## CEEnter

The new shape of Central and Eastern Europe

Tourism Award Marco Polo 2020 Initiated by China – CEE Tourism Cooperation

# 17+1 (China - CEE) professional cooperation in tourism, May 2014



#### 17+1tourism platform



- It aims at increasing the visibility of the17 CEE countries in China. It presents the CEE countries in China as one single destination, under a common brand.
- It contributes to strengthening the diplomatic ties between the CEE region and China.



The tourism platform is operated by the

#### China – CEEC's Tourism Coordination Centre (shortly: Tourism Coordination Centre or TCC)

TCC presents the CEE region under the common brand: ,CEEnter, the new shape of Central and Eastern Europe' and promotes it via its common website:

http://www.ceenter-china.com/



## Cooperation levels and connections

Government

National Tourism Agencies

Partners in the tourism profession

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TCC and national coordinators in tourism ministries of the 17 CEE countries and China devise the joint activities.

Agencies give support to joint presence and promotion.

Tourism businesses are invited to B2Bs and workshops. Tourism Award Marco Polo intends to rewards best performers.

#### **Tourism Award Marco Polo**

- given "for the creation of the best joint CEE tourism product", yearly, from 2019
- The Tourism Coordination Centre in Budapest (TCC) advertises the application for the award
- There are gold, silver and bronze certificates
- any CEE-located private tourism stakeholder can apply

Tourism Award Marco Polo 2019 with the recommendation of China – CEEC's Tourism Cooperation





## What is the aim of the award?

- to encourage the renewal of CEE regional offer, give it some face-lift
- support promotion of "best joint CEE product"
- further deepen cooperation between businesses and the governmental level of 17+1 tourism platform

What are the expected product characteristics?

- The "best joint CEE product" is a round-tour to minimum 3 countries of the CEE region
- it should be based on regional history, traditions and culture
- or it should target a special interest group (a niche segment)
- it should be innovative, measurable and sustainable

## Bronze Winner of Tourism Award Marco Polo 2019



Long Teng Hungary Ltd.

"12 European country-tour" takes the visitors to 29 cities of 10 Central and Eastern European countries. The tour covers the main attractions, but leaves experience to local food, natural sights and history. meet their clients' To requirements, they only **work** with educated and trained guide groups and a professional logistic team.



#### Silver Winner of Tourism Award Marco Polo 2019



**CT** Poland

CT Poland's European Concerto Tour passes through Poland, Czechia, Slovakia and Hungary. It is perfect for those who visit Central Europe for the first time. Beside main tourist attractions, it introduces tourists to local music, traditions and cuisine.

It offers an **insight into local life** through concerts and workshops, while offering enough time to unwind and relax. The best time to enjoy European Concerto Tour is June, July and August when the weather in Central Europe is the most pleasant.



#### Gold Winner of Tourism Award Marco Polo 2019



The product of Fly Montenegro Travel (Small, private tours at the Balkan region) is a visafree tour covering Serbia, Bosnia and Hercegovina and Montenegro. The tour is offered to families and takes them to places that are rarely visited by bigger groups - wineries, honey and cheese producers. Families have the chance to meet local people and hear their experience.

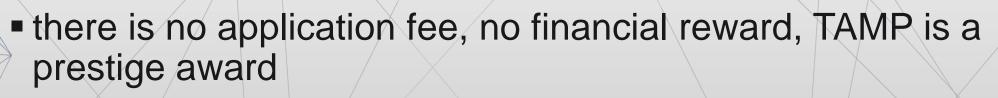
For the future they plan to introduce even more authentic places to their guests, a wider variety of tours with multiple options and include more countries in the region to the tour.



Fly Montenegro Travel

## Application criteria

- any private business entity (travel agency, tour operator) from Central and Eastern Europe can apply
- the product should be available in minimum 3 CEE countries (= a round-tour covering minimum 3 countries)
- the product should be in the market for a minimum one year
- the product should meet all application criteria (see Guidelines)
- English application should arrive at the e-mail address of TCC (<u>tcc@mfa.gov.hu</u>) until deadline, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020



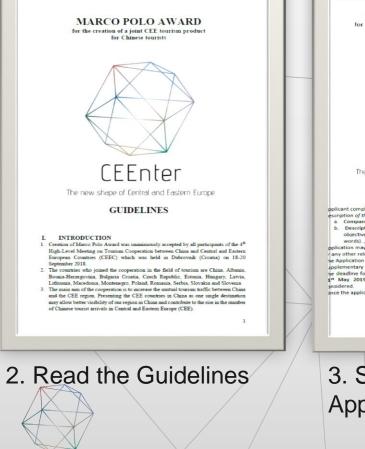
## Dates and deadlines 2020

- application period: March 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>
- evaluation period: June 1<sup>st</sup> July 31<sup>st</sup>
- notification of winners: by 9<sup>th</sup> September
- award winning ceremony at the 6th High-level Tourism Forum of 17+1 tourism cooperation in Athens in October
- 17+1 tourism cooperation promotes the annual winners: October 2020 to October 2021



### How to apply?

#### 1. Contact TCC at tcc@mfa.gov.hu for the application documents.



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The new shane of Central and Eastern Europe

MARCO POLO AWARD for the creation of a joint CEE tourism product for Chinese tourists	$\square$	MARCO POLO AWARD for the creation of a joint CEE tourism product for Chinese tourists
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MARCO POLO AWARD for the creation of a joint CEE tourism product for Chinese tourists APPLICATION FORM ase use this form to apply for the Marco Polo Award 2019 Application Deadline: 11<sup>st</sup> May 2019 ame and description of tourism product. Results achieved in 2018 (max 120 my other relevant information (or Date, Place

> 5. Complete the Application Form and collect the supplementary documents

6. Send your application material toTCC at tcc@mfa.gov.hu

#### Benefits

Eligible applications will be presented at the website of the cooperation www.ceenterchina.com



CEENTER CHINA - CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TOURISM COORDINATION CENTRE

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#### CEEnter

#### Introduction to the China - CEEC's Tourism Coordination Centre (TCC or CEEnter)

The China – CEECs Tourism Coordination Centre (TCC or CEEnter) was established in Budgeest in May 2014, on the initiative of Chinese Prime Minister Li Kegiang and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. CEEnter is the executive body of a joint professional platform for China and the 16 CEE countries in the field of tourism. Tourism was one of the 6 professional platforms planned to be set up within 16+1 cooperation CEE-wise. The mutual commitment of 16+1 paved the way for professional cooperation forms between the two regions.

The mission of the CEEnter is to collect and share information and connect tourism stakeholders - business ventures, national tourism organizations, ministries - from CEE and China. By promoting the region as a single and unique destination, CEEnter supports the cooperating Central and Eastern European countries to be more visible in the Chinese tourism market.

China, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Crodia, Ezech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia joined the cooperation on a voluntary basis. Greece the 17th CFE country injued in Anni 2019

Winners of the gold, silver and bronze certificates will have the opportunity to present their products at the Gala of the High-level Meeting in Tourism in Athens (October 2020)

#### NEWS

#### Important recognition for Balkan tours – Fly Montenegro Travel is the gold winner of the Marco Polo Award

October 24, 2019 / Diplomacy&Commerce / No Comments

At the meeting of senior officials of 17 + 1 countries in Riga, which was also attended by the Minister of Tourism and Culture of China, Mr. Luo Shugang, China-CEE Tourism Cooperation and the Budapest-based Coordination Centre gave away the Marco Polo Award for contribution to tourism.



Winners are offered a 1-year promotion at the communication surfaces and in the partner network of TCC and the 17 CEE countries

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	November 2020	)							
	Shanghai, China	a, PR				CITM			

Winners will have the opportunity to join CITM Shanghai 2020 free of charge and introduce their product.

For one year, the winners will have the opportunity to wear the label which proves the outstanding quality of their product.

#### Tourism Award Marco Polo 2019 with the recommendation of China – CEEC's Tourism Cooperation



## Thank you for your attention!

For applications please contact: tcc@mfa.gov.hu

