

Welcome to Verudela, Pula!

1. Discover the Local Area, Culture, and Heritage

- **Verudela** is a beautiful coastal area located just a few kilometers from the historic center of **Pula**. Known for its crystal-clear waters, scenic walking paths, and family-friendly beaches, Verudela is a peaceful gateway to both nature and culture.
 - **Pula** itself is rich in Roman history, home to remarkable sites such as the **Pula Arena** (one of the world's best-preserved Roman amphitheaters), the **Temple of Augustus**, and ancient city gates like the **Arch of the Sergii**.
 - The Istrian Peninsula blends Croatian, Italian, and Austro-Hungarian influences, reflected in its architecture, traditions, and gastronomy.
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2. Respecting the Local Culture and Way of Life in Croatia

- **Greet People Warmly:** A simple “Dobar dan” (Good day) goes a long way in Croatia and is seen as polite when entering shops, cafes, or approaching locals.
 - **Dress Respectfully:** When visiting religious or historic sites, be sure to cover shoulders and knees.
 - **Care for Nature:** Stick to marked paths and protect the local flora and fauna — Verudela's coastal parks and green areas are precious.
 - **Tipping:** It's customary to leave about 10% when dining out if you are happy with the service.
 - **Mind the Quiet Hours:** Many local neighborhoods appreciate calm evenings, so please keep noise to a minimum after 10 PM.
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3. Support Local Products, Services, and Experiences in Verudela and Pula

- **Buy Local:** Support local artisans by purchasing:
 - Handmade crafts (pottery, jewelry, traditional textiles).
 - Locally produced olive oil, truffles, wines, lavender products, and honey.
- **Local Dining:** Choose restaurants and konobas offering traditional Istrian dishes like “pljukanci” (hand-rolled pasta), fresh Adriatic seafood, and “fritule” (local sweet pastries).
- **Eco-Friendly Activities:**
 - Explore Verudela's coastline by renting a kayak or paddleboard.
 - Take a guided bike tour to discover hidden beaches and coves.
 - Visit **Aquarium Pula**, located inside an Austro-Hungarian fortress, which also supports marine conservation and education efforts.
- **Cultural Experiences:**

- Attend local summer festivals, open-air concerts, and art exhibits happening around Pula and Verudela.

4. How You Can Support Local Environmental Activities

- **Participate in Beach Clean-Up Days:** Local organizations often organize beach and underwater clean-ups — information is available at the reception.
- **Minimize Plastic Use:** Use reusable bags, water bottles, and containers during your stay to help protect the Adriatic Sea.
- **Choose Eco-Transport:** Rent a bike, take a coastal walk, or use public transportation to reduce your environmental footprint.
- **Respect Protected Areas:** Places like **Fratarski Island** (near Verudela) are protected — help preserve them by staying on marked trails and taking your waste with you.
- **Support Conservation Efforts:** Consider visiting or donating to projects like the Aquarium Pula's sea turtle rescue program.

Thank you for making a positive impact!

Your respect for the local community and environment helps keep Verudela, Pula, and the entire Istrian coast beautiful and vibrant for all.