



IGCAT Voice



Dear friends and colleagues,

Thanks to our many collaborators and experts this year has been excellent for IGCAT. It has been an extremely busy year and it is worth highlighting just a few of our achievements:

The year has seen the launch of the European Region of Gastronomy project with three high profile events, the first in July at the famous Pedrera in Barcelona, marking the award ceremony for Minho and Catalonia, two pioneering regions that will hold the title in 2016. In September, Minho and Catalonia then presented their programmes to the SEDEC Commission of the Committee of the Regions in Brussels. The third big event this year took place within the framework of EXPOMilan and was sponsored by DG Growth of the European Commission. A half day conference incorporated the award ceremony for the three regions that will host the European Region of Gastronomy title in 2017: East Lombardy, Aarhus/Central Denmark Region and Riga-Gauja Region. We wish all the winning regions great success as they launch exciting programmes for the years to come!

IGCAT has also been deeply involved in the European Capital of Culture and was invited by Rhodes in Greece and Arad in Romania to carry out training and support for cultural operators involved in developing their respective bids – many thanks go to IGCAT experts, Ilie Rotariu, Danuta Glondys, Mary Miller and Robert Palmer for their expert support during this year. Furthermore in December we organised an introductory seminar for potential candidate cities with Robert Palmer. As a knowledge institution, IGCAT, has gained great insight into the advantages of hosting large scale international titles (such as European Region of Gastronomy or European Capital of Culture). We hope to share these insights with cities and regions

through dedicated seminar series next year. With our growing international board of advisors we are looking at the possibility of developing similar or adapted models in other continents. For more information contact us at info@igcat.org

Our Art of Food event this year took place in the Museu de l'Historia of Catalunya sponsored by the Catalan Tourism Agency. It brought together more than 40 international experts to explore our mutual concern about cultural diversity, food safety and sustainable models for development. Our experts recognise the need for cross-sector dialogue as a method to solve great global challenges – thank you to all of you that took part!

IGCAT also moved into new offices in Sant Pol de Mar (www.santpol.cat) and continues to enjoy the support of the local town council as well as EUHTStPol (www.santpol.edu.es), with whom we have now launched both an undergraduate and Master course in Cultural and Food Events Management.

Our work would not be possible without the wonderful support we have had from many international students that joined us for an internship period in 2015 – thanks need to go to Clara Melliush (UK), Annika Rösch (Germany), Francesca Orlanini (Italy), Juan Matamoros (Ecuador), Nicole Lunardi (Italy), Le Tuan Minh (Vietnam). Special thanks also to our associate Nuria Castellanos, Office Manager, Jordi Vegas and Deputy Director, Davinia Galea.

Finally, please note that our offices will be closed until 11 January 2016 and therefore we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours health, food and merriment for 2016.

With festive wishes,

Dr. Diane Dodd
Executive Director

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IGCAT News

IGCAT European Capitals of Culture Seminar

IGCAT organised a European Capitals of Culture introductory seminar on 11 December 2015 for candidate cities or cities considering putting their names forward the coveted title.



With increased competition and spiraling costs to bid, cities were guided through the pros and cons of bidding to be European Capital of Culture. Two leading experts...

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IGCAT participates in ArtCOP21 in Paris

Artists are taking the lead on climate change. Within the context of ArtCOP21, a Professional Workshop was supported by IFACCA and co-organised by COAL; Julie's Bicycle, On the Move and La Gaité Lyrique in Paris on 3-4 December 2015. The **workshop** aimed to support the leadership of the cultural sector with regards to sustainable...



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IGCAT Executive Board meeting



The Executive Board of IGCAT met on 29 November 2015 to discuss statute changes in order to facilitate its role as the official secretariat of the European Region of Gastronomy Platform. The concept for a European Region of Gastronomy Award was developed by IGCAT experts in 2012 and during 2013 and 2014 a number of...

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New Website for the European Region of Gastronomy Platform and Award

IGCAT is excited to announce the launch of a new website for the European Region of Gastronomy Platform. The new responsive website is aimed to provide information for regions interested to join the Platform and become candidates to hold the European Region of Gastronomy title in the future. The website describes the philosophy behind the Award and...



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IGCAT at the 5th Anniversary Symposium of Institute of Cultural Capital (ICC)



IGCAT's Executive Director, Dr. Diane Dodd participated in the 5th Anniversary Symposium of Institute of Cultural Capital (ICC) in Liverpool, 10 November 2015. The Institute of Cultural Capital is a strategic collaboration between the University of Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores University in the UK. It conducts...

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Roberta Garibaldi and Carlos Fernandes, members of IGCAT's board, participates in the ATLAS Annual Conference

From the 20 to the 23 October, 2015 the annual conference of the ATLAS - Association for Tourism and Leisure Education and Research, took place in

Lisbon. The international conference aimed at discussing “Risk in Travel and Tourism: geographies, behaviours and strategies”. During the conference the different dimensions of risk in travel and tourism -...

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European Region of Gastronomy Platform Member's News

Ambassador for Aarhus/Central Denmark Region 2017, Wassim Hallal, reviews the rise of the culinary scene in Aarhus.



Michelin star chef Wassim Hallel, ambassador for European Region of Gastronomy Aarhus/Central Denmark Region 2017, was interviewed by the Telegraph newspaper on the rise of the culinary scene in Aarhus. In a review last week, food, drink and travel writer Andy Lynes writes about the city's status as Denmark's new culinary capital. The article...

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East Lombardy 2017. Food and Wine as travel motivations: opportunities and challenges

This was the title of the third international conference on Cultural Tourism that took place at the University of Bergamo the 11 December, under the patronage of the European Commission. The meeting was

dedicated to investigate the themes related to...

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Find out why Aarhus / Central Denmark Region bid for and won the title European Region of Gastronomy 2017



Already named the European cultural capital for 2017, Aarhus recently won the competition for European Region of Gastronomy for that year as well, given by IGCAT (International Institute of Gastronomy, Culture, Art and Tourism). Jan Beyer Schmidt-Sorensen, Director of business development for Aarhus, says that the...

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Galway, West of Ireland launches Candidate, European Region of Gastronomy 2018 website

Galway, West of Ireland has launched a new website in order to highlight its gastronomy strengths as a candidate to hold the European Region of Gastronomy award in 2018. The website highlights the focus areas that Galway is working on in its candidature bid and explains the principles of the European Region of Gastronomy Platform...



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European Commissioner visits North Brabant, candidate European Region of Gastronomy 2018



Corina Crețu, the European Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy visited the Province of North-Brabant on 16 November 2015, where she participated in an event on Smart Specialisation and visited EU-funded projects, including the Gruyterfabriek and the Plant Lab, in s-Hertogenbosch. The Mayor of s'Hertogenbosch, Chairman of AgriFood...

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Catalonia presents European Region of Gastronomy 2016 programme at Fòrum Gastronomic Girona

Catalonia presented its programme as an European Region of Gastronomy 2016 on Monday 16 November at Fòrum Gastronomic in Girona. The event was an introductory conversation for all professionals and stakeholders related to Catalonia European Region of Gastronomy 2016 to present some of the 150 actions that the awarded region is planning for 2016 in...



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Minho, European Region of Gastronomy 2016 will prepare a seminar to map its gastronomic resources



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The first European Region of Gastronomy award was given to Minho and Catalonia by IGCAT, as first holders in recognition of the work that has been done on gastronomy qualification by all stakeholders in the area but overall because of a creative programme to structure and promote the cultural and gastronomic products of...

Catalonia, European Region of Gastronomy 2016 at the World Travel Market

Promoting its selection as European Region of Gastronomy 2016, the Catalan Tourism Agency is highlighting food and wine routes at London World Travel Market, one of the most important fairs for the travel industry.

50,000 visitors are expected at the fair and will be able to find detailed information on Catalonia's tourist offer, which is divided into...



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Current News From Around The Globe

United Nations declares 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has approved the adoption of 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. The decision comes at a particularly important moment as the



international community embraces the new Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), approved by...

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Agri-Tourism Committee looks at quality, quantity, consistency in Vanuatu

Agri-tourism is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Tourism, Trade Commerce, Cooperatives and Industry and Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry Fisheries and Biosecurity. The objective of the partnership is to address inter-ministerial development issues covering both Ministries at policy level. The director of Tourism Development, George Borugu explains that this committee...



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IGCAT carries out research, collects knowledge and develops projects to support creative solutions in regional and local development.

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This is just a small selection of news from the past three months. Please visit [IGCAT](#) for more and regular news!

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