

Liepāja 2027 Volunteer Programme

Mission (**un**)rest

Be part of the Liepāja 2027 story!

You can be part of Liepāja's journey towards becoming the European Capital of Culture! Without volunteers, the European Capital of Culture year would remain just an idea, but we want 2027 to become a real adventure for Liepāja. A passionate, bold and unforgettable experience created together with amazing people – you and those around you!

Do you want to be at the epicentre of events? Perhaps the quiet force behind the scenes? Maybe you are ready to help guests feel the soul of Liepāja? Or create engaging content for social media? Whatever your role may be, you will be part of the European Capital of Culture story.

Objectives of the Volunteer Programme

1. To encourage public participation in cultural life – by providing everyone with the opportunity to take part in organising cultural events, thereby strengthening the sense of belonging to the city, the region and its cultural life.
2. To support the implementation of cultural events – by providing additional support to organisations and creative teams working on project activities, enabling more effective organisation of diverse events.
3. To strengthen international cooperation and exchange of experience – by encouraging the involvement of volunteers from different countries and creating an environment for cultural exchange and intercultural dialogue.
4. To promote personal growth and skill development – by offering volunteers opportunities to acquire new skills and gain experience in event implementation processes, cultural management and communication.
5. To increase public awareness of culture and its importance – by fostering interest in arts and culture and engaging volunteers as cultural ambassadors who help disseminate information and involve wider audiences.
6. To strengthen the image and identity of the city and region – volunteer involvement helps showcase the city's hospitality and community spirit, significantly enhancing the image and reputation of the European Capital of Culture.

Our Core Principles

Our volunteers embody the core values of Liepāja 2027 in their work: courage, diversity, community and opportunities.

These values form the foundation of our collaboration with volunteers and local communities.

Courage

Courage means not being afraid to get involved, ask questions and take action to create positive change. We stand for a bold culture that not only entertains, but also encourages thinking, discussion and breaking established boundaries. In its events and communication, Liepāja 2027 highlights participation and equality, and volunteers are an integral part of this. Their courage may be expressed through active involvement, supporting others or introducing new ideas into our shared work.

Diversity

Art and culture are as diverse as the people who create them. We ensure that various voices, experiences and perspectives are reflected in the Liepāja 2027 programme and activities. We use diverse communication channels and multiple languages to reach the widest possible audience. Volunteers help make events more accessible and inclusive, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and heard.

Community

Liepāja 2027 is shaped by people, and community lies at its core. We believe that culture becomes strong only when everyone can take part. Volunteers are part of our community — they not only provide support, but also build new connections, inspire others and help make Liepāja a place where culture is born through collaboration. Community also means support; we want volunteers to feel safe and valued, and to know that their contribution matters.

Opportunities

In Liepāja, the European Capital of Culture, 2027 will be a year of opportunities for all of us! We invite everyone to participate in volunteer work — artists, local history experts, Excel masters, art lovers, and also those who may never have been involved in cultural activities before but now wish to try something new. Our goal is to create an environment where people can discover their strengths, learn and grow, while creating unforgettable cultural experiences for themselves and others.



Rights and Responsibilities of Volunteers

Volunteer Rights

- to be informed about the procedures for volunteer selection;
- to perform meaningful and valuable work;
- to clearly understand what is expected of them;
- to receive appropriate training;
- to be appreciated and recognised;
- to receive support and assistance;
- to have opportunities for personal development through their work;
- to make mistakes and learn from them;
- to know whom to contact in case of problems;
- to receive reimbursement of incurred expenses;
- to be informed about disciplinary procedures and complaint processes;
- to receive equal treatment and not be discriminated against;
- to work in a safe working environment;
- to be informed and given opportunities to actively participate in the organisation's activities;
- to refuse assigned tasks with justification – volunteers have the right to say NO.

Volunteer Responsibilities

- to respect the organisation's goals and values;
- to carry out tasks with commitment and dedication;
- to be reliable and inform about delays or inability to attend;
- to be punctual;
- to attend required training sessions and meetings;
- to perform tasks with quality;
- to be honest and report any difficulties;
- to respect confidentiality;
- to end volunteer work upon request of the volunteer coordinator or if the work no longer provides personal fulfilment.

Volunteer Tasks

Information and Hospitality

- providing information and assistance to visitors at events and in public spaces;
- working at the Liepāja 2027 information point;
- assisting people with various types of disabilities (visual, hearing, mobility and intellectual impairments);
- welcoming and directing local and international guests to the appropriate locations.

Events

- preparation and dismantling of event venues;
- entrance and ticket control;
- cloakroom services;
- organising visitor flow and monitoring safety;
- serving food and beverages;
- backstage assistance;
- traffic coordination near event locations.

Team Leaders

- coordinating volunteers;
- providing support and motivation;
- solving problems;
- reporting and documentation.

Communication and Marketing

- capturing events and volunteer life through photos and videos;
- creating social media content;
- distributing Liepāja 2027 informational materials;
- sharing volunteer experience stories.

First Aid

- providing first aid at events (if the volunteer holds a relevant certificate).

Culture Buddy

A Culture Buddy is a local resident who helps a newly arrived person get to know the new environment, traditions and society. This may include shared activities, language practice and support in everyday situations, fostering mutual understanding and inclusion.

- applying to be a Culture Buddy for a specific event;
- introducing guests to cultural locations in Liepāja and its surroundings;
- opening one's home or hobby space to visitors to offer a unique experience.

The European Capital of Culture year will be dynamic and full of surprises, so new tasks and opportunities may emerge over time. We will also collect information about volunteers' special skills and experience to create tasks that match their abilities. Our goal is to offer you the chance to do what you enjoy, while also expecting flexibility and willingness to engage in diverse tasks.



What We Offer and What We Expect

As a Liepāja 2027 volunteer, you will receive everything you need to feel safe and confident in your role: training, a volunteer kit and insurance. You will gain a unique opportunity to see behind the scenes of events and even experience cultural happenings before they are opened to the wider public.

You can get involved as much as your time and motivation allow. We will take your skills and interests into account to find the most suitable role for you.

You do not need to be a cultural guru or a stage star – we will teach you everything you need! If you are interested in the European Capital of Culture year, eager to learn and have some free time, we warmly welcome you.

Volunteers must be at least 13 years old at the time they take on their first task.

Why Join?

- A cultural adventure – be part of internationally significant events and festivals;
- New skills and knowledge – from event organisation to communication and creative activities;
- A friendly and supportive community – meet like-minded people and build new connections;
- Personal growth – develop leadership and teamwork skills and improve language proficiency;
- Official recognition – a certificate acknowledging your contribution and skills for future use.

Who Is This Programme For?

Anyone aged 13 and above who wants to gain a unique experience. Local and international volunteers who wish to be part of the European Capital of Culture story. Those interested in volunteering on a regular or long-term basis, as well as in major large-scale events.



How to Apply?

Applications open on 10th February and close on 27th February!

Complete the online application form epakalpojumi.liepaja.lv and choose the type of involvement that suits you best. Contact us by email: izabella.dzerina@liepaja2027.lv

Join us and become part of the (un)rest!

