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ECTN Events for 2006

Date	Organiser	Activity & Themes
26-28 Apr 2006	MISKOLC Hungary	Workshop – Creative culture, ethnic/ minority communities and development of cultural tourism Click here for registration form
12-13 Sep 2006	TURKU Finland	Workshop – Cross sector working
22-24 Nov 2006	VASTRA GOTALAND Sweden	ECTN 3rd Annual conference & report on development of Cultural Tourism.

Participation in ECTN activities is welcomed.

[Click here to register for information on future meetings and events](#)

ECTN at European Tourism Ministers' Conference - Tourism – Key to Growth and Employment in Europe in Vienna, 20-21 March 2006

ECTN was featured in the Pioneering Projects session of the joint Austrian and Finnish EU Council Presidency event at the Hofburg in Vienna. Julie Russell's presentation on behalf of ECTN outlined the importance of cultural tourism in Europe and how it could contribute to the Lisbon Agenda, as well as talking about the role ECTN as a European network of professionals working in the cultural and tourism sectors has a unique role to play in helping to develop best practice guidelines and pressing for a greater priority to be given to the sector.

298 representatives from 34 European regions attended the conference, including 9 ministers and 8 secretaries of state. Themes for conference discussions were Cultural Tourism and IT. [Click here for conference and programme details.](#)

Commission Vice-President Günter Verheugen announced the launch the new European travel destinations portal (<http://www.visiteurope.com/>), and the Commission's Communication on "A renewed EU Tourism Policy : Towards a stronger partnership for European Tourism". [Click here for communication document.](#)
[Click here for press release](#) :

European Discussions on Cultural Tourism

Following the Cardiff Conference in 2005, ECTN has published a Cardiff conference declaration and position paper on cultural tourism ([click here](#) or go to: http://www.cultural-tourism.net/cardiff2005/cardiff_declaration.doc).

European representatives of ECTN INTERREG IIIC project partners have signed the position paper. ECTN are in discussions with the Committee of the Regions about with regard to writing a report on cultural tourism and hearing in conjunction with the EU Parliament and ECOSOC. If you would like to contribute to these discussions in Brussels, please contact ectn@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Reports from ECTN thematic Workshops

Industrial Heritage as a Catalyst for economic regeneration – Oviedo 10-11 November 2005

The workshop was attended by 60 delegates – representatives of Asturias companies and institutions as well as project partners from Wales, Italy, Finland, Spain, Sweden, Latvia, Hungary and Ireland. During the workshop delegates participated in a study visit to the Asturian mine zone in the Nalón Valley, also visiting the Mining and Industry Museum and Train Museum in Gijón.

Speakers highlighted how development in Asturias and other European regions has linked cultural, natural and industrial heritage. In order to be sustainable, the redevelopment of industrial heritage sites needs to allow for various uses. In addition to tourism, there also needs to be local support, and, most importantly, economic and social roles that contribute to the local communities' sense of pride. In the general discussion it was agreed that delegates were all concerned with common issues from a different approach, and that by coming together and sharing experiences they could learn from each other. [Click here for the ECTN report of discussions and speaker presentations.](#)

Gastrotourism workshop Huelva 7-8 February 2006

Some 80 delegates attended the ECTN Gastrotourism workshop in Huelva to discuss their experiences and identify best practice in the development of Gastronomic/Food focussed tourism. Delegates had the opportunity to sample seasonal regional produce and visit the village of El Rocío, close to the National Park of Doñana; and "Vinícola del Condado" wine cellar which belongs to the "Wine Route" of Huelva..

Regional speakers included Mrs. Rosario Ballester Angulo, Mr. David Hidalgo Moreno, Mr. José Prieto Martín and Mr. Antonio Cáceres Mora. Mr Moreno informed the audience that 80% of visitors' satisfaction is attributed to gastronomy. [Click here for Huelva speaker presentations and workshop report.](#)

ECTN Partner & Member news

INTERREG IIIC Legacy: Building on future interregional cooperation on projects networking seminar Committee of the Regions, Brussels 5 April 2006
Paolo Linty, Région Autonome de la Vallée d'Aoste presented the ECTN project at the INTERREG III Legacy seminar initiated by the National Association of Italian Municipalities and Valencian Regional Office in Brussels to exchange experience and know how gained from Interreg III projects around Europe. Members of the Committee of the Regions COTER, commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy, representatives of the Regional Policy Directorate General of the European

Commission and the Austrian Presidency, together with local and regional authorities involved in Interreg III projects contributed to discussions on policy recommendations for the next programming period. [Click here for further information on the meeting.](#)

Europa Nostra Forum on Cultural Tourism 19 May Valletta, Malta

Nigel Adams, Head of Policy, Wales Tourist Board, Lead Partner of the European Cultural Tourism Network will be speaking at the Europa Nostra Forum on 19 May 2006, Valletta, Malta titled 'Cultural Tourism: its Encouragement and the Need for Control'. His presentation will be titled 'The Need for a European Network for Cooperation on Cultural Tourism'. [Click here for further information](#) or see: http://www.europanostra.org/lang_en/index.html.

Well-being in the Information Society (WIS 2006) Turku, Finland 11.-12 May 2006

Turku School of Economics and Business Administration and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Health, the Baltic Region Healthy Cities Association organize together this first international seminar. Participants with and without presentations are welcomed!

Further information: see www.marebalticum.org/wis2006 or contact *Reima Suomi* Conference General Chair reima.suomi@tukkk.fi www.tukkk.fi/~rsuomi

ENTER 2007 will take place in Ljubljana!

Ljubljana in Slovenia will be the venue for ENTER 2007 which will take place from 24 to 26 January 2007. For further information see: www.ifitt.org

Spain: culture is the second reason why tourists visit

Cultural tourism has become the second biggest segment of the tourist market in Spain, and trails only sun and sea holidays. Spain welcomed 53.4 million tourists last year, which is 3% up on figures for 2003. 7.3 million, or around 14% of them, came for culture-linked reasons. 60% of people who come to Spain for other reasons also engage in cultural activities during their stay.

On the home front, 4.5 million, or 15.8%, of the 29 million trips undertaken for leisure, recreation or holiday purposes within Spain by its residents last year were because of cultural interest. Furthermore, 37.3% of all Spaniards who travelled within Spain made a cultural visit and 8.6% attended some kind of spectator event. *Published in Hosteltur (December 2005)*

Atlas Cultural Tourism Research 2006

The ATLAS Cultural Tourism Research Project will be continuing in 2006. This year the aim is to focus on tourists perception regarding destination atmosphere and acquired knowledge. Information, including questionnaires in different languages, site information forms and survey guidelines can be downloaded from <http://www.tram-research.com/atlas/atlas3.htm>.

If you have any other questions, please contact Greg Richards: grichards@tram-research.com