

A man and a woman are seated at a round table on a rooftop terrace, dining and talking. The terrace has a glass railing and overlooks a vast blue sea under a sky with scattered white clouds. The woman is wearing a white short-sleeved top and grey trousers, while the man is in a black and white striped polo shirt and white shorts. The terrace is furnished with black metal chairs and tables, some with blue and white patterned cushions. The scene is framed by the concrete overhangs of a building.

WELCOME TO PULA
AN ISTRIAN DREAM



Photo:
Jason Alden



Photo: dudlajzov

Nestled in the valley of seven hills, brushed by the azure of the Adriatic, you'll find the Croatian city of Pula. Positioned at the tip of the country's heart-shaped peninsula, the surrounding area, Istria, offers a backdrop of rolling hills, golden sands and historic Roman villages. You'll find Pula to be a cultural hub that satiates the senses, whether you're craving delicious local food, flowing wine, rich history or captivating sights. Here, we'll help you explore Pula and the Istrian region in elegant and beautiful detail.

A FUSION OF CULTURE, HISTORY AND GASTRONOMY

Situated in the north of Croatia, Pula's proximity to Italy can be felt in every corner of the city. From remnants of the Roman Empire to the local fanaticism for food, here you'll find a fusion of culture, antiquity and gastronomy that's hard to replicate. The commanding sight of the city's Roman amphitheatre is a stark reminder of the rich history of this diverse town. While fertile local farmland combined with clear Adriatic waters, means your visit will be one that satisfies more than just your hunger for travel.

The coastal city is the ideal spot for a romantic getaway, offering a palate of golden sands, crystalline blue sea and lush greenery coalescing in captivating sunset views. Whether you're enjoying a meal for two overlooking the beach, an afternoon exploring ancient cobblestone streets or travelling to the local medieval villages that adorn the surrounding hilltops, Istria is a region renowned for its beauty.

Unspoilt beaches are ideal for evening strolls in the sun, while the local tavernas are the best spots to sample fine Istrian wine. For those seeking some retail therapy, you'll find a mix of provincial markets and high-end fashion retailers. If a week of relaxation is more your thing, a trip to Gemma di Brioni (Grand Hotel Brioni Pula's on-

site spa and wellness centre) gives guests the opportunity to enjoy traditional wellness treatments or even a relaxing midday dip in the hotel's infinity pool.

Istria has been described as the Croatian sister to Tuscany, and it's easy to see why. The region is a wealth of natural beauty, outstanding local produce and a relaxed way of living. If you're looking for something a little more untouched than the winding streets of Pula, why not take a day's visit to Brijuni National Park, where you'll find more Roman ruins, breathtaking scenery and unspoilt wildlife roaming the island.

Whatever your idea of the perfect holiday, you'll find Pula an obliging host. Here, we aim to take you through the many sights, sounds, tastes and colours of Istria's crowning jewel. Read on to find out how to make your visit to Pula, a trip to remember.



THE ALLURE OF THE ADRIATIC

Some come for the charming ruins, some for the delectable seafood and some for the joy of discovering a new part of the world, but almost everyone comes to Pula with an eye for the Adriatic.

With its sparkling blue waters of astounding clarity and beautiful, welcoming beaches, Pula has attracted sunbathers, water sports enthusiasts and walkers from all over Europe, many of whom are tempted back time and time again.

The beaches

Our own exquisite Brioni Beach is, of course, a favourite among our guests, not solely for its proximity but also for its cleanliness and facilities. Visitors can hire anything from sun loungers and umbrellas to jet-skis, with a wide range of water sports available. After a spot of parasailing or boat ride, we recommend trying your hand at sea trekking and explore the nearby shipwrecks before relaxing at the restaurant, coffee bar or snack stand.

Aptly named, Hawaii Beach (also known as Havajsko) is a must-see for any beach lover. Crystal clear blue-green waters lap against the white pebbles of the shore, making this spot ideal for fun-loving families and daring cliff-jumpers alike. Lifeguards are on hand to ensure everyone's safety, and while there are no restaurants or facilities at the beach itself, Pula's aquarium is within walking distance – perfect for a cooling interlude, if you'd like to miss the midday sun.

The waves can be challenging, but the water is a sumptuous ombré of green and blue.

For adventure-seekers and wave-catchers, Lighthouse Beach is the perfect spot for scrambling over rocks, diving, jumping and swimming. Named after the nearby lighthouse, built in 1877, this beach is popular among the young and the intrepid. The waves can be challenging, but the water is a sumptuous ombré of green and blue, with plenty of flat rocks for sunbathing and a restaurant above, from which you can enjoy an unparalleled view. There is also a tiny reef about 30 metres from the shore. You may have to wait to squeeze in and explore, but it's well worth it.



Photo: mmphoto

The sea

What better way to get acquainted with the Adriatic than by boat? There are plenty of reputable and highly recommended companies in Pula that offer boat rental, dolphin-spotting excursions, private tours and fishing trips. There are even glass boat tours, which offer an opportunity to view the hidden depths and treasures of the sea without getting wet.

Whether you're a seasoned sailor or just prefer a leisurely skim through the crystal blue waters, our team will be glad to talk you through our tried and tested selection of providers to find the perfect option for you.



Photo: Jason Alden



Photo: Barabas Balog

EXPLORE THE LOCAL CUISINE

The culinary landscape of Pula reflects its enviable location on Croatia's Adriatic coast, looking out towards its neighbour: the Veneto region of Italy. Once known as Polensium, Pula was an imperial city, and it was centuries ago that the Roman and Italian influence on its cuisine was cemented for good.

Today, Pula retains the very best of Italian inspiration, favouring good olive oil and fine wine, its own take on pasta, pizza and risotto, fresh seafood and wonderful cheese. While Croatian dishes are always popular in the city's restaurants, there is a nod to Pula's Roman roots, which makes for an endlessly intriguing food scene to explore.



Photo: Jason Alden

Exquisite wines

Pula sits on the peninsula of Istria and just happens to be one of the wine world's best kept secrets. The first grapes were brought to Istria by the Greeks during the 6th Century BC, making it one of Europe's oldest winemaking regions. Istria's terroir is so ideal for producing red wine that it is often compared to Bordeaux, yielding wines that are full-bodied, rich in flavour and glorious in colour.

Istria's under-the-radar status means that there are wonderful discoveries to be made, and oenophiles and casual tasters alike will enjoy the range of wineries that are open to tour, many of which are family owned, with a history as rich as their produce.

Looking to sample some of the region's best wines? Look out for Teran wines if you've got a taste for reds and Malvazija if you prefer white. Our favourite has to be Punta Greca, originating from the Southern Istrian region. Head to Vina Benazic to sample some true local treats.



Photo: Barabas Balog

Fresh seafood

Pula has a strong local fishing community whose traditions date back centuries. Sustainability is more than a buzzword here - spearfishing is still favoured among the community, and restaurant owners are often found slinging nets in the morning and cooking their catch in the evening.

Along with fish and seafood caught in the Adriatic, Pula is famed for its delectable mussels and oysters, grown and harvested in the Limski canal. Boat trips are a great way to explore the region, stopping off at one of the local huts or restaurants to sample the catch of the day, just steps away from its home.

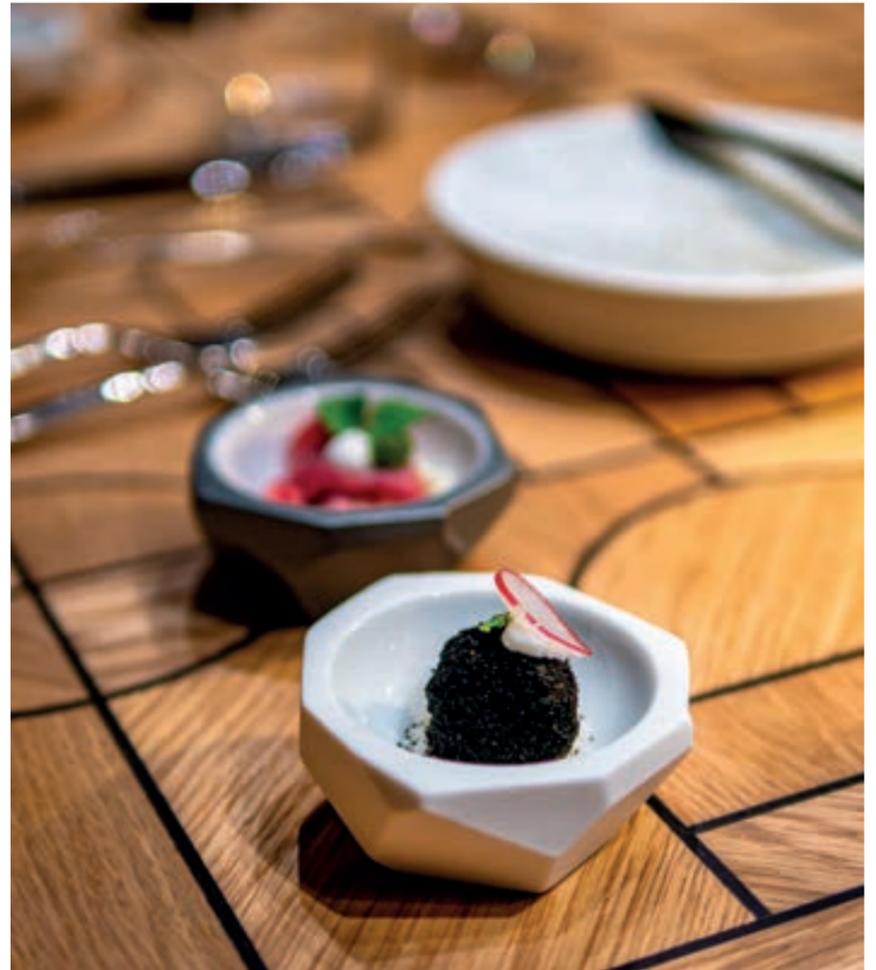


Photo: Barabas Balog

Delicious, local truffles

Those with a nose for truffles are spoiled for choice on the peninsula. Istria's profusion of truffles - both the coveted "black diamonds" and the more premium (and pungent) white variety - has always been a well-kept secret from the international food world. Pula's restaurants relish the opportunity to share this bounty with travellers, be it in traditional pastas, soups and seafood, or our favourite truffle-infused ice cream.

We hope we've managed to whet your appetite for the cuisine and culinary culture of Pula. You can sample many of the local dishes and delicacies at our very own restaurants, Sophia, Brioni Forum or Brioni Lungo Mare.

If you've got a taste for Istrian truffles, there are numerous tours offering the chance to hunt for your very own black diamonds. Speak to your concierge to find out more.

If you're looking to explore the local cuisine, your concierge is happy to help with recommendations and reservations.



Photo: boesijana

STEP BACK IN TIME AT PULA ARENA

At over 2,000 years old, Pula Arena is a commanding and impressive sight to behold when entering the ancient city. The Roman amphitheatre is among the six largest surviving arenas of its kind and the only one in the world with all four side towers still preserved. Located on the Northern edge of the city, Pula Arena was the site of brutal gladiatorial battles, animal hunts and public executions. Today, you can tour the ancient hunting ground and walk in the footsteps of those accursed men and women of the Roman Empire.

Pula Arena was constructed in the 1st Century AD, under the reign of Emperor Vespasian. Originally built from timber, the structure was updated with limestone during the reign of Emperor Claudius. In 1789 stones used in the original formation of the amphitheatre were transported to and used to build the foundations of Pula Cathedral.

Visiting here is like stepping back in time as you explore the area where gladiators waiting to fight would be held prior to combat.

When exploring the historic site, you'll be able to visit the Istrian Olive and Viticulture exhibition located beneath the arena. Visiting here is like stepping back in time as you explore the area where gladiators waiting to fight would be held prior to combat. The museum showcases more than just the arena's gruesome history, offering exhibitions on ancient tools used in the production of the oil and wine Istria is so well known for.

With a capacity of around 7,000, Pula Arena is today used as a venue to host concerts, film festivals and other events. It's seen performances by legendary musicians like Elton John and the Foo Fighters, adding even more majesty to the ancient, hallowed grounds. Every summer, locals and tourists will converge on the arena to watch and partake in recreational gladiatorial tournaments much like the residents of a bygone era.

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Pula Arena holds a special place in Croatian culture and even appears on the 10 Kuna banknote, a reminder of the country's rich and diverse history.



Photo: Simon Hermans

If you'd like help planning your visit to Pula Arena, speak to your concierge for more information.



Photo: Nick Kane

PULA'S ROMAN REMAINS

You don't have to look far to see that Pula is a city steeped in history. Ancient monuments to the past cast shadows across the city's skyline. Around every corner, remnants of history dating back thousands of years are waiting to be discovered. In fact, Pula's history is so rich and diverse that a day spent exploring its cobble streets still won't uncover all its secrets. Here are some of the best places to visit if you're looking to take a trip through time and unearth the hidden past of Pula's Roman rule.

Roman Gates

Due to Pula's position as an important port town, it was protected by a series of walls and gates. Much of these were demolished at the start of the 19th Century and today only a few gates remain. These are the Twin Gates and the Golden Gate.

The Twin Gates, which lead to the Archaeological Museum of Istria, were built during the late 2nd Century on the remains of an earlier gate. The Golden Gates, also known as the Triumphal Arch of The Sergii, have a far more exciting history. After helping to win the Battle of Actium in 31 BC, the Sergii family built the arch in celebration. This remains the main gateway into Pula's historic centre, remaining intact for more than 2,000 years.

Temple of Augustus

Dedicated to the goddess Roma and the first Roman Emperor, Augustus, The Temple of Augustus is one of Pula's most beloved historical landmarks. Believed to have been built between 27 BC and 12 AD, the temple sits in the city's main square and now operates as a lapidarium displaying historic artifacts and ancient archaeological finds. Here, you'll be able to find stone ornaments, bronze sculptures and tombstones from a bygone era. During the Second World War, the area sustained bomb damage but was reconstructed by Italian archaeologists between 1945 to 1947.



Photo: Xbrchx

Roman Theatre

Constructed in the 1st Century, the Roman Theatre of Pula once held around 5,000 spectators which at the time was the entire population of Pula. As the theatre fell into disrepair, for many years only the foundations of the stage and part of the viewing area remained well-preserved. Recently, however, the theatre was restored making it fit to host activities once more. Today, the theatre plays host to an array of cultural activities and events, offering a suitable venue for the most dramatic of performances. If looking for a true feeling of history, the Roman Theatre is well worth a visit and a hidden gem among a city brimming with ancient sites. The location of the theatre also means it offers exceptional views of the city too, making it an ideal spot for those seeking that perfect holiday snap.



Photo: Vladimir Shtuka

The Historical Museum of Istria

If you're still looking for your fill of culture, take a trip towards The Historical Museum of Istria. Since 1961, the museum has been housed in a castle, once an old Baroque Venetian fortress built in the 1600s. Sitting atop the tallest hill in Pula, The Historical Museum of Istria is a commanding sight to behold. It specialises in three key departments: prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods. Here, you can find out about the rich history of Pula and the wider Istrian region.

Pula Cathedral

Built in the 6th Century AD, Pula Cathedral sits on the South side of Pula Bay and is one of the city's most important religious and cultural landmarks. Once beautifully adorned with murals and mosaics, the cathedral was the subject of bomb damage during the Second World War. Major structural damage was sustained, meaning little of the original Roman architecture remains.



Photo: Matej Rukavina

EXPERIENCE THE EXTRAORDINARY AT BRIJUNI NATIONAL PARK

As you relax and unwind in the comfort of the Grand Hotel Brioni Pula, you may be surprised to learn that just a few miles away lies an exquisite national park: the Brijuni Islands. Perfectly placed in the south of the Istrian peninsula, Brijuni National Park is an area of astonishing natural beauty and history, filled with ancient ruins, a safari park, dinosaur footprints and more.

A day trip to Brijuni National Park is easy and enjoyable, whether you're interested in the nourishing calm of its natural beauty, or the joy and wonder of meeting an Indian elephant.

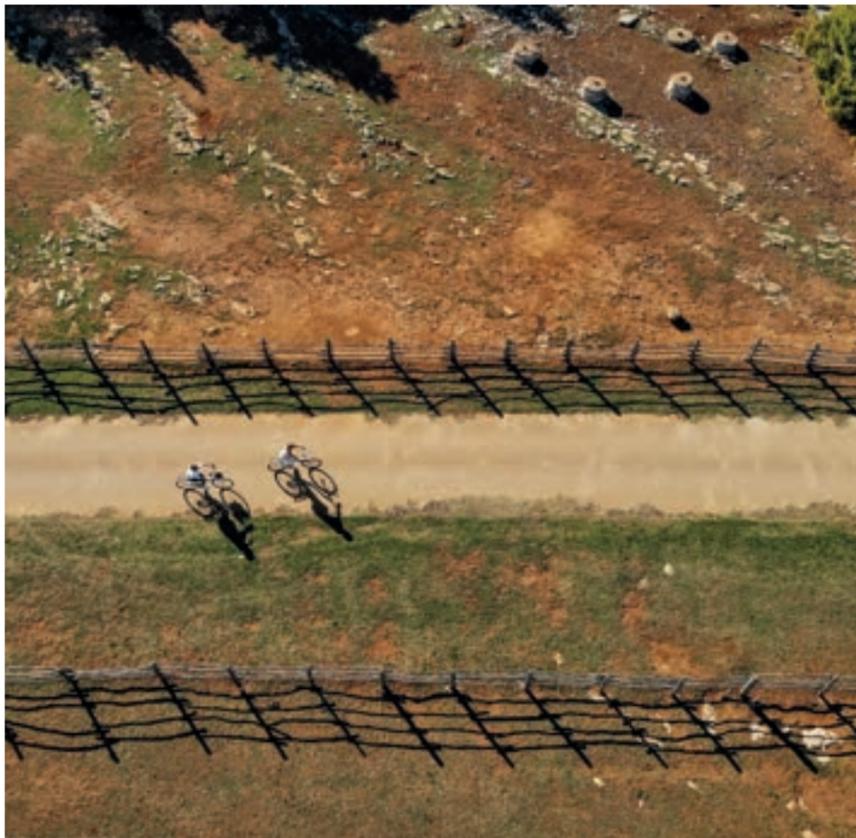


Photo: Matej Rukavina

A little background

While the presence of dinosaur footprints in the Brijuni Islands tells us much about its history, human interest in the region started – as so much in Pula did – with the Romans. Quick to notice its pleasant climate and picturesque landscapes, the Romans made the islands a favourite summer getaway spot and built beautiful villas that can be seen to this day.

After the fall of the Roman Empire, the islands fell into the hands of various rulers and, in the 20th Century, played host to a premium health resort for wealthy Austrians, before being annexed to Italy after the First World War.

After the Second World War, the islands became part of Yugoslavia and the private summer residence of President Tito. Closed to the public, they were visited by almost one hundred heads of state – as well film stars such as Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and Sophia Loren – before being given National Park status after President Tito's death in 1980. The islands remained part of Croatia when it declared independence in 1991.

Explore and enjoy

At Brijuni National Park, there is something to enchant every kind of traveller. History buffs will revel in the ruins, animal lovers will be captivated by the safari and admirers of the natural world in general will enjoy every corner of this beautiful and varied landscape.

At Brijuni National Park, there is something to enchant every kind of traveller

Safari

The safari park hosts a wide (and rather peculiar) range of animals, many of which were gifts to President Tito. Here you'll find native Istrian animals alongside South American, African and Asian ones, including beloved Indian elephant Lanka (gifted by Indira Ghandi), llamas and South American camels, alongside zebras, sacred cows and some very curious ostriches.



Photo: Matej Rukavina

Historical interest

There are many beautiful and fascinating ruins on the islands. Visitors can travel through time, exploring a Byzantine castrum, a luxurious Roman villa rustica, and the three-nave St Mary's Basilica.

For those with an interest in times even further behind us, there are geopaleontological sites, where more than 200 dinosaur footprints have been discovered. There is even a scientific and artistic sculpture of one of the colossal predatory carnivores that roamed these lands, to give a sense of their enormity and impact on the landscape.

Home to 169 different native and exotic plant species, the garden is a treasure trove of flora

Natural beauty

Alongside the beaches and bays of the islands, which are perfect for a little waterside interlude during your day trip, you'll also find the stunning Brijuni Mediterranean Garden. Home to 169 different native and exotic plant species, the garden is a treasure trove of flora, all labelled with QR codes to give visitors detailed information on any species that catches the eye. A visit must also be paid to the national park's most honoured resident: a 1,600-year-old olive tree.



Photo: Jason Alden

PULA'S TOP SHOPPING DESTINATIONS

In need of a little retail therapy? Whether you're looking for authentic Istrian produce or luxury designers you can't find at home, Pula has some great shopping hotspots to keep you occupied. Browse the stores of the fabled Pula Market where you'll find the locals enthusiastically offering a taste of their food. Discover one-of-a-kind handmade jewellery from the boutique stores in the city centre. Or even try on gowns made of the finest fabrics Croatia has to offer. Whatever takes your fancy, Pula has it waiting for you. Here are some of our favourite shopping destinations to explore.

Pula Market

A good local market should be the beating heart of any city, and this is certainly the case for Pula. Pula Market offers the charm, quality and authenticity you'd expect from a region like Istria. Here you'll find a provincial market bustling with locals trying to get their hands on the best produce the region has to offer. Find everything from freshly picked fruit and vegetables, locally reared meat, fish caught earlier that day as well as plenty of other Istrian specialities like olive oils, truffles and more.

Set in a historic building in the centre of town, Pula Market offers a welcoming atmosphere where traders enjoy sharing the fruits of their labour with regulars and first-time visitors alike. Find baked goods, flowers and souvenirs all from local traders. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for stalls selling fritule, a well-loved Croatian dessert, ideal for those with a sweet tooth.

Pula City Centre

Pula City Centre cannot be overlooked as a top shopping destination. The area offers a huge variety of shops to cater for any taste. Whether you're looking for a souvenir, fine art, jewellery or local crafts, you'll find it here. Head to the streets of Giardini, Kandlerova, and Flanatička to start your excursion. Here you'll find gifts, souvenirs and authentic Croatian jewellers alongside household brands like Nike.

If you'd rather a more luxury shopping experience, Croatian brands like Varteks or Kerver will be more your stead. A long history of elegant design using the finest materials makes these stores stand out from the crowd.

While exploring the winding streets of Pula, you'll encounter an abundance of art galleries and studios, many of which offer traditional handcrafted items, including paintings, jewellery and sculptures. If you're seeking a true taste of Istria, don't forget to make your way to the many local stores selling provincial wine, olive oil, honey and truffles.

Pula City Centre offers true variety to your shopping experience, with plenty of small independent stores, bookshops, chocolatiers and art studios alongside household names and luxury designers. Look hard enough and you'll even be able to find spots that allow you to create your own art to take home. Visit studios, learn the design process, and try your hand at some local specialities.



Photo: Xbrchx

Max City, Stoja

The biggest shopping centre in Istria can be found in the Pula neighbourhood of Stoja. Here you'll find over 65 stores aimed at a wide range of clientele. Find everything from international favourites like Mango, L'Occitane and Stradivarius to Croatian household brands. Find everything from fashion, health & beauty, homeware and more here. The centre also plays host to a cinema and impressive food court too.

Verudela Shopping Avenue

Set on the beautiful Verudela Peninsula, close to Grand Hotel Brioni Pula, Verudela Shopping Avenue boasts a variety of stores each with something unique to offer. Whether you're looking for clothing, accessories, sports equipment or local produce, you can find it here. The avenue also has a pharmacy, convenience store, car rental and tourism agency.

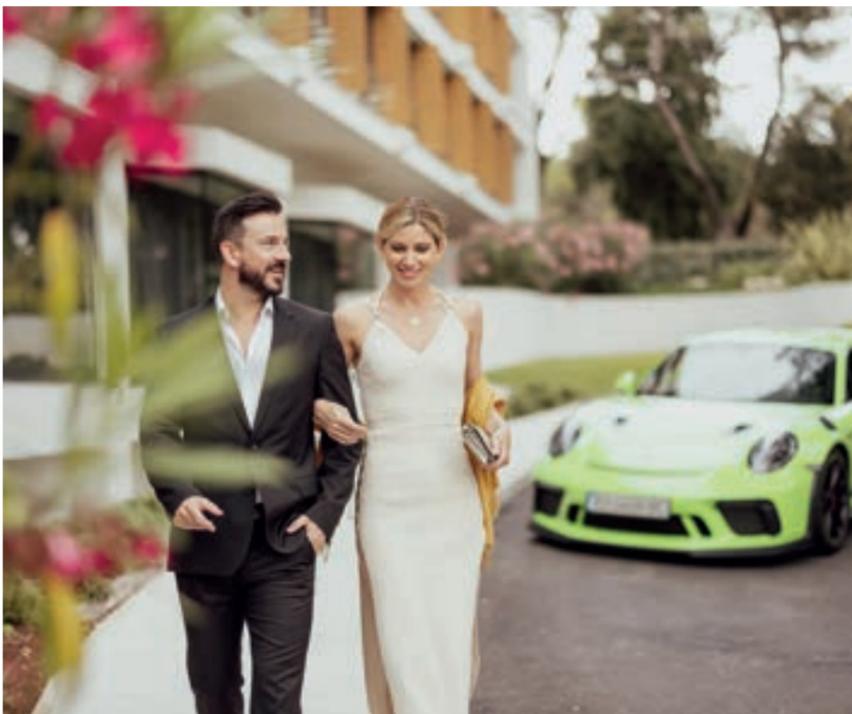


Photo: Jason Alden

Looking for something in particular? Speak to your concierge for recommendations on the best spots to visit for your needs.



Photo: Matthew Shaw

GEMMA DI BRIONI SPA & WELLNESS CENTRE

Inspired by historic wellness practices, the on-site Gemma di Brioni Spa & Wellness Centre will ensure you feel truly relaxed and rejuvenated. Featuring indoor pool, whirlpool, three saunas, seven treatment rooms and gym with state-of-the-art equipment, you'll be forgiven for never wanting to leave.

Whether you're looking to indulge yourself in a massage, or a dip in our freshwater jacuzzi, a pampering facial treatment or serene swim in our 60m long infinity pool, it's all here waiting for you.

Revitalise your mind and body

Rebalance your energy and escape the stresses of everyday life with the Gemma di Brioni Spa & Wellness Centre. Our experienced team will work with you to determine the best services and treatment options for you. Immerse yourself in our tranquil environment and leave feeling like a new person.

Precious stone skincare treatment with Gemology

Gemology is an internationally recognised brand that offers a unique type of skincare treatment. Using trace elements and grinds extracted from precious stones, Gemology offers luxury skincare products with scientifically proven results. Made in France by Chrystelle Lannoy, you'll find a range of face and body treatment options at the Gemma di Brioni Spa & Wellness Centre. With a range of products from 20 different gemstones, there's a treatment option for all skin types.

Immerse yourself in our tranquil environment and leave feeling like a new person

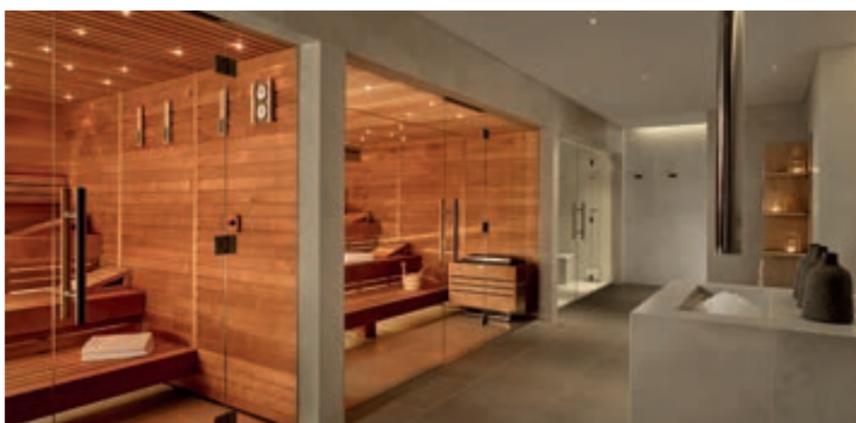


Photo: Matthew Shaw

The power of the ocean in the comfort of a spa, with THALGO

With over 50 years of marine intelligence, THALGO explores the oceans in search of active molecules to use in their treatments. With powerful benefits, THALGO delivers marine energy through cosmetics and treatments to refresh the mind and body.

Helping you to have a relaxing break

Sometimes, it can be difficult to know which treatment option is best for you. This is especially true if you're unaware of the full treatment options provided by a spa or wellness centre. Our on-site experts are happy to take the time needed to discuss what you'd like to get out of your visit and how they can help you to feel as relaxed as possible.

Here are some of the treatments available to you:

- Gemology face and skin care treatments
- THALGO face and skin care treatments
- IBeauty skin and anti-ageing treatment
- Gemology body care and skin rituals
- Men's face and body treatments
- Relaxing single or couples massages
- Crystal, milk or extract baths
- Manicure and pedicures
- Depilation by Perron Rigot
- Sauna, steam room, and multi-sensory water experience



Photo: Den Belitsky

WHAT TO DO WHEN VISITING PULA

You'll never be stuck for things to do when you're visiting Pula. If you're not sunbathing on the beach, exploring the historic city, or indulging in the local cuisine, you may want to see what else Istria has to offer. Well, look no further, we've curated some of the most intriguing and exciting activities to enjoy on the heart shaped peninsula.

Catch a show in Pula's historic arena

The historic Pula Arena isn't just somewhere to visit if you want to explore the secrets of the city's past, it's also one of Istria's best spots to catch a show. Be it a film festival, theatre production, electronic music festival or gig, there's a real variety of events happening in the city's most beloved landmark. There are few venues as iconic and atmospheric as Pula's Roman amphitheatre.

Discover the wonders of the Adriatic at Pula Aquarium

Set in a 130-year-old military fortress, Pula Aquarium offers a unique visitor experience. What may initially feel like a bizarre place for an aquarium, soon takes on a deeper meaning. Pula Aquarium offers more than just an insight into the wonders of the Adriatic's marine life. It's also a haven for sea turtles. What was once a building designed to protect its occupants and fortify the shores of Istria, now houses the area's most important sea turtle sanctuary. When you visit Pula, take a trip to the aquarium, explore the wonders of the Adriatic and gaze upon the sea turtles that have been given a second chance.



Photo: Phant

Raise a drink to James Joyce

Irish novelist and poet, James Joyce, famously lived in Pula in 1904 after having set off for Zurich with his beloved but landing a job in the Croatian city teaching English to naval officers. Today, you'll find a marble plaque sitting pride of place on the building where he attended work in his brief but unhappy time here.

Joyce was not full of praise for Pula. The work was long hours, his pay was low, and he struggled through the winter with little to show for his efforts. This feeling was made even worse by the fact that he wasn't intending to settle in the Croatian city. In fact, he had been sent from city to city in search of an elusive job opening. We won't judge James Joyce for not seeing the beauty of Croatia given the circumstances. Today, you can join the poet for a drink and raise a glass to his fruitless time here. His statue sits outside a lively local café, aptly named Ulliks – a translation of Ulysses.

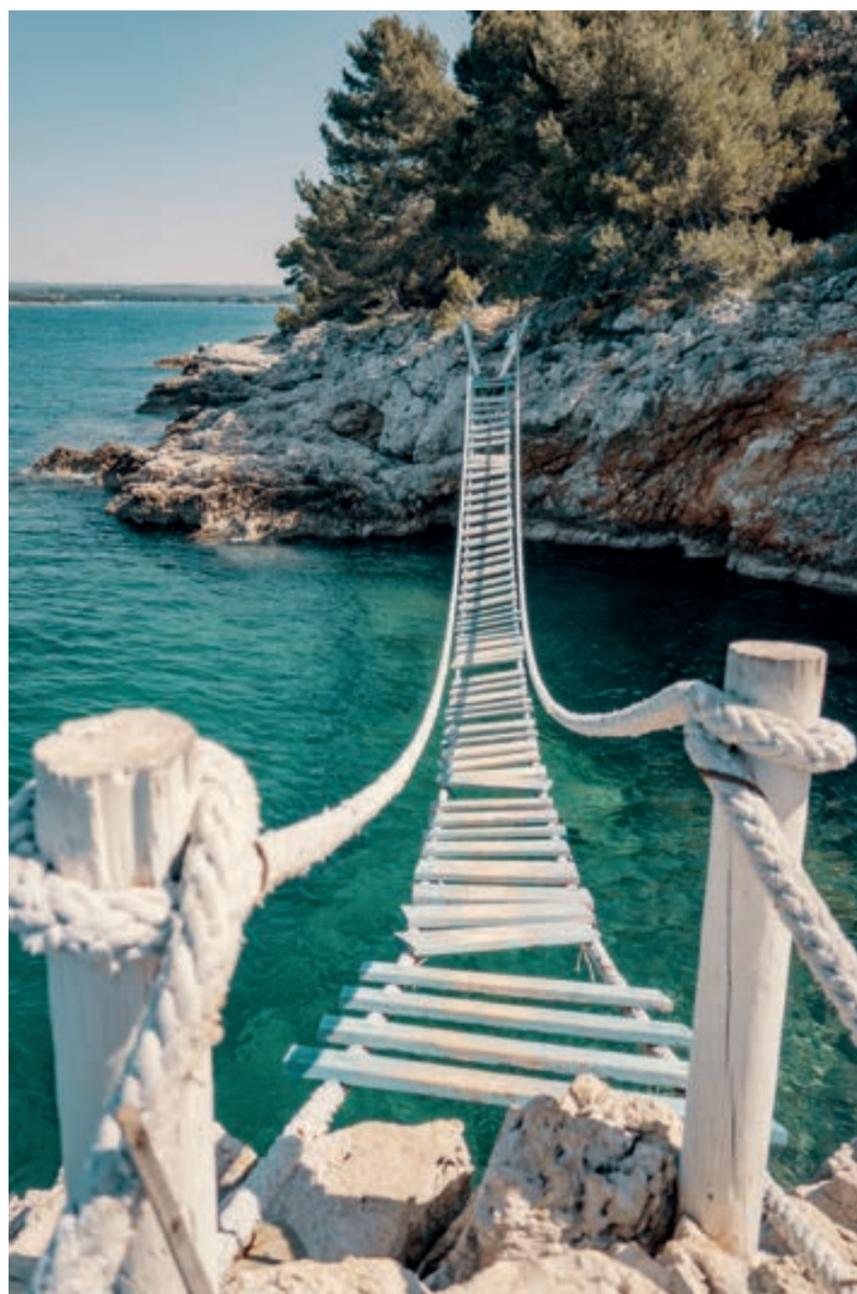


Photo: Wit

Traverse rugged coastline and crystal waters at Cape Kamenjak

Sitting to the south of Pula, on the Istrian tip, Cape Kamenjak offers beautiful views and rugged shoreline ideal to explore in the sun. Dip your toes in the sea or traverse the many coves, caves and hidden spots waiting to be discovered. Sit back and watch wildlife come and go around you or catch a drink at the nearby bar. Cape Kamenjak is the ideal place to visit if you want to escape the city and disappear from civilisation for a few hours.

Explore subterranean tunnels

As you walk the streets of Pula, it's apparent there's a deep history to be found here. However, the ancient sights and structures aren't the only intriguing aspect to the city's design. Below the cobblestones, beneath your feet, there's an entire city of subterranean tunnels. Built during WWI, Zerostrasse is a tunnel system that was initially used to provide shelter from bombings and store munitions. Today, the structure is used for exhibitions, concerts and curious tourists. Explore the city below and learn about its rich and chequered history.

Visit a winery or attend a Pula wine tour

Bordeaux, Chianti, Rioja... and Istria? You'll be forgiven for never hearing of Istrian wine before. It's not a region which is commonly discussed when wine connoisseurs pontificate over their preferred regions. Having said that, Istrian wine is up there with some of the best in the world. The majority of the wine is consumed domestically, meaning it's fairly rare to find on the wine list at your local restaurant.

Don't take our word for it either. There are a variety of wineries that are open to the public for visits and wine tasting. Some of our favourites include Vina Benazić, a family-owned winery that offers tastings and workshops, and Medea Winery, found in the small town of Vodnjan. You can either visit these wineries yourself or attend a tour that will transport you to a few of the best spots in the area.

A beachfront restaurant ideal for relaxed evenings

Dine on the seafront with exquisite views of the Adriatic and surrounding islands when visiting the Yacht beach bar and restaurant. Offering a delicious Mediterranean and Istrian themed menu, this is an ideal spot for a relaxed evening in the sun. If you'd like to make a reservation, please speak to the concierge who will be able to help.

Enjoy a variety of water sports at Medulin

Whether you're looking to hire a boat, tear up the surf in a jet ski or try your hand at a little windsurfing, Medulin is the place to be. The town is a short drive to the south-west of Pula and is the ideal spot for all things water sports. There's no better way to admire the crystalline Adriatic waters than by sailing your own personal boat out to sea. Want to make a booking or enquire about hiring a boat during your stay? The concierge will be more than happy to help you.



Photo: Xbrchx

See the Lighting Giants

At night, Pula's shipyard transforms into a massive art installation for all to admire. Led by creative designer Dean Skira, Lighting Giants turns what could have been an eye sore into an intriguing addition to the city's skyline. The large cranes which line the city's port are lit up in various shades of colour to add a unique and distinct character to an already fascinating city. The installation offers a sophisticated display of over 16,000 different colour combinations which often change in line with special occasions and events.

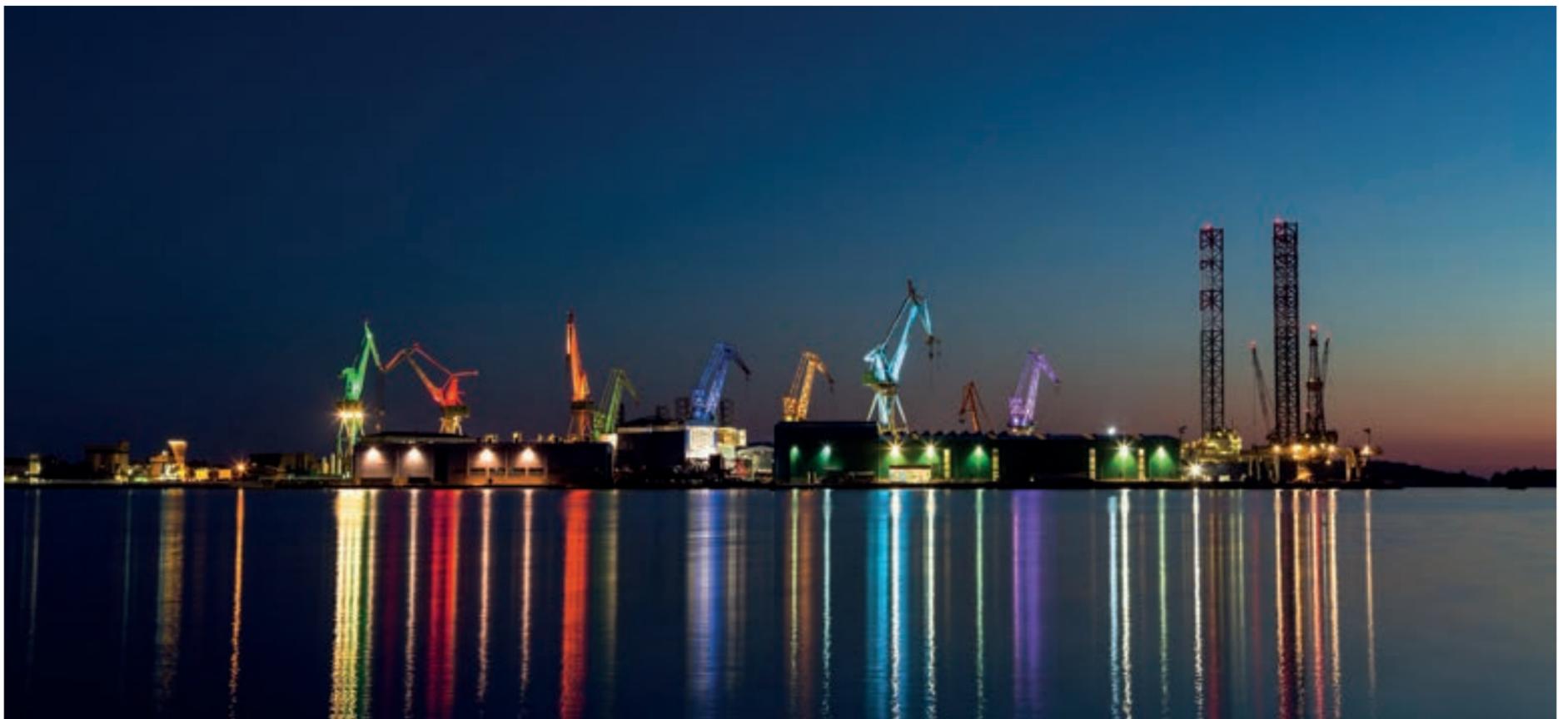


Photo: Concept W

If you're looking to visit any of Pula's exciting attractions, speak to the concierge to book your tickets, find the best route and more.

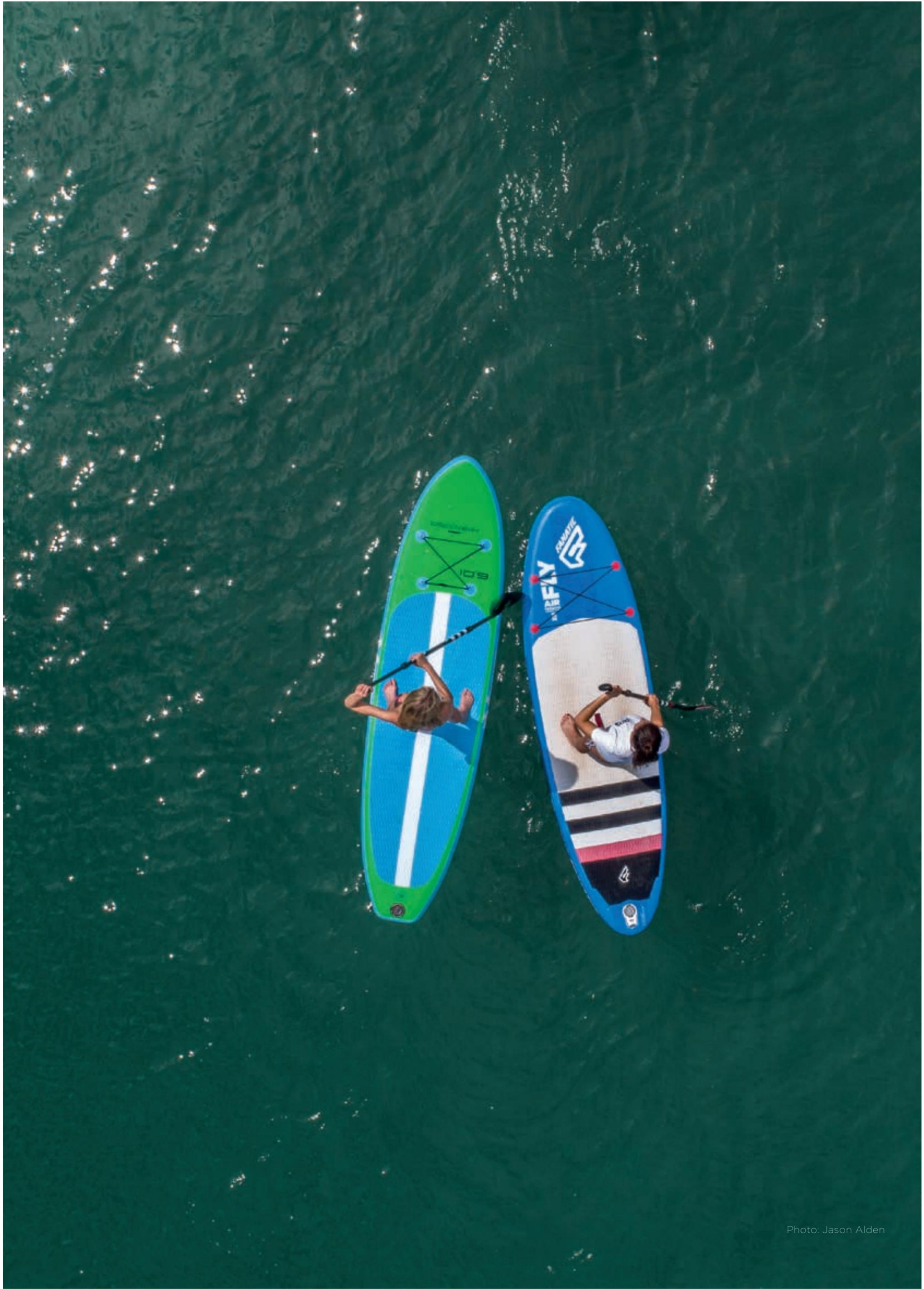


Photo: Jason Alden

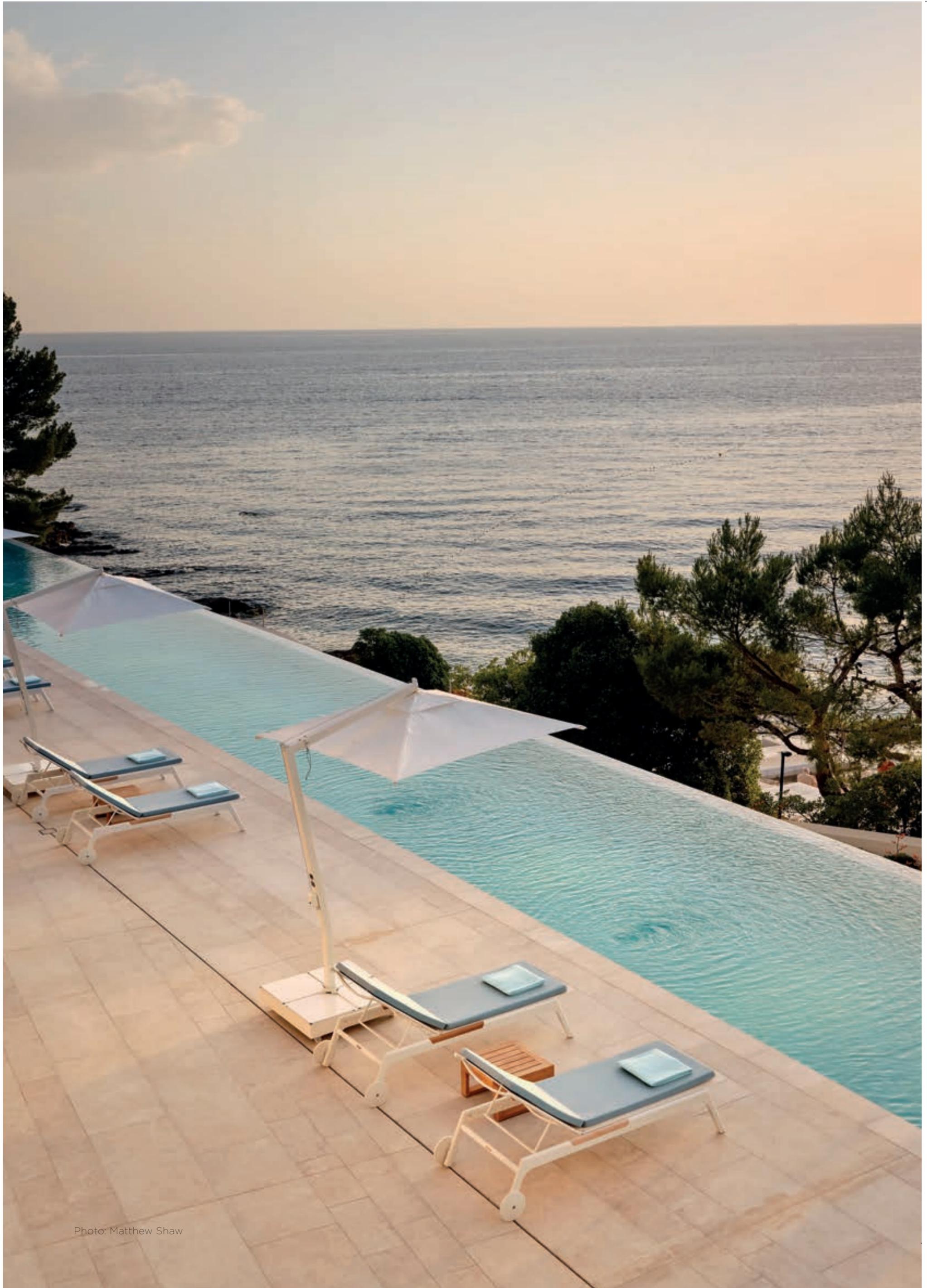


Photo: Matthew Shaw

RELAX IN LUXURY WITH GRAND HOTEL BRIONI PULA

Set in the ancient city of Pula, rising from the lush vegetation of the Verudela Peninsula, Grand Hotel Brioni Pula stands in a commanding location overlooking the Adriatic Sea. Combining modern luxury with historic sights and stunning views, the hotel delivers a guest experience to be revered. The hotel boasts 227 stylish rooms, set upon three floors, designed with the utmost care and attention.

Whether you're travelling for business or pleasure, romance or splendour, your stay at Grand Hotel Brioni Pula will be one of comfort, opulence, and beauty. On-site you'll discover seven restaurants and bars serving up tastes to complement any palate. Fresh ingredients, local cuisine and imaginative menus are all on offer when you stay with us. Relax in our executive lounge or watch the sun set in our beach bar, enjoy a romantic meal for two or an intimate evening drink. Inspired by historic health and wellness practices, the on-site Gemma di Brioni Spa & Wellness Centre offers a range of profoundly relaxing treatments designed to help rejuvenate the mind and body.

Designed with contemporary flair, every room at the Grand Hotel Brioni Pula is one of luxury, style, and sophistication. The hotel's spectacular location means you'll enjoy exquisite views from all our rooms. Whether you're situated towards the rear of the hotel, where you'll be surrounded by bustling greenery, or towards the front where you'll be met by the azure of the Adriatic. Looking for something truly majestic? Book our suites with breath-taking panoramic sea views.



Photo: Jason Alden

EAT & DRINK AT GRAND HOTEL BRIONI PULA

With three distinguished restaurants and four unique bars, Grand Hotel Brioni Pula has something to satisfy everyone. Focusing on fresh ingredients from trusted, local providers, each restaurant delivers a unique and innovative menu. Whether you're looking for a delicious meal by the sea or a more intimate evening drink, you'll find it here.

Sophia Restaurant

Chic and sophisticated, Sophia Restaurant is the jewel in Grand Hotel Brioni Pula's crown. A must-visit for meat lovers, Sophia offers delicious steaks in a variety of cuts. Quality is key here, the menu boasts some of the best meat available, ranging from classic American to indigenous Istrian cattle, called Boskarin.

Brioni Forum Restaurant

A stylish spot that combines international influences with local produce. At Brioni Forum Restaurant, our chefs reinterpret classic meals, developing them with new ingredient and flavour combinations to delight the palate. Fresh local produce is of the utmost importance to our chefs, so expect plenty of local olive oil and truffles. If you're looking for a true taste of Istria with an innovative twist, Brioni Forum Restaurant is for you.



Photo: Barabas Balog



Photo: Barabas Balog

Brioni Lungo Mare

A laid back and relaxed alternative, Brioni Lungo Mare sits just above the beach with a delectable sea view. The restaurant is the ideal spot to enjoy a local craft beer and risotto on a hot day. Delectable fresh fish or light salads are best enjoyed here. The terrace bistro is one of the finest spots in Pula, offering unrivalled views of the Adriatic.



Photo: Jason Alden

Grab and go with Butler's Corner

On each floor of Grand Hotel Brioni Pula, you'll find our very own Butler's Corner. Discover some of the finest quality items available to purchase with convenience and ease. Simply walk into the Butler's Corner, choose which items you'd like to purchase, enter your room number and leave – it's as simple as that. Our Butler's Corner is open 24/7 and stocks everything from truffle chips, truffle cheese, Croatian gin, wine, champagne, chocolates and more.



Photo: Jason Alden

Please speak to concierge if you'd like to book a table at any of our on-site bars and restaurants.

WHERE'S YOUR NEXT DESTINATION?

A note from the editor:

Grand Hotel Brioni Pula is a unique destination that offers an unrivalled experience in one of Europe's most exciting locations. From the quality of the food you'll enjoy, to the service you experience, and not to mention the hotel's amenities – there's plenty to fall in love with here. Having said that, if you're anything like us, you'll be craving your next trip away the moment you check out. This is why we're asking, where are you going next?

Grand Hotel Brioni Pula is part of a larger group of exceptional destination hotels across Europe just waiting for you to explore. Each hotel is shaped by the characteristics and charm of its location, with its own distinctive style, feel and experience. In case you've been bitten by the travel bug, here are some of our favourites...



art'otel Amsterdam

Amsterdam is a city that's small in size but stands tall on a global scale. If there's any message Amsterdam so routinely likes to share with its visitors and residents alike, it's that art triumphs above all else. Art is the beating heart of this continental dreamscape. It can be found down every alleyway, on every street corner, sprayed in bright and flowing letters on every wall. Wherever you look in the Dutch capital, you'll be met by mesmerising murals of scenes from the imagination of its talented community.

With all this said, there's nowhere better suited to your visit to Amsterdam than art'otel. An art-inspired hotel come multi-sensory delight that puts the creative swagger of its guests at the front and centre. The hotel displays art in all rooms and guest spaces from signature artist Atelier van Lieshout. It also features an on-site art gallery curated by Amsterdam Street Art, which also plays host to numerous exciting events like their revered street art stencil workshop. Don't forget to pay a visit to ARCA Restaurant & Bar, the brainchild of two-Michelin starred chef Henrique Sá Pessoa, offering Portuguese dishes infused with Asian flavours.



Photo: Paul Winch-Furness

Park Plaza London Riverbank

London is a city that needs no introduction. One of the world's most famous and widely recognised destinations, it's the place that keeps on giving. Whether you're here for a week or staying for a month, you still won't have seen or done everything there is to do. With exciting neighbourhoods to visit, world renowned sights to see and a deep-rooted culture to explore – there's always something else to experience in the Capital. From fine dining evenings to moonlit walks by the Thames, catching a show in the West End to summer afternoons in the park. London has it all.

When staying in a city like London, you need a hotel that parallels the majesty of your visit. Park Plaza London Riverbank does just that. Occupying a central location, overlooking the River Thames, you'll be perfectly positioned to see the city at its finest. Designed with a contemporary flare for the sophisticated visitor, Park Plaza London Riverbank is an ideal spot to help you unwind and relax on your next city break.



Photo: Park PLaza

Holmes Hotel London

Your home away from home. Holmes Hotel London offers a delightfully original stay, with 118 elegant rooms and luxurious loft suites, a lounge, library and a gym, all spread across four beautifully restored Georgian buildings in Marylebone. Seasonally inspired all-day casual dining is available at Kitchen at Holmes, where you can explore the melting pot that is London's unique culinary culture.



Photo: Matthew Shaw

art'otel London Hoxton

Opening soon in London's avant-garde neighbourhood of Hoxton, one of the city's top hotspots for trendsetters and style curators alike. art'otel London Hoxton will bring a new and invigorating addition to the London hotel landscape. Explore a stay unlike any other... coming soon.



Photo: CGI by Squire & partners



Photo: Jason Alden



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