



The 50th edition of Barcolana: the largest regatta in the world

5-14 October 2018

In brief:

- 2018 is the 50th edition of the largest sailing regatta in the world – Barcolana in Trieste, Italy
- Serbian performance artist, Marina Abramovic, designs the poster for illycaffè
- BarcolanaExperiences and tourist visitor packages designed to ensure an exciting week on land and at sea

October 1969: It all started 50 years ago, when 51 sailing boats lined up on the startline in light winds for the first edition of Barcolana. There were no illusions of grandeur, it was to be a simple, pure, regatta, open to everyone, held at the end of the racing season on the second Sunday of October. The only requirement to join was to have, or to join, a sailing boat!

Since the beginning, Barcolana has been organised by the yacht club Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano (SVBG), a small club, whose club burgee was inspired by the peace flag, set up just a few months earlier in December 1968. Barcolana has grown in stature over the past fifty years and now welcomes competitors from all over the world in a festival atmosphere to celebrate together the spirit of sailing.

October 2018: SVBG, a breeding ground for some of the world's very best sailors with world champions, Olympians and America's Cup sailors in its alumni, now has over 600 club members and continues to organise the largest regatta in the world - Barcolana. In 2017, 2,101 yachts lined up for the start – a world record – and with over 25,000 people on the water and 300,000 on land, the city of Trieste comes alive for this unique spectacle.

Barcolana 50 will run from Friday 5 to Sunday 14 October 2018: ten exciting days on land and at sea with over 350 events across sailing, water sports, culture, art, social and educational workshops on the theme of the sea. Continuing the tradition of always racing on the second Sunday of October, the 2018 edition will be held 14 October. The traditional quadrilateral race course runs 13 nautical miles from Barcola and Miramare to the waters off piazza Unità, Trieste's city centre. Online registrations are open at www.barcolana.it.

To mark the 50th anniversary, the start line will be honoured with a fly-by from the Italian Air Force aerobatics display team (Pattuglia Acrobatica - Frecce Tricolori). While the fleet readies itself for the starting gun, the colours of the Italian flag will stretch for three kilometres in the sky above the start line between Barcola and Miramare.



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The press conferences in Milan and London (at the Italian Embassy, in the presence of Ambassador Raffaele Trombetta, illycaffè Chairman Andrea Illy, SVBG Chairman Mitja Gialuz, Lorenzo Desalvo, Musement marketing manager) are the first official events that will unveil the regatta's poster designed by Serbian performance artist Marina Abramović with illy.

The two conferences will also present BarcolanaExperiences and the tourist packages created by Musement and available on www.barcolana.it for visitors to plan their ideal trip to Trieste and join the event either on land or sea.

"We are extremely proud and excited to be launching today the 50th edition of Barcolana – the world's biggest regatta," commented SVBG Chairman Mitja Gialuz.

"We are also proud to be honouring our forebearers who had the vision to start this regatta in 1968, and today, 50 years on, we aspire to continue with the same values and traditions of our founding fathers. The 2018 edition of Barcolana will be particularly special and the whole city of Trieste is coming together to celebrate.

"The Barcolana spirit will shine through with over 300 events on land and at sea creating a unique experience for everyone. The keyword this year is 'involvement': sailing is for everyone. The sea belongs to us all and we will celebrate our shared passion for the waters around us, sharing the spirit of the sport with sailors and non-sailors alike.

"We very much hope that Barcolana 2018 will be spoken about with great joy for many years to come."

MILESTONES BARCOLANA50 (events confirmed as of 30 June)

26 September	Registrations open for Barcolana50
5 October	Event inauguration
6-14 October, Trieste Seafront	Barcolana50 Village activities
6 October	Concert in Piazza dell'Unità (In aid of the Trieste Children's Hospital IRCCS Burlo Garofolo charity)
6-7 October, at sea	Barcolana Young (Optimist regatta), Barcolana Nuota (open water swimming), Lega Italiana Vela (Italian Sailing League): under 19 kickoff (J70 regattas).
10-13 October, at sea	M32 Circuit Final Race
12 October, at sea	Italian Navy League (LNI) Regatta, Barcolana Invitational
13 October, at sea	Generali Cup (J70), Barcolana by Night (Ufo), Barcolana Classic (Vintage yachts)
13 ottobre, in mare	Generali Cup (J70), Barcolana di Notte (Ufo, Meteor, J70), Barcolana Classic (epoca)
14 ottobre	Barcolana50

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ROAD TO BARCOLANA

3 July, Milan

4 July, London , Italian Embassy

25 July, Trieste

Unveiling of the Poster and presentation of BarcolanaExperiences

Presentation to international press

Presentation of Polo-Shirt and Launch of BARCOLANA50 sailing boat

September, Munich

Second week of September, Rome

24 September, Trieste

Presentation of Barcolana to German and Austrian press

Presentation of Barcolana to Italian press

Press conference of the Main Sponsor Generali: presentation of calendar of Events

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