

INFO PACK

Bülbülzade Education Health &
Solidarity Foundation

BÜLBÜLZADE
VAKFI



Dear Participant

We are looking forward to meeting you at B lb lzade Foundation!
We hope that this booklet contributes to increasing your understanding of our ESC voluntary vacancy and it will give you useful information about our association and the environment we offer you.

In this booklet you will find informations about us, activities, accommodation, the city, environment, transportation and.

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About B lb lzade

B lb lzade Foundation was established in 1994 in Gaziantep to support the development of civil society activities. It provides services in education, health, arts, sports, migration, environment, and solidarity, with a strong focus on youth work. The foundation collaborates with public institutions and NGOs. Our foundation organizes trainings, workshops, and seminars in various fields, including digitalization, to support the development of young people from different languages and cultures. Our goal is to equip youth with essential skills for social life, promote volunteerism, and foster a culture of peace and coexistence.

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Activities

The first week is the orientation week. During this time, volunteers get to know the foundation's volunteers, committees, and activity areas. After the orientation, every volunteer has their place of work. They take part as leaders or supporters in different fields such as media, humanitarian aid, psycho-social support for disadvantaged people, sports, arts, culinary arts, language courses, women's studies, sewing migration, project management and development, environment, cultural trips for disadvantaged youth, as well as academic studies and research.

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Activities



Our forest



Earthquake zone



Elderly care



Pruning



Old town tour



First aid training



Earthquake zone



Spring festival



Erasmus+ Days



Earthquake zone Summer school



Bike tour



Kinder Garden

Activities



Sewing club



Kinder Garden



Culture Day



Children day



Gardening



Kinder Garden



Kinder Garden



Speaking club



New media tranings



Art Club



Art Club



Draving Course



Transportation

Most of our activities will be in our institution. We will provide shuttle buses for activities planned outside the institution. Weekend trips might be arranged by volunteers themselves with the support of mentors.



Accommodation

There are rooms for boys and girls. Participants will stay in shared rooms, each room for 2 persons. The rooms for volunteers are fully furnished with pillows, blankets, sheets. But please bring your own personal hygienic stuff for your own usage.



Insurance

Receiving organisation enrolls volunteers in HENNER insurance. Emergencies are covered, but regular checks and medicines must be paid by volunteers. Treatments at contracted hospitals are covered, with costs reimbursed upon invoices since Turkey is outside the EU. Ensure your insurance is active before travel.



Food

We provide 3 meals everyday (breakfast, lunch and dinner). The menu can be shaped according to volunteers' requests. We also have plenty of kitchens available for volunteers to cook anytime.

Gaziantep cuisine has been recognized by UNESCO as a Gastronomy City. The origin of baklava is in this city.

Accommodation

Our accomodation very convinient. Volunteers stays shared rooms 2 person each room, its right next to the foundation where most our activities takes place also the accomodation is only 150 metrs far from the tram station.

Rooms included:

- Shower & Toilet
- Bed linen set
- Towel
- Small desk
- Refrigerator
- Hair dryer
- Air conditioner
- Wardrobe
- Housekeeping twice a week
- Self launddry.
- TV
- Internet
- kettle



Zade Life Otel [Click here for more info](#)

Gaziantep'in kalbinde lüksün konforla buluştuğu Zade Life otelimize hoş geldiniz. 2024'den beri, modern olanakları zamansız zarafetle harmanlayarak konuklarımıza olağanüstü bir konaklama deneyimi...

[zadelifeotel.com](#)

Pocket Money and Travel reimbursement

- **Pocket money:** €6 per day, paid in cash at the beginning of each month (≈€180/month).
- **Travel reimbursement:** Volunteers purchase their first flight ticket and we reimburse the amount during the project. Please calculate your travel distance using this tool: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>

Eligible costs		Financing mechanism	Amount	In case of "green" travel	Rule of allocation
Travel	Contribution to the travel costs of participants from their place of origin to the venue of the activity and return.	Contribution on the basis of unit costs	For travel distances between 10 and 99KM: EUR 28 per participant	56 EUR	Based on the travel distance per participant, including accompanying persons. Travel distances must be calculated using the distance calculator supported by the European Commission ²⁹ . The applicant must indicate the distance of a one-way travel to calculate the amount of the EU grant that will support the round trip ³⁰ .
			For travel distances between 100 and 499 KM: EUR 211 per participant	285 EUR	
			For travel distances between 500 and 1 999 KM: EUR 309 per participant	417 EUR	
			For travel distances between 2 000 and 2 999 KM: EUR 395 per participant	535 EUR	
			For travel distances between 3 000 and 3 999 KM: EUR 580 per participant	785 EUR	
			For travel distances between 4 000 and 7 999 KM: EUR 1 188 per participant	1 188 EUR	

Food

Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner



Gaziantep

Gaziantep, Turkey's sixth-largest city and the leading city of Southeastern Anatolia, is a metropolitan hub with a rich history and culture shaped by dozens of civilizations. Its strategic location connecting Anatolia, the Mediterranean, and Mesopotamia has supported strong economic, cultural, and historical development.



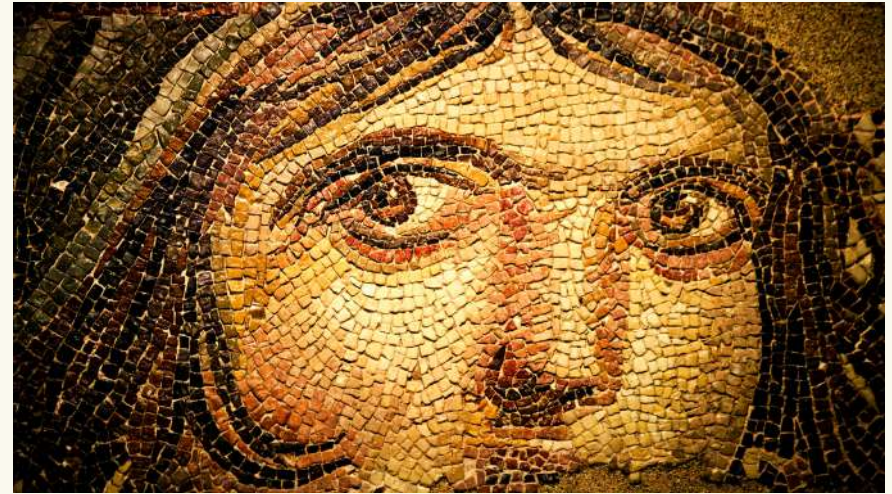
Gaziantep Castle



Rumkale

Gaziantep

Known for trade, industry, tourism, sports, arts, and heritage, Gaziantep's unique culture reflects local traditions, cuisine, and lifestyle. Its cuisine stands out in both Turkish and world gastronomy for its diverse ingredients, cooking techniques, and deep historical roots. Recognized by UNESCO as part of the Creative Cities Network, Gaziantep rightfully holds a special place in global culinary heritage.



Zeugma Mosaic Museum



Shopping Mall

When you arrive at Gaziantep Airport, what to do?

We provide pick-up service on arrival and departure for participants!

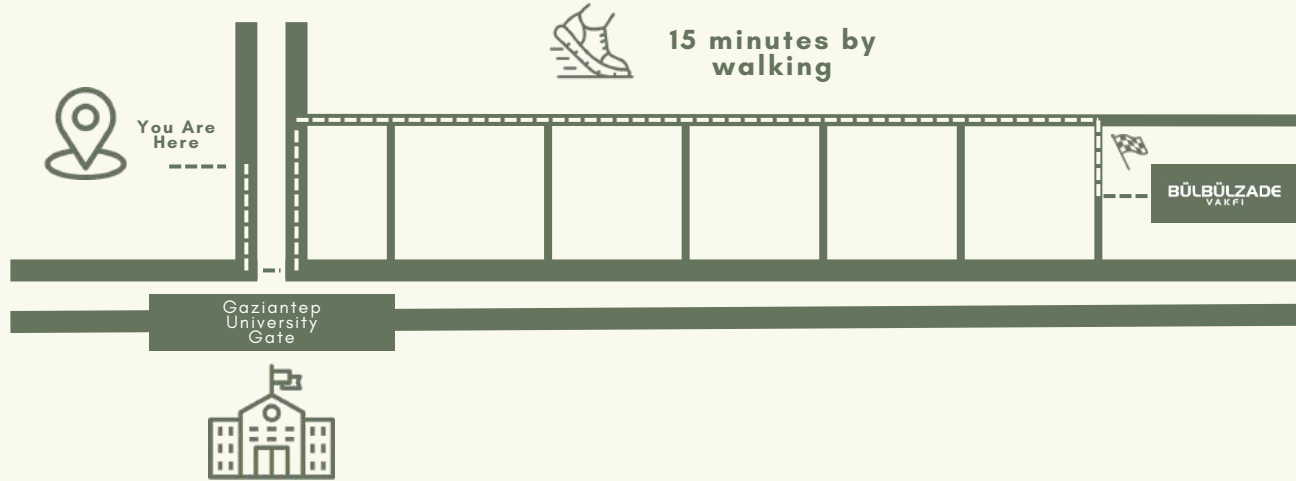
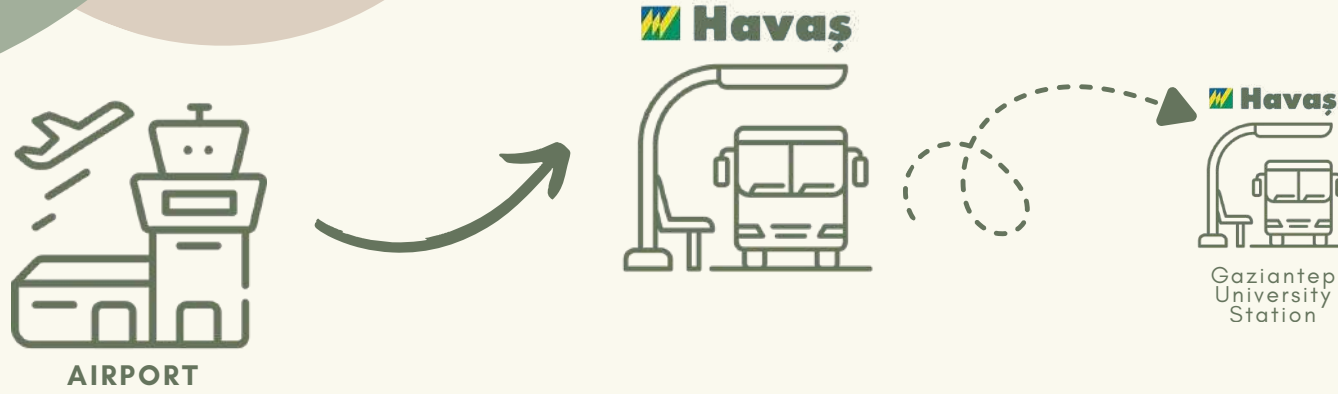
Just in case there is alternative transportation information:

Please find Havaş shuttle buses in front of the Arrival Terminal. Get into the bus. You should change some Euros at the Istanbul or Sabiha Gokcen airports, because in Gaziantep airport there is no currency exchange office. These shuttle buses arrive at the Gaziantep University within 45 minutes.

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Where is B lb lzade?



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Stories From Volunteers

Hello everyone! My name is Tanya. I'm a volunteer from Russia! In mid-March, I arrived in Gaziantep for a volunteer project. It was my second ESC project and my second time volunteering in Turkey.

1 JULY 2024



Together, we are truly better!

As a volunteer in 2025, I experienced Ramadan firsthand in mid-March. I'd always wanted to visit a country where most people are fasting during Ramadan, and Bülbülzade Vakfı made this dream come true. This experience deepened my understanding of the cultural and religious traditions of Gaziantep's people. During this blessed time, we helped prepare iftar in the camp for earthquake victims and in Gaziantep for orphans and teachers. Several times we visited hospitable colleagues. We also joined the active work at Bülbülzade's social center.





The highlight of this project for me was working at a secondary school. This experience truly changed me—I never imagined myself working with children, as I believed I was indifferent and unskilled at teaching. Turns out, I was wrong. The kids at the school were (and are) wonderful, kind, and—most importantly—curious and smart. They truly listened to us and eagerly participated in every activity we proposed. I grew very attached to them, and I hope I taught them something useful for their future, leaving a mark on their lives.

Our mentors and the Bülbülzade team also did everything to make our leisure memorable! We visited museums, gardens, bazaars, and even went hiking and picnicking in the countryside. Turkey's nature is breathtaking—worth visiting for that alone. We explored several provinces and collected countless amazing (and sometimes extreme!) memories.

This project also gave me emotional support during a tough period in my life, so I'll always remember this time with warmth and gratitude. I'll never forget my colleagues and our team—they hold a special place in my heart. To everyone, I express my deepest thanks.

Çok teşekkür ederim!

Stories From Volunteers

"Hi! I'm Majed from Jordan. Two months ago, I joined an ESC project called Youth Bridge in Gaziantep, Turkey — my first ESC and first time abroad. I was nervous but excited, and from the warm welcome at the airport, I knew it would be something special — and it truly was."

27 SEPTEMBER 2024

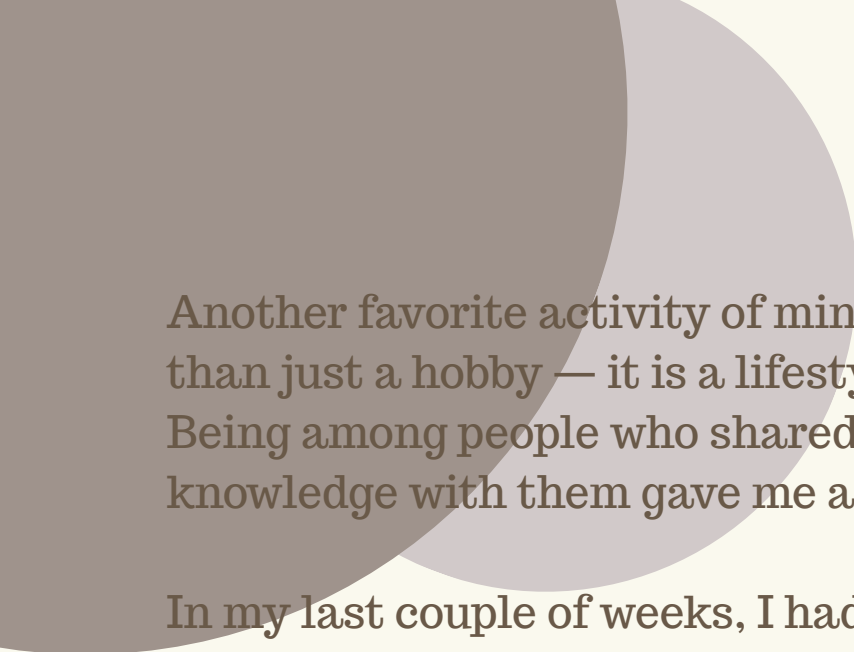


A Life-Changing Experience in Gaziantep

Our days were filled with art, culture, and joyful moments. Being surrounded by loving and kind people took the experience to a whole new level. The activities we participated in

contributed significantly to my personal and professional growth and carried deep meaning. One particularly emotional and impactful experience was visiting the earthquake-affected zones, where we met resilient souls who found light even in the darkest times. Playing with the children there, seeing how little it took to bring joy to their hearts, left a lasting impression on me.





Another favorite activity of mine was the Art Club. For me, art has always been more than just a hobby — it is a lifestyle. However, it had always been a personal pursuit. Being among people who shared my passion and having the chance to share my knowledge with them gave me a completely new perspective on what art could mean.

In my last couple of weeks, I had the unexpected opportunity to teach English in a formal middle school. It was an experience I never imagined myself having, but it turned out to be one of the best parts of my journey. It was both heartwarming and challenging, and I enjoyed every moment of it. Through this experience, I could clearly see the personal growth I achieved.

This project will always hold a special place in my heart. It allowed me to discover wonderful parts of myself, to grow, and to realize that volunteering can be much more than service — it's about connecting with a community and creating unforgettable memories with amazing people who will always have a place in my heart. I would like to sincerely thank Bülbülzade Foundation and BEKAM for providing me with this invaluable opportunity.

*Thank
you!*

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