PREAMBLE

This guide seeks to provide all you need to know before your arrival in order to better prepare your stay and day-to-day rules and regulations of your residency program.

Our residency program is designed to provide the ideal environment for writers, artists and other creatives, on while in direct contact with the unique atmosphere of the historic town of Messejana.

If after reading this document you still need to clarify any issue please feel free to contact us info@buinho.pt
BUINHO CREATIVE HUB

THE AIM OF BUINHO ASSOCIATION IS TO BE AN INSPIRING PLACE WHICH FOSTERS CREATIVITY, COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION.

Buinho was created in 2015 in the town of Messejana. With the statutes of a non-profit cultural association, it is distinguished by being the second fablab accredited by the MIT Network in Alentejo region, and the only space with these characteristics in a rural area.

But Buinho is more than just a fablab. We offer private accommodation, different studios, and a creative residency program open for artists from different disciplines and writers.

Buinho is the ideal place for those who want to adopt a more experimental attitude in their creative practice, offering a unique experience to its residents.

Our residency programs are designed and implemented by professionals with years of experience in cultural institutions and similar programs. The constant monitoring is another of the distinguishing factors, as well as the approximation of these programs to the local community.

But Buinho is also a work in progress. We are, together with our residents, always improving the spaces and adapting them based on the overall vision and current needs.

The Buinho intends to be a space of experimentation but also of social transformation, contributing to the increase of the attractiveness of rural territories.
THE RESIDENCIES PROGRAM

Buinho Residencies programme is directed to creative individuals from different disciplines and is developed by a rural creative hub that opened in 2015 in Alentejo. It gives the opportunity to live and work in the village of Messejana for a period of up to three months.

Buinho provides 4 individual rooms for accommodation and studio in a private format. We also offer shared studios, access to fablab and workshops.

These artistic residencies encourage dialogue, exchange and experimentation. They are process-based, allowing visiting artists to develop projects in response to the relationship with the local environment and community, or to conduct research benefiting from Buinho's resources, and the daily life and environment of Messejana.

The residencies program offer creative individuals the time, space and resources to experiment and try project solutions and approaches. Through the living Messejana's unique atmosphere, creatives can gain new insights that will inform the development of their practice. The Residencies Programme offers production support for exhibitions and technical support at the unique feature that is the Buinho fablab. Also our staff is keen to discuss the work in progress and assist in sourcing materials, offering local knowledge, contacts and creative input. And we also offer our help in preparation for grant support.

Work in progress is displayed during an open studio, where the local community has an opportunity to meet with the artists and provide feedback on their work. Buinho also offers the possibility to exhibit in the local ethnographic Museum, in a designated project room.

Depending on the experience, practice and interests of the visiting creative, Buinho can further explore collaborations in the design and conduct of educative projects with local community groups. Participants are expected to partake in Creative talks, Workshops and Open Studio events at the local museum and at Buinho.
PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

Buinho offers access to both its physical and digital library, where monographs, magazines and catalogs can be found in Portuguese and English, and in the areas of Design, Contemporary Art and Technology. Unique space in the possibility of joining theory to practice. Buinho possesses rapid prototyping equipment, which is complemented by other traditional technologies.

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Artists in residence will have the opportunity to organize an open studio in Messejana, in one of the Buinho studios / spaces. The purpose of the open studio will be to provide the artist with the possibility of presenting the process behind the creative act to the community, gathering and identifying motivational, technical and other elements. It will be a moment of special importance for the conclusion of the relationship between the community of Messejana and its resident.

In addition, a temporary formal exhibition can be organized in conjunction with our network of partners in Messejana and surrounding towns. This applies also to collective exhibitions that are organized by Buinho for the purpose of further developing a solid cultural agenda next to the local community. Such exhibitions will be aimed at reaching a broader and more diverse audience.

Finally, the documentation of the creative process will be carried out by the collaborators of Buinho and will later be included as a digital portfolio of the Buinho website and its main social networks. The realization of the residence’s digital portfolio, as well as its permanent exhibition on the Buinho website, allows a multiplier effect that reinforces the promotion and visibility of the artist.

COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

Essential elements in the policy of promoting and disseminating the results of its creative residences, Buinho promotes a set of initiatives specially designed for the needs of each exhibition project.

Open Studios for the local community, complemented by thematic exhibitions, as well as constant communication support, are vectors of great importance in the program of residences.
SPACES AND CONDITIONS

The creative residency program of Buinho provides private accommodation and shared work-spaces in two different locations:

Morgadinho house, a remodeled manor from the 17th century, suggests a romantic mood for individualist workers and writers. Old style artistically decorated house with frescos covering its walls and detailed wood engraving ceilings may inspire writers and painters.

The second space, Buinho main studio, and fablab is also a traditional house, but that was entirely renovated to provide a modern studio style residence.

IN 2017 ANOTHER HOUSE WAS ADDED TO BUINHO, TO PROVIDE MORE SPACE FOR THE RESIDENTS.

THE NEW HOUSE IS LOCATED ON THE MAIN SQUARE OF MESSEJANA. IT WAS BUILT IN 17TH CENTURY, AND IT HAS A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN.

It is divided into three spaces – so that you can generate here ideas, share them in a social area and the most important, create a real product in the fablab. Here technologies give you a hand to experiment, learn and make. Our fablab is equipped with all the necessary tools and machines to enhance the possibilities of experimentation of our residents.

Each house is fully-equipped and can accommodate up to three residents in individual rooms. Any residents, living in either of the houses, are free to use any of the spaces for their job purposes. We also provide some technical courses related to 3D Printing or laser cutting to the residents that may desire.
Both houses are fully equipped, and include also linen, towels and fresh fruits from our gardens.

Once a week there will be a cleaning service, you will be responsible for your laundry.

We provide a working place inside your house (table, easel, etc, let us know what you would need!). This way you can be on your own for work if you like, but you have also free access to the shared studios and all working facilities.

If requested in advance we can provide specialized technical advice.

You have access to our small (but growing!) library (literature, arts and crafts books and magazines).

Free Wi-Fi access is available in all interior and exterior spaces.

In each house there will be no more than two residents simultaneously.

The residency coordinator is present daily and gives basic support. At least once a week there is a shared follow-up dinner, so we can talk about how things and works are going.

Morgadinho has two bathrooms located in the ground and first floor of the house, each one has two toilets and two showers. Buinho house has one bathroom, with toilet and shower. The residency provides toilet paper and soap at no additional cost. Both houses have fully equipped kitchen that can be used freely by our residents to prepare meals. Artists must cook their own meals and mark their food with a marker or a label. Each resident will also have a personal space to store food and in the fridge. Residents can use the kitchen supplies and equipment but must respect the shared space by keeping it clean and organized.

Both houses provide dining areas for up to 14 persons. Residents must respect the shared space by keeping it clean and organized.

Overall, the facilities are furnished and include 24-hour Wi-Fi access. Residents are welcomed to have visiting guests or partners however, if they intend to stay during the whole duration of the residency or longer periods of time they are required to notify us and additional costs will be applied.

We provide direct access to CNC machines: laser cut, 3D printers, CNC router, electronics lab, textile lab. However introductory course is mandatory and freely provided by our staff. Besides the fablab Buinho also provides open space studios, with individual and shared working areas and working tables.
HOUSE RULES AND TIPS

1. During your stay please preserve our environment and be reasonable in water and electricity use. Separate plastic from paper and glass and take your bags to the recycling station.

2. Smoking is not allowed, only at the balconies and exterior spaces.

3. Please use the premises, equipment and inventory that are at your disposal carefully as a good guest.

4. Please note that you will be held accountable for any damage you are responsible for.

5. The residency is not liable in case of theft or loss.

6. Please avoid making noise in the room after 9 p.m.

7. Please report to the staff any lost or found items.

8. Please handle the key with care. In case of loss or damage of the key you will be charged for its replacement.

9. Do not forget to turn in your house and locker keys when you leave.

10. Guests are not allowed in the house under any circumstances.

11. Additional equipments can be requested for exterior use as photographic material and projects. The request is subject to approval from the coordinators.

12. Our studios are equipped with computers (Mac & PC’s) that can be used by the residents when not in use by Buinho staff.

13. Although Messejana is a town served with several local groceries stores, restaurants and bakerys. we provide weekly trips to the nearby town larger supermarkets for a more extended selection.

14. This is a pet friendly residency so you can bring your best friend.
MESSEJANA, VILLAGE OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Located in Southern Portugal, deep within the region of Alentejo, Messejana (the town of the seven churches) weaves a colourful composition of blues into Mediterranean whitewashed houses. Offering a unique rhythm, Messejana is a place of contrasts between past aristocratic houses with its hidden patios, and the small rural houses surrounded by baroque white churches.

Messejana has currently 800 population and a long story of human occupation. It possesses archaeological artefacts which dates to the neolithic, including the Romans, Moors and of course the Portuguese.

BUINHO IS LOCATED IN THE SUNNIEST REGION OF EUROPE.

Providing more than 3000 hours of sunshine per year, Alentejo is also famous for its gastronomy. We are just 1 hour and a half from Lisbon and other major cities.

As a result Messejana possess several points of interest and a strong local identity, full of traditions, folklore and festivities.

Messejana is surrounded by Alentejo’s plains and its world famous cork trees. We try to provide bycicles to our residents but please request in advance because they are limited in number.

A local ethnographic museum, as well as other spaces, are available for interventions, installations, presentations, exhibitions or performances.

We also prepared a short presentation video of Messejana that you can watch here - video
GENERAL CONDITIONS OF RESIDENCIES

CREATIVE ACCOMMODATION, TECHNICAL SUPPORT, MEDIATION WITH THE LOCAL POPULATION, CURATORIAL SUPPORT. A COMPLETE PROGRAM.

Artists interested in participating should send by email (info@buinho.pt) a short curriculum, motivation letter and description of the project.

Applications will be evaluated by an advisory committee and will take into consideration the following parameters:

a) artistic quality.
b) relevance of the project;
c) motivation of the candidate.

If accepted artists are recommended to reserve their place as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The security deposit is 50% and obliges Buinho to keep your spaces reserved and free for the approved period of stay. We will send you an email an issue a receipt.

The fee per week is 150€ - minimum two weeks, maximum three months

For transferring the deposit, you can use the most convenient solution from the two available options:

a) International transfer
b) Paypal

Please don’t forget to confirm the proposed dates as well as any additional details you may find useful.

If you need a confirmation letter or acceptance letter, please contact us, we will gladly prepare it and send it back to you. We are happy to help you.
HOW TO GET TO MESSEJANA

BUINHO. MORE THAN JUST A SPACE
MORE THAN A JUST PLACE
A COMMON HOUSE FOR SHARING EXPERIENCES

By plane

You can take the plane to either Lisbon or Faro international airports and then rent a car, or take the express bus passing in Aljustrel. From Aljustrel you can take a taxi to Messejana (the trip by taxi takes 10 minutes and costs about 10 euros).

By train

There is also quick railway connections between our region and Lisbon. There are several trains departing daily from Lisbon's Santa Apolonia station. You must exit at the Funcheira station and Buinho will arrange a car to pick you up and take you for the residency.

By car

Take the A2 Motorway and exit in Aljustrel. Messejana is 9km away from Aljustrel. Messejana is in the heart of Baixo Alentejo region, 150 km away from Lisbon in the north and 150km away from the Algarve in the South.
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