

PRESS RELEASE

BARCOLANA, CONNECTED EVENTS KICK OFF

OPENING WITH THE PARA SAILING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: 23 CREWS FROM FOUR COUNTRIES AT THE START

BARCOLANA FUN: FIVE MORE DAYS TO COMPETE IN FOIL DISCIPLINES AND PUSH SPEED RECORDS EVEN FURTHER

ENTRIES: 1,200 CREWS ALREADY CONFIRMED ON THE STARTING LINE

Trieste, 1 October 2025 – Barcolana57 presented by Generali officially opens today and, for the first time, the event begins as early as 12 days before the main regatta, with a competition dedicated to Para Sailing. Barcolana, the Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano (SVBG), the Società Triestina della Vela, World Sailing, the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV) and the European Federation (EUROSAF) have joined forces to put inclusive sailing at the centre of the international stage, inaugurating the rich programme of events linked to the world's largest regatta.

*"We have been working for over a year to host this event together with SVBG – said **Dean Bassi, Vice-President of the Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano** – and we have prepared thanks to the Para Sailing experiences of previous editions with FIV. We are proud to open Barcolana with this initiative."* The first races are scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday 2 October, with Molo 0 in Porto Vecchio serving as the event base.

Meanwhile, construction of the Barcolana Village continues, especially in Piazza Unità, which will open on Saturday 4 October. At the same time, the first side events have already begun at Magazzino 26 in Porto Vecchio. **This morning, cartoonist Davide Besana launched his series of workshops and meetings "Sailors for Kids: Telling Stories through Comics"**, a true academy of the arts attended by around thirty students from the CIOFS FP FVG ETS vocational school.

Out at sea, the first day of Barcolana shines the spotlight on the Barcolana FUN leaderboard, closely followed by enthusiasts of "energy" sailing. The event, which started on 5 September, will end on 5 October.

The innovative GPS challenge – for the first time linking Italy and Slovenia in a single sailing arena – has already involved over 50 athletes, with more than 400 tracks uploaded to GPSformula.com. Seven disciplines are included, from wingfoil to windsurfing, kitefoil to surfkite, competing for speed records over three distances (100m, 200m and 500m). Speeds have already well exceeded 60 km/h across various categories.

Athletes have until 5 October to enter the rankings and challenge the current leaders: Zeno Tarlao

(wingfoil), Martin Milic (kitefoil), Franco Sterni (twintip and surfkite), Martin Brecelj (windsurf foil), Tommaso Feri (windsurf freeride) and Matej Vidmar (slalom).

The top three in each category will be awarded during the big party scheduled for 9 October in Trieste, during the days of the 57th Barcolana: a unique opportunity to showcase talent and become part of the history of this special edition.

As for entries to the Barcolana regatta, 12 days before the start the number has already reached 1,200 (as of 6 p.m.).

The Barcolana Grado SUP Experience, the first event scheduled for the weekend, has also surpassed 140 entries, taking the Barcolana to Grado. The new format – featuring two routes, a traditional one for amateurs and a more demanding course for professional athletes – is proving very successful. More than 400 swimmers have also registered for the Barcolana Nuota powered by Honda – Trofeo Luca Giustolisi, the open-water race taking place on Sunday in front of Piazza Unità.

TOMORROW'S HIGHLIGHTS – THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER

1. Barcolana Fun Focus: 4 days to go
2. Presentation of the educational kit *“A Regatta for the Ocean”*, by Barcolana and WWF Miramare Marine Protected Area – 4:00 p.m., Sala Predonzani (Friuli Venezia Giulia Regional Headquarters)
3. Barcolana Para Sailing – Eurosaf Inclusivity Event – opening day of races
4. Opening of the exhibition *“Sailing in Comics”* by Davide Besana, Sala Veruda
5. *Sailors for Kids: Telling Stories through Comics* – workshop by Davide Besana, Magazzino 26

[Barcolana presskit](#)

[1st October materials](#)

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