

## Gorizia is preparing for GO! 2025 When borderless becomes a way of life

**Gorizia, a border city with a Hapsburg past and a witness to the challenges of 20th-century Europe is preparing to write a new chapter in its history: together with the Slovenian city of Nova Gorica, it will become the joint European Capital of Culture in 2025. This ambitious initiative, known as [GO! 2025](#), is a celebration of the borderless concept: the union and cooperation of two cities that defy the traditional barriers of borders and nationality.**

Gorizia, March 5 2024 - Gorizia is in the centre of Europe. From the hill on which its imposing castle stands, you can immediately see the entire city, as well as the landscape of **Collio**, the plains of **Brda**, the **Isonzo River**, a symbol of the First World War, and the three hills on which some of the most significant battles of the Great War in Italy were fought: **Calvario**, **Sabotino** and **San Michele**. The elegant palaces and monuments are tangible witnesses of a Hapsburg past, while the troubled history of this city in the 20th century is revealed as we approach the border. Here, the memory of the heartbreak of so many families separated and torn apart by a thin white line drawn after the war, which cut the famous Transalpina/Europe Square in half, still echoes and lives on today.

**GO! 2025 - European Capital of Culture 2025** is much more than just an event because Gorizia is first and foremost a border city with a long history behind it. At its core, it is an opportunity to celebrate cultural and national diversity, transforming differences into bridges rather than barriers. The GO! 2025 programme fully reflects this mission, with a full calendar of events that will take place in both Gorizia and Nova Gorica, in a synergy that promotes and drives future mutual cooperation and exchanges between the communities of the two cross-border cities.

In addition to the main events planned in Gorizia and Nova Gorica, the Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia is also planning to host the supporting events of **GO! 2025&friends**. These celebrations, which will take place in cities such as Udine, Trieste and Pordenone, will complement the project's programme with exhibitions, concerts and many other activities focusing on the importance of communication and sharing between people of all nations.

To discover the rich cross-border heritage of Gorizia and beyond, several guided tours are available. These include the "[Gorizia atmospheres](#)" tour, which offers an in-depth look at the history, architecture and beauty of a city suspended between the past and the future, and the "[GORIZIA, history of a border](#)" tour, which explores the symbolic role of the city during the turbulent and complex history of the 20th century.

Guided tours are free for children under the age of 12 who are accompanied by a paying adult. In addition, holders of the FVGcard are entitled to join the tours free of charge.

Lastly, tours can be purchased in the form of a gift voucher, which has a validity of 12 months.