

INFOSHEET
VSS01
DANUBE DRAGON,
Jazak

Type: ENVI/ART
Dates: 17/07 – 31/07/2022
Number of volunteers: 13
Camp language: English



Any inquiries about the camp to:
Sanja Kamberovic at YRS-VSS office;
e-mail: incoming@mis.org.rs
Tel. +381 69722920

Address of the YRS-VSS office:
Bulevar umetnosti 27
11070 Beograd, Serbia
Tel. +381 113111314; 3116663
Fax. +381 113116653

Address of project partner:

Environment Engineering Group
Djordja Rajkovic 13A
21000 Novi Sad, Serbia
Tel: +38165 53 93 267
Fax: +381 21 633 57 52

FB: [Inženjerizaštiteživotnesredine - Environment Engineering Group](#)
e-mail: izzsns@yahoo.com

Contact person: Mr. Igor Jezdimirovic

Camp leaders:

Nikola Gluvakovic, telephone: +38162343878, nikola@activity4sustainability.org
Igor Jezdimirovic, telephone: +38165 53 93 267, izzsns@yahoo.com

Information about the hosting organisation:

Environment Engineering Group (EEG) was founded in 2005 by engineers, students, lawyers, young people and a bit elderly who care about the environment. The members have been joined due to the mutual vision of better and healthier future in which the environment would be respected and not exploited and destroyed. The members work on the contribution to the development of ecological conscience, preservation and improvement of the environment.

Areas of EEG activities: environment protection, climate changes, sustainable development, rural development and youth work.

The areas of activities that EEG works in are accomplished through various projects supported by international donors and domestic institutions with the aim of achieving sustainable development and the environment protection. A great number of partners from Serbia and abroad participate with us in realization of our projects and support us in the implementation of our projects.

About the voluntary service organisation:

[YRS-VSS](#) was founded in 1976. Our main aims are environmental protection and education, promotion of sustainable development, work with young people in an international context, promotion of scientific creativity and voluntarism and its values. Voluntary Service of Serbia is a volunteer exchange service founded in 1990 as one of the sectors of YRS. It is the oldest volunteer exchange reference point for this part of Europe. Through VSS passed more than 8500 Serbian volunteers who participated in international voluntary workcamps all around the world and 3500 of foreign ones at more than 300 workcamps in Serbia and about 40 long term international volunteers.

YRS is a member of: Coordinating Committee of International Voluntary Service, Youth and Environment Europe, Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations, and a partner of Service

Civil International in Serbia. YRS is one of the founding members of the networks: Southeast European Youth Network and Youth Culture in Action Network.

The Area:

Jazak (Serbian Cyrillic: Јазак) is a village in Serbia. It is located in the Irig municipality, in the region of Srem, Vojvodina province. The population of the village is around 900 people. Jazak is in near neighbourhood of National park Fruska gora. In village is situated monastery Jazak found in XV century. Most people in Jazak are working on agriculture production.

About the European Capital of Culture Event:

The European Capital of Culture was established to promote abundance and diversity of European cultures, strengthen bonds between citizens of Europe, connect people from different European countries, promote mutual understanding and strengthen the sense of what it means to be European. The goal of this project is to put culture in the centre of social development and redefine culture as a key for economic development based on knowledge, innovation, and creativity. Many European capitals took this opportunity to develop their cultural infrastructure during and after the project, provide wider access to culture, improve the image of their cities, develop the tourism economy, and strengthen cultural and creative industries.

Novi Sad is among the first cities outside the EU to be declared the European Capital of Culture and thus became one of the 60 cities that took this title. This project aims to leave Novi Sad firm legacies that improve the cultural life of the city such as new programs, involve people (citizens, cultural institutions, associations, organizations, artists) and new spaces for culture. At the end of 2021, on December 23, the European Commission made an official decision to postpone the title year for 2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The decision came into force on January 1, 2021, and Novi Sad joined Kaunas (Lithuania) and Esch-sur-Alzette (Luxembourg), as the European Capital of Culture in 2022. The opening ceremony of the title year was held on January 13, 2022. The ceremony was unique because it celebrates two New Years, two calendars, two-time calculations through visual and performing arts and it celebrates the interculturality characteristic of Novi Sad, in the moment when different ethnic communities celebrate their holidays in the city. Novi Sad will symbolically close the title year on December 31, exactly 352 days after the opening ceremony.

You can find more info about the project [here](#).

The project:

The project “Danube Dragon” is based on an international volunteer camp devoted to peace, art, and environmental protection. The goal of the camp will be to point out the importance of preserving the river Danube and directly contribute to the improvement of the condition of the Danube bank near Novi Sad, by organizing actions of its cleaning and setting up applied art installations at the main public beach “Štrand” on the left bank of the Danube. The international volunteer camp that will be organized in Jazak from 17 July to 28 July and from 28 July to 31 July in one of the student dormitories in Novi Sad. 13 young people and 2 camp leaders will participate in the camp and, together with people engaged in the project, realize actions of cleaning the Danube bank, making applied art installations at “Štrand” and promoting peace, art, and environmental protection.

The applied art installations will be made from recycled materials, and they will serve as artistic waste containers that will help protect Novi Sad from dirt and waste.

The applied art installations (waste disposal containers) will be temporarily placed at “Štrand” and permanently placed in the Creative district in Novi Sad. In this way their preservation and sustainable application will be ensured.

It is planned to set up 10 installations, one for each of the countries that is in the Danube basin (Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova, and Ukraine). If feasible, each installation will have some landmark of the country it represents. All installations will be visibly marked. The local community will be invited through social networks and media to join the actions of cleaning and arranging the banks of the Danube, as well as the construction and installation of installations.

Accommodation:

At the camp, there are 3 rooms with bathrooms. Each room has 6 beds. There is also common room for free time activities. There will be Wi-Fi connection at the camp. All costs for accommodation and food will be covered. Participants will only need to pay for their travelling costs. The pictures below show the image of the accommodation and more information about the accommodation can be found [here](#).



What to bring:

July in Jazak can be very hot, but during nights it can also be chilly. Bring towels and toiletries. Temperatures may vary during the day so bring warmer clothes as it can be colder during the night. Tools and gloves will be provided but bring with you appropriate clothing (things you don't mind getting dirty and torn). Don't forget to bring mosquito repellent, sun protection cream, sunhats, sunglasses, light coloured, and swimming suits. You should also bring long-legged trousers and long-sleeved shirts, especially because of mosquitoes, or in case of bad weather. In case it rains, you'll need waterproof shoes and a warm sweater and socks for the cool evenings. If you are allergic to insects or pollen, make sure to bring appropriate medicine with you. You must also let us know of any serious allergies or health problems. Please bring for the international evening – your traditional music or local music that you like, recipes of meals from your cuisine or whatever you find interesting and representative of your country (souvenirs, prospects, postcards, CDs...), movies from your country with English subtitles (if possible!), your favourite music, songbooks and music instruments are also welcomed. Positive energy, a good mood and interest are essential.

Don't forget that you need your passport when coming to Serbia. Citizens of European Union countries, the Swiss Confederation, Kingdom of Norway and Republic of Iceland may enter the Republic of Serbia using their identity cards and stay up to 90 days. If you are coming from Turkey, Korea, Japan, Russia, Ukraine, Canada, Mexico or USA, you don't need a visa. If you do not have a passport of the above – mentioned countries, please check if you need a visa for Serbia.

Insurance:

The insurance is not provided for you! You must arrange it before your departure from home. First aid and minor medical problems will be dealt by the camp leaders.

Workcamp pack: at the workcamp you will find a more detailed day-by-day programme, as well as personal evaluation forms you will be asked to complete at the end of the camp.

Arrival time and meeting point:

On the 17th of July, at 6 PM, we will wait for you at the bus station in the town of Vrdnik. Please try to calculate the time and the day of the arrival according to the schedules provided, and let us know by e-mail or phone if you cannot make it for this arrival time. We will organize your transport from Vrdnik to Jazak because there is no regular public transport to Jazak.

If you have any problems, please contact the camp leaders and they will come to pick you up.

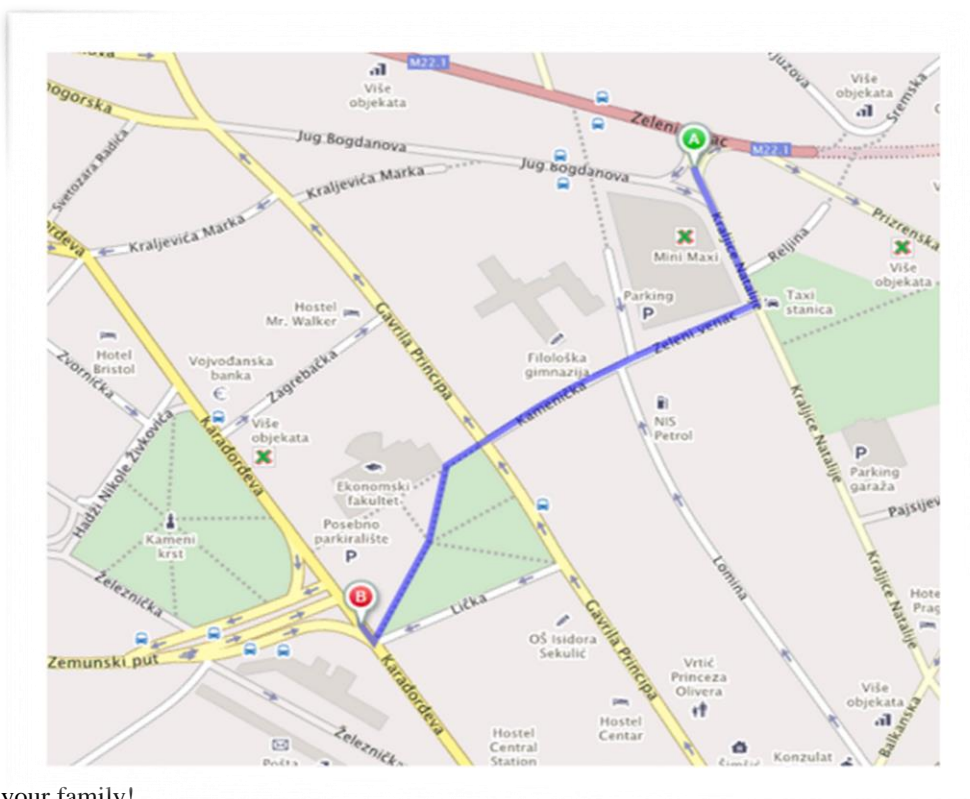
The map below shows you the time schedule of buses going from Novi Sad to Vrdnik. Pay attention to catch Direction A (Smer A) buses from Novi Sad to Vrdnik at 14:00 and 16:30. The bus ticket can be purchased from the driver, and it costs around 300 RSD.

Linija: 86 VRDNIK	
Smer A: Polasci za VRDNIK	Smer B: Polasci iz VRDNIK
05 ¹⁰	06 ¹⁵
06 ⁴⁵	07 ⁵⁰
09 ³⁰	10 ³⁵
11 ¹⁰	12 ¹⁵
12 ⁵⁰	13 ⁵⁵
14 ⁰⁰	15 ⁰⁵
16 ³⁰	17 ³⁵
17 ⁴⁰	18 ⁴⁵
20 ¹⁵	21 ²⁰
22 ¹⁰	23 ¹⁵

Travelling instructions:

There is a bus and train connection from Belgrade to Novi Sad. Buses from Belgrade leave from the Main Bus Station (4 Zeleznicka street; See this [link](#). Tel. +381112636299) and trains leave from Beograd Centar Station (See this [link](#). Tel. +381113602899. It is located about 3 km from the Main Bus Station).

By plane: From the Belgrade airport “Nikola Tesla” you can take the minibus line A1, direction



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Slavija Square. The minibus goes every 20 minutes from airport to Slavija Square.

Ticket price: 300 RSD (tickets can be obtained in the bus). Approximate travel time: 30 minutes.

There is also the bus number 72 (not so much comfortable, but cheaper), direction: Belgrade "Nikola Tesla" Airport – Zeleni venac. Ticket price: 150 RSD (if bought in the bus, from the driver). (1 Euro = approx. 120 RSD). Approx. travel time: 30 - 40 minutes.

You should get off at the last stop called Zeleni venac. From there you should go up the same street to the crossroad and then turn right to Kraljice Natalije Street. Then turn right into Kamenicka Street going downhill to the park, crossing Gavriła Principa Street. After going through the park you will see a main bus station (BAS) across the street. It takes 5-10 minutes by foot from Zeleni venac to the Main Bus Station like this. Map is next to text.

From Belgrade to Novi Sad

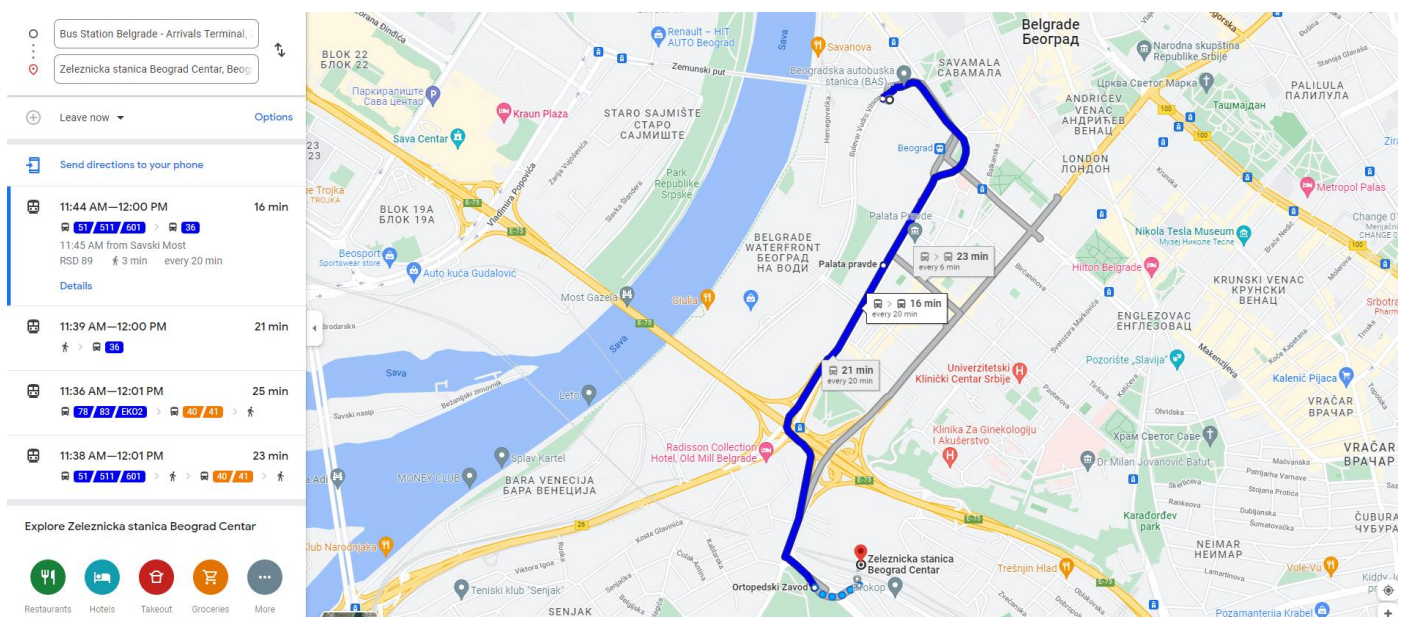
You will need to take the bus or a train from Belgrade.

• By bus

From Belgrade on a Sunday buses leave at: 7.55, 8.45, 9.45, 10.20, 12.30, 14.30, 15.15, 17.15, 17.40, 19.15. Travel lasts approx. 1 hour and 10 minutes. One way ticket is approx. 500 dinars (1 Euro = approx. 120 dinars). Buses are usually on time. See the timetable [here](#).

• By train

From Belgrade there are trains at 6.13, 9.15, 10.15, 12.15, 13.15, 15.15, 16.15 and the trip lasts approximately 1 hour. One way ticket is approx. 400 dinars (1 Euro = approx. 120 dinars). More up to date info about timetable of trains [here](#). The train with sign **SOKO** goes faster than the regular train, but it cost more. The picture below shows how far away is the train station from the main bus station.



Useful information:

Dictionary:

In Serbian language every written letter is pronounced. You should remember this useful rule. It will help you to read nameplates and street signs in the cities, read the following dictionary of the most common and the most necessary words and phrases in Serbian, but also communicate with local people and find your way from Belgrade to Novi Sad. The pronunciation of particular letters is very close to that in German.

Please leave copy of this infosheet to your family!

Yes/No	Da/Ne	How much is it?	Koliko koshta?	Left /Right	Levo/Desno
No problem	Nema problema	Where?	Gde?	Straight on	Pravo
Excuse me	Izvinite	When?	Kada?	Street	Ulica
Please	Molim vas	How?	Kako?	Ticket to Novi Sad	Karta za Novi Sad
Thank you	Hvala	Yesterday	Juce	I don't understand	Ne razumem
I'm sorry	Zao mi je	Today	Danas	Good/Bad	Dobro/Loshe
Good morning	Dobrojutro	Tomorrow	Sutra	I'm getting off at Novi Sad	Silazim u Novom Sadu
Good evening	Dobro veche	How long?	Koliko dugo?	Via Indjija	Preko Indjije
What time is it?	Koliko je sati?	How far?	Koliko daleko?	Hello	Zdravo

It might be useful for you to know how cyclic alphabet looks like, because street names for example are written this way.

A	Б	Ц	Д	Е	Ф	Г	Х	И	Ј	К	Л	М	Н	О
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
П	Р	С	Т	У	В	З	Ђ	Ж	Љ	Њ	Ћ	Ч	Џ	Ш
P	R	S	T	U	V	Z	Đ	Ž	Lj	Nj	Ć	Č	Dž	Š

In case you plan to visit Belgrade before the beginning of the camp, here is some practical information:

- Don't take a taxi from airport, railway station or bus station, because taxi drivers there can try to charge you much more than normal price. So, if you need or want to take a taxi, then try to avoid the ones there and walk a bit from that area so that you can stop one on the street.
- Street names in Belgrade are written in Cyrillic, so that can be a possible problem, but you can always find people on the street which you could ask what you are searching for and they will be glad to help you. Bear in mind that great number of people living in towns speak English.

You can find more info on Belgrade and Serbia at these sites:

<http://www.beograd.rs/en/discover-belgrade/>

<http://novisad.travel/en/>

<http://www.serbia.travel/>

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

Travel (whether for work, education, or tourism) will never be completely sustainable as every industry has impacts, but it can work towards becoming more sustainable.

It produces significant impacts on natural resources, consumption patterns, pollution and social systems. The need for sustainable/responsible planning and management is imperative for this international concept to survive as a whole.

- Use your car only if necessary. Choose public transports, bike or walk. It is good for your health!
- Promote new innovative services of environmentally friendly transportation: bike sharing, car sharing, taxi bus, reserved parking and lanes for car-pooling.
- For medium-distance journeys (30-200 km), choose to travel by bus or by train.
- Alternatively, you can choose to travel by car only if at least four people on board.
- For long-distance journeys (100-800 km) by groups of people, choose always to travel by train, by boat or by bus.
- For journeys of more than 800 km and only if it is the only solution, you can choose to fly.

SUSTAINABILITY CAMPAIGN

Young Researches of Serbia directed its studies and researches on environmental protection in nature protected areas. We have detected many negative influences and consequences on nature and local communities caused by improper tourism development.

That is why we have joined Environmental Sustainability Working Group (ESWG) of the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations. It is important that participants and volunteers understand the campaign and their active role in it.

The Sustainability Campaign is an invitation for both organizations and volunteers to achieve the goals of sustainability in daily life and in a long term perspective in the voluntary service projects. We assume our responsibilities as social actors that consume and emit pollutions and we signed in a chart that proposes a series of more sustainable daily habits, a bet for fair and ecological trade, for the reduction of waste and for recycling, as well as for the activities to spread awareness.

We have the will to contribute in the transformation of our communities, in the local level and through networking in the international level, for the construction of a fairer world more sustainable, more healthy and with better resources that impulse integral development of people, the communities and peoples, and their happiness and solidarity. This is, in a general scope, the main aim, the mission that all organization shave to be working in voluntary service. In the case of work camps, or voluntary service camps, we think that it is in our hands betting for sustainability, fair trade, for a more human and sustainable ways of consume, exchange and life.

As organisation that make projects of local development, solidarity, we have to assume as well that our action leaves an ecological print and that we have to try to make it so that this print is a positive one. And as well, that we act as educators of participants that come to our country, being able to influence this way in the international level, to a more healthy and sustainable habits and perspectives.

We would like to share with you The Chart of principles for the celebration of Sustainable Voluntary Camps and to invite you to make your experience in the seminar a life changing experience, having embraced the good models of daily behaviour.

THE CHART OF PRINCIPLES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF SUSTAINABLE INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

A change towards sustainability stands over specific fundamentals:

a) Reduction of consumption/ pollution and treatment of waste

- Taking care of the energy: reduce; try to change to low consume lightbulbs; etc.
- Taking care of water: methods to safe water (while cleaning dishes, teeth, etc.; water savers in the taps, etc.)
- Recycling: separation of waste to facilitate recycling in its treatment; to consider organic “waste” as something re-usable (for farming, etc.); re-use of bags, sacks, ropes, ...
- Use of durable products (not one-use): let’s avoid the use (production) and throw-out of dozens, hundreds, thousands of plastic articles by facilitating similar products, but durable.
- Hard plastic glasses and dishes
- Cloth bags for going to shops and markets
- If impossible, use recyclable, organic one-use products: glasses and dishes.
- Potentiate the sustainable transport: bicycle, walking, avoid the use of planes (or compensation).

b) Change in consumption: Ecological, proximity and fair trade consumption

- a change in the model of consumption:
- Local peasant and market products
- Cooperatives of ecologic consumption
- Use of ecologic soaps and detergents
- Products of fair trade

c) actions to spread awareness (mainly the role of organisations), such planting trees, workshops on sustainability, etc.

The following are action principles and proposals that help these fundamentals, becoming reality, in a realistic way.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

In order to be fully aware of your responsibilities during the workcamp, please read carefully the following:

- You are expected to be an active member of the group and contribute to work, housekeeping and free time activities;
- Working hours are flexible. You are expected to work outdoors approx. 6 hours per day. Working hours might be divided into morning and afternoon part with a mid-day break for lunch and rest.
- The local organisers support and try to involve as many people from the local community as possible. We hope that you will enjoy the opportunity to meet them during the days and the evenings.
- Your workcamp leaders have been trained to run the workcamp; they are responsible for organising work, meals, contacts with local partners and authorities and many other things. Don't forget that we are volunteers like you, so try to cooperate with us at the work and during free time activities. Workcamp-leaders are not fully responsible for organising your free time and we expect your ideas and contribution to do so.
- Smoking is not allowed in the accommodation areas. Use of alcohol should be moderate with consideration and only during free time.
- You are expected to stay for the whole duration of the workcamp.

KEEP IN MIND THAT THE USE AND POSSESSION OF ANY KIND OF DRUGS IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

EMERGENCY CONTACT: If you need any help when you come to Belgrade, do not hesitate to call Sanja Kamberovic at the VSS office open from 9 to 17 h Monday-Friday at (+381 69722920).

Or camp leaders:

Nikola Gluvakovic, **telephone:** +38162343878, **e-mail:** nikola@activity4sustainability.org
Igor Jezdimirovic, **telephone:** +38165 53 93 267, **e-mail:** izzsns@yahoo.com

Leave the copy of this infosheet to your family.

And don't forget to bring your passport!

Hoping that you'll be enjoying our workcamp in Serbia, we are looking forward to seeing you!

