

Youth Hostelling – A great idea



The Youth Hostelling movement began in Germany in 1909. Nearly one hundred years later, the objective of promoting education, intercultural exchange and dialogue between young people is just as vital and challenging in our daily work.

Youth Hostels offer accommodation which permits no

distinction between race, nationality, colour, religion, sex, class, or political opinions and through this aims to reach a better mutual understanding of our fellow human beings, both at home and abroad. Hostels also offer a remarkably wide range of programmes and activities, which work to overcome barriers to intercultural dialogue and promote European integration. Young people participating in these programmes across Europe will enjoy improved skills and intercultural awareness.



EUFED and its members – A great success

EUFED represents the interests, at EU level, of the national Youth Hostel Associations of Europe and the young people who stay at Youth Hostels. Established in 1987 with 11 European member associations, in 2007 EUFED represents 22 Youth Hostel Associations across 19 European countries, operating 1.800 Youth Hostels, serving 2.8 million members and recording more than 23 million overnight stays per year within Europe.



EUFED and the EU - Building Europe together



EUFED's main focus is on working on coordination, strategy building for the future and advocacy for young people. Young people have limited funds, but they are eager to experience different cultures. They are open to new ideas and are pioneers for a "European identity". We need from European institutions awareness of the role we have to play and willingness to support our work, today and in the future. "Investing in youth is to invest in our European future".

EUFED aims to transform best practice at national Youth Hostel Association level into a cohesive European method, and to disseminate experience gained from EU funded projects to daily hostel life as well as raising awareness amongst young people about EU matters.

Eco-Hostelling
easy steps to environmental sustainability

Why? What? How? Who & Where?

Welcome to the EUFED e-learning environmental module

This module is aimed at Youth Hostel managers, staff and volunteers, as well as employees in the Head Offices of national Youth Hostel Associations. It answers the key questions: Why, What, How and Who & Where.

It is the first international on-line training resource for creating and maintaining a common standard for environmental performance at Youth Hostels across Europe and beyond.

This module is designed to be user friendly, enjoyable, practical and above all, action-focused.

This project has been carried out with the support of the European Community. The content of this project does not necessarily reflect the position of the European Community, nor does it involve any responsibility in the part of the European Community.



- **Access to Europe for all**, which means overcoming barriers for youth travel to, and within, Europe (visa reform).
- Contribute to the EU in the fields of education, social inclusion and the environment, which means ensuring that **children in Europe have the opportunity of at least one residential stay in a Youth Hostel, as part of their school curriculum.**

- **Develop the Youth Hostel network in the EU**, which means promoting the economic and social development of the Youth Hostel movement across Europe (especially in CEE countries).

- Ensuring cultural and natural diversity in Europe, which means **promoting sustainable tourism** and building, refurbishing, establishing and rating more Youth Hostels across Europe as environmentally friendly.

- **Enhancing cultural understanding**, which means developing and conducting a range of projects in the field of multiculturalism, active citizenship and social inclusion.



Imagine you are a team leader looking for “a Learning Centre for Peace”, a teacher looking for “an alpine study centre”, a family looking for “an environmentally friendly Youth Hostel”, a backpacker looking just for “a safe Youth Hostel in a buzzing city” or you are a rambler looking for “a shelter and a warm meal in the highlands” – whatever your expectations and needs, our offers and activities will meet your requirements.



And we guarantee assured standards. The principles are simple, but fundamental. There are five components, and each Youth Hostel must meet the minimum requirements for all of them in order to bear

the Hostelling International logo as a sign of assured standards. The five components are: a warm welcome, cleanliness, security, privacy and comfort.

Our prices will be kept as low as possible in order to allow everyone to stay in Youth Hostels. This is our social responsibility.

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