

Who can earn a badge and how?

A lot of cultural and natural heritage sites are rightly playing the education card nowadays. But most of the educational activities are solely focused on youngsters and school children, and on gaining (historical) knowledge. Furthermore, learning is hardly ever 'acknowledged' and 'validated'. Therefore, the BADGES project aims at involving adults in this process, and at providing heritage learning on sites and in public institutions.

All visitors of the participating heritage sites can earn a badge. Imagine a youngster or an adult visiting a participating museum, a nature park or an historic site, where they can watch, listen, act, participate and ... learn. At the end of the visit or, back at home, he/she gets the opportunity to give proof of what he/she learned and is awarded with a ... digital badge!



European Year of Cultural Heritage

Cultural and natural heritage has a universal value for us as individuals, communities and societies, and has a big role to play in building the future of Europe. The slogan of the **European Year of Cultural Heritage** is therefore '**our heritage: where the past meets the future**'. The BADGES project is a proud partner of the European Year of Cultural Heritage. This year, the aim is to encourage more people to discover and engage with Europe's cultural and natural heritage, and to reinforce a sense of belonging to a common European space. The year will see a series of initiatives and events across Europe, to enable people to become closer to and more involved with their cultural and natural heritage.



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Learning happens everywhere

Badges for quality learning approaches and validation of non-formal learning in heritage contexts

The **BADGES** project sets out to develop a learning and validation approach for cultural and natural heritage sites. To this end, digital badges will be awarded to visitors who participate in specific learning activities offered by the heritage sites.



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Learning happens everywhere!

How do youngsters and adults learn to cope with life and work in today's Europe? Education at school alone no longer suffices; there is an important role for on-the-job training, additional trainings and courses, adult education, etc. These are all opportunities for 'lifelong learning'. **Additionally, heritage settings offer an ideal learning environment to (further) develop knowledge, skills and attitudes; in one word 'competencies'.**

Cultural and natural heritage shapes our identities and everyday lives. It surrounds us in Europe's towns and cities, natural landscapes and archaeological sites. It is not only found in literature, art and objects, but also in the crafts we learn from our ancestors, the stories we tell our children, the food we enjoy in company, and the films we watch and recognize ourselves in.



Why BADGES?

Informal or non-formal learning is not always visible and is not always considered valuable. The heritage context, however, has a great potential for this informal learning and lifelong learning. Therefore, a European consortium, coordinated by the LandKreis Kassel (DE), starts a new Erasmus+ project: **BADGES** for quality learning approaches and validation of non-formal learning in cultural and natural heritage sites. **The BADGES project** aims at giving heritage learning the place it deserves in 'lifelong learning'.

What's BADGES?

The BADGES project wants to install a **standardized European validation and award system**, by issuing electronic badges on quality learning approaches and validation of non-formal learning in these heritage contexts. Digital badges are **online representations of achievements** of various types of learning, resulting in a better visualisation of the learning and development of competencies. In cooperation with various partners, the consortium unites heritage sites and public institutions, public relations agencies, and learning concept developers specialized in validation of non-formal and informal learning.



Partners



Landkreis Kassel

Coördinator: Landkreis Kassel (Germany)
www.landkreiskassel.de



BUPNET (Germany)
www.bupnet.de



Alden Biesen (Belgium)
www.alden-biesen.be



Trendhuis CVBA (Belgium)
www.trendhuis.be



IPLeiria (Portugal)
www.ipleiria.pt



Associazione Culturale Imago Mundi Onlus (Italy)
www.imagomundionlus.it



Malopolska Institute of Culture (Poland)
www.mik.krakow.pl



PLATO (Netherlands)
www.plato.leidenuniv.nl

More information?

www.projectbadges.eu

