



Modern Wonders

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Bits & Pieces of Culture
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MAXXI



In Rome there is a magnificent place entirely dedicated to contemporary art, the MAXXI National Museum of 21st Century Arts. It is the first Italian institution aimed at creativity today.

The museum was conceived as a place of excellence of culture in its various forms. It is dedicated to experimentation and innovation in the field of arts and architecture. Two museum institutions are within the MAXXI: the MAXXI art, devoted to contemporary art, and the MAXXI architecture, the first national museum of architecture in Italy.

MAXXI art and MAXXI architecture host exhibitions and are at the same time places of continuous artistic experimentation where workshops, conferences, laboratories, shows, projections and training projects are held weekly.

In addition to the two museums, the MAXXI features an auditorium, a library and a specialized media library, a bookshop, refreshment points and areas dedicated to temporary exhibitions.

The outdoor space, with a large square that hosts works and live events, is also very attractive.



Calatrava Bridge

In 1999, the Municipality of Venice drafted a preliminary plan for a fourth bridge over the Grand Canal. They commissioned Santiago Calatrava to design the new bridge.

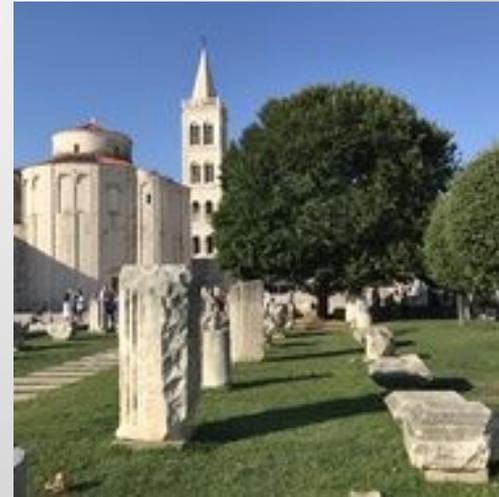
The **Ponte della Costituzione (Constitution Bridge)** is the fourth bridge over the Grand Canal in Venice. It was moved into place in 2007, despite the protest by politicians and the general public. The bridge was opened to the public on the night of September 11, 2008. The official name was adopted to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Italian constitution in 2008.

The bridge is situated at a strategic point, connecting the railway station (Stazione Santa Lucia), on the north, with the Piazzale Roma (the City's arrival point by car/bus), on the south side of the Grand Canal. It is important both functionally and symbolically.



Zadar – Monument to the Sun

Monument to the Sun or The Greeting to the Sun is an interesting monument in Zadar, Croatia, dedicated to the Sun. Monument consists of 300 multi-layered glass plates placed on the same level with the stone-paved waterfront in the shape of a 22-meter diameter circle. Lighting elements installed in a circle turn on at night, and produce show of light. Monument symbolizes communication with nature, with the aim to communicate with light, while the nearby Sea organ represent aim to communicate with sound. On the chrome ring that surrounds the photo-voltage solar modules on the Sun, are inscribed the names of all of the saints after which present and previous churches on the Zadar peninsula have been named. Next to their names and the date of their feast are the declination and the altitude of the Sun north or south of the equator (DEC minimum of -23 degrees to a maximum of 23 degrees), the length of the sunlight in the meridian on that day, and in that place on the waterfront, which makes this Monument kind of a calendar.



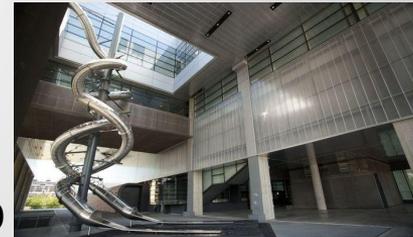
The Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb



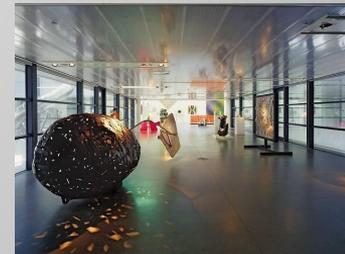
The Museum of Contemporary Art is a contemporary art museum located on Dubrovnik Avenue in Zagreb, Croatia. It is the biggest and most modern museum in the country. In 1998, a decision was made to move the museum to a brand new building on the corner of Dubrovnik and Većeslav Holjevac avenues in Novi Zagreb district. A competition for the building's design was held, and architect Igor Franić's design was chosen out of 85 entries submitted. The cornerstone for the new building was laid in November 2003, and the new museum finally opened on 11 December 2009.



The present building has a total area of 14,600 m², out of which 3,500 m² is reserved for its permanent collection and around 1,500 m² is designated for occasional exhibitions.



The building also houses a library, a multimedia hall, a bookstore, a cafe and a restaurant.





THE OVAL

Reinforced Concrete structure in combination with a steel frame and it is ct was designed by Atkins design office in collaboration with WKK and Arneftis Associates and was developed and constructed by Cybarco (Lanitis Group). Due to its complex geometrical shape, the project was realised through an advanced computational framework which was purposely built to support multiple levels and disciplines of design, construction and digital fabrication. The Doubly Curved Shell is constructed of a Rlad with around 10,000 different CNC fabricated alu**he Oval** is a commercial use high-rise building in Limassol, Cyprus. It was completed in February 2017 and opened in April 2017. With 16 storeys, it is 75 metres (246 ft) tall and the tallest office building in Cyprus.



ASPROKREMMOS DAM



Asprokremmos dam is the second largest dam in Cyprus. It is built at an altitude of about 100 m above sea level and is located 16 km, (10 miles) east of the city of Pafos.

It's the second largest man-made lake in Cyprus. The dam began built in 1976 after the Turkish invasion and was completed in 1982. The cost of the reservoir came to 25 million pounds.

Due to poor rainfall it is a rare event that the dam overflows. The last time reservoir overflowed was during January 2020 which is very important since it has only overflowed seven times.

It is considered an important wetland for endemic and migratory birds. The lake includes many fish such as bass, carp, roach and trout.

It is also worth mentioning that the area is very beautiful and some people plan their visits with a peaceful walk around the dam.



The “Upside Down House” in Szymbark

The Upside Down House in Szymbark is located in northern Poland. It was built in 2007. It is a unique house that stands on its roof. Its entry is through a roof window and you can walk around on the ceilings. The house is furnished in the style of socialist realism (the 1970s, when Poland was under Communist rule). The message of the designer of the house is: 'Life in Communist Poland turned the world upside down'.

The Crooked House in Sopot (Krzywy Domek)

Krzywy Domek (in English: crooked house) is an unusually shaped building in Sopot.

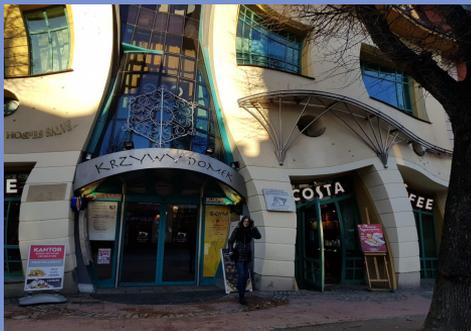
It was built in 2004. It's part of 'the Rezydent shopping centre'. Its designers Szotyńscy & Zaleski were inspired by the fairytale drawings of Jan Marcin Szancer and Per Dahlberg. The house looks incredible during the day, but during the night when it is lighted its appearance is even more mysterious. There are many clubs, bars, shops and cafes inside this unusual building. It is one of the locals' favourite places for relaxation and shopping.



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Cathedral of Saint Andreas

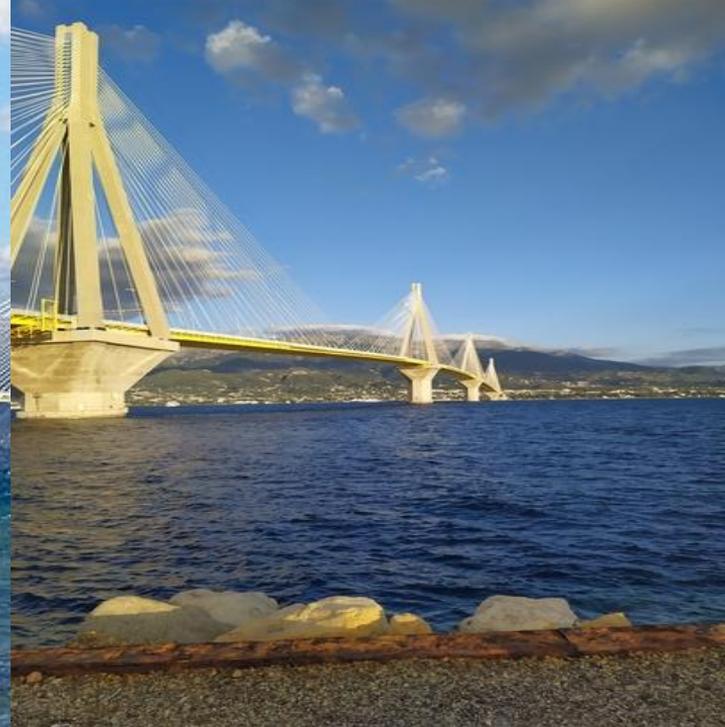
The Holy Church of Agios Andreas of Patras or the Cathedral of Agios Andreas of Patras is a Christian basilica on the west side of Patras. Together with the nearby old church of St. Andreas, they are a place of worship for Christians from all over the world. Building-started in 1908 and was completed in 1974. It is decorated with Byzantine art. Part of the cross on which the Saint died is kept in the church. It's the biggest church in Greece (1800 square metres) and the third largest Byzantine-style church in the Balkans, after the Cathedral of Saint Sava in Belgrade and Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia. **Saint Andreas is the Patron Saint of Patra** and on the 30th November all the city celebrates.





Rio Bridge

Rio is a place with cold water in the Winter. Also Rio is a city with nice nature and people. While driving along its roads you see restaurants, crowded beaches and landmarks that you are not able to see in another city or even country. One of them is Rio Bridge. It was created in 2004 with hard work and it is HUGE! Its height is 52 metres and links the town of Rio (near Patra) on the Peloponnese peninsula to Antirrio on mainland Greece by road. Also It opened one day before the Athens 2004 Summer Olympics, on 12 August 2004, and was used to transport the Olympic Flame. A fact of that enormous bridge is that it is the biggest wire-linked bridge in the world. Having such a bridge in your country is amazing that's why Greek people care for that bridge not only because it is the biggest wire-linked bridge but because it links the Peloponnese with the Central Greece so Greek people are so happy to have such a landmark in their beautiful country.





DAMA OFERENTE

Lady of Cerro de los Santos (Dama del Cerro de los Santos), also known as **Gran Dama Oferente**, is an Iberian sculpture from the 2nd century BCE, that is now in National Archeological Museum in Madrid.

This limestone sculpture depicts a full-length standing female figure 1.3 metres high. It was found in 1870 in the sanctuary of Cerro de los Santos in Montealegre del Castillo in Albacete province, Spain.

The statue is sometimes called the *Gran Dama Oferente* because she is holding a container in her two hands and appears to be offering it.





ALHAMBRA

Alhambra is a beautiful palace located west of the city of Granada, Andalucía. It is also an Unesco World Heritage site along with the Albaicín and the Generalife Garden.

In first place it was a fortress and years later a palace for the Muslim royalty. There are stunning areas in the palace such as the Patio of the Lions, the Hall of the Abencerrajes, the Comares room among others.

