SUN GARDENS

DUBROVNIK

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THE LEADING HOTELS OF THE WORLD®

RESORT OVERVIEW

Sun Gardens Dubrovnik is a fully integrated, 22-hectare destination resort on the beautiful Adriatic coast. The resort is located in the community of Orašac, 11 kilometres from the UNESCO World Heritage city of Dubrovnik and is one of the most comprehensive developments on the Croatian coast. It features a 201 room five star hotel and 207 fully-appointed residences.

Opened in July 2009, the resort has become recognized as one of the prime tourism sites on the Dubrovnik Riviera. Sun Gardens Dubrovnik is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World (Leading Hotels), a prestigious collection of independent luxury hotels.

Resort facilities include a world-class spa, sports centre, a variety of restaurants and bars featuring local and international cuisine, pools and natural pebble beach, a supermarket and retail shopping, all designed to attract and appeal to the family market, couples and independent travellers alike. *Operation of individual restaurants, bars and outdoor pools depends on seasonality and weather conditions.

The resort layout replicates the ambience of a traditional Mediterranean village, set amid mature gardens with panoramic views of the Adriatic and Elaphite islands just off the coast of the mainland.

GETTING THERE

The resort is located 35 kilometres from the Dubrovnik International Airport. Direct flights are currently fairly seasonal, the majority operating from spring to autumn. The A1/D8/E65 motorway connects Zagreb with Split; guests can take the D8 to Dubrovnik, and then turn on the street Na moru. Ferry connections operate from Italy and other areas of Croatia and there is significant cruise ship trade in the summer.

RESORT HISTORY

In 1512, the Florentine statesman Piero Soderini was driven into exile by the Medici family and is reputed to have settled in the stone castle (palazzo) in the grounds of what is now Sun Gardens Dubrovnik until his return to Italy. The original palace still stands and forms a picturesque focal point within the resort gardens.

Parts of the site were first developed in the late 1980s as a resort frequented by European and local tourists. The on-site nightclub at the time became a popular hangout for many of Croatia's rock musicians.

During the 1991-1995 war, Dubrovnik was subjected to a siege lasting many months. The city was extensively shelled damaging many historic buildings and much of the surrounding areas. Sun Gardens Dubrovnik was also badly damaged, burned and looted.

In 2008, a major redevelopment of the site began. The residences, pools and promenade areas were upgraded, replaced and extended, whilst the hotel, spa conference and event facilities and sports centre were constructed. Sun Gardens Dubrovnik opened as a fully-fledged luxury integrated resort in July 2009.

ARCHITECTURE

The architects of Sun Gardens Dubrovnik resort are Croatian Branimir Medić and Pero Puljiz – who are internationally recognized architects. The duo studied at the Berlage Institute in Amsterdam where they both attained Masters of Excellence in Architectural degrees.

The interior design of the contemporary, nine-storey hotel was inspired by the experienced and highly regarded firm of Hirsch Bedner Associates whose portfolio includes luxury resorts such as Aphrodite Hills in Cyprus; Castel Monastero in Tuscany and the Four Seasons Resort in the Seychelles.

The hotel building design maximises available light and provides outstanding views across the resort and coastline towards the Elaphite Islands. The hotel lobby and public areas are airy and spacious, while the interior décor is bright and breezy, with use of clear, Mediterranean-inspired colour schemes.

One of the features at Sun Gardens Dubrovnik decorating project was the use of Croatian resources, such as materials, equipment and decorations, and also the selection of artwork, which was specially chosen by Studio Nest Zagreb. Every item of artwork adorning inside the hotel was done by Croatian authors.

GROUNDS

One of the most noticeable features of the resort is that the gardens are established and mature, the majority of the trees having been planted more than 20 years ago. Attractive walkways, created from creamy stone from the Dalmatian island of Brač, meander between lush, scented areas planted thickly with olive, pine and citrus trees and oleander bushes.

THE LIFESTYLE

Life at Sun Gardens Dubrovnik is designed to mirror that of the resort's Adriatic location and surroundings. Access to a relaxing outdoor lifestyle via the beach, gardens and panoramic vistas of the sea and surrounding hills is an important element of ownership. Premium cuisine and wine, the knowledge of local people and a sense of what is important to the emotional and physical wellbeing of residents and guests make Sun Gardens Dubrovnik extremely special. Though the attractions and amenities of Dubrovnik city centre are easily accessed via hotel shuttle bus or boat, residents can escape the city's bustle in the resort while having all of their needs catered to.

HOTEL

Understated elegance, chic design & top-class amenities are the hallmark of every room and suite in the hotel.

The hotel features a 201 modern rooms and charming suites: 178 Standard, Deluxe and Club Rooms, 23 elegant Suites including Deluxe, Club, spacious Executive and superb, top floor Presidential Suite. The exclusive Club Floor Lounge is situated on the 6th floor offering the hotel guests to experience the ultimate luxury and top notch service.

Club Floor includes complimentary beverages and refreshments such as coffee, tea, soft drinks, beer, wine and selected spirits & afternoon tea time with rich choice of teas, pastries and cakes.

RESIDENCES

Perfect for families or friends travelling together, the spacious and comfortable residences feature fully equipped kitchens, cosy living rooms with balconies or terraces overlooking Mediterranean gardens or stunning sea views. The resort features 207 luxury residences: 119 One Bedroom, 85 Two Bedroom and 3 Three Bedroom Residences.

For extra touch of luxury guests can book Residences Club Package that includes a special welcome hamper, a gourmet breakfast served at the sea view terrace, complimentary delivery from our grocery store and pharmacy, as well as a tailor-made turndown service.

DINING

Good food and warm hospitality are in abundance, with the resort's numerous restaurants and bars offering a variety of cuisines. From rich buffets and pool bars to sophisticated wine bar and fine dining, there's always something to suit guests preferences in 16 restaurants and bars of resort area.

Within the hotel are two quality restaurants: Origano restaurant and Maraska Lounge Bar, which have large outdoor seating areas with views across the resort gardens to the sea and large panoramic views of the Elafiti Islands.

Set in the vicinity of the Residences, the Market Place is a chic promenade of specialist eating and shopping outlets to include La Patisserie, La Pasta, The Butcher, The Market and Vino Bar. The resort also boasts three poolside restaurants, including the Sunset Grill and Cilantro restaurant. All outlets serve fresh, locally sourced or artisan produce and are fronted by an attractive, shaded seating area overlooking the resort boulevard, gardens and coast. Giardino and Ginja restaurants are available for special occasions and upon request.

DINE AROUND

Authentic culinary experience, attentive service and dazzling setting are highlights of Dine Around programme at Sun Gardens Dubrovnik. Choose among six restaurants and explore culinary delights of Croatian, Mediterranean and International cuisine in chic surroundings with breathless sea view.

GOURMET CLASSES

Cooking classes are available from April 1st to July 1st and from September 1st to October 31st, introducing participants to the best of the Mediterranean way of cooking, featuring traditional fish and meat recipes.

For the true wine enthusiasts, we have designed an appealing Wine Academy to expand wine knowledge and experience some of the best Croatian wines, while Mixology Course will take you on a journey to prepare the world's finest and most popular cocktails, learning the best-kept secrets behind the bar. Wine Academy and Mixology are available from July 1st to August 31st.

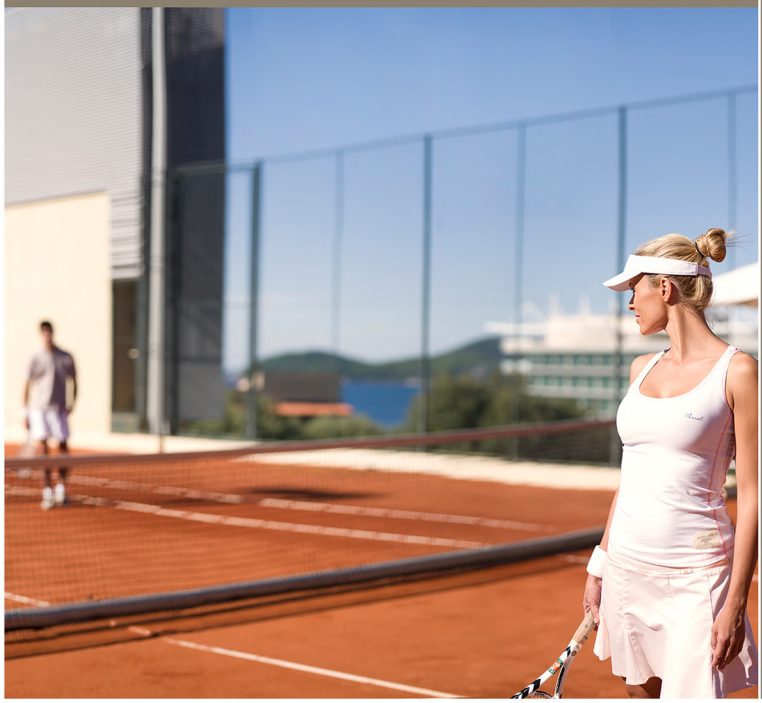
SUN GARDENS SPA

Sun Gardens Spa is a place to relax, rejuvenate and indulge. The concept was specially designed to offer an authentic and enriching spa experience true to its place and surroundings.

Sun Gardens Spa has become known as one of the most comprehensive along the Dalmatian coast. From a Thalassotherapy Spa Bath with an invigorating 252 power jets to an indoor pool and extensive range of treatments including a traditional coal sauna, salt sauna, hammam and aromatherapy steam room, the spa caters for new and discerning spa goes.

The spa treatments have been developed by experienced spa professionals and are rooted in longstanding traditions with proven benefits. Authentic hands-on-techniques, coupled with the potent natural formulations of the products, restore vitality and health to the skin, body and mind, delivering visible wellbeing results. Choose from the collection of natural radiance and anti-aging facials, conditioning and therapeutic body treatments and luxurious rituals.

The spa has won top accolades from TripAdvisor and World Luxury Spa Awards as the best Luxury Resort Spa Croatia for three years in a row and was named as one of the Top 25 Hotels for Spa/Relaxation Hotels in the World - ranking number 5 on the list.

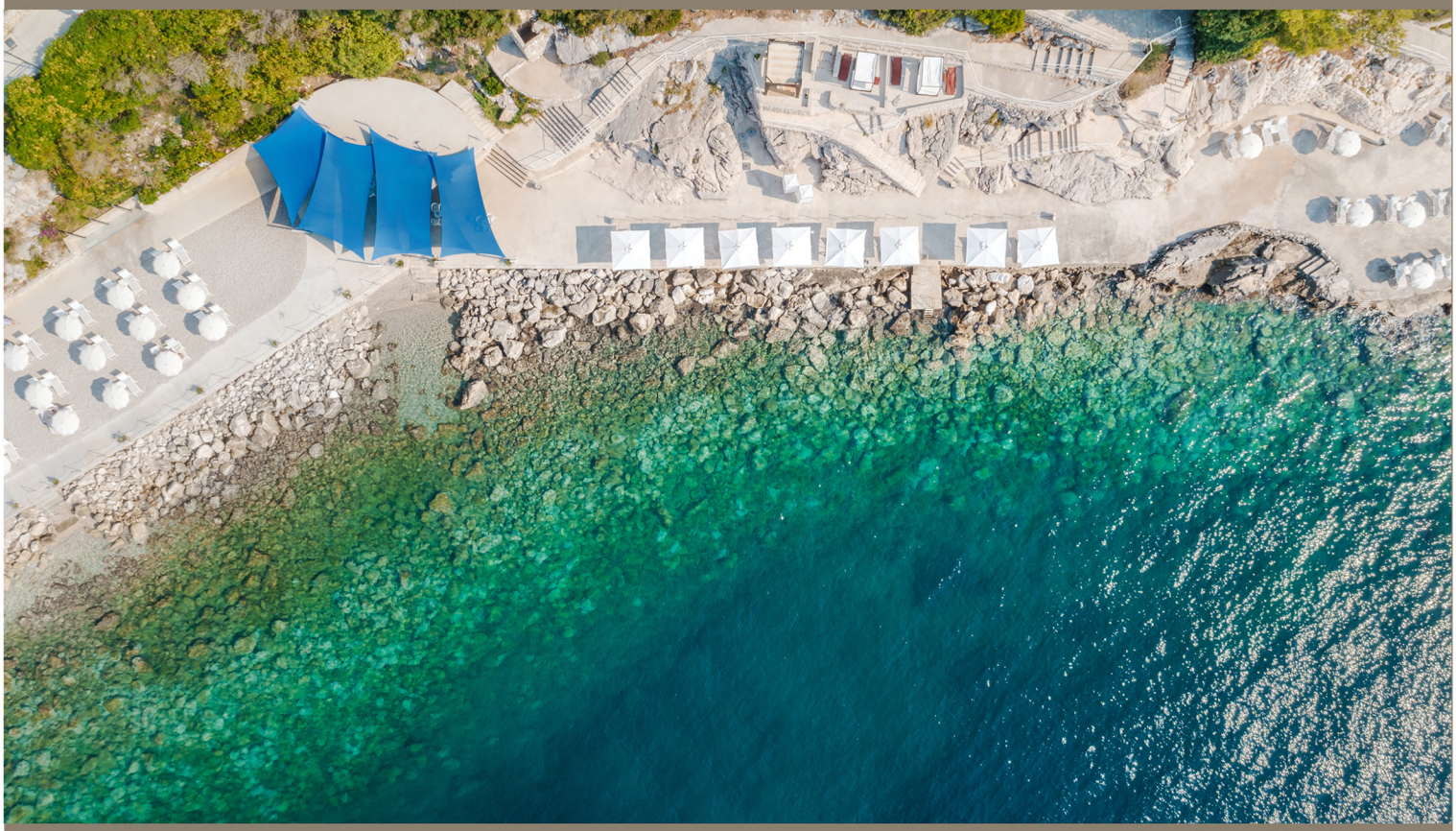


SPORTS CENTRE

The Sports Centre at Sun Gardens Dubrovnik is a paradise for sports enthusiasts. Guests can workout at the fully equipped gym and choose from a superb range of indoor and outdoor on-site activities including five-a-side football, three clay tennis courts, squash courts, full-size climbing wall, and aerobics.

Rounding out the superb sports facilities are luxurious changing rooms and a sports bar with the capacity to show televised events.

For some extra support in reaching training goals, guests can book a session with one of the professional sports coaches or personal trainers. Sports equipment and towels are available for hire at the Sports Centre reception.



BEACH

Just a few steps from the resort you can find a natural pebble beach ideal for the whole family. With bathing platforms, safe areas for swimming, water-sports, sun loungers and umbrellas. The beach is surrounded with beautiful untouched nature giving you exclusive Mediterranean feel.

VIP BEACH

The beach has a seasonal VIP area that includes personalized services and amenities like sun beds under umbrellas, towels, fresh fruit, non-alcoholic cocktails and unlimited water (still and sparkling). While in the VIP area, you can also receive a massage from the hotel's on-site spa.

POOLS

There are three large swimming pools with panoramic sea views and extensive surrounding terraces with sun beds and umbrellas. Lemonia pool and Sunset pool are dedicated to family use, with special facilities for younger children, whilst the Marina pool is designated as adults only.

All pools also feature poolside bars with a choice of refreshments, but operations depend on seasonality and weather conditions.

BOAT TRANSFER DOCK

The resort has a boat transfer dock for visiting boats and a collection point for day trips to the neighbouring islands. The resort's shuttle boat takes guests to Dubrovnik in around 30 minutes.

WATER SPORTS

Water sports are very popular in Croatia, offering sea lovers much more than swimming or sunbathing during the whole spring & summer and even in the late summer and the first part of autumn. Variety of the water sports are available within Sun Gardens Marina, operated by partner agency H11.

KIDS CLUB

Children can enjoy the discovery of their imagination in a safe environment with our Marco Polo Kid's Club. Every moment at Sun Gardens Dubrovnik is an adventure to be remembered for a lifetime. With specially trained staff on hand at all times, our Marco Polo Kid's Club offers the chance for children to have new experiences under the warm Mediterranean sun.

We provide facilities audit and childcare training to ensure that children have a safe, fun, and engaging experience in our care.

Marco Polo Kid's Club features:
- Baby Club – nine months to three year olds
- Mini Club – three to six year olds
- Junior Club – seven to ten year olds
- Tween Club – eleven to fifteen year olds
- Teen Club – sixteen to nineteen year olds

Children's weekly diary will be full, from sports to educational and environmental events. Whether it is splash volleyball in the swimming pool, or mask making or our popular face painting and mini disco, the little ones can choose to have an active week, every week.

Daily enrolment (10 am to noon and 3 pm to 5 pm) in Kids Club is complimentary to our guests, while additional activities and Baby Club are subject to extra charge. The range of children's activities on offer ensure that not only can parents relax, safe in the knowledge that the kids are be taken care of by professionals in a safe environment, but they are having an amazing time too.

Our Kids Club (Mini & Junior Club) is supervised from May 13th to September 29th, and Baby Club from July 8th to August 23rd. Upon advance request, the hotel can arrange for a babysitter with verified references to provide babysitting services, from May 13th to September 29th.

SPORTS ACADEMY

Sports Academy offers children from the ages of 7 to 15 the opportunity to take part in training programmes of their favourite sport – football, tennis, water polo, basketball and a sports camp – with limited groups, allowing maximum attention and supervision. Sports Academy is available on weekly basis from May 27th to September 28th.

SUN GARDENS SUMMER FESTIVAL

Besides numerous cultural and sporting events, guests can enjoy Sun Gardens Summer Festival, a collection of spectacular open-air performances with breath-taking views and an unforgettable atmosphere. From ‘a capella’ classic ballads and symphony concerts to opera arias with renowned musicians and themed jazz-style evenings. In 2019 Sun Gardens Dubrovnik will host again accomplished musicians from June to August at different venues overlooking the magnificent islands dotting the crystal clear waters of the Adriatic.

The third Festival edition (2019) features ‘A Cappella at Sunset’, jazz standards & classic ballads performed by the Yale Whiffenpoofs; ‘Guardi le Stelle’, opera arias performed by Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra; ‘Matija Dedić and Friends’, piano evening with Matija Dedić ft. Ivana Husar; ‘Fly Me to the Moon’ Ines Tričković sings Frank Sinatra; ‘Rockabilly Swingers Show’, live with Robert Mareković and The Swingers; and ‘Symphony with a Twist’, movies & pop music performed by Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra.

RESORT ENTERTAINMENT

During the summer we have prepared some top-notch entertainment at the resort's attractive locations. Regardless of whether guests are travelling with their family, as a couple or with friends, they are bound to find something they like in the eventful summer programme and a seasonal offer of drinks and culinary delicacies.

SHOPPING

Running through the middle of the resort is a promenade of shops selling popular fashion brands and accessories, favourite cosmetics and supplies, colourful and original gift ideas and groceries.

The Rosetta grocery store is well stocked with quality products and healthy options for dining in, while a choice of cosmetics and non-prescription medicines is available in our brand new pharmacy, Rosetta Health & Beauty. There is also a hairdressing and beauty salon.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Designed to the highest specifications, the resort's modern conference facilities are split over two levels and include a business centre, a separate delegate entrance, pre-function areas, 7 meeting rooms and a spacious ballroom, offering some of the larger and most flexible meeting space in Dubrovnik and Croatia. In addition to our professional meeting spaces, our beautiful coastal resort also houses a wealth of restaurants, terraces and pools that make distinctive settings for a variety of events. The resort has successfully managed many blue chip corporate conferences, car launches, meetings and incentives over the last few years.

CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The lobby level houses four flexible meeting rooms with maximum capacity for 14 delegates in the largest room. Ideal for small events such as board meetings, all rooms on this floor offer natural daylight and enjoy access to a convenient tea/coffee area.

The lower level is comprised of a stunning ballroom and three flexible meeting rooms. Complemented by a spacious pre- function area and half-covered terrace, the Soderini ballroom can easily be divided into three separate areas and accommodates up to 1000 delegates. The venue can also host special events such as car launches, celebrations and weddings.

A variety of breakout spaces are also available throughout the resort. To ensure the success of the meetings, all rooms are equipped with free high-speed Internet access, modern audio-visual equipment and individually controlled air conditioning, while most of the rooms enjoy natural light and sea views.

MEETING VENUES

Sitting within its own beautiful grounds and providing extensive five-star amenities, resort offers exceptional scope to design highly varied and customised events from one convenient location. The rooftop terrace, the exclusive residences, the large Sports Centre, and the host of innovative restaurants and bars are just some of the additional on-site venues available for hosting memorable meetings or incentive events.

DESTINATION

Named 'The Pearl of the Adriatic' by writer George Bernard Shaw, the historic city of Dubrovnik is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most beautiful and famous cities in the world. The city's origins date back to the 7th century but it is best known for its high, sea-facing medieval walls and old town, featuring a mix of Renaissance and Baroque architecture, marble-paved streets and vibrant social scene. Dubrovnik is becoming established as an important destination in Europe, with annual tourist numbers currently estimated at around two million.

Dubrovnik has a long and rich love affair with Hollywood's finest. The 1960's were a golden era for the city with A listed celebrities such as Sophia Loren, Yul Brynner and one of the most celebrated couples of all time Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

When the popular HBO series Game of Thrones rolled into town in 2011 Dubrovnik was suddenly not only in the focus of their cameras but also the cameras of half the world.

One of the most popular serials of all time, certainly put Dubrovnik back on the map for filmmakers and opened a new door for Dubrovnik. The 16th century drama Borgia filmed the third and final season of the series in Dubrovnik and Star Wars VIII used many locations around the historic city core as locations, the Stradun, the main street had a complete makeover and even a ship was used in the filming. And to make a "full house" a Hollywood blockbuster Robin Hood: Origins, starring actors Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton and Jamie Doran was also filmed in the city.

As it has recently become a popular filming destination, Dubrovnik is a favourite holiday spot for an expanding list of wealthy and well known people, including business people such as Roman Abramovich, Bernie Ecclestone and Bill Gates, and Hollywood A-listers, such as Tom Cruise, Morgan Freeman, Gerard Butler, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, John Malkovich (whose family originates in Croatia), Steven Spielberg, Beyoncé and Jay – Z, Jamie Foxx and Bono Vox.

DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

ADRIATIC COAST

The Adriatic is a dramatic and beautiful coastline with small, rocky bays, numerous islands, pretty beaches and clear waters. Its waters offer some of the best sailing in the Mediterranean with 'island to island' sailing, numerous small marinas and consistent winds through the spring and autumn. The eastern Adriatic is also reputed for its diving, with accessible wrecks spanning two millennia and was a favourite destination for marine explorer Jacques Cousteau.

ISLANDS

Just off the Dubrovnik coast lie several beautiful islands including the nature reserve of Lokrum and the three Elaphite Islands, which offer pretty bays for bathing, medieval villages and, on Lopud, a well-regarded contemporary art gallery. Regular boat trips from the city or resort take tourists to visit these islands.

DUBROVNIK REGION

Historical tours of Dubrovnik are a must as are visits to nearby Cavtat, a medieval town in a stunning location 18km from Dubrovnik. Nearby, there is also the pretty coastal village of Trsteno with its historic arboretum, which covers 25 hectares. It was built as a country estate for a local noble family in the late-1400s and became one of the region's most influential cultural centres. Today it is renowned for its diverse botanical collection and Renaissance statuary.

GASTRONOMY

Wines were introduced to the Croatian coast by Greek settlers over 2,000 years ago. The region's vineyards, particularly those of the rural Pelješac Peninsula, provide good local wine, including Plavac and Chardonnay. Tours of vineyards in the Dubrovnik area can easily be arranged at the resort.

EVENTS & CULTURE

Dubrovnik is a lively town year-round with plenty of festivals and cultural events attracting locals and tourists alike - from exhibitions by international and Croatian artists in galleries to theatre and musical performances on the baroque stage of the Marin Držić Theatre or the city's palaces, atriums and fortresses. Be sure to attend one of the concerts of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra or enjoy Linđo folk dance performance, performing throughout the year.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival is the most important date on the cultural calendar of the city. During the 45 days in July and August all of Dubrovnik becomes a big stage for ballet, jazz, folklore, classical and opera concerts and theatre performances. Among the other main events are also Shakespeare's ˝Midsummer Scene˝ and Tino Patierra Opera Festival in June.

The colder weather heralds a string of events including the Dubrovnik Winter Festival, which runs from November and during Christmas week regular festive concerts take place around the city. The most significant date on the city's calendar however, is 3rd February, St Blaise Day, which sees beautiful processions of locals dressed in traditional costume followed almost immediately by Carnival.

Gastronomy is another local attraction. Croatia is renowned for some of the best and freshest seafood in Europe and foodies flock to Ston, 54km from Dubrovnik, to sample the area's famous oysters. The blooming of oyster season coincides with the traditional Feast of St Joseph on March the 19th of each year. The local peppery olive oil and organic agricultural produce is also high regarded and farm tours are popular, especially in autumn around grape and olive harvest times.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

2018

- Best Kids Club - The Family Traveller Awards 2018
- Best Family Hotel (UK & Worldwide), Silver - The Junior Design Awards 2018
- Best Luxury Resort Spa in Croatia - World Luxury Spa Awards 2018
- TripAdvisor 2018 Travellers' Choice Certificate
- Green Key Award (2018 - 2013)

2017

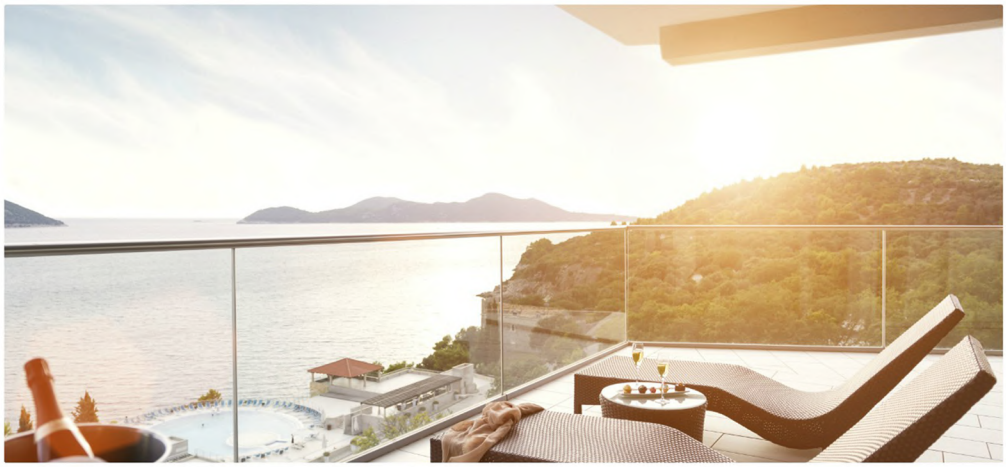
- Best Family Hotel (UK & Worldwide), Silver - The Junior Design Awards 2017
- Best Luxury Resort Spa in Croatia - World Luxury Spa Awards 2017
- Best Luxury Destination Spa (Croatia) - World Luxury Spa Awards 2017
- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® Top 25 Luxury Hotels in Croatia
- Best infrastructure of development, Gold - Homes Overseas Russian Awards
- Best Venue for Car Launch - SEEbtm Awards

2016

- Luxury Spa of the Year - The Luxury Travel Guide Awards
- TripAdvisor 2016 Certificate of Excellence
- Best Family Hotel (Europe), Bronze - The Junior Design Awards 2016
- Best Luxury Resort Spa in Croatia - World Luxury Spa Award 2016

2015 – 2010

- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® Top 25 Luxury Hotels in Croatia (2015, 2014)
- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® Top 25 Hotels in Croatia
- Best Luxury Spa Hotel in Croatia (2015, 2014)
- TripAdvisor 2014 Certificate of Excellence
- Worldwide Superior Award
- Best Luxury Coastal Resort in Europe - World Luxury Hotels Award 2013
- Best Spa Hotel/Resort in Croatia - The Spa Traveller Awards 2013
- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® - Top 5 Luxury Hotels/Resorts in Croatia 2013
- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® - Top 10 Hotels in Croatia 2013
- Expedia's Insider Select - Top Hotels in the World 2013
- Best Developer Europe - Overseas Property Professional (2013 - 2011)
- Best Beach Resort in Europe - World Luxury Hotels Award 2012
- Best Resort in Croatia - International Hotel Awards 2012
- Best International Spa - The Spa Traveller Awards 2012
- Best International Spa - The Spa Traveller Awards 2011
- TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® 2010 - Top 5 Spa Resorts in the World



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