

DUBROVNIK (CROATIA) Respect the City, Respect the Heritage

Mato Franković – Mayor of Dubrovnik

The city of Dubrovnik saw its tourist numbers doubli from 2010 to 2018. These tourists are changing the live ing conditions in and around the old city. In 1991, the were 5000 residents in the old city, while in 2018 there were only 1000. In June 2017, the world media talked about the death of Dubrovnik", and about how the City is being "destroyed" by tourism. Clearly, the quality of the service had been declining. UNESCO also responded saying that Dubrovnik had to react, otherwise an inscription on the World Heritage List in peril was to be expected.

With the Respect the City project, the City of Dubrovnik started to transform the image of the city as a sustainable destination. Dubrovnik is a city that lives of tourism, where 80 percent of the population works in this sector. At the same time, citizens expect of their city a better balance, an environment in which they can make money but also have a decent place for living.

Among other things, the City started to cooperate with the CLIA (Cruise Lines International Association) in order to negotiate a long-term strategy for managing the city's tourism. One of the key elements was that the City wanted separate cruise departures and arrivals. Another measure – that was less popular, but necessary - proved to be a success: the City forbidden arrivals of excursion buses from the destinations outside of Dubrovnik on Thursdays and Saturdays, the busiest days of the week.

To ensure the success of a project like this, the City also needed to raise awareness through the use of media and mobilize the community to ensure that the message reaches as many people as possible. Activities to increase visibility are being implemented, as well as tools for educating locals and tourists. Thus, the message that the City wants to convey about the application of the project will have a greater impact and people will feel involved.

Every decision seems like a small step, but they are big enough to be recognized by the world's tourist public. Thanks to that, the City can hope to change its image as a sustainable destination.

Photos: City of Dubrovnik

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ARA GRADSKA JEZGRA DIO JE SVJETSKE BAŠTINE POD UNESCO-OVOM ZAŠTITOM – PRISTUPAJTE JOJ S POŠTOVANJEM KAKO BISMO JE OČUVALI. GRAD DUBROVNIK ŽELI VAM UGODAN BORAVAK. HE OLD TOWN OF DUBROVNIK IS PART OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST - TREAT IT WITH RESPECT IN ORDER TO PRESERVE IT. THE CITY OF OUBROVNIK WISHES YOU A PLEASANT STAY. Please do not walk around in swimwear or inappropriatel uncovered. mo ne vozite bicikle, motocikle, mopede ni at og odobrenja. Iznimka su bicikli za djecu mlađu od 7 go ease do not ride a bicycle, motorcycle, moped or di without obtaining special permission beforehand. Exception applies to bicycles for children under 7 years ase do not discard cigarette butts in pul Please keep dogs on a leas ne konzumiraite hranu, piće i ne ponašaite se nedolično enika kulture The City Walls are very high and can be dangerous.

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