

# UNMONASTERY- CALL FOR RESIDENCIES

**Matera 2019 Committee** is launching in cooperation with Edgeryders the first prototype of the unMonastery Project.

Matera 2019 Committee was set up in July 2011 in order to lead the city of Matera, Italy, bid for European Capital of Culture 2019.

Edgeryders LBG is a UK-incorporated social enterprise founded in May 2012 in order to support and facilitate open collaboration. It is the spinoff of a joint program by the Council of Europe and the European Commission concerning the transition of youth to an independent and active life.

## RATIONALE

The unMonastery, a current model of place-based social innovation, addresses the interlinked needs of empty space, unemployment and austerity.

The unMonastery is a new kind of social space, akin to co-living and co-working spaces, that serves the local communities of towns or small cities by enabling a process of co-creation and co-learning between the community and unMonasterians. By embedding committed, skilled individuals in places with a deficit of diverse skills and knowledge, it can begin to solve social and infrastructural problems by enabling native inhabitants to realise their own potential.

The unMonastery recreates the best of the social functions of the traditional monastery: by giving the unMonasterians a collective purpose, a chance to develop deep relationships with one another and a reduced need to generate personal income so time can be dedicated entirely to serving the local community and engaging in meaningful work.

The unMonastery model is well suited to a time of high youth unemployment, a sense that traditional approaches are failing, and a hunger for participative, community-based solutions to common problems.

## CALL FOR RESIDENCIES

unMonastery Matera welcomes applications for residencies. The eligible period starts on February 1st 2014 and ends on May 31st 2014. Residencies can vary in time span, dependent on the scope of your project. A residencies minimum duration is set to two months; its maximum duration is set to the entire four month period.

For the duration of the project, the applicants are expected to spend at least 90% of their time in Matera or the local region. unMonastery is designed to be a place where one can hone in on a specific project without external distraction.

Any EU resident can apply by submitting a project proposal through the [application form](#). Please don't send the application by email: fill the application form directly online.

## WHAT THE OFFER INCLUDES

In addition to living and working space in the unMonastery, successful applicants will be entitled to:

- Refund to 1 return ticket up to € 350 to Matera (Bari is the nearest international airport)
- a monthly allowance of € 400. The monthly allowance covers subsistence, insurance and production costs.

Under Italian law, all EU citizens are entitled to health insurance while on Italian territory (for more information, see European Health Insurance Card).

## CHALLENGES

Applications to the first unMonastery in Matera will be closely matched with the real needs identified by citizens of Matera as outlined in the following challenges - sourced from close engagement with the community:

- 1) Renewable Energies
- 2) Water Systems and Sustainability
- 3) Improvement of waste management: more information on waste tracking and recycling.
- 4) Need for inter-generational space.



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- 5) Need for a space for children focused on developing skills, specifically technology.
- 6) Need for more diffused awareness and knowledge on natural risks and disasters (e.g. related to seismic risks)
- 7) Lack of philanthropy and general inability on the part of many to raise funds.
- 8) Lack of accessible mobility for disabled people especially in the old town (Sassi)
- 9) ) Lack of a global view on the city, due to a fracture between the old quarters and the new quarters.
- 10) Many houses and buildings are not in use and there is no architectural innovation.
- 11) Need for offline engagement or visibility for happenings throughout the city.
- 12) There is no system (offline and online) where you can see the timetable and routes of public transport! > distances in basilicata are different from big cities > 30 mins look like long distances

More in-depth coverage of challenges can be found here:  
<http://unmonastery.eu/index.php/goals/challenges-matera/>

## ASSESSMENT SYSTEM AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be accepted on a staggered basis. With the first round of submissions being peer reviewed, shortlisted and accepted by 31st October 2013. The deadline for the first round will be September 1st 2013, the second round deadline will be on the 15th October.

Applications submitted to the unMonastery are parsed through a 3 tier selection process, this has been designed to ensure the highest level of transparency, whilst ensuring the right projects are accepted for the context. This functions are follows:

- Each application is reviewed by a panel composed of Ida Leone (Matera 2019 committee), Alberto Cottica (representing Edgeryders), Ben Vickers (unMonastery project facilitator) and Michele Plati (a citizen of Matera);
- Each application reviewed which meets the selection criteria outlined below, is asked to write a blogpost outlining the project on the EdgeRyders platform, allowing for peer review of the proposed project;
- a final selection is made by the panel based on peer review process and applicability to the selection criteria.

The following selection criteria apply:

- Applications to the first unMonastery in Matera will be closely matched with the real needs

identified by citizens of Matera as outlined in the challenges - sourced from close engagement with the community.

- Projects must demonstrate the ability to make impact within the time period designated.

## PRIVACY

Matera 2019 Committee assumes the truthfulness of the information provided in the form.

All the personal data collected will be processed solely with the purpose of processing the residencies application, consistently with Italian laws on privacy.

## ABOUT MATERA: WHAT YOU SHOULD EXPECT AS AN UNMONASTERIAN

Read the latest version [here](#).

## ABOUT THE UNMONASTERY: THE UNMONASTERIAN'S HOME IN MATERA

Read the latest version [here](#).