

Volunteer Programme

Mission (Un)Rest

Be Part of the Liepāja 2027 Story!

Liepāja's journey to the European Capital of Culture is about to unfold—and you have a chance to step into the heart of the adventure! Without volunteers, the Capital of Culture Year would remain a dream sketched in the sand—but with you, it will become a living, breathing story written in golden ink. Here's to a passionate, bold and lasting experience with the most amazing people—you and the ones around you!

Are you ready to stand at the crossroads of creativity and action? Perhaps you prefer to be the invisible hand that ensures everything runs like clockwork. Maybe you have a gift for making guests feel at home, revealing to them the soul of Liepāja. Or creating the magic of it all through the lens of social media? Whatever your calling, you'll help shape the European Capital of Culture story.

Objectives of the Volunteer Programme

1. Prompt people into culture – culture is not a spectator sport; it thrives when people take part. By joining us, you'll be a vital thread, strengthening the bond between people, city and region, and the pulse of Liepāja's creative spirit.
2. Powering the cultural engine – behind every festival, exhibition, and performance is an army of dreamers and doers. Volunteers are the hidden gears that keep the machine running smoothly, offering hands, minds, and hearts to ensure that every event unfurls without a hitch.
3. Building bridges beyond borders – art and culture speak a language understood by all. By welcoming volunteers from around the world, we create a crossroads of cultures, where stories are shared, traditions exchanged, and a dialogue between nations flourishes.
4. A stage for growth – every new experience is a lesson waiting to be learned. Whether it's event organisation, cultural management, or communication, volunteering offers a chance to hone skills, build confidence, and discover your hidden talents.
5. Sparking cultural curiosity – the arts are a doorway to imagination, and volunteers are the keyholders. As cultural ambassadors, you will spread the word, ignite curiosity, and invite the wider public to step into a world of creative wonder.
6. Shaping the spirit of Liepāja and the region – volunteers embody the warmth, hospitality, and community spirit that make the European Capital of Culture shine long after the last curtain falls.

Our Guiding Principles

The heart of our volunteer programme beats with the core values of Liepāja 2027: **boldness, diversity, community, and opportunity.**

Boldness

Daring to act. Asking the difficult questions. Pushing the boundaries of what is possible. Boldness is the fire that fuels our cultural movement. We believe that culture is more than entertainment—it is a catalyst for thought, discussion, and change. Volunteers, too, are part of this dynamic force. Your courage might take the form of stepping up, supporting those around you, or bringing fresh ideas to the table.

Diversity

Culture is a vast ocean, and its beauty lies in the variety of waves that shape it. Art and expression flourish when diverse voices come together, each bringing a unique rhythm to the melody of creativity. We are committed to ensuring that Liepāja 2027 reflects a chorus of perspectives, experiences, and ideas. By using multilingual communication and inclusive outreach, we ensure that no voice is lost in the wind. Volunteers play a vital role in making every event a welcoming space, where all can feel seen, heard, and celebrated.

Community

Liepāja 2027 is built on people, not on bricks and mortar. Culture only thrives when it is nurtured by the hands of many, and our volunteers are the beating heart of this collective effort. They do more than lend a hand; they weave connections, spark inspiration, and make Liepāja a city where creativity is a shared endeavour. Community also means support—we believe that volunteers are valued, respected, and empowered, knowing that every contribution shapes the cultural landscape of tomorrow.

Opportunities

The European Capital of Culture 2027 is a gateway to possibilities, a time when doors swing wide open for everyone. Whether you are an artist, a history enthusiast, an excel data mastermind, a musician, a social media whiz, or simply someone eager to dive into something new, there is a place for you here. Volunteering is more than a role—it is a journey of self-discovery, a chance to learn, grow, and be part of an unforgettable cultural transformation.



Volunteer Rights and Responsibilities

Volunteer Rights:

- Receive clear information regarding the volunteer selection process.
- Engage in meaningful contribution and relevant tasks.
- Have a clear understanding of their role.
- Receive appropriate training and guidance.
- Be recognised and appreciated for their contributions.
- Access necessary support and assistance when needed.
- Develop new skills and grow personally and professionally.
- Make mistakes and learn from them in a supportive environment.
- Know whom to approach in case of concerns or issues.
- Receive reimbursement for approved expenses.
- Be informed about the disciplinary and grievance procedures.
- Receive attitude free from discrimination with equal treatment for all.
- Work in safe and secure working environment.
- Be kept informed about and have the opportunity to engage in the organisation's activities.
- Decline a task by providing a reasonable explanation, NO is also an answer.

Volunteer Responsibilities:

- Uphold the organisation's mission and values.
- Demonstrate commitment.
- Prove reliability by informing promptly of any delays or inability to attend.
- Maintain punctuality.
- Participate in required training sessions and meetings.
- Perform tasks with a high standard of quality.
- Communicate openly about any difficulties or concerns they may encounter.
- Uphold confidentiality and act with integrity.
- Respectfully conclude their volunteer engagement when requested by the programme coordinator or if they no longer find the experience fulfilling.

Volunteer Roles and Tasks

Information and Hospitality

- Providing assistance and guidance to visitors at events and public spaces.
- Supporting operations at the "Liepāja 2027" information point.
- Assisting individuals with disabilities, including visual, hearing, mobility, and cognitive impairments.
- Welcoming and directing both local and international guests to designated locations.

Event Support

- Assisting with event setup and breakdown.
- Managing entrance and ticket control.
- Providing cloakroom services.
- Ensuring smooth crowd flow and monitoring safety measures.
- Supporting food and beverage services.
- Offering backstage assistance.
- Coordinating traffic flow at event venues.

Team Leadership

- Coordinating volunteers.
- Providing support, motivation, and inspiration.
- Resolving on-site challenges.
- Reporting key insights and updates.

Culture Buddy

A Culture Buddy is more than a local guide, they are bridges between worlds, helping newcomers tap to Liepāja's rhythm, traditions, and everyday life. Whether it's sharing activities, practicing languages, or simply offering a warm welcome, you will be the key that unlocks understanding and inclusion.

Culture Buddy Responsibilities:

- Sign up to be a Culture Buddy for specific events.
- Introduce visitors to the cultural gems of Liepāja and the region.
- Open your home or hobby space for an authentic, one-of-a-kind experience.

Communication and Marketing

- Capture the events and volunteers in photographs.
- Craft engaging social media content.
- Spread the word about Liepāja 2027 through promotional materials.
- Share the stories of volunteers.

First Aid

- Provide first aid at events (for volunteers with the appropriate certification).

The European Capital of Culture year will be full of surprises—new challenges and opportunities will emerge along the way. We will also match your unique skills and experiences to tasks that fit your strengths. Our goal is to help you do what you love, while also embracing the unexpected and adapting to the adventure ahead.



What We Offer and Expect?

As a Liepāja 2027 volunteer, you'll be equipped with everything needed to feel confident— training, a volunteer kit, and insurance. You'll get exclusive access behind the scenes, even experiencing some events before the public.

You decide how much time and energy you can give. Whether you want to be deeply involved or help occasionally, we'll find a role that fits your skills and interests.

You don't need to be a culture expert or a stage star—we'll teach you everything you need to know! If you have curiosity on European Capital of Culture Year, enthusiasm, and a bit of free time, we welcome you aboard.

Volunteers must be at least 13 years old when taking on their first assignment.

Why Join?

- A cultural adventure – be part of major international events and festivals.
- New skills & knowledge – learn event organisation, communication, and creative techniques.
- A friendly supportive community – connect with like-minded people and forge new friendships.
- Personal growth – build leadership, collaboration, and language skills.
- An official certificate – a valuable testament to your contribution and abilities that you'll be able to use down the road.

Who Can Join?

If you're aged 13 and over and looking for something unique, then this is the perfect opportunity for you! We're looking for local and international volunteers to be part of the European Capital of Culture story. If you're eager to volunteer, whether for one-off events or on a long-term basis, we want you.



How to Apply?

Applications will be accepted from 26 March to 14 April. Please complete the online application form <https://epakalpojumi.liepaja.lv/lv/projects/preview/116/> and indicate your preferred level of involvement. For further information, please contact Izabella Džeriņa at izabella.dzerina@liepaja2027.lv.

Join us and be part of (un)rest!

