tasks can be adjusted or developed according to the interests of the volunteer.

- **In the Youth Information Centre**, the volunteer will advise young people from Ribadavia who need help and information (scholarships, courses, training courses, local associations,...). They will **help with the search for ERASMUS+/ESC placements and support young people throughout the application and following stages**. In this kind of work the support of the European volunteer is indispensable especially concerning international exchanges. We consider it fundamental that the volunteer has a big impact in field of youth participation (on the youngsters from Ribadavia).
- The ESC will **visit local youth organizations and educational centres to promote the idea of volunteering** and being a volunteer, promoting European Solidarity Corps and participation in the field of citizenship, intercultural learning and the Erasmus+ Programme. The ESC will share information about different countries, videos and music, describe the experience of being a European volunteer and as well tell young people about their own culture, language, customs, traditions, etc.
- The volunteer will take care of **OMIX's social media presence and communications**: spread news, offers and information on **Instagram, Facebook, TikTok and the website**. For this, they will work with different media formats and programs and will have the freedom to use all their creativity and ideas. They will also create, edit and translate posters, videos and documents regarding youth forums, meetings, activities, workshops.
- The volunteer will learn how to **record, edit and promote OMIX's Podcast and will actively participate in shaping the program according to their interests and ideas**. For example, the podcast offers a platform to talk about their own experience as an ESC volunteer, share their culture and hobbies, invite guests and promote/review events or experiences in Ribadavia.
- The volunteer will **support coordination with local, national and international partners in OMIX**. Establishing new contacts with organizations in their country to create a database of networking, increasing the cooperation between youth projects, creating new links and European projects (Youth exchanges and ESC).
- They will learn **how to start a gardening project and care for different types of plants in our ecological garden** together with locals. They will organize sustainability or artistic workshops with different age groups and continue to develop the garden space. Possible tasks could be: build a water system, upcycle the garden furniture, start a greenhouse, build birdhouses,...

- One part of the ESC work consists of many different activities in the Cultural House, Youth Centre and Tourist Information Centre, as well as **preparation and cooperation in local festivals and celebrations** that take place in Ribadavia throughout the year (Festa da Istoria, Portal, Magostos, Nadal e Ano Novo, Cabalgata dos Reis, Carnaval, Festival Arteficial, Festival UKPDAY, San Xoan, Mostra Internacional de Teatro, ect.), etc. This year, the volunteers built and painted the signs for the Festival Arteficial as well as the Photocall. In the Mostra Internacional de Teatro they helped take care of the artists backstage and helped with setting up the equipment for different performances in towns around Ribadavia. For Festa do Portal, they helped with preparing and assembling a big flower carpet. To promote the Festa da Istoria, the volunteers created an Escape Room game in the Castle.
- Within the project the ESC has the **space to create their own activity, according to personal interests or passions**. This could be on a local level: In the past some of the volunteers organized film screenings and graphic design workshops, and this year the volunteers are giving language, art and gardening workshops, and have organized a football tournament. But there is also the possibility to create projects and exchanges on a regional or even international level. For example, this year we are organizing a youth exchange in the topic of democratic participation.

VOLUNTEER PROFILES

Although the volunteers will be able to take part in all kinds of tasks and have the freedom to organise whichever activities they like, we want to **create a team with diverse interests and skills**. To complete our team, **we are now especially looking for these profiles**:

Audiovisual

- Podcast creation, recording and editing
- Photography and video creation
- Communication & promotion on Social Media and Website management (Wordpress)
- Help with the technical part of events and activities

Sustainability

- Workshops in the garden and related to circular economy, upcycling, eco friendly activities,...
- Taking care of the green/sustainable part of festivals, projects and activities.
- Sharing tips and raising awareness for sustainability through (social) media

Our office!



Recording a RadiOmix Episode



Our ecological garden



Mostra Internacional de Teatro



Dancing in the Festa da Istoria (Medieval Festival)

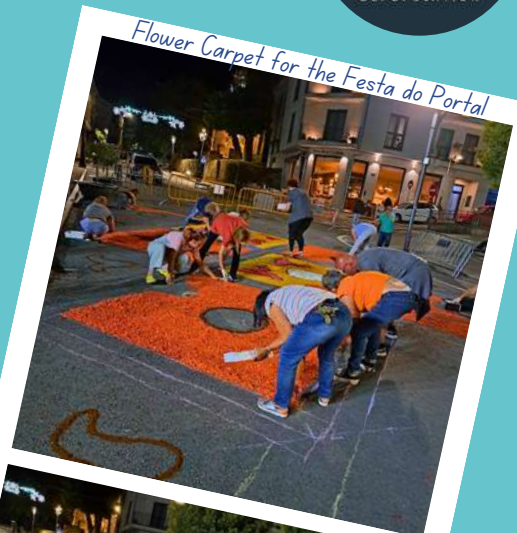
FESTA DA ISTORIA



ARTEFICIAL



Escape Room in the Castle



Flower Carpet for the Festa do Portal



What you get

FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION:

Volunteers will receive the quantity of **160€ at the beginning of each month** from the hosting organisation in order to take charge of their boarding on their own. In this way they have the possibility to buy what they need and to prepare their food just as they like to.

The ESC volunteer will live in a flat in Ribadavia in their **own single room** and will be **sharing the flat with other volunteers**. The flat has four bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, two bathrooms and a balcony. Furthermore **all items necessary for living are provided** (a washing machine, blankets, towels, dishes, etc.). It is located near the workplace.

VOLUNTEER ALLOWANCE:

Additionally, the volunteer will receive **150€/month** as an allowance for leisure activities, etc. It will be given to the volunteers **at the beginning of each month** by the hosting organisation.

INSURANCE

- The participant **shall be registered for the European Solidarity Corps insurance scheme**.
- After signing the agreement, the organisation takes care of the registration and the participant will be informed of how the insurance scheme functions. The volunteer has to **obtain the European Health Insurance Card, if free of charge, before arriving to the host country**.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS:

The following amount of travel costs is covered **to travel to the project location at the beginning and back home at the end of the project**. If the cost of the tickets exceed the allowed sum, the volunteer has to cover the rest of the costs themselves.

Green travel applies for trips without plane.

The money will be **reimbursed as soon as we receive travel invoices, travel tickets and/or boarding passes**.

Travel distance (km air line)	Reimbursement (€)	Reimbursement in case of green travel (€)
0 - 99	23	-
100 - 499	180	210
500 - 1999	275	320
2000 - 2999	360	410
3000 - 3999	530	610
4000 - 7999	820	-
8000+	1500	-

LANGUAGE TRAINING:

The volunteers will have access to the **Spanish course on the Online Linguistic Support (OLS) platform**, provided by the National Agency. They will have lessons on OLS according to their Spanish level. At the beginning it could be from 1 hour/day to 2 hours/week, for as long as it's needed. In the beginning of the project we will have a Spanish teacher to help them to adapt as well as conversation training with locals.

There's also the **possibility to take part in Spanish and Galician language courses** offered in Ribadavia for adults and/or foreigners organized by Xunta de Galicia depending on willingness of the volunteer.

We consider learning Spanish (Castellano) as a very important part of the project to make the process of adaptation easier in the local society. Furthermore we consider learning Gallego (the official language of the Comunidad Autónoma de Galicia) an important aspect of further integration into society.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT:

- *Before the volunteer's arrival to Ribadavia:*

we will **send them information** about Ribadavia, Galicia, the association, their life as volunteers in Ribadavia, Galicia and in Spain. We also will **give them the e-mail address of the present and ex-ESC volunteers**, so that they can talk with them about the project.

- *During the first week in Ribadavia:*

we have prepared some **activities that will help the volunteers settle in, get to know the town and the people who live there and make themselves at home.** We will show them the most important places for everyday life and help them learn things like going to the shop, open a bank account, go to the doctor, etc.

The ESC will also receive a **short technical and cultural training** that will give them all the basic information they need to know about the local background, both socio-cultural and about their work. There will be a guided tour through Ribadavia and the region so that they can discover the most characteristic places here.

- *During the long-term project of volunteering in Ribadavia:*

The volunteers will have at least **one tutor, Mafalda**, and help from other local volunteers. They will attend **meetings in the Youth Information Centre.** All types of questions concerning their integration will be treated, such as difficulties of living together, possible problems with the volunteer's tasks and activities and useful information.

Having experience with other volunteers hosted by us in Ribadavia, **we had developed steps of adaptation of the volunteers.** For their tasks, in the beginning we will focus more on language classes and observation and as progress is made, classes will decrease and work in the organization will increase. The volunteers can attend different types of workshops, trainings, seminars and conferences that will help them with their volunteering activities.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- **The volunteer can use the sports services that the Town Hall of Ribadavia offers.** The ESC has **access to the tennis field, gym, swimming pool** and can participate in other sports like soccer, basketball, handball, etc.
- Another service offered to the volunteer is the **use of the local library**. The use of books as well as internet is available to the volunteer.



LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Experience in working with youngsters and teenagers from Galicia in different contexts
- Non-formal teaching skills
- Knowledge of games and dynamics to motivate the youth from the Ribeiro region.
- Learn to programme, carry out and evaluate activities for the youth from Ribadavia, and develop abilities in camps with them.
- Knowledge of activities run by support of the European programmes
- Practical skills (creative, artistic, digital, manual work,...)
- Knowledge of working in an international team, working with a variety of groups and communities
- Learn to be more patient, more open and more independent.
- Learn the importance of getting to know other mentalities and cultures for your personal development and future life.
- Improve your intercultural understanding, interpersonal and communication skills
- Learn to speak and write correctly in Spanish. Understand Galician language.



View from the volunteers' flat



The balcony



The living-room



The kitchen



Vintage bathroom

The **HOSTING ORGANISATION** undertakes to **co-ordinate the partnership between all partners** in the European Solidarity Corps of Erasmus+ programme. The hosting organization **organises the selection of the volunteers**, where appropriate in co-operation with the sending organisation. **The hosting organization ensures that the project runs smoothly and is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the European Solidarity Corps project activities.** It is the body responsible to the Commission for the implementation of the ESC project. It **manages accommodation, food, local and other travelling, OLS (Online Linguistic Support) and different practical needs.** It also provides a **"personal" tutor** who helps the volunteers in their free time activities and helps solve their problems (e.g. go to the doctor, open a bank account, etc.). The hosting organization accepts one or more voluntary workers to take part in non-profit-making activities, which should benefit the host community, in the social, environmental or cultural fields. These activities should provide an added value for the host community. Under no circumstances may they replace an existing or potential job. **The hosting organisation undertakes to take all steps to help the volunteers to integrate into the project and the host environment.** It recognises that the volunteers may not automatically be subject to the same rules or obligations as paid/permanent staff in the organisation.

The **SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION** undertakes to **select, prepare, support and monitor the volunteer before, during and after the ESC activities, assist the volunteer with international travel arrangements**, visa/vaccination requirements (if required), provide co-ordinating organisation with receipts of costs, liaison with NA on pre-departure training and help with the final report (if any). The supporting organization shall help the volunteers to demonstrate the value of this experience, by ensuring that they benefit not only themselves but also the sending community. In order to do so, it undertakes to **monitor the voluntary workers in an appropriate manner after their return.**

The **VOLUNTEER** undertakes to **participate voluntarily in an active citizenship and informal education experience** with the aim of acquiring social, intercultural and personal skills, enabling them to lay the foundation for their own future and at the same time contribute to the well-being of the community. The volunteer takes part in an unpaid non-profit-making activity.

The European Solidarity Corps aims to provide volunteers with an intercultural learning experience and the **opportunity to acquire many skills which will be useful for their social and professional integration.**

The volunteer will embark on this adventure with an **open mind** and **the resolve to discover and appreciate another culture, to integrate into a foreign community and to participate actively in activities.** They will also be involved in preparing host projects, drawing on their own culture and putting forward a new approach based on their own experience, thereby benefiting the project and expending time, energy and enthusiasm in the interests of the host organisation. They undertake to **respect the practices and rules of the host organisation, provided that this does not entail loss of freedom.**

General principles of working with European Solidarity Corps

- **Initial training and support in the long term concerning the realization of work-related tasks:**

In the selection of volunteers it is not important if the volunteers had any similar experience to the tasks they will be fulfilling here, however, their motivation to do European Solidarity Corps is an important factor in the selection procedure. The initial training of the volunteers will consist of support and training for all the different tasks they fulfil, which can continue during the project if necessary.

- **Responsibility and responsibilities:**

The tasks of the volunteers will give them a sense of responsibility, will implicate them in these tasks and will prevent them from being too responsible, for example when working with children or financial administration – because these activities belong to the responsibility of the employees of the town hall.

- **Flexibility:**

Most of the tasks have a frame consisting of the most important points of the tasks, but some of them have space in which the volunteers can use their creativity. In any case, all of the planned tasks are flexible and can be adjusted to the needs that are expressed by the volunteers, to their abilities, interests, and the ideas they're bringing in.

- **Diversity:**

The tasks that the volunteers will fulfil are intended to be diverse and varied, in order to give the volunteers the chance for a project as enriching as possible. Furthermore, the project intends to be interesting and enriching for local people who work directly or indirectly with the volunteers.

- **Utilization of the intercultural aspect:**

The intercultural aspect is a basic principle in working with European volunteers. We consider this as an essential element for the cultural enrichment in the Youth Information Centre and other services in the town hall of Ribadavia. In every task of the volunteers have the possibility to introduce elements of their own culture and nationality.

- **Mutual learning:**

In every task we have thought of a way to give the volunteers the opportunity to obtain new knowledge, to learn about a new culture, a new town, region and country. Additionally, the way of working with (young) people from our town will provide the volunteers as well as local people with new experiences, knowledge and ideas.



If you are interested or want to apply,
send us an email to
omix.ribadavia@gmail.com
or apply through the **European Youth Portal**.



See you soon!