

## Europe 5 Days

(Press release)

Life with her old grandfather on a lonely little farm in the mountains of Turkey is anything but exciting for the fifteen year old peasant girl Ayla. Her time at school is over and the only things that offer some variety between chickens, making tea and the usual daily duties are reading foreign fashion magazines and some rare backpackers who occasionally come up for a day or two.

But Ayla is nosy and wants more. She dreams of a life in Europe and with the meager information she has about Europe she sees her future through rose-colored glasses. When one day she meets a German tourist couple and asks for their further travel plans, she misunderstands them and thinks that Europe is just a five days walk away.

Without passport and money Ayla starts on foot a journey into the unknown. The people she meets on her long trip through several countries all have their very own views on Europe. The political situation at the borders of the Schengen countries tests her strong will and her power of endurance.

"Europe 5 Days" tells the story of a world that can be both: Simple and small as well as huge and confusing and rather complicated.



## Europe 5 Days

### Contents

The fifteen year old Anatolian peasant girl, Ayla, leaves a life without a future and begins a journey to Europe on foot and without a passport. On the way she meets peoples who have their own differing views on Europe. From these meetings springs a wonderful, magical kaleidoscope that illuminates in a series of impressive tableaux in the current situation of underage refugees.

The film was made over the course of seven weeks in Turkey, Bulgaria and Germany. Against this backdrop, Aylas initial fears and uncertainties are gradually overcome.

### Summary

Fifteen year old peasant girl Ayla has just left school and stuck on a farm of her grandfather in the Taurus Mountains in south-eastern Turkey, surrounded by goats and olive trees. Ayla has the naïve idea that Europe is only five days away from the farm, an idea that is strengthened by a meeting with two tourists who are camping nearby. In her innocence she sets out on the long journey and travels without passport and money over three thousand kilometers. At first on foot then by bus, ferry and train.

On the way she begins to grasp how risky her undertaking is. But through it all her strong will and innate curiosity help her on her way and guaranty the success of her journey. From the confusion of Istanbul Ayla makes her way along the black sea coast in the direction of Bulgaria, succeeds in crossing the border and is brought by the border patrol into a refugee camp near Sofia. When it seems there is no way out she escapes and meets a small traveling circus on the banks of the Danube.

## Europe 5 Days

### Technical specifications

Feature/ Youth film (Germany, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania 2015)

92 min

DCP / Full-HD / , Cinema Digital, Blu-ray / DVD

Camera: CANON EOS 60D Full-HD,

25 fps, DSLR

Sound: Tascam DR-60D / Stereo

Output format: DCP, Blu-ray, DVD

Original format: MPEG-4 AVC/H.264,

25 fps, 1920x1080

Language: Original language (German, English, Turkish, Bulgarian)

Subtitle: German / English

Cast: Jana Vijayakumaran, Orsa Repp, Henry Dahlke, Gesa Köhler, Georg Koeniger,  
Vanya Ineva, Stefan Cassani

Written and directed by: Orsa Repp / Friedl Wolffhardt

Cinematographer: Friedl Wolffhardt

Music: Christian Doll / Blacktop

Sound: Gesa Köhler / Orsa Repp

Sounddesign and Mix: Benedikt Uebe / B.U.M. Studio Starnberg

Color grading: Jörg von Baczko / Verinet München

INTERNATIONAL TRAILER, 3:55 min:

[www.europe5days.com](http://www.europe5days.com)

## Europe 5 Days



### Directors Notes

With their low-budget project "Europe 5 Days" the two directors Friedl Wolffhardt and Orsa Repp intended to make a movie about the very long way of a fifteen-year-old girl from southern Turkey. On foot, by ferry, by bus and train crossing the Bosphorus and along the Black Sea to the Danube, Bulgaria, then to Romania they finally reached Germany. Using a simple DSLR photo camera.

The results are stunning images that seem documentary, but never lose their poetic character. The directors feel connected to the magical realism.

The film is suitable to be shown in school screenings or for young audience.

## Europe 5 Days

Written and directed by  
Friedl Wolffhardt / Orsa Repp

### Short biography direction

Friedl Wolffhardt studied Psychology at the L.M.U and then direction and film authorship at the Filmhochschule München from 2000 to 2006. Orsa Repp is an actress, choreographer and director and realized innumerable projects with among other handicapped and disadvantaged people. For both of them Europe 5 Days is the first full length feature film.

