



ESPA
EUROPEAN SPAS ASSOCIATION

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PRESS RELEASE

The Winners of the ESPA Innovation Awards 2019 announced

#ESPAInnovationAwards2019

On Thursday, May 9, in Terme Tuhelj (Croatia) over 100 European Spas & Health Tourism professionals from 25 countries, gathered to celebrate Innovation and excellence.

The ESPA Innovation Awards reflects the ESPA aim of “to stimulate exchange of experience, best practice and know-how”. ESPA created this Innovation Awards for destinations, facilities or initiatives that represent “innovation” and “excellence” in the true sense of the word; that is, the development of a new, more creative or more effective approach to any aspect of spas and health resorts. In 2019 ESPA registered applicants from 11 European countries.

The Winners of the ESPA Innovation Awards 2019 were presented during the ESPA Annual Congress Dinner Gala in Terme Tuhelj Art & Spa.

THE WINNERS

Category INNOVATIVE SPA & HEALTH RESORT DESTINATION

Albena – European Sport Resort 2019 (Bulgaria)

<https://www.albena.bg>

Albena – European Sport Resort 2019 on the Black Sea coast in Bulgaria has been chosen as the best innovative SPA & Health Resort Destination for its position in a national reserve of 205 hectar ground, for the sustainable hotel and product investments, and the attention to preserve the natural environment by implementing innovative ecological alternatives for transportation, waste management and electricity. As far as the medical aspect is concerned the three natural sources of thermal water (thalasso, mud) that spring close to the destination are part of the various certificated therapies.

Category INNOVATIVE MEDICAL SPA

Hotel Premiera Aqua - Aqua Medica Center (Serbia)

<https://www.hotelpremieraqua.com>

The winner of the award for innovative Medical SPA has been given to Hotel Premier Aqua - Aqua Medica Center in Serbia for the combination of traditional and untraditional methods that are considered very innovative, like the use of pure oxygen to deal with prevention and sports injury recovery, and the Up-to-Date-Equipment of the center.



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Category INNOVATIVE SPA HOTEL

Spirit Hotel (Hungary)

<https://www.spirithotel.hu>

Spirit Hotel in Sárvár in West-Hungary has won the price as the most innovative SPA HOTEL because of its modern lifestyle design combined with the use of natural sources of non filtered unique thermal water that is used for all offers in medical treatment and the pools. Five doctors are at the client disposal for all kind of traditional and personalized medical certificated treatments tailored to various physical or mental conditions- relaxation, energizing or detoxification. Beside the treatments based on natural remedies the Spirit Hotel is important for its dermatological section with Dr. Derm.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA CONCEPT

Herculum SPA (Romania)

<https://www.afroditaresort.ro/herculum-spa>

Charming design of the pool area, with its different pools, has a clever mix of technical and familiar elements. Relax and wet area complete the offer, with a modern concept of the spaces.

Category INNOVATIVE HEALTH SPA PROGRAM

The NLFI Spa and medical clinic Heilsustofnun (Island)

<https://www.heilsustofnun.is/en/>

The institute has a focus on stress, one of the leading new disorders, the program is characterized by completeness and continuous scientific medical checking; together with the attention paid to education of the wealth programmes, configure itself as a modern and innovative project.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA PRODUCTS

Thermelove Sulphur Spa Cosmetics (Czech Republic)

<https://www.thermelove.cz>

The innovation for SPA products is given to Thermelove from the Czech Republic for the use of the unique thermal sulphur water from the natural healing springs of the spa resort Velké Losiny known for its beneficial effects for the skin of sulphur thermal springs for centuries. The products are 100% natural and the effectiveness based on up to date researches.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMM

International Institute of Technology Deggendorf (Germany)

<https://www.th-deg.de/en/university>

The Jury decided to assign the award to the University of Deggendorf, the International Institute of Technology for the innovative concept of studies open for young people from all over the world in a familiar environment. One of the focal points of the European Campus is in the fields of health and medical tourism and informatics. Internationally oriented study programs (Bachelor and Master level) are offered and are currently used by around 700 students from over 50 countries of origin.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Dr. Antonella Fioravanti from Italy, professor of Rheumatology at the Siena University

The joint committee ISMH-ESPA in charge of the attribution of the award "Innovative medical spa research" unanimously decided to attribute this first award to Antonella FIORAVANTI for all her scientific contribution to balneology in about 15 years, she realized 20 major research projects published in English speaking reviews with impact factor. The main clinical topics investigated were KOA, fibromyalgia, hand osteoarthritis, obesity.



SPECIAL JURY PRIZES:

The jury also recognized the quality and merit of five other applications and decided to award them with a SPECIAL JURY PRIZE.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA & HEALTH DESTINATION

Norderney Thalasso Island – Badehaus, in Germany

<https://www.norderney.de>

Norderney-Badehaus in Germany for its natural unique environment in the German North Sea that is UNESCO World Heritage for its Wadden Sea. The destination Norderney implemented the Brand Thalasso Island as a unique strategy to promote the Island and its offer in health tourism.

Category INNOVATIVE MEDICAL SPA

Terme di Margherita di Savoia, in Italy

<https://www.termemargherita.it>

Besides being a point of reference for South Italy, for the number and importance of the treatments, we have an interesting example of healing: use of the sea and thermal water, without appearing medical: The pool with its water attractions and the Kneipp basin are used for healthcare, but with an innovative and charming design.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA Hotel

Terme Tuhelj Art & SPA, in Croatia

www.termetuhelj.hr

Terme Tuhelj in Croatia has won the Special Award for its innovative concept that combines thermal SPA & Art in a natural green surrounding and their attention to young people that are helped to learn positive habits by getting used to thermal and medical treatments to live a healthy life.

Category INNOVATIVE SPA CONCEPT

Lifeclass Terme Sveti Martin, in Croatia

<https://www.spa-sport.hr/it/>

Lifeclass Terme has been awarded for the innovative design that is linked to describe the characteristics of the mineral water.

Category INNOVATIVE HEALTH SPA PROGRAM

Energy Clinic, in Croatia

www.energyclinic.com

Energy Clinic supplies hotels in the luxury segment with programmes for health and well-being and even includes education through a successful wellness academy, providing extensive theoretical and practical know-how for tomorrow's specialists of wellness, beauty and health.

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