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ECTN's third Annual Conference 'The Creative Future, Cultural Tourism as a Sustainable and Growing Sector' took place in Gothenburg, Sweden 22- 24 November 2006-

This third annual ECTN conference was attended by some 200 delegates from 20 countries including Romania, Canada, Malta, Poland, Iceland and Denmark, who have not previously participated in ECTN activities. Conference delegates agreed the 'Gothenburg Declaration', which takes forward proposals from the Cardiff Declaration, Europa Nostra's Malta Declaration and conference discussion outcomes.

The Gothenburg Declaration, together with conference notes will shortly be available on the ECTN website.

Conference discussions considered how future development of cultural tourism could be strengthened in Europe. Issues and challenges identified during the course of these discussions will be taken forward to a joint meeting between ECTN, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee and EU Parliament in 2007.

European Discussions on Cultural Tourism 25 January 2007

On 25 January 2007, ECTN representatives will discuss the future development of the ECTN and how it will continue to take forward its work at European and Regional level by establishing sector groups for research, policy and practitioners.

The meeting will be hosted by the Vastra Gotaland (West Sweden) Brussels office. If you would like to participate in these discussions in Brussels, please contact Nigel Adams at ectn@wales.gsi.gov.uk

ECTN Events for 2007

Information on ECTN events during 2007 will soon be available on the ECTN website: <http://www.cultural-tourism.net/>

ECTN INTERREG IIIC Project Report

An initial draft of the ECTN INTERREG IIIC Project report was circulated to delegates attending the ECTN's Gothenburg Conference in November 2006. All ECTN project partners contributed to the report which draws upon workshop discussions, case studies and research on cultural tourism exchanged during the ECTN project. The final report is available to Cultural Tourism practitioners and policy makers from the ECTN website from 25 January 2007, see: <http://www.cultural-tourism.net>

ECTN Partner & Member news

Turku European Capital of Culture 2011

For further information on Turku's candidacy for European Capital of Culture click here: <http://www.turku2011.fi/public/?sid=&lang=en>

Magnificent full colour story of early Christianity in Offaly, Ireland by Caimin O'Brien 'Stories from a Sacred Landscape, Croghan Hill to Clonmacnoise'

O'Brien draws on archaeology, history, poetry, folklore and legend to create vivid portraits of twenty-three sacred places within Offaly. He recounts the tales that surround the county's first saints and the monasteries they founded.

For further information contact Midlands Region Authority, Ireland, email: rduffy@midlands.ie

Partner searches

Call for entries Royal Destination Award 2007

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust is hosting an award and conference on sustainable Tourism 12-13 April 2007 at St. Andrews, Scotland. They are in the process of disseminating a call for the Royal Destination award for Sustainability, that recognises destinations engaged in outstanding and innovative sustainable practices. If you know of destinations, interested in participating in such an award please have them contact LP@DestiLink.net for further information. The website for the award is <http://www.tourismaward.net>

The **deadline for entries** to the Royal Destination Award is the **15th February 2007**.

For more information on the conference and award contact Marta Reeves-Marr, Marketing & Promotions Officer, Fife Coast & Countryside Trust, email: marta.reevesmarr@fife.gov.uk

Culture 2007

The first call deadline is 28 February 2007 (there will a 2nd call later in 2007) Information is available from the following website: www.culture2007.info

EUROPE FOR CITIZENS: Action 3 - Active Civil Society in Europe

Provisional call deadline 15 February 2007, see calendar on: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/citizenship/2007info.htm>

European Union prize scheme in the field of cultural heritage

Deadline is 28 February 2007 For further information see http://ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/how_particip2007/conditions/cult_heritage_en.html

ECTN website: www.cultural-tourism.net

To register for information on future ECTN meetings and events email: ectn@wales.gsi.gov.uk