



OPATIJA

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LOCATION AND CLIMATE

Opatija is situated at the foot of the mountain and nature park Učka, on the east coast of Istria, in the bay of Rijeka. Due to the nearby mountain, it is well protected from northern and north-western winds. The town and its surrounding area have rich vegetation. The climate is Mediterranean with mild winters and warm summers. The average temperature in January amounts to 4,7°C, and in July and August to 23°C, whereas the sea temperature can even reach 26°C during the summertime. The annual insolation amounts to 2030 hours, and the Učka mountain detains the dampness brought by western winds.

HISTORY AND SIGHTS

Opatija has developed around the Benedictine abbey of St. Jacob, mentioned in the 15th century for the first time. At that time, it had only 35 houses situated alongside the church complex. Opatija as we know it today started developing in the mid 19th century when the railway Vienna - Trieste with the branch line for Rijeka was built. Since then, the city gained more importance. In 1884 the Austrian company of the Southern Railways opened the first hotel „Kvarner”, and some time later the official health resort of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. Apart from that, many parks, roads, piers and promenades to the nearby



Lovran were built.

From the historical sights, the chapel of St. Jacob from the year 1506 is preserved (remodelled in the 18th century and expanded in the 20th century). The park of St. Jacob, the park Angiolina as well as the villa Angiolina are built in the 19th century. The fountains „Helios” and „Selena”, the work of the sculptor Hans Rathautsky from 1889, are quite significant, as well as the sculpture „Woman with a seagull”, placed on a cliff in the sea, and the church of Mary’s Annunciation (neo-Romanesque building).

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From the buildings built after the Second World War, the hotels Ambassador, Adriatic I, Adriatic II and Admiral are the most prominent.

OPATIJA TODAY

Nowadays, Opatija is a well known health resort as well as tourist destination on the east coast of Istria.

It has a leading position in Croatia as a destination for organized conferences, seminars and counselling. Apart from that, throughout the year it offers numerous festivals, concerts, exhibitions and other culture and sports events worth mentioning.

Lungo mare is one of the most beautiful promenades on the Adriatic, 11 km long, than connects Opatija with Lovran via Icici. Two national parks are situated in the nearby area - Risnjak and Brijuni; around the island of Losinj you can find the biggest Mediterranean habitat of dolphins, and there is also an ornithological reserve on the island of Cres.

Alongside the coast, stretching north and south of Opatija, there are several winter resorts.

Apart from the beautiful bays, where you can find place for sports and



Woman with a Seagull

recreation (tennis and handball grounds, underwater activities), you also have the modern and excellently equipped marinas at your disposal: ACI marina Opatija - Icici and the marina Admiral.

HOW TO ARRIVE?

By plane

If arriving by plane, you can choose among several airports connected with Opatija by regular bus lines:

- Airport Rijeka (island Krk) - 45 km
- Airport Pula - 96 km
- Airport Zagreb - 180 km
- Airport Trieste - 110 km
- Airport Ljubljana - 127 km

By car or bus

If arriving from the direction of Zagreb, just follow the highway Zagreb - Rijeka. If arriving from Italy and Slovenia, cross the border at Pasjak and Rupe, and reach Matulji from where there is a road to Opatija. Via Rijeka, Opatija is by bus lines connected with every bigger Croatian as well as European cities.

By train

Via Rijeka, Opatija is connected with every bigger Croatian city as well as that of the neighbouring countries via railway.

By ship

If travelling to Opatija by ship, you can use any of the ferry lines going to Rijeka, from where you can reach your destination via the Adriatic highway (cca 10 km).



Photo: Tourism Office Opatija

Distance / km	Zagreb	Rijeka	Split	Dubrovnik	Trieste	Ljubljana
Opatija	167	11	340	540	71	116