

# INFO PACK

## N°1

### SECOND LIFE – YOUTH EXCHANGE IN SLOVENIA

September 20-30  
**2014**  
Brežice, Slovenia

The multilateral youth exchange will be hosted by the Youth Centre Brežice, Slovenia, and will last 10 days. During the exchange, 48 young people from 8 European countries shall acquire valuable experiences of cooperation, intercultural dialogue and unbound creativity.

The project »Second Life " is the result of a partnership with organizations at all levels (from local to international ) and result of years of working of the center with regular incorporation of ideas about active participation of young people. Exchange will include activities and themes of awareness of young people about global challenges and consequences of human impact on the environment. We believe that young people are those who can, with their active participation, aid in the improvement of sustainable development and environmental care.

Mladinski center Brežice, Gubčeva 10A, SI-8250 Brežice, Slovenia  
For further info: [e-tocka@mc-brežice.si](mailto:e-tocka@mc-brežice.si)



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Dear partners,

Through the following pages, we have summarized some information you need to know about our project **Second life**. In the info pack N°1 you can find useful information about the exchange, the venue, travel tips, etc.

We are very glad that you have decided to participate in our exchange, and therefore we will strive to offer a warm welcoming to you in Slovenia.

If you have further questions, do not hesitate to contact us at [e-tocka@mc-brežice.si](mailto:e-tocka@mc-brežice.si).

*Enjoy exploring the practicalities! ☺*

## About Slovenia

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Slovenia lies in the heart of Europe, where the Alps meet the Mediterranean and the Pannonian Plain meets the Karst. This small **green** country measures 20,273 km<sup>2</sup> in area, and is home to sincere, **hospitable** people of great diligence. It has an exceptional number of top athletes, and a wealth of cultural creativity. In Slovenia it is not difficult to compare the value of goods and services, as they are priced in one of the world's major currencies, the euro. [www.slovenia.info](http://www.slovenia.info)

## City of Brežice

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At the heart of nature, at the confluence of the rivers Krka and Sava the wonderful city of Brežice with its numerous natural and cultural features is situated. Brežice is part of the Brežice municipality, which has ca. 25,000 inhabitants. It lies at the south-eastern border of Slovenia, at the junction of international traffic routes and it has a well-developed urban infrastructure. The Youth Center Brežice is conveniently located in the park close to different points of interest.

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# Youth centre Brežice

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Youth Centre Brežice, [www.mc-brezice.si](http://www.mc-brezice.si), is a public institution with a basic emphasis on work with and for the young people, focused onto the identification of needs, young people's interests, providing facilities and programs to satisfy those interests and presenting interesting content in our environment.



Public Institution Youth Centre Brežice has been active in the field of working with young people for more than twelve years. At this time, it employs 22 experts - youth workers,

who are involved with activities such as non-formal education, culture, multimedia centre, youth multimedia production, entrepreneurship, information and counselling, children's program, a program for the primary and secondary schools, international activities and projects, EVS sending and hosting organization, support to rural areas through *e-rural* and tourist-information network, it provides support and service to local associations, to non-formal, formal groups and individuals.



Our regular activities include information and advising, concert activities, exhibitions, literary evenings and travelogue lectures, supporting local youth culture, children's and holiday programs,

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international activities (Mladi v akciji (Youth in Action) Program, Leonardo da Vinci Program, Grundtvig). We coordinate the work of local active groups that promotes entrepreneurial thinking of young people. We organize monthly concerts of popular and alternative music, festivals, theatrical performances, exhibitions, literary events, travelogue lectures. We offer an info point to all our visitors the point where they can find information material in from various fields and in the club (Bar), we have free access to daily and weekly newspapers and also trade journals.

For all visitors, working with and for young people and youth groups who work on their own projects, we have a music rehearsal room, multimedia computer room with a computer for video editing, Internet access, scanner and printer, and the project area with the entire office infrastructure. For our youngest visitors we organize creative Saturday workshops, holiday activities in winter and summer, summer camp, carnival parade, puppet shows and gifts in December.



The Centre works successfully in Slovenia and on the international level. We would like to point out our goal of enhancing existing international cooperation in various fields.



The international cultural center with accommodation facilities is located close to the city center of Brežice, in the green heart of the city park, just a stone's throw away from the Brežice castle. The city of Brežice and its surroundings are marked by a rich natural and cultural heritage.

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The public institution Youth center Brežice was founded in 1997 with a decree of the Municipality of Brežice, following an initiative of the coordination of youth organizations and many interested youngsters. March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1999 is the date that marks the active functioning and acquisition of the facilities, which were extended in 2010 and got a new look and additional contents. Since 2012 we got renamed from Youth centre Brežice to Institution for entrepreneurship, tourism and youth Brežice, which is formed by 3 units, and one of them is Youth centre Brežice.

So, Youth center Brežice uses, maintains and offers almost 2400 m<sup>2</sup> of indoor facilities and well-tended outdoor areas. The facilities are equipped so that different programs and activities can be carried out effectively, they are suitable for groups of different sizes, and our state-of-the-art technical equipment is available as well.



### ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

In cooperation with many local providers we organize a number of different activities for our guests. Some of these are paintball, parachute jumping, go-carting or canoe rides down the river Krka. We are surrounded by many thermal water parks, the most famous one certainly being the Spa Resort Terme Čatež, which is at the same time the best known spa in Slovenia.



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# The venue – Youth hostel Brežice

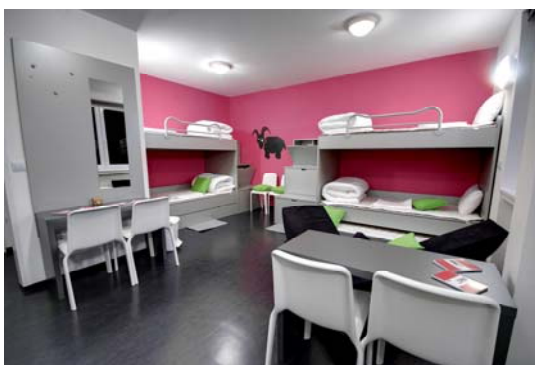
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Youth Hostel Brežice (MC Hostel Brežice), which is part of Youth centre Brežice (the same building) enjoys a convenient and unique location, right in the green heart of the city park, close to the pearl confluence of the rivers Krka and Sava. The Brežice Castle and Terme Čatež, the biggest natural thermal spa and the second biggest tourist center of Slovenia, are nearby as well. Hostel offers 71 beds, kitchen, terrace, big gym, and outdoor playground, free WI-Fi, TV, info point, laundry, etc. For more information and pictures of the Hostel please visit our homepage: <http://www.mc-hostel.si/en/> and <http://www.mc-brežice.si/>.



## ACCOMMODATION

We offer accommodation in suites, dorms and twin rooms; all are furnished in a fresh style with clean lines and colors, and decorated with playful animal silhouettes. There are 17 air-conditioned rooms available: **three double suites, four six-bed dorms and ten twin rooms**. The hostel offers additional beds as well, this way we can accommodate up to 71 people at the same time. Bed linens and comfortable quilted blankets are provided in all rooms. What is more, there is a small desk and a chair per person in every room as well as wireless Internet which you of course welcome to use for free.



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# Travelling to Brežice

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Brežice is located 110 km from Ljubljana, 100 km from Maribor and 35 km from Zagreb (Croatia). The city is situated at the highway Ljubljana – Zagreb and at the main railway connection Zagreb – Ljubljana, at the same time there Brežice is well connected to bigger Slovenian and European cities.

The Brežice railway station is located at the northern part of the city and is conveniently accessible by bus. There is a regular train connection to Ljubljana, Maribor, and Zagreb (Croatia). Brežice is only 5 minutes away from the international railway station Dobova, from where you can depart for Italy, Hungary, Austria, Croatia, Serbia, Germany, Switzerland, etc.

While the Airport Jože Pučnik is located 130 km from Brežice, the airport Zagreb/Plešo (Croatia) is only 40 km away, airport Graz (Austria) 200km, Vienna (Austria) 390 km.

Cheap airlines companies in nearest airports: Ljubljana – Easy Jet, Vueling - summer only; Zagreb – Easy Jet, Germanwings, Wizz Air; Graz – FlyNiki, RyanAir, AirBerlin. For further questions and info needed, please feel free to contact me. [Google map](#):

## IMPORTANT:

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### I. Advance Planning visit:

Dates: **12/08/2014-14/08/2014**

Advance Planning Visit will be organized by Youth Centre Brežice. In the APV all the group leaders will be invited to Brežice, where we will discuss about all the necessary preparation needed to be done for the exchange.

### PROFILE OF GROUP LEADER:

#### A group leader:

- is an adult (at least 21 years of age) who ensures effective learning, protection and safety of the group
- accompanies the group from point of departure to youth exchange and on return journey
- is involved with the partner organization and is willing to represent the organization during youth exchange
- has a good command of the English language!!!
- is ready to work on the youth exchange preparation by long-distance communication means, both in the preparatory and follow-up stages of the activity

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**A group leader is willing and able to:**

prior to the youth exchange:

- participate in an advance planning visit
- organize preparation phase & process for the group
- prepare the group to give a short interactive presentation of their country

during the youth exchange:

- lead daily "reflection groups" (1h session with 8 young people from different countries)
- willing to contribute with their ideas and experiences to the success of the exchange

**PARTICIPATION IN THE APV IS OBLIGATORY BECAUSE ONLY LIKE THIS WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS EXCHANGE EVEN BETTER. EVERY PARTNER ORGANIZATION SHOULD SEND ONE GROUP LEADER.**

Be in touch!

Nataša Kalin.

Email: [e-tocka@mc-brezice.si](mailto:e-tocka@mc-brezice.si)

Web: [www.mc-brezice.si](http://www.mc-brezice.si)



[facebook.com/mladinski.centerbrezice](https://facebook.com/mladinski.centerbrezice)

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