



What is Global Village?

Global Village offers international volunteers the opportunity to take part in the "hands on" construction or renovation of homes in more than 40 countries around the world. Participating in a Global Village team offers a unique travel experience and an unforgettable opportunity to be fully immersed in the local community. Team members experience great personal growth through cultural and linguistic challenges, and return to their home countries transformed.

Join a Global Village team and you can make a difference in the lives of Macedonian families in need of a simple, decent place to live. You might just find your own life changed as well.

MACEDONIA

Building together for a brighter future

The Republic of Macedonia is a small landlocked country, situated in the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula and is one of the poorest countries in Europe. Many have named it "The pearl of the Balkan". The numerous mountains, forests, rivers and lakes present great tourist attractions. The cultural map is exceptionally rich and versatile. Valuable archaeological sites, a large number of churches and monasteries with their icons, wall paintings and woodcarvings, they are all testifying about the cultural heritage of the country.

Poverty housing has multiple dimensions in Macedonia and cannot be adequately defined through simple parameters. However, the basic understanding of sub-standard housing includes absence of property rights and housing titles and a lack of proper connection to water (11%), sewage networks (36%) and solid waste collection. The average home is more than 40 years old and most of the inhabitants belong to different generations, leaving under the same roof.

Habitat facts

Families served
more than 7,000

Construction types
New homes
Home reconstruction

Hosting season
February - October

Team size
6-30 volunteers

Number of volunteers hosted
more than 1,800



Did you know

The capital of Macedonia, Skopje, is the birth place of Mother Theresa.

The oldest lake in Europe and the third oldest in the world is the Ohrid Lake, a world cultural heritage, protected by UNESCO. There are 365 churches on its shores, and the oldest one dates from the 4th century.



BLUEPRINT FOR VOLUNTEERING

Habitat for Humanity's Global Village program



Logistics

How to get there

Teams arrive by international flights to Skopje. The distance from the airport to the center of Skopje is 20 kilometers. The distance from Skopje to the worksite in Veles is around 50 kilometers.

Lodging

Volunteers will be housed in hotels in Skopje or Veles. The accommodations in Skopje can be located in the center of the city, but in Veles the hotel is about 10 kilometers from the center of the city. Accommodations in Macedonia can be described as safe, clean and comfortable. Each room has a telephone, wireless internet access, bathroom, shower facility and toilet.

Transportation

The hosting staff will make arrangements for transportation from the airport, and a representative from Habitat Macedonia will meet the team upon arrival. Depending on the size of the team and destination, transportation typically takes the form of a private minivan and driver.

Food and water

Breakfast is always served in the hotel. Lunch is served on the worksite, eating with the families. Dinner is served at local restaurants. Tap water in Macedonia is sanitary to drink. Also, bottled water can be bought in the local markets.



Meet a Habitat family

Simeon and Gabriela Gicevi and their four-year old daughter Marija share one room in Simeon's parents' house in the Macedonian countryside village of Chulashevo. Simeon runs a small pig farm with his father and Gabriela works in a textile factory in her home town, commuting an hour each way every working day.

Simeon and Gabriela would like to expand their family, but they have decided to wait until they are able to afford an apartment in Veles, a nearby city where the family used to live before Simeon's father was forced to sell their apartment after he'd lost his job. The small village is no place to raise children, especially since the local school only goes to the fourth grade. The solution came with the Habitat apartments in Veles for which Simeon and Gabriela applied. They are both looking forward to moving back to the city.

What do the volunteers say?

"Meeting the family for whom we were building the house was a highlight. That gave much meaning to my sore back and arms. The family was 'normal', just like us - they seemed so nice and grateful for our help."

**Join us on a journey of adventure,
life enrichment and joy, choose
a place and start making a
difference now!**

Contact

**Habitat for Humanity International
Europe, Middle East and Africa
The Global Village Program**

Phone: +421-2-3366 9000
www.habitatemea.org
gv.emea@habitat.org

