

A TRIP TO OPATIJA

NUŠA CESAR

University of Maribor, University of Maribor, Faculty of Tourism, Brežice, Slovenia.
E-mail: nusa.cesar@student.um.si

Abstract In the assignment we focused on the Croatian destination Opatija. We visited Opatija at the end of September and the trip was wonderful. We would like to show you the journey through our eyes, and also stimulate your interest in visiting this destination. If you want a break from reality and do not want to drive too far, Opatija is the right destination for you. If you like to go for a walk, enjoy the environment of pampering, you will get everything in one place. It may seem like a more expensive destination at first sight, but we will show you tricks on how you can afford Opatija at a very low price and enjoy the luxury. We hope this destination will pique your interest and make it into your wish list to visit.

Keywords:

Opatija,
Croatia,
hotel,
trip,
travel
writing.



University of Maribor Press

DOI <https://doi.org/10.18690/978-961-286-393-7.3>
ISBN 978-961-286-393-7

Introduction

The object of our research is to present a destination. Why we visited it, whether we liked it or not, and if we would recommend it to others.

The subject of our research is the Croatian city Opatija, and we know it also as Croatian Nice, because it is so prestigious like Nice in France. So, if you do not want to spend that much money and Nice is too far away from you, Opatija is a good choice for you.

Opatija is a city that definitely deserves the name Queen of the Adriatic. Many guests fall in love with it every day, as it offers a lot of beauty, relaxed moments and fun. Opatija lies at the foot of the Učka Plateau, and is a good 30 minutes from the Slovenian-Croatian border. The city is not only worth a visit during the summer months, but you will also enjoy the cold winter months (Nadlani.si, 16. 07. 2018).

We will give our opinion of whether we were excited about the trip or whether we would recommend it. We booked the trip through Ena na dan, which is a great site where you can get more affordable trips. It is worth mentioning that, although we paid less for the trip, the staff would not have treated us differently, less kindly or otherwise, and we were given an extra room with a balcony which was not included in the offer.

Opatija

We chose a three-day trip to Opatija as the subject of the research.

Opatija is a charming seaside town with a rich history and culture, making it an oasis of many beautiful sites, monuments and idyllic villas. It is also often called the Adriatic Nice, as it is a city that is breathtaking with tourism. This is where Croatian tourism was actually born. In 1844, the Kvarner Hotel was built, which is considered to be the originator of the tourist tradition in this city. As early as 1900, the tourist reputation of Opatija reached far beyond Europe. The first tourist wave took place between 1890 and 1914, after which it was interrupted by the First World War. Opatija has also hosted many princes and kings, and is, nowadays, a popular

destination for businessmen and celebrities alike. Opatija offers many reputed and first-class hotels, beautiful parks, numerous Wellness Centres and friendly staff who will pamper you with gourmet treats and excellent wine (Nadlani.si, 16. 07. 2018).

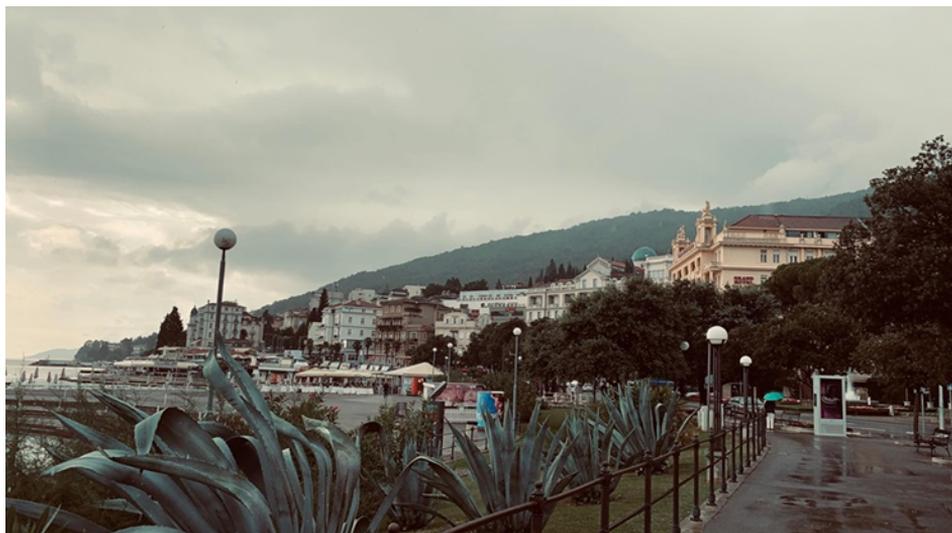


Figure 1: Opatija

Source: Cesar, January 2020.

Course of the journey

We went on a three-day trip from Maribor to Opatija. We travelled by car, and the journey took a good 3 hours, with two stops. We did not organise the trip by ourselves, but we did book online through the website Ena na dan, where you buy a coupon and then make an agreement with the agency by e-mail on which term is right for you. We chose the last weekend in September from Saturday through Monday. We have to mention that the trip was very favourable, because of the offers we received. We stayed at the Grand Hotel Palace 4 *, which was simply wonderful. The interior of the hotel is simply beautiful. Breakfast, dinner and the use of Wellness and Fitness were included in this offer. Breakfast and dinner were self-service, but there were so many options. For lunch, however, we visited pubs in the city that we had learned about previously. One day we got pasta, and the next day

pizza. In the evening, however, we took a look at the city as we enjoyed the pool at the hotel during the day. The place is beautiful and offers a lot of sights.



Figure 2: Grand Hotel Palace

Source: Cesar, January 2020.



Figure 3: Grand Hotel Palace

Source: Cesar, January 2020.

One of the main sights worth seeing is the Lungo Mare, a 12 km long promenade between Voloski, Opatija, Ičići, Iko and Lovran from 1885, and finally built in 1991. History became an integral part of Opatija. Manufactory, a shop in the centre of Opatija where you can buy all the local souvenirs, marmalades, drinks. Vinoteque Barolo, a Wine shop where you can find top quality wines from local producers. Slatina beach, the most famous beach in Opatija, is located next to the famous street, and offers all the activities and amenities to tourists. Casino Rosalia, with its state-of-the-art slot machines, gives the casino a breath of fun for all. The girl with the

seagull, the statue is the work of the sculptor Zvonko Car from 1956, and is today a recognisable symbol of Opatija (Wikipotnik, b. d.).

Conclusion

The three days passed too quickly, but it was a wonderful trip that will remain in our memory. A short break from reality. We have to mention that Opatija is a wonderful place in Croatia, which we would recommend everyone to see. Even though we were there only three days, we thought that was enough, as we were there at a time when the sea was cooling and, unfortunately, no longer suitable for swimming, and we saw everything we wanted to in these three days. We think three days is enough for this destination. Our trip is suitable for couples, friends and families. The advantage of Opatija is that it is not far from Slovenia, so it is suitable for a short weekend break from everything, to clear thoughts and to restore the motivation to work. We can only say good things, how friendly the staff were, the wonderful room, the pool, not to mention the variety of food. As far as the price goes, you would classify the trip to the middle rank, and breakfast and dinner are included, so it is up to you how much you want to spend on it. If you are looking for a location for a quick break, we definitely recommend Opatija, which will not disappoint you.

References

Na dlani.si. *Opatija*. Retrieved from <https://www.nadlani.si/potovanja/opatija/>, January 16, 2020.
Wiki potopnik.si *Opatija*. Retrieved from <https://wiki.potnik.si/Opatija#Potopisi>, January 17, 2020.

