

## My EVS on Chios Island, Greece

My decision to do a European Voluntary Service, was kind of a surprise to most of my family and friends, as I was rather reserved and enjoyed being in familiar surroundings. After I applied for various projects in different countries, I got accepted by a project on Chios Island, Greece.



During my twelve months on the island I was living together with five other EVS volunteers, in a three-floor stone house close to the Aegean Sea. My work's focus was on educational and technological aspects and my project offered a variety of tasks. Most of my time I spent as an assistant teacher in the third primary school and kindergarten of Vrontados, a small village in the north of Chios Island. During the summer months, we organized activities, for example games or dances, for the children in the afternoon.

Furthermore, we maintained and improved the organization's websites and realized projects, such as videos and a computer game, programmed with Scratch. We also had the chance to learn basic sailing skills, as our organization owns a sailing yacht.

Through my EVS I not only acquired beneficial computer skills but also gained a deep insight into the Greek culture and learned a lot about myself as well as improved my social skills.

Thinking of my time on Chios Island I can't choose one special moment but what always warmed my heart and made me smile for the rest of the day, was when children recognized me on the street and had the biggest smile on their faces while screaming my name.



Now, that my twelve months are coming to an end, I can only recommend the European Voluntary Service, as it not only widens your horizon but also helps you gain knowledge in various fields and gives you the opportunity to make experiences, you would have never had the chance to make otherwise.

Thanks to my EVS on Chios Island I not only made friends with people from all over Europe but all over the world.

The experience of sacrificing an entire year of my life to a small community, contributing my will and power and becoming a part of their lives is an incredible feeling that is not comparable to anything else.

In the end, the only thing left to say, is that the memories and experiences I made during my EVS are truly amazing and that I will ever forget my time on Chios Island, Greece.