

‘Building Walls – Breaking Walls, Lecce, ITALY’

Youth Exchange – 27th September – 4th October 2025

Information Pack



Hello!

Viv Sadd here, the Co ordinator of this Youth Exchange.....
Not long now before we see you all near Lecce in Italy on Saturday 27th
September 2025 for the Building Walls – Breaking Walls Youth
Exchange.

During this Youth Exchange you will spend Youth Exchange on the beautiful Villadiana estate near Lecce in Puglia in the South of Italy. This is a very beautiful historic and scenic area.

This will be a wonderful nature experience for you where you will undertake many activities including: help repair old traditional dry stone walls; outdoor adventure activities; fun games; discussions; helping with cooking & cleaning and of course... socializing ☺.

So get ready to enjoy the uniquely beautiful location and the intercultural experience with young people from the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, Palestine and Israel.



Here are some information points to help with your planning and orientation for the Youth Exchange:

1. Travel

Arrival - Please make sure to organise your travel to the youth exchange that you arrive on Saturday 27th May by 19.00 for dinner at Villadiana. This is when the youth exchange begins.

Departure – You will all sleep the final night (Friday 3rd October) in a youth hostel in Brindisi. The accommodation there is very near the airport.

1.1 Travel Receipts

Please keep and bring along with you all travel receipts including bus, train and your original flight receipts. **Without your travel receipts we cannot refund you.**

2. Accommodation

On your arrival night Saturday 27th September you will be staying in the Villadiana estate. You will be staying there for the week until the morning of Friday 3rd October. We will all depart Villadiana early morning on Friday 3rd October and for the final evening on Friday 3rd October we will stay in the youth hostel in Brindisi for our farewell/party night.

2.1 Accommodation Type:

All participants will live in a variety of shared accommodation for the week on the Villadiana estate. You will be in dormitory type accommodation on the final night in Brindisi. Males and females will have separate accommodation throughout.

3. Weather & what to bring

It is expected the the weather is likely to be dry and sunny in May. So sunglasses, sunscreen and a sun hat are advisable.....but of course it may rain.

Please make sure you bring:-

- **Hiking boots/shoes**
- **Some clothes you don't mind getting dirty (we will be based outdoors for many activities).**
- **Shorts, Sun cream and sun hat and sunglasses!....for the sunny days ☺**
- **Mosquito repellent (and maybe clothing to protect your arms and legs).**
- **house shoes**
- **sandals / comfortable shoes for outdoor activities**
- **A water bottle (for during the working days)**
- **a small rucksack**
- **comfortable clothes for hot weather**
- **swimsuits (there is a swimming pool in Villadiana)**
- **torch/pocket lamp**
- **musical instruments (if wanted)**
- **games, playing cards**
- **Recommended: A good book you planned to read since a long while**
- **Toiletries**
- **Travel plug adaptor.(Please note that the electric plugs in Italy are the standard two point plugs that are used in many European countries).**



4. Intercultural Evenings

We will be a mixed group from the Ireland, Northern Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, Palestine and Israel. In the great tradition of Youth exchanges we would ask you to **bring some drink and food that is traditional from your country** so that you can share this with others. Also please think of songs, music, dance, costume and any other cultural things you could bring along to make the 'Intercultural Evening' a very special event .



5. Health Insurance

Please make sure you have health insurance cover in case you need any health care treatment whilst you are in Italy.

6. Food:-

All meals from the evening arrival dinner on Saturday 27th September up to breakfast on Saturday 4th October will be provided free of charge.

The name of our chef is Rhys. He will be our cook on the Youth Exchange. He will be supported every day by a different mixed group made up of one participant from each country/region. Each day, a new team will be responsible for the cooking and the cleaning. Through these activities, you will not only connect more with each other, but learn as well about different culinary cultures. Each participating country will have its cultural evening where a typical dish will be served.

Agree therefore together before your travel on a common dish from your country you would like us to taste and send us the recipe and the list of ingredients for 30 persons.

Food/dietary requirements

Please let us know of any special dietary requirements you have. We will give this information to our chef/cook.

7.Money

Italy's currency is the Euro. Whilst you are in Italy there are ATM/cash machines in nearby Lecce and many many shops to spend your money and buy souvenirs etc....



Happy travels to Italy ☺

**Any questions then feel free to email or telephone:
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