



ERA European Ramblers' Association

EWV Europäische Wandervereinigung

FERP Fédération Européenne de la Randonnée Pédestre

Newsletter 2/2016

May 2016

Euroorando 2016 - walks in Europe

The ERA office updates continuously the Walk calendar and publishes all information on the homepage. We are encouraging the walks in May (with direct mails) to get in connection with each other by phone or Skype - we hope many will try to connect. 526 walks from 17 European countries are on the list now. The 30/4 we had 13,286 confirmed participants on the walks in Europe. The organisers of the local walks must send the number of participants to their national coordinator or directly to the ERA office, then we can keep the statistic updated.



Euroorando 2016 - Skåne

Attention, the final week in Sweden has two deadlines:
for group bookings the 15/6,
for individuals and groups with less than 10 participants the 1/8.
Do not miss the chance to book your stay in time.



The organisers offer you six different hiking packages to give you the best possible experience. In each package, you can choose between different day hikes, activities and coach outings. When making your booking, you can choose added extras, such as accommodation, guides, lunch and transports. In total, you'll be able to do six days of hiking (September 11th to 16th); three of your hikes will be fairly close to where you are staying, and the remaining three will take place in other selected parts of Skåne – all to ensure that you get to experience most of Skåne's varied nature and culture while minimising your transport times.

If you have your own accommodation and don't need any services from the organisers, it is possible to book day hikes only. The only requirement is that you pay the registration fee of 200 SEK and choose which hikes you want to do on each day.

The ferry Stena Line has a special offer for all participants and guests of Euroorando 2016 in Helsingborg. You will get a discount on the routes Rostock-Trelleborg and Sassnitz-Trelleborg.

Euroorando 2016 – T-shirt

The organisation team prepared a T-shirt for the event.

You will be able to buy it on the Euroorando homepage:

www.euroorando2016.com/merchandise



Travel by sustainable public transport during the whole week of Eurorando, to a low price

In Skåne there is a well-developed system of public transport. If you wish to travel by local and regional buses and trains within Skåne during your visit, it can offer you a great deal on a combined Train & Bus Travel Card. With this card you will be able to travel anywhere you wish within Skåne and how often you like on both buses and trains, all this by just showing the driver or conductor your personal Travel Card. They can also offer you



Photo: © Mickael Tannus

another card or add-on, which gives you the possibility to travel from Copenhagen Airport to your accommodation in Skåne (return ticket), this card is also available to a great price. The organisers will send you your Travel Card in advance. This way you can use your ticket to get across the bridge from Denmark to Sweden already when you arrive to the airport.

Read more on www.eurorando2016.com/practical-informationfaq

Conference - Sweden

The program, FAQ and the link for the online registration are available at www.era-ewv-ferp.com/era/era-conferences/. The registration and payment is only possible with a credit card. If you have problems with the registration please contact the ERA secretariat. Deadline for the booking is the 1/8 2016.

The official invitation and agenda will be sent to the member organisations in June. Proposals to the Agenda can be sent until 6 weeks before the General Meeting, i.e. by the 30/7.

We are planning these Know-How sessions:

- Walk Leader – Working Group report
- Open street maps – online maps
- Access to nature - Working Group report
- Leading Quality Trails –join this ERA- program
- European Week of Sport
- Criteria for smaller walks / walks for kids / theme-walks
- Walkers apps / social media – presentation of members solutions and experiences
- Future directions for ERA – a first discussion

Please inform us, to which topics your organisation can contribute.

EWoS:

The European Commission introduced in 2015 the "European Week of Sport" and plans to continue the coming years with a coordinated event to promote participation in sport and physical activities.

One of the focus themes is outdoor activities – where walking / hiking / mountaineering, like we do in our organisations, belongs. The week takes place in September and the exact dates can be different from nation to nation.

You can read more about the week in the last page and at <http://ec.europa.eu/sport/week/>



ERA has been recognized as a partner for this event. It is a unique possibility to present ERA for the European Commission and to show that outdoor activities are just as important as traditional competitive sports.

As a partner, ERA will encourage our members to take part in the week with local activities. After the week ERA will show an overview over what activities ERA and its member organisations has contributed with. There have been appointed national EWoS-coordinators and they can provide you with all relevant information – in your own language. Try to contact them to hear more – it is very easy to participate and you don't need to create new extra events to be part – use what you have planned already.

National coordinators can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/sport/week/meet-team/national-coordinators_en.htm

Award to Rob Franssen

The ERA former assessor, Rob Franssen, and his wife Riet Franssen from the Netherlands have received a Royal award. This royal title is awarded in recognition of their volunteer work. The couple was particularly awarded because of their hard work for Scouts, in the local church community and in the foundation work for twinning, in particular for the relationship with the Polish town of Szczecinek. Rob focused his volunteer work, beside the Dutch organisation Wandelnet, especially for ERA. He was the member of the board in the years 2007 – 2015 and the vice-president of the Path commission from 2007 until its closing in 2014. Congratulations!

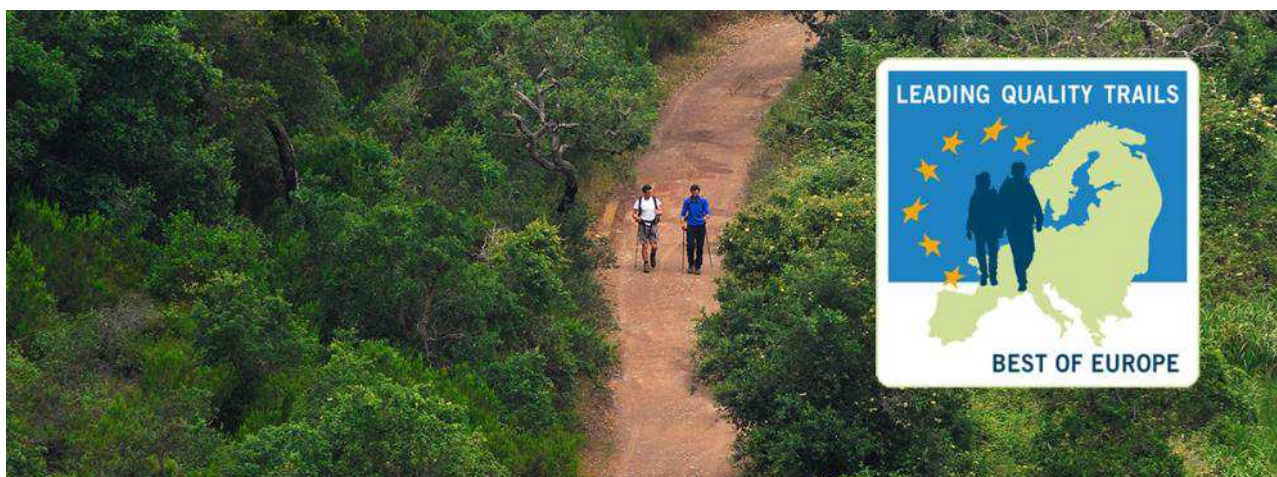


New LQT in Portugal

Rota Vicentina is a network of trails in SW Portugal along the most beautiful and best preserved coastline of Southern Europe. Comprising the Historical Way, the Fishermen's Trail and several Circular Routes it proposes a unique experience of two worlds, between a living and authentic rural culture and a surprisingly wild coastline – fully within SW Alentejo and Vicentina Coast Natural Park.

The 400 km long route is fully marked in both directions, and can be travelled independently and in total security, preferably from September till June.

The Historical Way of the Rota Vicentina has in February 2016 been certified by the label "Leading Quality Trails - Best of Europe" and then joined the exclusive group of the best walking destinations in Europe.



Official opening of E1 in Sicilia, Italy

Federazione Italiana Escursionismo, which celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, opened the first part of E1 in Sicilia, Italy. The Regional Committee in Sicilia have waymarked about 120 km of the path now. The festive inauguration was held the 24/4/2016 where the participants walked the first 11 km. The Sicilian part of the E1 starts from Nebrodi Ridge, at the megaliths of the Argimusco (1,200 m above sea level), which is a famous historic site. The path continues through the Malabotta Forest, the Alcantara Valley, the Etna Park (where it reaches the southern slope of the volcano) to Nicolosi. It is possible to follow a side trail (about 30 km long) to reach the volcanic cones of western Etna. Next year, the Regional Committee Sicilia plans to finish two new parts of the path, leading through the Peloritani Mountains and the Iblei Mountains. Then, the E1 could offer 260 km of an extraordinary culture and nature scenery. The path will continue to Siracusa and end at Capo Passero, the most southern point of E1.



Catalonia Trek Festival - 3rd International walk on the E12

The Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes de Catalunya (FEEC) organizes the 3rd International walk on the E12, the "Mediterranean Arch" in Roses (Catalunya), in the very heart of Costa Brava. From 30 April to 7 May 2017, the organisers suggest 6 days of hiking to explore the incredible landscape of one of the most amazing places of Costa Brava. There will also be different cultural visits scheduled in order to discover the rich artistic heritage of Empordà (Dalí's Museum, Sant Pere de Rodes's Monastery, Empúries ruins, Cadaqués, Cap de Creus) and the opportunity to discover the cities of Barcelona and Girona.

Facebook

It is now possible to find ERA on Facebook. The president has opened a site where she presents what is going on in ERA and the European world of walking – from her perspective. If you want to follow the news, just ask her to be a friend.

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#BEACTIVE

The European Week of Sport the 2016 edition

2016 will mark the second edition of the European Week of Sport. Building on the impressive success of the first edition, the concept will remain the same. The main objective will continue to be promoting participation in sport and physical activity. We will continue to raise awareness about the numerous benefits of both.

The 2016 European Week of Sport will start on **10 September 2016**. Similarly to 2015, it is intended to be a truly European event, with activities taking place in the whole of Europe, targeting everyone regardless of age, background or fitness level.

EU-centralised events and activities will take place from 10 to 17 September, including:

- The **official Opening of the Week on Saturday 10 September** by Commissioner Navracsics. The Opening event will be organised in close collaboration with the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council (i.e. Slovakia) and should take place in parallel in as many participating countries as possible. A key feature of the event will be sport activities linking capitals or major cities in a symbolic European joint event.
- A **Flagship event on Thursday 15 September**, organised by the European Commission in Brussels, mainly addressed to stakeholders and covering a topical issue on the EU sport agenda.
- Any other event with a European-wide vocation organised by other EU institutions and European partners of the Week (i.e. sport and sport-related organisations committed to the success of the Week).

The implementation of the Week across Europe will be **decentralised**, in close cooperation with the national coordinators, through **national Weeks of Sport**. National Weeks are to start between 10 and 24

September 2016¹. All events organised in a country under the umbrella of the European Week of Sport at national, regional and local levels will take place during the set national Week. As in 2015, the concept of Focus themes remains: i.e. Education environment, Workplaces, Outdoors, Sport Clubs and Fitness centres, and a wide range of activities are expected to be organised around these settings with the involvement of many actors, including European partners of the Week. The registration of European Week of Sport events will be delegated to national coordinators, with guidance from the European Commission.

The main **campaign elements** established in 2015 will remain in 2016, including key messaging and visual branding of the Week. The overarching campaign theme for the European Week of Sport remains “#BeActive”. It will also continue to be a reference framework for events and activities aiming at promoting sport and physical activity throughout the year. Moreover, there will be a greater focus on **communication in national languages** through the development of national websites and by increasingly involving national media (written press, TV and radio), to **further reach out to local levels**. In parallel, the European Commission will also partner with additional players to spread the messages of the Week. Finally, a team of EWoS ambassadors composed of national personalities (sport icons and beyond) is expected to promote the Week in 2016.

As in 2015, the implementation of the 2016 European Week of Sport will be supported through specific funding under **Erasmus+ Sport**.

Further information:

ec.europa.eu/sport/week — ec.europa.eu/sport/
Contact: EAC-SPORT-EWOS@ec.europa.eu

¹All dates for national Weeks are expected to be known by end January 2016, and will be publically available at that time.