



IGCAT News

UNESCO congratulates IGCAT



The Assistant Director-General for Culture of UNESCO, Francesco Bandarin, has congratulated IGCAT on its recent creation. IGCAT aims to promote food experiences as a component of living heritage. In a letter addressed to IGCAT, both the Director and President are invited to a meeting with the Chief of Intangible Culture Heritage and...

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European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education adopts report on European gastronomic heritage: cultural and educational aspects

IGCAT fully endorses that the European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education has adopted an own-initiative report by Santiago FISAS AYXELA (EPP, ES) on [European gastronomic heritage: cultural and educational aspects](#). The report

outlines both educational aspects and cultural aspects. This is a timely initiative and one that signals the validity of IGCAT's...

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New concepts of cultural and creative tourism



The conference *Città ri-visitate. Nuove idee e forme del turismo culturale* (The city re-visited: New concepts and forms of cultural tourism) held in Bergamo, Italy on March 13th and 14th examined the rapidly changing nature of cultural tourism in Italy and the rest of Europe. A particular focus of attention during the meeting was the...

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IGCAT hors d'oeuvre

IGCAT's advisory board met for the first time in Sant Pol de Mar on 12th December 2013.

The meeting brought together key experts from gastronomy, tourism and cultural sectors to discuss the establishment of the IGCAT international institute which will play a leading role in developing the European Region of Gastronomy initiative as well as inform research on emerging synergies between gastronomy, culture, arts, and tourism sectors.



The European Region of Gastronomy initiative was endorsed by the European Council of the Regions' Culture Chair, Mr Anton Rombouts at their Plenary Meeting in Brussels on May 30th. The European Region of Gastronomy title will be awarded to a different region each year as a

stimulus to link food, hospitality, tourism, culture, health and sustainability to support economic, cultural, social and environmental development.

The institute has recently opened an office, provided by the Town Council of Sant Pol de Mar, a Catalan town which is also home to the Restaurant Sant Pau with 3 Michelin stars. IGCAT President, Prof. Greg Richards had the opportunity to thank Montserrat Garrido, Mayoress of Sant Pol de Mar for the town's generous support.

The meeting was hosted by EUHT ST Pol, a pioneering university school dedicated to tourism and hospitality and José Hernández García, Academic Director for the school welcomed international experts, Rosario Scarpato - IT Chefs (IT), Dr. Carlos Fernandes - Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo and Director of the Tourism Laboratory (PT), Robert Palmer - co-author of Eventful Cities and an independent cultural policy expert in capitals of culture and former Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage at the Council of Europe (UK), Dr. Marta Crispi - International University of Catalonia (ES), Caroline Couret - Creative Tourism Network (FR-ES), Prof. Greg Richards - co-author of Eventful Cities and Professor at Tilburg University (NL) and Dr. Diane Dodd - Director of ART-idea (UK-ES).

The next meeting of IGCAT will take place in Portugal, in May 2014 with an expert group examining the tension between tradition and innovation in regional gastronomy - with a cook-off to prove it!

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Gastronomy, tourism and culture converge in Berlin



Prof. Greg Richards, President of IGCAT, attended the recent ITB tourism fair in Berlin where there was plenty of evidence of the growing convergence between gastronomy, culture and tourism. A vast number of national and regional tourism stands were offering gastronomy-related tourism products (and many were of course also handing out...

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Regional Gastronomy: Between Innovation and Tradition

An international expert meeting on Regional Gastronomy: Between Innovation and Tradition was organised by IGCAT, ATLAS and the Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo on May 29-30th 2014. The meeting held in Refóios do Lima attracted some 30 participants from countries including Portugal, South Africa, the United States, Thailand, New Zealand, the UK, the...



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3rd International Conference UNITWIN UNESCO Network “Culture, Tourism, Development”



The 3rd International Conference UNITWIN UNESCO Network “Culture, Tourism, Development” centred on Tourism and Gastronomy heritage: Foodscapes, Gastroregions and Gastronomy Tourism to be held from June 16-20, 2014 in Barcelona (Catalonia, Spain). This meeting aims to present current research... [READ MORE](#)

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Vivid Sydney festival to bring \$20 million cash injection to New South Wales

Vivid Sydney has become a major cash injection, bringing in thousands of interstate and international visitors, and adding \$20 million to the state's economy. More than 800,000 people came to Sydney last year for the celebration of light, music and ideas, up from 170,000 at the inaugural event just five years ago, bringing alive the area...



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World Book Capital 2014: Port Harcourt ready to host the world - Kalango



The project director of the Port Harcourt World Book Capital 2014, Koko Kalango, unfolds programmes that show that the Garden City is ready for its one-year tenure as the global headquarters of books. Nigeria's Garden City, which piped others including Oxford (United Kingdom), Lyon (France), Ganza (Azerbaijan),...

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Jaipur's Craft Renaissance

From gem cutters to weavers, artisans have long been synonymous with India's Pink City, but Jaipur's craft heritage continues to evolve. In recent years, Western designers have immigrated here and are learning from and employing skilled locals...[READ MORE](#)



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Rooibos tea, the treasure of South Africa



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In the small towns of Nieuwoudtville, Clanwilliam, Citrusdal and Piketberg, rooibos tea is grown on plantations and provides jobs to around 5000 people in the area. Currently it generates an annual turnover of €35 million, and has been commercially processed since the 1930's. The Cederberg region is known for its ochre craggy...

Hull named in Sunday Times 'best cities' list

Hull was referred to as one of the UK's "urban hubs" where the cultural offering was ever-improving. The newspaper said Hull was "full of hidden surprises" and mentioned that cultural attractions such as The Deep, Ferens Art Gallery and Hull Truck Theatre were pulling in visitors to the City of Culture 2017... [READ MORE](#)



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A Canadian artist has rigged Google Maps to explore random locations over the globe



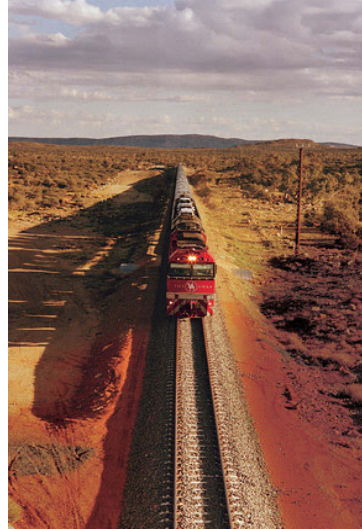
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Jim Andrews designed [Teleporter](#) with the latest Google Maps API and its archive of hi-res panoramic photos. An algorithm on his site creates a random longitude and latitude somewhere on Earth, and then transports you to its closest panoramic view listed in the Google database. Armed with a mouse and your curiosity, it's a...

Like the slow-food movement, slow travel offers an antidote to today's fast-paced lifestyle. Travelers enjoy the journey as much as the destination

Ed Gillespie, a communications executive in London who stopped flying for vacation a few years ago, partly for environmental reasons but mostly because he didn't enjoy it, voyages between continents on freighter ships and rides trains across regions like the Swiss Alps. Slow travel is "reveling in the landscape, culture, people and language rather than..."

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Food Comics Turn 'ZAP' And 'POW' Into 'Sizzle' And 'Bubble'



Nevin Martell, OPB

Comic book heroes don't have to wear brightly coloured spandex or possess superpowers to capture readers' imaginations anymore. They can don toques and wield whisks instead. A growing number of comic artists are focusing on what's on their plates, rather than dreaming up... [READ...](#)

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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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