

PLAYLAB

THE LEARNING THROUGH PLAY LABORATORY

TRAINING COURSE



SOVATA, ROMANIA
28/09-09/10/2026

Organised by:



**Funded by
the European Union**

Dates

Arrival day: 28/09/2026 (18:00 o'clock)
Departure day: 09/10/2026 (11:00 o'clock)
Program days: 29/09-08/10/2026

Application deadline: 3rd of August



Venue

**Sovata - Outward Bound
Romania Youth Centre,
Gurghiului Mountains**

The Outward Bound International Youth Center is located on the edge of Sovata, at the end of 1 Mai Street, in a beautiful mountain valley alongside a flowing stream, far away from any city noise.

The center provides excellent conditions for the facilitation of camping, seminars, team-building, and areas for group meetings/training. The youth center has a small lake and a ropes course, a big courtyard. The participants will be accommodated in 3 to 5 bedded rooms, with common bathroom.

About the project:

PLAYLAB is a training course designed for youth workers who would like to explore the power of play as a tool for learning, inclusion, and personal development. Through experiential activities, outdoor challenges, and the exchange of good practices, participants will gain practical methods to engage and support young people in their local communities.



After the project, all participants will receive a Youthpass certificate, a widely recognised and valued document across Europe that validates the competences acquired during the programme.



During the program

You will be invited to...

- Enter and be part of co-creating an international community of professionals
- Explore the power of play as a tool for learning, growth, and inclusion
- Bring your favourite childhood (*or adulthood) games
- Face group and personal challenges with reflection and support
- Explore, design, experiment, and test different games and activities in our playful lab
- Facilitate workshops during and beyond the training



Program elements

- High and low ropes course
- A 4-day self-sufficient mountain expedition
- Traditional Childhood Games & Intercultural Exchange
- Designing Play-Based Youth Activities
- Communication, problem solving activities
- Team building activities with purposely designed stressful frames
- Interactive workshops
- Reflection processes, Journaling
- Opportunities to face team and individual challenges and stretch your comfort zone



Participant profile



We expect 2-3 participants from each partner organization:

- youth workers, trainers, educators, aged 21+
- good communication skills in English
- interested in spending time outdoors in nature and willing to explore and experiment how play can become a transformative educational tool
- ready to spend 4 days in nature without digital technology



During this project we will have SOBRIETY POLICY, meaning no alcohol or drugs are allowed. Our intention is to create a safe space supporting authentic expression and connections. Please consider if you can agree with and support this and only apply if your answer is yes!

Travel reimbursement

You will be reimbursed the exact amount of your travel expenses (from your home town to the venue of the event) inside the limit assigned to your country if you provide us with ALL your original travel tickets and invoices.

!!! Taxi and first class tickets are (unfortunately) not covered. !!!

Reimbursement will be done by bank transfer in Euro to the sending organizations and sent further by them to the participants.

As soon as your travel plan is approved, tickets can be purchased, so we know when to expect you and can organize your arrival.



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- Romania: 28 euro/pers. (green travel 56)
 - Hungary: 211 euro/pers. (green travel 285)
 - Greece/Lithuania/Czechia/Latvia/Croatia: 309 euro/pers. (green travel 417)
 - Portugal: 395 euro/pers. (green travel 535)

Travel suggestions



Please keep in mind that in Romania public transport is not so good as in the other EU countries, so please use the suggested routes!

The closest cities to Sovata with an airport are:

- Târgu Mureș (Marosvásárhely)
 - <https://dudatrans.ro/transfer-aeroport/>
 - TGM-SOV: www.autogari.ro/?lang=en
- Cluj-Napoca (Kolozsvár)
 - we can organize an airport transfer with "Székely Vándor" transfer agency
 - you can use public transport
Cluj Napoca-TGM: www.autogari.ro/?lang=en
 - Budapest (capital of Hungary) - www.bud.hu/en
- Budapest-Târgu Mureș by plane, Sovata by bus
 - BUD-TGM: wizzair.com
 - TGM-SOV: www.autogari.ro/?lang=en
 - www.transptur.ro/transptur-en

Packing list

When packing it is good to remember that you will be living an active lifestyle. Focus on function, not fashion! We will spend most of our time outside, so please be prepared for chilly weather. The following list should help you not to forget anything important!

- waterproof hiking boots
- sport shoes
- slippers or any kind of indoor shoes
- big backpack (50L) for the expedition and a
- small backpack (20L) for day hikes
- min. 1 liter water bottle (PET bottle)
- cap, gloves
- enough clothes for the 10 days long
- program synthetic clothes, that can dry fast
- long pants are mandatory for the expedition
- warm layers
- wind catcher
- raincoat / waterproof jacket
- toiletry, slippers, towels for the shower
- pijamas
- warm underwear, leggings
- headlamp or torch
- personal mug
- personal medication (if needed)

Please check the weather forecast before packing and take into consideration, that in the mountains will be 5-10 degrees less than in the city of Sovata. We can provide outdoor equipment like: 45L backpack, raincoat (poncho), sleeping bag, camping mattress, gaiters, hiking sticks, outdoor jacket, outdoor cutlery. Keep it in your mind these pieces of equipment were used by many other participants. If you consider that your own equipment is better than ours you can bring it.

Please do NOT bring items that are highly valuable or irreplaceable. It is best to bring only necessary and easily replaceable possessions. Please do not bring alcohol or illegal drugs of any kind. Please do not use sensitive electronic devices during the program – we can store these items in a safe place during the activities if you wish.



Explorer Pass 2026.

You are welcome to join our new educational programme for 2026! Dive into non-formal learning exploration for a 75 euro fee that will unlock your potential to join all training courses, professional study visits, events in Lithuania and abroad until the end of the year, and also supports us to find new exciting and exclusive opportunities for community members!

Please do not pay any fee until you receive a confirmation letter to join the programme. If you want to join the project, please fill the application form, whether you have already participated or not. Bear in mind that Tavo Europa keeps the right to send the most suitable and motivated participants to all of our projects.

For more projects: Explore the world and learn together with the help of Tavo Europa. Join the group with more opportunities: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/186132221744993>



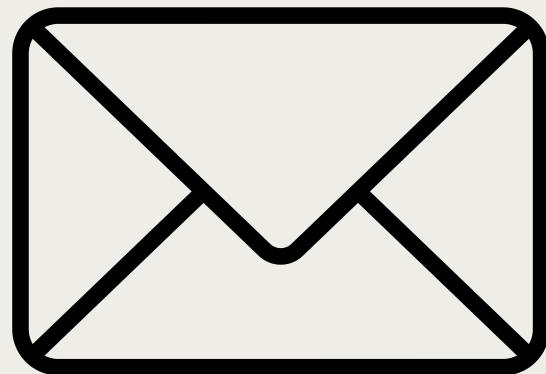
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Contact with us!

Project coordinator in Lithuania

Austeja Amankaviciute

austejai@tavo-europa.eu



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