

The main topics presented at the 7th DCC General Assembly, included:

- DCC 2015 Annual Activity Report
- DCC 2015 Financial Report
- DCC Operational plan and Budget Estimate for 2016 – program objectives and key activities planned for 2016
- New DCC website and plans for upcoming ITB Berlin
- New DCC service portfolio for 2017



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# danubecc

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## A DAY ON THE DANUBE AT ITB BERLIN 2016

In cooperation with 7 partners, this year's joint theme of DCC's Danube@ITB presentation was A Day on the Danube. During the largest European tourism fair ITB Berlin, organized from 9th to 13th March, business partners and visitors had an opportunity to visit the stand of DCC located in the Hall 2.2 (221) and discover Destination Danube.

### BROCHURE

A brand-new Danube image brochure was developed under the title "A Day on the Danube" and promoted during all 5 days of the fair. By picking up this brochures, visitors were able to discover variety of destinations, activities and attractions in all 10 countries of the Danube region. They were also available on these links in English [bit.ly/a-day-on-the-danube](http://bit.ly/a-day-on-the-danube) and German [bit.ly/ein-tag-an-der-donau](http://bit.ly/ein-tag-an-der-donau) version. The brochure was created in cooperation with 5 partners (German National Tourist Board, ARGE Donau Upper Austria, Bratislava Tourist Board, Hungarian Tourism PLC and National Tourism Board of Serbia).

### OUR STAND

Stand of the DCC was designed in a way that touristic offer of all ten Danube countries was presented on one wall: it followed the concept of the brochure. The other wall promoted Euro Velo 6 – Danube cycling route. On the stands, materials of DCC members were exhibited to more than 700 visitors - those who had an interaction with various materials and promotional screen where they were able to play Euro Velo 6 quiz, check out Euro Velo 6 application or test their creativity in Danube puzzle game.

### ACTIVITIES

Except stand promotion, DCC organized the Danube Forum on the topic "Living the Future of the Danube – neighboring destinations – partners or competitors?". The speakers discussed potentials of cooperation and cross-border tourism development among the countries located in Danube Region.

## THE 7TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF DCC

The 7th General Assembly of the Danube Competence Center was held on February 11th 2016, in Belgrade, Serbia. Around 20 DCC members participated at a one-day sessions event, held at the premises of Tourism Organization of Serbia. The General Assembly was moderated by Mr Boris Camernik, DCC General Secretary.

During the Assembly, Mr Camernik presented the results of the elections for two new members of DCC Board of Directors that was organized online, via e-mail, during January 2016. According to the results, two new DCC Board of Directors are: Mr Razvan Pascu (Travel Communication Romania (Romania, private sector representative) with 9 votes, and Mr Christian Baumgartner (Response and Ability, Austria, NGO sector representative) with 5 votes. The remaining candidate, Mr. Lubomir Popiordanov received three votes.

Mr. Nikola Stanisavljevic, DCC Marketing Coordinator presented the development of a new DCC organizational website, and the mobile applications developed by DCC during 2015.

Mr. Danko Čosić presented the final draft paper through a small working session with the participating members. The main goal was to determine which of the proposed services/opportunities offered through DCC membership were of a high/medium/small value. According to the input provided by the participants, all of the services were marked as "high value", with only 'capacity building opportunities' marked as a "middle value" service. The input received during the 7th GA will be included in DCC business plan, which should be finalized during 2016, and in power from 2017.

Full report from the 7th DCC GA you can download from [bit.ly/DCC-GA-minutes](http://bit.ly/DCC-GA-minutes)

Under the theme "Biking along the Danube" in cooperation with ITB Berlin, DCC organized free Guided Danube tour during which 20 participants were able to learn more about touristic offer of several Danube countries: Germany, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania.

Finally, traditional passport raffle game was organized in cooperation with several partners: AROSA, City of Ulm, Robinson, Magelan, Panacomp, Hotel Holiday Inn Express Belgrade. Five participants were lucky enough to win attractive prizes: from cruising along the Danube and visiting birthplace of Albert Einstein, to attractive packages that will take them on a journey from Belgrade to Eastern Serbia attractions.





## EUROVELO 6 - THE DANUBE CYCLE ROUTE MOBILE APP



Following this year's Danube@ITB theme, few days before the fair we've launched our new biking mobile application.

EuroVelo 6 - The Danube Cycle Route mobile app provides individual cycle tourists with relevant information about the route and its sections, and that way enhances their riding experience. The application was developed by DCC in cooperation with European Cyclists' Federation (ECF). The data ECF collected during EV6 route inspection, was the base of the app and it is used to inform cyclists about riding conditions through dozens of data categories – both while they're riding (in this mode notifications pop up automatically as they enter each 1km mini-section), or in route planning mode where the data is shown based on selected starting point on the route and riding directions.



The app is currently available at Play Store, while iOS version should be live soon as well.

In this phase, the app may be downloaded for free, so don't miss the chance.

## DEVELOPMENT OF CYCLOTOURISM IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE REGION

In the framework of START project, further development of Euro Velo 6 – Danube cycling route and establishment of Iron Gate cycling trail, DCC organized two workshops that took place in Belgrade and Kladovo.

During the first workshop in Belgrade, organized on 15th March in the premises of National Tourism Organisation of Serbia, more than 20 participants had an opportunity to learn more about actual themes and problems regarding the development of cycling and cyclotourism in Serbia. Four lectures were dedicated to different and important topics, and were provided by experts in the field of cycling: Mr Jovan Erakovic; Mr Vuk Bogdanovic, Professor at the Technical Faculty of Novi Sad; Mr Naser Mostafa, director of MTM project and Mr Predrag Zivkovic, Teaching Assistant at the Faculty of Traffics in Belgrade.

They covered these issues:

- Cyclists and public transport transfers.
- Master plan – marking touristic destinations (attractions) and managing touristic signalization on administrative roads in Serbia.
- Development of cycling trail Fruška Gora.
- TRACE project presentation.
- Training of the cyclo-guides.

Comparing to the event in Belgrade, workshop in Kladovo was mostly dedicated to the further development of Iron Gate cycling trail.

Representatives of cycling association Cyclomaniacs (Drobeta Turnu Severin), Cycling organization Kladovo and Tourism Organisation Kladovo, gathered on 18th March and discussed the final shape of the mentioned route that will connect two cross-border cities. Except official presentation of highlights that will be on the route, further action plan has been agreed.



## START PROJECT – FINAL CONFERENCE IN SOFIA

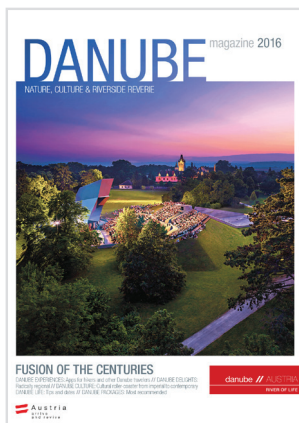
Final conference of the project “Middle and Lower Danube Cycling Routes – Danube Cycling” took place on 23rd March in Sofia (Bulgaria). During this event, 50 participants had an opportunity to learn more about the project outcomes, presented by DCC (lead partner) and five other partners from four countries within the region.

The overall project aim is to develop and promote cycling tourism in the Middle and Lower Danube Region (focusing on the EuroVelo 6 network), where there is unexploited potential. Major conclusions of the conference were in line with the overall project goals and those are to:

- Pave the way for follow-up through introduction of guidelines and involvement of suitable stakeholders;
- Provide exchange of know-how and the possibility for all partners to get more value for money and an opportunity for growth.







## DANUBE. MAGAZINE 2016

The ARGE Donau Österreich published the yearly image magazine "DANUBE. Magazine 2016" for the 5th time. The magazine is available in German and English. It provides insights into the Austrian Danube region. Great stories and images about culture, hiking, biking, nature and culinary delights along the Danube in Austria are published in the magazine.

The magazine can be ordered for free at [www.donau-oesterreich.at/prospekte](http://www.donau-oesterreich.at/prospekte).

For the English version please send an e-mail to [info@donau-oesterreich.at](mailto:info@donau-oesterreich.at)

## TWINNY SEASON FROM 25TH OF MARCH 2016

For the upcoming season, the travel agency Flora Tour from Bratislava offers tickets for a speedy shuttle service by two fast catamarans, which take you from one city centre to another, in less than one and a half hour.

A new highlight of this season are the "Super-Tuesdays", when all seniors, students and people with disabilities get 50% of the Twin City Liner ticket price (a valid ID is required).

To all the trainees, Flora Tour offers the "Trainees-Special". If you are a trainee, you will get the ticket for half a price (a valid ID is required).

The best periods for family trips are from March 25th to April 30th 2016, August 22nd to August 26th and October 3rd to October 30th 2016, when up to two children under 17 years can cruise for free (accompanied by an adult).

And, as usual - special prices for schools. During the following period (June 13th to June 30th 2016 and September 5th to September 30th 2016), school groups of 15 or more children will get 50 % discount on the full price on all journeys from Monday to Friday. Two accompanying adults can travel with the group for free.

For further information feel free to contact Flora Tour Team

TWIN CITY LINER



## MUNICIPALITY OF GOLUBAC ON 38TH INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FAIR IN BELGRADE

At the common stand of Branicevo district, Tourist Organization Golubac presented tourist offer on 38. International Tourism Fair. The event was organized from 18th to 21th of February in Belgrade. This Danube municipality presented a project revitalisation of Golubac Fortress and cultural events such as the Fair Danube and Golubac kettle.

The project of revitalisation of Golubac Fortress includes complex works on the Fortress itself, construction of a ring road and a tunnel that would finally move traffic out of the Fortress. There are also plans for building a visitor centre, necessary infrastructure and coastal defence along the banks of the Danube. Revitalisation of Golubac Fortress is a complex project funded by the EU through IPA funds with 6.6 million euros.



PANACOMP  
WONDERLAND TRAVEL  
[www.panacomp.net](http://www.panacomp.net)

PANACOMP WONDERLAND TRAVEL is independent inbound tour operator – DMC and PCO – established in 1992 by dedicated travel professionals with valuable tourism background. Throughout the years, we have had memorable and extensive development processes that made us regionally recognized to quickly respond to market dynamics by our specialization in tour packages-travel arrangements and MICE in Serbia and the Balkans.

Our comprehensive research, consistent product development, perfect destination knowledge, continuous contractors enhancement and improvement of services quality, enabled us to partner today with superior travel network of more than 3000 regional affiliates and local suppliers.



TOWN OF SISA K  
TOURIST BOARD  
[www.sisakturist.com](http://www.sisakturist.com)

Since its establishment in 1992, Town of Sisa k Tourist Board works on promotion and improvement of tourism and local economy that is related with this branch of industry. Located on left banks of river Kupa, the building of the Board is the oldest one in the city, and it used to be a guesthouse at the beginning of XIX century. Since then, the building has been renovated twice and today, the Tourist Board is developing local tourism capacities inside these walls.



DANUBE PARKS  
[www.danubeparks.org](http://www.danubeparks.org)

Danubeparks Network based its activities on transnational cooperation in nature protection. It brings together 15 protected areas in eight Danube countries, gathered together around the idea of building up capacities by exchange of experiences and joint learning. Their mutual goal is to build up a joint strong voice on European level, as well as enhance coherence in protection actions and thus increase the effectiveness.



## THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF HONEY AND WINE IN NEGOTIN

Tourism Organisation of Negotin Municipality invites representatives of wineries to exhibit their products on 11th International Festival of Honey and Wine that will traditionally take place on 11th and 12th May in the heart of Negotin city.

Last year, the fair gathered largest number of exhibitors – 100 wine and honey makers from Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia and Macedonia. If you are interested to take part in the event, be sure to contact colleagues from TO Negotin: [toonegotin@gmail.com](mailto:toonegotin@gmail.com)

## ODESSA THE BEAUTIFUL

Odessa is one of the most beautiful cities in the Danube region. Our city have a great touristic and potential of recreational resources. Odessa has all conditions for an unforgettable holiday: nature, history and culture, with a special flavor of many nationalities, great architecture, art festivals, events and gifted people.

The upcoming events in Odessa are:

- International festival of clowns and mimes «Comediana» (from 31st of March till 3rd of April) which will include : «Humorina» (Day of laughter, 1st of April) and the Festival of Humor (1st – 3rd, April).
- XIII Odessa Fashion Day (8th – 10th, April)
- Festival «Odessa's Velosotka» on the 9th of April.
- International conference of «Sustainable tourism development of Ukraine (12th – 13th April)
- International tourism week in Odessa ( 12th – 17th April)
- Bookfest on 23th of April
- The festival of «Hipsters» on 24th of April.
- International wedding festival» (19th – 22nd, May)
- Bike Beach Fest (27th – 30th May).

More on: [odessatourism.org](http://odessatourism.org)

## SEE THE DANUBE IN GERMANY IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT!

The “Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutsche Donau” (the Destination Marketing Association German Danube) has changed offices from Neuburg an der Donau to the great Danube city Ulm last year in May.

The new managing director Raissa Benchoufi emphasizes the importance of seeing the Danube in Germany in a new and modern light: “The Danube in Germany is surprising in any kind of way. The destinations along the river offer variety and unique landscapes. The nature offers all the sporty activities people associate with the Danube: hiking, cycling and canoeing. Although all those activities are enjoyable in all Danube countries, the Danube in Germany is different as visitors are able to experience the Danube spring, the place where it all begins and where the Danube is still young. Visitors can see and feel how the river is growing in every German Danube destination. People can even swim in the river as it is not allowed for



motorized boats to be on the Danube before Kelheim’s “Donaudurchbruch”, the spectacular water-breakthrough of the Danube. But not only untouched nature can be discovered: the Danube in Germany is situated in vibrant cities, such as Ulm, Ingolstadt, Regensburg and Passau - cities that offer highly valuable cultural and culinary highlights. Visitors recognize quickly that the Danube in Germany offers more than what most people expect – it’s sporty, it’s modern and it’s traditional at the same time and most of all it offers a different tourism product.” The new image brochure of the Destination Marketing Association German Danube ([bit.ly/image-brochure-junge-donau](http://bit.ly/image-brochure-junge-donau)) and their work together with the campaign “Young Danube” clearly shows the new and the forward-looking direction of the Danube destinations in Germany. Thanks to the impressive and contemporary images used in the brochure, future tourists get a fantastic impression of the young German Danube. The brochure shows not only the Danube region in Germany, but also represents the unique things to do in every destination as well as the event schedules and information about the typical tradition along the 609 Kilometers of the Danube in Germany.

The new Young Danube pocket guide is available for download on German language on this link: [bit.ly/pocket-guide-junge-donau](http://bit.ly/pocket-guide-junge-donau)



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