

# The way of rural food in Trojan, Apriltsi and Ugarchin

Mmmmm, smells like something delicious, fresh and tasty!

- Do rural areas still feed the cities?
- ▲ How do rural food systems work?
- Who produces what food, how and for whom?
- ↷ Do rural residents have access to local food? And visitors?
- What is the role of farmers in food systems?



The RUSTIK project has been seeking answers to these questions since December 2023. The aim is to understand whether food is a resource for rural development, but also to create a sustainable tool for access to local food.

The RUSTIK team from Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, together with the Local Action Group Troyan-Apriltsi-Ugarchin (LAG TAU), has developed an application for spatial localisation of actors in the rural food system (GIS - Geographical Identification System). These are food producers, restaurants, guest houses and hotels, as well as food processing and trading companies. Food system actors also include those small producers who are not registered as farmers, do not receive support for their activities, but are actively involved in the rural food system.

In order to register and verify the data to feed the GIS system and to present it to the food system actors, the RUSTIK team started a series of meetings with the local communities of Troyan, Apriltsi and Ugarchin. The first meeting was held in Apriltsi on 26 April. Similar meetings will be held in Troyan and Ugarchin in May and early June. The GIS system will be officially available to everyone from 01.07.2024. Anyone who wants to know where food is produced in Troyan, Apriltsi and Ugarchin and how to access it will be able to do so.

Expect the official launch of the system on 01.07.2024, and in the meantime, news from Troyan and Ugarchin!

