



# Northwest Istria. More than just cycling.

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*...in all the colours of Istria*

UMAGO  
**UMAG**

CITTANOVA  
**NOVIGRAD**

VERTENEGLIO  
**BRTONIGLA**

BUJE  
**BUJE**





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*...in all the colours of Istria*





# Northwest Istria. Adriatic cycling oasis.



Croatia



Istria



Northwest Istria

Northwest Istria is an Adriatic region in the westernmost part of Croatia, at the junction of the Mediterranean and Central Europe. It comprises coastal towns of Umag and Novigrad and, in the hinterland, Buje and Brtonigla. Northwest Istria is one of Europe's most desirable cycling destinations. It opens the door to a richer and more challenging world of cycling, with a collage of experiences, intact nature, top quality food and accommodation, culture and exploring, peace and beauty.

*Eddy Merckx, a world cycling legend and a five-time winner of Tour de France has paid tribute to Istria by saying that the territory is simply stunning.*

Previous experience, natural resources and the existing infrastructure show that the region meets the requirements of bike tourists, mountain bikers and road cyclists, regardless of whether they come here alone, with their families or a larger group, and whether they are looking for a place for recreation, training or to organize a race.



Northwest Istria has a total of **19 equipped and specially marked bike tracks** that are as roads to unlimited possibilities for exploring destinations as well as your own cycling potential. The variety of the trails will satisfy **all profiles of cyclists**, which makes it deserve the epithet of the ideal bike region. By following high standards, the **licensed bike hotels** offer the complete service of accommodation, and along with an **equipment shop, renting bike guides**, an offer of attractive **package arrangements**, the cyclists also have **bike experts** at their disposal. They are precisely the ones, which with their knowledge and professionalism are a great source of useful information and professional help from all aspects of the world of cycling.

The dynamism of the region is reflected in the implementation of **more than 15 bike** events as confirmation of the exciting events throughout the year. **The Mediterranean climate** which doesn't have any longer periods of cold weather allows **cycling to take place during nine months of the year**. The configuration

of the terrain is very suitable and attractive and diverse cycling paths along the coast and in the hinterland are over 550 kilometres long. Northwest Istria's added advantage is its position. You can easily come here by car from Slovenia, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The new highway network guarantees a comfortable and safe journey. You can also arrive by ship and plane. There are airports in Pula, Zagreb, Trieste, Venice and Ljubljana.

Other than the clear sea and clean beaches, the Northwest Istria cycling adventure includes autochthonous cuisine and Istria's olive oil and wines. Cyclists can also use the infrastructure intended for other sports, such as tennis, golf and football, but also a top quality wellness offer with a range of content.

The great significance of Northwest Istria as a bike region is also spoken of by **Massimo De Bertolis**, the Italian professional cyclist in the MTB category and the world champion of 2004 in the marathon category who

praises the extraordinary benefits of its bike trails. De Bertolis emphasizes the beauty of the natural riches of this area where the contents and infrastructure of the trails themselves, along with the accommodation capacities, are ideal for professional preparations as well as for recreationalists wanting to cycle and enjoy the nature.

## Northwest Istria. More than just cycling...

- Cycling oasis on the coast of the Adriatic Sea
- Original and natural surroundings
- 19 equipped and marked trails
- Ideal for all profiles of cyclists
- Licensed bike hotels
- Attractive package arrangements
- Constant support from bike experts and bike guide services
- More than 15 bike events a year



# The destination for cyclists of all profiles.

## Mountain bikers (MTB)



*Northwest Istria is the right place to master the mountain trails under rushes of adrenaline, along green sceneries and exciting routes. We highlight the following for mountain bikers:*

- 12 mountain bike trails with total length of 380 km
- Technically demanding and intermediate trails
- Single trails
- Beautiful, untouched landscape
- Ascents from the coast towards Istria's hinterland
- Parenzana, an unusual cycling trail with viaducts and tunnels, which runs along an old railway
- Special bikers' accommodation
- Expert logistical support guaranteeing safety and quality
- MTB training camp with Massimo De Bertolis
- Bike expert for mountain bikers

- September: MTB training camp with **Massimo de Bertolis**
- September: **XCO Izgubljeni ovca** (Lost sheep), professional cross country cycling along the Parenzana railway
- September: **The Parenzana MTB Marathon** (MTB Maraton Parenzana), a professional race listed in the International Cycling Union (Union Cycliste Internationale - UCI) calendar in the C1 category

## Road cyclists



*With its ideal conditions for training, the region is also a top destination for professional cycling clubs. Here are a few reasons:*

- The cycling season lasts for 10 months, from February to December
- Mild Mediterranean climate
- Good road network
- Specially traced trails for road cyclists on the tracks of Giro d'Italia in Istria and Istria Granfondo
- Experience in organization
- Wellness treatments as a supplement to trainings
- Organized training camps for individuals and groups
- Infrastructure for other sports
- Bike expert for road cyclists

- March: **Umag Trophy**, chronometer for licensed cyclists
- March: **Istrian Spring**, lap racing and chronometer for licensed cyclists
- October: **Istria Granfondo**, an international marathon listed in the UCI calendar

## Bike tourists



*To those who discover countries and regions on two wheels rather than by car, while keeping in touch with the nature and heritage, the Northwest Istria offers:*

- 6 trails of 180 km in total length
- Recreational, group and family routes
- Nature, culture and gastronomy lovers' routes
- Idyllic landscapes
- Small medieval hilltop towns
- Easy rides along the coast
- Bike expert for cycle-tourists
- Thematic trails for the family, gourmands and for culture and nature lovers...

Over 15 recreational cycling manifestations:

- March: **Oleum olivarum bike**
- April: **Asparagus Cycling** (Bike and asparagus picking)
- August: **Grožnjan by night**
- **Bike tour Sv. Pelagij**
- September: **Buje Eco Bike Marathon**
- November: **Wine Bike Marathon**



# Bike signalization.



## Signalization

Cycling trails are marked in accordance with European standards and form a part of a unique signalization system on the level of entire Istria, in which NW Istria is assigned numbers 1 to 99.

Green tables mark easy trails without long or steep climbs. They are either straight or slightly wavy, do not have any dangerous or technically demanding laps and can be mastered by every cyclist. Suitable for families with small children.

Intermediate routes are marked yellow. They have short or medium long climbs and are moderately steep. They are intended for medium level cyclists.

Red tables mark demanding trails, suitable for skilled cyclists in good physical condition. They have many climbs of all lengths and levels of steepness, can contain an uneven terrain, steep descents and other technically demanding elements. Not suitable for family cycling.

It is important to know that description, marking and maintaining of the roads is performed by sports experts, cyclists and local terrain experts, which guarantees the safety and reliability of all trails, their map representations and signalization.

## Informational boards

The bike trails of Northwest Istria are additionally described with an overview and useful information for all riders. Each informational board contains a clear map of the area on which the trail is located and offers its complete overview.

In the area of Northwest Istria there are 30 informational boards set with all described bike trails. They contain information on each trail such as its length, total ascending length and the difficulty evaluation of each trail.

The highlighted contour lines are of great importance to the cyclists, especially on the more demanding trails with a great number of ascents. There is an interesting graphic display of altimetry with height differences in meters.

The informational table also shows what type of road is on a certain trail, which is clearly marked with a dotted line for macadam and land parts to a full line for asphalt.

## Istra Bike

UMAG - NOVIGRAD - BUJE - BRTONIGLA

Cestovne staze  
Percorsi stradali  
Road cycling routes  
Straßenradwege

www.coloursofistria.com





# Luxurious cycling and adventure paths.

Northwest Istria is full of cycling paths beckoning exploration and adventure. The surface is clay, gravel and asphalt, and the routes are marked and regularly maintained. Cyclist can choose among 12 mountain and 6 road trails based on their preferences. They are intended for recreational cyclists, families, mountain bikers and road cycling professionals, both for trainings and races.

A more simple orientation in the area is additionally enabled for the cyclists with satellite navigation and available GPS

recordings, important information and checkpoints on all trails.

What makes them special is a multitude of attractions and surprises cyclists discover along them. These are rural tourism with homemade food, rich landscapes of intact nature, medieval towns, wine cellars and wine tasting facilities. Is there any other place that boasts so many diversities in such a small area, which is also ideally located in the heart of Europe?

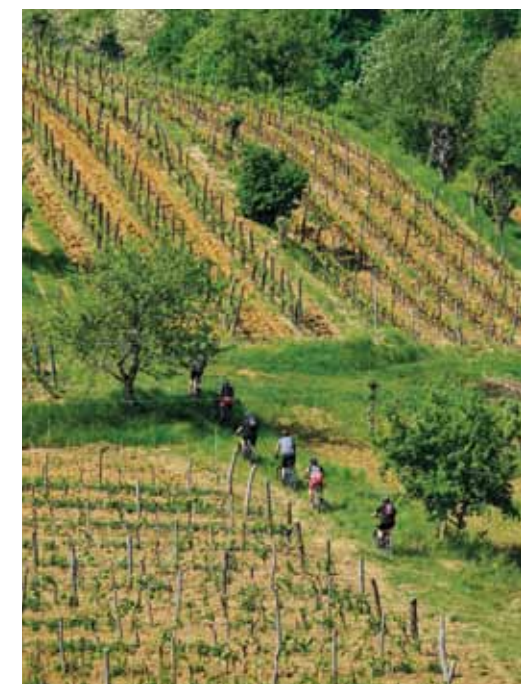
*The trails are divided into demanding, intermediate and easy, depending on their profile and difficulty. They are from 20 to 60 kilometres long, with a vertical drop of 500 m maximum. Each trail is specific in its own right and features a unique stamp of the local area.*



## Gourmet & wine

The Gourmet & Wine bike trail invites all experienced gastronomic connoisseurs and true wine lovers for socializing. It is designed as a package of recreation and is gastronomically filled with delicacies on attractive checkpoints in Northwest Istria. Go for a ride and search for wine cellars and agritourism that offer only homemade products, from the praised Istrian prosciutto to truffles, a tested powerful aphrodisiac leader of the Istrian table.

Continue further, weave through the magical green vineyards to Momjan and Brtonigla where, in modern equipped tasting areas, you can try exquisite muškat, malvasia and teran wine. Letting yourself relax under the open sky is only a part of the gourmet experience waiting only for you.



## Family

The bike trails intended for families are a true choice for parents who wish to spend their free time actively and in quality with their children. The ideal hinterland of Northwest Istria with hills where the view reaches far away to the endless sea is the basic incentive for exploring Istria's beauty on two wheels.

There will be no lack of excitement because the family ride will turn into a real adventure. The trail reveals old lighthouses, the former railroad track and medieval remains of towers and monumental fortresses that spark the imagination of all generations.



The original Istrian wine cellars lively live in small towns so they are the ideal place for a family lunch.

On your way back, the fresh sea air that reaches your family from the blue Adriatic Sea enriches the enjoyment in the ride..



# Nature & culture



The magical blue-green combination is interwoven in all the bike trails of Northwest Istria. The gran forests and modest woods are as if they have completely embraced the entire cultural heritage, centuries of influence to the culture of life in these areas.

Cycling in these surroundings turns into a personal cultural maturing. If you find yourself in the green hills towards medieval Grožnjan, the town of artists, stop and experience the treasures of the galleries saved there by numerous artists.

Continue your nature & culture bike adventure towards Završje or Oprtalj by riding to a slow rhythm and feel the luxurious untouched nature and rich cultural heritage. Rest long soft springs and wild streams in the valley of the Mirna River that defies the peace of century-old trees with its current. One bike ride is enough for us to return again to this synergy of nature and culture.

# MTB trails

Professional cyclists, individuals and groups, clubs and teams, can test their strength, endurance and speed on demanding and medium demanding parts of the MTB trail. Physical progress is guaranteed thanks to the demanding ascents, the steep falls and unpredictable curves.

Each cyclist will build form on this type of track while perfecting the technique of bike riding and contribute to his health by riding through untouched nature and breathing fresh and clean air. The longest trail in this category reaches

approximately 80 kilometres of riding, and it leads to small towns in the continental part of Istria on mild hills that open their doors leaving only the most beautiful memories.

For cyclists, these MTB trails of Northwest Istria are one of the greatest excitements in their career; they are fast, intensive, with unlimited freedom and beauty in life that offers eternal adventure.



# Cross country

Cyclists that are fulfilled with a desire for continuous adrenaline and strive for excellent physical form and perfecting bike techniques choose the Cross Country trails of Northwest Istria. The trails have many sport polygons located in the hinterland of Umag and Novigrad, in the peacefulness of untouched nature and continuous acceleration on the land.

They are ideal for training and are especially attractive single tracks, narrow parts of the trails for practicing techniques and perfecting physical form. All trails call for great strength and the excitement is constantly growing because Cross Country trails are primarily of competitive character.

The testimonies of the cyclists speak of especially attractive routes that live in complete harmony with nature at the viaduct of the Parenzana next to the village of Peroj and the curvy polygon at the end of the trail. Choose your team and look for true bike excitement.

# Parenzana

The former railroad track, Parenzana, connected Poreč and Trieste approximately one hundred years ago and today it connects the cyclists and pedestrians as one of the most desirable and most beautiful bike trails in Istria. The preserved viaducts of Završje and Oprtalj are a reminder of the railroad history, along with the tunnels Freski, Motovun and Kostajnica and the railroad houses that reflect days gone by.

For the cyclists they are all an inspiration and natural motivation for future bike adventures. All, domestic and foreign recreationalists, ecologically conscious travellers and cyclists who chose a destination with a clear attitude regarding preserving the environment, visit Parenzana. While driving through Parenzana,

pay attention to its peaceful curves, its mild ascents and hidden routes. In this perfect natural harmony, you will be completely taken over by the

feeling of admiration towards this peaceful area, where once a slow locomotive passed through.





# Bike hotels.

## Accommodation tailored for two-wheeled guests.

*Northwest Istria has numerous accommodation facilities licensed as bike hotels. Such facilities have additional content and services for cyclists, and are assigned their designation by independent reviewers.*

Bike hotels are located near bike trails, have a safe room for storing bicycles, a repair shop with tools for basic repairs, the possibility of renting and washing bicycles as well as washing clothes and equipment. They also offer information and materials necessary for planning routes, a cuisine adapted to greater physical efforts and various other benefits. They often feature a special vehicle in case of a malfunction, unforeseen events or for transporting cyclists to and from the facilities.

The region also offers other types of accommodation - campsites, hotels, private houses, apartments and family farms, which can also cater to the needs of cyclists.

### Services for cyclists:

- **Bike expert** (bike expert responsible for the complete offer for cyclists in the hotel)
- **Bike guide** (service of guiding cyclists)
- **Organized one-day bike rides**
- **Organized weekly bike rides**
- **Renting a GPS device with a minimum of 10 itineraries with the start from the hotel**
- **GPS recordings of bike itineraries** (free download)
- **Bike service card** (info card with all important telephone numbers)
- **Renting bikes and additional equipment**
- **Areas for bikes, locked with 24-hour video surveillance and equipped with carriers and hooks**
- **Area with a base for mounting with tools, lubricants and a compressor**
- **Outdoor parking for bikes with carriers**
- **Cabinets with electricity and water for the needs of the cycling vans**
- **Services of washing sport clothes**
- **Cleaning and washing bikes**
- **Safety check** (bike service control)
- **Menus for cyclists**
- **Bike lunch package**
- **Après-bike-snack**
- **Bike corner** (informational corner in the hotel intended for cyclists with all necessary information on the destination offer)
- **Bike trails and itineraries**
- **Program and service hours of the bike expert**
- **Bike events calendar**
- **Program and hours of organized bike rides**
- **Weather info** (daily report on the weather)
- **Internet corner**
- **Web page with all the necessary information for cyclists**
- **Meeting hall**
- **Inside swimming pool**
- **Fitness**
- **Wellness centre with whirlpool, Turkish, Finnish and bio sauna**
- **Massages and treatments**

## Maestral

The Novigrad's eclectic for Istrian bike ventures



Hotel Maestral offers its professional assistance to its guests through a specialized bike expert, the hotel bike advisor, who the guests can always turn to for help and advice.

In its standard offer, Hotel Maestral also has a bike department that offers bike and additional equipment renting, a workshop for the repair of bikes, a control service for bikes and their washing. The bike department also organizes one-day bike tours for its guests.

Hotel Maestral, enriched with a modern wellness complex with a gym and an indoor 25-meter swimming pool with heated water, also ensures the cyclists a diverse cuisine, complete logistics and a spacious parking lot.

**Hotel Maestral \*\*\*\***  
 Terre 2, 52466 Novigrad  
 t. +385 (0)52 858 600  
[www.laguna-novigrad.hr](http://www.laguna-novigrad.hr)  
[reservations@laguna-novigrad.hr](mailto:reservations@laguna-novigrad.hr)





# Sol Garden Istra

Luxurious hotel on the intersection of bike trails



Located in the Katoro tourist village, 3 km from the centre of Umag and 250 m from the sea, the Sol Garden Istra hotel merges modern design with traditional Istrian motives. It is ideal for cyclists of different preferences, offers easy access to all the region’s trails and numerous top quality services for cyclists.

Within the hotel, the cyclists have at their disposal a professional bike expert on a daily basis as a direct connection between the hotel

bike department and each individual guest. He is responsible for the save reception of the cyclists through technical support and individual aid. The bike department has in its offer the renting of bikes and additional equipment, workshops for repairs, control services for bikes and organizes one-day rides.

The offer is supplemented by a modern wellness centre, excellent food and animation programmes for guests of all ages.



Hotel **Sol Garden Istra** \*\*\*\*

Katoro bb, 52470 Umag

t. +385 (0)52 716 000

[www.istraturist.com](http://www.istraturist.com)

[booking@istraturist.com](mailto:booking@istraturist.com)

# Sol Umag

A wide range of contents in the oasis of cycling



True refreshment for the cyclists is in Hotel Sol Umag that opens its doors to modern and active guests. The hotel interior is enriched with a modern design that offers comfort in its entire area. From the front desk and the hotel lobby to a total of 209 rooms, 8 luxurious junior suites and 86 rooms in the annex park are a confirmation of absolute comfort and a guaranteed rest.

Recognizing Northwest Istria and Umag as renowned bike destinations has brought forth the perfection of the hotel offer according to high bike standards. The hotel is equipped

with a specialized bike corner which offers cycling fans complete technical support in one place. Sol Umag offers unique enjoyment as a combination of unrestrained recreation and a magical wellness centre. The awarded wellness centre in an original adapted Istrian ambient offers a part of the atmosphere of life in Istria, and the offer covers all of the magic of the wellness world. With a view of the spacious sea from one side and the green landscapes from the other, Hotel Sol Umag realizes all of the wishes of the guests in search for new activities on two wheels.



Hotel **Sol Umag** \*\*\*\*

Jadranska bb, 52470 Umag

t. +385 (0)52 714 000

[www.istraturist.com](http://www.istraturist.com)

[booking@istraturist.com](mailto:booking@istraturist.com)



## Bike expert.

### Constant bike support from an experienced professional.

The safety and satisfaction of the guests as the basic quality of the bike offer is completely achieved thanks to the qualified bike experts. The bike expert is the person responsible for the complete offer of bike products that with its wide spectre of duties connects all levels of the bike world.

He is the link between the front desk and the bike department, so on a daily basis he takes over the role of the

hotel informer on the bike offer. He is regularly also the **guide for organized one-day rides** in categories of cycle-tourism and road tourism and groups brought by specialized bike agencies.

He is also at disposal as the **renter for GPS devices** with instructions on their use. Furthermore, he visits the trails on a regular basis, holds accurate and reliable bike signalization and identifies eventual shortcomings and damages on

the trail. Other than the technical part, his role is also the continuous **offering of support and aid to bike clubs and specialists** and operative aid in the organization of bike manifestations such as "Istria Granfondo", "Istrian Spring" and "Trophy Umag" as well as the organization of bike programs.

*His primary goal is constant training and improvement of the service and therefore he goes to specialized fairs on a regular basis, along with going to bike races, participating in the preparation of bike and promotional material and new projects for cyclists.*



## Bike boutique hotels.

### A comfortable haven for cyclists.

A perfect combination of practicality and warmth, accessibility and an intimate atmosphere combined in a unique type of bike boutique hotel. A recognizable style, top quality design and high quality are their basic characteristics, and they are based on the goal of satisfying all individual needs of each cyclist.

Hotels with bike boutique categories are specially licenced for the admission of cyclists so the accommodation offer does not exceed 30 rooms. They are additionally emphasized with the mutual connection of the hotel staff with every individual guest.

#### Services for cyclists:

- Locked bike area
- Cleaning and washing bikes
- An available set of tools for simple repairs
- Outdoor parking lot for bikes with carriers
- Bike trails and itineraries
- Bike events calendar
- Bikes and additional equipment renting
- Menus for cyclists
- Bike service card (info card with all important telephone numbers)
- Weather info (daily report on the weather)



- Bike guide (service of guiding cyclists)
- Organized one-day bike rides
- Internet corner
- Web page with all the necessary information for cyclists
- Fitness and wellness (depending on the hotel)
- Massages and treatments (depending on the hotel)
- Meeting hall





## San Rocco

A boutique hotel for the most demanding cyclists



San Rocco has been considered the best small hotel in Croatia for several years. It is renowned for its extraordinary food and a unique culinary philosophy, but also for the efforts of the entire family towards ensuring smooth running of the hotel. It is located in

the peaceful, green Brtonigla, some 10 km from the sea, and is an excellent starting point for two-wheeled explorations, especially for guests who are looking for a more complex service and top comfort in the form of luxurious rooms, wellness and pool.

**Hotel San Rocco \*\*\*\***  
Srednja ulica 2, 52474 Brtonigla  
t. +385 (0)52 725 000  
[www.san-rocco.hr](http://www.san-rocco.hr)  
[info@san-rocco.hr](mailto:info@san-rocco.hr)

## La Parenzana

Following the old railway - on a bicycle!



Homemade bread, food prepared over the hearth and generous hosts are but a small part of what lies in store for the guests of La Parenzana, a picturesque tavern located 2 km from Buje. It offers accommodation in comfortable rooms and builds its unique identity on the interesting

historical motif of the Austro-Hungarian Parenzana railway that used to connect Trieste and Poreč and passed through this area. The tavern is an ideal starting point for exploring the route of this railway line, which is now a cycling trail, as well as for other cycling ventures across NW Istria.

**Casa romantica  
La Parenzana**  
Volpia 3, 52460 Buje  
t. +385 (0)52 777 460  
[www.parenzana.com.hr](http://www.parenzana.com.hr)  
[info@parenzana.com.hr](mailto:info@parenzana.com.hr)

## Villa Rosetta

The smell of the sea and bike adventures in the privacy of Savudrija



Villa Rosetta is a small coastal hotel on the north-west of Istria, near the town of Savudrija. Its location on the cycling route and additional services for cyclists make it the ideal destination for this type of guests. The hotel is comfortable and shrouded in greenery and pays special

attention to top cuisine - the Villa Rosetta specialities are traditional and modern Mediterranean dishes. It nurtures an intimate atmosphere and is the perfect choice for those wanting to escape summer crowds and relax in the peace of the blue and green Mediterranean.

**Hotel Villa Rosetta \*\*\*\***  
Crvena uvala 31  
52475 Zambratija  
t. +385 (0)52 725 710  
[www.villarosetta.hr](http://www.villarosetta.hr)  
[info@villarosetta.hr](mailto:info@villarosetta.hr)

## A Casa

A rural complex for the perfect two-wheeled Istrian experience



Restaurant A Casa, with rooms and a pool, is decorated as a rural complex inhabited by the spirit of the Istrian antiquity. It is located in the small village of Grupija, near the Kanegra tourist village. The proximity of the Parenzana and other

cycling routes trailing the borders of the peninsula of Istria, the proximity of golf courses and superb food make it one of the most desirable facilities for cyclists in NW Istria. It offers homemade food and additional offers for cyclists.

**A Casa**  
Grupija 13a, 52475 Savudrija  
t. +385 (0)52 737 101  
[www.restoran-mani.com](http://www.restoran-mani.com)  
[info@restorani-mani.com](mailto:info@restorani-mani.com)



# Bike specialists.

## A reliable support for cyclists.



Shops, repair shops and other points offering logistical support to tourists during all the stages of their two-wheeled adventure are an important link in the chain of cycling offer in Northwest Istria. They are managed by skilled

professionals who instil trust with their work and competence, and ensure the desired service is delivered as soon as possible and that unforeseen events are settled quickly and easily.

### SHOPS AND REPAIR SHOPS

#### Umag - Davor Bike

D. Alighieri 11, 52470 Umag  
gsm +385 (0)98 532 427

#### Umag - Aurum Sport d.o.o.

Hotel Sol Umag  
Jadranska bb, 52470 Umag  
gsm +385(0)95 544 2040

#### Umag - Trgoauto i Bike shop

Žrtava fašizma 9c, 52470 Umag  
Tel: +385 (0)52 721 303  
gsm +385 (0)98 188 01 09

#### Novigrad - Extremus

Ulica Murvi 15, 52466 Novigrad  
(bus station)  
t. +385 (0)52 759 488  
gsm +385 (0)98 420 586

### BICYCLE AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL

#### Umag - B.A.H. d.o.o.

Hotel Sol Garden Istra (bike point)  
Katoro bb, 52470 Umag  
gsm +385 (0)91 2020 500

#### Umag - Aurum Sport d.o.o.

Hotel Sol Umag  
Jadranska bb, 52470 Umag  
gsm +385 (0)95 544 2040

#### Novigrad - Hotel Maestral Sport centar

Terre 2, 52466 Novigrad  
t. +385 (0)52 858 645  
www.laguna-novigrad.hr

# Package deals.

## When others take care of organization.



A complete team of experts is available for all the assistance necessary regarding the stay of cyclists in Northwest Istria.

We offer groups and business partner's infrastructure and support for:

- the organization of package arrangements
- the organization of guided tours
- the organization of rest for cyclists

Northwest Istria offers various cycling packages designed for different client profiles. The packages include the possibility of guiding, which is entrusted to specially trained cycling guides. Other than excellent physical shape, cycling guides have highly developed communication skills,

have passed demanding training and acquired an official license of the Croatian Cycling Federation (HBS).

They speak foreign languages and know every part of the area they guide the groups through.

### ORGANIZERS OF PACKAGE DEALS FOR CYCLISTS

#### Istraturist Umag d.d.

Jadranska 66, 52470 Umag  
t. +385 (0)52 700 700  
www.istraturist.com  
booking@istraturist.com

#### Laguna Novigrad d.d.

Škverska 8, 52466 Novigrad  
t. +385 (0)52 858 600  
www.laguna-novigrad.hr  
reservations@laguna-novigrad.hr

#### Turistička agencija Sitnica

Montrin 31, 52460 Buje  
t. +385 (0)52 721 007  
gsm +385 (0)98 434 748  
www.sitnica.hr  
sitnica@sitnica.hr

#### Alternativna Istra - Guidina d.o.o.

Ulica Mira 9, 52474 Brtonigla  
t. + 385 (0)52 725 100  
www.alternativna-istra.com/  
guidina@pu.htnet.hr



## Events.

### Races, marathons, recreational cycling manifestations...



Northwest Istria has organized a substantial number of cycling manifestations, both recreational and professional. The events are international and a growing number of foreign and domestic bike tourists, mountain bikers and road cyclists are signing up for them. The participants are of different ages and physical predispositions and come in different combinations.

*There are more than 15 recreational bike marathons in the area of Umag, Novigrad, Buje and Brtonigla a year, from March to October, although some are also held during the winter thanks to the mild climate.*

Some of them have a 15-year-long tradition and loyal participants who return every year. They often have a theme and are linked to the region's specific offer. They offer an asparagus excursion, wine bike marathon to Momjan, venture along the Parenzana or an excursion to Završje, reminding us of the hidden beauties of the small hilltop town.

The cluster's special jewel is **the Parenzana Marathon**, a professional mountain bike marathon founded 14 years ago and listed in the UCI calendar.

The best part of the race follows the route of the railway road of the same name which is now a cycling trail, and which still features old tunnels, overpasses and bridges. Winding and romantic, the Parenzana is the symbol of the NW Istria's step into a new cycling era.

The region's considerable potential has been recognized globally in 2004, when one lap of the famous **Giro d'Italia** race was held in Istria and passed through Umag and Novigrad.

Also, we must mention the junior road race **Kroz Istru (Through Istria)**, listed in the UCI calendar, two laps of which are held in the Umag and Novigrad every year. It is one of the biggest junior races in the world. Also, the cluster has been the host of the XC Istra Grand Prix cross country mountain bike race, which was held from 2002 to 2004 in the Kanegra campsite and was also a part of the UCI calendar in Category 1.

As the host of two prestigious road races Trophy Umag and Istrian Spring, Umag is also known as the destination of top events in the world of bike touring.

The international bike race **Trophy Umag** is held for the first time along the attractive Umag area. The one-day race gathers approximately 200 riders and 25 teams and a confirmation of the great significance of this event is also its entry in the official calendar of Union Cyclist International (UCI).

The already traditional bike race **Istrian Spring** this year marks its 10th edition. With an international character, this route race through Istria brings numerous, exceptionally quality cyclists from all parts of the world. Its existence has contributed to cycling in Istria, but also to the friendly relations of all participants with the natural surroundings in which it is held as well as the hospitable people of Istria.



#### Istria Granfondo

The large marathon Istria Granfondo is a special form of a bike event with a start and goal in Umag and Novigrad. The two-day Istria Granfondo Marathon is mostly ridden through Northwest Istria as a race organized in three routes. The participants can choose between the shorter, 84 kilometre long route, Istria Granfondo Small, and the longer Istria Granfondo Classic route which amounts to 161 kilometres.

A larger part of the route of Istria Granfondo Classic is ridden on paths that in the year 2004 were part of the 14th route of the famous race Giro d'Italia. It passes through central Istria, through Buzet, Cerovlje and Pazin where it then returns to Northwest Istria, to Umag.

Istria Granfondo Family&Gourmet Tour is an exceptionally popular form of a road cycling event which is characterized by the spontaneous cycling of a large number of participants with various profiles, from professional cyclists to families and recreationalists. This form of cycling is becoming more popular in the world, and recently it expanded from Europe to the United States. Istria Granfondo is a massive and non-competitive race opened for everyone, but it also allows a certain dose of competition for those participating with the goal of racing.

The planned trip to Northwest Istria, a challenging bike destination, will become one irresistible adventure on two wheels.

[www.istria-granfondo.com](http://www.istria-granfondo.com)



## Information for cyclists.



Detailed descriptions of the routes are available in the Bike Guide Through Northwest Istria, a quality extensive edition published in several languages. The book features detailed maps, trail descriptions and photographs.

The offer of Northwest Istria consists in two maps with a total of 19 drawn-in bike routes, one with 13 MTB trails and the other with 6 road trails. Both contain basic technical information, registered altimetry and information on services and contents that you will find all along each individual trail you are cycling on.

The entire offer of the Northwest Istria is available on the cluster's main portal called Colours of Istria, which is also its slogan. There is a special chapter on cycling.

[www.coloursofistria.com](http://www.coloursofistria.com)  
[bike@coloursofistria.com](mailto:bike@coloursofistria.com)

Information on trails, sights, bike guides and everything required to plan a ride through Northwest Istria will be supplied by the tourist offices in Umag, Novigrad, Buje and Brtonigla..

### TOURIST OFFICES

#### Umag Tourist board

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[info@istria-umag.com](mailto:info@istria-umag.com)

#### Novigrad Tourist Board

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## Calendar of cycling events.

<b>January</b>	<i>New Years Bike tour</i> <i>Umag-Kanegra</i> <i>Befana Bike tour</i>	Umag  Marušići
<b>March</b>	<i>Oleum olivarum bike</i> <i>Trophy Umag</i> <i>10th Istrian Spring</i> <i>Winter cup Kornarija</i>	Krasica Umag Umag Kornarija
<b>April</b>	<i>Asparagus Cycling</i> <i>Bike tour Roads of Morels</i> <i>Bike tour Revive Završje</i> <i>Bike tour St. Juraj</i> <i>Umag bike</i>	Kaštel Umag Grožnjan Triban Umag
<b>May</b>	<i>Socializing and biking</i>	Grožnjan
<b>July</b>	<i>Marušići Bike tour</i> <i>MTB Bike tour Radini</i>	Marušići Radini
<b>August</b>	<i>Bike tour in Šterna</i> <i>Juricani MTB Bike tour</i> <i>Bike tour St. Lovro</i> <i>San Rocco Bike tour</i> <i>Grožnjan by night</i> <i>Bike tour St. Pelagius</i> <i>Marija na Krasu Bike tour</i>	Šterna Marija na Krasu Lovrečica Brtonigla Grožnjan Novigrad Marija na Krasu
<b>September</b>	<i>XC lost sheep</i> <i>Eko bike marathon Buje</i> <i>A Day without cars</i>	Triban Buje Umag
<b>October</b>	<i>Istria Granfondo</i>	Umag-Novigrad
<b>November</b>	<i>Wine Bike marathon Momjan</i> <i>Bike marathon Finida</i>	Momjan Finida
<b>December</b>	<i>Parenzana bike path</i>	Buje



Manuel Fumič,  
one of the world-class mountain  
cyclists, in Grožnjan



[www.coloursofistria.com](http://www.coloursofistria.com)