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Panoramic view of Pirano - Slovenia

## Dear Readers,

welcome to the fourth Adrifort Newsletter.

Adrifort fortresses have been protagonists of a series of summer events aimed at their enhancement from an historical and tourist point of view. This release points out some of these initiatives.

To subscribe to the project newsletter and to view the events photos please visit [Adrifort web-site](#) and its [Flickr Profile](#).

**Do not miss next release on March 2015.**

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## ROCCA LOVERS

### *A participatory process devoted to the Rocca Brancaleone*

In the last months the Municipality of Ravenna hosted two activities focused on the participatory process devoted to the Rocca Brancaleone. The **first** took place in the Rocca Brancaleone on September 15<sup>th</sup>: a public meeting following the World Cafe pattern aimed to involve citizens and to encourage proposal and ideas from them. Participants, divided into working groups, were asked to discuss about three main issues: the potential of the Rocca Brancaleone, the proposals and the practical ideas to enhance it, the contributions of the citizenship to realize these ideas. Citizens moved by the interest for the common good, not only made noteworthy tips for the organization of events but also offered their contribution to the activities.

The **second** event took place on October the 18<sup>th</sup> with the attendance of sixty citizens, mostly residents nearby. It was an unconventional event with the citizens always attending the Rocca as guides. It was an opportunity to research and to share the site history that led to its rediscovery through emotions and anecdotes told by citizens living nearby the monument, weaving the Rocca stories together with life of its guests.

During the visit acted as guides a lady that lives in front of the Rocca since 1953, a man that chose to have the gardens as his reading room and Ravenna city lovers that performed medieval reenactments.

[For more pictures, visit Adrifort Flickr Page.](#)

### **Creative Tourism, regeneration of spaces and new alliances: the Veneto Region workshop.**

Regenerate spaces to boost the local economy. This looks like to be the anti-crisis recipe that resulted from the territorial workshop organized by the Veneto Region, entitled "The fortresses in Veneto between public and private. As an innovative management of military architecture can contribute to local development". The meeting involved some local organizations, active in the enhancement of the Venetian fortified heritage, in a debate on the potential of the sector in terms of economic and social return on the territory. The workshop was divided in analysis and technical speeches, coordinated by the University Ca' Foscari of Venice, examples of both public and private management of fortified areas, identified as local best practices. The meeting ended with some shared considerations of the sector future in Veneto with the contribution of some local businessman. Among the speeches, **Jan Van Der Borg**, Professor of Tourism Economics at the University Ca 'Foscari, noted that the fortified heritage is particularly suited to meet the needs of a new market segment, that of creative tourism. The tourist attractiveness of this heritage, however, requires a common brand and an organized network of the fortified sites, promoting a greater synergy of public and private entities involved in the management.



**SLOVENIA**

**A "social" contest for the Municipality of Piran**

Enhancing ancient city walls through web word of mouth. The municipality of Piran chose a social approach to promote awareness and visibility of the city's fortifications. In the summertime Piran published an open photo-contest about the Piran Walls on Facebook as a virtual wall. The selection and the winners' proclamation took place in September.



**CROATIA**

**Exploring Monte Grosso**

Last November, the City of Pula's Municipal Library hosted the conference: **Exploring Monte Grosso**. The event was organized to introduce to the citizenship the first professional survey, ever realized so far, on the statics and on the reclamation of Fort Monte Grosso. The document includes working hypothesis of restoration, statics and an approach of conceptual design in order to establish new tools for the reuse, and was carried out in collaboration with the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula and the Istria Region. Scholar, architects and experts in the enhancement of local cultural heritage, attended the conference. The focus of the event was the analysis of the difficulties and proposals for the conservation of the architectural and historical heritage.



**CASTLE OF GALLIPOLI (ITALY)**

**A case-study by Apulia Region**

Apulia Region is conducting a survey, as case study devoted to the Gallipoli Castel management experience in order to identify potential economic, social and financial to be involved in a new way of using the castle in line with the objectives of development and territorial cohesion promoted by the Adrifort project. The study applies three paradigms of analysis: the tourist attractiveness of the building, the dissemination of cultural goods and services and the attention to the territory as a value.

**FORTE MARGHERA (ITALY) Open Days and Contemporary Art**



Forte Marghera has been the setting of two Adrifort cultural events. The fortress area hosted the **Adrifort Open Days** from 3 to 4 October: two days meeting, performances, tastings and short boat trips around the Fort walls. the center of events was the renovated Museum of Traditional Boats (Museo delle Imbarcazioni Tradizionali - MIT) and the new Laboratory of the Mediterranean Taste, which aims to raise awareness about the typical products of the territories historically linked to Venice like Istria, Croatia and Albania. The

second event hosted in Forte Marghera was young and innovative: the **Schiume festival**, international platform for performing arts, addressed to young artists. It was the fourth edition of an event devoted to promote the meeting between the Venetian public and a community of emerging artists with a calendar of free plays.

## ADRIFORT FORTIFIED HERITAGE

In this section, devoted to the fortified heritage sustained by Adrifort, we introduce the fortified system of Pula, Croatia and the old town of Corfu, Greece, along with the Venetian naval base.

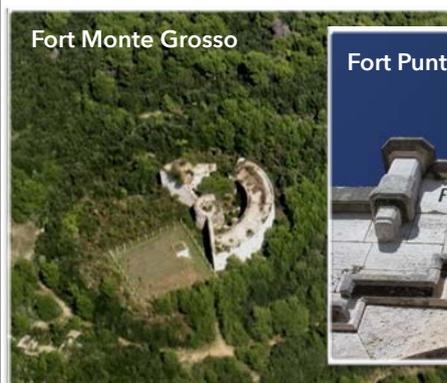
### The old town of Corfu - Greece

The old town of Corfu, located on an island to the west of Albania and Greece mainland, at the gates of the Adriatic Sea, dates back to 8th century AD. The two city forts, belonging to the Venetian age, were used for centuries as defense bases of the Republic of Venice trades. Over the years, the forts were damaged and rebuilt several times, mostly during the British rule on the island, in the nineteenth century. The city of Corfu maintains the traditional urban structure of the fortified

Mediterranean harbours. The Old Town has been included in the UNESCO list of world heritage sites. The Adrifort project also numbered the Gouvia Venetian naval base, 10 km northeast of Corfu town. It is a complex of buildings and structures designed to shelter the Venetian fleet. Though restored, the site still preserves the original features of the military architecture of the time.



The well-known esplanade in Corfu



Fort Monte Grosso



Fort Punta Christo

### The Forts of Pola - Croatia

The City of Pula is present in Adrifort with a group of five forts that are part of the Austro-Hungarian defense system of the Bay of Pula that was in the nineteenth century one of the most important naval bases of the Empire in the Adriatic. **Punta Christo** is a fortress built, in the late nineteenth century on a small peninsula and offers a breath-

taking view of the bay of Pula. The complex is very well preserved, thanks to the commitment of local associations, and counts about 270 different rooms in an area of over 1000 square meters. It is home to several cultural events: concerts, festivals, exhibitions and seminars. The second fort of Pula defense system is **Fort Monte Grosso**, a large semi-circular fortress located 67 meters above the bay of Zonchi. Along with Punta Christo and Munide, represents one of the most important, and spectacular, access to the routes of entry to the bay of Pula. **The artillery Battery of Valmaggiore**, located on the bay of Zonchi is a stone building with large parapet and still has four cannons. On the eastern side of the bay there is the **Zonchi Battery**: built between 1823 and 1830 was equipped with ten cannons to protect the north entrance of the harbour of Pula. It is famous for having been, in 1915, one of the two batteries that faced the French navy in an attempt to besiege the city of Pula. Finally there is **Fort Munide** located on the east side of the Zonchi bay, 52 meters above sea level. Equipped with eighteen cannons, the fort protected the northern side of the port of Pula until its destruction by bombing in 1944.

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