

MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM







AUGUST 2015



Foto: Nenad Manić

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MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

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THIS LAND IS OUR HOM

INTRODUCTION

Dear readers,

We have been preparing this tourist season with anxiety. After the London Fair and before the Berlin Tourism Trade Fair, we have carefuly evaluated different possibilities for presenting the offer at the beginning of the season. After last year's bad weather conditions and an unfavorable weather situation in July in Montenegro, which after all did not have negative effects on the last year's season, we have managed to keep the situation under control, thanks to the actitivites executed in a timely manner and continuous communication at and with all levels.

Acting in synergy, the Ministry, National Tourism Organization, local tourism organizations, tourism associations, agencies and the entire tourism sector have achieved excellent results in the first six months of this year. Judging by existing parameters, this season will be, if not better, then at the level of the previous one.



What have we managed to do?

We did our best. The Montenegro Tourism Association (MTA) had proposed the reduction of prices. The National Tourism Organization of Montenegro acted promptly by promoting the offer with up to 45% discounts, on fairs in which it participated and through the internet. Good synergy and coordination of activities with the Ministry of Tourism gave good results.

In the meantime, the American Forbes included Montenegro among three top world destinations worth to visit. Jaz beach was proclaimed the best in Europe at the eve of the Sea Dance Festival. This year, the festival was visited by 110 thousand people. In three days, the state budget was filled with an income worth several millions.

Despite difficulties, this year we have broken the record in the number of overnight stays. Some hospitality companies, such as Montenegro Stars, recorded more than 66 thousand overnight stays in the first six months, breaking the record of the last three years. The demand on the market is such that a two-figure growth will surely be the distinctive feature of the period ending September of this year.

The best kept secret of Europe, Montenegro, continues to be the most attractive place for foreigners. Thanks to them, we often discover something about ourselves, who we are and what we have.

What needs to be done in the forthcoming period?

Establishing the right pricing policy, we should reinforce the image of destination where the quality of service has a realistic price. We should continue to improve the quality of service and personnel, to adjust the real demand of tourism industry with the educational system.

MTA counts on support of the Ministry of Tourism in further amendments of the Law on Employment of Foreigners. The support of the Ministry of Tourism will be crucial also in the drafting of the new three-year plan for temporary facilities in the coastal zone. We will do our best to be a reliable partner in efforts to draft the new spatial plan the best possible way and to put the local spatial plan under the competence of the Ministry for Spatial Planning. What we will insist the most on is introducing new regular air lines and becoming the charter and low cost destination, benefiting that way from the advantages of geographic position of Montenegro, which is distant from the furthermost European destinations not more than a two-hour flight by plane.

Žarko Radulović

JULY TOPICAL ISSUES IN TOURISM

MINISTER GVOZDENOVIĆ PROCLAIMED "THE BEST MINISTER IN THE REGION"

he Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism Branimir Gvozdenović was proclaimed "The Best Minister in the Region" by the regional European jury for the Section of the best man-

ager and the best company, of the European Association of Managers and the magazine Euromanager.

The award "The Best Minister in the Region" was given to the Minister Gvozdenović in the category Special recognition in Selection of the Manager of the Year – the highest award of the independent agency the European Association of Managers and the magazine Euromanager. The Minister Gvozdenović was awarded within this category among 23 nominees for outstanding achievement in the work and management of the ministry, and particularly for exceptional achievement in the strengthening of regional cooperation in the area of sustainable development and tourism.



Beside the Minister Gvozdenović, the winners of this year's award are Rosen Plevneliev, President of Bulgaria, Vesna Pusić, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Ramiz Bašić, Ambassador of Montenegro to Poland, Christian Hellbach, Ambassador of Germany to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zoran Janković, Mayor of Ljubljana, Ivo Komšić, Mayor of

Sarajevo and others. In the past, winners of this award were Ivo Josipović, former President of Croatia and the former President of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski.

Nominees for the award "The Best Manager" were 927 successful managers from 15 countries of south-east and central Europe. The prize was awarded to 25 managers in different business categories as well as a certain number of public figures which are not directly involved in the business sector but have significant influence on the creation of favorable business environment.

PRESENTED INCENTIVE MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND IRF LOAN SUPPORT IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

ontenegro's current policies and development strategies recognize tourism as a key economic sector and the prerequisite for dynamic development and GDP growth in the forthcoming period", stated Mr. **Branimir Gvozdenović**, Minister of Sustain-

able Development and Tourism, at the meeting held in Hotel Ramada in Podgorica, on the occasion of presentation of the Government's incentive measures and IRF loan support in the field of tourism.

"Incentive measures, aimed at developing new tourism facilities, will be implemented by the Government of Montenegro and they will result in the construction of dozens of high category hospitality facilities of various types and capacities, over the next seven to ten year period", underlined Gvozdenović.

The Minister stated that the planning documentation has already been completed, allowing the construction of 130 four and five star hotels, reminding that following the amendments to the Law on Spatial Planning and Construction of Structures, adopted in July 2013, the construction of four and five star hotels is no longer subject to the payment of public utility fees. Also, following the amendments to the Law on Property Tax, the annual property tax for four star hotels will be reduced by up to 30% and for five star hotels by up to 70%. Following the amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax, the obligation to pay import VAT for the supply of products and services for the construction of five and more star hotels has been abolished. The Minister underlined that the Government of Montenegro has adopted the Decree on Fostering Direct Investments, with the aim to improve the business environment in Montenegro and facilitate faster economic growth.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Investment and Development Fund of Montenegro **Dr Zoran Vukčević**, stated that IDF, since its establishment, provided loan support to more than 1.100 projects worth around 250 mil. euro in total, of which 141 projects in the field of tourism and hospitality totaling to 45 mil. euro, through direct financing and various bank arrangements.

"Considering that the tourism is a priority sector of the Montenegrin economy, this year IRF focused on investing in its development, which resulted in the creation of 584 new job positions in this sector", stated Vukčević.

The share of implemented IRF loans in the tourism and hospitality sector, invested in the program of support to the construction of new hotel capacities, amounts to 40%, while 43% of implemented loans is dedicated to the improvement of existing accommodation hotel capacities. Some of the most important facilities, construction or reconstruction of which was financed by IRF loans are: Hotel Depandance in Bijela, the pool in the Hotel Aria in Podgorica, Hotel Centar in Igalo, a condo hotel in Budva, Hotel MB Dvori in Bijelo Polje and others.

Closing the meeting, the Minister Gvozdenović and Mr. Vukčević invited interested businessmen to invest in the tourism sector and to propose their projects for loan support of the Investment and Development Fund.

LIPA CAVE OPENED FOR VISITORS

ipa Cave is the first speleological site in Montenegro dedicated to tourist visits, which offers the visitors a unique experience of the underground world. The cave's authenticity lies in its genuine wilderness that leaves a lasting impression and makes the visit a memorable adventure.

On July 12, 2015, the Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism Branimir Gvozdenović and the Mayor of the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje Aleksandar Bogdanović, inaugurated Lipa Cave, valorization of which was carried out through the public-private partnership between the Old Royal Capital of Cetinje and the company Lipa Cave Ltd., complementing this way the tourist offer of Montenegro and Cetinje.

Lipa Cave is a unique attraction of its kind in Montenegro, the beauty of which was recognized years ago by Petar II Petrović Njegoš and the King Nikola I, who played a very important role in the Montenegrin history.

The cave is open to visits with professional guides in line and in accordance with high environmental conservation and sustainability standards. The cave is distant only 33 km from Budva, 35 km from Podgorica and 5 km from Cetinje.

PROMOTION OF THE TOURIST OFFER OF MONTENEGRO AT THE FOURTH YOUTH FAIR

he National Tourism Organization of Montenegro, in cooperation with the local tourism organization of Budva, participated in July at the fourth regional fair of youth tourism, Youth Fair, held at the main city square in Novi Sad.

A large number of young people, who having came to Novi Sad for the EXIT Festival took the opportunity also to visit the Fair, showed a great interest in the Sea Dance Festival, held from 15 - 18 July on Jaz Beach in Budva. Visitors had the opportunity to obtain information related to performers featuring at the festival, ticket and accommodation prices and other details related to the offer in general.

In the course of the Fair, a great interest was also expressed in other festivals and events which will take place in Montenegro during the summer, such as the Refresh Festival, Lake Fest, Bedem Fest, Sea Rock Festival, After Beach Parties, in the program of international performers featuring in nightclubs Top Hill and Maximus, events such as Summer with the Stars, Carnival of Kotor, Petrovac Night, Boka's Night and many others.

The second day of the Fair, a conference entitled European Youth Capital title as a Model for Destination Branding was held. The participants had the opportunity to see presentations of the most attractive festivals, clubs, extreme sports and entertainment centers in the region and to meet the leading regional, European and youth tour operators.

The regional fair of youth tourism Youth Fair was visited by 10 thousand visitors in two days.



The National Tourism Organization of Montenegro was the host of numerous visits of foreign media, promoters of tourist potentials of Montenegro. Some of the most important ones, which recently visited Montenegro, were the Italian RAI and the German PROsieben. A visit of the Armenian television, which is about to make a series of documentaries about Montenegro, is also expected in the close future. Documentaries will be broadcasted on the national Armenian TV, twice a month over the course of the year.

Recently, the interest of tourists from Armenia, who come to Montenegro mainly with charter flights, has significantly increased, so that additional promotion of this kind can be of valuable importance for the positioning on this market.

THE SONG "DE SE KUPAŠ" (WHERE DO YOU BATHE?) PROMOTIONAL VIDEO CLIP FOR SUMMER SEASON



The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism and the National Tourism Organization, in cooperation with the acapella band Who See, created a promotional video clip for the summer tourist season in Montenegro.

The song "Where do you bathe?" has become a regional hit and, considering it speaks about natural beauties of Montenegro, it represents an original contribution to the promotion of the tourist offer.

AUGUST CENTRAL TOPIC

MONTENEGRO HEALTH TOURISM DESTINATION

The Executive Director of the Cluster of Health Tourism of Montenegro, Vasilije Vlatko Stijepović, summarized the activities undertaken in the previous four-year period in the development and improvement of the health tourism in Montenegro. In the interview he underlined that concrete results may be expected in the forthcoming period.

ould you explain the notion of health tourism?

Health tourism is one of the oldest branches of tourism, where natural healing treatments and physical therapy procedures are used in a professional and controlled manner, with the aim of preservation and improvement of human health and the quality of life. This specific form of tourism, which at the global level grows at the rate between 15 and 20 % a year, is expected to reach in 2015 the market share of around 120 billion dollars.

How do you explain the growing inte-

rest in this form of tourism?

The closing of the "demographic window", which has been present for more than few decades in the majority of developed countries, especially European ones, and which is slowly but surely spreading also in the developing countries, has resulted in the growing ratio of older population to overall population. Therefore, the aging population having at the same time more substantial revenues has an increasingly important role in the formation of tourism demand. Taking in consideration specific needs and requirements of this population, the demand for health tourism services keeps increasing in all segments (wellness & spa, rehabilitation and medical tourism). Speaking of health tourism, tourists travel in order to maintain, stabilize and regain physical and mental wellbeing by using natural healing tre-

atments, medical services, sport, recreational and wellness facilities. The importance of this industry is also

demonstrated by the fact that tourists who travel for health purposes spend five times more than other tourists, and that the number of this type of visits keeps increasing each year, both

itenegrospa.org

on the global and regional level.

Has Montenegro, as the country where the tourism is a strategic economy branch, managed to recognize the importance of this tourism segment and does it have potentials for its development?

Montenegro possesses important natural and infrastructure potentials for the development of this type of tourism and it has managed to recognize its importance. In that respect, necessary activities have been undertaken with the aim to achieve concrete results in this field in the forthcoming period.

Over the past four years, the Medical Spa Association of Montenegro has been working with dedication on education, through organization of professional conferences on health tourism, with participation of prominent national and international experts, within the framework of preparations for the implementation of the Cluster of Health Tourism project.

The Government's plan for 2015 stipulates the drafting of the first development strategy for health tourism in Montenegro. In this light, in February of this year, the first Health Tourism Cluster of Montenegro has been established with the support of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism.

Why is this Cluster so important?

The task of the Cluster is to contribute to the promotion and development of Montenegro as a health tourism destination, through an organized access to emitive markets, positioning and branding of members of the Association on the regional and international market, through joint marketing efforts and PR activities and cooperation with similar organizations and institutions, as well as the professional training of members of the Association.

The aim of the Association is to promote Montenegro as a health tourism destination and to establish cooperation with leading experts in this area, to promote tourism and other related industries, in order to improve the overall offer of health tourism in Montenegro acting in concert on the regional and international market.

Tradition, infrastructure and professional human resources are the pillars of the health industry, which the founders of the Cluster recognized as Montenegro's key comparative value, and underlining the need to make health tourism a recognizable regional brand. Vasilije Vlatko Stijepović: "The task of the Cluster is to contribute to the promotion and development of Montenegro as a health tourism destination."

How is the work of Cluster organized?

Considering the complexity of the health tourism, the members of the Cluster, 40 of them, are divided into sectors. This is how the following sectors have been formed: the Medical Tourism Sector, headed by the European brand institute dr Simo Milošević from Igalo, the Special Hospital for Lung Diseases in Brezovik, General Hospital in Meljine, Public Institution Kakarička gora, Optimal Day Hospital, Life Clinic, as well as a large number of private and health care institutions on the territory of Montenegro.

It is not by case that we have establis-

hed the Dental Tourism Sector of which we are particularly proud thanks to a number of modern dental studios, which can compete on equal grounds, by their equipment and qualified staff, with studios in developed European countries. Their advantage over studios in other European countries is the price of services, which is, according to our estimates, 8 to 10 times lower than in Europe. If, in addition to dental service packages, we offer to our potential clients some of our attractive tourist destinations, it doesn't surprise why we give special priority to this segment of the health tourism and why we put our efforts in its strengthening and affirmation.

The wellness and spa tourism has

become an increasingly important segment of the health tourism, where, contrary to the medical tourism which offers to tourists within a certain destination medical or rehabilitation services, wellness and spa services by rule are sought by tourists who wish to improve their health condition. Montenegro has so much to offer, just to mention spa and wellness offer provided by the Hotel Splendid, Wellness Center in Hotel Maestral, Monte Casa Petrovac or Hotel Queen of Montenegro.

Another important segment of the health tourism, to which another sector within the Cluster has been dedicated, is the sport and recreational tourism. In that sense, Ulcinj Riviera and the Sport Hall Topolica in Bar have significant potentials; they could be perfect places for the preparation of athletes throughout the year. Also, sport halls in Žabljak and Kolašin have the facilities for high altitude training of athletes. If we add to this other numerous potentials and other existing mountaineering and cycling programs already put in place, which could be complemented with other programs, such as the development of forest medicine. the conclusion is that this segment has sufficient development potentials too.

Can you tell us about some concrete results of the work of the Cluster during its short existence and at the end, can you tell us something more about future activities?

The Cluster organized the work of its different segments, which should follow the development of the health tourism, through the work of tourist agencies, transportation sector, equipment, marketing, education and local self-governments.

It is through good cooperation with local self-governments that we can sublimize the overall offer of the health tourism, but also establish what would be interesting for potential investors in

Tradition, infrastructure and professional human resources are the pillars of the health industry, which the founders of the Cluster recognized as Montenegro's key comparative advantage, underlining the need to make health tourism a recognizable regional brand.

this type of tourism. That way, devastated buildings of the old hospital in Žabljak and Šavnik municipalities or the student's home in Kolašin could be turned into some modern dental or rehabilitation center.

Another equally important objective of the Cluster is the establishment of a resource center, a kind of a know-how center, whose primary task would be the capacity building of human resources, i.e. education in the field of basic knowledge and training in the development of particular skills of the staff employed in the health tourism, aimed at meeting expectations and needs of guests, which represents the key factor of success.

This center would monitor modern quality standards in the provision of health tourism services and gather cases of good practice in the industry. Finally, the center would also collect information about modern trends in the health tourism and carry out their analysis, organize seminars/conferences, in order to offer to decision-makers in the public and private sectors a solid decision-making platform. Beside investments in the development of health tourism centers, we should improve conditions, reconstruct and increase accommodation capacities, modernize services, in accordance with European and world standards and requirements of tourists in the area of health tourism, whilst working on harmonization of legal regulations and creating favorable climate for the development and investments in this important segment of the tourist industry.

Beside the support of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, which provided the space and funds for the beginning of its work, the Cluster has achieved full cooperation with the National Tourism Organization of Montenegro, with which it has signed the Agreement on Business and Technical Cooperation, as well as with the Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro, with which it has been agreed to form the health tourism group within the framework of the Committee for Tourism and Hospitality.



BATHING SITES IN MONTENEGRO

Sea Water Quality in Bathing Sites in Montenegro

Since 1995, the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management has been monitoring the sanitary quality of sea water in bathing sites

in the course of the summer tourist season. Each year, an accredited laboratory that meets the requirements for the execution of this type of activities, is chosen in a public tender procedure.

Multi-annual data on sea water quality in bathing sites in Montenegro, which the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management has at its disposal, show that the sea water in more than 90% of Montenegrin bathing sites is of excellent K1 quality, which guarantees its safe use for bathing and recreation.

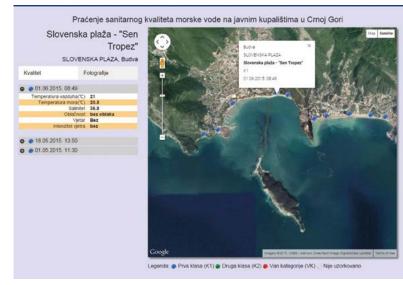
According to the Program for 2015, the monitoring of sea water quality is carried out in 90 sites along the Montenegrin coast, indicatively: 14 in Ulcinj Municipality, 11 in Bar Municipality, 23 in Budva, 9 in Tivat, 13 in Kotor and 20 on the territory of Herceg Novi Municipality. Analyses are carried out each 15 days in the period May - October by the laboratory of the Institute of Marine Biology, accredited for methods according to ISO standards, as stipulated by our domestic legislation and the corresponding EU Directive.

According to Montenegrin regulations, as well as the EU Directive on the bathing water quality, the Program includes the monitoring of presence of two mandatory microbiological parameters (bacteria Escherichia coli and intestinal enterococci), whereas other related physical and chemical parameters are being registered, such as air and water temperature, salinity, weather data and meteorological conditions, as well as pollution sources and other elements having impact on the quality of sea water at the time of sample collection.

According to the decree on classification and categorization of surface and ground waters, the quality of sea water is classified into two categories (category K1 – excellent, category K2 – satisfactory), whereas samples with values exceeding established limits are classified as VK – out of category.

From the beginning of this season until mid-July, six regular samples of sea water were collected in 90 bathing sites, and results of the most recent analyses show that in 86 bathing sites (96,7%) the quality of sea water was of K1 category, whereas in four bathing sites (3,3%) it was of K2 category. Results of analyses of sea water samples are regularly reported to competent institutions and the public, through the media and a special application on the web page www.mor-





skodobro.com. This application allows the presentation on an interactive map of all bathing sites included in sample collection, and by choosing the desired bathing site one can access the results of each measurement of sea water quality. The application is available in Montenegrin and English language.

From now on, the information about the sea water quality will be made available to interested citizens and tourists, and this application will be particularly useful to tourist organizations, agencies and users of bathing sites. This will additionally improve the tourist offer on the Montenegrin coast.

WHAT TO DO THIS SEASON

Blue Horizon

lue Horizon is the biggest and the most important beach in Tivat Municipality, located in the vicinity of Radovići locality. Very fine sand in which the beach abounds is suitable for healing of rheumatic disorders.

Blue Horizon Beach, located at the bottom of the bay of

Pržno, has been hosting these days an average of two thousand visitors, which is around five to ten percent more tourists than last year.

The bay is mainly visited by tourists from Russia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Hungary, Poland and Czech Republic, 80 percent of which are families.

Copacabana Beach

opacabana Beach is located on the Long Beach in Ulcinj. It is covered with the finest sand, believed to have healing properties. It is very rich in minerals and it is recommended to the people suffering from rheumatism and other diseases. This beach, just like the Long Beach as a whole, is featured by a very long and shallow access to the sea, which is particularly suitable for the elderly and the children.

The beach is around 900 meters long and it is equipped with 500 umbrellas and around 800 lounge chairs, distributed in such way to allow each visitor a sufficient space for rest and relaxation. Copacabana Beach has its own parking space with a 24-hour surveillance and it is reserved to beach guests only. The beach also includes a restaurant and the beach bar, where the visitors can find refuge from the heat and taste some of the local dishes. One of the favorite pastimes of visitors of Long Beach and Copacabana Beach are beach sports, so that different tournaments, such as volleyball and football, are organized in this space, offering the visitors a perfect chance to enjoy the sea, sun and sports activities. Guests of Copacabana Beach have the chance to play water volleyball, a great challenge for water sports aficionados, or take lessons in the kitesurfing school or use one of other countless facilities. The beach has also a children playground, nice way to entertain the smallest visitors.

Thanks to its amazing landscape, nature, mild climate and the sea, Copacabana Beach is the perfect location which offers its visitors the refuge from city heat and busy and stressful way of life.



NEW HOTEL OPENED IN AUGUST

Hotel BRACERA, BUDVA

otel Bracera is a new, four-star deluxe hotel, located at the very center of Budva, 150 meters from the sea shore and 800 meters from the Old Town of Budva. The hotel offers 48 double rooms and 3 suites with 3 beds, and there is also one room equipped for disabled persons. Rooms have a wonderful view to the sea. In the hotel there is a restaurant with a terrace, a garage with the parking space for hotel guests, indoor pool, a Finnish sauna and a Turkish bath.

Hotel Bracera is proud of its top quality service, offered by a team of professionals with the years-long experience in hospitality industry, as well as the most renowned masters of culinary art and service, whereas hospitable reception staff is at the disposal of guests 24 hours a day.

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Hotel PALLADIUM, Tivat

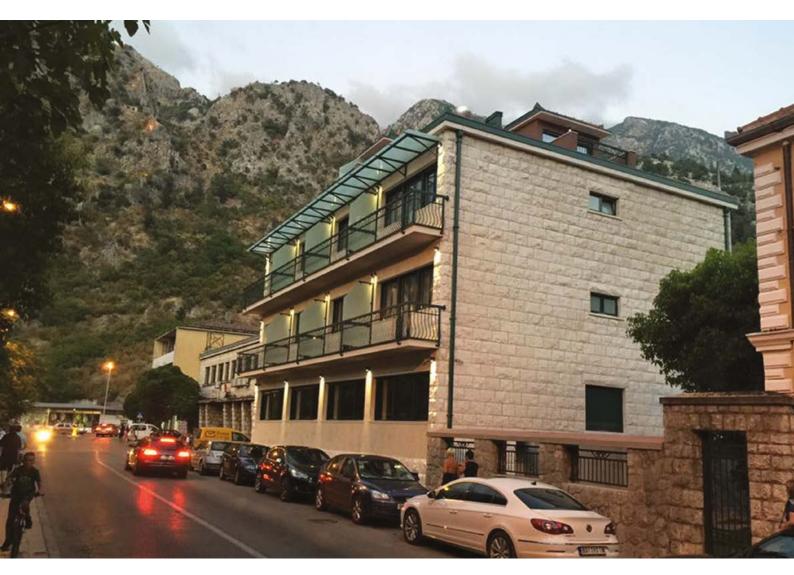


he small Hotel Palladium is located in Tivat, on the promenade next to the seashore. The hotel rooms and the restaurant with the kitchen were completely reconstructed this summer, obtaining a new, luxury appearance which a hotel with such a favorable position deserves to have.

Hotel Palladium offers 3 luxury furnished double rooms, 1 double studio and 5 double suites, including all amenities, offering guests full service in the course of their stay.



Hotel PORTO IN, Kotor



he small Hotel Porto In is located in the peaceful part of the old town of Kotor, where guests may enjoy both the vicinity of the sea and attractions of the Old Town. The hotel offers 17 luxury furnished accommodation units, whereas guests who prefer recreational facilities have at their disposal a modern fitness room.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST EVENTS

Summer of Podgorica 2015



All those who happen to be in Podgorica in the summer period know where the "key points" in the town are located, where they can spend pleasant spiritual moments listening to a good concert, watching a theatre play, visiting and exhibition or a literary evening, or simply watching a movie. SUMMER OF PODGORICA 2015 Where: PODGORICA When: 21. JUNE - 21. SEPTEMBER



ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST EVENTS Old Royal Capital of Cetinje

SUMMER IN THE OLD ROYAL CAPITAL Where: CETINJE When: 27 JUNE – 5 SEPTEMBER

The program Summer in the Old Royal Capital includes a carefully planned and intertwined cultural, sport, promotional, entertainment and other events. Each year the program features renowned performers from the country and the region.



VI CETINJE JAZZ FESTIVAL Where: **CETINJE** When: **4 – 7 AUGUST**

As of this year, the Cetinje Jazz Festival becomes an event of regional character. This summer, a four-day event will gather numerous renowned jazz players from the former Yugoslavia, among which Tanja Jovićević, Vlada Maričić and the Magic Sound Orchestra, as well as the soloist from Sarajevo Aida Mušanović with the 5/4 Band.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST EVENTS Central and Northern Region



OBALA FEST Where: DANILOVGRAD When: 5 AND 6 AUGUST

This year's edition of the Obala Fest will take place in the courtyard of Obala bar in Danilovgrad. A two-day program features renowned names of the Montenegrin and regional rap, rock and electronic scene.

The only musical festival in Danilovgrad gathered last year over 1200 people in two evenings. The aim of the festival is to promote the domestic scene and to bring famous performers from abroad. The festival takes place in a beautiful ambience on the bank of Zeta River.



Summer in Spuž is a traditional cultural, entertainment and sports event, held each year under the Spuž bridge. Numerous visitors are drawn by concerts of popular and modern music, theatre and literary encounters, sports competitions in basketball, volleyball, chess, traditional disciplines, jumps into the water and other activities on the beach. **SUMMER IN SPUŽ 2015** Where: **Danilovgrad** When: **July and August**

LAKE FEST Where: NIKŠIĆ, KRUPAC LAKE When: 11 – 16 AUGUST

The music festival Lake fest keeps attracting each year more and more visitors from all parts of Montenegro, neighboring countries but also tourists from other European counties. The program of the fifth edition of this festival, the marketing campaign and the tourist offer of the town are tailored to the taste of visitors from different parts of Europe.

Also this year, organizers of the Lake fest have prepared a rich artistic program, and the festival is the occasion for the promotion of alternative events, in the first place the film and different arts performances. Numerous artists from the country and abroad will present at the Lake Fest their performances, installations and exhibitions.

Central events will take place in the vicinity of Krupac Lake, where the camping village in a poplar forest, on the lake shore, which only few towns in the region can boast of, is an excellent location for organization of the festival. The Lake Fest has already become the trademark of Nikšić and the brand of Montenegro. Regional media proclaimed it one of the best festivals of this kind in the region.



DURMITOR ART ECO FESTIVAL Where: ŽABLJAK When: 10 – 17 AUGUST

The basic idea behind the Durmitor Art Eco Festival is the promotion and popularization of Žabljak, aimed at linking creative nature and artistic energy, sharing experiences and knowledge from different meridians and involving the local community in the promotion of tradition and tourism potentials.

In addition to tourists who visit

Žabljak in this time of year, there is a tendency to attract tourists who stay in other parts of Montenegro, as well as the local population.

The Festival's goal is the affirmation of environmental awareness and respect for the environment, correct use of tourist potentials and appropriate management of tourist destination.

BERANE SUMMER Where: BERANE, CULTURAL CENTER, POLIMLJE MUSEUM When: JULY – AUGUST

The event Berane Summer features a rich cultural and entertainment program, theatre plays, poetry evenings, painting exhibitions, sports events.

GUSINJE SUMMER Where: GUSINJE When: JULY – AUGUST

The event Gusinje Summer includes cultural, sport and educational events, where everyone can find something for himself. The majority of cultural events are the product of authors originating from Gusinje, which gives a special character to this event and encourages the creativity of people in this area.





ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST EVENTS Coastal Region

29TH THEATRE CITY 2015 Where: BUDVA When: 20 JUNE – 10 AUGUST



The Theatre City Festival is a cultural event which takes place during the summer months in Budva. Since it was established in 1987, this festival has been reviving the Mediterranean spirit of the Old Tow, transforming each square and piazza, and also parts of the town outside of the Old Town nucleus, into an open-air stage where visitors and unwitting passers-by become participants in an artistic performance.

Considering that the festival, since it was established, has been a part of Budva's tourist offer, the Theatre City together with the town of Budva is a must-see destination for cultural tourists – the proof of it is the fact that the festival hosts every year around 15,000 visitors.

Conceived as a summary of contemporary works of art, primarily theatrical, but also visual, musical and literary performances, Theatre City confirms its reputation with the quality of its program, not only as the host to numerous troupes and artists, but also with the quality of production in which it reexamines the authentic cultural heritage of Budva and Montenegro and its transposition into contemporary patterns of artistic creation.

Musical, visual and literary programs are also an inevitable part of the Theatre City.



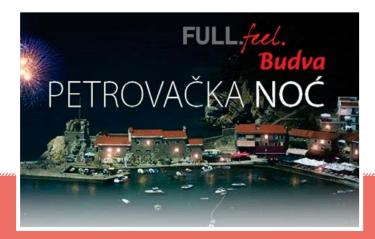
GUITAR ART SUMMER FEST Where: HERCEG NOVI, OLD TOWN When: WHEN: 15 – 20 AUGUST



Guitar Art Summer Fest is a professional event that brings together classical and other guitar players of all profiles, from primary and secondary school pupils, to students, their professors and prominent guests, the world's leading guitar players.

The exchange of knowledge, practices and experiences, as well as an introduction to domestic and international trends in modern guitar pedagogy and concert practice, as essential education grounds, are the primary aims of this project.

The concept of the Festival is composed of master classes, exhibitions, free activities and concerts. All these activities, thanks to outstanding performers, a variety of program activities and good organization, form the concept of the Guitar Art Summer Fest, building not only an individual but also a global educational, cultural, media and psycho-social impact of the Festival.



PETROVAC NIGHT 2015 Where: PETROVAC When: 28. AUGUST

The biggest traditional fish and wine festivity is organized in Petrovac, with all day entertainment and sport program. In the evening, there will be concerts of popular music stars on the promenade in front of the Hotel Palace, as well as the big fireworks.

FESTIVAL OF THEATRE FOR CHILDREN "THEATRE WAVE" Where: PETROVAC When: 16. AVGUST - 25. AVGUSTA

The Festival of Theatre for Children "Theatre Wave" is primarily oriented towards satisfying cultural needs of children. Again this year, the program will include theatre plays of the best theaters for children in the region. Through ten theatre plays, the children will have the opportunity to get to know their favorite fairy tale heroes in a completely new and innovative way.

The Festival has two equally important objectives, the first is to expand the tourist offer of Petrovac, which is known as a destination for families with small children, and the second is to develop children's imagination and creativity.



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER CARNIVAL OF KOTOR Where: KOTOR When: 7 AUGUST

International Summer Carnival is held in the open air on city promenade and in the Old Town, with participation of carnival groups from Kotor. During the summer carnival, streets and squares of Kotor are open for fun and entertainment. This is a relatively new event, launched couple of years ago with the aim to give tourists the possibility to enjoy attractions of street entertainment and feel the spirit of joy, cherished in Kotor for centuries.



KOTOR ART Where: KOTOR When: LATE JUNE – MID-AUGUST

> Kotor ART

At the International Kotor Art Festival more than 2,000 artists, performers and lecturers will participate through eight festival segments: the Festival of A Capella Singing, the Festival of Theatre for Children, Don Branko's Music Days, KotorArtTheatre, Kotor APSS, Town Writing, Piazza of Philosophers and the Sea Rock Festival.

There will be 115 programs, in 48 days, at 27 locations in the Old Town, Kotor and the Bay of Kotor, with participants from 25 countries (among them Portugal, Italy, Germany, Russia, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Latvia, Poland, Spain, Chile, Venezuela, Mexico, Israel and the USA...)



DON BRANKO'S MUSIC DAYS Where: KOTOR When: 25 JUNE – 14 AUGUST

The 14th Don Branko's Music Days will bring this year the most extensive program of 16 concerts in the main program and six in the fringe program. The concerts of various genres and styles, in various surroundings in Kotor, will be performed by renowned artists, the majority of whom will be performing in Kotor and Montenegro for the first time: violinists Nemanja Radulović and Patrycja Piekutowska, pianists Elena Bashkirova and Albert Mamriev, soprano Katarina Jovanović, Henchel string quartet, Dubrovnik Piano duo, conductors Mladen Tarbuk, Nikolay Lalov, Claude Villaret, the Montenegrin Symphony Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of Dubrovnik and the KotorArt Festival Orchestra.

The performers in the fringe program are, among others, Gibonni with Matija Dedić, and as every year special concerts have been planned: a concert by the students of the Music School in Kotor, a performance by sight-impaired musicians from the region, through which the festival wants to draw attention to these extraordinary people and their thorny path to success in this region. A special concert, with participation of the newly formed Montenegrin vocal ensemble "Luča", featuring the actress Varja lukić, will commemorate the 450th anniversary of death of Kotor's patron saint, Blessed Osanna. A jazz orchestra that will perform in the piazzas of Kotor will contribute to the idea of bringing city squares to life, with their night under the name "The Dance", when they will perform musical hits from the 60s and 70s.

A ten-day workshop for children will be organized in the squares of the city, under the name KotorarTić. This year's festival program includes many premiers in Montenegro and one world premiere – the work of the young Montenegrin composer Nina Perović, composed on the occasion of the 450th anniversary of Blessed Osanna, which was created within KotorArt. Particular attention is paid also to the program of the Festival Orchestra, which will play music from the countries of performing conductors – pieces from Brazil Switzerland and Bulgaria, never performed before in Montenegro.

BOKA'S NIGHT Where: KOTOR When: 22. AUGUST



Traditional tourist, cultural and entertainment event Boka's Night, which gathers tens of thousands of visitors, will take place in the aquatorium of Kotor. The procession

of decorated boats will leave the promenade of Muo to the Port of Kotor, and the jury will award the most beautiful ones.

The aim of this event is to maintain the tradition and to present the life in coastal towns and the mentality of fishermen, sailors and citizens of Kotor and its nearby fishermen villages, from Morinj and Kostanjica to Stoliv. The task of participants in the Boka's Night is to decorate their boats in the most beautiful and original way, conveying a specific message to visitors during the procession.

The proclamation of the most beautiful boats will be followed by magnificent fireworks, and the party will continue in piazzas and squares of the Old Town. The Feast of Feasts in 1938 was also attended by the English King Edward, and in 1959, it was attended by the then president of Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito.

REFRESH Where: KOTOR, MAXIMUS NIGHTCLUB Vrijeme održavanja: 13 – 15 AUGUST



Over the past years, the Refresh Festival has become a recognizable brand, which attracts visitors from the whole Europe thanks to its atmosphere and energy, mixed with the sea, top class production and carefully selected DJ names.

The festival featured in previous years the best world DJs, among which Felix da Housecat, Funk D'Void, Sebastien Leger, Steve Angello, Nick Warren, Carl Craig, Bob Sinclar, Kevin Saunderson, Dave Clarke, Umek, Steve Lawler, Hernan Cattaneo, Darren Emerson, Sharam, Nic Fanciulli. The festival is visited each year by more than 10 thousand people. The most popular German techno producer Chris Liebing, the French electro-diva Miss Kittin and the American house producer and DJ Derrick Carter, are leading this year's program of Refresh Festival in Kotor.

TIVAT SUMMER FESTIVITIES Where: TIVAT When: 7 JULY – 11 AUGUST

During the summer season, the Tourist Organization of Tivat organizes diverse events and festivities, such as gastronomic evenings, enriched with folk and musical performances, concerts, a capella evenings and sport events.

TIVAT CULTURAL SUMMER - PURGATORIJE Where: TIVAT, CULTURAL CENTER When: 27 JUNE – 15 SEPTEMBER

The Tivat Cultural Center organizes its most important cultural event Purgatorije.

The majority of plays are performed on the summer stage of Tivat, located in the Buća summerhouse. The program of the Purgatorije event includes the participation of various renowned national and international theatre groups, plays, performances, literary evenings, art exhibitions, etc. The number of visitors to the cultural festival in Tivat keeps growing every year, which is confirmed by the quality of the event's program. Tourists visiting Tivat leave the town full of good impressions and are looking forward to coming back, thanks to the diversified program of Purgatorije.



Manifestacija koja već dvije godine izaziva veliku pažnju i interesovanje turista, ima za cilj promociju cjelokupne turističke ponude Tivta, posebno gastro-kulturnih vrijednosti, kao i promociju Tivta kao destinacije za svačiji ukus i džep.

Gastro manifestacija Ljeto dobrog ukusa je fešta na kojoj će se svi dobro zabaviti i družiti, a učesnici pokazati svoje kulinarske vještine. Manifestacija se održava na različitim lokacijama opštine Tivat, u restoranima, konobama, hotelima, na brodu Vodena Kočija i uvijek obećava dobru zabavu, trpeze bogate različitim specijalitetima mediteranske kuhinje, jela od žućenice iz programa Žućenica fest, uz igru Folklornog ansambla i vesele zvuke muzike.

"SUMMER OF GOOD TASTE" GASTRONOMIC EVENINGS Where: Tivat When: 7 JULY – 11 AUGUST

THE GIANTS OF PATAGONIA Where: BUDVA, FAIRGROUNDS When: 1 JUNE – 31 AUGUST

One of the most spectacular dinosaur exhibitions, designed by the Grupo Cultural from Argentina, which has been a huge success worldwide, will be presented in the halls of the Fairground in Budva, in an area of 1200m2, under specially prepared exhibition conditions.

The Giants of Patagonia are the most authentic and comprehensive exhibition of dinosaurs found on the territory of the southern hemisphere. The dinosaurs of Argentina belong to the oldest species known, showing more extreme characteristics compared to their North American relatives. The exhibits include the largest carnivore that ever populated the planet, the smallest animals, from the first to the last species, flightless birds of the Cretaceous period, dinosaurs that learned how to fly, and many oth-



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So far, this exhibition has been seen by more than one million people throughout the world. For more information about the exhibition, please visit the website of NGO DIV www.ngodiv.me

NOTE: Organizers reserve the right to change the date of cancel the event due to bad weather conditions or for other reasons.



INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ON MONTENEGRO

PORTO MONTENEGRO ON PAGES OF THE PRESTIGIOUS THE SUNDAY TIMES



The author of the article VIP Hotels went around continents searching for newly opened hotels which hosted some of the biggest names of the world show business. The Regent Porto Montenegro, located in Tivat, found its place among luxury hotels in Paris, Istanbul, New York, Miami, Tel Aviv and Sri Lanka. Less than a year after its opening, the hotel hosted the names of jet-set such as Dita Von Teese and the guitar player Miloš Karadaglić.

With numerous compliments to the architecture and design of the hotel, the journalist of The Sunday Times compared Montenegro to Monaco and recommended to future visitors to explore luxury yacht marina Porto Montenegro.

MONTENEGRO IN THE PRESTIG-IOUS MAGAZINE TATLER UK



The author of the article published in Tatler UK magazine writes that Montenegro was visited by numerous jet-set stars such as Sofia Loren, Claudia Schiffer, Princess Margaret, Elisabeth Taylor, Yuri Gagarin, Kirk Douglas, Sidney Poitier, Jeremy Irons, Sylvester Stallone, Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones, and many others.

"Traces of the complex history of Montenegro are found everywhere. The Old Town of Kotor is surrounded by impressive ramparts, whereas the architecture of Perast was constructed in Venetian style, testifying the Venetian rule from the beginning of the 15th century to 1797", reads the text.

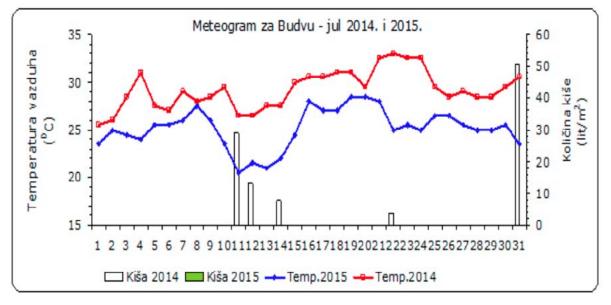
LIDOVE NOVINY PRESENTED BEAUTIES OF MONTENEGRO

The Czech daily Lidove Noviny presented Montenegro and the beauties of Sveti Stefan, Old Town of Kotor and Durmitor National Park.

In the article, Montenegro is described as a tiny country the size of the Central Bohemian Region, sandwiched between Croatia and Albania, offering at arm's length pleasant beaches and huge mountains. Briefly, Montenegro is an ideal place for tourists both seeking peaceful and active holidays. This Adriatic destination with sandy beaches waiting for Czech tourists is slightly farther compared to Croatia. While its north-western neighbor offers "insular" Primošten, Montenegro has a similar trump card. Ten minutes away from the seaside resort of Budva, on a former island, connected today with an isthmus with the coast, there is a small village of Sveti Stefan.

What once was a fishermen's village has become today the synonym of luxury. Stone houses have been turned into luxurious suites and hotels, visited by Hollywood stars.

METEOROLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS IN JULY

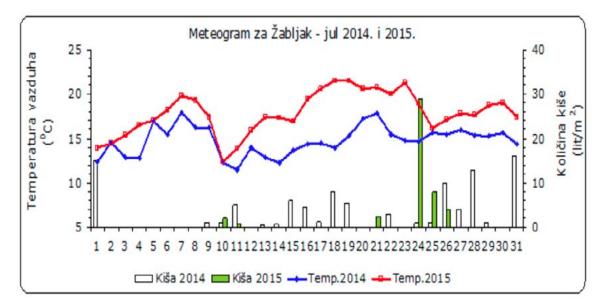


On the basis of temperature and precipitation indicators, it has been recorded that in July 2015, in the coastal region of Montenegro, there was an extremely dry and significantly warmer period, compared to the same month last year. Average monthly air temperature in July this year was for 4,00C higher compared to July 2014.

Each day of July 2015 was tropical, except one night, whereas in July 2014 there were 10 tropical days and 9 tropical nights less.

In July 2015 there were almost no rainy days, i.e., the majority of coastal meteorological stations did not record any measurable quantity of rain. In July last year there were 5 rainy days, with a total of 104 liters of rain per square meter.

In the coastal area of Montenegro, the month of July this year was declared one of the driest months since 1949, which is the year when the first measurements have been taken.



In July 2015, significantly warmer and drier period compared to the same month last year was recorded in mountain tourist centers of Montenegro. Average temperature was for 3,10C higher.

In July 2014 there were no tropical days, whereas in July 2015, one tropical day was recorded. There were 18 sum-

mer days in July 2015, 14 more than in the same month last year.

In July 2015 there were 6 rainy days, whereas in the same month in 2014, there were 13 rainy days more; the quantity of precipitations was 52% higher.

TOURIST TURNOVER IN MONTENEGRO

NUMBER OF TOURISTS AND OVERNIGHT STAYS January - June 2015/2014.

According to the latest official data for the period January – June of this year, the number of tourists and overnight stays in Montenegro increased by 14% compared to the same period in 2014.

NUMBER OF TOURISTS	January - June 2014	January – June 2015	INDEX 15/14
Domestic	41.041	53.141	129
International	301.865	337.033	112
TOTAL	342.906	390.174	114

Source: MONSTAT

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NUMBER OF OVERNIGHT STAYS	Januar – jun 2014	Januar – jun 2015	INDEX 15/14
Domestic	179.917	217.708	121
International	1.556.601	1.756.329	113
TOTAL	1.736.518	1.974.037	114

Source: MONSTAT

According to types of accommodation facilities, in the first six months of 2015, the number of tourists in hotels and other collective accommodation facilities increased by 9% reaching an increase of overnight stays of 2% compared to the same period last year.

Turnover in private accommodation also increased in the period January – June 2015, that is, the number of tourists increased by 26% and overnight stays by 28% compared to the same period last year.

NUMBER OF TOURISTS	January– June 2014	January – June 2015	INDEX 15/14
Hotels and Collective Accommodation	248.057	270.863	109
Private Accommodation	94.849	119.311	126
TOTAL	342.906	390.174	114

Source: MONSTAT

NUMBER OF OVERNIGHT STAYS	January– June 2014	January – June 2015	INDEX 15/14
Hotels and Collective Accommodation	949.641	967.189	102
Private Accommodation	786.877	1.006.848	128
TOTAL	1.736.518	1.974.037	114

Source: MONSTAT

AIRPORTS OF MONTENEGRO

In July of this year, the number of air flights in the airports of Podgorica and Tivat marked an increase by 8% and the number of passengers also increased by 1% compared to the same period last year.

Number of Flights	July 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Podgorica	546	618	113
Tivat	1.012	1.067	105
TOTAL	1.558	1.685	108

Passenger Turnover	July 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Podgorica	94.192	101.950	108
Tivat	204.187	199.919	98
TOTAL	298.379	301.869	101

MONTENEGRO AIRLINES

In July of this year, the national air company Montenegro Airlines registered an increase of the number of passengers on flights in regular traffic by 1%, as well as an increase of the number of flights by 5% compared to the same period in 2014.

Regular Air Traffic	July 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Number of Flights	841	881	105
Passenger Turnover	78.765	79.541	101

ROAD BORDER CROSSINGS

According to preliminary data in July this year, the number of vehicles on road border crossings in Montenegro recorded an increase of 39%, and also the passenger turnover increased by 35% compared to the same period in 2014.

Turnover	Julyi 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Motor Vehicles	518.804	719.216	139
Passengers	2.270.733	3.067.282	135





In July of this year Monteput Ltd. recorded an increase in vehicle traffic through Sozina tunnel of 13%, and an increase in revenue of 11% compared to the same period last year.

Traffic	July 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Number of Vehicles	302.843	340.980	113
Revenues (€)	980.436	1.088.741	111

NATIONAL PARKS OF MONTENEGRO 🔍

In July of this year, the Public Enterprise for the National Parks of Montenegro recorded an increase of visitors of 27%, and an increase in revenues of 32% compared to the same period last year.

Turnover	July 2014	July 2015	INDEX 15/14
Number of Visitors	60.613	76.992	127
Revenues (€)	177.081	234.569	132

TOURIST OFFER OF THE **BIOGRADSKA GORA NATIONAL PARK**

The Biogradska Gora National Park was established in 1952, and it is located in the northeastern part of Montenegro, between Tara and Lim rivers, in the central part of Bjelasica Mountain.

The landscape of this area is composed of forests, meadows, water courses, mountain bracken and forest grasses. Bordered with mountain peaks, in some places more than two thousand meter high, cut by torrents and hollows, decorated with magnificent lakes, centennial forests and calm meadows, this park represents a magnificent gift of nature. Beside Biograd Lake, located at the very heart of Biogradska Gora, there are another three glacial lakes: Pešića, Ursulovačko and Šiško.

The majority of the park is the virgin forest reserve, located in Biogradska River and Jezerštica basins, representing one of the oldest protected areas in the world, known as the Prince's Forest Preserve or the King Nikola's Rampart. Some of the trees are more than 400 years old, some of which are more than 40 meters high. There are 26 different habitats of plants with around two thousand plant species, 20% of which are endemic species of the Balkans Peninsula and around 90 species of trees. The park also hosts diverse animal species, around 200 kinds of birds, 80 kinds of butterflies and 350 kinds of insects and mammals (wolf, bear, fox, doe, squirrel, dormouse). There are numerous archeological sites, sacral monuments, necropolis, and numerous authentic buildings of traditional architecture (chalets, shepherd's huts, log houses, water mills).

The tourist offer in Biogradska Gora National Park is based on sustainable development principles and is tailored to the needs of modern tourists, which reflects in the presence of different recreational activities, including education about the natural and cultural values of the park, the local way of life and traditions.

Since the beginning of the tourist season, Biogradska Gora National Park was visited by more than 13 thousand tourists, which is for 21% more than in the same period last year. The park is mainly visited by organized groups, study visits, groups organized by tourist agencies, tour operators but also by individual visitors. There are many foreign tourists, mainly from West Europe – France, Germany, Austria, and also from Russia and Ukraine. The number of visitors from countries in the region has significantly increased.

In Biogradska Gora National Park, a significant number of infrastructural segments has been provided to visitors, such as: visitors' centers, a souvenir shop, a network of mountaineering, trekking, educational and cycling trails, two organized areas on Tara river for fly fishing, camping sites, mobile homes and bungalows. The reconstruction of the restaurant on the bank of Biogradsko Lake is under way.

The rich tourist offer includes the following activities: walking, cycling, rowing in wooden boats, kayaking, sport fishing, jeep tours, camping and visits to chalets.

Starting from this tourist season, the following tourist products will be offered to visitors of the park: a cross country trail, with specifically designed obstacles 4,1 km long and a free ride trail 1,1 km long, for mountain biking lovers. Info boards have been placed on trails as well as wood signposts with pictograms.

Within the project entitled Open Doors, equipment at the viewpoint Bendovac is about to be supplied and installed, offering visitors, in an innovative way, the possibility to enjoy panoramic views of the local scenery.

Visitors of the park will also have at their disposal kayaks for paddling on Biogradsko Lake as well as the possibility to rent bicycles and trekking poles.

The activities related to the preparation of a system of new information boards is under way, which will include indications of the principle entrances into the park and of info boards, where tourist products, sports equipment for lease and price lists will be displayed.

Beside constant improvements to the tourist offer, the increased number of tourists visiting Biogradska Gora National Park is achieved also thanks to the growing number of events and promotional manifestations, such as: Walking with Ambassadors, International Kayak Cup Biogradsko Lake, International Painting Colony, Presentation of homemade products and souvenirs and others.



