

Newsletter

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PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

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■ News

Varaždin - The Baroque town receives the European award for decoration and quality of life

The town of Varaždin has recently received the award «Silver Flower of Europe» for 2011, which was awarded to it at the finishing «Entente Florale Europe – The golden flower of Europe» gala, in Rogaška Slatina in Slovenia. This is the final event of the grand competition of European cities which were rated by the way they were designed and presented and the quality of life of their inhabitants. At the end of June of this year, Varaždin was visited by 12 members of an international jury who graded many aspects of this city's life according to very strict criteria.

5400 cities applied at the primary «Entente Florale Europe» tender, and Varaždin came into the finals together with another 11 cities. The jury awarded 5 cities with the Golden flower and 6 with the Silver flower, among which was Varaždin.

Gold was won by the Belgian city Veurne, the German city Bad Langensalza, the Hungarian Balatonfüred, the Italian Grado and the Dutch Deventer, while the Silver flower went to the Austrian Neusiedl am See, the Belgian Ath, the Czech Broumov, the Irish town of Drogheda, the British Tameside and Varaždin, as the Croatian representative.

Villages were also awarded alongside towns. Gold was awarded to the Austrian Rennweg am Katschberg and the Irish Coolagown, and silver to the Czech village of Smržice, the German Wiesenburg, the Hungarian Paloznak, Transacqua in Italy and the Dutch village of Elburg.

The aim of the «Entente Florale Europe» competition is the improvement of the quality of life in local urban communities. It was founded 30 years ago by Great Britain and France, and up until this day the association was joined by 12 countries all together. Croatia has been a member since 2003. «Entente Florale Europe» has become one of the most prestigious town and village decoration competitions.



PHOTO: NINO MARCUTTI

The Tourist Board of Varaždin County

www.turizam-vzz.hr

The Tourist Board of Varaždin

www.tourism-varazdin.hr

Entente Florale Europe - AEFPE

www.entente-florale.eu

Zagreb - Regent Esplanade as the best luxury city hotel



PHOTO: HOTEL REGENT ESPLANADE

In the big competition of over a thousand nominated hotels, Zagreb's hotel Regent Esplanade has, for the second year running, won the award for the best luxury city hotel. The World Luxury Hotel Awards 2011 gala was held recently in this very hotel. Votes were submitted via the internet and the best global hotel award was taken by the Ritz Carlton Hong Kong.

The World Luxury Hotel Awards were founded in 2006. The awards have been given out to hotels and resorts in 30 categories and do not include any other parts of the tourism industry. Luxury hotels can apply by themselves or they can be nominated by foreign guests, tourist agents and tour operators. Winners are automatically nominated for the following year's competition.

Votes can be given by guests of the hotels as well as chosen independent world consultants from the travel industry. Zagreb's hotel Regent Esplanade is located in the centre of the city and was opened in 1925. It was built as a facility for accommodating wealthy tourists that would come to Zagreb on the legendary Orient Express train. With a tradition of over 80 years it has accommodated many distinguished persons from all over the world. The list of famous people who have visited the Esplanade includes: Josephine Baker, Charles Lindbergh, Orson Welles, Liv Ullman, Louis Armstrong and Woody Allen, who are just some of the numerous guests that have marked the 20th century and wrote their names into the hotel impressions book.

The hotel has played a significant role in Zagreb's social life and offers 209 spacious and richly decorated rooms and apartments. The luxury rooms are an oasis of relaxation, completed with the latest technology such as wireless High-Speed internet. The hotel offers many possibilities for conferences, lunches and other events. The legendary, recently refurbished Emerald Hall is a unique space in this part of Europe and an ideal place for gala events and conferences at the highest level. As part of the hotel there is also the Zinfandel's restaurant that was named after the Californian grape sort which descends from Croatia. It is the Zinfandel wine that is the trademark of the hotel staff. The legendary Le Bistro stands out among the numerous hotel facilities where the famous Esplanade `štrukle` (traditional savoury cheese cake) can be tasted.

The Tourist Board of the City of Zagreb

www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr

The Regent Esplanade Zagreb

www.theregentzagreb.com

WTA gives recognition to the hotels Dubrovnik Palace and Split's Le Meridien Lav

Croatian hotels Dubrovnik Palace from Dubrovnik and Le Meridien Lav from Split have been proclaimed the best hotel resort and the best casino resort in Europe and so have won the prestigious «World Travel Awards» which have for the 10th consecutive year, been given out by the organization of the same name. The awards gala was held recently in Antalya in Turkey and had more than 60 categories for the European region.

The WTA's have been given out since 1993, with a goal to give recognition and awards to accomplishments in all segments of the world's tourism sector. These awards have a great influence in the tourism and travel industry and the nominations themselves, which are published during the first few months of the running year, stand as a good recommendation for a specific tourism product. This year, more than five thousand organisations, companies and destinations from more than 160 countries worldwide applied and more than 180 thousand experts from different sides of the world, who work in travel agencies, tour operating organisations, hotel chains etc participated in the voting.

12 representatives in eight categories were nominated this year from Croatia and apart from the already mentioned hotels in Dubrovnik and Split, which won awards at a European level, also awarded as leading hotels in Croatia were the Monte Mulini hotel in Rovinj, as a leading boutique hotel and spa resort, and the Hotel Imperial Hilton in Dubrovnik, as the leading Croatian hotel.

The award for the best resort in Europe was won by the Hotel Dubrovnik Palace in fierce competition with 15 of the most luxurious European hotels from Italy, France, Monaco, Ireland, Spain, Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

This is the first European WTA for the Dubrovnik hotel after numerous nominations and awards it had won in the previous years. For three years in a row the hotel received awards for the best hotel and spa resort in Croatia (2005, 2006 and 2007).

The award for the leading European casino is the eighth award that Le Meridien Lav hotel in Split has won since 2009, when it was first nominated for a WTA. This Split hotel has won recognition in competition with top European hotels, such as the French Evian Resort and the Swiss Kempinski St. Moritz. Also in competition for the same award was the Dubrovnik Rixos Libertas hotel.



PHOTO: ZORAN MARINOVIC



PHOTO: HOTEL LE MERIDIEN LAV

Hotel Dubrovnik Palace
www.dubrovnikpalace.hr

Hotel Le Meridien Lav
www.lemeridienlavsplit.com

World Travel Awards
www.worldtravelawards.com

The Tourist Board of Dubrovnik
www.tzdubrovnik.hr

The Tourist Board of Split
www.visitsplit.com

Šibenik - The first marina with «five golden anchors»

PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC



The Mandalina marina in Šibenik of the nautical center Prgin and the Turkish Dogus Group, will be the first Croatian marina with the right to carry the «five golden anchors» grade of the

British Yacht Harbour Association – TYHA. According to TYHA, the marina in Šibenik is a `perfect location`, a naturally protected peninsula located in the middle of idyllic natural beauty and close to numerous islands and national parks as well as the historical town of Šibenik. It also states that it has 367 new berths for boats up to 75 m in length.

The «golden anchors» are usually not wide spread outside of Great Britain and so on the Mediterranean there are only around ten marinas which are compatible with their standards. The categories run from one to five golden anchors as an equivalent to hotel stars. Marinas themselves apply for grading but afterwards must pass a check test of all elements. Candidates are visited by «mystery shoppers» and in the end a survey is carried out among berth users. Marina Mandalina is located in the centre of the Croatian part of the Adriatic, between two national parks – the Kornati Archipelago and the waterfall of the River Krka. Located at the very bottom of the Šibenik Canal Bay, the marina is naturally protected from all winds. Mandalina has 350 berths in the sea and 50 dry ones. It is able to accommodate vessels up to 75 m in length.

By the end of this year the construction of an additional 65 berths for mega yachts should be completed and by the end of 2013 a whole tourist complex with a five star hotel, luxury vilas and sports facilities should also be constructed.

The tourist Board of Šibenik-Knin County

www.sibenikregion.com

The Tourist Board of Šibenik

www.sibenik-tourism.hr

Marina Mandalina

www.marina-mandalina.com

Zagreb - Two more awards for the «Moonlight Sonata»

PHOTO: TZG ZAGREB.



Director Jakov Sedlar`s video «Moonlight Sonata – Zagreb», in the production of the Tourist Board of Zagreb, is the winner of the 3rd International festival of tourism and ecology films «Silafest», which was held in Serbia at the end of September. 63 films from 23 countries were in competition for this prestigious award. «Moonlight Sonata – Zagreb», won the „White Acacia“ award for the best overall tourism film. Along with being awarded in Serbia, the same film was awarded at the recently held International festival of tourism film „Art&Tur” in Portugal, in competition with 278 films from 38 countries. It won second place in the „People and places“ category. From the beginning of this year this is the fifth award that this video has won in which it promotes Zagreb through classical music. It also won awards and recognition at the International Festival of Tourism Film, as part of the Berlin ITB fair, the Tourfilm Festival in Riga and the 47th International Festival of Tourism Film in Lecce, Italy.

The Tourist Board of Zagreb

www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr

Pula at an «arms length» from Manchester



PHOTO:RENCO.KOSINOZIC

The British Jet2.com, one of the leading low budget air carriers, will be introducing a new direct line from Pula to Manchester from May of next year. It will connect the two cities once a week, most probably on Saturdays. The airline will enable British tourists from this northwest of England harbour town with a rich history and many interesting sites surrounding it, to reach Pula directly. Jet2 has already connected Manchester with Split and Dubrovnik. The company has flights once a week to Split throughout the season, until the middle of October. There are flights from Manchester to Dubrovnik twice a week, as well as once a week from Belfast, Leeds and Edinburgh.

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

The Tourist Board of Pula

www.pulainfo.hr

Jet2.com

www.jet2.com

Istra - EnjoyIstra



PHOTO:TZZ.ISTARSKE

An anniversary 20th edition of the tourist brochure EnjoyIstra, was recently published by the Tourist Board of Istria County in collaboration with local tourist boards. The publication features articles about events and interesting sites throughout Istria on around 80 pages and in four languages. The autumn edition of the EnjoyIstra brochure is aimed at guests who visit the Croatian peninsula after the summer tourist season. Details about events and offers that run until the end of the year are published in the brochure. The content of the brochure is divided into chapters about history, culture and art, gastronomy, nature, sports and family. There is also a calendar of events with a detailed list of various manifestations that are to be held in this period of time in Istria.

The EnjoyIstra brochure, whose first number was published in 2005, can be found in all tourist boards, hotel and camp receptions as well as Pula airport, but it can also be browsed through electronically on the website of the Tourist Board of Istria.

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

Split - Social networks and tourism



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC

In November, Split will be the host of the first fair that connects tourist trends and social networks (Facebook, Twitter).

International Travel and Destination Expo (ITDE) will be held in Hotel Lav from the 24 - 27 November. This will be the first year that the fair in Split will deal in connecting tourism trends with social networks. There will be a string of lectures and round tables about the influence of Facebook or Twitter on the tourist season and its lengthening. ITDE Split will be the first fair in the region on which new trends linked to tourism and travel will be presented for the 2012 season. The fair is aimed at professionals in the tourism industry and also at users of their services.

The Tourist Board of Split-Dalmatia County

www.dalmatia.hr

The Tourist Board of Split

www.visitsplit.com

Slovenia gives recognition to Croatian campsites



PHOTO: ŠIMUNI CAMPING

On the fair named «Festival Camping & Caravaning», held recently in Ljubljana in Slovenia, awards were given out to the best Croatian and Slovenian campsites in 2011, chosen by Slovenian campers. Almost 21 thousand Slovenian campers voted from the beginning of July until the middle of September and in this way choose the best camps among 269 Croatian and Slovenian candidates. According to the choice of Slovenian guests the best regional Croatian camps are the Dalmatian camps Biograd in Biograd na Moru, in the small campsites category and the Straško camp on the island of Pag in the large campsites category. The winners in the Kvarner are the Lošinj campsites Lopari and Čikat, while in Istria the winners are the Rovinj campsite Ulika and the Poreč campsite Zelena Laguna. The campsite Straško in Pag also won the award for the best naturist and mixed campsite category.

«The Best Camp» competition was for the first time organised by the auto magazine «Avto-Dom», the tourist website «Dobro jutro, Slovenija!» and the camping website «avtokampi.si».

The camping association of Croatia

www.camping.hr

Poreč - Lanterna enters the 'Leading Campings of Europe' (LCE)



PHOTO: LANTERNA CAMPING

The Istrian camp Lanterna near Poreč will enter the elite association Leading Campings of Europe (LCE) which gathers the best campsites across the old continent. The Poreč camp will find itself in the most elite company, which from around 21000 campsites all together, gathers only 32 of them. The camp Zaton near Zadar has also been among them since 2008. Croatia will have two representatives in this international camping association, the same as Spain, the Netherlands and Austria.

Valamar's camp Lanterna stretches over 80 acres and can accommodate around nine thousand guests. The campsite stretches along a three kilometre beach that carries a blue flag.

The elite association Leading Campings of Europe was founded in 1994 with the headquarters in Dusseldorf and brings together the best campsites on the old continent. The association has become a benchmark for the quality of camping and the campsites that are members are the owners of the most prestigious awards and markings of quality.

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

Leading Campings of Europe

www.leadingcampings.co.uk

Valamar

www.valamar.com

Beli - Eco tourism program «Caput Insulae» -the best in the world

The eco tourism program of the Eco centre Caput Insulae Beli on the island of Cres, was chosen as the best in the world in the field of sustainable development in tourism in the «General Countryside» category, on the recently held 72nd International World Congress of the SKAL International Association in Turk, Finland.

This research and education centre for the protection of nature has won an award in strong competition with many national parks and world tourist agencies for its program under the name «Eco tourism on Tramuntana as a method of protection of natural and culturally-historical heritage». To bring the beauty of the northern part of the island of Cres closer to tourists, the Eco-centre has developed a network of 60 km long educational paths in nature which run through former paths that connected the old villages on Tramuntana. Along these paths tourists can see 20 art sculptures created by Ljube de Karina, seven labyrinths (which are the enlarged replicas of the world's most famous labyrinths), ancient oak forests and abandoned villages. The tour begins in the building of the Eco-centre in Beli, with exhibitions about white headed vultures, the bio diversity of Cres, the Tramuntana forest, the Tramuntana museum ethnological collection, the botanical garden, the butterfly garden and the shelter for donkeys and sheep.

One of the primary activities of the Eco-centre Caput Insulae Beli is the integral protection of white headed vultures, one of the most endangered species of birds in Europe. The rescue program of these injured or sick vultures has successfully been implemented since the founding of the centre in 1993. The rescued vultures are treated for a year and sometimes even longer, in the licenced Rehabilitation Centre for White Headed Vultures. The most important and the most demanding part of their rescue is the release of the rehabilitated vultures back into natural surroundings. At the beginning of October, eight vultures that had fallen into the sea during their first flights but were rescued from drowning were released back into the nature.

The association SKAL International was founded in 1934 and is the largest organization of travel and tourism professionals in the world. It is the only association which encircles all the sectors of the travel and tourism industry on five continents, 90 countries and over 500 locations with 20000 members. The goal of SKAL International is to encourage environment protection and to help the promotion of reliable and sustainable development. In 2002 the association launched «The Year of Ecotourism and Mountains» award, which was approved by the United Nations. This year the name of the award was changed to «Sustainable Development in Tourism».



PHOTO: RENCO KOSINOZIC

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

The Tourist Board of Cres

www.tzg-cres.hr

Eko-centar Caput Insulae Beli

www.supovi.hr

■ Events

If you like young wine – come to Martinje

In the Catholic calendar, the 11th of November is the holiday of St. Martin and in Croatia, especially in its northwestern part, 'Martinje' is celebrated as a holy day of young wine. This is an occasion when many winemakers and their friends give thanks to St. Martin for a good harvest and young wine. These celebrations date back to pre Christian times and mark the period when works outside of the home, in the fields, would come to an end and preparations for the winter would begin. In the wine growing areas this is the time that marks the end of all vineyard activities.

Martinje is traditionally celebrated from year to year in a «merry and working» manner across the wider area of Zagreb. Places such as Dugo Selo, whose patron saint is Saint Martin, stand out with their traditions and rich programs as well as Samobor, Sveti Ivan Zelina, Velika Gorica and Jastrebarsko. In the Koprivnica-Križevci County, young wine will be blessed in Križevci and Kalnik, while in the Međimurje County it will be blessed on the Štigova Wine Road.

Young wine will be blessed in numerous other places and towns of northwest Croatia but also in other parts of the country such as in Istrian towns of Momjan, Rovinj, Vrsar, Barban and Buzet.



PHOTO: MARIO ROMULIĆ & DRAŽEN STOJČIĆ

The Tourist Board of Zagreb County

www.tzzz.hr

The Tourist Board of Samobor

www.tz-samobor.hr

The Tourist Board of Velika Gorica

www.tzvg.hr

The Tourist Board of Dugo Selo

www.dugoselo.hr

The Tourist Board of Sveti Ivan Zelina

www.tz-zelina.hr

The Tourist Board of Jastrebarsko

www.tzgj.hr

The Tourist Board of Koprivnica-Križevci County

www.tz-koprivnicko-krivevacka.hr

The Tourist Board of Međimurje County

www.tzm.hr

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

■ Projects

Đakovo - The first five star hotel in Slavonija



PHOTO: SAŠA PJIANIĆ

Next year Slavonia should get its first five-star hotel. The Hotel Bischof will be constructed as part of the private-business-hotel facility in the centre of Đakovo. It will have 39 rooms and two apartments a wellness centre and other additional facilities that are required by this high category. 20 million euros have been invested up until now in this facility named «Đakovo Centar», with a surface of 27 square metres, and apart from the hotel it will have around 100 flats, offices and an underground garage. The total value of the investment is estimated at 37 million euros.

With the opening of this five-star hotel, Đakovo will additionally enrich its tourism offer. It is a town known for its cathedral, the basilica of St. Peter built between 1866 and 1882, for which Pope John XXIII said that it was the most beautiful church between Venice and Constantinople. Its seven richly decorated alters, numerous sculptures, graphics and frescos of famous artists do not leave anyone indifferent. Seven million bricks were used for the construction of the cathedral and the stone was imported from various European states. It was build as a mixture of Romanic, Gothic and Renaissance styles and was called a »monster of art« at the time.

Another attraction found in Đakovo is the oldest Lipzzer stable stud farm for breeding horses in Europe, founded in 1506 is. Đakovo and its horse farm were visited by the British Queen Elisabeth II and in 2003, by the Pope John Paul II.

The Tourist Board of Osijek-Baranja County

www.tzosbarzup.hr

The Tourist Board of Đakovo

www.tz-djakovo.hr

Zadar - 20 million euro investments after an excellent season



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

The tourist resort Zaton near Zadar, which includes one of the best Croatian campsites, should in the next two years enlarge its capacity for another 2500 spaces in mobile homes and its campsite. Along with the new accommodation capacities there is also a plan for the construction of a small hotel and an aqua park. The total investment here would be from 18 to 20 million euros and it should be realised in 2013. Next year this tourist resort will celebrate its 30th anniversary. The camp has been a holder of the ADAC «superplaz» sign for five years already. This is a sign awarded to the best European campsites. This campsite with 150 plots from 90 to 100 square metres stretches along a beautiful bay in the shadows of nature`s pine woods.

The tourist resort has 250 mobile houses, 118 four-star apartments and 475 three-star apartments built in the traditional Damatian architecture.

The Tourist Board of Zadar County

www.zadar.hr

Zaton Holiday Resort

www.zaton.hr

Osijek - A new hostel enriches the offer of central Slavonia



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

Osijek, the centre of Slavonia should get a new contemporary hostel with 150 beds in 2013. Its construction is planned on almost 6000 square meters of abandoned space in a building in Tvđa (fortress). The values of the investment reaches 4 million euros and part of the money will be secured through EU funds. As this is a protected monument of culture, the reconstruction will take place under the supervision of conservationists. Apart from the room, which will hold 150 beds, the hostel will have a kitchen, an open restaurant, a tourist information desk, a large conference hall and two classrooms. The facility is to be a multifunctional youth hostel.

In Osijek's Tvrđa (fortress) from which the town rose, there is already a hostel called Tufna, but it is a facility with only about 20 beds.

The Tourist Board of Osijek-Baranja County

www.tzosbarzup.hr

The Tourist Board of Osijek

www.tzosijek.hr

Vodice - A new tourism zone



PHOTO: JURAJ KOPAC

The famous Dalmatian tourist destination Vodice, should in due time enrich its tourism offer. The plan for the reconstruction and refurbishment of the hospitality-tourism zone Donja Srima has been adopted and the construction of four or more star villas and hotels is envisaged. This is an extremely attractive area along the sea front between Srima and Jadrija near Vodice on which tourist facilities of up to 4500 beds and a golf practice ground are in plan to be constructed.

Vodice are located on the coast in a wide bay, 11 km from Šibenik.

The founding of Vodice is connected to the beginning of construction of the church of the Holy Cross near today's hotel Punta, in 1402. One document from the same year mentions Vodice for the first time. Already in that time Vodice were special because they exported drinking water and carried on doing so until the end of the 19th century. The town developed thanks to its drinking water wells. Preserved on the main town square are two wells as monuments to old traditions. Today Vodice are a famous tourist destination, one of the most developed destinations on the central part of the Adriatic. They are known for the variety of their tourist offer that the locals started developing 50 years ago.

The Tourist Board of Šibenik-Knin County

www.sibenik-region.com

The Tourist Board of Šibenik

www.sibenik-tourism.hr

The Tourist Board of Vodice

www.vodice.hr

Posedarje - A Riviera is born



PHOTO: ROMEO IBRIŠEVIĆ

Soon to begin in the hinterland of Zadar is the construction of a 100 million euro worth project called Posedarje Rivijera. Plans are being drawn for the construction of hotels and villas with at least four stars on 45 acres of land, with an overall capacity of 1500 beds, a marina with 200 berths and a string of additional tourism and hospitality facilities. Posedarje is located in central Adriatic, on the Novigrad sea at the foot of the Velebit Mountain. It is located 25 m from Zadar. The first written document which mentions it dates back to 1219. Along with tourism, agricultural production is also developed, so this area is recognizable by fresh and healthy food, in particular the Posedarje prociutto – pig's thigh which is traditionally processed (salted, pressed, smoked and dried) and is served as a starter.

The Tourist Board of Zadar County

www.zadar.hr

The Tourist Board of Posedarje Borough

www.tzo-posedarje.hr

Osijek - A replica of the bridge that was called an eighth world wonder



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

The construction of the replica of the fragment of the Sulejman Bridge and one of the water mills that once decorated the bank of the river Drava are two projects that should soon be implemented in Osijek. The first project named «The famous bridge of Osijek 1566-1686» is being introduced by erecting boards with a description and historical details about the legendary, eight kilometres long, Sulejmann Bridge which stretched from Osijek to Darda and was built in 17 days. This bridge is mentioned in numerous historical and travel documents and during its construction it stood for an eighth world wonder. The next step is the construction of the replica of a 20 metre part of the famous bridge.

Along with the construction of the replica and a water mill, the tourism offer of Osijek will also be enriched by an electric tourist boat. There are also plans for the construction of cycling trails, the opening of an auto camp, a museum of honey making, a wine museum and a technical museum.

The Tourist Board of Osijek-Baranja County

www.tzosbarzuo.hr

The Tourist Board of Osijek

www.tzosijek.hr

Rijeka - The legendary «Marina» becomes a ship – hotel

The legendary ship «Marina», which sailed for the last time in 2005, as the oldest passenger ship in the world with a licence to sail, should, by the beginning of the next tourism season, become a three-star ship-hotel with around 60 beds, a restaurant, a café, entertainment facilities and a mini wellness centre.

«Marina» has been docked for the past five years in the Lošinj harbour, where after seventy years of sailing it became a hospitality facility. But recently, the ship was moved to the harbour in Rijeka, where it will soon once again serve as a hospitality facility and in the next year it should start serving as a «floating hotel».

This ship was built in 1936 in Denmark, for a Swedish shipmaker. Its first name, «Kron Princessan Ingrid» was given to it by its godmother, the Swedish princess at the time, who later became the queen. For years the ship sailed the Friedrichshafen – Goeteborg route, until it was replaced by newer, larger and more modern ships. Originally, «Marina» was 64 metres long but after 14 years at sea it was lengthened by another 8 meters. It had a capacity to hold more than 300 passengers and could reach a speed of 14 knots.

When it was bought by Lošinj in 1969, the ship was already called «Marina» and sailed for the first time into the Lošinj harbour in November of the same year. First it sailed to Rijeka from Mali Lošinj, Cres and Rabac and then for a short time kept a route for Italian Rimini. In 1971, a line was launched that has become somewhat of a trademark for this ship connecting Lošinj with Istria and Dalmatia.



PHOTO: PETAR FABLIAN

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

Pag - Salt pools as a tourist attraction



PHOTO: MARIO BRZIC

The pools of the «Salt pan of Pag» which stretch across a surface of around 2.5 million square meters, will soon be adapted for sightseeing and will thus become an attractive part of the tourist offer of the island of Pag. Before all, the island is famous for the beach Zrće and its clubs, which many of the world's tourism journalists grade as the best places for entertainment among young tourists.

The production of salt in Pag was first mentioned in historical documents in the 9th century, but it is assumed that salt has been produced there for over two thousand years. Salt pools and pans are mentioned in numerous old documents and there is a tower in Pag called Skrivanat tower, which housed the headquarters of a record keeper who noted the amounts of salt exported by ships.

Salt production is an important part of the heritage of Pag, so the locals decided to put the attractive salt pools in the function of tourism. The reconstruction of the tracks used to transport salt in wagons from the pools in which it was gathered and crystallized, to the warehouses is also envisaged. With the reconstruction of the tracks and wagons, tourists will be able to do their sightseeing while riding on a train. The salt pools have been a trademark of Pag for a long time and can be seen in all the promotional materials. Pag is also often referred to as the town of Salt.

The Tourist Board of Zadar County

www.zadar.hr

The Tourist Board of Pag

www.tzgpag.hr

Lopud - After Lafodija, also the reconstruction of the Grand Hotel Lopud



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC

The Italian company Marazzi group, which has recently reconstructed the hotel Lafodia on Lopud, is interested in investing in the reconstruction of another facility on the same island, the Grand Hotel Lopud, in the ownership of the company Atlantska Plovidba. This is an out of function, abandoned facility that Atlantska Plovidba bought in 2005, with a plan to renew or reconstruct it into a boutique hotel of a high category club with 65 rooms. With the help of a strategic partner from Italy this is now very likely to happen. Atlantska Plovidba is the majority owner of two high category hotels in Dubrovnik, the Hilton Imperial Dubrovnik and Hotel Lapad, while the Marazzi group owns Lafodija.

The Tourist Board of Dubrovnik-Neretva County

www.visitdubrovnik.hr

■ Croatia in the world

Pag - Praises for Zrće and Papaya

After the shut down, tabloid The News of the World concluded that the beaches Zrće and the club Papaya in Novalja on the island of Pag are the most desirable world tourist destinations among youths. The British Daily Mail published praises for the same beaches as well. The journalist of the British newspaper was amazed by the partying around the clock as well as the pretty girls.

The crystal blue sea, the beautiful sunsets, the great restarants and especially the clubs on Zrće such as Papaya, are the key for Croatian tourism, wrote Marcus Barens. He writes that Papaya is a hot spot for crazy summer entertainment and that since this club was first opened about ten years ago, it has hosted numerous world famous DJs.

Crazy summer parties are held here and this beach never sleeps, just like Miami. I have never seen an open beach club like Papaya, wrote the British journalist. He added that the DJ Swedish House Mafia boasted to him about playing the best gig ever on Zrće. Visitors described preformaces by different DJs to the journalist, such as the performance of the American producer David Morales last year, who said that Papaya was fantastic even when it is raining and that he had never seen anything like it.

In the article, he adds that Croatia has many beautiful sites which should be visited and that anyone who visits in the summer goes back home with fantastic experiences.

The praised Papaya club stretches on 3000 squre metres and was opened in 2002. The story of Zrće, as a favourite party place for Croatia`s youth began at the end of the 90`s of the last century, when alongside the already existing Kalypso Club, Papaya and later Aquarius also opened their doors. These clubs offered something that you could not find anywhere else on the Adriatic. They organized various events, hosted numerous performers and DJs, the programs were enriched by many dancers and hostesses and in due time more and more foreign tourists began discovering the magic of Zrće beach, which today has a reputation for being one of the best places for summer entertainment.



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

The Tourist Board of Lika-Senj County

www.lickosenjska.com

The Tourist Board of Novalja

www.tz-novalja.hr

Daily Mail

www.dailymail.co.uk

Plitvice Lakes - “Magical island”

«With its perfect waterfalls, rich vegetation and amazing clear blue lagoons, it looks like a magical island, almost too good to be true», these are the words with which the British paper the Daily Mail recently described the National park Plitvice Lakes. The author of the article Chris Parsons wrote about the idyllic Plitvice Lakes, which he proclaimed to be one of the most beautiful parks for a holiday on the whole planet, which, in his opinion should become one of the most spectacular tourist parks in the world.

This picturesque National park has 16 blue-green lakes separated by natural flood-gates created by the water during thousands of years. The author backs his own opinion about Plitvice with the experiences of other visitors from all over the world, which have been published on the TripAdvisor website. «Plitvice Lakes in Croatia are truly the home of Mother Nature in its loveliest and most picturesque edition» states a visitor from San Francisco. The Daily Mail journalist also writes that Plitvice Lakes are the oldest nature park in southeast Europe.

The lakes are surrounded by the mountains Plješevica, Mala Kapela and Medvedak, which are a part of the Dinarid mountain range. The tallest waterfall in the park, which is full of small lakes and caves, is 70 meters high.

There are three hotels and a campsite in the park and its visitors walk the paths along the lakes, enjoying the spectacular views. He points out that Plitvice Lakes were proclaimed a Croatian national park in 1949 and that they got the status of world heritage by UNESCO in 1979.

One tourist from Sidney who was in awe of Plitvice Lakes, stated for the British paper that they are a magical combination of lakes, waterfalls and landscape and that the tour of the lakes was the highlight of his visit to Croatia.

The beauty and uniqueness of Plitvice Lakes is far known and this natural phenomena is almost daily included on the lists of the worlds most beautiful destinations. Recently CNN Travel included them in the list of the most beautiful lakes in the world. Hello magazine proclaimed them a «water heaven», and the American LA Times published a report from Offbeat Traveler which called for readers to mark the 20th anniversary of Croatia's independence with a visit to the oldest Croatian national park, calling it a park that takes one's breath away.

On the lonelyplanet.com website, Plitvice found themselves on the list of the most beautiful European national parks. Their beauty could not be resisted by Yahoo Travel either, which put it among the ten most beautiful places in the



PHOTO: NO PERVAN

world, alongside for example the Indian Taj Mahal, the Grand Canyon in the US, the Versailles Palace in France, the Peruan Machu Picchu and the Great Wall of China.

The Tourist Board of Like-Senj County

www.lickosenjska.com

National Park Plitvice lakes

www.np-plitvicka-jezera.hr

The Daily Mail

www.dailymail.co.uk

A Canadian magazine writes about the beauties of Croatia

The autumn edition of the magazine «Good Life Connoisseur» from Vancouver dedicated its cover page and 12 pages of the magazine to Croatia with a rich report. The authors of the articles and photographs Connie Ekelund and Terry Termaine, visited Croatia in May of this year as part of a study trip and got to know the special places and tourist attractions of Zagreb, Croatian Zagorje, Plitvice Lakes, Split, Trogir, Korčula, Dubrovnik, Ston and Cavtat. Even though cultural heritage sites marked most of the trip, the journalists had time to get to know the gastronomy offer and the unique character of each visited place. Zagreb`s «Secrets of Grič», the Museum of Broken Relationships, the Museum of the Krapina Neanderthals in Zagorje, the castle Trakošćan, the waterfalls of Plitvice, Dioklecian`s Palace in Split, the church of St. Lorenzo in Trogir, the house of Marco Polo in Korčula, Dubrovnik, the five km long and a hundred year old wall in Ston, the top quality sea food and wines in Mali Ston are just some of the attractions about which the two journalists wrote in their lively articles and and which they featured in their photographs.

At the beginning of the article they state how Croatia was a complete surprise to them.

«This very picturesque, small European county has an impressive history which stretches all the way back to the ancient Greeks and Romans», they wrote.

They visited all the destinations from a cultural, natural, gastronomic and historical aspect, illustrating their words with exquisite photo material.

Good Life Connoisseur

www.goodlifeconnoisseur.com



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

Rab - An island worthy of Royal family

Rab is a jewel worthy of Royalty. This was concluded recently in the British Sunday Mirror by the journalist Jennie Bond. She looked back at a time when 75 years ago King Edward VIII and his lover Wallis Simpson enjoyed the beauty of the island of Rab on the beach Kandarola. The reporter wrote that anyone who visits this island will discover a real pearl. Life on Rab is relaxed and the landscape varied, wrote the journalist who visited the island with her daughter, who on the other hand described Rab as a combination of the Caribbean and Switzerland, with beautiful beaches but also with green pine forests and small coastal villages.

Readers are recommended a ride around the island by a small boat where they can enjoy the hidden bays and beautiful sandy beaches perfect for families with small children. The journalist was impressed by the local gastronomy offer and domestic olive oil and lavender. She wrote how the old town of Rab took her breath away.

She concluded her report by saying how this is truly a hidden part of Croatia, worthy of discovering. She also wrote how the locals invited the newly married Royal couple William and Kate to spend their honeymoon on this island and reminded readers how William's younger brother Prince Harry visited the Croatian island of Hvar this August.

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

The Tourist Board of Rab

www.tzg-rab.hr



PHOTO: RENCOKOSINOŽIĆ

■ Investments

Dugopolje - A water park in the hinterland of Split



PHOTO: BRASLAV KARLIC

Construction of a large water park, close to the exit from the motorway in Dugopolje, about 15 km from Split has begun. This will be the first of a kind in Croatia and is estimated for completion by the beginning of the next tourism season. The investment is worth 35 million euros and the project is carried out by the company Margaritum, in the ownership of the Luxemburg fund Primarium FCP Specialized Investment Fund. The fun water park will stretch on 120000 square meters, and will be able to accommodate 5000 visitors on a daily basis. A larger part of the park with water surfaces, pools, slides, a fake river, water canals with waves, sports courts, a motel and hospitality facilities will be built in the first phase. Later phases of construction predict the building of the main facility, expanding the water based contents, the building of an aquarium and horticultural decoration.

The Tourist Board of Split-Dalmatia County

www.dalmatia.hr

The Borough of Dugopolje

www.dugopolje.hr

Rijeka - Rooms for youths with a view of the Korzo



PHOTO: JURAJ KOPAC

In the centre of Rijeka, in the Korzo pedestrian zone (promenade), a new, modern hostel was recently opened, which offers accommodation for 30 persons in two or more bed rooms. The lounge hostel Carnevale has a living room where guests can rest and socialize and five separate bathrooms. Guests also have free wireless internet at their disposal. The hostel is located close to the harbour, the main bus and train stations, and located nearby are many interesting city sites. Only a few minutes drive away is the far known tourist destination Opatija.

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

Hostel Carnevale

www.hostelcarnevale.com

Veli Lošinj - The hotel Punta is being refurbished

The largest Lošinj hotel company Jadranka, has recently begun a new 12 million euro worth investment in the reconstruction of the hotel Punta in Veli Lošinj. The new project follows a 35 million euro investment in the reconstruction of the hotels Aurora and Vespera. The investment encircles the reconstruction of the hotel and the upgrading of its category from three to four stars. The new hotel should be ready to open its doors in June of next year. The hotel will have 16 apartments and 219 spacious two bed rooms.

Also envisaged for reconstruction are the entrance, the reception desk and the shared areas as well as the restaurant and the kitchen, which will be widened and the open space terrace with a restaurant with 190 covers.

Apart from the reconstruction of the inner pool, plans are being drawn for the construction of a smaller outdoor swimming pool. As part of the sports and recreation facilities there will be 13 tennis courts, a gym, sports animation, a water skiing school and bicycle rental.

While the hotel Aurora has positioned itself as a wellness and conference hotel, and Vespera as a family hotel, the hotel Punta will after reconstruction come out on to the market as the Club Hotel Punta, a place of vitality. With the slogan a place of vitality, Punta will position itself as a hotel where one can experience the best harmony of untouched nature through a specially thought up gastronomy, relaxation and wellness offer.

The promotional materials have already been prepared and guests have been invited to spend their holiday in Punta from June 2012, where they will be offered the warmth of a hundred year old tourism tradition in a highly comfortable and equipped hotel.

With a perfect blend of culture, tradition, contemporary and comfortable décor, the Club Hotel Punta will ensure that every guest will have a place where they can find moments of comfort, peace and rest, away from fast everyday life and stress. The special relax, wellness and beauty zone which will be accompanied by a gastronomy offer based on Mediterranean cuisine with special menus that will offer domestic dishes, will distinguish Punta as a nature club of vitality and healthy living. This hotel should become a major part of the slogan «Island of vitality», which the Tourist Board of Lošinj uses to position itself on the market.



PHOTO: BRASLAV KARLIĆ

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

The Tourist Board of Mali Lošinj

www.tz-malilosinj.hr

Hum - The reconstruction of the smallest town in the world

A favourite tourist destination of Istria's inland, the smallest town in the world, Hum, is being reconstructed. The construction of the southern walls of Hum was recently resumed. Hum belongs to a group of medieval towns of Istria that had developed as small centres alongside of castles which were built at defense positions. The walls of the inner side were mostly used as house walls. The houses, once in bad condition, because their roofs and ceilings were highly or completely damaged, have today been mostly reconstructed. The reconstruction of the walls is still left to be done. The sanitation of the town walls began about ten years ago on the west side. Subsequently, works were carried out on the north defence wall whilst the bell tower and the east wall were also renewed. Works began on the south walls recently.

Works are expected to be finalized next year. The next stage of the plan envisages the reconstruction of the town streets. Today, Hum is a monument town, one of the rare preserved examples of urban development located exclusively within the early medieval walls. During almost a thousand years, since the 11th century up until today, nothing has been built outside the walls of Hum; the settlement remained inside the borders set in the early middle ages.



PHOTO: MILAN BABIC

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

Hum

www.hum.hr

Luxury in the peace and quiet of Dalmatian zagora

The only tourist villa in the area of Dalmatian zagora that holds five stars – Villa Olka, has recently opened its doors to visitors. The Dundić family renovated the villa and adapted the whole estate for guests near the village Grabovac, around 20 km from the famous tourist destination Brela.

A swimming pool occupies the back yard of the villa and there is also a sauna, a jacuzzi, a gym and a wellness centre. As additional facilities, guests have at their disposal various sports and recreation contents, such as a snooker table, a bowling alley, a table for playing cards and a dart board. Villa Olka is a renovated 150 year old family house of the Dundić family which was partly burned down during the Second World War. Guest can also use a single-story house that was built during restoration and once served as a meat drying space. Now it has a large fire place, a stone oven and a room with an ensuite bathroom.

The villa has seven luxurious, rustic rooms. A terrace for around 50 people, predicted for gala lunches and dinners is situated in front of the villa.

Guests can participate in various programs such as trips, rafting, horseback riding, cycling, a visit to wine cellars and a gastronomy tour.

As we are nearing the completion of the tunnel through Biokovo, Villa Olka will be less than 10km away from Baška Voda, a well known tourist destination.



PHOTO: MARIO ROMULIĆ & DRAŽEN STOJČIĆ

The Tourist Board of Split-Dalmatia County

www.dalmatia.hr

Motovun - A new campsite is open

Recently opened at the very foot of the Istrian town Motovun was a new campsite. It is modernly equipped and offers 12 positions with complete infrastructure (electricity, water, cable TV...). It also has camper service facilities for the release of waste water, male and female bathroom facilities with showers and other facilities that campers might require. As the company that runs the camper site is also the owner of hotel Kaštel situated in the very centre of Motovun, guests can enjoy special privileges such as free use of the swimming pool and a discount at the hotel's restaurant and wellness centre.

Numerous recreational activities can also be organized for guests and additional contents such as the possibility of buying basic groceries, souvenirs and similar are envisaged for next year.

The campsite Motovun, with its quality and additional offer, significantly stands out from similar sites in Europe and the location itself is extremely attractive because of its natural beauty and available content.

It is located at the address: Rižanske skupštine 1a, Motovun, GPS: N 45° 20' 04, 5" E 13° 49' 30,7".



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

The Tourist Board of the Borough of Motovun

www.tz-motovun.hr

■ Introducing

Lokve - A house of nature in Lujzijana

Nature house Kotač was recently opened in Lokve in Gorski Kotar. This is a facility that offers a permanent exhibition area linked to the history of the Lujzijana road and in a specially decorated room guests can taste the famous mountain herb liquors. Guests can view the area where the liquors are produced, as well as the loft where mountain herbs and plants used to make the liquors are dried.

Visitors can also try domestic jams, teas, spreads and cakes and all of this is spiced up with stories about Lujzijana – a 200 year old road that connects Rijeka and Karlovac and was once considered the most modern and most beautiful mountain road in Europe. Apart from the tasting room, there is also an exhibition space in the Nature house where there will soon be a permanent ethno exhibition named «Lujzijana road».

The Nature house in Lokve was built as part of the tourist project called „Lujzijana and Karolina as historical roads“. The project was launched five years ago and its goal is to revitalize the rural areas along these roads, by including potential cultural and natural heritage in the tourist offer. These historical roads offer many interesting sites, among which are about 50 architectural attractions, with a string of tourist locations and attractions such as the Rječina Canyon, Trsat, Lokvar Lake, the Lokvarka Cave, Golubinjak, the river Kupa, Zeleni Vir and the Devil's Passway, Kamačnik, Lukovdol, the Zrinski-Frankopan Castle in Severin on Kupa, the old town in Novigrad, Dubovac and the Star of Karlovac all situated nearby.

In the wider area, guests are recommended a tour of river Čabranka, Zrinski Castle in Čabar, National park Risnjak, Zrinski Castle in Brod on Kupa, ethno zones and sacril sites in Brod Moravice, Bajer Lake, Vrelo Cave, ski resort Čelimbaša, castle in Stara Sušica, Javorova Kosa resort, the canyon of Dobra, the old town of Bosiljevo and river Mrežnica.

Lujzijana and Karolina are the two roads that connected Karlovac to the Kvarner. Karolina is a 106 km long road which was built from 1726 to 1732 and was named after the Austrian king Carl VI. It connected Karlovac with Bakar and the subsequently built harbour on Sušak in Rijeka. Karolina does not have milage signs, fountains, sun clock and other additional facilities built alongside it which are all features found alongside the younger road, Lujzijana. Lujzijana was built from 1803 to 1811 and it was the first



PHOTO: MILAN BABIĆ

road that catered for all conditions and needs of its users. It is considered to be the masterpiece of road building in the early 19th century and one of the most modern roads of the Habsburgh monarchy. Contruction works began in 1803 from the waterfront of Rijeka where a line of trees was planted in honour of this event, which stand there to this day. Lujzijana was apparently named after Napoleon's wife Maria Louisa, a Habsburgh princess. But there is also some proof that that the Habsburgh emperor Franjo I, personally asked that the road hold the name of his wife, Maria Ludovica and that it was going to be named Via Ludovicea.

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

The Lujzijana Association

www.lujzijana.com

Veliko Trojstvo - A Bilogora tourist path

Bilogora tourist path is located about 100 km away from Zagreb and 10 km from Bjelovar, in the area of the Veliko Trojstva borough. It stretches across mild and attractive slopes of Bilogora. The pathway is made up from 19 points with various offers and content. It includes ethnographic collections, traditional crafts, hospitality facilities, accommodation capacities, original products from small family agricultural estates such as wines, snaps and juices, traditional dishes, homemade cheese, cakes and honey. The Bilogora tourist path offers the possibility of overnight stays on country estates, numerous possibilities for various recreation, such as horseback riding, hunting and fishing, walking and cycling tours and a string of sports activities in the open air sports grounds and a sports hall.

The sites that should not be missed on the Bilogora tourist path are the Baroque church of the Holy Trinity from 1779, the ethno park, the local ethnographical collection, the open air gallery of wooden sculptures - «Svijetle pruge», and the Romany Gipsy house, opened last year during the World Romany Gipsy day. This is a traditional wooden house of Croatian Gipsies. This house is an example of historical traditions of this indigenous Gipsy group. Another point of interest is lavender from Bilogora which is planted there and the possibility of tasting traditional Gipsy cuisine and products from Bilogora agricultural family estates.

If they want to visitors can arrange in advance to hear some traditional Gipsy music as well. The largest tourist and hospitality facility on this path is the mounteneering `hut` Kamenitovac. It is surrounded by cycling and walking trails and is the perfect spot to start off the tour of the Bilogora area. For example, during the hot summer days, the beautifully decorated swimming pool in the nearby Šandrovac can be reached in no time. It is surrounded by dense forests and Bilogora slopes.

Some of the paths of Bilogora can be toured on horseback or old carriages which serve for that purpose.

A network of marked riding trails stretches between Bjelovar and Grubišno Polje and is more than 100 km long. It connects all the cultural, historical, sacral and hospitality facilities in the mentioned areas.

There is a new project that has been introduced in the tourist offer and is based on the legend from this area, which speaks about mythological creatures called VEDI that escaped into the forests when Bilogora became inhabited. Supposedly they liked to help people out and it was believed that each household had its own Ved. There is also the story about the treasure that they left in the hidden forested areas of Bilogora. This hidden treasure must be searched for by



PHOTO: NINO MARCČUJI

tourists. Every treasure hunt begins with a story told by an old woman about the legend of the VEDI, in the ethno house in Veliko Trojstvo.

She gives tourists instructions and a secret treasure map, and the whole event finishes with tastings of traditional VEDI dishes made from recipes of the Bilogora giants, with the burning of a bonfire and an original ceremony with music, which is partly created by the tourists themselves.

The path of the Gipsy Tent Carriages is also a new tourist product, and it is a parade of horse pulled tent carriages which signifies what the original Gipsy tents looked like. Tourists travel in the parade through smaller village and field roads and tour all the important destinations. At the same time they learn about the traditions of the nomad life of the Romanies and during the trip participate in fun games, workshops, setting up camps and tents, lighting fires, and feeding and grooming horses.

The Tourist Board of Bjelovar-Bilogora County

www.tzbbz.hr

The Borough of Veliko Trojstvo

www.veliko-trojstvo.hr

Wrecks of the Adriatic Sea on your mobile phone screen

'Wrecks of the Adriatic Sea' is the name of the new application for iPhone and iPad which reveals the Adriatic underwater world, ie the shipwrecks that it holds. The application is simple and has high quality contents with beautiful photographs and illustrations of 19 shipwrecks. By clicking on a wreck, you get all the information about it: the name, the type and purpose of the ship, the cause of the wreck and the depth at which it is located today. Apart from basic navigation, all the wrecks can be reached by a map. The application is based on the book 'Secrets of the Adriatic', a kind of a diving guide through specific shipwrecks along the Adriatic Sea, which hides a real underwater museum of shipping and aviation accidents.

Among the most attractive wreck is the well preserved «Szent Istvana», a war ship of the Austro-Hungarian navy, 152 m in length, which was sunk by Italian torpedo boats in June of 1918, near the island Premuda close to Susak. This is the largest wreck in the Adriatic, but because it is a protected monument of culture it is not available for tourist diving trips. Most of the objects recovered from the wreck can be seen in the history museum of Istria in Pula.

On the other hand, divers can reach the wreck of the military ship «Re d'Italia», sunk in the battle near Vis in 1866. A legend that it was carrying large amounts of gold is connected to this wreck. During official investigations no gold was ever found, but it is not known whether it had already been taken from the ship beforehand and whether it had made somebody very rich.

The sea around Vis is full of wrecks. There are 20 federal airplanes from the Second World War lying there.

The most visited wreck of the Adriatic is the Austro-Hungarian passenger steam boat "Baron Gautsch", which is 80 m long. It came across a mine in 1914 and sunk to a depth of 40 m between the islands Sveti Ivan and Brijuni, six miles from Rovinj. During the summer season, this wreck which is also a protected monument of culture is visited by more than 3000 people. Another wreck that divers also find very interesting is the merchant ship 'Vis', which sank in 1946 near the entry to the Plomin bay when it hit a mine. Also a very popular tourist attraction is the four motor bomber, 'the flying fortress' B-17. The airplane sank to a depth of 70 m in 1944 near Vis. All ten crew members survived the crash but the airplane still holds all their equipment such as helmets, breathing masks, instruments, weapons, personal documents and photo equipment that they left behind.

Among the most attractive wreck is the 80 m «Stella Polare» near cape Mašnjak in Istria at a depth of 65 m. It sank in 1944, when it hit a mine. This is the best preserved war ship ever found in the Adriatic.



PHOTO: BRANISLAV DANEVSKI

App Store

<http://itunes.apple.com/us>

Istria from a «birdseye perspective»



PHOTO: HTZ

Since recently, the most developed tourism region in Croatia-Istria, can be seen by tourists from a birdseye perspective. The tourist offer had been enriched by the possibility of sightseeing from a hot air balloon. This attraction is offered by the tourist agency Gral Putovanja from Buzet which collaborates with the Zagreb hot air balloon club Gral Company. The price of this experience is actually the club membership fee. This new experience is available to everyone from 12 to 90 years of age who is able to get into the basket and spend approximately an hour in it. Every passenger will at the end of the trip receive a glass of champagne and a diploma. Flights are available for tourists throughout the year.

The Tourist Board of Istria County

www.istra.hr

Gral Company

www.gral-company.hr

Rijeka - A walk through the city with the help of a tour guide



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

AdriaGUIDE is a travel guide that enables visitors of Rijeka to find and get to know in detail interesting locations by their mobile device (iPhone/iPad and Android) or GPS navigation (Garmin). The guide is available in Croatian, English, German and Italian and offers more than 300 points of interest (POI), with numerous service information which aims to create an entertaining experience of sightseeing Rijeka.

The points of interest are divided into 12 basic categories: Sightseeing, Gastronomy, Accommodation, Entertainment, Public services, Sports, Shopping, Banks/ATM's, Services, Health, Transport and Gas. Every POI contains photos, a description, contact details and other important information. AdriaGUIDE comes with three types of navigation on mobile phones – compass, maps and routes. The compass option was developed for foreign users so they could have free of charge navigation, which is a big advantage for users of roaming. POI can also be marked as favourites which makes them quickly accessible. Apart from information about Rijeka, the menu contains information about the weather forecast, the exchange rate, road conditions and an option to dial important telephone numbers. The AdriaGUIDE application is free of charge.

The Tourist Board of Primorje-Gorje County

www.kvarner.hr

The Tourist Board of Rijeka

www.tz-rijeka.hr

Everything about Croatian museums in one place

«A guide through Croatian museums and collections» was introduced recently in Zagreb and is the first complete guide through Croatian museums, which holds information about around 300 museums, exhibitions and collections, with around seven million objects.

In the guide, which is the product of 16 years of work, is the summary of 200 years of museum art in Croatia. A publication of the guide in English is expected by the end of this year. A similar guide was published 20 years ago, and the new edition has been widened by around 70 new museums, collections and permanent exhibitions, as well as private museums and museum collections that came about during this 20 year period.

The new guide is a richly illustrated publication, which through short descriptions, on around 600 pages, shows the construction of 265 museums, collections, permanent exhibits and sacral collections. It equally presents collections of larger museums that have a high cultural and historical value, as well as smaller collections and exhibition spaces, that came about through the hard work of local communities and individuals.

Every museum is introduced in a written text, with descriptions of their valuable and specific exhibits.

In the guide, the museums are divided by geographical regions shown on maps, inside of which the museums are grouped by parishes and village and town names.

The guide is to serve as a manual which offers visitors not only information about collections but also useful information such as addresses, working hours, contact numbers, websites, fees, info about how to reach the museum, parking possibilities, expert guidance, disabled persons access and other information about the offer of the museum.

The edition published by the Museum documentation centre contained more than 600 photographs of museum architecture, exhibits and individual objects.



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

The Museum documentation centre

www.mdc.hr

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