

PRESS RELEASE

Valencia Crowned 2016 European Destination of the Year

Interrail's Travellers' Choice Award votes Spanish city as top destination in Europe as summer season activities warm up

UTRECHT, the Netherlands, 07 July 2016 – Just as the summer travel season starts to heat up in Europe, Valencia in Spain has been announced as the 2016 Interrail Destination of the Year, as part of Interrail's own online Travellers' Choice Award. Up against strong competition from nine other inspiring destinations in Europe, Valencia convincingly secured this year's Interrail Destination Award with over a third of the votes received from close to 6,500 public voters.

Following a month-long online public vote hosted on the [Interrail Facebook page](#), Valencia was awarded the top spot by travellers over other shortlisted destinations which included Budapest, Karlsruhe, Bologna, Rotterdam, Salzburg, York, Zagreb, The Hague, and Leuven. Destinations were shortlisted taking in to account such elements as their multi-generational appeal to more than 250,000 Interrail travellers each year, unique attractions, and rail connections.

An Interrail Pass enables unlimited rail travel in up to 30 countries in Europe, and with over 10,000 railways stations to choose from, the itinerary options are endless. The Interrail Destination Award aims to inspire travellers to explore more of Europe, including less explored, alternative destinations across Europe.

"We'd like to congratulate Valencia on being this year's Interrail Destination Award winner, alongside the other diverse shortlisted destinations", says Silvia Fischer, Sales & Marketing Manager of Eurail Group G.I.E. "With a fantastic mix of the old and new in terms of architecture and culture, Valencia has countless sights on offer for travellers of all ages", adds Mrs. Fischer.

Valencia Tourism's Sales Promotion Director, Miguel Angel Pérez, said "Valencia is proud to have been awarded the Interrail destination of the year! We look forward to welcoming more visitors by rail who will uncover a city that experiences wonderful weather all year round – the perfect accompaniment to Valencia's great outdoor lifestyle and the rich Mediterranean gastronomy available in our unique city."

Valencia's win comes as the popular summer vacation period is in full-swing in Europe, with Interrail customer events happening across Europe, including the [Interrail Summer Party](#) taking place at club A38 in Budapest on 8 August, and an Interrail Meet-Up Event for travellers happening in Amsterdam on 25 August.

Visit the official Interrail Facebook page or <http://vote.interrail.eu> to read more about Valencia and the 2016 nominated destinations.

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About Eurail Group G.I.E.

Established in 2001, Eurail Group G.I.E. is the organisation dedicated to the management of Eurail and Interrail products, for both non-European and European residents respectively. Solely owned by more than 35 railway and shipping companies in Europe, Eurail Group G.I.E. works with hotels, transport companies, and sightseeing attractions to provide additional benefits and discounts to all Interrail Pass holders to assist them along their unique journey.

Interrail Passes are available for purchase via local European railways at stations across Europe and at www.interrail.eu. Visit www.eurailgroup.org or www.interrail.eu for more information.