

Volunteer report by Beatriz Bastida
European Solidarity Corps volunteer at StudentInnenkinderhort
from 01/10/2021 to 08/07/2022

Hi!!! ☀️

I'm Bea from Spain and I did my volunteer work in an after school center for children from 6 to 10 years old in Vienna. My tasks were picking the children up from school, correcting their homework, helping my co-workers in the lunch time and supervising them in their free time. We also did some activities like a visit to the Technical Museum, the ZOOM Kindermuseum, Wienextra Spielbox for creating a board game, several parks and in the last week we went four days to Styria to enjoy its wonderful environment. I could learn a lot from my co-workers, Camillo and Astrid, as they know how to give freedom to the children, making it clear to them where their limits are. They made me feel at home and we could share our passion for music.



I lived in the 20th district, which is very close to the river and to the center of Vienna, and I shared it with two lovely girls, from Turkish Kurdistan and Georgia. And in all these nine months I had the opportunity, thanks to the On-Arrival Training and the Mid-Term Training too, to meet people from all around the world. This fact opens your political, social and economic perspective and gives you a chance to try new things. Being constantly out of your comfort zone makes you reflect about yourself and what kind of life you want to have.

My recommendations for future volunteers in Vienna are to study german before and during the project (but know that most people here speak english), to be informed about the cultural events (some are free, especially from May to October), to get the ÖBB Vorteils card for traveling in Austria (I strongly suggest to visit Innsbruck and Vorarlberg), to take advantage of the location of this city and make trips to Central Europe, and to be open for different feelings and situations. Vienna is a very inclusive and artistic city. Be prepared to be surprised!

