

PRESS RELEASE

RISPOSTE TURISMO: On 21st and 22nd March 2013 Trieste will host the first edition of <u>Adriatic Sea Forum</u>, an annual international event dedicated to maritime tourism in the Adriatic (cruise ships, ferries, sail and motor boats).

Two days of study, debate, analysis and networking on the main topics of interest for each sector with comparisons among Italy, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro and Slovenia.

Adriatic Sea Forum offers organizations (tour operators, travel agents, ship builders, maritime agents, cruise and ferry terminals, marinas and ports, yacht charter companies, shipyards, government agencies, local tourism promotion boards and others) that operate in the Adriatic an occasion to meet, discuss and study maritime tourism in the area and make a real contribution to the development of their activities.

In addition it will contribute to assigning to the Adriatic the role it deserves as one of the European areas with a strong vocation for tourism by virtue of the presence of more than 150 coastal locations involved in tourism flows.

These, in short, are the main goals of the <u>Adriatic Sea Forum</u>, a new annual international event dedicated to maritime tourism in the Adriatic related to the sector of cruise ships, ferries and boats (sail and motor) conceived by <u>Risposte Turismo</u> - a research and consulting company serving the tourism industry as a whole, founded and headed by Francesco di Cesare - scheduled in Trieste for Thursday and Friday the 21st and 22nd of March 2013 at the Stazione Marittima Congress Centre.

Adriatic Sea Forum will be organized this year in partnership with TurismoFVG, Friuli Venezia Giulia Tourist Board, which is involved in a project concerning maritime stations among the region, in order to increase a better form of hospitality for the sea lovers, and in collaboration with Trieste Terminal Passeggeri.

Adriatic Sea Forum will be the first event to bring together all forms of maritime tourism in the Adriatic in a single event to address issues that cut horizontally across seven countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Italy and Slovenia), for a total of 25 regions located on the two shores of the Adriatic.

The two days of work will cover topics such as policies for promoting tourism linked to the sea implemented by each area involved, the trend of passenger traffic generated by cruise ships, ferries and boat tourism in the major ports of the area, the investments underway in each of the sectors analyzed, the dynamics and the economic and employment effects on the respective areas.

In addition, the event will allow all participants to update their knowledge and information about European funds and projects supporting the tourism economy in the Adriatic and to strengthen their networking by meeting new operators in an international context.

The forum schedule anticipates two days of study and comparison with plenary sessions dedicated to several major issues related to tourism in the Adriatic sea and parallel sessions for the in-depth study of specific areas of interest.

During the Adriatic Sea Forum, all participants will receive the Adriatic Sea Tourism Report, the first report of cross-sectional research across the sectors of cruise ships, ferries and leisure boating dedicated to maritime tourism in the Adriatic and the new nautical website conceived by Friuli Venezia Giulia will be introduced.



At <u>www.adriaticseaforum.com</u> you can find general information about the event and how to register.

Risposte Turismo is a research and consulting company that has been serving the entire tourism industry in Italy for more than 10 years. Founded and headed by Francesco di Cesare, Risposte Turismo has been studying issues related to maritime tourism for years, establishing itself as one of the leading research and consulting organizations for the promotion of tourism in this area. Since 2011, it has been organizing Italian Cruise Day, the event of reference for the Italian cruise sector, which this year will reach its third edition (Livorno, 25th October 2013).

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