



LUČKA UPRAVA RIJEKA
PORT OF RIJEKA AUTHORITY

NEW PONTOONS WITH 9M DRAFT FOR BERTHING CRUISE SHIPS

October 29, 2019, Rijeka Breakwater, 11:00

PRESS RELEASE

On Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 11:00, the Port of Rijeka Authority held a press conference at the Rijeka breakwater on the occasion of berthing the cruise ship at the newly constructed pontoons in the Rijeka port. Two new pontoons measuring approximately 9 meters x 6.5 meters, are located along the Rijeka breakwater, allowing the reception of cruise ships and merchant ships in the Rijeka Basin up to 295 meters in length and 9 meters in draft.

So far, cruise liners who were deeper than 7 meters in draft have moored at the container terminal Brajdica. This investment increased the capacity of the Rijeka port in the Rijeka Basin and provided the conditions for mooring larger cruise ships and larger merchant ships closer to Passenger Terminal and centre of the city of Rijeka.

The Port of Rijeka Authority started the procurement of new equipment in the middle of this year. The total value of the investment amounts to HRK 1,944,092.75 (HRK 1,555,275.20 + VAT), financed by the funds of the Port of Rijeka Authority, and the contract for the purchase and delivery of the pontoon was signed with the shipyard Dalmont d.o.o.

The new pontoons are prepared for the upcoming cruising season of 2020, which is expected to double the number of cruise ships in Rijeka according to current announcements. In the cruising season of 2020, the Port of Rijeka Authority expects 41 cruise ships with the expected 74,000 passengers and 30,600 crew members in the period since May to the end of October. This means that twice as many cruise ships and twice as many passengers and crew (105,600 people) will visit Rijeka next year than this year. The data is not final because the announcements for next season are still in progress and the final number of berthings may be even higher after the announcement is concluded.

Since the arrival in Rijeka has announced twice the number of cruise ships, it can be concluded that the new pontoons provide the much needed additional capacity for the upcoming cruising season in 2020.

For comparison, in 2018, 11 ships with 10,913 passengers and 5,650 crew members sailed to the port of Rijeka. A total of 24 cruise ships with 41,200 passengers and 16,800 crew will visit Rijeka this year.



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So far, 23 ships have sailed, and the season ends next month (10/11/2019) with the arrival of Celebrity Constellation.

The City of Rijeka, the Rijeka Tourist Board, the Kvarner Tourist Board and the Port of Rijeka Authority have been jointly pursuing a number of activities for the development of Rijeka into a recognizable cruise destination in Kvarner for several years. Next year, Rijeka is the European Capital of Culture, which represents an excellent opportunity for the wide promotion and positioning of Rijeka in a recognizable tourist cruise destination in Kvarner. Cruise tourism is a driver for the development of numerous service industries and a source of income for the private and public sectors, from ports and cities to cruise companies, tour operators, maritime and tourism agencies, so its effects on the economy are of great local, regional and national importance. The project being presented today is a direct support to the development of Rijeka as a cruise destination and an important step in the effort to retain the existing cruise line who have already included the Rijeka port in their cruise itineraries in the coming season and to attract additional new lines visiting the port in the coming years.

At the press conference, a new investment and announcement of cruise ship arrivals in 2020 and 2021 were presented by Denis Vukorepa, Executive director of the Port of Rijeka Authority, Petar Škarpa director of the Rijeka Tourist Board and Ivan Ivić, Chairman of the Board of the Dalmont Shipyard Ltd.