# **About Funtana**

Funtana is a picturesque fishing town on the west coast of Istria, situated between the tourist resort of Vrsar and Poreč. This is the most indented coast of the Istria peninsula, with numerous coves and little islands. This wonderful coastal region, spreading from Zelena Laguna to Poreč and Valkanela to Vrsar, is home to several campings and hotels with a varied dinning and sports-recreational offer. About twenty thousand guests can be accommodated on any given summer day.

This tourist and hospitable town has about one thousand inhabitants and there is hardly a family that does not take guests in over summer. Funtana's tourist activities are not insignificant, as verified by a one-time high recognition: it was proclaimed the most tourist little town on the Adriatic. People here are hard-working, they love their region and their town thar, as can be plainly seen, is constantly changing to the delight and joy of both its inhabitants and visitors. One more thing: the example of Funtana, which has so many hospitality facilities-restaurants, taverns, cellars, café bars, etc. – gathered together in such little space, is unparalleled in Istria. Funtana is more than an ideal destination for a tranquil and carefree family vacation and experiencing the Mediterranean in the measure of man.



#### **Events**

Every guest will find something for himself in Funtana's versatile offer. Concerts or other smaller scale events take place in the Church of St.Bernard or the square in front of the church.

Art lovers can enjoy painting exhibitions in Zgor Murve Gallery in Funtana. Exhibitions are changed every fifteen days throughout the summer season. A unique exhibition in these parts, Naive art in Istria, takes place every August, presenting both the works of naïve painters on glass and canvas and sculptures. The gallery is open in the evening hours every day.

All those longing for entertainment can attend merry, public fishermen's festivities. Fishermen's festivities are traditional parties with music and an indispensable culinary offer of seafood specialties prepared by the fishermen from their daily catch and sold from off their boats. As a rule, these are organized every other Friday in the summer months and are the best way to learn something about Istrian folklore and customs.

The festivity of St.Bernard, the patron saint of Funtana, is held on the first weekend after the 20 August: daylong entertainment-dinning manifestations with musical programmes, sports recreational and other entertaining games. The dinning offer is dominated by specialties of Istrian cuisine.



# **Sport and recreation**

Sport and recreation have an important role in the tourist offer of the Funtana costal region. All known recreational sports, as well as those designed to raise adrenaline levels, are offered as part of the offer of tourist settlements, especially Zelena laguna.

Sports officials in tourism boast a number of several dozens of sports on land, at sea and in the air: from tennis to table tennis, mini golf, volleyball, to sailing, parachuting or hang-gliding. The entire territory of Funtana is characterized by wellmarked cycling routes and you can have your first horseback riding, diving or water-skiing adventure here. It would be a shame not to experience at least a part of this versatile palette.





# **Cultural and historic sights Parish Church of St. Bernard**

It is a one- nave building with the sacristy, built in the 1621, extended in the 1941 and reconstructed in the 1988. The bell tower from the 17th century was refurbished in the year 2000. It is 34 meters high. There is a coat of arms of the noble family on the memorial plate in the church, where one of the Borisi family lies

Above the main door there is a quire. On the left side altar there is a painting of the Virgin with a Child, called Our Virgin of the Holy Beads by St. Dominic and St.Catherine. This oil painting of an unknown artist is believed to date back the beginning of the 17th century and it is painted in the early Venetian baroque style. It has been placed at the altar again after the restauration in the 1994. Behind the altar there is a valuable painting presenting the Holy Mother with a Child and saints. The painting is the most valuable work of art kept in Funtana

The right side altar keeps a portrait of Blessed Alojzije Stepinac, a cardinal and archbishop from Zagreb (1898-1960), known in the world for his courage while being tortured by the communists. This oil painting is awork by Vladimir Pavlinić. The painting was blessed in 1999. Above the entrance there is a quire with organs built in 1878, a gift from the Catholics of Weinheim, Germany.

#### **Castle-Fortification**

It's a protected cultural monument. Bernardo Borisi had it built "four miles away from Poreč and two miles away from Vrsar" in the 1610, as engraved in Latin language on the doorway of the castle: "In Thee Lord I trust. In the 1610 the noble Bernardo Borisi from a famous Duklean and Bar family Borisi had it constructed.' It is a castle-fortification of the renaissance characteristics, rebuilt in baroque when additional windows were opened.

The castle was the first building and then the village grew around it. Some historians like to mention the possibility of an earlier, late medieval architecture on the spot where the castle was built. The interior of the castle is not open to the visitors.

### St. Lucia's Church

Situated right on the main road, it was built in 1750. Above the facade there is a church tower with no bell. It is a private property, and the only regular service is on St. Lucia's day.

## **The Church of Blessed Mary of Mercy**

Situated in an abandoned graveyard, it was reconstructed from the grounds in 1998. It is a Romanesque church originating from the 11th century that has been reconstructed several times. Inside the church are crypts from the 17th and 18th century.

### The Church of our Lady of Carmel

Situated on the graveyard it was built in the 1631, reconstructed in the 1907, the same year when the old graveyard near Perila was abandoned.

#### **Springs**

Springs of fresh water that gave the name to the village are right next to the seashore and on the same elevation of the sea surface. Yet they are giving fresh water. Since not too long ago the springs were used by the inhabitants of Poreč as well as by the population of inner Istria, due to the fact they never run dry. People used to come for the water in carriages.

These springs used to be used for the water supply system, partially subterranean, and according to the archaeologists still partially visible, constructed for the spacious and luxurious Roman villa on the point Zorna in Zelelna Laguna. It was built in the 2nd century and it had, besides all other things, two perystiles and the pompously constructed thermae. One of the springs is called Perila (washer) since women used to wash the clothes in there.

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