



# Newsletter

## 03|2010



PHOTO: MARIO ROMULIĆ & DRAŽEN STOJČIĆ



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

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## ■ News

# Dubrovnik and Split – Number of Air Connections Increasing

The German air-carrier Lufthansa is increasing its number of regular connections between Munich and Dubrovnik this season. From March 27th, five connections a week will be operating between the two cities – Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

On April 1st, Lufthansa is also introducing two regular connections between Dusseldorf and Dubrovnik, on Thursdays and Saturdays.

The number of flights to Split will be increased to 4 a week and a connection between Zadar and Munich will also be introduced, operating ever Saturday.

This year, Split will be directly connected with as many as 74 European destinations. This is a record number of European cities from which travellers will be able to directly reach the biggest airport in the Adriatic.

With all of the last year's flights, 10 new destinations have been introduced to which Split will be connected, including Paris, Rome London – Stansted, Hannover, Lille, Manchester and Basel.

The city beneath Marjan will be connected to 46 cities in 19 countries through regular air traffic, while charter planes will connect Split to 28 cities in 12 countries and three domestic destinations.

The air carriers that have made the biggest profit in Split last year have announced an increase in traffic for 2010 and connections with new destinations. Among them are "EasyJet", "Germanwings", "Norwegian Air Shuttle" and SAS.

Dubrovnik Airport

[www.airport-dubrovnik.hr](http://www.airport-dubrovnik.hr)

Split Airport

[www.split-airport.hr](http://www.split-airport.hr)

Lufthansa

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



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC

# Zadar – Closer to Europe from Spring

This spring, the low-budget air carriers Germanwings and Ryanair are introducing new seasonal connections between the Zadar airport and Hannover, Oslo and Brussels, as well as keeping the seasonal connections from last year.

The new Germanwings connection to Hannover will be available from May 1st to October 30th, once a week – Saturdays. It is the fourth connection Germanwings has introduced between Zadar and German destinations, the other being Stuttgart Cologne/Bonn and Berlin.

The biggest European low-budget air carrier Ryanair has announced it is introducing a new connection between Zadar and Oslo (Rygge) on March 31st, twice a week (Wednesdays and Sundays). The new connection between Zadar and Brussels (Charleroi) will be operating from May 1st, three times a week (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays). With these new connections, Ryanair will for the very first time connect Croatia with Belgium and Norway. Altogether, Ryanair now operates connections between Zadar and nine European destinations.

It is continuing with flights to England (London-Stansted, Edinburgh), Ireland (Dublin), Sweden (Stockholm); Germany (Frankfurt, Dusseldorf-Weeze) and Italy (Pisa). These connections have for the past several years greatly contributed to an increase of the tourist exchange. The number of tourists and overnight stays from almost all countries to which these carriers offer flights from Zadar has greatly increased.

Zadar County Tourist Board

[www.zadar.hr](http://www.zadar.hr)

City of Zadar Tourist Board

[www.tzzadar.hr](http://www.tzzadar.hr)

Germanwings

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

Ryanair

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

Zadar Airport

[www.zadar-airport.hr](http://www.zadar-airport.hr)



PHOTO: MILAN BABIC



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

# Rijeka – the City on Kvarner Part of the International Art Nouveau Cities Network

At the recently held general annual assembly of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network (RANN) in Brussels, Rijeka was, as the very first Croatian city, accepted as a member of this international network gathering cities with a rich art nouveau heritage

Art nouveau (or secession as it is called in Croatia) is an extremely attractive heritage, and one of the ideas of the Rijeka city administration is to introduce a tourist route offering to interested visitors a tour of the city's most significant art nouveau locations.

Rijeka is among the leading cities as far as the documentation and valorisation of art nouveau records are concerned, but it still has a lot to do when it comes to protecting conserving and presenting its art nouveau architectural heritage.

At the general assembly, other city candidates included Palermo Budapest, Varese, Vienna and Lodz, and Rije was unanimously accepted into membership.

For its initiative to join the international network of art nouveau cities, Rijeka received support the Primorje-Gorski kotar County and the Ministry of Culture.

Ministry of Culture

[www.min-kulture.hr](http://www.min-kulture.hr)



PHOTO: JURAJ KOPAC



PHOTO: PETAR FABIJAN

# Split – the “Vestibul Palace” Part of a World Brand

The exclusive Split hotel “Vestibul Palace”, located in the heart of the Diocletian’s palace, has officially become a member of the most elite world hotel association “Small Luxury Hotels of the World”. This puts Split in the world tourist map of the best small luxury hotels.

“Vestibul Palace” is now among 480 hotels from 70 countries, which market themselves on all continents of the world under the motto “Discover a different world”.

Last year alone, the hotel group made 125 million USD. It is well known that in this group of small boutique hotels, every facility has a different original exclusivity. This is also the case with “Vestibul Palace”, which only has five rooms and two suites, and a restaurant. Along with its top-notch service and accommodation, its biggest value, however, is its location. The hotel, namely, is located in the centre of the ancient palace of the Roman imperator. On account of its supreme architecture, Diocletian’s palace was put under UNESCO protection as world historical heritage.

As part of the new elite company, “Vestibul Palace” will receive assistance from the group’s experts so as to adjust to the brand’s requirements, as well as financial advice to return the investments as soon as possible.

The hotel’s offering will be found in millions of “Small Luxury Hotels of the World” catalogues all over the world as part of the group’s common marketing strategy.

Split-Dalmatian County Tourist Board

[www.dalmacija.hr](http://www.dalmacija.hr)

City of Split Tourist Board

[www.visitsplit.hr](http://www.visitsplit.hr)

Hotel Vestibul Palace

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



PHOTO: MARIO BRZIC

# Šibenik – a Hotel for Dogs

The Šibenik Riviera could welcome this year's tourist season with an increased accommodation capacity, not only for its visitors, but for their pets – dogs – as well. Namely, in the entrepreneurial zone Podi, near Šibenik, the dog hotel of the Šibenik-based company "As-Eko" should soon open its door, the first of its kind in Dalmatia. Its construction will cost around 5.5 million HRK.

The hotel will spread over 6,000 square metres, and two facilities, 1,000 square metres each, have already been built. The investors claim that the idea to build a tourist accommodation facility for the barking quadrupeds has existed for quite some time now since numerous visitors bring their pets with them to the Šibenik Riviera as they have nowhere to leave them when they need to during their vacation: for instance, when yachtsmen want to spare their pet the rough sea.

The investors also announce that the dog tourists will be able to enjoy a top notch treatment in Podi. The service will be completely adjusted to the desires of the owners. For instance, the owners will be able to choose the daily menu for their pets. A special walking area has been built for the dogs' daily walks.

The hotel will not feature room-service, but the barking tourists will have a veterinary doctor and other health and support staff at their disposal.

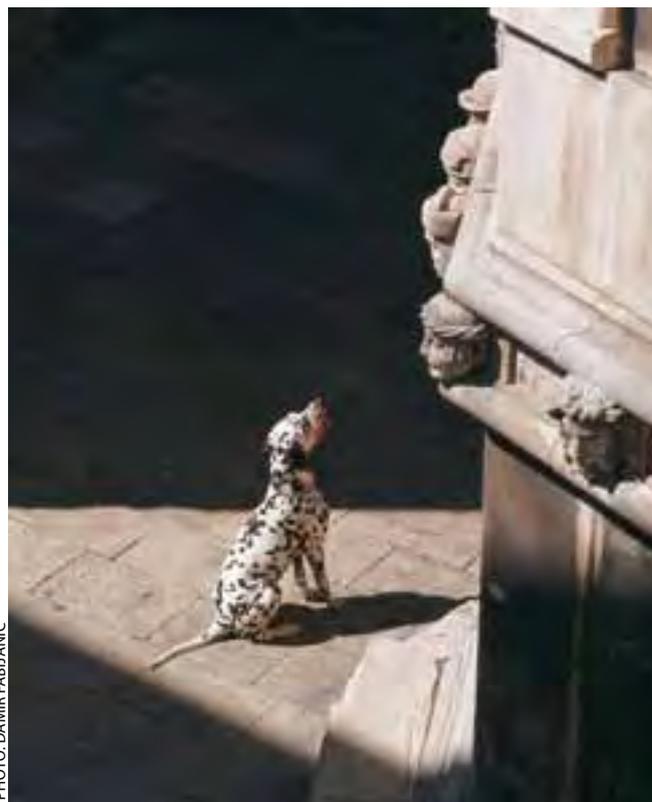


PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIĆ

Šibenik-Knin County Tourist Board

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

City of Šibenik Tourist Board

[www.sibenik-tourism.hr](http://www.sibenik-tourism.hr)

# ■ Croatia in the world

## Croatian Camps in ADAC Guide

In this year's camp guide of the German automobile club ADAC, "Camping Caravaning Fuehrer", considered by many to be the bible of campists in Germany and beyond, Croatia is once again presented as a high quality camping destination with amazing nature, and a destination regularly investing into raising the quality of its offering.

Inspectors of the ADAC particularly point out the quality of the sanitary facilities in camps of Istria and northern Dalmatia as well as the ever increasing number of quality and equipped lots in the camps.

The guide, celebrating its 60th anniversary, introduces 103 Croatian camps, 19 of which have been marked with a special symbol, representing a significant improvement in quality compared to last year.

Two camps received the prestigious rating "Super platz", i.e. the "red plaquette". These are the camps Park Umag, which received the same rating last year, and Zaton, which has received the "Super platz" rating for the past four years. Only 80 European camps have received this rating, for their above-average offering in sanitary facilities, camp site, hospitality and commerce, recreation and animation. Camps that have received the yellow ADAC plaquette, signifying camps that have achieved remarkable results, a significant improvement and left a good impression, are the same as last year – Zaton in Zadar, Kanegra, Stella Maris, Park Umag and Finida in Umag, Lanterna and Solaris in Poreč, Poljana in Mali Lošinj, Vira on Hvar and Nevio in Orebić.

Croatian camps have received an average rating of 2.45 in this year's ADAC guide. The German inspectors have given the highest rating to Istrian camps – 3.26 – and the biggest improvement was achieved by the camps of the Zadar County, with an average rating of 2.38. The ADAC inspectors evaluated the overall development of the camps, accessibility of facilities and activities, gastronomy, investments and other. According to the results, Croatian camps are best in the segment of supply and gastronomy, followed by camp sites, while animation of guests received the lowest rating. This year, Croatia is also featured in the ADAC guide for camp rest areas. Out of the 3,500 rest areas in 21 European countries, 15 are in Croatia, two more than last year. Six of them are in Istria, six in Dalmatia, two in Lika and one on Kvarner.

The very first Istrian camp rest area, Farm Pino in Katun on Poreština, is the only one to have received the rating "Komfort Stellplatz" for the quality of its services and facilities. This is the very first award given to a Croatian camp rest area, among one hundred areas from all over Europe.

Today, there are around 6 thousand camping rest areas registered in Europe, 3,500 of which are covered by the 2010 ADAC guide. According to data, there are around 3 million camper owners in Europe, and around 90 thousand new campers are bought each year. One of the leading Dutch camping guides, ANWB Campinggids, has put 82 Croatian camps in its 2010 issue. It has given the best rating



PHOTO: IGOR ZIROJEVIC



PHOTO: IGOR ZIROJEVIC

to Lanterna, Solaris and Ulika from Poreč and Orsera from Vrsar. The swimming pool complexes in the six Istrian camps received the maximum rating. These are the pools in Lanterna and Zelena Laguna in Poreč, Valalta and Veštra in Rovinj, and Park Umag and Bi Village in Fažana. The rating "ANWB recommends" went to camp Kovačine on Cres, Konobe and Pila in Punto, Adriatic in Šibenik and Rio and Zaton in Zadar.

Croatian Camping Association

[www.camping.hr](http://www.camping.hr)

ADAC

[www.adac.de](http://www.adac.de)

# Hvar - Bonj among 20 most Beautiful Beaches in Europe

The British internet site Timesonline.co.uk has chosen among the elite company of Europe's 20 most beautiful beaches one Croatian beach – Bonj on Hvar, “Les Bains”. This Croatian beauty is described as a “supercool beach club” on “the most trendy” Croatian island, offering an amazing view of the nearby Pakleni islands. Deck chairs and parasols can be rented at the beach, located in close proximity to an aromatic pine tree forest. Bonj is not about the sand, but all about the views it offers. You can enter the turquoise sea of the Amfora bay right from out of your chair, say the authors of the text, pointing out that not even the fashion designer Giorgio Armani or the Hollywood actor Kevin Spacey could resist the beauties of Hvar.

The site recommends Bonj to all stars and to all those like to observe the stars in the sky.

The most beautiful beach, according to the site, is Plage Conguel in Brittany, followed by three beaches in the Provence: Languedoc, Collioure and Piemanson, Palombaggia on Korsica and Las Salinas on Ibiza. The most beaches on the list are located in Spain.

Bonj was ranked 13th among the elite European beauties. Bonj is a beach that is part of the hotel company “Sunčani Hvar”, and is considered an architectural pearl that was built between 1927 and 1931, designed by the Hvar architect Silvije Sponza (1889-1960).

The stone cabins offer a private place for relaxation or drowsing. Visitors can enjoy refreshing drinks on the bar terrace on the first floor or delicious snacks in the bar next to the sea. Bonj features two private tents for professional massages and showers, deck-chairs and pontoons – all in all, a unique experience.

In order to make it one of the most well known beaches and clubs in the Adriatic, Sunčani Hvar, after years of squalor, invested in Bonj as much as 16 million HRK in 2006/2007. The swimming area is today part of the hotel “Adriana”, and part of the beach Vela plaža of the hotel “Amfora”. Bonj is proud to have been awarded with the Blue Flag for the third year in a row, and was officially proclaimed the best Croatian beach last year.

Like Bonj, Hvar has also recently received a prestigious recognition, having been ranked as one of the best party destinations in the world by the website Huffington Post. With the explanation that it is probably the least familiar name on the list featuring the best world tourist destinations, the article points out that this “beautiful town on the Croatian coast’s reputation has skyrocketed in recent year, and is said to be the best place to go in the Adriatic”.

On the list, Hvar is in the prestigious company of well-known destinations such as Las Vegas, Saint-Tropez, Ibiza, Rio de Janeiro and Berlin, and the website recommends it as one of the best destinations to visit in 2010 to all those who like to have fun.



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIC

Split-Dalmatian County Tourist Board

[www.dalmacija.hr](http://www.dalmacija.hr)

City of Hvar Tourist Board

[www.tzhvar.hr](http://www.tzhvar.hr)

Timesonline

[www.timesonline.co.uk](http://www.timesonline.co.uk)

Sunčani Hvar

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

# Makarska- the Restaurant “Susvid” receives award in Spain

The Makarska restaurant “Susvid” has recently received a prestigious international award, given out for 33 years by the Spanish “Trade Leaders Club”. The restaurant, celebrating its 35th anniversary, has been chosen among 1,000 hotels, restaurants and other hospitality facilities in the world. With its quality, “Susvid” has earned a certificate and bull statue, made after the design of Pablo Picasso. Interestingly, it is precisely the Picasso bull that has always been the logo of the Makarska restaurant and can be found on all of its menus. The restaurant, as all the other candidates, was nominated by its guests and journalists for the prestigious award. “Susvid” offers mostly littoral specialties on its menu and homemade delicacies, its specialty being stakes, especially shark stakes. Another favourite is the tuna stew. The international tourism, hotel and catering award “The Trade Leaders Club” is given out by a business association gathering around 7,000 members in over 120 countries all over the world.

Split Dalmatian County Tourist Board

[www.dalmacija.hr](http://www.dalmacija.hr)

City of Makarska Tourist Board

[www.makarska-info.hr](http://www.makarska-info.hr)

The Trade Leaders Club

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



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

## ■ Events

# Vinkovci, Rijeka and Zagreb Hosts of the Documentary Rock Film Festival DORF

If music documentaries combine sound and image into an ideal form, then the Vinkovci rock documentary film festival – DORF—combines film enthusiasts and music lovers in the best way. For the first time, this unconventional festival of rock documentary filmmaking from Croatia and abroad can be enjoyed in three Croatian cities as the festival will be simultaneously held in Vinkovci, Rijeka and Zagreb from March 4th to March 7th.

The various genres and innovative storylines about music idols will impress not only documentary film enthusiasts, but movie laymen, who will once again be able to enjoy numerous workshops, exhibitions, book promotions and, of course, concerts.

This year's festival will feature 21 music documentary films from eight countries. The projections will be held in the city theatre "Joze Ivakić" in Vinkovci, Dokukino Croatia in Zagreb and Art-kino Croatia in Rijeka.

At the festival's opening ceremony in Vinkovci, the film "Dr. Feelgood - Oil City Confidential" will be shown by legendary British author Julien Temple, the final part of his trilogy on British punk.

For the fourth year in a row, DORF is organized by the Vinkovci Film Lovers' Association, RARE!, this year in cooperation with the associations "Restart" from Zagreb and "Amandlom" from Rijeka.

The first DORF festival was held in Vinkovci in 2007 and was mostly an exhibition of regional music documentary production.

Last year's festival was marked by the guest, legendary British filmmaker Don Letts and the world premiere of his film on the band The Clash, "Revolution Rock".

By linking itself with similar festivals on AMUSIFF ([www.amusiff.org](http://www.amusiff.org)), DORF has become a relevant factor on the festival map of this part of Europe.



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

Vukovar-Srijem County Tourist Board

[www.tzvsz.hr](http://www.tzvsz.hr)

City of Vinkovci Tourist Board

[www.tz-vinkovci.hr](http://www.tz-vinkovci.hr)

City of Vinkovci

[www.vinkovci.hr](http://www.vinkovci.hr)

DORF Festival

[www.dorf-vk.com](http://www.dorf-vk.com)

## ■ Projects

# Gospić – Lika Aqua Park Soon in Široka Kula

Recently a project worth 60 million HRK was introduced in the Lika centre Gospić, an eco aqua park in Široka Kula, a village on the Ljubovska plateau. The park will spread over 75,000 thousand square metres. The project envisages the construction of an indigenous village with 120 houses, adjusted to the climate of Lika, a water centre, sports facilities, a zoo-park, hotel and commercial facilities. What remains to be carried out is geo-hydrological research, testing the possibility for electricity and gas consumption, as well as an environmental impact study. Nothing similar exists in Croatia or neighbouring countries, and the Israeli investors Nimrodom Soferom and Lahov Jaohimom have announced that this will be a truly unique park, open all year round.

Lika-Senj County Tourist Board

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

Town of Gospić Tourist Board

[www.tz-gospic.hr](http://www.tz-gospic.hr)

Town of Gospić

[www.gospic.hr](http://www.gospic.hr)

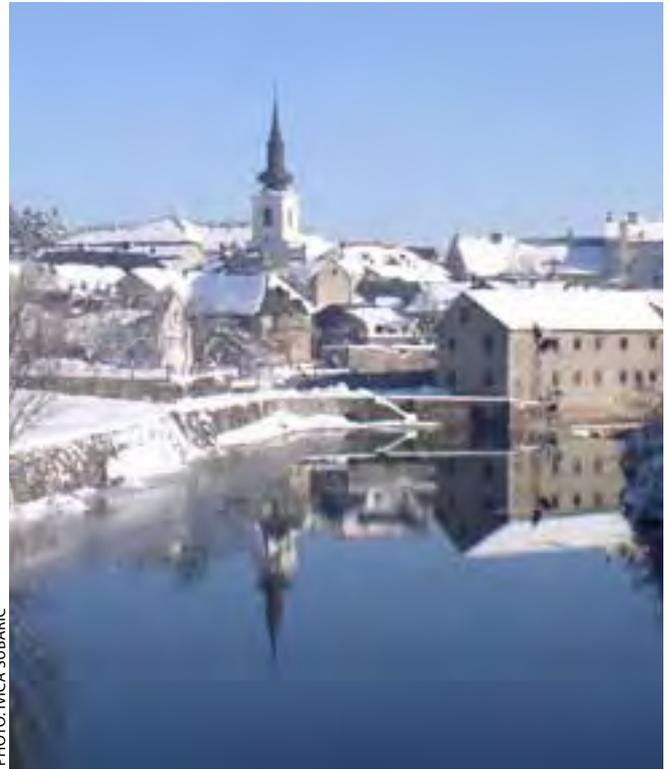


PHOTO: ICA ŠUBARIĆ

# Šibenik – Little Venice in Zabláće

In Šibenik, French entrepreneur Bernard Lamy has recently introduced a project for the construction of a great tourist village on more than three square kilometres on the Zabláće plateau. The project also envisages the construction of a golf course, sports playground, parks and beaches. The entire complex will spread from the St. Nicolas fortress, across the salt lakes Soline to Solaris.

The salt lakes would gain in attractiveness with an entire complex of new artificial channels and lakes, connected by movable bridges.

This way, the Zabláće salt lakes would be reminiscent of Venice and its attractive channels.

Along with apartments and a great number of luxury villas, several small hotels would be built, and a marina, right next to the first row of houses.

The French investor feels such a town would live from and for tourism throughout the entire year.

Zabláće is a town 9 kilometres away from Šibenik, in close proximity to the hotel village “Solaris”. The town was first mentioned in 1432 as the area where Šibenik locals would utilize the salt lakes.



PHOTO: DAMIR FABJANIĆ

Šibenik-Knin Tourist Board

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

City of Šibenik Tourist Board

[www.sibenik-tourism.hr](http://www.sibenik-tourism.hr)

# ■ Introducing Zadar – City of History

Zadar is a city with an exceptional 3,000 year-old history and an exceptionally valuable cultural heritage, a city that always manages to offer something new and original. Located at the very heart of the Adriatic, Zadar is the urban centre of Northern Dalmatia, the administrative, economical, cultural and political centre of an area of 92,000 people. With its position at the meeting point of geographically different regions, and surrounded by historical towns such as Nin, Pag, Biograd, Obrovac, Benkovac and many others, it is an easily accessible and attractive tourist destination for visitors from the entire world that can be reached by air, land or sea. It has an excellent transport infrastructure, with which it is directly connected to other major cities of Croatia and exceptional marina capacities and service.

The developed coast, islands and untouched nature lure numerous yachtsmen.

Thanks to its geographical position, Zadar has a mild Mediterranean climate (warm and dry summers and mild and rainy winters), reflected in the beautiful Mediterranean vegetation and a few subtropical specimen in the Zadar city parks.

The city itself, in a combination of the beautiful past and all contemporary amenities, offers numerous tourist attractions – ideal accommodation, indigenous culinary delicacies, cultural monuments, contemporary sports facilities and various excursion programs.

Zadar is one of the most popular Croatian tourist destinations, which the London Times has proclaimed the “centre of fun in the Adriatic”, and the Guardian “the new Croatian capital of cool”. The many visitors are won over by the special atmosphere and rich social life – be it day or night. In the summer, Zadar is host to the Musical evenings in St Donat, the Zadar Summer Theatre Festival, the Festival of the Sea Organ – Mitra Zonata, the KalelargaArt – street art festival, and the urban festival ‘Zadar snova’ (Zadar of our dreams). Other great opportunities for entertainment are: The Garden Festival, Night of the Full Moon or one of the concerts of world famous musical artists.

This special city is irresistible to lovers of historical monuments and cultural heritage, artists, tourists and its local population. Zadar is a city in which a lot of room has been left to pedestrians; a walk along the stone streets of the city will become a walk down history as well as an experience of contemporary life. As a city-monument surrounded by historical city-walls, Zadar is a true treasury of archaeological and monumental wealth from the Ancient, medieval and renaissance era, as well as contemporary architectural wonders such as the very first sea organ in the world and the ‘Hail to the Sun’.

The century old tumultuous history, destruction and creation have left their scars and many records, and today’s heritage of monuments. From all the historical eras, numerous churches and monuments remain, displaying the architecture of all styles. Around 70 of them are located in the very city centre, while the wider Zadar area harbours over 6000 immobile



PHOTO: MARIO ROMULIĆ & DRAŽEN STOJČIĆ

cultural monuments. In Zadar, the remains from Ancient times, the early Christian era and early middle ages can be found.

The must-see monuments of world-importance can still be seen on every step: the Roman forum from the 1st century, the St Donat Church from the 9th century – the best known medieval basilica, the cities trademark, the renovated Romanic churches of St Krševan from the 12th century and the bell-tower of St Mary from 1105, the cathedral of St Anastasia from the 13th century, the People’s square (Narodni trg) with the City lodge and guard from the 16th century and the powerful city walls with the representative harbour and inland city gates from the 16th century, the Square of the three wells, the Square of the five wells and numerous palaces, villas and other monuments. The Ancient Zadar is of a typical regular rectangular shape, conditioned by the cardo and the decumanus – the main streets of all Ancient cities going from north to south and west to east, deriving from the Roman military camp, the castrum.

The permanent exhibition of church art, ‘The Gold and Silver of Zadar’, in the St Mary Church convent, is one of the most valuable exhibitions in Croatia. On over 1,200 square metres, in 8 contemporary halls, the Zadar gold is exhibited, along with the reconstructed interior of the tiny church St. Nediljica from the 11th century, manuscripts, sculptures, embroidery, tapestry, reliefs and other evidence of Zadar’s rich history between the 8th and 18th century. Zadar was a particularly important cultural centre in the middle ages. Into the shrines and chalices, sculptures, paintings and embroidery, all the joy, hopes, patience, suffering and faith of the tumultuous past of this region is

inwrought. The priceless treasure has been preserved over the centuries by Benedictine nuns, and some exhibits (lace, red textile embroidered with golden thread) are the work of their own hands.

The Zadar Museum of Ancient Glass is a unique cultural institution, not only in Croatia but in the entire world. It exhibits a unique collection of around 2,000 various glass objects from the Antique found in localities in Zadar, Nin, Starigrad beneath Velebit and Asseria near Benkovac, dated between the 1st century B.C. and the 5th century A.D. The museum harbours another 2,000 glass objects. Spread over 2,575 square metres, the museum also features a specialized library, conference hall, glass-blowing workshop and souvenir shop.

The Archaeological Museum was found in 1832 and is the second oldest in Croatia and one of the oldest in this part of Europe. It exhibits objects from the Roman era and prehistoric archaeological material from the Palaeolithic, as well as archaeological remains from between the 7th and 12th century, most of which concerns the Croatian material and spiritual heritage. The museum has a permanent exhibition, a restoration and preparation workshop and a library. The museum of Nin Antiquities and the Benkovac Regional Museum also operate under it.

One of the must-see attractions of Zadar is the sea organ – a place where man's idea and skills meet the energy of the sea, waves and the tides. It is a place for relaxation, contemplation and conversation, with the constant concert of the mystical tones of nature's orchestra. In close proximity to the new port for cruisers, the organ is part of the Zadar waterfront and is recognizable for its cascade profile. Immediately after it was built, the sea organ has become the metaphorical site of the city, attracting enthused Zadar locals everyday. It has also become an unavoidable spot in all tourist itineraries of Zadar and the region.

Another urban installation has become a must-see site in all tourist itineraries. It is the installation 'Hail to the Sun', by the same architect, Nikola Barišić. It consists of three hundred glass plates installed at the same level as the tessellation of the waterfront in the form of a circle, 22 metres in diameter. Photo tensional modules beneath the glass plates create a symbolic communication with nature, with the goal of, just as with the sea organ, to enable communication, in the organ with sound, and in this installation with light.

After the "most beautiful sunset in the world" the lighting in the circle turns on according to a specially programmed program, creating a beautiful, exceptionally impressive game of light, in the rhythm of the waves and the sound of the sea organ. The names and numbers engraved along the ring that goes around the installation are part of the calendar of St Krševan, which was created in Zadar and discovered in 1964 in the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Dating from 1292 or 1293, it is one of the oldest documents of its kind and possibly the first to have astronomical data written in Arabic digits. Along with the calendar and holidays with the names of the saints, it also has an astronomical section indicating the ephemeris of the sun, the coordinates of celestial bodies, their angular distances from certain immobile planes, courses and points.

Anyone who visits Zadar will take a walk along the city's "jugular vein", the popular street Kalelarga, Zadar's main



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

street since the ancient times. Though today its official name is Široka Ulica (Wide Street), in everyday speech its name always has and always will be Kalelarga.

It is best to start a walk down the Kalelarga at the Petar Zoranić Square next to the remains of the Roman city gates and the Roman column, transported to where it is today in the 18th century from the Forum. Nearby are the St Šime church and the Duke's palace, along the Street of Elizabeta Kotromanić – in which in the 15th century a knight tournament on horses took place. It leads to the People's Square, where in the middle ages the new centre of the city administration was formed, with today's City Lodge (13th century – 1565), City Guard (1562) and City Hall (1934). To Zadar locals, Kalelarga is more than the name of the city's main street. It is a cult place and one of the symbols of the city that stirs memories of beautiful moments and events, the place of socialisation, entertainment and recreation, processions and folk ceremonies and first loves. It is said that it is precisely on Kalelarga that the loves of many generations of Zadar locals have begun and ended.

A special treat is visiting Zadar's market, a pleasure for all senses. The Zadar market is one of the most picturesque and most colourful markets in the region.

Zadar offers a truly rich selection of accommodation facilities. From hotels, hostels, private accommodation to camps – everyone can find the accommodation that most suits them. The city offers three greatly equipped marinas. Zadar is one of the biggest Croatian nautical centres, because of its beauty and extremely developed coast. Its archipelago counts more than 24 larger and around 300 smaller islands. Lovers of lakes and rivers, mountain air and heights can choose one of the excursions in the surrounding area, with three nearby nature parks – Telašćica, Northern Velebit and the Vransko Lake as well as five national parks – Paklenica, Plitvice, Kornati, Krka and Velebit. The choice is truly great – from walking in forests, hiking, mountaineering, rafting or sailing.

City of Zadar Tourist Board

[www.tzzadar.hr](http://www.tzzadar.hr)

[www.visitzadar.net](http://www.visitzadar.net)

# Mošćenice – Stone Villa above Kvarner

One of the most beautiful towns in the north-eastern part of Istria is certainly the town of Mošćenice. This medieval fortified town is located on a steep cliff and beneath the Mountain Učka, with its ancient walls and narrow stone streets. The Liburni walked these streets in the town's earliest history, one of the Iliric tribes. With their small and fast ships, the Liburni caused a lot of trouble for the ancient Romans, who, after conquering them, included these ships in their fleet and called them the "liburni".

The town has changed many owners throughout its tumultuous history, but has survived all challenges and has remained preserved until today.

Mošćenice can only be entered through one gate, over which the Habsburg coat of arms is engraved. The houses are so compressed that the town does not have one square. The most dominating monument is the Church of St Andrew the Apostle.

Above Mošćenice is the hill Preun, named after the supreme ancient Slavic god of thunder, while the Mošćenice gardens and meadows outside of the city walls are decorated with the Croatian national flower iris (perunika in Croatian), named after his wife.

The town offers an amazing view over Krk, Cres and the entire Kvarner, and at night the city lights of Rijeka can be seen in the distance.

The town of Mošćenice, as all ancient towns, has its successor twin town on the coast – Mošćenička Draga. They are connected in two ways: by a stream flowing down the Draga canyon all the way to the town beach where it enters the sea and by stairs that connect the two towns.

Mošćenička Draga, just as the nearby Opatija and Lovran, is a tourist destination. It features promenades along the sea and elegant villas. One of the most beautiful is the Villa Zagreb, impressive not on account of its size, but on account of its architecture, luring the gaze of many visitors who cannot help but stop and take a picture. Pebble and shells from the beach are the most favourite decorative items of local homes, which is not surprising seeing as they are literally built on the beach, which used to be the source of the building material here and today is the source of the local population's livelihood. Tourism and hospitality services are the main business activities, and Mošćenička Draga features one of the most beautiful beaches on Kvarner. Accommodation in Mošćenička Draga can be found in the four and three star hotels "Marina" and "Mediteran", a two-star auto-camp and a great number of private suites, rooms and villas. Visitors can also enjoy a scuba diving centre. Water sports offer the possibility of entertainment and an active vacation, while numerous restaurants and traditional taverns offer superior culinary and wine pleasures. Hotel "Marina" is located almost in the centre of the town, around 50 metres from the sea and pebble beach. It features 178 rooms and is completely air-conditioned. It also offers a wellness centre.



PHOTO: IVO PERVAN

Hotel "Mediteran" is located in the very centre of Mošćenička Draga, right next to the small harbour, offering an amazing view of the beautiful beach and the island of Cres. Of a slightly more intimate atmosphere, this hotel features 69 rooms.

Located beneath the main road to Pula, around 50 metres from the entrance to Mošćenička Draga, the auto-camp "Draga" offers the possibility of accommodation in tents and caravans. It can accommodate up to 400 people and is open between March 15th and October 15th. Slightly detached from the town and its centre, it offers visitors the possibility of enjoyment, tranquillity and relaxation.

Primorje-Gorski Kotar County Tourist Board

[www.kvarner.hr](http://www.kvarner.hr)

Mošćenička Draga Tourist Board

[www.tz-moscenicka.hr](http://www.tz-moscenicka.hr)

# Vela Luka – the Town Made Famous by a Love Song

Only now I see what Vela Luka, the sea and you mean to me, memories is all I will have left... these are the verses of the song that has made Vela Luka widely famous, a town on the western side of the Island of Korčula, which, with its 276 square kilometres, is the sixth largest island in the Adriatic. Located at the very end of a deep bay, Vela Luka is surrounded by many little coves harbouring vineyards, olive groves, fig trees, carob trees, pine tree forests and other Mediterranean greenery. With less than 5,000 inhabitants, Vela Luka is the second largest town on the Adriatic islands, and with its position, it is one of the most protected harbours of the mid Adriatic, which makes it a safe anchorage and suitable for yachtsmen.

As a town Vela Luka did not begin to develop until the end of the 18th century. The cultural centre, located in the ancient villa Kaštel, harbours the valuable archaeological prehistoric collection from a nearby Neolithic locality and Roman localities, as well as a collection of contemporary art by domestic and world artists.

On the southern slopes of the hill Pinski rat an archaeological finding site was discovered, testimony to man living in this area in prehistory (around 3,200 B.C.). The plateau in front of the entrance to the cave offers a view of almost all parts of the Vela Luka bay, the western end of Blatsko polje and the open sea from Vis, Sveti Andrija, Biševo, all the way to Sušac and Lastovo. From the nearby hills, the southern parts of Hvar and Pelješac and the tips of Biokovo can be seen in good weather.

In the middle ages, Vela Luka was an area where the dukes and aristocrats of Korčula would build their villas and castles. Vela Luka is a town where the traditional original Croatian 'a capella' band music, the 'klapa', is still very much alive, it is a town with an interesting and rich cultural heritage. The Vela Luka cultural and entertainment summer festival, Luško Lito, begins on June 24th, on St. John Day, with a revived regatta of row boats from Gradina bay to the town centre. In its program, which lasts until the beginning of February, Luško Lito includes over 40 nights of cultural and entertainment events. Especially interesting will be the performance of the folklore association Kumpanija, performing ancient Vela Luka dances and knightly games, fishery nights, olive oil nights, as well as theatre nights and nights of classical music.

A must see destination for all visitors of Vela Luka, especially in the summer months, are the tiny islands Ošjak i Proizd. The first is located in the very centre of the entrance to the Vela Luka bay and is completely covered by a thick pine tree forest, crossed with hiking trails leading to accessible karrens and places ideal for swimming and sunbathing. On the western side there is an exceptionally beautiful cave surrounded by rocks and the sea. Ošjak has become to be known as the "island of love".

The somewhat bigger island Proizd is located around half an hour boat ride from the town centre, luring visitors with the natural beauty of its beaches located in hidden coves, turquoise sea and aromatic pine trees and salt. Three beaches stand out, known as the "Bili Boci", located on



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO



PHOTO: SERGIO GOBBO

the northern side of the island and offering a view of the neighbouring Hvar and the open sea. Three years ago, Proizd was named the beach of the year in the Croatian Adriatic. The hotel accommodation in Vela Luka comprises the hotels "Adria", "Posejdon" and "Dalmacija" and the guest-house "Jadran", while many rooms, suites and summer houses are offered in private accommodation. There is also the auto-camp "Mindel" with the accommodation capacity for around 200 visitors, located five kilometres from the town centre. The contemporary sanatorium "Kalos" offers various rehabilitation and preventive treatments as well as a spa program.

Dubrovnik-Neretva County Tourist Board

[www.visitdubrovnik.hr](http://www.visitdubrovnik.hr)

Vela Luka Municipality Tourist Board

[www.tzvelaluka.hr](http://www.tzvelaluka.hr)

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