

newsletter

09/07



Contents

INVESTMENTS

New luxury Istrian villas	2
Old estate – new tourist attraction	3
The new Hotel Atrium opened in Split	3
12,000 Euros a night	4

CONTENTS OF THE OFFER

Explore the Island of Krk by bike	5
Tamburitza Museum in Slavonski Brod	6
Nin školijada – preservation of autochthonous values	6

POINTS OF INTEREST

The return of rafting in the Lokvar Lake	8
Tour of Dubrovnik just like in old times	9
Millennium jump for the Guinness book of records	9

WE PRESENT

Team hunt for the Drava monsters	10
The attraction of autumn in the Lonjsko field	11
Cultural events and active holiday in the Municipality of Vinodol	12
Osor - a town of cultural monuments	13
Traditional way of life in the town streets	14

CROATIA IN THE WORLD

Croatia in the Rough Guides guidebook	16
Lonely Planet has published a new guidebook about Croatia	17

EVENTS

42nd Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival)	18
September cultural events in Dubrovnik	19

NEWS

Directs flights to and from the USA!	20
--------------------------------------	----



Investments

New luxury Istrian villas

Recently the Umag company Istraturist completed construction of new attractive Istrian villas which have now become an integral part of the tourist settlement Stella Maris in the immediate vicinity of the town of Umag.

With an investment worth about 17 million Euros, the settlement Stella Maris has been transformed into an exceptionally comfortable holiday region – it is an area of about 80 thousand square metres which is dominated by a hundred year old pine forest surrounded by an attractive lagoon. There used to be accommodation facilities in this area earlier, however, now the settlement has been modernised – supplemented with the new luxury resort Istrian villas.

In the entire resort tourists have at their disposal a total of 180 accommodation units of four star category. Every villa has its own private garden which blends perfectly into the picture of an otherwise picturesque peninsula isolated from traffic, noise and activities of the rest of the settlement.

Aside from their own luxury villa, guests can also relax in the new Aqua Chill Out zone with a pool, sun tanning area and relaxation area.

The whole renovation of the entire area was approached with great care which also included the restaurant where primarily sea specialties and the flavours of Istrian traditional cuisine are offered.

Along with the newly restored beach, a beautiful walking path leads all the way to the historical centre of Umag.

Istraturist Umag

- › www.istraturist.com
- › booking@istraturist.com
- › info@istraturist.hr

Umaga Tourist Board

- › www.tz-umag.hr

Istria Tourist Board

- › www.istra.hr



Old estate – new tourist attraction

In close vicinity to the Čabraja Lake, not far from Križevac – a town situated in the Koprivnica-Križevac County, a new village tourist estate was recently opened, which for now is the only such farm in the entire region.

The owners of the estate, an older married couple who until now worked in agriculture, proudly point out that in their household one can experience true village life. Tourists, of whom there is an increasing number, come to the estate to enjoy in the village ambience and autochthonous food prepared from vegetables, fruit, meat and dairy products from the estate. The restaurant, which also has a terrace is in the deep shade, can accommodate up to 50 people, and nearby is a beautiful lake, as well as a spacious meadow.

The old barn which used to serve for storing wheat has been transformed into a small ethno room with an old spinning-wheel, chest and other typical village objects which marked the long historical period of everyday life in the rural region.

Tourist Board of the City of Križevac

- › www.tz-koprivnicko-krizevacka.hr
- › tz-kk-zupanije@kc.htnet.hr

The new Hotel Atrium opened in Split

The new five star Hotel Atrium has opened in Split. The hotel has at its disposal 99 modernly equipped rooms and two VIP suites, and along with the standard settings which follow trends in business hotels each room is equipped with free WLAN technology and “pay TV and Video on Demand” system. Business people also have two multipurpose halls at their disposal for holding business meeting with 130 seats. In the construction of the hotel, whose opening caused great interest of local and foreign guests, the owner invested 18 million Euros and it will be managed by the Jadranski luksuzni hoteli (Adriatic luxury hotels) group. Aside from the offer meeting the needs of business clientele, the Hotel Atrium has also secured 24 hour room service for their guests with the possibility of relaxing in the indoor pool and wellness and spa centre located in the top floor of the hotel. The Hotel Atrium which is managed by the aforementioned group is the first hotel opened operating under the brand Gradski luksuzni hoteli (City luxury hotels). City business hotels in Croatia and Great Britain have joined together under this brand name as part of the group GS Hotels and Resorts.



Jadranski luksuzni hoteli (Adriatic luxury hotels)

- › www.alh.hr
- › corporate.comunations@alh.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Split

- › www.visitsplit.com

Dalmatia Split Tourist Board

- › www.dalmatia.hr

VILLA ELITE

12,000 Euros a night

The Villa Elite which operates as part of the Dubrovnik hotel complex "Importanne Resort" is so far the most expensive tourist facility in Dubrovnik, whose price reaches twelve thousand Euros a night. To date the title of the most expensive accommodation was held by the Villa Šeherezada at half the price and owned by the Lukšić Group.

The villa is located in the beautiful surroundings of the Lapad peninsula and was built in 1931 from the same stone from which the villas of the Dubrovnik aristocracy were built in the XIII and XV centuries. It has two suites and four rooms and can accommodate only 12 guests, and as part of the villa there is a dining room, a la carte restaurant, garden with beautiful fountain and marble terrace offering a spectacular view of the sea, an indoor pool, sauna, wine collection and of course a beach in front of the villa. Aside from the superbly decorated interior, refined with art works of great Croatian artists and professional staff who are solely at the disposal of the guests of the villa, they will also have at their disposal an expensive fleet of vehicles with a Jaguar, Bentley and BMW, and a speed boat for sailing needs. Although the Villa Elite has only recently been opened and will be available to guests as of next year, from the hotel complex "Importanne Resort" we are told that there is already great interest on the market.

Aside from the Villa Elite the hotels Neptun, Ariston and Importanne Suites also operate as part of the Importanne Resorts and all are five star facilities.

Importanne Resort

- › www.importanneresort.com
- › info@importanneresort.com

Tourist Board of the City of Dubrovnik

- › www.tzdubrovnik.hr

Dalmatia Dubrovnik Tourist Board

- › www.visitdubrovnik.hr



Contents of the offer

Explore the Island of Krk by bike

One of the largest islands in the Croatian part of the Adriatic – the Island of Krk – is unique for many a reason. Arriving on the island and situating yourself in one location is a big mistake because in this way you miss out on the opportunity of getting acquainted with the rich island heritage which can also be easily explored by bike.

Krk has a surface area of about 400 square kilometres, its highest peak Obzova is located at a height of 569 metres, and the whole island has 68 settlements. Given the abundance of island locations and activities, the bicycle track construction project which is about 130 kilometres long is drawing to a close and will in this simple way connect nearly all the island attractions.

The “Island transversal” which is the name given to the track, is actually a synthesis of all existing walking-bicycle tracks which with additional construction, mutual linking, marking and mapping with the aid of the GPS system, have resulted in the creation of a very attractive bicycle track. The majority of the track passes through the most attractive areas of Krk – pristine nature in whose vicinity many cultural-historical monuments and archaeological localities are located.

Krk abounds in many natural phenomena, caves like Biserujka near Dobrinja. The coastline is also well indented – with numerous coves, sandy beaches and bays of which the bay Soline particularly stands out with its medicinal mud.

There are two lakes on the island – Jezero and Ponikva, and three rivers – Veli or Dobrinjski potok (stream), Vretenica and Vela Rika. Also especially attractive are the Krk ornithological reserves which are home to the griffon – on the small island of Prvić which is located right next to Krk and on the north-eastern steep part of the coast of the Island of Krk.

Tourist Board of the Island of Krk

- › www.krk.hr
- › tz-otoka-krka@ri.t-com.hr

Kvarner Tourist Board

- › www.kvarner.hr



Tamburitza Museum in Slavonski Brod

The warmest part of the year is behind us and it is the ideal time to explore continental regions. One of the recommendations is without a doubt a visit to Slavonski Brod and the Brod Fortress, one of the most well known symbols of this Slavonian town. The reason is simple – the town offers numerous opportunities for entertainment, strolling and getting acquainted with the traditions which are deeply entrenched in the past and present of this town.

After the opening of the Ružić Gallery, revival of scenes from the history of the Tvrđava (fortress) and opening of a traditional blacksmith's workshop, Slavonski Brod is richer yet for another interesting facility – Tamburitza Museum, located within the Tvrđava.

This is a unique project given that nowhere in Croatia to date has a similar museum been opened which is dedicated only to this recognisable musical symbol of Slavonia.

The museum presents the hundred year old history of the Tamburitza in Slavonski Brod and the entire Slavonski Brod- Posavina County. Given that the premises in which it is located are small the exhibit is not very large, however it does display a series of very valuable exhibits like a tamburitza from 1920 and handwritten notes for a tamburitza orchestra which were written back in 1912.

Aside from classical exhibits and old photographs, the museum often also organises workshops during which visitors can see how this traditional instrument is made.

The museum is located in the Kapelan apartment of the Tvrđava, right next to the Tourist-information centre which is why it is already very attractive to tourists.

Tourist Board of the City of Slavonski Brod

- › www.tzgsb.hr
- › tzg-sl.broda@sb.htnet.hr

Nin šokolijada – preservation of autochthonous values

The unique gastronomic manifestation “Nin šokoladija” in whose final stages once annually tourists of the ancient town of Nin may enjoy, has a significantly greater effect than organising an attractive tourist event. The entire project was initiated five years ago by the Tourist Board of the City of Nin to promote the organised production of Šokol (an traditional smoked and cured meat) and through the hospitality offer promote the autochthonous values of their own region. Šokol is an original smoked and cured meat product which has been linked for centuries to the Nin area and is produced according to an traditional and well kept original recipe



in the north-western part of the Zadar County. It is made from fresh pork neck from home reared pigs in a procedure similar to the production of pršut (smoked ham) – three to seven days it sits in clean sea water, then it is placed into cooked red wine and is then covered with a number of different spices (pepper, cloves, nutmeg) which is then “pushed” into the meat. It is tied with string in a special way, then after a few days it is smoke cured, and then placed in the bura (special type of wind), which according to the inhabitants of the Nin region is the most important part of the curing of Šokol. Namely, the unique microclimate which in itself joins together the bura wind brought from the sea and mountain air enriched with the scents and ingredients of medicinal herbs from Velebit affect the curing process and quality of the Nin Šokol.

The production of Šokol has many hundreds of years history and is part of the family gastronomic tradition of the Nin region in which once livestock breeding and in its making even the youngest generations took part. Given that it was produced in very small quantities it was once served only to selected guests, and even today it is offered as a special delicacy. According to maintained tradition Šokol is eaten on the occasion of celebrating the apparition of Our Lady of Zečevo in 1516, where every year on the 5th of May and the 5th of August the faithful make pilgrimages by boat and on foot to the Island of Zečevo and after the holy mass traditional feast on Šokol. By stimulating its organised production for which the local inhabitants of the Nin region are showing increased interest, is a guarantee that in the future an increasing number of tourists will be able to enjoy in the flavours and scents of this original delicacy.

Tourist Board of the City of Nin

- › www.nin.hr
- › tzg-nina@zd.t-com.hr

Zadar Tourist Board

- › www.zadar.hr



Points of interest

The return of rafting in the Lokvar Lake

According to the plan whose realisation is still underway, the inhabitants of Lokvar and their guests will soon be able to enjoy in rafting along the entire Lokvar Lake. The Lokvar Lake is one of the many “pearls” of the tourist offer of Gorski Kotar. It offers true satisfaction to all lovers of nature and sports-recreation activities of which there are truly many on and around the lake. An additional motive for coming here will surely be the raft which will be, after its completion, available for hire on the lake or for swimming trips to other locations.

Namely, the rafting tradition in Lokve almost dates back to the creation of the Lokvar Lake (the accumulation lake was created during the construction of the dam in 1954), and rafts were especially popular during the 70's and 80's of the last century. It is precisely because of this tradition, but also the desire to enrich the tourist offer of the Lokvar area a little more, that one private initiator began construction of a raft. The raft is a “vessel” whose lower part consists of 48 connected barrels on which a wooden construction has been added and which can accommodate 40 passengers. The raft of course will also have wooden benches which will be situated next to the raft railings, and it will have adequate protection from rain or sun. The raft will also have a small real captain's bridge, and along with a “sea wolf” the vessel will be also operated by a tour guide.

That which will attract tourists to the raft, aside from the fact that they will be able to “cruise” along the lake, is the “route of the old historical Lujzijan road”. Namely the raft will travel exactly in the direction of the well known historical road which “disappeared” in the middle of the past century and this partially “thanks” to the construction of the Lokvar Lake which “flooded” the Lujzijan. In this way the trip, along with information from the tour guide, will provide even more details about this historical route, where tourists will of course also be able to cool off in the lake or have a picnic on the banks.

Tourist Board of the Municipality of Lokve

- › www.tz-lokve.hr
- › tzo-lokve@ri.htnet.hr

Kvarner Tourist Board

- › www.kvarner.hr



Tour of Dubrovnik just like in old times

Like many European cities, Dubrovnik this year has gained two open-air buses intended for tourist sightseeing of the city, and one of the main tasks of the bus is not only driving of tourists but awakening memories of the Dubrovnik tram which once long ago used to travel along the city streets.

The appearance, colours and recognisable bell of the bus already now irresistibly remind one of the tram which travelled along the Dubrovnik streets from 1910 to 1970.

After a few days driving in regular city transport, the open-air bus has completely reverted to driving along the outlined tourist route. Tourists will therefore be able to traverse the areas of the city from Pila to Babin Kuk by bus, and the bus also drives to two belvederes – the bridge of Dr. Franjo Tuđman and one with a view of the city centre.

Modern technology has made it possible for a system of expert audio guide to be built into the open-air bus with whose help tourists during the tour which lasts about an hour and a half will be able to hear the “story about Dubrovnik” in ten world languages.

Tourist Board of the City of Dubrovnik

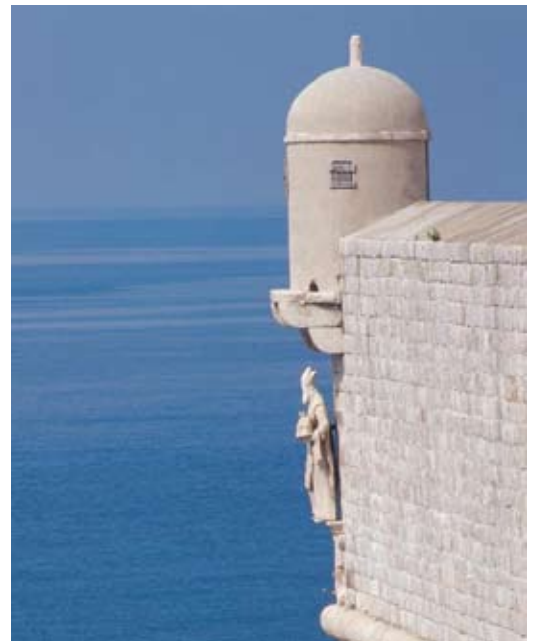
- › www.tzdubrovnik.hr
- › info@tzdubrovnik.hr

Dalmatia Dubrovnik Tourist Board

- › www.visitdubrovnik.hr

Millennium jump for the Guinness book of records

Known for its quality tourist activities and facilities, cultural events and attractive manifestations, Zadar is a must see locality on the tourist map of Croatia. It is sufficient only to mention the sea pipe organ constructed on the Zadar waterfront, which with the harmony of sea and sounds additionally attracts visitors and it is the only one of its kind in the world. One would do well to also mention the Musical evenings in St. Donat, the Zadar theatrical summer, Festival of contemporary music and Nights of the full moon when the Zadar waterfront has its lights turned off to bask in the full glow of the full moon and life returns to a time long ago. This festival of culture and traditions of the Zadar region attracts tens of thousands of tourists, who along with traditional music and dance can also enjoy the flavours and scents of rich cuisine of the Zadar region and other parts of Croatia. Many tourists will also remember this year's stay in Zadar because of the spectacular manifestation the “Millennium Jump” in which a total of 1503 people dove head



first from the Zadar waterfront into the sea for a Guinness record of the most massive jump of its kind. Aside from the promotional, entertainment and tourist characteristics, in the realisation of the whole project, which was organised by the Tourist Board of the City of Zadar, special emphasis was placed on ecology and protection of the sea from dangerous algae, and for the millennium photograph of the well known Croatian photographer Šime Strikoman on this occasion on the pebbly part of the waterfront a sign stating “Zadar – Croatia Millennium Jump” using human bodies was also organised. The entire spectacle was followed by numerous television stations from Croatia and abroad, with VOX and RTL sending live pictures around the world from the Zadar waterfront filled with people diving into the clean sea.

Tourist Board of the City of Zadar

- › www.tzzadar.hr
- › info@tzzadar.hr

Zadar Tourist Board

- › www.zadar.hr

We present

Team hunt for the Drava monsters

Continental Croatia, more exactly the area around the town of Koprivnica and the river Drava, has recently gained a new tourist product. Members of the association Drava documentation centre has recently started with a team building offer “Hunting the Drava monsters” which has already thrilled many lovers of ascetic life in nature.

This is a programme based on the concept of an imagined hunt for a monster hidden in the depths of the river Drava, and legend states that they lie hidden somewhere near the town Legrad. Of course it has not been proved that monsters actually exist, however legends surrounding it are full of mysterious stories according to which the Drava monster is nearly as mystical as the Loch Ness monster.

It is precisely because of this that adventurers from Koprivnica decided to gather together a team to head out into this interesting hunt, and to enable others to enjoy in this too they created this attractive team building programme. The hunt through the wild includes exploring the nearly 60 kilometres long section of the river Drava, which at the same time enables time spent outdoors in pristine nature and the uncertainty of a possible encounter with the mysterious beings. Namely, legend states that the Drava monsters



would sometimes swim out of the waters and scare the people with their roaring, and alleged witnesses describe them as beings with thin, long bodies with a snake-like head.

According to the association Drava documentation centre, the Drava monsters, have survived in this region because of the pristine nature. The river Drava has been proclaimed one of the five cleanest European rivers and therefore team building programmes are organised in smaller groups so as not to further endanger the river. To make the experience as authentic as possible members of the association have also acquired two Drava čon – replicas of traditional boats with which teams venture out on the hunt. The route begins from the bridge at Donja Dubrava from where it heads towards the reserve Veliki Pažut where tourists can begin exploring the Drava sleeves all the way to the estuary of the river Mura in Drava. For fearless members of the “Drava expedition” camping overnight in tents is organised, while for those more inclined towards safer nights, accommodation is organised in hotels in the surrounding area.

Drava documentation centre

- › www.ddc.hr
- › ddc@ddc.hr

Koprivnica-Križevci Tourist Board

- › www.tz-koprivnicko-krizevacka.hr

The attraction of autumn in the Lonjsko field

In line with the increasing number of tourists to the Nature Park Lonjsko field, one of the largest marsh habitats in Europe which extends across a large part of central Croatia, further development of the now rich tourist offer is increasingly noticeable. From year to year there is an increasing number of activities and facilities, therefore it is not surprising to see an increasing number of guests coming to Lonjsko field for a couple of years so as to fully experience the typical life in the heart of a marsh which in this region has existed for a few hundred years.

The traditional imagery, typical Posavina architecture and exceptionally rich flora and fauna are reason due to which Lonjsko field has become truly unique, and this not only in Croatia but in the whole of Europe. The tourist offer is connected to all qualities specific to marshes so that tourists can in this way enjoy in bike riding or boats through the marsh, look at Posavina horses how they graze unhindered in spacious meadows, also in the offer are a series of organised educational programmes which speak of the specific qualities of the Lonjsko field in detail to all those interested, and there are also a whole series of other attractive things to see. Among these are without a doubt the village Čigoč – the first



European village of storks and Krapje – a village of architectural heritage where there is also a larger number of accommodation facilities. This is a specific type of architecture – traditional Posavina wooden houses which are renovated according to special requirements for conservation of cultural heritage, however the interiors are being increasingly adapted to modern requirements. It is precisely for this reason that a stay in these houses is yet another experience, along with all the other interesting things, that can be experienced in Lonjsko field.

Listing all the specific qualities of this naturally rich region would be a dauntingly chaotic task as there are many activities and facilities, and each of these also deserves a detailed description given their exceptional attractiveness and uniqueness. Therefore let's leave some space for exploring, as Lonjsko field is in any case difficult to describe. Namely, it a typical marsh area whose appearance greatly depends on the water level of the river which flows into the marshland, so that each season brings with it its specific qualities. Late summer, when the water level is not so high, maybe is also the best time for walks in the Nature Park because the meadows are then the driest which enables a large number of animal species to graze peacefully, and gives tourists an excellent view of the attractive animal world.

Nature Park Lonjsko field

- › www.pp-lonjsko-polje.hr
- › info@pp-lonjsko-polje.hr

Cultural events and active holiday in the Municipality of Vinodol

Specific for its cultural events which are organised in historical structure from the time period of the Dukes Frankopan, the Municipality of Vinodol offers countless opportunities for an active holiday. Situated in the Vinodol valley with its seat in the old town Bribir, it extends over 150 square kilometres, from the sea only two-three kilometres away and half of its territory is covered by forest. Parallel along the coastline belt it extends from Novi Vinodol to Križišća, while in its interior it borders with municipalities of Gorski Kotar in the Primorje-Gorski Kotar County. The four hundred year rule of the Dukes Frankopan left deep spiritual and material traces in the region of the Municipality of Vinodol, in which Bribir, Grižan – Belgrad and Drivenik were signatories to one of the first pieces of legislation in this part of Europe – the Vinodol Law from 1288. Today in this region there are 12 active churches, while there still remain traces of another 27 structures, which proves that the Municipality of Vinodol was once a very strong ecclesiastical centre. As the entire region extends across the Vinodol valley situated between the sea and wooded mountains, it is also an ideal place



for an active holiday with the option of staying in family homes and authentically decorated rural facilities. Along with the production of healthy food, rich offer of autochthonous meals and pleasant climate conditions, tourists are more frequently choosing the Vinodol valley for their holiday destination as it offers them a wide variety of recreational activities – from mountaineering and walking, mountain bike riding, horse riding to paragliding, hang-gliding, sports fishing, etc. – and its advantage is that it is also close to the well known tourist destinations Rijeka and Opatija.

Tourist Board of the Municipality of Vinodol

- › www.tz-vinodol.hr
- › tzo-vinodolske@ri.t-com.hr

Kvarner Tourist Board

- › www.kvarner.hr

Osor - a town of cultural monuments

The old town of Osor on the Island of Cres, known among classical music lovers also for the Osor musical evenings, which have been taking place in the cathedral and on the central square of the old town for more than 30 years, is also unique for the number of cultural monuments. The town lies on the south-western side of the Island of Cres on a narrow strip which connects the Island of Cres and Lošinj in the Primorje-Goranska County. A long time ago these islands were joined, however because of the needs of trade and the Amber path they were separated by an artificially dug out canal at Osor, which today does not serve any function. The town is surrounded by old walls from which the history of Osor can be read which reaches back to ancient times. The centre of the town is dominated by the Parish Church of St. Mary (cathedral) from 1498 and is ranked among the most beautiful Renaissance monuments in Croatia. It is a three-naved structure with a three-leafed façade and Early Renaissance portal with the statue of the Mother of God in a niche, which is the work of the great Croatian sculptor and builder Juraj Dalmatinac. The bell tower of the cathedral is the work of a Krk master Jakov Galeta from 1575, but it was later reconstructed and in 1901 raised to today's height. In the cathedral there are three altars and pictures from the time period from the XVI to the XVIII centuries, while the treasury guards a wooden gothic sculpture from the XV century, golden and silver liturgical items and dress from the XIV to the XVIII century and in the capitular archives illuminated codices from the XV century. Aside from the beautiful cathedral in Osor there are also a series of structures which were built in the surrounding area in the gothic era and a few Romanesque churches – St. Mark and St. Catherine, Church of St. Lawrence on a hill to the southwest of the town, the small



church of St. Petar at the foot of the Osorščice and on the peninsula Supaton the pre-Romanesque church of St. Plato with a richly decorated weave, while in the Bijar cove are the remains of a Franciscan monastery and church from the XV century.

Kvarner Tourist Board

- › www.kvarner.hr

Croatian National Tourist Board

- › www.croatia.hr
- › info@htz.hr

Traditional way of life in the town streets

Nearly every tourist locality in Croatia is a stage for events which emulate the life and spirit of old towns and play out stories about some long past historical time, culture and traditional characteristics of the local inhabitants. Life as it once was takes place on these stage, in line with old customs and beliefs that all important anniversaries from the famous past must be passed down to the next generation throughout history. This is also how the knightly games “Sinjska Alka” have been preserved until the present day, which celebrates the victory of the inhabitants of the Cetina region over the Turkish army in 1715. It was created by the inhabitants of Sinj who participated in this battle. Passing down heroic skills to their descendants throughout nearly three hundred years of history, today it is not only the Alkars (knights) and the Alkar momci (knightly servant) but rather the entire town of Sinj and all the visitors and their guests who come alive with these knightly games. The competition is unique as the Alkar (knight) on a galloping horse must hit the centre of the Alka (ring), which is positioned at a height of 332 centimetres, with a spear 295 centimetres in length. Yet another competition around which, like in Sinj, there are numerous manifestation and which always evokes great interest from local and foreign media is the Maraton lađa (Traditional boat marathon) along the Neretva River. The participants in this marathon, which is organised every second Saturday in August, race their traditional boats along the river Neretva, starting in Metković and ending at the finish line in Ploče, where afterwards a great celebration is organised.

A return to tradition, preservation of old trades, artistic skills and authentic gastronomic delicacies that tourists can try at festivals in nearly all locations on the tourist map of Croatia again marked this year's season. On this occasion we will only the Saljske Užance (old customs) in the locality Sali on Dugi Island in the Zadar County as part of which various games, competitions and fishermen's night are organised, and special interest is always piqued in visitors by the illumination of the port – a beautiful performance of



lights and slowing sailing boats. Namely, when the sun sets, boats decorated with lighted lanterns made by children come out from the gates and in this way spectacularly lit sail into the port. For tourists staying on the Island of Pag, also well known as the gathering place for young people at the popular beach Zrće, a rich cultural programme also takes place in the Renaissance town of Pag with a series of attractive recitals and classical music concerts, to the locality Rab on the neighbouring island of the same name where tourists can enjoy in the skills of archers in the Rab knightly games or maybe in the abundance of colours, tastes and scents of the Rab fjera (Rab Medieval Festival). Even the smallest localities along the entire coast prepare their own festivities, revive old squares and small streets or organise picking of asparagus, grapes or olives. In Split guests will even be greeted by Diocletian, while in Šibenik they will be able to walk in the company of landed nobility from the XVI and XVII centuries. With certainty a walk through the town of Varaždin offers tourists an unforgettable experience, which with its manifestation “Špancirfest” has placed this baroque town in north-western Croatia among the most attractive cultural destinations in the wider European region. Throughout the ten day long festival with performances by numerous artists, performers, actors, entertainers from Croatia and abroad, tens of thousands of tourists from the entire world “promenade” through Varaždin, delighting in the delicacies made according to the original recipes of our grandmothers, skills of old craftsmen and the traditional customs of the Varaždin region.



Croatian National Tourist Board

- › www.croatia.hr
- › info@htz.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Sinj

- › www.sinj.hr

Tourist Board Dugi otok

- › www.dugiotok.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Pag

- › www.pag-tourism.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Rab

- › www.tzg-rab.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Split

- › www.visitsplit.com

Tourist Board of the City of Šibenik

- › www.sibenik-tourism.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Varaždin

- › www.tourism-varazdin.hr

- › sti



Croatia in the world

Croatia in the Rough Guides guidebook

Croatia was also presented as a superior tourist destination in the latest special issue of one of the most well known world tourist guidebooks “Rough Guides”.

It's a guidebook whose editors had it published on the occasion of its 25 years of issuing guidebooks, and which therefore these days it came out from print as a special collectors issue “25 best experiences”. Croatia is mentioned in three such “experiences”.

Under the title “The best 25 experiences – Europe” the attractive tourist offer of Istria is mentioned – more exactly “Join the truffle trails in Buzet”. This small Istrian town, located in the interior of Istria was proclaimed the town of truffles in 1999 so that the rich tourist offer is increasingly being tied to this expensive delicacy. With the opportunity to taste numerous specialties made from truffles, and at favourable prices during a number of organised festivals in honour of truffles which are organised in the season when they mature. During this time, which is mainly in the time period from September to December, tourists can also try their hand at find them.

In part of the guidebook titled “25 best experiences – Eastern Europe” two Croatian destinations are mentioned – Zagreb which is presented through the “guidebook of urban night life” and Split – “Explore Diocletian's palace”.

Diocletian's palace in Split is one of the best preserved monuments of Roman architecture in the world which in 1979 was placed on the World Heritage List.

It was built by the Roman Emperor Diocletian as an appropriate interpolation of various contents of luxury villas – summer residence in the scheme of a Roman military camp (castrum), divided into four parts by two main streets. The southern part of the palace in this scheme was envisaged for the Emperor, his apartment and appropriated state and religious ceremonies, while the northern part was for the Imperial guard – army, servants, as a storage area, etc.

The palace is a rectangular structure (about 215 x 180 m) with four large towers on the corners, four doors on each side and four smaller towers on the walls. The lower part of the wall does not have any openings, while the upper floor is open with a monumental veranda on the southern side and hallways with large arched windows on the remaining three sides. Throughout the centuries inhabitants of the palace, and then the citizens of Split too, adapted these premises to suit their needs, so that the buildings in the interior and external walls with the towers have greatly changed



their original appearance.

Tourist Board of the City of Split

- › www.visitsplit.com
- › tic-split@st.t-com.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Buzet

- › www.istra.com/buzet/
- › grad-buzet@pu.t-com.hr

Tourist Board of the City of Zagreb

- › www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr
- › info@zagreb-touristinfo.hr

Lonely Planet has published a new guidebook about Croatia

The American publisher of the tourist guidebook Lonely Planet has issued a new tourist guide about Croatia, that on 304 pages describes Croatian landscapes, coastline, islands, as well as the interior of the country, and wine and gastro offer characteristic for each individual region.

The author Karen Torme Olson has divided the guide into four logical units – Get under the skin, Rest Easy, Dine Al Fresco and Get Around, while each of these describes various segments of Croatian heritage, culture and everyday life.

The first part of the guide, titled “Get under the skin”, describes the richness and diversity of Croatian cultural-historical heritage, while the chapter “Rest Easy” offers useful service information like where to stay, with an emphasis on authentic coastal stone houses and apartments.

In the chapter “Dine Al Fresco” she gives a list of authentic gastro and wine offer, and restaurants and specialties which, in her opinion, you simply must not miss during your holiday in Croatia.

Here too is the part “Get Around” with a map of attractions and natural beautiful sights you should see, while in the part of the guidebook “Talk to talk” she lists practical advice, words and phrases which may help tourists to communicate with the local inhabitants.

With the issuing of the latest guidebook about Croatia, Lonely Planet has once again acknowledged tourism in Croatia, after proclaiming it as one of the most desirable world tourist destinations at the beginning of 2005.

Lonely Planet

- › www.lonelyplanet.com



Events

42nd Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival)

From the 7th to the 16th of September in Vinkovci, a town situated in the heart of Slavonia, the 42nd traditional Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) will be held – the largest and most well known manifestation of Croatian authentic folklore consisting of a series of folklore, sports and commercial events. The central event of the Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) is the National parade of authentic folklore at which the best cultural-artistic societies from Croatia and abroad perform. The opening ceremony of the Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) regularly precedes the Parade of folklore of the Vukovar-Srijem County with a performance of authentic songs. Dances and depictions of traditional customs, followed by the Inter-County parade of children's folklore groups and other events.

The Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) manifestation quickly surpassed narrow county borders and began to mutually connect all those people who love and value traditional culture, language and customs, and this today includes universal exchange of cultural, economic and other goods throughout the land and the expansion of this unique parade with new manifestations: scientific, tourist, sports, entertainment...

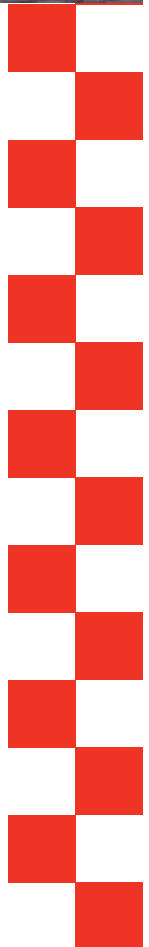
This parade looks towards permanent affirmation of authentic cultural-artistic national creativity based on a rich heritage of the people of the Vinkovac area and whole of Croatia. The Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) has become an original popular-scientific gathering of authentic national culture, a meeting place for it, which does not mean that the Jeseni will be a drawback for contemporary development. They are only the keeper and artist depicting the authentic way of life, they depict pictures of the past and present, direct towards unexplored directions and future possibilities. The Vinkovačke jeseni (Vinkovac Autumn Festival) came from the soul of the Slavonian man, they are an affirmation of the beauty of these plains, they are the desire to preserve from oblivion one-time villages, their people and customs, and especially musical heritage, which should be revealed to contemporary man and lovers of national musical arts

Vinkovačke jeseni

- › www.vk-jeseni.hr

Vukovar-Srijem Tourist Board

- › www.tzvsz.hr



September cultural events in Dubrovnik

In the unique ambiance of the Rector's Palace in Dubrovnik, from the 5th to the 16th of September, the 7th Festival of Julian Rachlin & Friends will be held – a festival of chamber music at which numerous world famous artists gathered around the violinist Julian Rachlin will be performing. He is an Austrian virtuoso whom many musical experts has dubbed one of the currently most charismatic and exciting violinists of his generation. He has performed with leading world orchestras and conductors, and is valued for his strong and revitalising interpretations. He constantly raises the public to their feet in first class concert halls throughout the world, which has as an indirect result repeated invitations. As an acknowledgement for his immense talent, he has received one of the most prestigious international awards for classical musicians, the prestigious "Accademia Musicale Chigiana".

At this year's festival, along with numerous well known musicians, the London Philharmonic will also perform under the conducting of Daniele Gatti, under which Julian Rachlin with Itamar Golan and Mischa Maisky will perform Beethoven's Concert for the piano, violin and violoncello and orchestra.

After this musical festival Dubrovnik will play host to the 5th International heritage festival – Best in Heritage. The organiser of the festival is the European heritage association, and it will be held in the well known Dubrovnik theatre Marin Držić. This is an international manifestation at which the most successful museum and heritage projects are presented, are presented with a national or international award for the past year for professional quality and business success. During the three-day festival programme about twenty or so projects from European countries, Asia, America, Africa and Australia will be presented.

Tourist Board of the City of Dubrovnik

- › www.tzdubrovnik.hr
- › info@tzdubrovnik.hr

Dalmatia Dubrovnik Tourist Board

- › www.visitdubrovnik.hr



Directs flights to and from the USA!

The Croatian airline company Croatia Airlines and the American carrier United Airlines recently signed an intercontinental code share agreement about the transport of passengers between Croatia and the United States of America. This agreement envisages the establishment of direct flights between Zagreb, Split and Dubrovnik and the American cities Washington, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles with transit in one of seven European cities – Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, Munich, London, Paris and Zurich. The start of joint flights which will be listed under the codes of both partners in all world reservation systems can already be expected in autumn after the agreement is accepted by the Croatian Government. For Croatia Airlines the signing of the agreement on cooperation with United Airlines is one of the most important agreements concluded since the founding of the Croatian air carrier, which will for the first time in its history, under its own codes offer its products on flights between Croatia and the United States of America. Such common agreements in the world examine the need for the establishment of flights between certain destinations and after this as a rule direct flights are opened. In this way, as soon as the agreement receives a green light, there will be 60 flights weekly, with United Airlines connecting Croatian passengers with not just four destinations, rather with more than 160 destinations in the United States of America. Aside from this passengers are guaranteed that, in their flights to the USA or Croatia, they will not wait more than three hours in European cities which is an exceptionally short time, and with numerous other benefits certain privileges will be offered to business star travellers and Star Gold members.

Croatia Airlines

- › www.croatiaairlines.hr
- › pr@croatiaairlines.hr



Contacts

Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus

Rumfordstr. 7, 80469 MÜNCHEN, DEUTSCHLAND
tel: +49 89 22 33 44
fax: +49 89 22 33 77
e-mail: kroatien-tourismus@t-online.de

Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus

Kaiserstr. 23, 60311 FRANKFURT, DEUTSCHLAND
tel: +49 69 23 85 350
fax: +49 69 23 85 35 20
e-mail: info@visitkroatien.de

Ente Nazionale Croato per il Turismo

Piazzetta Pattari 1/3, 20122 MILANO, ITALIA
tel: +39 02 86 45 44 97
fax: +39 02 86 45 45 74
e-mail: info@enteturismocroato.it

Ente Nazionale Croato per il Turismo

Via Dell'Oca 48, 00186 ROMA, ITALIA
tel: +39 06 32 11 0396
fax: +39 06 32 11 1462
e-mail: officeroma@enteturismocroato.it

Chorvatské turistické sdružení

Krakovská 25, 110 00 PRAHA 1, ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA
tel: +420 2 2221 1812
fax: +420 2 2221 0793
e-mail: info@htz.cz; infohtz@iol.cz

Office National Croate de Tourisme

48, Avenue Victor Hugo, 75116 PARIS, FRANCE
tel: +33 1 45 00 99 55
fax: +33 1 45 00 99 56
e-mail: infos.croatie@wanadoo.fr

Office National Croate du Tourisme,

Vieille Halle aux Bles 38, 1000 BRUXELLES, BELGIUM
tel: +32 255 018 88
fax: +32 251 381 60
e-mail: info-croatia@scarlet.be

Oficina de Turismo de Croacia

Calle Claudio Coello 22, esc. B, 1°C,
28001 MADRID, ESPAÑA
tel.: +34 91 781 5514
fax.: +34 91 431 8443
e-mail: info@visitacroacia.es

Horvát Idegenforgalmi Közösség

Magyar u. 36, 1053 BUDAPEST, MAGYARORSZÁG
tel/fax: +36 1 266 65 05; +36 1 266 65 33
e-mail: info@htz.hu

Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus

Am Hof 13, 1010 WIEN, ÖSTERREICH
tel: +43 1 585 38 84
fax: +43 1 585 38 84 20
e-mail: office@kroatien.at

Chorvátske turistické združenie

Trenčianska 5, 821 09 BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA
tel: +421 2 55 562 054
fax: +421 2 55 422 619
e-mail: infohtz@chello.sk

Croatian National Tourist Office

350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4003, NEW YORK 10118, U.S.A.
tel: +1 212 279 8672
fax: +1 212 279 8683
e-mail: cntony@earthlink.net

Croatian National Tourist Office

2 Lanchesters, 162-164 Fulham Palace Road
LONDON W6 9ER, UNITED KINGDOM
tel: +44 208 563 79 79
fax: +44 208 563 26 16
e-mail: info@croatia-london.co.uk

Narodowy Ośrodek Informacji Turystycznej, Republiki Chorwacji

IPC Business Center, ul. Koszykowa 54,
00-675 WARSZAWA, POLAND
tel: +48 22 828 51 93
fax: +48 22 828 51 90
e-mail: info@chorwacja.home.pl

Kroatiska Turistbyrån

Kungsgatan 24, 11135 STOCKHOLM, SVERIGE
tel: +46 853 482 080
fax: +46 820 24 60
e-mail: croinfo@telia.com

Kroatisch Nationaal Bureau Voor Toerisme

Nijenburg 2F, 1081 GG AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS
tel: +31 20 661 64 22
fax: +31 20 661 64 27
e-mail: kroatie-info@planet.nl

Хорватское туристическое сообщество

Краснопресненская наб. 12, подъезд 6, офис 1502
123610 МОСКВА, РОССИЯ
ТЕЛ: +7 495 258 15 07
ФАКС: +7 495 258 15 08
e-mail: htz@wt.ru

Hrvaška turistična skupnost

Gospodstvska 2, 1000 LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIJA
tel: +386 1 23 07 400
fax: +386 1 230 74 04
e-mail: hrinfo@siol.net

Kroatische Zentrale für Tourismus

Badenerstrasse 332, 8004 ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND
tel: +41 43 336 20 30
fax: +41 43 336 20 39
e-mail: info@kroatien-tourismus.ch