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### Dubrovnik

According to the ICCA, the International Congress and Convention Association rankings, Dubrovnik is ranked at 39th place among European destinations in 2014. and it is an attractive congress and convention destination with the increasing tourist figures in MICE segment. According to Kongres Magazine Dubrovnik is a Top meeting destination for 2014., and Top regional destination for 2015.

The uniqueness of Dubrovnik lies in its continuous ties to its past history and cultural heritage and the modern lifestyle that mirrors its spiritual identity, historical imprint and presence within European culture. The blend of the tradition and the modern is the outcome of the supply that is evident in the numerous events occurring throughout the year, and which are harmoniously fitted into the tourist supply, that is thereby enriched in its own special and unique way. Dubrovnik as a congress and incentive venue, offers numerous possibilities to those choosing it as a destination for business.

Five star hotels as well as other four-or three star hotels will be excellent hosts for your larger or smaller meetings. Premises, like Fort of Revelin, Marin Drzic Theatre, Sponza Palace, Rector's Palace, International Center of Croatian Universities, St. Clare convent, and others, have generally been, thanks to its ambience, the special meeting and event places of business people.

### **Dubrovnik Convention & Incentive Bureau**

Provides assistance to meeting and conference organizers, and gives free and impartial advices in event planning, complimentary venue finding service, bidding documents, fam & inspection trips, suggestions for PCO-s or DMC-s, suggestions for social and partners programs, pre & post tours, providing promotional materials.

### **Dubrovnik Tourist Board - Convention Bureau**

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### **ABOUT DUBROVNIK**

## Short history

More than a thousand years of history have made Dubrovnik a European cultural centre. At the beginning, Dubrovnik was just a small community, but soon the town flourished and become the Seat of the independent Dubrovnik Republic. The Republic mastered the art of seafaring and had a fleet, which on the South Adriatic could be compared to Venice on the North. History is present everywhere in this town, which is at the same time a museum and a lively stage displaying a mixture of cultural heritage and contemporary life. Every building and every monument has its unique value. The historical city is surrounded by monumental wall, 1940 m long, which preserved its original appearance and is open to the visitors as the main attraction of Dubrovnik. Since 1979 Dubrovnik is in UNESCO register as protected World heritage.

### Position

Dubrovnik is a city in the south of the eastern Adriatic coast, the seat of the Dubrovnik and Neretva County, cultural and administrative centre.

### Climate

Dubrovnik climate is mild Mediterranean, mostly warm and dry. The average annual temperature is 18 C, and has an average of 2600 annual sun-hours. Sunless days are very rare. The temperature ever falls below the freezing point, and snowing is an exception.

### Vegetation

All this features of climate have resulted a variety and profusion of subtropical flora. Both the costal belt and the islands are covered with Mediterranean evergreen, pinewoods and cypresses. Large portion is covered by vineyards, olive groves and fruit trees.

### Population

Dubrovnik is the administrative, cultural and economical center of Dubrovnik – Neretva County with a population of 42 461. In the old walled part of the city live some 1300 inhabitants.

### Dubrovnik – accommodation facilities

All together, hotels, private accommodation, camping, marinas, villas, hostels and others types of accommodation number 33 563 beds in Dubrovnik.

**1897** – the beginning of organized tourism – opening of Grand Imperial hotel with modern facilities (electricity, elevator etc)

In 2018 there are 46 hotels operating in Dubrovnik , break down by cattegory: 14\*\*\*\*\* , 15 \*\*\*\* , 15 \*\*\*

| Hotel capacity        | 12 619 |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Private accommodation | 15 022 |
| Hostel                | 357    |
| Camping               | 1 429  |
| Marinas               | 495    |

| Total tourist arrivals in 2017   | 1.181.887 pax 17%+    |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total tourist overnights in 2017 | 3.960.520 nights 14%+ |

### Dubrovnik as an incentive and meeting destination

Since the very beginning of tourism in Dubrovnik, the congress and incentive segments were gradually developing. The beginning of organized tourism is considered to be the opening of the Imperial hotel in 1887. The records have it that the same year the first International conference was held in Dubrovnik.

From then onwards the development of tourism went much faster, and in a more organized way at the beginning of 70's. The hotels with conference facilities were built on prominent positions. Today, there are 45 hotels, among them 13 are 5\* hotels. Dubrovnik as a congress and incentive venue, offers numerous possibilities to those choosing it as a destination for business combined with leisure. The city's conference facilities offer more then 8000 seats in Dubrovnik hotels, and other conference venues.

Five star hotels as well as other four star hotels will be excellent hosts for your larger or smaller meetings. Premises, like Fort of Revelin, Marin Drzic Theatre, Sponza Palace, Rector's Palace, International Center of Croatian Universities, St. Clare Convent, and others, have generally been, thanks to its ambience, the special meeting and event places of business people.

### **Venues for Meetings**

**Inter University Center** offers meeting facilities for up to 120 participants, there are several break out rooms with necessary equipment.

**St Claire Nunnery** – **St. John Pauls Hall** – former nunnery has a modern facility for smaller meetings up to 120 participants, and the restaurant in the cloister for up to 600 participants for cocktails.

**Marin Držić Theatre** – The present day building of the Marin Držić Theatre was built in 1865, The painted ceiling of the Dubrovnik Theatre is the work by Vlaho Bukovac (Cavtat, 1855 - 1922, Prague), who laid the foundations of the Croatian modern painting. The theme of the work, painted in 1901 is Heavenly and Earthly Coronation. Dubrovnik Theatre has 240 seats, it is fully equiped with sound and lingt system and it can be convenient place for business meetings.

### **Historical Venues for Events**

**St Lawrence Fortress** – capacity 800 – one of the open stages during the Summer Festival, very often used for sunset cocktails and other events.

**Fort of Revelin** – capacity 500 – its splendid interior offers a space for different events, meetings, conferences, gala dinners and concerts. The huge roof-terrace with a view to the City and the old harbor. The terrace serves as an open stage for folklore performances, cocktails and banquets.

**Sponza Palace** – offers an interior space for different events like exhibitions, cocktails or buffet dinner, gala dinner, weddings for up to 100 persons.

**Rector's Palace** – historical venue in the centre of Old town for small gala dinners, cocktail parties, standing buffets in combination with typical performances

**Rupe Museum** - where in period of Dubrovnik Republic the grain was kept, interesting venue for gala's and cocktails

**Modern Art Gallery** – the terrace with the beautiful view to the Old harbor can host gala dinner, cocktail party, standing buffet

#### How to get here

#### Arrival by air

Dubrovnik airport is located 22 km from the City. It is served by several international airlines: Croatia Airlines Star Alliance partner, Lufthansa, BA, Austrian Airlines, Air Lingus, Europe Airpost, Blue 1, Air Mediterrane, Malev, Dubrovnik Airlines, Norwegianair, Hapag, Germanwings, Iberia, Jetairfly, Finnair, Vueling, Europe Airpost, Monarch, Israir, Easyjet, Jet2, Bmi Baby, Air Berlin, Thomsonfly, Thomas Cook Belgium, Ukraine International, Air Malta, Luxair, and others. Major European capitals are connected with Dubrovnik directly, and via Zagreb as well. Croatia Airlines, Star Alliance Partner is a Croatian National airline. Approximate air distance from European capitals is 1.00 to 2.00 hrs.

#### Arrival by sea

Croatian liners link Dubrovnik along the Adriatic from port of Rijeka. Both Italian and Croatian liners connect Dubrovnik with Italian ports.

You can arrive and visit Dubrovnik if you book a holiday on cruise with one of the cruise companies that call in Dubrovnik. Dubrovnik is a very well known port of call, and home port also. In 2016 there were 529 calls in Dubrovnik port with 799.916 passengers that have visited Dubrovnik.

### Lifestyle and culture destination

Dubrovnik treasures such a wide range of worthwhile places that making a selection happens to be a perpetual challenge. The inventory of the third old pharmacy in Europe hosts the Museum of the Franciscans (1317). Precise goldsmith's works from 11th till 19th century you can find in the Treasury of the Cathedral. There is a collection of Dubrovnik School of Art 15th and 16th c. at the Museum of Dominicans. Rector's Palace hosts an art collection, furniture, porcelain and inventory of the Domus Christy Pharmacy from 1420. Maritime Museum offers the history of Dubrovnik maritime tradition. Among the private galleries there is a Modern Art Gallery that hosts works of Croatian and international painters.

# Festivals / Events

Dubrovnik is known as great festival destination and unique ambience for concerts and drama performances.

Most of summer festivals are held on the open air and different historical venues. Dubrovnik Summer Festival is one of the most prestigious events, held for 68 years, each year from 10<sup>th</sup> of July till Aug 25<sup>th</sup>. The city's palaces, churches and squares are transferred into unique stages for dramas and concerts. Wine&Jazz festival is held in late September, Good Food Festival in October, International Dubrovnik Opera festival and Ana in the City festival in late June. Theatre and folklore performances are held from May till the end of October. Dalmatian singing a cappella is held on open during the whole season. Dubrovnik Winter Festival -Christmas market, streets caroling for Christmas and New Year's Eve is a tradition, as well as the great NewYear's Event held on the main street in the Old town Stradun through December and January. Street Carnival, masked balls, religious ceremonies for the day of Patron saint, St. Blaise are held in February. Oyster Festivity in March introduces Eastern traditional festivities and entertainment programs.

# Sport and Leisure

Dubrovnik is a perfect place for those who seek challenges and active type of holiday. Entertainment, recreation and sports are available throughout the year. Experience a jeep safari, horse - back ride in Konavle valley, canoe safari, canoe tour on the sea, sail to the Elaphiti Islands or visit a National Park on Mljet Island.

# **Gastronomic Delight**

A place of gastronomic delight, open air living, Mediterranean style is complemented by rich and varied culinary offers – recipes from the past in which time went by more slowly Try the Ston oysters and mussels here, which are considered to be some of the tastiest and finest shell fish in the Adriatic. Asides from lamb and veal cooked in embers under an iron bell. Maybe more than anywhere else on the coast, the Dubrovnik region offers special sweet pastries where the most famous are Rozata and Kotonjata as well as the Mantala and Arancini – sweet orange peeles.

Fresh sea food prepared with olive oil wil indulge your tastes as well as good old fashioned sandwich made of Dalmatian smoked ham and homemade cheese.

All this should be accompanied with top quality wines such as Dingač and Postup from Pelješac, Pošip and Grk from Korčula, as well as Dubrovnik's Malvasia from Konavle.

## **Places of Interest**

**City Wall** – The most recognizable feature which defines the history of Dubrovnik and gives it its characteristics, are its intact city wall with five fortresses that offer an unforgettable view over the city, the island of Lokrum and the open sea. The City Wall is the main attraction of the visitors.

**The Old City** – Dubrovnik is not built in a way to be admired from the car or coach. This is a place for pedestrians. Every spot and hidden corner has its own unique flavor which will make your memory to keep.

**Cable Car - panoramic view of Dubrovnik** - Glide through the air on a scenic adventure. The ride offers breath taking view of the old town of Dubrovnik, coastal sights with islands and magnificent sunset.

**Island of Lokrum and Elaphiti Islands -** If you set to explore Dubrovnik's vicinity by sea, you will be enraptured by the beauty of its islands.

**Trsteno Arboretum** is a protected monument of nature. The Arboretum which was established on the summer estate of the aristocratic family Gucetic, is famous for its rich and ancient collection of exotic plants in the Renaissance park from 1502.

**Peljesac Wines and Vineyards** where wine by its quality, color and bouquet is a real treat for your eyes, taste and your soul. Stop in Ston to taste mussels and oysters naturally cultivated. The natural flavor of the sea and sea delicacies is the same today as it has been over the centuries.

**Neretva – River Delta** – a passionate adventurer and nature admirer should enjoy in rafting or take a cruise in the small canoes through channels of the river-delta.