



Past-Times

**WEBQUEST – IO4
AEVA**

Introduction

The European Capitals of Culture initiative was developed in 1985 and its aim is to highlight the richness and diversity of cultures in Europe, increasing European citizens' sense of belonging to a common cultural area.

Additionally, the event has proven to be an excellent opportunity for enhancing the image of cities in the eyes of their own inhabitants and boosting tourism.

The European Capitals of Culture are formally designated four years before the actual year, after a previous submission presented by the country.

Aveiro has applied, among other Portuguese cities, to be the European Capital of Culture in 2027.



Tasks

Taking into account the previous editions of European Capitals of Culture and its results, the values that Aveiro has identified in its Strategic Plan for Culture, you should present your own program.

To do this, you should:

- do a critical analysis of what happened in other European cities – what kind of activities people had preferred and also new tendencies and approaches linked to digital and people's lifestyle;
- research about Aveiro and its history, culture and traditions.



Process

Step 1: What is the European Capitals of Culture initiative?

Since its beginning in 1985 until now, there has been more than 50 cities across the European Union. With this initiative, the aim is to put cities at the heart of cultural life across Europe and by doing so, improving the quality of life in these cities and strengthen

their sense of community. Capitals of Culture promote mutual understanding and show how the universal language of creativity opens Europe to cultures from across the world. Take a look at the content available in these links to better understand what is the European Capitals of Culture initiative and try also to research by your own. Talk to your Host e get his/her perspective about the subject.

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/actions/capitals-culture_en
<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/sites/creative-europe/files/library/eu-capitals-of-culture-factsheet-2019.pdf>

Step 2: More than 30 years of European Capitals of Culture experience

In order to present your own program you can learn from previous editions and look for good experiences. What was done in those cases and how did it work? Did people have enjoyed it?

In 2019, the European Capitals of Culture are Matera, in Italy, and Plovdiv, in Bulgaria. Take a look at their programs, what is included and how it's communicated (see the links below).

You can also consider some evaluation reports published by the European Commission regarding each city experience if it helps you.

In Portugal there were already some European Capitals of Culture: Guimarães in 2012, Porto in 2001 and Lisboa in 1994. Talk to your Host and see if he remembers any event he had seen, what exactly does he remember of it and the it's spirit, what was people's mood towards this kind of initiative.



<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/658e3186-7d3e-11e5-b8b7-01aa75ed71a1>

<https://www.matera-basilicata2019.it/en/>

<https://plovdiv2019.eu/en>

Step 3: What would you change?

Now that you has already a perspective about the values and main objectives of this kind of initiative, reflect about it and discuss with your host about the things you would change, if you could. Did you feel that some areas or subjects were missing? If so, which? Do you think that the events announcement could be improved to reach more people?

Make a list:

- a) things you would included
- b) things you would excluded
- c) alternatives of events announcement and communication

Step 4: Aveiro – what is all about?

Now it's time to do some research about Aveiro's culture, its history, gastronomy and all the regional resources and traditions that can take part in the European Capital of Culture. Read about the art nouveau buildings, the traditional tiles but also about "moliceiros" and "ovos moles". Talk to your host and try to visit "*in loco*" some of the places and to experience some of the things you've read about.

Additionally, read about what the commission is doing in their program to Aveiro 2027, namely its strategic plan for culture and its values.

Use the links below and, with your host's help, try to find new sources.



<http://www.centerofportugal.com/aveiro/>

<https://www.travel-in-portugal.com/aveiro>

<https://portugalvirtual.pt/tourism/costadeprata/aveiro/ukcity.html>

https://www.lonelyplanet.com/portugal/aveiro#in_detail

<http://www.ezportugal.com/aveiro-portugal/things-to-do-aveiro/historic-attractions-aveiro>

<http://blog.europeana.eu/2017/05/art-nouveau-in-aveiro-a-walk-through-the-city/>

<https://ondacolossal.pt/en/2018/02/03/5-locais-imperdiveis-em-aveiro/>

<https://www.aveiro2027.pt/en->

<https://www.aveiro2027.pt/european-capital-of-culture>

<https://www.aveiro2027.pt/candidacy-process>

<https://www.aveiro2027.pt/strategic-plan-culture>

Step 5: Aveiro 2027 – alternatives to the program

Getting this point, it's time to reflect about all you've read and seen until now. Bearing in mind what does it mean being European Capital of Culture and also the things you've experienced and found about Aveiro's culture and history, do some critical analysis about the program and build your own. Share your program with your Host and listen his/her opinion. Discuss with your Host any divergences and try to reflect together about the reason of it, namely what cultural aspects can justify it.



Resources

- IT equipment: computers and software
- Office and/or stationary materials
- Media, Internet

Evaluation

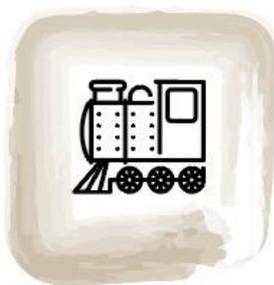
Knowledge	Skills	Attitude
Reflect about the meaning of the European Capitals of Culture initiative	Apply research skills to look for the relevant data	Contribute with own ideas to Aveiro program
List good experiences of some previous editions of European Capitals of Culture	Analyse critically the content of some programs	Promote a mutual understanding and a respect attitude towards European and Aveiro' values
Proactive look for information about Aveiro culture	Demonstrate presentation and arguing skills when presenting own program	

Conclusion

The European Capital of Culture reflects the European values, a spirit of convergence and the importance of culture as a link that helps to bring people together. By applying to be an European Capital of Culture, Aveiro assumes that shares the same values and presumes an existence of a relevant cultural heritage. Getting in contact with its history and culture, can reveal to be an excellent opportunity to understand it and feels to be part of it.

Note: All images used in this document were taken from www.pixabay.com and are free to use.

PAST-TIMES



Stories, Tales and Customs to Raise Intercultural Awareness



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