



ERASMUS PLUS IN PUGLIA



cultura
e dintorni

WHO WE ARE

Cultura e Dintorni is an Italian association specialized in the management of European projects concerning mobility of the **Erasmus +** programme. It organizes professional formation activities for students and teachers/educators from all over Europe.

Cultura e Dintorni has been working for years together with partners involved in the management of formation programmes, with European partnerships and with public and private Apulian bodies, which host young people and educators from all over Europe.

The **mission** is to offer the European young people the opportunity to join internships in companies, professional tours and itineraries; while for teachers and educators, it offers the chance to take part to specialized courses, seminars and professional tours. Our main goal is to offer high-quality services in order to assure benefits concerning formative, professional and personal fields.

The strong point is **Apulia**, a region of southern Italy, where young people can train surrounded by beautiful locations.

Cultura e Dintorni can count on an expert staff, specialized in the international mobility sector, which knows and understands the needs of a sending organization.

SERVICES

WELCOME AND TUTORING

We welcome all participants with a **Welcome Meeting** and providing them a welcome kit, guaranteeing maximum personal and professional support thanks to our **specialised staff**.

LANGUAGE COURSES

Language courses are taught by native **speaker teachers specialized** in teaching Italian as foreign language. The teaching method is based on **communication**. Students actively exercise the four fundamental functions of the language: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Particular attention, however, is given to conversation, to develop an increasing capacity to express himself and **communicate in Italian** from the beginning of the course.

INTERNSHIP ORGANIZATION

Cultura e Dintorni provides, for each beneficiary, work placements according to previous professional experience and language skills. We organise **professional visits and seminars** for teachers, trainers and people employed in the training environment. The whole experience is assessed through **special tools**: Participant Handbook, Company Handbook and Skills Portfolio. We also provide **Europass Mobility Certification** and Final Reporting concerning the whole experience.



SERVICES

MAINTENANCE/POCKET

Participants will receive Pocket Money, generally weekly, to cover food costs. Participants staying in hotels and families are provided with **full board accommodation** (3 meals / day).

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are usually accommodated in **fully equipped** and comfortable flats shared with other beneficiaries. Participants can be also accommodated in hotels and families.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

Cultura e Dintorni provides a weekly or a monthly transport pass for participants who need it to reach internship place.

TRANSFER TO/FROM AIRPORT

Cultura e Dintorni organizes the transfer by private bus or taxi at the participants arrival and departure.

CERTIFICATES

At the end of their stay in Italy, **Cultura e Dintorni** issues, to each participants, an internship certificate and a certificate of a language course. If the project requires us to follow the **ECVET** procedure, we provide all the documents requested for the assessment and **Europass Mobility Certificate**.



SERVICES

FINAL REPORT

At the end of the programme, we prepare a final report containing information about the project (work placement companies, professional visits, evaluations, pictures, etc...) for the sending organisation.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The association organizes different guided tours in the **most beautiful cities of Apulia** and various activities like Apulia cooking courses, walks in the forest parks, etc...

EUROPASS

Cultura e Dintorni cooperates actively with the sending organization in all procedures for issuing the **Europass Certificate**.

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WHY APULIA

Also known as “**Le Puglie**”, this region is suspended among nature, history, tradition, tastes and spirituality. For a full immersion in history and tradition, **Alberobello** is a must. The town of the **Trulli** is so unique that it has been inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**.

Besides its trulli, Apulia hosts another UNESCO site in the town of Andria, Castel del Monte, an unrivalled masterpiece of Medieval architecture.

STORY, TRADITION AND CULTURE

Another interesting architecture is the old town centre of **Putignano**, known for its famous carnival, and **Castellana Grotte**, known for its intriguing underground caves. On the coast there is the old village of **Polignano**, located on a sheer cliff overlooking a sea, full of natural grottoes and caves.

Continuing the journey inland, **Cisternino**, is the capital of **Valle d'Itria**, small architectural jewel. Lying on a plain at the foot of the **Salento** there is **Lecce**, one of the most interesting cities in the region for its architecture, typical of the 17th Century, a harmonious balance between the sobriety of the classical style and the splendour of **Lecce's Baroque**.



SEA AND NATURE

Apulia is an enchanting region that spreads lengthwise along the sea, marvellous beaches that will delight every traveller. Sandy beaches and crystalline and calm waters of **Porto Cesario, Torre dell'Orso** and **Santa Maria di Leuca** evoke images of Caribbean.

The Adriatic Coast is characterized by its imposing cliffs and lovely bays nestled between the blue sea and green pine forests such as the **Natural Reserve of San Cataldo** and the **Alimini Lakes**.



HOLIDAY

For who is interested in tradition and folk music, should attend the numerous festivals and exhibitions, the most famous are **Carnival of Putignano** and Festival of **San Nicola of Bari**.

And nobody should miss "**Notte della Taranta**" festival at **Melpignano**, that delights visitors from all over Europe to sing and dance to the rhythm of "**Tamburello**".



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