

IGCAT

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
GASTRONOMY, CULTURE, ARTS AND TOURISM

IGCAT Voice



Wine tourism as a form of cultural tourism is closely linked with local traditions and gastronomy and is particularly important in the promotion of European identity.

2020 represented a great tragedy for the tourism and hospitality sector and 2021 is maintaining the burden of the pandemic crisis. Despite this we need to look positively at a future vaccinated world and deal with our presently armoured borders.

In this context, the Iter Vitis Cultural Itinerary of the Council of Europe has continued to work (albeit virtually) across borders in order to make obstacles become an opportunity.

The philosophy of the cultural routes of the Council of Europe fits very well with the values and principles enshrined in IGCAT's work. We know that by working together across sectors and borders we can find solutions to many of our territory's challenges.

The fact of being part of an international network represents an added-value for the member countries even more in these times of difficulty. Our 20 member countries have been able to count on each other to exchange winning practices, support each other and launch programs of adaptation of tourist accommodation to the highest standards.

Iter Vitis has been proud to find new hard working members in emerging wine and gastronomy tourism destinations. We have been especially delighted by cooperation in the Caucasian countries, where our partners in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Russia and Georgia have worked together to improve their own wine tourism products but also to increase safe proximity tourism, becoming an inspiring pilot for all our members.

Gastronomy goes hand in hand with viticulture and the development of wine, cultural and food itineraries is unveiling a new generation of gastronomic ambassadors. As well as being an active member of Iter Vitis, Georgia would be an excellent candidate as a World Region of Gastronomy in the future.

Emanuela Panke

IGCAT Expert

President - Iter Vitis Les Chemins de la vigne en Europe

IGCAT announces 2nd European Food Gift Challenge

8 March 2021 - The European Food Gift Challenge 2nd edition will take place in Coimbra Region, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2021-2022, on 23 July 2021. IGCAT's acclaimed contest will bring together top-quality food and crafts products from the European Region ... [Read more](#)



European Young Chef Award 2021 call officially launched

3 March 2021 - IGCAT has officially announced the European Young Chef Award 2021 that will take place in the renovated Municipal Market of Braga in Minho, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2016, on 23-24 November 2021. Under the theme Innovation on Traditi ... [Read more](#)

Call open for the Food Film Menu 2021!

17 February 2021 - After a successful first edition in 2020, IGCAT has opened a new call for submissions to the Food Film Menu 2021 competition to collect short food films that showcase awarded and candidate Regions of Gastronomy and their culinary herit ... [Read more](#)



Europe's travel & tourism sector welcomes Digital Green Certificate proposal

17 March 2021 - Over 60 travel and tourism organisations, including IGCAT, express their support for the European Commission's initiative and call to ensure swift implementation in time for summer 2021. The European Tourism Manifesto alliance strongly welcomes the Euro ... [Read more](#)

News from the Regions of Gastronomy

Miniseries uncover Kuopio's taste gems

25 March 2021 - The flavours of Kuopio, awarded European Region of Gastronomy 2020-2021 by IGCAT, are the protagonists of Battle of Tastes - Nordic Food Adventure in Savo (Makumittelö in Finnish), a short web series that promotes the Nordic diet through Finnish top- ... [Read more](#)



New book collection celebrates Slovenia's landscapes and food

12 March 2021 - Within the framework of its title year, Slovenia, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2021 has announced the publication of Gastronomy of Slovenia, a unique four-book collection aimed to celebrate and give international visibility to the local culinary heritage. Authored by

IGCAT Expert ... [Read more](#)

Coimbra fosters innovation in gastronomy tourism

11 March 2021 - Boosting innovative entrepreneurship in the food tourism sector is one of the main focuses of Coimbra Region, European Region of Gastronomy 2021 awarded by IGCAT. In February 2021, the region opened a new call for the Tourism Creative Factory (TCF) initiative that this year is organised under the the ... [Read more](#)



Hundreds of students for the Trøndelag Food Manifesto

11 February 2021 - 1500 students from 50 middle schools across Trondheim-Trøndelag, European Region of Gastronomy awarded 2022 took part in the celebrations for the 10th anniversary of the Trøndelag Food Manifesto, on 11 February 2021. Developed to highlight the region's food heritage, the Trøndelag Food Manife ... [Read more](#)

Joan Roca endorses Menorca's gastronomy APP - Ollaigua

9 February 2021 - Menorca, awarded European Region of Gastronomy 2022 by IGCAT has launched Ollaigua, a digital magazine promoting the food scene and culture of the island. Edited by the Island Council of Menorca in three languages (Catalan, Spanish and English), this ... [Read more](#)



Current news from around the globe



New report shows Indigenous and Tribal Peoples 'best guardians' of forests - By FAO

29 March 2021 - Deforestation rates are significantly lower in Indigenous and Tribal territories where governments have formally recognized collective land rights, ac ... [Read more](#)

Biodiversity at risk, threatens human survival, UN forum hears - By UN News

26 March 2021 - The Director-General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Audrey Azoulay opened the UNESCO Forum on Biodiversity by pointing ou... [Read more](#)



Nature-based Solutions can save the planet, but only if we change our diets too

- By **World Economic Forum**

16 March 2021 - Natural ecosystems, such as forests, grasslands and oceans, do a pretty good job of storing carbon and supporting biodiversity. It's therefore no surprise that Na ... [Read more](#)

COVID-19 imperils 'historic advances' in children's access to school meals: UN report - By UN News

26 February - According to WFP's report, State of School Feeding Worldwide, 370 million children in 199 countries and territories were suddenly deprived of school meals, when sch ... [Read more](#)



IGCAT carries out research, collects knowledge and develops projects to support creative solutions in regional and local development. This newsletter is just a small selection of news from the past three months. IGCAT compiles trends and facts from around the world.

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