

INFOPACK

Chart the Rainbow

Zlata Idka, Slovakia, 21 - 29 April 2023

ABOUT THE TRAINING COURSE

If you are intrigued by maps - mapping - cartography - alternative ways of learning about places - creating your own maps - exploring what is the concept of subjective mapping... keep reading... :)

“Maps are neither mirrors of nature nor neutral transmitters of universal truths. They are narratives with a purpose, stories with an agenda. They contain silences as well as articulations, secrets as well as knowledge, lies as well as truth. They are biased, partial, and selective.” Short, J.R.

Maps hold unparalleled storytelling power. They can store and express our emotions into minimalistic shapes without usage of the words.

With **Chart the rainbow** training course we want to explore how much do maps reflect our presence and how much our absence in the public space? How much do they reflect our own being in place? We will look for meanings behind existing maps and also re-think how much the maps represent or reflect the (in)equalities in our society. Through different workshops in which we are going to use various materials and play with analog, digital and other kinds of maps, we will awaken our embodied memories and deepen our knowledge and awareness *of* and *in* familiar places.

The idea of the training is that the participants, after experiencing subjective mapping tools “first hand”, propose and facilitate newly acquired knowledge and skills within their own community and with their target group, be it youth at risk, queer youth, marginalised youth and such. The final goal of the training is that maps and creative mapping techniques become part of the teaching and facilitating tools of youthworkers who strive to improve the self-awareness and visibility of queer youth and other youth at risk of social exclusion.

Chart the rainbow is all about...

- learning about different types of objective and “non objective” maps: sensorial, poetic, abstract
- exploring the concepts of subjective mapping as a storytelling method
- experiencing different mapping exercises as vehicle for our self-awareness and personal growth
- creating maps based on “alternative” data that is drawn from participant’s personal perspective and experience
- exploring how mapping can be adjusted and used in working with youth and youngsters at risk, especially queer youth
- creating an atlas of inspiring maps that can be used as a tool in participants’ future work

PRACTICAL INFO

Where and when is Chart the rainbow taking place?

We are going to spend time in a training and recreational facility Zlatá Idka, Réka. You can see the venue on the map here: <https://goo.gl/maps/53KR9HR6SSRYoJHV8>

The venue is rather spacious and we will be alone there. If you like the nature, you will enjoy forrest and river nearby and short and longer walks you can do in your free time! You will be staying in double rooms with separate facilities.

NB: There is no shop near the venue. The venue is quite secluded and far from everything so please, do your shopping before arriving (or wait for the shopping days:) However, you can count on shopping list that will run every 2-3 days so you will be able to “order” what you will need and one of our team members will buy it for you in Košice.

April 21 is the arrival day. The departure day is April 29, after breakfast. If you have to catch an earlier train or a bus, don't worry, we will make sure you get to the station and you will get a breakfast package the evening before.

Travel arrangements

You are responsible for arranging your own travel **to Zlata Idka/Košice**.

Zlata Idka is located near **Košice**, where you have to arrive first in order to catch a bus to the village. It runs approx. every 2 hours, the schedule can be found here: [LINK](#). If you won't be on time to catch the bus, we will come to pick you up :)

The closest or most convenient airports are: Budapest, Cracow, Bratislava, Vienna, Prague, Kosice (it's possible to arrive and/or depart few days later/before, there are no limitations).

From Krakow and Budapest, there are also shuttle services or buses. You can check here for shuttle from Budapest to Košice: <https://izijet.sk/sk> <https://www.cassoviaexpres.sk/en/#/> or FLIXBUS!

From Budapest there are also trains:

<https://predaj.zssk.sk/search>

These are the **travel allowance limits**:

- up to €180 for participants from Slovakia, Czech Republic and Serbia

- up to €275 for participants from Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Spain, Romania

Before buying, please send me your travel arrangement proposal so I can confirm and you can proceed:)

Please, keep all the travel-related documents, including boarding passes. When checking in, choose boarding passes also in PDF format - some mobile boarding passes have the nasty habit of disappearing. Remember, without any and all proof of your travel, we will not be able to reimburse you. We will always need a document with a price on it (ideally also an invoice).

Reimbursement will be done via bank transfer after the training once we receive all originals, hard copies and a signed reimbursement form.

NB: The daily program of the training course starts in the morning of 22nd April. It is important all participants commit to take part in all activities of the training course. Every day we will have different activities and longer and shorter breaks. The daily program will normally finish around 6 PM.

We will have one day off when you are free to travel, explore the surroundings or just rest and enjoy:)

About the trainers:

Karolina Ufa is youth worker and non-formal educational promoter implementing and coordinating a number of local and international workshops addressed to young people with fewer opportunities and fellow youth workers since 2015. She designed and carried out Creative Writing courses in France and Sweden as well as Digital Storytelling TC in Poland. Currently she is working as a trainer with teenagers on topic of intercultural dialogue with usage of biblioguiding techniques. She graduated Literature and Mental Health course organized by University of Warwick where she discovered how poems, plays and novels can help understand and cope with deep emotional strain.

Marija Biljan has a background in cultural anthropology and loves collecting stories of people and places, exploring concepts of identity in space. In her project City as a person, Marija combines art and anthropology, illustration and storytelling. Since 2017 she has been employing subjective mapping techniques in order to discover new viewpoints on human dwelling in cities; she conducts workshops where maps and mapping are used as a tool to awake senses and as media to transfer participants' perceptions of life, routine, routes and all other experiences in physical places.