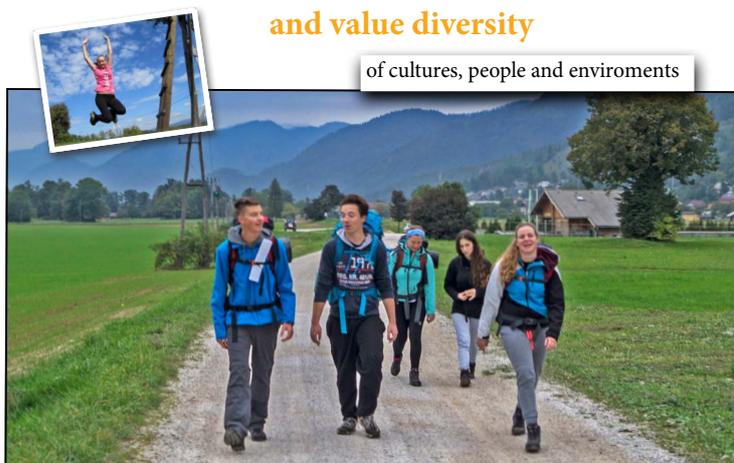


Be RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER



and value diversity

of cultures, people and environments



1. PLAN AND PREPARE

Do some research about the destination to learn more about it. Make a plan according to the principles of responsible travelling. Learn some local language in order to understand other cultures and people better. Have suitable equipment.

2. FIND NEW HORIZONS

You do not develop as a personality if you stay at home. You learn nothing if do not use your knowledge in practice. With travelling you can reach even more. It is another side of education. Everyone who travels has different point of view on many things, usually more sophisticated one. You may face many difficulties while travelling and it is great challenge to cope with them. You are aware of two worlds - the one that is at home and the other one which is abroad.

3. RESPECT LOCAL CULTURE

Culture reflects the traditions, history and people of the country. Have an interest for the local way of life; behave according to the rules applied there. Although sometimes we may find things difficult to understand, we should always tolerate the culture of other countries.



7. AVOID DANGER

Never take actions that may be risky for you or anybody else. Think twice and make once. Always make sure that someone else knows what your plans are. Have an appropriate insurance. Know relevant numbers for mountain rescue team and the embassy of your country.

8. BE SELF-SUFFICIENT AND INDEPENDENT

Make sure you have everything to be independent and self-sufficient. Never rely on others' help. The more you depend on other things less independent you are.

9. BE PART OF THE TEAM

If travelling with somebody else always discuss with them your suggestions and feelings. Be prepared to show respect for other members of the team and also to be strong enough to enforce your point of view. Don't forget you always have to respect the weakest member in the group. Never act as if you are solitary.

Gimnazija Franceta Prešerna, Kranj, Slovenija
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Responsible travel raises awareness of tourists' impact on natural and cultural heritage of destination, but also creates positive effects on local economy and prosperity of local community.

In this project we explore the opportunities for development of responsible travel in our local areas and organize travel programs according to following 10 principles of responsible travel. These principles are results of participants' work during first project period.

4. COOPERATE WITH LOCAL PEOPLE

Establish contact with local people. Communicate with them about their way of life. Ask them for information about places to visit, things to buy and other. Any kind of help for local people is very supportive and shows that travelling can be really responsible. With voluntary work and contributions support the vulnerable groups of people. After travel try to maintain contacts with the local people, send to them promised photos and letters, invite them to visit your country and offer them guidance, food and accommodation.

5. THINK ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Since travelling is closely connected with the movement of people from one place to another it is important that no harm is made to the environment because of that. Use environmentally friendly transport and budget transport while travelling. Reduce waste. Use biodegradable packaging or packaging for multiple uses. In the nature leave as little traces as possible.

6. SUPPORT THE LOCAL BUSINESSES

Contribute to the development of the local economy by promoting and supporting it: use local carriers and accommodations, travel with local guides and eat locally produced food. When paying ensure the money goes into the right hands. Cook and prepare food yourself using local products and traditional ingredients. Try to promote the local food of your own areas. Try to buy and use hand-made things by local crafts to promote them and support them. Do not buy souvenirs, whose manufacturing process does not comply with the UN Convention of the children rights. Buy souvenirs which were not made from endangered animals and plants.



10. RAISE AWARENES ABOUT RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

Organize presentations focusing on raising awareness of responsible travel, continue to provide information about good places and give feedback to tourist agencies. Prepare the summary of what we learnt, what we did well, what could be improved in the future. Reflect on the stereotypes that we had about this country and its people, perhaps our thinking has changed.