

Presents you...



Kamenjak NP



Pazin + death ride



Vrsar + Limski



Poreč



Labin + Rabac



Pula



Motovun



Svetvinčenat



Istria
*En nog zoveel meer...
And so much more...
Et encore beaucoup plus...*



Brijuni NP



Istralandia + Aquacolors

ISTRIA



With its hospitality, the Istrian peninsula manages to unite diversity within a small area. The crystal-clear sea, clean coasts and picturesque harbors, cozy streets and delicious food guarantee an enchanting charm.

This paradise, with its picturesque medieval towns that have developed deep into the Istrian hinterland, exudes peace and softness.

The landscape involuntarily reminds one of the most beautiful parts of Tuscany and Provence. The region has much more to offer than just the sea. Whether it's Motovun, Grožnjan, Završje, Oprtalj or the smallest town in the world - Hum - a stroll through the stone-paved streets becomes an enchanting journey through a completely different world.

Or how about visiting a winery or olive grove? Would you prefer to participate in a truffle hunt? That's possible too! What follows is a brief discussion of the most prominent Istrian attractions.

Motovun



The historic center of Motovun is centrally located in Istria. This fortress town (Montana in Italian) is located at an altitude of 270 meters.

The houses are scattered on the hill.

However, the three parts of the small town are connected by city walls, towers and city gates. The city walls of the fortress are used as a walkway and offer a unique view over the whole of Istria.

The main city gates are the double outer gate of the city tower and the Gothic inner gate that provides access to the central square. The space between these two gates is used by three restaurants as a terrace with a view of the city walls and the Mirna Valley.

The central square is named after the composer Andrea Antico. Every year in summer, the Motovun film festival is organized here: a small outdoor film festival.

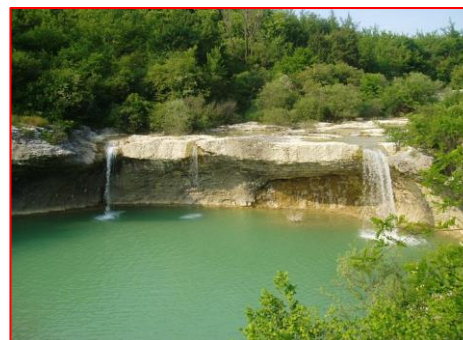
At the foot of the hill of Motovun flows the Mirna River and on the other side of the river lies the Mirna Valley and the Motovun Forest or Montana Forest. The oak forest of Motovun covers an area of ten square kilometers, of which a small part is protected.

It is a special forest with moist soil and an important habitat for the Istrian truffle. The truffle is a precious mushroom that grows underground on the roots of trees and is searched for daily with the help of trained dogs. The White truffle (*Tuber magnatum*) is particularly tasty but expensive and only grows in a few places in southern Europe.

But also, wine lovers will enjoy this region to the fullest... On the slopes of the hill near the Motovun Forest, the grape varieties Malvasia and Teran are also grown.

Pazin

This city offers its residents and visitors much more than just the beautiful nature of this truly extraordinary combination of stone and greenery. In addition to numerous historical and cultural attractions, exceptional traditional cuisine, excellent wine and homemade grappa, Pazin and its surroundings offer varied places for an active holiday.



Due to the peculiarities of the natural resources, sports and adventurers find the right source for interesting activities: unparalleled terrain conditions for mountain biking and recreational cycling, many hiking and trekking trails for beginners and experienced climbers, who can view beautiful natural phenomena and -almost- forgotten ancient churches or palaces.

A fun tip to do in Pazin is to visit the castle, also a symbol of the city. It is the best-preserved and oldest castle in Istria, located on a 100-meter-high cliff. A spectacular view! By the way, Pazin is the most famous for its caves and the death ride.



Pula



We recommend going to Pula to visit the amphitheater and then explore the city center. Pula is the largest city in Istria and has some nice shopping streets with bars, squares, restaurants, etc.

By the way, did you know that the town was founded by the Illyrian tribe of Histri? The oldest population in Istria? They founded the colony Pietas Iulia Pola. According to legend, Pula is mentioned in the myth of Jason and Medea. These are said to have stolen the Golden Fleece and fled all the way to the northern Adriatic coast. Since they were never caught, but exiled from their hometown, they built the settlement Polai or "city of refugees".

Near Pula, you will find the only sandy beach in all of Istria: Bijeca in Medulin. This is a tourist town in the southern part of Istria, just 7 km from Pula. Medulin is known for its beautiful 1km-long sandy beach.



This beach is especially popular with families with young children, as it is so easy to walk into the sea. There are many facilities on the beach such as water sports, cafés and restaurants, lounge rental, parasols, etc. Ideal for families with (young) children.

Kamenjak

The curiously jagged, southernmost cape of the Istrian peninsula is equally interesting viewed from land, sea or air. One of the last oases of a coastal region that has retained its original appearance - a mosaic of cultivated fields, meadows and green forests that almost dip into the sea.



The seemingly scorched soil of Istria's southernmost point, Kamenjak, hides in its lap great secrets of nature. Beautiful bays and beaches, as well as the clean sea, make this area an exceptionally attractive destination for a holiday in nature.

Across the cape runs 1 of the nicest Istrian cycling routes. As it is not demanding, even the youngest amateur can enjoy easy rides and beautiful surroundings. This deep-sea peninsula offers everyone the opportunity to enjoy summer sports. Mainly diving, windsurfing and kite are very popular here.

Rovinj & the Lim valley

There is little point in recommending particular sights in Rovinj, as you will automatically be drawn into the romantic town center with its many narrow streets, cozy bars and fantastic restaurants. Nevertheless, we would like to mention that drinking a cocktail on the unique terrace of bar Valentino (Ulica Sv Kriza 28) is an absolute must. Do this preferably after sunset. The reason for this will become clear to you at that time...



The town of Rovinj was first inhabited by the Romans and, given its protected location, escaped the ravages of the Goths who ravaged the mainland of Istria. The village then belonged to the Byzantine Empire and then to the city-state of Venice. This also explains its strong Italian character.

Later, under the Venetians, Rovinj developed as a strong power by the sea. This can be seen everywhere in the village. There are beautiful Venetian merchant houses to be seen, as well as a Romanesque church.

During the Second World War, the Italian influence expanded even further. After Italy surrendered to the Allies, the Germans occupied the beautiful town.

After the war, it became part of Yugoslavia. This caused a considerable flight of the local population: some 85% of the inhabitants fled the communist regime.

Rovinj is also known for the miracle that took place here, in the Middle Ages: a stone sarcophagus was found on the beach. Despite the frantic efforts of the villagers, they failed to remove it from the beach. However, a little boy was able to lift the sarcophagus with his own hands to the church, at the top of the hill. Once there, the sarcophagus turned out to contain the body of a beautiful young woman who turned out to be Saint Euphemia. Consequently, every year many believers come from all over Croatia to pray here.

Whatever you are looking for, you will undoubtedly find it in Rovinj!

By the way, do not forget to visit the daily market. You will find it at the western entrance! From Rovinj it takes about 15 minutes to drive to the Lim canal....

The name Lim means "border" or "limit" in Latin. For centuries, the canal was the border between the then Roman provinces of Italia and Dalmatia. It also used to function as a hideout for pirates. Lim Bay goes 35 kilometers into the interior of Croatia.



In several places next to the banks of the channel, it is possible to bike or hike. For many, the high cliffs, beautiful viewpoints and the "pirate's cave" are the highlights of this sight. The canal is officially a protected area, so swimming is not allowed here. Furthermore, the canal is rich in fish.

On the banks of the Lim plenty of oysters and mussels are grown, which you can taste at the restaurants Fjord and Viking. We can also reserve these for you in advance!

Porec

Here, as in Rovinj, you will discover a beautiful and car-free city center with numerous attractions. We recommend just getting absorbed in the flow of the center. The history of Porec dates to Roman times. Therefore, the old town still has a typical Roman street layout. The two main streets, the Decumanus Maximus



(stretching from east to west) and Cardo Maximus (stretching from north to south) intersect. You will also find more ancient Roman ruins in town: The Euphrasius Basilica, built in the 6th century under the Byzantine Empire, is the most

important historical landmark in Poreč. In 1997, this basilica was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. Not for nothing, as this basilica is one of Europe's finest intact examples of Byzantine art. The complex consists of the basilica itself, an atrium, a baptistery and a memorial chapel. The highlights of this place are the beautiful mosaics.



Svetvincenat

Istria is more than just the coast. The inland also offers wonderful assets. Think of fine wines, truffles, cheeses, sausages and olive oil.

In Svetvinčenat you can visit a medieval castle and participate in "escape the castle". Very fun to do with children! No need to book this in advance. Just go into the castle and book on spot. In recent years, however, Svetvincenat has become especially known as the stage for many cultural events. The medieval Mirisin-Grimani castle hosts numerous performances during the summer months as part of the Istra ethnojazz festival.

Also, on the main square the international festival of dance and non-verbal theater takes place.



Optional excursions:



Brijuni islands



Kamenjak kajak safari



Kamenjak bike tour



Motovun truffle experience



Pazin zipline & caves



Variety of wine tours



Pula history tour



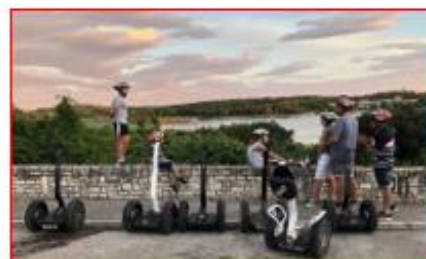
Variety of boat tours



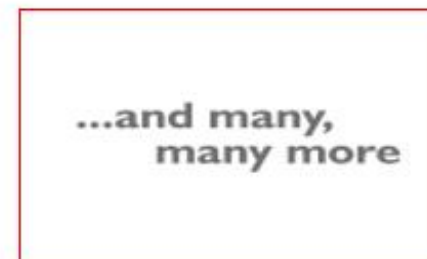
Private boat rentals



Istralandia & Aquacolors



Poreč, Segway tour



Restaurant tips:



Konoba Daniela, Poreč



Ancora, Rovinj



Tončić, Opatalj



Tutto Bene, Rovinj



Malin, Medulin



Malo Selo, Buje



Damir & Ornella, Novigrad



Casa Mia, Premantura