

Rovinj-Rovigno, 7th January 2023

**Newsletter No.1**

**DOUZELAGE MEETING IN ROVINJ-ROVIGNO**

**SEPTEMBER 28TH - OCTOBER 1ST 2023**

Dear Douzelage friends,

This year the youngest member of the Douzelage Family will host our General Meeting. As all the beginnings are usually difficult, we started with the fact that we were forced to change the planned dates of our meeting. Due to the overall crisis (the war in Ukraine and the consequent economic crisis) all the calls for EU funding were postponed and we had to change the dates of our meeting from May to the end of September 2023.

Hopefully, this won't cause you major problems and you will be able to come to Rovinj-Rovigno and participate in all the activities we are preparing.

We have been working on the programme for some time now since we were preparing ourselves to host you in May. We have included all the schools (elementary, secondary, even kindergartens), our Youth Council and all the cultural institutions of our town in defining the programmes and all the activities for you. We are very happy and proud at the same time to share with you the enthusiasm of everybody involved. (Please do take some comfortable clothes and shoes with you, since you will be very active.)

The topic of our meeting is the historical and cultural heritage of our beautiful little towns, the way we preserve it, how we pass over the knowledge and thus the respect for it to the new generations and the new inhabitants of our towns (migrants and immigrants).

We will ask you all to prepare presentations of what you are doing in your towns (school programmes, municipal initiatives, NGO activities, events, examples in situ) so that we can share our best practices and learn from each other. And of course, discover how similar and different we all are at the same time, which is, in our opinion, the best European attribute ever.

### **Accommodation**

Accommodation is a big issue in Rovinj-Rovigno since all our hotels are 4\* or 5 stars, so we had to book the accommodation on the town outskirts, in the Resort Amarin (here is the link, so you can check it <https://www.maistra.com/properties/resort-amarin/#/>). The accommodation units are rooms and apartments with one, two or three rooms. So, in a unit it will be possible to accommodate from 1 to 6 persons (in single or double rooms). According to the apartments' occupancy, we will be able to set the price for the non-delegates but it will be much higher than it has been the previous years. Since the minimum price we got until now is around 500,00 Euro we are trying to find sponsors in order to make this amount lower.

In order to make the participation to the GM in Rovinj-Rovigno more affordable, we will ask you quite early to pre-register (in March). We will make a pre-registration list to see how many of you would be interested to come to our meeting and with this list we'll try to negotiate a lower price. We are embarrassed with the fact that the price for the non-delegates is so high, but this is Rovinj-Rovigno reality. We are the tourist champion of Croatia for years now, which has which has in this case negative consequences.

### **Airport**

For those of you that will be arriving by plane, the nearest airport is the one in Pula-Pola <https://airport-pula.hr/en/flight-info/flight-destination-list/> . The good news is that many low-cost companies fly to the Pula airport.