

Innovations in tourism

Visitor management

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1. This is us



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2. General information about Rovinj

- Rovinj is situated on the west coast of Istria, the largest peninsula on the Adriatic Sea
- Population: 14.000 → 3 million overnight stays per year (2019)
- City was built on an island \rightarrow connection to the mainland in the 18th century
- belonged to the Venetian Republic since 1283 until 1797
 - Venetian economy was based on trade
 - → Increase in trade in goods led to urban changes
- Due to Turkish invasions: Refugees (central Istria, Bosnia, Dalmatia, Greece, Albania, northern Italy) arrive on parts of the Istrian coast → increase in population
- During the Austro-Hungarian rule, Rovinj developed in terms of industry, seafaring and culture → better living conditions in the town
- After the fall of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy Rovinj remains under Italian rule until September 1943 until the end of World War II Rovinj remains under German occupation

3. Tourism development

- Calming of the political situation in the first half of the 19th century
- Means of transport (especially train) have been modernized → travelling was more comfortable
- Tourism expansion has led to the emergence of many seaside resorts (especially bathing and climatic resorts)
- Because of healthy climate + history: since the beginning of modern tourism attractive for guests from inner part of the country
- Austrian Lloyd in 1844: permanent excursion line Trieste Rijeka → ships regularly docked in Rovinj and Pula
- official beginning of Rovinj tourism in 1888
- Opening of the air and bathing spa "Maria Theresia Seehospitz": Spa intended for poor children who suffered from scrofula and rickets from Austria, Germany, Russia and other countries
- Knight George of Hütterott, entrepreneur from Trieste: bought a lot of land in Rovinj Nature Park created
 - → visit of famous guests from excursion tourism became stationary tourism
 - → planned realization of a real tourist place: his idea in 1908: climatic spa, built according to the similar objects on the Istrian coast

4. Tourism numbers

- 2021: 909.000 overnight stays → One of the most visited destinations in Croatia (most overnight stays by foreign tourists from Germany)
- August 2021: 2% growth compared to the same day in the record year 2019
- Total capacity tourist turnover: 38,536 beds \rightarrow more than 1,150 beds than in the previous year (+ 3%), number of guests on 20th of August: (statistics in eVisitor: 37.500 guests) \rightarrow +3% than last year
- most popular type of accommodation: household establishments, hotels and camps

5. Overtourism

Advantages	Disadvantages
 Infrastructure improvement Job creation Economic growth Cultural exchange 	 Increase in CO2 emissions Habitat destruction of living things Water shortages Garbage Rents increase Housing decreases Exploitation of local populations Spread of diseases (Corona) Cultural mixing

Proven solutions:

- Mallorca (Welcome Palma-App)
- Austria (limited tourist buses)
- Venice (day tourists have to pay to enter the city)
- Amsterdam (fee for misbehavior)

6. This already exists

- eVisitor: IT system for guest registration that links all tourism associations in the Republic of Croatia
 - → Simplifies processes of registration and deregistration of tourists
 - → supervision of payment of tourist tax
 - → statistical management of data on taxpayers and tourists
- will be accessible via the Internet without the need to download it to your computer
- Further purpose:
 - → to collect and process information on accommodation service providers and accommodation facilities in the Republic of Croatia
 - → Data processing and data analysis for statistical purposes
 - → Cooperation between public authorities

7. Interview Partners

- Tourism boards
- Destination Management Organizations
- Tourist information

8. Open questions?

- Who are our contact persons / interview partnes?
- How do we get relevant data from the eVisitor system?
- What are the seasonal peaks?
- What are the main tourism hot spots? Or is overtourism a problem for the whole city?
- How do other destinations deal with mass tourism hotspots?
 - → What are best practice examples?

