



NEWSLETTER #4

June 2025

Juslibol: Nature, Knowledge & Eco-Friendly Soap

One of the most popular outings organized by VALS in Zaragoza, Spain, was to the Juslibol area—a perfect blend of environmental education and hands-on sustainability. Juslibol is a galacho, a type of marshland formed when the meandering Ebro River carves new paths, leaving behind lakes and rich wetland habitats teeming with life. Surrounded by this unique landscape, participants explored the local flora and fauna, learning about native and migratory bird species as well as the fascinating medicinal properties of various plants.

The highlight of the day was a creative and practical workshop: making eco-friendly soap from used cooking oil. Before starting the soapmaking process we engaged in a thoughtful discussion about the environmental impact of chemical-based cleaning products and the growing problem of water pollution. The session not only raised awareness but also offered a simple, sustainable alternative. The handmade soap we produced is both kind to the planet and budget-friendly.



Spring visits to new sites



Refugee and migrant women (RMW) took part in a series of educational and nature-based activities across Belgrade. They visited Jevremovac, one of the oldest botanical gardens in the Balkans, where they explored its rich plant collections and learned about local flora.

They also visited Ada Safari, one of the lakes located within Ada Ciganlija, to experience the natural oasis in the heart of the city and deepen their understanding of the local environment.

As part of their exploration training, the group embarked on a guided hiking tour of Avala Mountain. There, they learned essential skills in trail tracking and route mapping, and enjoyed panoramic views of the region from the 200-meter-high observation tower.

To conclude their experience, the women visited Veliko Blato Lake, a protected home to 120 recorded bird species—95 of which are strictly protected. With the guidance of local experts, they gained valuable insight into the region's birdlife and broader biodiversity.

out4IN NEWSLETTER #4

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Through the vineyards of Vienna

The Out4In city hike in Vienna began at the Heiligenstadt station and led to the "Tree of Life Circle" at Himmel, a unique site inspired by Celtic traditions. Forty trees, each symbolizing different birth dates and personality traits, form a tranquil circle accompanied by classical music and interactive sound installations. Visitors explored the symbolic meanings of the trees, offering a reflective introduction to the day. After lunch at the Oktogon am Himmel, the hike continued through Vienna's green heights—Cobenzl, Kahlenberg, and Nussberg—guided by wine expert Caroline Derler. This part of the journey revealed not only scenic landscapes but also insights into the UNESCO-designated Vienna Woods Biosphere Reserve and the region's deep-rooted wine culture.



Vienna is unique as the only capital with extensive vineyards within its city limits. Local viticulture, especially the traditional Gemischter Satz, reflects centuries of tradition, sustainability, and community. The city's wine taverns, known as Heurigen, remain vibrant hubs of social and cultural life, linking guests directly with local winegrowers.

Interactive map of accessible routes

During the Out4In piloting, participants identified and mapped 15 accessible trails. With the support of facilitators and local stakeholders, the RMW collaboratively co-created the digital Guide aimed at promoting local natural heritage.

The routes will soon be displayed on an interactive map on the project website, allowing users to visually explore the trails for easier trip planning and a better understanding of the terrain.

Moreover, by combining comprehensive information with dynamic mapping, the guide significantly enhances the usability and accessibility of the content.

This integration will also facilitate transferability of the project's results, enabling other regions or organizations to adapt the Out4In Guide for their own local natural heritage promotion efforts.

