Visiting Izola and Istria

Welcome to Belvedere Hotels Resort, located in the beautiful Istria region, full of natural and cultural beauties. Here you can find some of them.

Landscape park Strunjan - Krajinski park Strunjan

Our Belvedere resort is already located in the Landscape Park Strunjan. The flysch coastal region of the Strunjan Peninsula features varied riches and natural beauties, as well as manmade marvels created throughout the centuries. Adorned by an 80-meter-high flysch cliff above a natural shore in the north, the park sweeps across sunny cultivated slopes down to the valley of the Roja Stream in the south, where the sea lagoon and the functioning saltpans are situated. Maybe the most known part of the park is the Moon bay that is just 20 minutes away on foot from the hotel.

- Strunjan 152, 6320 Portorož
- https://parkstrunjan.si/en/
- +386 (0)8 205 1880
- Free entrance



Photo: Jaka Ivančič

Archaeological park Simonov zaliv

If you make a few minutes long walk from our hotel to the sea you can reach the Archaeological park Simonov zaliv where you can see a roman Villa maritima, one of the biggest in this part of Istria. The villa is especially known for its beautiful mosaics from the 1st century.

- Tomažičeva ulica 11, 6310 Izola
- <u>https://ap-simonovzaliv.si/</u>
- https://www.visitizola.com/en/map/archaeological-park-simonov-zaliv
- +386 51 215 702
- ap.simonovzaliv@upr.si
- Entrance fee

Izolana – house of the sea

Museum, where you can discover the history of Izola and its maritime heritage.

- Ulica Alme Vivoda 3, 6310 Izola
- +386 5 640 10 50
- <u>https://www.visitizola.com/en/izolana</u>
- <u>tic.izola@izola.si</u>
- Entrance fee

Izola - old town centre

The old town centre is full of narrow streets and venetian style palaces of which the most known are the *Besenghi degli Ughi palace* and the *Manzioli palace*. On the hilltop there is the church of St. Maurus and the bell tower, meanwhile on the coastline you can find the old port of Izola.

- Besenghi degli Ughi palace
- Manzioli palace
- church of St. Maurus



Photo: Jaka Ivančič

<u>Piran</u>

Not far from our resort is also located the beautiful medieval town of Piran - a town grown on salt. In Piran there are several museums, the Aquarium, the parish church of St. George and its bell tower, the city walls with a fantastic view over the town centre, the native house of famous violinist Giuseppe Tartini and the beautiful square called by him. All this and much more you can discover in the astonishing town of Piran.

- Tartini square
- Tartini house
- Church of St. George
- City walls
- <u>Aquarium Piran</u>
- <u>Maritime museum Sergej Mašera Piran</u>
- Mediadom Pyrhani
- <u>https://www.portoroz.si/en/</u>



Photo: Jaka Ivančič

Sečovlje Salina Nature Park

At Sečovlje Salina Nature Park, the past and present still walk hand in hand. The ancient method of salt-making, learnt ages ago by the Piran salt-workers, is still something special, even in the entire Mediterranean. According to the available written records, the Sečovlje saltpans are more than 700 years old, and even much older according to some other sources. The Salinas are also home to several species of birds and have a various flora and fauna.

- Seča 115, 6320 Portorož
- <u>https://www.kpss.si/en/intro</u>
- +38656721330
- vodeni.ogledi@soline.si
- Entrance fee

Koper

The city of Koper is the biggest city in the area and the main centre of the region, but still preserves the historical beauty in its old town centre. Here you have the possibility to visit several museums, especially the Koper Regional Museum. Koper also has many shopping possibilities.

- Koper Regional Museum
- <u>https://visitkoper.si/en/</u>

Istrian Countryside

The Istrian hinterland is a gem to be discovered. Full of picturesque villages as Padna, Krkavče, Koštabona etc., surrounded by olive groves, from which local olive growers produce top-quality virgin olive oil, that you can taste directly by the producer. There is not only olive oil, but also excellent wine producers that cultivate mainly the two indigenous wine grape varieties Malvazija and Refošk. Then, there is the king of istrian cuisine, the truffle. If you do not try the homemade pasta Fuži with truffles, you will not get the full taste of Istrian cuisine.

The Istrian hinterland is also a great possibility for excursions where you can admire natural and cultural beauties as the Hrastovlje Holy Trinity Church, Krkavče stone, Valley of the river Dragonja, Waterfall Veli Vir, Ušesa Istre (Ears of Istria), or just enjoying the panoramas that captures your breath.

- <u>Krkavče</u>
- Padna
- Koštabona
- <u>Hrastovlje</u>
- Krkavče stone
- Valley of the river Dragonja
- Waterfall Veli Vir
- <u>Ušesa Istre</u>

For more information you can visit our regional tourist board website: <u>https://www.loveistria.si/en/</u>