ITAWTC 2015
41st General Assembly and Congress of International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association ITA-AITES

SEE TUNNEL
PROMOTING TUNNELLING IN SEE REGION
LACROMA VALAMAR CONGRESS CENTER
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA
MAY 22-28, 2015

Bulletin N°2
www.wtc15.com
Dear Colleagues,

The World Tunnel Congress 2014 has successfully finished in May this year reaching a high level of participation and providing state-of-the-art tunnelling world-wide. The focus is now oriented towards the upcoming world tunnelling event taking place in Dubrovnik, Croatia in 2015.

The motto of the WTC 2015 is “Promoting Tunnelling in SEE Region.” It is following the idea started 4 years ago with the organisation of the first international tunnelling conference in SEE. In the sense of promoting tunnelling in SEE, the conference would like to collect and present all recent experiences worldwide. It will be shown to tunnelling societies in SEE and this way enable them to learn from international practice.

This knowledge will be communicated by numerous international authors and their article presentations in parallel „Technical sessions” as well as by the work of working groups. In addition, there will be specific „SEE Sessions” where it is expected that authors from the SEE region will present their problems and solutions but also the same session is open for all international authors that want to present similar problems and solutions from international practice that may be found in SEE.

As usual the WTC 2015 will be the place for ITA to hold its General Assembly. Working Groups and Committees will meet several times and present to the international tunnelling community the results of their work. Following WTC 2014, the Open Session on Tuesday will be dedicated to "Underground Space and Natural resources" with focus on Hydro. Many other activities that will be described in the next bulletin will also took place.

Instead of „Poster Presentation” we are organising a „PPPP – Power Point-Poster-Presentation” where all technically accepted articles for publication but not presented in technical sessions, will be presented in a separate hall with the possibility to present, give clarifications and discuss with attending colleagues.

All articles that are accepted by the Scientific Committee review whether from Technical Sessions, SEE Sessions or PPPP Sessions will be published in the congress proceedings.

Within the congress week we are offering a set of 4 very interesting technical visits that will take place after the closure of the congress from Thursday morning on. Technical excursions are organised in the range of about 200 km around the congress venue and are presenting major hydro or traffic underground works already finished or in construction.

The accommodation offer is available from September 1, 2014 for all members registered to the congress. Available are programs for accompanying persons as well as many touristic visits for participants and their friends or guests visiting the congress before, during and after the congress time.

We would cordially like to invite you to the WTC2015, at the end of May next year.

Yours sincerely

President of the Croatian Association for Tunnels and Underground Structures – ITA Croatia
Davorin KOLIC, PhD, PE, CE

Zagreb, July 31, 2014
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The ITA-AITES World Tunnel Congress and General Assembly will be held in Hotel Valamar Lacroma, Dubrovnik from **May 22-28, 2015.**

Dubrovnik is an old city, a port on the Adriatic coast, a center of tourism and a congress center that is able to take more than thousand guests at the same time.

It is also one of centers of infrastructure works with unique underground solutions.

**Location and Connections**

Dubrovnik is located in the centre of South-East Europe with connections to all major European Airports: Vienna, Frankfurt, Rome, Istanbul, Paris, London and Barcelona.

Distance airport to hotel: 22 km
ITA WTC2015 CROATIA
MAIN TOPICS

1. Planning and Designing Tunnels and Underground Structures
2. Mechanized Tunnelling in Development and Use
3. Conventional Tunnelling Methods in Development and Use
4. Immersed and Floating Tunnelling
5. Operation and Maintenance of Tunnels and Underground Structures
6. Equipment of Tunnels and Underground Structures
7. Fire Safety of Tunnels and Underground Structures
8. Intelligent Systems, Mechatronics and Robotics in Tunnelling
10. Urban planning and Using of Underground Space
11. SEE Session: Soft Ground Urban Tunnelling / Rock Tunnelling in Karst
12. Risk Analyses and Techniques for Underground Structures
13. Cost Optimization and Financing of Underground Structures

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS - Important dates

The possibility of abstract submission is open from March 1st, and therefore everyone interested in presenting their papers is encouraged to submit their abstracts electronically using the online submission system on the official web site.

The authors of the chosen abstracts, reviewed by the committee will be asked to submit the final full paper that should be prepared according to the given templates for papers.

Important dates for Call for papers
Opening of abstract submission - March 1, 2014
Deadline for abstract submission - September 15, 2014
Notification of accepted abstracts - October 30, 2014
Deadline for paper submission - December 31, 2014
Notification of accepted paper - February 15, 2015

REGISTRATION

The online registration for the WTC 2015 will start from September 1st, 2014. Early bird rate is valid for payments made up to March 15, 2015.

Registration fee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Early bird rate up to March 15, 2015</th>
<th>Standard rate up to May 14, 2015</th>
<th>On site rate from May 15, 2015</th>
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<td>Full</td>
<td>900 EUR</td>
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<td>ITA YOUNG MEMBERS*</td>
<td>720 EUR</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
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<td>Accompanying Person</td>
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<td>One day only</td>
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<td>Banquet</td>
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* ITA YOUNG MEMBERS are ITA MEMBERS under 35 years old
* * ITA Member Nations Category 3: AZERBAIJAN, BHUTAN, BOLIVIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CAMBODIA, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, ICELAND, LAO DPR, LESOTHO, MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, MYANMAR, NEPAL, PANAMA, SERBIA, VIETNAM
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Thursday, May 21</th>
<th>Friday, May 22</th>
<th>Saturday, May 23</th>
<th>Sunday, May 24</th>
<th>Monday, May 25</th>
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<td>18:00-18:30</td>
<td>ITA Reception (by invitation)</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>ITA tech Industry Reception (by invitation)</td>
<td>Member Nations for WTC18 by invitation</td>
<td>Gala Dinner</td>
<td>Seminar &quot;Dubrovnik Underground Infrastruc-ture&quot;</td>
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Towards the southern tip of Croatia lies the Old Town of Dubrovnik, the priceless jewel of the Dalmatian Coast and a world famous UNESCO World Heritage Site steeped in history and culture. George Bernard Shaw once wrote, “those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik”, due to its profound beauty and historic magic.

Dubrovnik is also, without doubt, currently one of Europe’s most fashionable conference destinations. A surfeit of modern facilities combined with unique activities for delegates make this a popular choice for event organisers.

Hotel Prices WTC2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Price (EUR)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valamar Lacroma 4*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>140,00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valamar Lacroma 4*</td>
<td>Double (sea view)</td>
<td>165,00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubrovnik President 5*</td>
<td>Double (standard)</td>
<td>150,00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valamar Argosy 4*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>120,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Tirama 3*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>110,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valamar Club Dubrovnik 3*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>95,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Neptun 4*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>115,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Ariston 5*</td>
<td>Double (run of the house)</td>
<td>130,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Princess 5*</td>
<td>Deluxe suite park view (run of the house)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Dubrovnik Palace 5*</td>
<td>1/1 single</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Excelsior 5*</td>
<td>1/1 single</td>
<td>235,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Libertas Rixos 5*</td>
<td>Double for single use</td>
<td>160,00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hilton Imperial 5*</td>
<td>Guest room single use</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guest room double use</td>
<td>240,00 €</td>
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</table>

Special prices of hotel accommodation will be visible on our official WEB site from September 1, 2014.

For further information contact the official travel agency: wtc2015@dubrovniksun.hr +385 20 436 363
Accommodation capacities of the Valamar group consider using of 3 hotel units and different quality classes: Hotels President, Lacroma, Tirenà, Argosy and Valamar Club provide place for more than 2000 guests.

The exhibition area offers huge possibilities for companies willing to present their capacities and products. The modular character of the exhibition units enables the use of exhibition area within the hotel as well as using modular tents with full equipment that is adoptable to all exhibiting requirements.
One day excursion to underground structures of HPP Zakučac and HPP Peruća - on Thursday, May 28
Participants will get memory back of HPP Pečura from war 1991.

Visit to underground structures of HPP Dubrovnik I and II - on Friday, May 29

Tunnels on highway Zagreb-Split - Ploče (Tunnels Biokovo, Mala Kapela), Croatia - on Saturday, May 30

Tunnel on highway Bar, Boljare, Montenegro - on Sunday May 31
As a part of technical visit tours based on the number of registered persons, one day visit to Montenegro will be organized within post congress tours.

Changes in technical excursions are possible according to the number of participants and will be made in their benefit.
SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Accompanying persons programme

on Monday 25th May, Tuesday 26th May, Wednesday 27th May

During the congress there will be a rich accompanying persons programme in the most beautiful jewel of Croatia’s cultural heritage. It will be organized on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

There are plenty of things to do in this masterpiece of medieval architecture, choosing from: old town sightseeing, cultural historical monuments such as charming palaces, churches, museums and for the ones that enjoy art—galleries with amazing artworks, followed by tour guides and other experts. Enjoying the rich wellness program is always an option as well as shopping in the town center and visiting the most popular souvenir and jewelry shops.

1) Dubrovnik Old City walking tour on Monday 25th May

The most beautiful jewel of Croatia’s cultural heritage, the old city of Dubrovnik is a World Heritage Site and a masterpiece of medieval architecture. Lord Byron’s “pearl of the Adriatic on the Dalmatian coast...” enjoys a wonderful position on a rocky shoreline above the sea.

- Departure from hotel (with English speaking guide)
- Walking tour of the old walled City – duration two hours (including visits to the Franciscan monastery and Rector’s Palace)
- Your expert guide will lead you through the narrow streets of the Old City introducing you to the history and culture of this magnificent city
- Free time for individual visit and shopping
- Lunch - Return to the hotel

Franciscan Monastery

The large amazing complex of the Franciscan monastery is situated at the very beginning of Placa, to the left of the Pile Gate. The lateral facade of the monastery church runs along the principal street of Dubrovnik, and the monastery spreads north along the walls as far as the tower Minceta. The collection of liturgical and art objects is exhibited in the large Renaissance hall, containing the inventory of the old Franciscan pharmacy, paintings by old masters, valuable specimens of gold-work and rare books.

Impressive Rector’s Palace - Cultural Historical Museum

You will be impressed by the Rector’s palace which was the center of government in the old Dubrovnik Republic. It was the home of the Rector who was elected by the Great council to represent the Republic for a month and during that time he wasn’t allowed to leave the palace at any time except on government business. The Rector’s palace today is a Cultural Historical Museum.

Shopping and souvenirs

Discover Dubrovnik in its typical souvenirs such as candied almonds, arancini (candied orange peel), kontonjata (quince cheese), brandies with stories, top quality red and white wines, valuable stone-masons handicrafts, golden olive oil, cold-pressed soaps with laurel and rosemary fragrance. The gold, filigree silver and coral jewelry is fascinating for its timeless beauty and workmanship, and its design matches all fashion styles.

2) Beautiful Cavtat and Konavle – sightseeing & art on Tuesday 26th May

The central settlement south from Dubrovnik is the picturesque town of Cavtat, the ancient Epidaurum of the Adriatic; Civitas Vetus, the predecessor of Dubrovnik. A Medieval town built according to zoning plans on the slopes of the peninsula with two easily accessible bays. For centuries, its construction was based on the Dubrovnik principles of harmony. Cavtat is the birth place of the great Croatia painter Vlado Bukovac. His parental home has been transformed into a gallery of his paintings. Konavle is the area located to the east of Dubrovnik. It is famous for its tourist villages, folklore, great seaside walk ways, beaches and promenades, the medieval town of Cavtat which is said to be the most beautiful town in Croatia, resting places near the Ljuta river, the Konavle valley, and Park Prevlaka which is the most southern part of Croatia.
ITA WTC 2015 CROATIA

3) Amazing Dubrovnik panorama (by cable car) & island of Lokrum (by boat) on Wednesday 27th May

The first mention of Lokrum in writing came in 1023, in connection with the founding of the Benedictine abbey and monastery.

The very name of the island of Lokrum shows that even in ancient times there were plants from the far corners of the world growing here (Lokrum comes from the Latin acru- men, sour fruit). The tradition of bringing in exotic plants and gardening that existed from the time of the Benedictines to that of Maximilian Ferdinand was continued in 1959 with the foundation of the Botanical Garden. Most of the plant varieties derive from Australia and South America; of particular interest is the collection of eucalyptuses, cactuses and succulents. In 1964 the island of Lokrum was declared a Managed Nature Reserve, and in 1976 a Special Forest Vegetation Reserve. There is a little lake called the Mrtvo more, Dead Sea, on the island, linked with the open sea, and suitable for children and non-swimmers to bathe in.

4) Wellness & SPA delight

When you simply want to relax and enjoy, than there is no better choice than the hotels wellness center. Ragusa SPA at Valamar Lacroma Dubrovnik hotel is all about rejuvenation. Perfect balance of earth tones and Mediterranean aromas offers the most comprehensive array of spa treatments in Dubrovnik, making you feel special every step of the way. After a special Valamar Lacroma SPA packet you will feel like a goddess.

Excursions

On Friday 22nd May, Saturday 23rd May, Sunday 24th May

On Thursday 28th May, Friday 29th May, Saturday 30th May, Sunday 31st May

1) Full Day Excursion, Ston & Pelješac Peninsula on Friday 22nd May

Ston is the main town of the county which is located on the Peljesac peninsula. The town of Ston has the second largest wall surrounding it – this defense wall dates back to 14th Century, it is 5,5 km long and it is also the longest remaining fortification system in the world after the Chinese Wall. Ston also has the oldest salt pans in Europe located on the sea. Ston is famous for its oysters, coming from its own breeding site. Pelješac peninsula is second largest peninsula in Croatia, located northwest of Dubrovnik, famous for its vineyards, quality wine, real tasty sea-shells, salt pans and the medieval town of Ston.

2) Full Day Excursion, Island Korčula on Saturday 23rd May

The greenest, most independent and most interesting of Croatia's 1,000 or so islands, Korcula (hometown of Marco Polo) was a favourite Greek holiday spot over 2,000 years ago. Very much a law unto itself - as you might expect from a community that resisted the sieges of centuries - Korcula town is a mini-fortress enclosed with honey-colored stone walls that contain hidden treasures, from icons to Tiepolos, as well as architectur- al delights in every narrow, cobbled street.
3) Half Day Excursion, charming Medieval Town Trsteno on Sunday 24th May

Trsteno is a beautiful medieval town located 29 km from Dubrovnik. It is best known for the wonderful botanical beauty of its Arboretum, dating from 16th century, and Gothic-Renaissance garden of family Gučetić-Gozze centered around the summer residence from 1494.

In the arboretum tour you can enjoy the amazing architecture of Neptun’s fountain and the old Trsteno Aquaduct, as well as the amazing view of the Elaphite islands.

- Departure from hotel (by minivan or bus with English speaking guide)
- Drive along Dubrovnik Riviera to Trsteno
- Visit of the Arboretum
- Panoramic drive and stop at the vista point overlooking the city
- Lunch
- Return to hotel

4) Post Conference Full Day Excursion, Mostar & Međugorje on Thursday 28th May

Mostar is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the country. It is most famous for its beautiful historic Ottoman-style bridge, which spanned the Neretva River in what is considered the historic center of the city, and for its lively area within and around the old town.

Međugorje is a town located in the Herzegovina region of western Bosnia and Herzegovina, around 25 km (16 mi) southwest of Mostar and close to the border of Croatia. Since 1981, it has become a popular site of religious pilgrimage due to reports of apparitions of the Virgin Mary to six local Catholics.

- Departure from hotel (by minivan or bus with English speaking guide)
- Drive to Mostar and walking tour
- Drive to Međugorje
- Lunch
- Walking tour
- Return to hotel

5) Post Conference Two Days Tour, Split & River Krka Falls on Friday 29th May

Split, the second largest city in Croatia is the economic, administrative, educational, sport and tourist center of Central Dalmatia and the traffic connection to the croatian islands. It is centered around the ancient Roman Palace of the Emperor Diocletian and its bay and port and is also one of the oldest cities in the area.

While making its way to the Adriatic Sea Krka forms many lakes, falls and water currents. Because of the natural beauty and geological characteristics around, the Krka River was declared a National park in 1985. The most impressive and most visited waterfall is Skradinski buk and Roški falls.

- Departure from hotel
- Drive along Dubrovnik Riviera and Makarska Riviera to Split
- Lunch
- Walking tour of Split
- Overnight stay in the hotel at Split
- Continue driving to River Krka Falls
- Walking tour of River Krka Falls
- Lunch
- Continue driving to Zagreb

6) Post Conference Two Days Tour, Plitvice Lakes & Zagreb on Saturday 30th May

Plitvice lakes is the oldest national park in Southeast Europe and largest in Croatia. It is protected under UNESCO World Heritage among first natural sites worldwide. The national park is world famous for its lakes arranged in cascades. Currently, 16 lakes can be seen from the surface. These lakes are a result of the confluence of several small rivers and subterranean karst rivers. The lakes are all interconnected and follow the water flow.

Zagreb is a fascinating destination on its own, combining the best of Eastern and Western Europe. As the political, economic and cultural capital of Croatia, the city throbs with energy but has retained a good deal of old-world graciousness. The sober Austro-Hungarian buildings in the town center house elegant restaurants and fashionable boutiques along with scruffy pubs and rowdy beer halls.

- Departure from hotel
- Drive to Plitvice lakes
- Lunch
- Walking tour of Plitivice lakes
- Dinner
- Overnight stay in the hotel at Plitvice
- Continue driving to Zagreb
- Visit of Zagreb’s most famous places, upper and lower town
- Lunch
7) Post Conference Two Days Tour, Sarajevo
on Sunday 31st May

Sarajevo is the capital and largest city of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is the leading political, social and cultural center and is famous also as a center of entertainment, media, fashion, science and education. It is one of the rare major European cities with such a traditional, cultural and religious diversity coexisting there for centuries.

DAY 1
• Departure from hotel
• Sightseeing in Sarajevo
• Overnight stay in the hotel at Sarajevo

DAY 2
• Departure from hotel and drive along Bosnia and Herzegovina and Dubrovnik Riviera to Dubrovnik

8) Boat Excursion, Enchanting Elafiti Islands
upon request

Elafiti are a group of islands located west from Dubrovnik, where once lived the deers and thanks to them the islands are named. The largest island in the group is Sipan, and there are also Lopud, Kolocep (Kalamota) Jakljan, Ore, and Goleč Crkvine and some smaller islands and reefs like Grebeni. With its breathtaking scenery and sandy beaches they attract many tourists.

• Sightseeing from boat
• Dinner & Cocktail
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