

1st European Conference "Nautisme Espace Atlantique" (Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area) - 26 & 27 October 2011 - BREST

Organized by the Regional Council of Brittany, the General Council of Finistère and the NEA2 partners, the European Conference "Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area" will take place on October 26th and 27th 2011 in Brest.

This remarkable 25 000 kilometre-long coastline, which has marked the identity, the culture and the activities of the Atlantic regions of Europe, is ever more highly coveted. "The last area of public property on the planet, the coast has become the ultimate Far West and because of this raises a growing number of issues," analyzes geographer Yves Lebahy. The marine leisure sector, organized around three poles which are complementary – regulated activities, businesses in the industrial, commercial and service sectors, and the marinas – is one of these major stakes. It represents 100 000 jobs on the Atlantic coast of Europe. To promote the development of a sustainable marine leisure sector on the Atlantic coast, 23 partners have, for the last three years, been working on the "Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area" 2 network (NEA2), a European project which aims to reinforce cooperation and carry out a number of transnational events focusing on economic development, environmental protection and social cohesion. NEA2 has followed on from the Interreg IIIB Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area project which from 2004 to 2007 marshalled 11 partners around the theme of nautical tourism. At a time when the European Union is developing its Integrated Maritime Policy for regional sea basins and is drawing up a communication on its Atlantic Maritime Strategy for the autumn of 2011, these two innovative experiences provide a new impetus for development in the marine leisure sector. Supported by the Atlantic Arc Commission of the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe), and looked upon very favourably by the European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and fisheries, the "Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area" conference will gather 300 European participants in Brest on October 26th and 27th 2011. It will be an occasion to underline the importance of the Atlantic marine leisure sector and for it to become an international point of reference.



European conference "Nautisme Espace Atlantique"
Challenges and opportunities for sustainable development of the marine leisure sector in the Atlantic regions.
26-27 October 2011 at the Le Quartz Conference Centre in Brest (France)
www.nea2.eu; conference@nea2.eu

8th Plenary Meeting of NEA2 partners 23-24 March 2011 - NANTES

The 8th Plenary Meeting of NEA2 partners took place at the Hôtel de Région des Pays de la Loire in Nantes. The first day was given over to social and environmental themes and emphasized the quality of the work accomplished in both common and local events: inventory of the sites and equipment adapted for those with disabilities, discovery by job seekers of jobs in the marine leisure sector, socially inclusive nautical events, promotion of environmentally friendly ports, guide for eco-management of marinas, etc. The initiatives abound. The second day was marked by fruitful exchanges between Luis Cuervo from the Directorate General of Maritime Affairs of the European Commission and members of the NEA2 network. The latter laid out their vision for the future and announced their desire to develop an integrated project over the long term. A challenge to be taken up in October, in Brest, during the European Conference "Marine Leisure in the Atlantic Area." The next plenary meeting will take place in Villagarcia de Arousa, Galicia, on June 28th and 29th.



Atlantic Watersports Games in North Devon 23rd – 28th July 2011

Organized this year from July 23rd to 28th 2011, in North Devon, two hours from Plymouth, the Atlantic Watersports Games will include two new sports: kite surf and surf life saving. The sporting showcase for the marine and leisure sector, this annual meeting of the best rising talents in competitive water sports in the Atlantic Area attracts between 350 and 500 competitors each year and draws a huge number of spectators (85 000 in Cantabria in 2010). North Devon is organizing an event which will promote the beauty of its superb landscape as well as its businesses and friendly community. Festivities on land will be in full swing, concerts as well as other cultural activities, but on the water the competition will be fierce. Who will succeed Brittany in the list of winning regions?

Bideford: Games Village, Olympic rowing, sea rowing, sea kayaking
Croyde: surf and surf kayaking
Saunton: surf life saving
Westward Ho!: kite surfing
Roadford Lake: sailing



www.northdevon.com/atlanticgames
info@northdevonplus.co.uk
www.jniea.eu

GALICIA- Maritime Heritage

“Heritage boats: navigating through a sea of doubt”

The superb Museo do Mar de Galicia, in Vigo, highlights the close relationship which has existed since Antiquity between Galicians and the sea. Galicia has 53 associations for the preservation of its nautical heritage, almost 300 traditional boats and 22 shipyards for wooden boats representing 150 jobs. Organized by the Xunta de Galicia's Conselleria do Mar, the conference “Heritage Boats: navigating through a sea of doubt,” which took place in Galicia on 25th February 2011, identified the threats to Galicia's maritime heritage. “The idea that maritime cultural heritage is, like the natural heritage, an element essential to the development of coastal areas, is an idea that is beginning to make inroads,” say the geographers Françoise Péron and Guillaume Marie. Whether it involves constructed, floating or intangible things, maritime heritage is one of the themes of the NEA2 project. 70 representatives of associations, of shipyards for wooden boats and of organisations for safeguarding Galicia's heritage took part in this meeting. Representatives from the NEA2 project, the Portuguese government's Directorate General of the Merchant Navy, from the Xunta de Galicia's General Secretariat for the protection of cultural heritage, the heads of maritime museums in Vigo and in Barcelona, FRCPM Bretagne (the regional federation for maritime culture and heritage in Brittany), the Dorna project, all took part. Catalans and Bretons in particular spoke about their respective experiences in this field.

For more information see:
Interactive map on the NEA2 site / presentation of Galician heritage boats under commercial exploitation



BRITTANY: 6 million tourists want to "go on the water"!

In Brittany, marine leisure and nautical tourism represent about 450 nautical centres, mainly run by associations, 500 000 active followers, and nearly 2000 jobs. 200 professionals working in the marine leisure and nautical tourism sectors in Brittany met in Brest on February 18th 2011 for the second Marine Leisure in Brittany Day which is supported by NEA2. Three new activities, much vaunted by tourists, were presented on this occasion: stand up paddle, surf life saving, and aquatic walking. Public demand is evolving fast at present. More facilities, more rapid access, more pleasure and conviviality, more discovery of the local environment and local heritage. The marine leisure and tourism sector in Brittany needs to resolutely meet these needs. Another change of the times: finance from the public sector is dwindling. Public bodies will henceforth be giving priority to innovation and to the development of greater potential. Conscious of this new context, the marine leisure centres in the region, often run by non-profit associations, are intensifying their adaptive capacity.



IRELAND: All Island Marine leisure tourism for the entire island

8th -9th June 2011

Marine archaeology and marine leisure, restructuring of nautical buildings, youth exchanges, development of marine leisure in the Mid-West, Sail West project, prospects for development on Strangford lake. When the development of coastal and internal waterways is broached, various environmental, economic and social questions arise. This was the essence of the discussions at the conference organized by Ards Borough Council, in cooperation with NEA2, on June 8th and 9th 2011, in Portaferry, Ireland (see Web site www.nea2.eu)



The Costo, an electric boat for the 21st century

Add together a cork and polyester double, or sandwich skin, hull, an electric 4 KW motor, excellent gliding capacity, remarkable manoeuvrability, and you have the Costo. This electrically powered boat destined for the supervision of light nautical activities was designed by the E3H shipyard in Brittany, at the initiative of Nautisme en Finistère and of Nautisme en Bretagne. The French Yachting Federation found the prototype very appealing and joined the initial team. 10 water sports centres will trial the boat this summer. With Catherine Chabaud, famous ocean racing navigator, as one of its sponsors, the Costo was unveiled on the FYF stand at the Paris International Boat Show. This new product of the NEA2 project, which will enhance and encourage modern and responsible navigation, will be marketed in Europe from summer 2011...

www.e3h.fr ; contact@e3h.fr



8 NEA2 events were designated Local Events as part of the European Maritime Day

During the European Maritime Day, eight events supported within the NEA 2 project were awarded with the label 'EMD Local Events'.

- Luso galaico 2011 (Norte Portugal)
- Regata pirilampo magico (Norte Portugal)
- Feria nautica deportiva (Huelva)
- Un mar de cosas (Galicia)
- Fête du nautisme (Bretagne)
- Le défi de la Baule (Pays de la Loire)
- Normandy Channel Race (Basse Normandie)
- Captain's run (Mid-West Ireland)

More information on: http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/events/events_europe_en.htm



Surf the interactive maps

The interactive maps on the NEA2 Web site list the structures around the Atlantic coast which offer navigation on heritage boats, the Atlantic Nautical Outings and Excursions, the sites and equipment adapted to those with disabilities, clean ports, etc.

www.nea2.eu/fr/map/38/

PORTUGAL: Sea Forum 16th – 19th June 2011



AEP, the Portuguese Business Association and the Associação Oceano XXI - Knowledge and Sea Economy Cluster are organising the Sea Forum, in Matosinhos, from June 16th to 19th 2011. This event is open to trade professionals from the various sectors of the maritime economy, the scientific community and the general public, with the aim of contributing to the development of the maritime economy, and of raising public awareness as to the benefits that can be obtained from the sustainable exploration of marine resources. Conferences, debates and activities will take place during this maritime trade fair. Intercéltica, which has recently launched an original campaign to raise environmental awareness by associating top level sports people, will be in charge of water sports.



Port de plaisance Ayamonte

MANCHE: Nautical Outings and Excursions

As part of the NEA2 programme, nine Atlantic Nautical Outings and Excursions have been approved by Manche Tourisme, the Manche Tourist office: en route for the Chaouey archipelago (Channel Islands) on board an old sailing ship, the "Charles Marie"; a gourmet excursion leaving from the Granville marina on board the yacht "Mangrove"; exploring the Sélune, the coastal river flowing into the bay of Mount St Michael, by canoe. A different way of exploring the landscape, maritime or river heritage while appreciating the pleasure of gliding peacefully along under sail or by paddling. A nautical assistant will ensure the safety and interest of the excursion.



www.manchenautisme.com

CORNWALL: training et insertion of young people



www.cornwallmarine.net

The Cornwall Marine Academy (CMA) is part of the Cornwall Marine Network dedicated to growth in the maritime sector. Cornwall has a superb coastline but the lack of public transport is such that in the most remote inland areas, 50% of young people have never been to the beach. Thanks to an NEA2 programme, hundreds of youngsters under the age of 16 have been able to get a taste of water sports. They have also been able to grasp the possibilities of the professional outlets in this sector. On their return from the Academy, teachers noted that their pupils showed a considerable increase in motivation and self-confidence, as well as a reinforcement of self-esteem.

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