



## Romania 2019: Project Information

Is International Volunteering right for you? This document will give you a brief outline about volunteering with the **Andreea's Club** in **Romania** this year. Please read this information carefully. Details on How to apply at the end of this document. **Please specify which dates you are available within your application.**

### Project Information

We are excited to offer you a unique opportunity to spend a summer working with Andreeas Club, which has welcomed volunteers from Leeds Beckett University for several years. The project provides an amazing **all-expenses paid trip** to Romania in return for your time teaching English! The club provides an enjoyable experience for Romanian children to spend a week learning essential language skills run entirely by volunteers. The students are aged between 6 – 18 years old.



Volunteers are recruited from all over the world including the UK, Europe, America plus many more and many people return repeatedly as they enjoy the experience so much.

The camp operates on a weekly schedule, Monday evening – Sunday morning and consists of English classes, sports, trips and fun activities such as face-painting and discos. The children arrive on Monday and have a graduation ceremony on Sunday morning, then the whole process begins again the next day with the new arrivals.

Volunteers are requested to commit to a **minimum of 4 weeks up to a maximum of 12 weeks**, all hours will count towards any placement requirements. There is a choice of two camps.

### About the organisation

Andreea's Club has been running since 2011, though Andreea has been teaching English since 2003. The English camps are organised by Andreea and Daniel who understand the importance of teaching Romanian children English. The camps rely solely on volunteers to teach English as teachers, tutors, supervisors or trainers as an alternative placement to gain more experience working with children and young adults who speak English as a second language.

Each camp has around 40 volunteers. Volunteers come from all over the world, but there has been a large number of Leeds Beckett students each year which is why we have now joined forces to help encourage our students to become more involved in this incredible opportunity, including pre-departure support and guidance.

### About the camp

Volunteers will fly to Bucharest, Romania and be transported to one of two camps, both of which are situated in beautiful mountain cities and an hour's car journey from each other. Volunteers will arrive on Sunday and undertake an induction and orientation with the camp. The children will arrive

every Monday evening and leave Sunday morning. The children are divided into groups depending on their age and level of English.

**Camp 1:** Piatra Neam, approximately 6 hours from Bucharest

**Camp 2:** Gura Humorului, approximately 7 hours from Bucharest

### About the volunteer role

We are seeking those who are enthusiastic with a passion for working with children and young adults. No prior experience is required as training is provided. You will be expected to ensure that lessons are fun, using games and other creative activities to engage the children to improve their English. You will work alongside another volunteer, usually a returning volunteer and/or supervisor to help run your classes.

You will be responsible for teaching English, tutoring, mentoring, facilitating learning, training other volunteers and possibly progressing onto a supervisory role, depending on the length of time you volunteer for. We are looking to recruit a group of 20 – 25 volunteers who can commit to a minimum of 4 weeks up to a maximum of 12 weeks.



### Activities Whilst at the Camp

Limited space on the coaches so you may not be able to go on every activity opportunity. You may or may not be able to return to your accommodation due to coach capacity so please be prepared to entertain yourself at camp – take a book, playing cards etc.

Due to the safety and security of all volunteers, individuals are not permitted to make own travel plans whilst at camp (e.g. take taxis/local transport) and must stay at camp each day.

### Arrival for Teaching Activity Each Day

Please be aware of punctuality each day. You will be sharing accommodation (and bathrooms) with many other volunteers so it is important to ensure that you devise a workable schedule for showers etc, and ensure that you arrive on time each day to ensure that teaching start times are not delayed.

**Camp 1:** Accommodation is a brief walk from camp so volunteers must walk across - please ensure that you arrive no later than 9.45 am each day.

**Camp 2:** Accommodation is approx. 20 minute car journey so all volunteers must be ready to depart at 9.30 am each day. If you are late, you make the whole coach late so please take extra care to arrive on time.

### Typical Schedule

Please note that the below is a guide only – as with all volunteering activities timings may be subject to change. In your final week, you will miss the final graduation ceremony due to travelling to Bucharest to catch your return flight.

Monday	Meet new arrivals, 7.30pm – 8.30 pm
Tuesday	English Class, 10.30 am – 11.30 am (then coffee break) English Class, 12.00 – 1.00 pm (lunch) Games & Sports, 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm Evening disco
Wednesday	English Class, 10.30 am – 11.30 am (then coffee break) English Class, 12.00 – 1.00 pm (lunch) Water Park trip & horse-riding ( <i>or volunteers can have a free afternoon</i> ) Evening disco
Thursday	English Class, 10.30 am – 11.30 am (then coffee break) English Class, 12.00 – 1.00 pm (lunch) Red Lake trip – hiking, sailing ( <i>or volunteers can have a free afternoon</i> ) Evening disco
Friday	English Class, 10.30 am – 11.30 am (then coffee break) English Class, 12.00 – 1.00 pm (lunch) Cable-car trip / paint-ball / zoo visit ( <i>or volunteers can have a free afternoon</i> ) Evening disco
Saturday	English Class, 10.30 am – 11.30 am (then coffee break) English Class, 12.00 – 1.00 pm (lunch) Face-painting Games & Sports, 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm Evening disco
Sunday	AM – Graduation ceremony & farewells PM – Volunteers BBQ / excursion (cinema/sailing/spa/swimming etc)

## Project Start date:

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 - *it may be possible to depart later in the summer if you are unavailable in June.*

**Project End date:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**Minimum commitment:** 4 weeks

**Fees:** £100 deposit to secure your place, fully refunded upon completion of volunteering

## Food & Accommodation

You will be sharing rooms with several other volunteers, and facilities. Cleaners are employed to take care of communal areas but you must take care to clean up after yourself and to keep your suitcase and clothes area tidy. Please ensure that you devise a schedule for showers and accessing the bathrooms and respect each other. All meals are provided, catering with a range of cuisines and can be tailored for particular dietary requirements.



### What's included?

- This is an **all-expenses paid trip** which includes:
- Return flight from London Airport (Will be either Luton, Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted or City airport, best fare/journey available)
- Transport from Bucharest, Romania to the camp
- Accommodation
- 3 meals a days
- Various excursions (as detailed in the schedule above)
- Team Meetings before departure
- Leeds Beckett University T-shirt and Hoody
- DBS check



### What's NOT included?

- Transport to UK Airport – you must make your own way to your departure airport
- Travel Insurance – you must take out your own European cover
- Personal spending money

### Collection from Bucharest Airport

Volunteers will be arriving from different cities and countries and at different times throughout the day. Depending on the time of your flight, you will experience one of the following:

A wait in the airport for other arrivals (bring a book/snacks), this could be several hours

Directed to a pick-up point somewhere in/outside the airport (e.g. a car pick-up point)

Please note that due to camp activities, we cannot guarantee that Andreea or Daniel will be there personally, but they will be contactable by phone. They will send a representative of their choosing, who will transport you to a hotel for your first night's accommodation.

### Volunteering dates available

To ensure that we can plan accordingly for numbers at camp, and to ensure adequate provision of beds in each accommodation we have created six options of dates for you to choose from. We ask for you to *consider these dates* at the point of application and to indicate which is your preference at the point of application.

### Confirming dates

Following the selection event, we will ask you to *confirm the dates* immediately with your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice of dates. If you are completely flexible, please also tell us, with the maximum number weeks that you wish to volunteer for. Once we have this information, we will attempt to juggle the dates selected to ensure that everyone gets their first choice to allow the maximum number of volunteers permitted at each camp. We can host up to 16 LBU volunteers over 4 weeks across both camps (8 LBU volunteers per camp). We will remind you of this information at the selection event.

### Being placed with another volunteer

Following the selection event, you can tell us if there is another volunteer that you wish to be placed with in the same camp. Please note that this will be possible for 2 volunteers but cannot be guaranteed for larger numbers. We will try to accommodate all requests but this cannot be guaranteed.

Please note that most volunteers wished that they had stayed for longer so please do select as long as possible (so you don't regret leaving too soon!).

#### **Option 1 – First 4 weeks = 4 weeks total**

Depart U.K. on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June > (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June > camp begins Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June > return to Bucharest Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July

Flight home will either be Sat 14<sup>th</sup> July or Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July – depends on availability & time of flight

#### **Option 2 - Middle 4 weeks = 4 weeks total**

Depart U.K Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July > return to Bucharest Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Flight home will either be Sat 10<sup>th</sup> August or Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August – depends on availability & time of flight

#### **Option 3 – Last 4 weeks = 4 weeks total**

Depart U.K. Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August > final day of camp Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September > end of camp party Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September > return to Bucharest Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September and fly home

#### **Option 4 - First AND middle 4 weeks = 8 weeks total**

Depart U.K. on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June > (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June > camp begins Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June > return to Bucharest Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Flight home will either be Sat 10<sup>th</sup> August or Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August – depends on availability & time of flight

#### **Option 5 - Middle AND last 4 weeks = 8 weeks total**

Depart U.K Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July > final day of camp Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September > end of camp party Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September > return to Bucharest Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September and fly home

#### **Option 6 – All 12 weeks = 12 weeks total**

Depart U.K. on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June > (stay overnight in Bucharest) > travel to camp Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June > camp begins Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June > final day of camp Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September > end of camp party Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September > return to Bucharest Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September and fly home

## How to apply

Thank you for your interest! To apply for this international volunteering opportunity, please complete the following steps:

- 1) **Read the WHOLE APPLICATION**
- 2) **Click to apply on our website and complete a supporting statement**
- 3) **Remember to attach a copy/photo of your passport – with at least 12 months remaining on your passport**

**We will be accepting applications on a first-come basis so please apply ASAP!**

We will review all applications and be in touch to confirm whether your application has been successful. If successful, we will ask you to pay a £100 deposit to secure your place.

## INFORMATION SESSION

We will be hosting an information sessions in January. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the project and to meet previous volunteers and ask lots of questions! Even if you can only call by for 15 minutes, please join us to find out more.

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 4- 5pm City **Rosebowl** room 538
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January , 4- 5pm **Headingley** James Graham lecture theatre C
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 4 – 5pm **Headingley** James Graham lecture theatre C

**Application deadline Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 – 11.00 pm**

### **IMPORTANT TO NOTE BEFORE APPLYING:**

1. Applications ***will not be*** considered without a passport valid for 12 months – please do not submit an application without one as it ***will not be*** considered even if you submit it separately at a later date. Please do not email us to ask about this.
2. If successful, a £100 deposit is payable no later than Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019. This deposit secures your place and is *fully refundable* upon successful completion of volunteering.

**Shortlisting will take place Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

***If successful:*** we will contact you by Friday 8th February 4.00 pm and invite you to one of the selection events (please keep both these dates free in your diary):

- Selection event 1: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 4.00 – 6.00 pm **City – Rosebowl 210**
- Selection event 2: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 4.00 – 6.00 pm **Headingley – Caedmon G05**

***If unsuccessful:*** we will contact you to let you know by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

For more information please email [volunteering@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

