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INFORMATION

CULTURE

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ISLANDS

HERITAGE

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CROATIA



Vlak Turke Opacic:
County of Split and Dalmatia 4

Ivo Babic:
Split in Emperor Diocletian's Palace ... 5



Ivo Babic:
The historical heart of Trogir and its cathedral 9



Dvito Pissavoli:
Pearls of central Dalmatia 12



Ivna Baban:
Biblical Garden of Stormanja 15

Dvito Pissavoli:
One flew over the tourists' nest 18



Zeljko Kolar:
Fishing and fish stories 20

Srneljana Šunde:
After the Cross 22



Ivica Eterović:
Stone like cheese 24

Information 28
Map 30
Information 32



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Welcome to the County of Split and Dalmatia, to the ancient Dalmatia in Croatia!

This part of the Adriatic coast can be reached by air, sea, and land. Roads are long known and open, and destinations familiar. Our harbours, ports, and marinas are visited by passenger ships and ferries, yachts and sailing ships (bearing various flags); roads are constantly improved (a motorway is under construction); railroads are modernized, and airports receive more and more passengers.

The majority of our guests come because of the sea-warm, clean and crystal clear, and our beaches along the coasts and islands of central Dalmatia, particularly those gravel beaches around Makarska or Zlatni Rat in Brač, famous throughout the world.

In hotels, camps, and private accommodation on Hvar, Brač, Vis, and Šolta, and other, smaller islands, same as in Trogir area, Kaštela, Oštin, around Biokovo, our guests will find comfortable accommodation, kind hosts, and high level tourist service.

Dalmatia was visited by many since the Antiquity. Tourist promoters (jubilantly exaggerating!) say that Diocletian's Palace was not only a summerhouse of a Roman emperor, but also a Tuscolan, the first weekend-house in history. Do these historical and geographical areas, the Greek and Roman, were present even before the great emperor (known for growing cabbage for which he rejected to return to the throne!). He chased Christians, but it was exactly in his Salona that the Christianity in Croatia began, and his mausoleum is a cathedral.

Our coast has some valuable archaeological finds and monuments, Greek, Roman, Early Christian, and Medieval, all through to today. There are monuments still under ground and in the sea. The cultural heritage was being discovered by domestic and international researchers, who wrote about it and admired it.

Health tourism on our coast started in the second half of 19th c., when people discovered therapeutic effect of Mediterranean climate, healing properties of the sea, and miscellaneous fragrances, sounds, and colours of the climate. To a great extent, those properties have been preserved, although the modern way of living is changing the natural environment.

If you love sport, there are almost unlimited opportunities. Stay and play on the sea and under its surface, on high mountains, on Cetina rapids, on stadiums and playgrounds. Competitions and tournaments take place on daily basis, particularly in summer.

Evenings seem to be predestinated for entertainment, encounters, and playing. There are festivals (Split Festival is international!), evenings with diverse programs of domestic or visiting groups, dancing terraces with Croatian or international music, artistic events, and jovial associating.

Dalmatia is a region suitable for relaxed and pleasant stay. This is a land of sun, a land of song, and physical pleasures. Lovers of Dalmatia say that here all their senses are open, ranging from erotic sunbathing on lonely beaches and winifull sunsets, to the cool and rest in Dalmatian stone churches. Maybe you didn't know that the second half of May and the entire June are beautiful, with temperature suitable for swimming, and beaches are not crowded. That time is ideal for vacations of families with children, to which July and August temperatures may be too high. I also recommend to elderly tourists, besides May and June, to come in September and October. Some hotels provide accommodation throughout the winter, and if you decide to come in late autumn or winter, you will be delighted with colours and fragrances of oranges, mandarins, and lemons when harvested, pleasant walks in calm nature, sound of pine trees and waves, and warm sun throughout the winter.

Lovers of good cuisine will find on our coast an abundant choice of gastronomic specialties, primarily fish, for which Dalmatia is known outside our borders. To lovers of nature and healthy way of life, we recommend the harvesting of olives, ancient Mediterranean crop, which was almost forgotten in this area, but is renewed today. So, if you come in October, you may go harvesting olives, purchase virgin olive oil, and swim in the still warm sea. Besides, there are great wines recognized and accepted for long. They will make the pleasure of your stay full and open an invitation for your return.

We believe that this review will make you interested in new ways of spending your vacations, which will not come down to sunbathing and swimming, but become unforgettable adventures.

The Tourist Board of the County of Split and Dalmatia and its offices in all tourist places, as well as all agencies, hotels and restaurants will do their best to make your stay at our coast and in the hinterland preserved in your most beautiful memories.

Welcome to the Adriatic!

Editorial Board



Smiljana Šundić:
Interview: Miro Tomazović, Academy
member
Marčić – Father of the Croatian
Literature 38

Gabriel Jurčić:
The Aika Tournament of Sinj 38



Jenja Glušina:
Great Fishermen's feast in Omis 40
International Summer Carnival in
Makarska 41

Ana Dragičević:
Parish feasts in Biokovo region 42

Jelka Fiamengo:
Summer festivals 43

Jenja Glušina:
Actors in Zagreb 45



Silvana Jekić:
Interview: Ivo Pervan, photographer
No need for signature 46

Veljko Babović:
The embroidery of the Dalmatian
coastline 48



Željimir Bačić:
Along the Wine Roads of the
Central Dalmatia 50

Srđan Fabijanić:
Cetina river challenges
Vacations on bike 52



Megda Kaliterna:
Motor for beginners 55



Tea Katarusic:
Mysterious submarine world of the
central Dalmatia 56

ACI marinas of the
central Dalmatia 59

Vedrana Ivančević:
What else to visit, see,
remember 60



County of Split and Dalmatia

Vuk Tvrčko Opačić



Geography of the County of Split and Dalmatia

Surface area:	4 524 km ²
Population (2001.):	463 676
Population density:	102.5 inh/km ²
Seat of the County:	Split
Split population:	175 140
Towns:	16
Municipalities:	39
Highest peak:	Sv. Ana (Biskovo), 1762 m
Longest river:	Cetina, 101 km
Largest lake:	Perućko jezero, 13 km ²
Largest island:	Brac, 395 km ²
Seaside town:	Ištar, 2697 hours/year

Location and traffic position

The County of Split and Dalmatia is located in the central part of the historical Croatian region of Dalmatia. With land surface area of 4 524 km² (8% Croatian surface area), it is the second largest among the Croatian counties. The county also encompasses 9473 km² sea surface. According to its administrative and territorial structure, the county has 16 towns and 39 municipalities, and its centre is Split, second largest city in Croatia (175 140 inhabitants).

Split is also a very important traffic intersection. The major road is the Adriatic Highway (Rijeka – Dubrovnik) and the second largest is the road Split – Krin – Plitvice Lakes – Zagreb. We must also mention the road connecting Split with Bosnia and Herzegovina, very important hinterland. Once Zagreb – Split Motorway is completed (completion is scheduled for 2005), the county will be closer to Zagreb and central Croatia, but also the tourist emitting regions of the Central Europe (Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia). Split is connected with Zagreb also by a railroad, but so far its significance is secondary, until its modernisation.

Besides, Split is the major ferry port on the Croa-

tian Adriatic. It is the meeting point of international (for Italy – Ancona), coastal (Rijeka – Zadar – Split – Štari Grad – Korčula – Dubrovnik) and local ferry lines. There are also ferry lines Makarska – Brač, and Devenik – Ištara. In recent years, there are also fast (catamaran) lines from Split to the islands of central and southern Dalmatia (Split – Ištara – Vela Luka – Ubiš, Split – Brač – Jelsa, Split – Vis, Split – Šolta).

The International Split Airport with several daily flights for Zagreb and some European cities, is the largest by size and significance in Croatia, while the airport on the island of Brač was built to accept small airplanes.

Landscape

The landscape of the County of Split and Dalmatia is delimited with the mountains of Dinara and Kamešnica on the north, hills and smaller mountains of Vilija, Mosuč and Sviljava on the west, open sea southern of the pelagic islands of Vis, Brač, Dugi Otok, and Jabuka on the southwest, and the border with Lower Neretva Region on the southeast. Its characteristic is change of limestone reefs with low-lying stone ground, with scattered karst valleys (Imotsko polje – 95 km², Stajsko polje – 64 km², Vrgoračko polje – 37 km²) and narrow flych zones (Kakula, Poljica). That is where all the three longitudinal zones characteristic for Dalmatia are entwined: littoral, island, and hinterland.

The littoral is smallest in size but demographically and economically the most significant whole. It is located from the cape of Ploča on the northwest to the Lower Neretva region on the southeast. The zone is narrow, surrounded with steep limestone sections of Kozjak (779 m), Moser (1339 m) and Biskovo (1762 m). The mountain of Biskovo is especially significant for tourism for beauty of its exposed karst phenomena (steep slopes, caves, karst valleys, etc.) and endemic flora and fauna, protected as park of nature. Its tourist offer (high level eco-tourism) is an excellent supplement to the nearby Makarska littoral, area

of developed mass seaside tourism. Makarska littoral owns its most developed – tourism in the county primarily to the attractive white gravel beaches. The commercial focus of the county is in Split urban region, including part of the island of Čvovo with the town of Trogir, Kakula Bay, narrow city area of Split, Poljica littoral all through to the town of Opatovci.

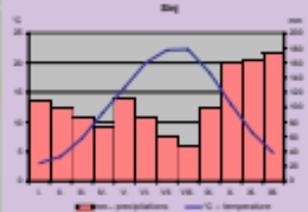
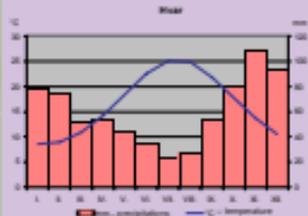
The islands are: Brač (395 km²), Ištara (300 km²), Vis (90 km²), Šolta (59 km²), Čvovo (29 km²), and a great number of small islands and islets: Drvenik Velik, Drvenik Mali, Šćedra, Svetač, Jabuka, Biševac, and Palagruža (the archipelago that is also the south-eastern point of Croatia). All these islands have steeper southern (pelagic) coasts, while their northern coasts are gradually descending towards the sea. Vidova gora (780 m) on Brač is the highest peak on Croatian islands. The attractive gravel beach Zlatni rat in Bol on Brač is the most famous Croatian beach.

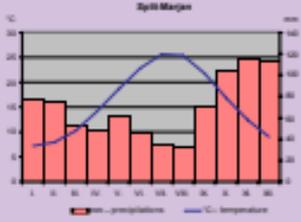
The coastal part of the County of Split and Dalmatia may be divided to several smaller units: Kakula littoral, Split littoral, Poljica and Opatovci littoral and Makarska littoral (rivers) – with the most developed tourism in the county. One of the major factors of different tourism value of these parts is the usability of the coast determined by the number and quality of beaches. Kakula littoral is located along the Kakula Bay between Trogir and Split, at some 20 km length. For early urbanisation and later primarily industrial function, its tourist value was of secondary importance. Split littoral is known in terms of tourism and recreation for its beaches ranging from Bračvice and Trstenik to Dušovo and Strolčac. Poljica and Opatovci littoral encompasses a narrow coastal area between the mouth of Žrnovnica and Vrdje cove, to the south of Opatovci. Along the coast, there are shallow coves with gravel heaps (beaches) and promontories formed on sites of more resistant limestone.

Zagora is the region separated from the coastal zone by the limestone sequence of Kozjak – Moser – Biskovo. Its karst region is less developed, and the traditional agriculture kept for long the leading place in its economic structure. Although there are certain potentials for tourism, they have not been sufficiently used so far.

Climate and vegetation

Climate is mostly Mediterranean (coastal and islands), and Sub-Mediterranean (mountainous and inland). Harsh mountainous climate is characteristic of Zagora and high mountainous regions. Mediterranean climate provides sea swimming opportunities for 5–6 months a year. Summer is dry and warm (average summer temperature in Split amounts to as high as 26 °C), and winter is mild with relatively large quantity of precipitations. In

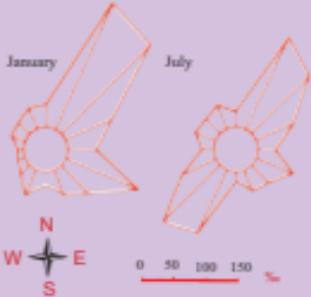




hinterland, daily and annual temperature differences are higher. A curiosity is that the town of Hvar with its 2977 sunny hours a year is the sunniest town in Croatia.

The major winds of the area are bora, blowing from the mainland towards the sea and mostly announcing colder and clearer weather, and sirocco, blowing from the sea towards the mainland, and mostly announcing warmer and cloudier weather.

Median wind frequency in Split on Marjan 1961-1990



The area of this county was originally fully grown with the Mediterranean and Sub-Mediterranean vegetation, the most representative species being holm-oak, Aleppo pine, and Dalmatian black pine on the islands and along the coast, and pubescent oak, and hop hornbeam and oriental hornbeam in Zagora. In the mountains, the major species are beech and fir. However, thousands of years of human activities have replaced the natural vegetation of the Mediterranean and Sub-Mediterranean area with various forms of degraded vegetation (shrub), so that the original preserved holm oak and Aleppo pine woods exist only on less populated areas of central Dalmatian islands and coastal mountains (Biskovci).

Waters

Lack of water is, along with the karst, the main natural feature of the county. The prevailing karst background is reflected in rich and complex underground water circulation and proportional poverty of surface waters. Besides the river of Cetina (101 km), the main watercourse – of exceptional importance for water supply, water power facilities, and lately also for alternative tourism (such as rafting), significant watercourses are only on the area of contact of flysch zones and limestone, where abundant springs come out. A significant source of water power is Peruća Lake (13 km²), the largest artificial lake in Croatia, formed on the river of Cetina.

However, the most important water resource is definitely the Adriatic Sea, with its fir known properties (temperature, purity, colour, translucency) along the attractive coast, one of the main attraction factors for numerous tourists.

Population and places

Town	Population (2001)
Split	175 140
Solin	15 850
Makarska	13 381
Sinj	11 468
Trogir	10 907
Podstrana	7 341
Omis	6 565
Kaštel Stari	6 448
Kaštel Sućurac	6 236
Kaštel Novi	5 309

According to 2001 census, there were 463 676 inhabitants (10.4% Croatian population) living in the County of Split and Dalmatia. Population density in the County amounted to 102.5 inh./km², which is much above the average density of Croatian population (78.5 inh./km²). More than two thirds of the county population live in its coastal area (69.3 %), somewhat less than a fourth in Zagora (23.5 %), and the islands are inhabited with only 7.2 % population. Such arrangement is the result of the traditional emigration from the islands and Zagora, with simultaneous birth rate fall. On the other hand, after the World War 2, the coast was immigrated by population from the islands and Zagora. It was stimulated by advanced industrialisation and urbanisation processes. Out of ten major towns in the county, where more than a half of its population is living (55.8 %), as much as 8 of them are in the area of Split agglomeration – elongated coastal zone from Trogir to Omis. The only town in Zagora among the ten largest in the county is the town of Sinj also gravitating towards Split. It is interesting that the largest town on islands, the town of Hvar, where in 2001 there were 3672 inhabitants, is not among the first ten largest towns.

The prevailing nationality are Croats (96.3 %), and the first place in the religious structure is held by Roman Catholics (92 %).

Economy

The County of Split and Dalmatia, same as majority of coastal counties, was the scene of powerful socio-economic processes stimulated by the littoralisation, i.e. transfer of the economic and population focus of life from the hinterland to the coast. Such processes were after World War II related to strong urban orientation and industrialisation in the littoral. Traditional activities (agriculture, fishing) were too abruptly abandoned, and at the same time people were employed in the industry and construction, and later in services (trade, traffic, hospitality industry, tourism, etc.). Such social transition led to backslid-

ing and loss of rural population (particularly in Zagora and on islands) and increased migration to towns (particularly Split). The industrialisation phase in the socialist Yugoslavia, besides its positive consequences, had also many negative ones. An example may be the ecologically unacceptable heavy industry, the main cause of pollution of Kaštela Bay, which is recently recovering from the effects of excessive industrialisation with great efforts and investments.

After the collapse of Yugoslavia and Croatia's gaining independence, the county was struck with unemployment, decline of numerous companies, particularly in industry and shipbuilding, for direct and indirect consequences of the Patriotic War for Independence (1991-1995) but in the sector of trade and tourism, some new jobs have been open.

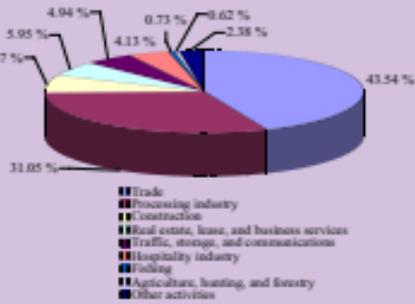
Tourism is the branch of economy that is fastest and most successful to recover after the fall collapse caused by the War for Independence. With return to the tourism sales level prior to the war, efforts are made to raise the quality of accommodation and enrich the entire tourist offer, so that the local tourism can be competitive on ever demanding global tourist market. In the last decade, strong development of nautical tourism occurred, so that the county now has 5 marinas with modern equipment. Last years, efforts are made to promote the selective tourism forms (nautic, eco-tourism, cultural tourism, etc.) to supplement the seasonal tourist offer.

According to the share in total income of the county in 2001, trade is at the convincing first place (43.5 %). Second is the processing industry (31.05 %). Out of industry branches, we must mention the shipbuilding (Split, Trogir), machine building (Split, Imotski), electrical industry (Split, Dugi Rat, Omis), textile industry (Split, Sinj, Imotski), chemical industry (Solin, Split, Dugi Rat, Kaštel Sućurac, Kaštel Kambelovac, Kaštel Novi, Trogir), construction material industry (Kaštel Sućurac, Split, Pašćica) and food industry (Split, Omis, Makarska).

There are two UNESCO listed world heritage units in the county – Diocletian's Palace in Split (since 1979), and old core of the town of Trogir (since 1997), which should have a more adequate place in the further development of tourism.

The County of Split and Dalmatia was in 2001 visited by 1 050 996 tourists (13.4 % tourists in Croatia) with 6 075 612 bed/night (14 % of all bed/night in Croatia). Foreign tourists were prevailing with as high as 84.9 %, mostly from Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Italy, and Slovenia. According to the tourist sales, the leading municipalities and towns in the county were: Hvar, Brač, Dubrovnik, Split, Podgora, and Makarska, which confirms the fact that Makarska littoral is the part of the county most visited by the tourists.

Structure of total income per activities in the County of Split and Dalmatia 2001





Split in Emperor Diocletian's Palace

Ivo Babić

Photo: Ivo Pervan

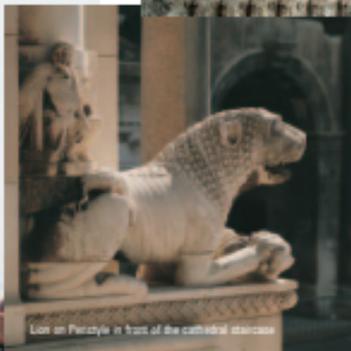
The Palace is imperial and so are the monuments... There is a good reason why Diocletian's Palace and the historical heart of Split as a unique whole are registered in UNESCO register of monuments. Split is the town nested in the shell of Diocletian's Palace where the emperor withdrew after abdication in 305 A.D.



Cathedral tower (12th c.); Peristyle arches in foreground, mausoleum in background



Temple vault



Lion on Peristyle in front of the cathedral staircase

There is a good reason why Diocletian's Palace and the historical heart of Split as a unique whole are registered in UNESCO register of monuments. Split is the town nested in the shell of Diocletian's Palace where the emperor withdrew after abdication in 305 A.D. It is a well-preserved palace with its walls, courtyard – Peristyle forming the entrance – Vestibule, accessing the emperor's apartments. The underground chambers are completely preserved with numerous rooms of various forms and vaults as a projection of the emperor's apartments above. There are sufficient elements to re-erect in imagination,

but also scientifically, we would say virtually, the original appearance of the imperial palace located just by the sea not far from Salona, the metropolis of the Roman province of Dalmatia. A coloured drawing by the French architect Ernest Hebrard has made a journey through time possible: the palace is seen from above, from air, in a landscape with the sea and a gallery sailing, with buildings on which you can clearly recognize porticoes, roofs, windows... How wonderful must have been arches and vaults on the façade of the palace along the hall with vaults reflecting the sea. There are many such reconstructions ranging from plaster models to perfect drawings due to which we may walk the streets, enter the enclosed sanctuaries – surrounding of temples, find shelter under porticoes, enter the emperor's apartments.

The palace is imperial and so are the monuments. That means not only architecture but also sculpture. We can only imagine the paintings. Some mosaics have been discovered. Our imagination is triggered by the fact that in the 16th century the writer Marko Marulić saw some remains of a mosaic on the Vestibule dome. The palace was doubtlessly full of statues, some of which are still preserved. The walls of emperor's apartments were covered with marble; after all, remains of marble, porphyry, and



Original appearance of Diocletian's Palace according to E. Hebrard



Historical heart of Split in Diocletian's Palace seen from the air

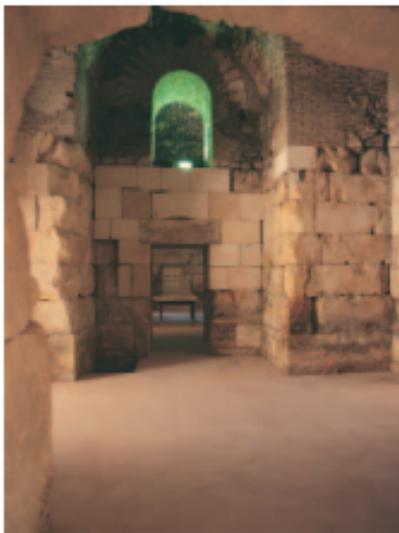
alabaster boards were found. There are many monographs on Diocletian's Palace, and particularly representative is the one written by the great Scottish architect Robert Adam in 1784, who dedicated it to the English king and queen. The palace was also admired by the Austrian emperors and Croatian-Hungarian kings Franz I and Franz Joseph I. After all, they should be given credit for repair of many monuments in the palace.

Some of imperial marks are Egyptian monuments, sphinxes, which of course have their esoteric symbolism. One is still there by the emperor's mausoleum, and the other is by the Jupiter's temple. The view of the sphinx between the columns of Peristyle is one of the most picturesque views of Split. Behind the sphinx there is the polygonal surface of mausoleum, the wall obliquely distancing from a spectator followed again by the portico columns, approaching and distancing with hierarchies of heights. Sphinxes contribute to the Palace's secrecy. On the one in Peristyle, there are hieroglyphs with the list of towns in Palestine conquered by the Egyptians.

In early Middle Ages, after migrations of new nations, including Croats, fields and swamps covered the ruins of Salona. But Diocletian's palace turned into the town of Split. The myth of its origin is cherished on the idea that its inhabitants were refugees of Salona. In any case, in the long centuries that followed, the palace

was the civilisation resort for the newcomers.

A palace of only one man, even if he was an emperor, became big enough for a whole small town. Actually, Split is a palace with medieval incrustations. Describing the transformations of the palace, the great French historian Georges Duby used the words "meak in" and "nest in". Actually, the poetics of Split is based on shifts in meanings of Christian and pagan. On the western gate, for instance, across the erased relief that presented the goddess of Victory, an early Christian cross was carved in. The mausoleum of the emperor of Diocletian, who at his time chased Christians, was transferred to the Split cathedral where Salona martyrs, Dujam and Stal, are worshipped. Around the mausoleum – cathedral, there are sarcophagi of Split archbishops and other dignitaries. The columns of the mausoleum portico in various colours and of various origins are very precious, some of them were carved out of pink granite from Egypt, others of cipolin. Above the staircase, providing access to the mausoleum, the magnificent cathedral tower was built in Romanesque style in 13th c. and decorated with sculptures. At the entrance to the mausoleum – cathedral, there is wooden doorframe carved in 1214 by the Master Ilirvina, who covered them with relief scenes of the life of Christ. In the interior of the mausoleum – cathedral, we may discern artistic interventions of later epochs. The Ro-



Underground vaults of Diocletian's Palace



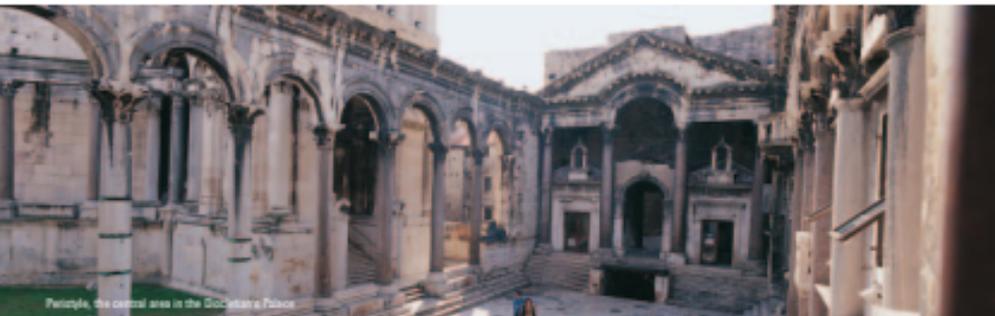
Relief on the altar of St. Stal in the cathedral: Whipping of the Christ (Juraž Dalmatina, 15. c.)



Sphinx on Peristyle in front of the mausoleum – cathedral



Early medieval sarcophagus of Archbishop Ivan in front of the baptistery (temple)



Peristyle, the central area in the Diocletian's Palace

mosaic pulpit of 13th c., like "architecture in architecture", was built of antique marble blocks in various colours. Wooden choir benches, abundantly decorated, are also in Renaissance style. The tomb – altar of St. Dajans, with relief decorations and stone tent, was erected and decorated in Gothic style in 1427 by the Master Bonino of Milano. The tomb of St. Anzic with the lying statue of the saint and scenes of his martyrdom was erected by Juraj Dalmatinac. In the art collection of the cathedral, among other works of art, there is also the Evangelistary from 7th c. The local tradition wanted it to originate even from ancient Salona and to be found in St. Dajans's tomb.

Peristyle on the other hand became the cathedral square. Some things were demolished, some altered, some holes were made; things were patched and built as such strained circumstances allowed. It is an unusual coexistence of sphinxes, sarcophagi, early Christian crosses, medieval tombs... The poetics of Split are also dead sharing the intricately parcelled space of Diocletian's shell with the alive. Renaissance and Gothic windows are opening on the palace walls. But in the Middle Ages, numerous new houses and palaces were also erected. A showpiece is the palace of Papalić family built in 15th century by the famous sculptor and architect Juraj Dalmatinac. The atmosphere of Split was summarised by the French travel writer Charles Yriarte: "Here, even on the upper floor, behind the bed, on the stairs, even in the closet, suddenly a Corinthian capital springs up; then in the floor or supporting a column protruding from a wall. Then there is a bas-relief, an antique wall; then again a hall formed by remnants of a building that was once definitely a portico or a road."

Two 16th and 17th century churches have sneaked in underneath the architraves of Protonon on Peristyle. But high above them, in guards' halls of the palace, above its southern and northern gate, there are early medieval churches. Very well preserved are walls of the palace with its angular towers. The main gate from which the road was leading towards Salona (so called Golden Gate) must be imagined with sculptures in the existing recesses. By the door, there were once two polygonal towers. In the guard's hall above the door, St. Martin's church nested in, with the preserved early medieval stone rail. The southwestern tower was in the course of Middle Ages located within the palace of the archbishop of Split, which encompassed the majority of former emperor's apartments.

The temple was very early converted for needs of the Christian cult. A sphinx is on the watch in front of it. Close to it were two smaller round temples preserved mostly only in foundations, one of which was dedicated to Venus and the other to Cybele – Great Mother of Gods. The temple was turned into a baptistery. The baptistery pool was made of early medieval boards decorated with three-strand pattern; one of the boards shows a Croatian king on a throne. The underground chamber of the temple was in the Middle Ages also used as a church dedicated to St. Thomas. Split has a very complex cultural genealogy of epochs, especially of crypt of the temple and mausoleum and huge dark underground vaults.

When the underground vaults were cleared, as they were almost filled up with centennial remains, skeletons were hanging beneath the destroyed St. Clara's monastery. Thus, tombs were not down in the floor of the basement but above in the vault. How-

ever, that was still "down", as the monastery and the church were on the upper, main floor above the basement – substructure of the palace. Tombs were also above in the cathedral, in its crypt consecrated to St. Lucy. Namely, the floor of the mausoleum – cathedral, stone mass above the crypt, was sufficiently deep to dig out tombs. Although it has been researched for centuries, there are always new surprises. A piercing eye will notice marks on the underground walls carved by architects and builders of the palace some of who appear to have been secretly Christians. Some of the builders were, according to the marks, from Orient, especially Jews. In recent excavations of underground vaults in the southeastern part of the palace, mostly preserved remains of the emperor's dining rooms were found, with the great hall surrounded with three small halls and entrance hall. Some findings in the underground chambers point out to the existence of a settlement that preceded the palace. After all, it was to be expected that the space near a natural port with sources of potable water was inhabited from prehistory.

However, Diocletian's palace and the historical heart of Split that developed inside it are not just dead history. They are still lived in. There are numerous museums and cultural institutions. It is pleasant to sit on Peristyle and admire the monuments from all epochs. In summer, there are evening concerts and theatre shows. In the labyrinth of underground chambers of various forms, sizes, and diverse vaults, there are exhibitions, fairs, and scientific conferences. Diocletian's Palace is teeming with tourists. For quite a long time, it is famous as a magnificent monument of global significance.



Interior of the museum – cathedral

Choir benches in cathedral sacristy (13th c.)



The historical heart of Trogir and its cathedral

Ivo Babić

Photo: Ivo Pervan



Trogir cathedral on the main square, Croatia

The Trogir cathedral of St. Lawrence (people call it St. John's) is one of the most valuable monuments on the eastern coast of the Adriatic. It is a monument already for its position on the site of the antique or even older sanctuary. Some of the best sculptures of the Dalmatian art are in the cathedral.

The historical heart of Trogir is a unique monument and since 1997 registered UNESCO cultural heritage. The ellipsoid form of the settlement on the island following the natural form of the ground formed by sea streams in the straits points to its prehistoric tradition. Truly, the archaeological excavations have discovered traces of life going down to the 2nd millennium B.C. But the history of Trogir as a town in the real sense of the word started in 7th or 2nd c. B.C. with the Greek colonization. The Greek town of Tragurion was protected with walls probably containing the ruins of the prehistoric settlement, and later along the line of medieval town walls. The networks of streets intersecting at right angles still follow the town planning of Tragurion. The square is at the same place where it was in the Greek era. Findings from prehistoric and Greek phase are best visible in collection of stone fragments in Trogir Museum, with also many stone monuments of Roman age when Trogir was called Tragurion.

Trogir is one of few towns where life was not extinguished in early Middle Ages at times of the great movement of Ostrogoths and later Avars and

Slavs. Many medieval churches of Trogir are on sites of early Christian ones, continuing the ancient traditions. St. Barbara's church is the most interesting early medieval church, most probably from 11th century. Remains of a six-sided St. Mary's church on the southeastern edge of the square originate from that time. Its vestibule is in the ground floor of the town church-tower above St. Sebastian's church (work of Nikola Firentinac); that is where sarcophagi are exhibited, excavated at the same point. The 12th and 13th centuries were time of great prosperity of the town, when walls, cathedral, monasteries, municipal palace and many houses were built in Romanesque style. St. John the Baptist's church is what remains of the reputable Benedictine monastery. Today, there is a gallery in the church. Its portal is probably work of Master Radovan. The monastery of St. Dominic dates back to 14th or 15th century, with exhibition of a collection of arts.

In 15th c., when several-centuries rule of Venice was strengthened, many buildings were built. On the southwestern part of the town, a castle of Kamer-

lengo was completed. On the northwestern edge of the town, on the corner of the former walls, the round fortress of St. Marco was added. After the Gothic, the Renaissance spread as well, as seen on building layers of the municipal palace. The most valuable 15th c. edifice is the Great Cipili's Palace on the square opposite to the western façade of the cathedral. It was decorated by Nikola Firentinac, Andreja Aleš, and Ivan Duković.

On the south, there is the Municipal Loggia – a porch serving as a courtroom. The Loggia was built in Gothic style in 14th c., and in 15th c. decorated in Renaissance relief by Nikola Firentinac. A large relief presentation of the Croatian hero, Ban and bishop, Petar Banišević was carved by Ivan Meltrović.

The southern town gates of 1593 are also preserved. They are a tribute to the ancient, Roman Trogir and its great men. Along the gate is the loggia – a porch where visitors who were late to enter the town took shelter. Today it's the fish market. Close to it is the complex of Benedictine convent of St. Nicholas where monastic life started in 11th c. There is an art collection exhibited in the convent.

On the northern town gates, there is the medieval statue of St. John keeping the entrance. Nearby is the complex of Garagino-Fanfogno Palace with the Trogir Museum inside.

The Trogir cathedral of St. Lawrence (people call it St. John's) is one of the most valuable monuments on the eastern Adriatic. It is a monument already for its position on the place of antique or even older sanctuary. Some of the best sculptures of the Dalmatian art are located in the cathedral: famous 13th c. portal – work of Master Radovan and his followers; the chapel of the beatified John of 15th c. as a unique architectural and sculptural whole in global frames.

Precious are also the artistic accessories, ranging from ritual objects to paintings and works of art some of which are gifts by the Hungarian-Croatian rulers. On the west façade of the cathedral, in the centre of the window there is the coat of arms of the king Ludwig I. Anjou with symbols of Anjou dynasty and Hungarian kingdom. The construction of the cathedral was supported by Hungarian kings. In the cathedral, there is the tomb

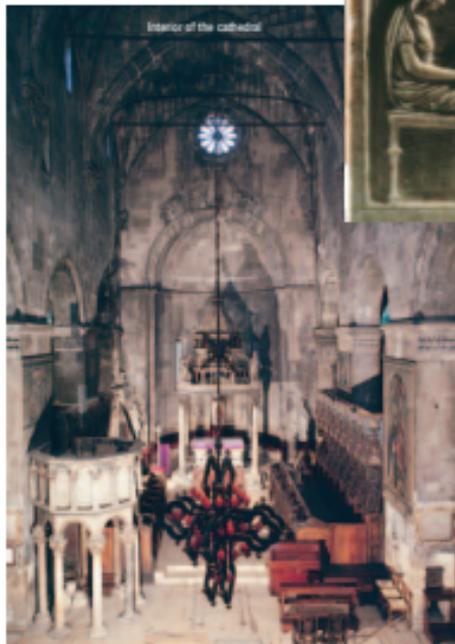
St. Martin giving part of his cloak to a beggar, with a lady with golden ring and silver threads, set with stone's and jewels (13th c.), cathedral sacristyAndreja Aleš: relief presentation of Epiphany of Christ (15th c.), cathedral baptistry



Portal of the cathedral, work of Master Radovan and his associates and followers (12th c.)



View of the historical heart of Trogir from the air



Interior of the cathedral



Greek relief, Women at work (2nd c. B.C.), Trogir Museum

of Wilhelm, the nephew of the king Bela the IV, who died in Trogir at the time of Tatar invasions. At that time, in 1242 Trogir was shelter for the entire Hungarian court. Of course, the cathedral is

primarily a mausoleum of Trogir, its counts, and all ranks of society ranging from noblemen and countesses to peasants of the surrounding area, their common sublime and religious aspirations.

The majority of the Trogir cathedral was built in 15th c., at time of fall growth of Trogir commune. But it was still built in 15th c., when the baptistery, St. Jerome's chapel, and sacristy were added; stone vaults were completed, and church-tower added. Such long time of construction (there is an inscription in the interior not before 1590) made possible in this building to have the main mark of the Romanesque style, organically followed by Gothic, and Renaissance and Mannerism. Thus this cathedral is a sort of anthology of styles ranging from construction to works of art.

The main western portal of the cathedral is in the vestibule. The portal is gradually recessed in the wall; there are

lions on the sides with the sculptures representing Adam to the right and Eve to the left. The entire portal lies on the back of stooping bears. Over the portal, there is a gable with a niche and a statue of St. Lawrence. The portal was only later composed into a unique whole; this is obvious out of ruptures of relief presentations, alterations of iconography and composition concepts. Lions by the entrance most probably symbolize the gatekeepers.

On the external doorjambes there are apostles and saints. On door-jamb sides, there are fantastic creatures (centaurs, sirens), beasts (such as bears) and exotic animals (elephant, camel...). The internal doorjambes are covered with relief presentations of months. On the left doorjamb, under the Capricorn symbol, there is December represented in figure of a man slaughtering a wild boar; under Aquareius symbol there is January represented by an old man warming himself by a fire and boiling sausage; under it there is February recognized by the zodiac sign of Pisces put in a fire by a girl; March below is represented by a farmer cutting grapesvine. On the right internal doorjamb, there is April recognizable by Taurus, illustrated by a scene of a shepherd shearing a sheep; under it there is March marked with Aries and the presentation of Mars, warrior under which is the figure of a boy blowing the trumpet (Aeolus – the ruler of the winds).

Capitals on the cathedral portal (13th c.)Ivan Duković: Angel with a cornucopia and a torch (15th c.), Trgova Museum stone fragments

Master Radovan: a detail of the column on cathedral portal

The upper part of the portal, a lunette and two arcs, are covered with relief Gospel themes. In the centre of the upper arc, there is a crucifix as probably most symbolic landmark: salvation of the sinful mankind. Christ's life from Annunciation to Nativity (lunette) to Passion and Resurrection is presented in the upper part of the portal.

Under the internal arc and under the lunette, there is a Latin inscription meaning: *This door is raised by Radovan, base of all in this art, as evident in statues and relief in 1240 A.D., at time of Bishop of Zreganos of Florence, Toscana.*

The baptistery was built in 1467. In the vestibule, there is luxurious Renaissance door decorated with cornice. Above them there is a relief of the Baptism of Christ, work of Master Andreja Aleksi, the largest relief composition in the Dalmatian art in general. The composition of the relief with the figure of St. John the Baptist and Christ, angels, Dove, God-Father, Jordan river, and background landscape point to direct influence of the Italian Renaissance painting.

On the interior side of the door, above the threshold, there is a Latin inscription reading: *This Baptistery was built by Andreja Aleksi of Dvarici, at time of Bishop Jakov Turkan and Prince Carlo Capello in 1467.*

The chapel of the beatified Ivan Trogrinski was added on the north, in the axis of the southern cathedral door. The chapel is of rectangular ground plan with semi-barrel vault. It was built by Nikola Firnčintac together with Andreja Aleksi based on a contract of 1468. In second half of 15th c. it was already built and almost completely filled with statues. However, in 1508 Ivan Duković still carved the statue of St. Thomas.

The chapel was built as the architectural frame for the sarcophagus of the beatified Ivan that is raised on the altar. The statues and relief presentations (of human and angel figures – one hundred sixty approximately) are arranged in a consistent manner. The lower zone symbolizes the Underworld with angel figures, which are actually gories holding torches and standing at entrances to the world of death. The upper zone,

separated with cornices, is articulated with niches with statues of apostles and saints. Above the sarcophagus in this layer there is Christ, with the Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist by his side. Above this zone there is a sequence of round openings; they were originally the only windows as the current four large windows were made later instead of old niches. In the arch under the vault, above the altar, the Corona-

tion work-shop De Sanctis.

In any case, the chapel is a unique sculptural and architectural whole in the world and it without equal in the European art of the second half of the 15th c.

The sacristy, built near the end of the first half of the 15 c., has a folded Gothic vault. There is a large wooden closet inside with intarsia and coloured carvings in Gothic style.

In closets and glass cabinets there are many valuable objects of the Trogir cathedral: reliquaries, liturgy objects, clothes... The silver Gothic seal of 1383 was gift by Queen Elisabeth and its daughter Mary to Trogir chapter.

Ivan Jurjev: Prikrpica (15th c.), church gallery

tion of the Virgin Mary is presented. The vault is decorated with cases with seraph heads inside, and the figure of God-Father with the globe in his hand in the centre. On the floor of the chapel there was originally the sepulchral plate with the figure of the bishop Jakov Turkan (transferred along the wall to the left of the chapel entrance). There is also the crypt of Trogir bishops. Two great baroque angels on the altar along the sarcophagus were added later. Thus, the chapel was conceived as a sepulchral monument of the town's patron but also of its bishops.

On the sarcophagus exhibited above there is the figure of St. John lying asleep over his grave. The figure of the sleeping bishop as well as the sarcophagus as a whole are recognised as work of the Venetian

Chapel of the beatified Ivan Trogrinski (15th c.), cathedral

Pearls of central Dalmatia

Gvido Plasevoli

Photo: Ivo Pervan



Island of Ivar

The islands of central Dalmatia provide abundance of unique natural phenomena, beautiful landscapes and idyllic atmosphere. Although a separate whole in relation to other parts of Dalmatia, there are great differences among these islands.

The islands of central Dalmatia provide abundance of unique natural phenomena, beautiful landscapes and idyllic atmosphere. Although a separate whole in relation to other parts of Dalmatia, there are great differences among these islands. Some of them are quite spacious and high, and have many geographical features of the nearby mainland.

The most prominent in that aspect is the island of Brač. On its central plateau, due to its distance from the sea and high altitude, an uninformed visitor might get impression he was somewhere far away on the continent. Nights and days are cool, even in the midst of summer, and in winter, at bad weather, the entire peak of the island is sometimes encircled in low clouds. If you're there at that time, you can see only

dense impenetrable mist surrounding you. Nothing in the weather reminds you of the mild, warm and fair Mediterranean climate!

That is exactly what the area of Vidova gora looks like. For its specific nature and incomparable beauty it was pronounced a protected landscape. It is grown with woods of indigenous Dalmatian black pine. This is the area of the central plateau of Brač and also the highest peak of all Adriatic islands. Local people on Vidova gora still breed cattle in the traditional way, providing an idyllic, Arcadian atmosphere in the surroundings. It is interesting to see great old pine trees, with still visible old cuts that left scars in their bark. They are silent witnesses of the traditional, and now extinct, activity of local people – resin collecting.

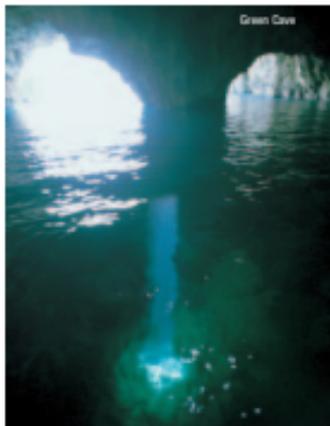
People used to cut into the trees, which then released resin on each wounded spot, and the resin was collected in specially placed containers. Today, that

would be considered destroying the environment, but it is obvious that people in the old times knew what they may do and to what extent, so this valuable and unique forest has been preserved all until today.

Vidova gora gives you a breathtaking view of the sea and the island of Ivar towards the south, as well as Brač and its famous beach, Zlatni rat. There, on a very slight distance from the highest Brač peak, on its foot, there is again the Mediterranean known from postcards – the sea, the sun, and the summer. As if you go down from Kamenjak covered with eternal snow to hot equatorial jungles of central Africa.

Zlatni rat is a unique geomorphologic phenomenon. It is a long gravel promontory stretching for 400 meters into the sea. It is surrounded with strong sea streams changing its peak depending on wind changes, so that sometimes it is turned to one side and sometimes to the other. Zlatni rat, with its large beach and pinewood in its centre, is a very popular summer resort.

Black pine on the roof of St. Peter church in Neretvica on the island of Brač is an unusual natural phenomenon, estimated to be 100 years old. The tree grew through the stone boards of the church roof, and unfavourable



Green Cave



Island of Brač



Black Lizard



conditions left it shrunken and small, so it looks like a natural bonai.

There is another natural as well as cultural and historical sight of Brač still waiting to be discovered and evaluated. That is Puntinja Blaca, a unique monastery complex with a great estate. It was established by Glagolitic priests fleeing from the mainland for Turks' invasion. With time, it became a very prosperous agricultural estate, employing a great number of people and had its ships for trade across the Adriatic. As new times arrived and the way of life and earning completely changed, Puntinja Blaca gradually faded away. The entire valley is now deserted and left to natural vegetative succession. The reconstructed estate of Puntinja Blaca would today represent a unique monument of wise and functional use of natural resources, simultaneously healthy for people and harmonised with the natural order of things.

To the west of Brač, there is the island of Šolta. In a channel dividing these two islands there is the islet of Mrdinja. Nothing special about it, still the islet became famous in a way. The legend says that long ago the inhabitants of Brač and those of Šolta were in dispute about the title to the islet. The dispute allegedly had such proportions that both sides tied the islet with thick ropes and started pulling it towards themselves. The dispute has not been resolved yet, and Mrdinja still stands at its place, welcoming and sending off each and every ship sailing between Split and central Dalmatian islands.

Pakleni otoci are a beautiful small green archipelago scattered around the base of the sea near the town of Hvar. The largest among them has a tourist marina, a beautiful sandy beach and several restaurants as well as many houses, most of them not permanently inhabited. Although a very popular destination of excursionists, swimmers and boaters, majority of islands are preserved in their original natural form.

The island of Šćedro, to the south of Hvar, is by its basic natural and landscape features similar to Pakleni otoci, primarily for its typically Mediterranean vegetable communities of forests and shrubs, and its well-indented coasts. So far the island is spared of tourism of tourists and modern buildings.

In the cloister of the Franciscan Monastery in Hvar, there is a cypress tree some 500 years old, which is exceptionally high age for the species. It is specific for its branches, with elliptical instead of round cross section. For old age, its branches are supported with special structure to avoid cracking.

Very interesting are many caves, mostly on pelagic islands, with entrance by the sea or even submarine entrance. The most famous is the Blue Cave on the island of Brijuni near Zadar. It has interesting geomorphology, with typical karst abrasion form, and its special attractiveness and beauty are provided by specific light effects created by sunrays refraction.

On the other end of Brijuni there is Medvidina cave. It is not as attractive as the Blue Cave but it is important as former – and maybe future – habitat of Me-

diterranean monk seal. The entrance is very large, diminishing towards the inside, but at the end the cave is low, narrowing and ending in a glagolitic wall which Mediterranean monk seals used to nur their young.

Another protected and interesting cave in the region is the Green Cave on the islet of Ravnik near Vis. It is quite spacious and has two large entrances. Due to the size of entrance and its interior, the cave was used in World War II as a shelter for small war ships.

The cove of Striniva on the southern part of the island of Vis was probably once in geological history also a cave, but its ceiling later crumbled down. Thus this unusual cove was formed. It is entered through a very narrow entrance, from which it then spreads and ends in a beautiful beach. Fortunately, Striniva cannot be accessed by cars, so its beauty has not been disrupted with modern buildings.

We must mention the island of Svetac, some 14 miles away from Korčula on Vis. The island is now only temporarily inhabited, although it used to have 60–70 permanent inhabitants. There are no beautiful beaches or natural ports on the island, which is the reason for its recent depopulation. But lovers of intact, wild, and savage nature of pelagic islands and calm and tranquil vacations will enjoy here. Of course provided they are ready to give up comforts of civilisation and leave their watch, calendar and mobile phone at home. Svetac is the place where you can't hear the engine humming and blasting music. People take shower by scooping up water out of water tank and splash themselves all over. You can't rent a deck chair on the beach, as there is actually no real beach. But it is possible still to find genuine – but truly genuine – wine from vineyards cultivated by elderly people. It is possible to find old wine cellars

with genuine wooden casks, you can pick wild capers and put them in homemade vinegar, you can collect salt from cracks by the sea, as the nature gave it. If you find some onions and tomatoes in the garden, and some fish, you have a fish stew from "your own yard". Svetac also has remains of a Byzantine fortress that was part of the former navigation control system on the Adriatic. There is an interesting local legend about it. Local people call the fortress and the peak where it is situated, *Kraljčino*, meaning "Queen's". It was named after the queen – the Illyrian queen Teuta – as, according to the legend, it was her fortress. The legend says that Teuta's rapid pirates' ships attached and plundered other ships in the area. According to the legend, Teuta would choose the most handsome among the captured sailors to spend a night with them. In the morning, she would have them thrown from the fortress walls down in the abyss. Maybe history says otherwise, but legends like this one still stir up the imagination and are handed forward.

Palagruža archipelago is the most distant group of Croatian islands. One island of the group – **Gallinija** – is the southernmost point of the Croatian territory. **Palagruža** is much different than all the other Croatian islands for its markedly pelagic character, if we can call them pelagic at all in a small sea such as Adriatic. Only to Palagruža can you travel by ship for hours and not see the mainland at all. Distance from the mainland and isolation, which make Palagruža so different from Brač, for instance, with





Zlatni rat beach in Brač

its specific climate and strong influence of the sea have caused many specific features of its living world. The most significant climate singularity of Palagruža is that it has very little precipitations. For that reason, the living world is adjusted to it. It is most vividly seen in the example of *Euphorbia dendroidea* (Tree spurge) that, as opposed to majority of other plant species, throws away leaves in summer while it is in full vegetation in winter. Winters on Palagruža are mild and not disturbing for the growth of plants, but summer is unfavourable season for scarce precipitation. Spurge is therefore inactive in this unfavourable season. Tree spurge is very rare and endangered species. Besides Palagruža, it grows on some other places in Croatia, but only on Palagruža it is so numerous and dominant in the landscape that it forms a separate vegetative community. The sea around Palagruža is abundant in fish. Fishermen of Korčula (Vla) used to fish picchards here long time ago, and Korčula lived of that for centuries. The regattas of Korčula fishermen to Palagruža have become a legend. They used to race on this "regatta course" of 40 nautical miles to arrive to Palagruža as soon as possible and get the best position on the beach to pull out their ships and dry the fishes. That was a real race for life and it depended, we must say that, on rows and sails, if the wind was favourable.

Brušnik and Jabuka, geological monuments of nature are two small pelagic islands in wider area of the island of Vla. Their specific feature, compared to the Adriatic coast and other islands, is their geology. They are the sole volcanic islands on the Adriatic. There is a beach on Brušnik made of huge black volcanic round stones. Their size, different than anywhere else, is a testimony of the enormous strength of waves that created them for thousands of years, rolling and eroding rocks. On the same island there are so called lobster holes, small pools excavated long ago in the beach by fishermen. The sea constantly flows through them and through the sur-

rounding beach with ease, and they were used by fishermen to preserve caught lobsters on life for long time. Lobster holes blend in the natural environment as a monument of ancient way of life and coexistence of the local population and nature.

Jabuka is a very distant and steep cone, far away on open sea, with completely inaccessible shore. It can be accessed by ship only while the weather is very fair and calm, as it has no natural coves, ports, where a ship would find a shelter from bad weather. As its shores are steeply precipitating towards the sea, the anchoring is difficult, as the sea is very deep even along the island. Besides its distance, inaccessibility and steepness, arrival to Jabuka and moving around is difficult also for its loose and fragile rocks. Brave adventurers who nevertheless decide to climb to the peak of Jabuka must be very careful, watch every step and check the hardness of rock they want to step on or catch hold of. Namely, rock can easily yield and draw the climber down in the abyss.

On the island, there was a special endemic species of wild carnation that according to the recent research is not there any more. Jabuka was the only place in the world where this flower used to grow. By some strange gaze and irony of fate, despite the island's total inaccessibility, it seems that fishermen – chance guests picked and exterminated this unique species.

Curiosities of the animal world

The animal world of central Dalmatian islands is interesting and diverse just as the islands themselves. There you can find many endemic species or sub-species. Some of them inhabit limited, exceptionally small areas. The creation of endemic species is caused by several factors, the most important being their isolation. Thus practically each, even the smallest island, has its own specific sub-species of lizard. These island sub-species were formed by sea level rising in the geological history, which led to formation of numerous



Island of Vla – Strana Cove

islands that used to be peaks of the mountains. Lizards were isolated on the islands from other lizards, as the sea was an insurmountable barrier. With time, several thousands years later, the living world on some islands, developing in isolation, started differing from the living world on the other islands.

On pelagic islands, there are some unique pelagic bird species, the most interesting among them Elson's Falcon, inhabiting only a few central Dalmatian islands. The specific and restricted range of this species is witnessed by the fact that only the inhabitants of Korčula on Vla recognise it as a specific species. Korčula people are also the only with the indigenous Croatian name for this species – Anasol. Elson's Falcon nests on almost inaccessible steep cliffs above the sea and hunts small birds during their migration over the island. Because of that, it nests very late, in August or September, when other birds already completed their annual nesting cycle and are migrating to the south. At that time, young Elson's Falcons have most food at their disposal. This bird winters as distant as on Madagascar, from where it returns in spring.

The islands were once the ideal habitat of the Mediterranean monk seal, the rarest mammal on the world. Mediterranean monk seal was never very numerous, as the Adriatic is small and heavily navigated sea. But that fact alone would not be fatal for the Mediterranean monk seal if the animal had not caused great troubles to fishermen with its way of fishing. Today, the problem is in numerous fast vessels coming to each, even the most distant, corner of the Adriatic, particularly in summer. For merciless pursuits and disturbance, monk seals are today just temporary inhabitants and passers-by in these areas. We should hope that in the future a stable indigenous population would be created. Hope is based on greater awareness in people and their relation to the monk seal. Thus, there is a group of enthusiasts active in Croatia working for years to create conditions for return of the "sea man" (as local people call it) to the Adriatic.



Island of Vla



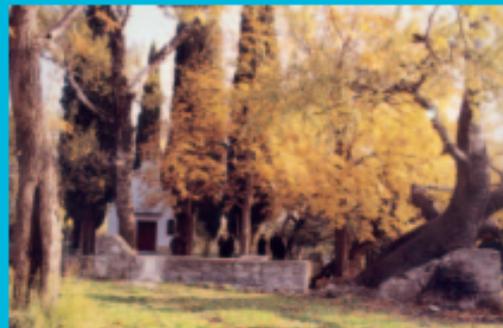
Black Pine in Novigrad

Biblical Garden of Stomorija

Ivna Bučan

Photo: Ivna Bučan, Dobriša Kraljić and Edo Šegvić

Biblical Garden of Stomorija (in Kaštelci near Split) is the first biblical garden in Croatia. Today, there are only a few biblical gardens in the world, some of them in Israel, England, Wales, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, and USA.



Sanctuary of Our Lady of Stomorija



Woody white palm-tree

At the end of the 20th century, at the time when biblical messages appeared distant and questionable, Dalmatia was visited by the Holy Father, John Paul II. The significance of his visit and the greatness of his blessing brought to life a beautiful idea and established the Biblical Garden of Our Lady of Stomorija in the still preserved western part of Kaštelci Field.

The unity of the space surrounding the small medieval church on the slopes of Kozjak, a sanctuary and a destination of pilgrims, seemed to offer itself in its natural beauty of the full Mediterranean.

In the wider landscape of cypresses and olive-trees, vineyards and fig-trees, ... stone, both laying free or forming man-made structures, and coats with palm-trees, the persuasive scenes of biblical themes are created in a landscape similar to the Holy Land. Thus, it is easy to understand why the Croatian biblical garden was created here, in the heart of Dalmatia.

As a special feature of the blessing endowing this area, there is a brook flowing through the centre of the garden with inexhaustible running hill water. Unexpected in this rocky ground, it seems like a miracle touched by the Moses' rod.

It seems as if the tradition of the people of Kaštelci was developing the area of Our Lady of Stomorija into a true biblical garden through centuries.

By including the Biblical Garden into the existing and future sequence of values of this landscape, it becomes an inevitable landmark and heritage for the future.

This space, keeping the continuity of life since prehistoric times, draws its special value from history, present in the nearby village of Hijači, with St. Martha's church, where in 852 the Tripartit's Doud of Donatation was made, as the oldest preserved written document on which the name of Croats was mentioned for the first time.

On the eastern part of Kaštelci Field, there is an early Croatian settlement of Putalj from 9th c., thus there is the ancient Salona, the largest and the oldest monument of Christianity in Croats. Near it, there is the oldest olive-tree at the Adriatic, 1500 years old, as well as other protected monuments of natural and cultural heritage of Kaštelci.

A biblical garden is conceived as an area covered with herbs mentioned in the Bible. It is also a place of cohabitation of spirituality and nature, place where we can find peace of mind, but also repose from the flurry of the city. There you can breathe healthily, listen to the birds, feel the leaves quivering in wind.

What should be emphasized is that the construction material for the Biblical Garden were stones of old drystone walls of Kaštelci Field, collected from

the construction sites of new modern shopping malls. Stones marked with time were preserved and built into the walls of the Biblical Garden in memory of labourers, olive growers, and winegrowers, whose work determined the purpose of these stones.

The main idea in formation of the Biblical Garden was taken from the basic biblical messages, its spiritual, historical and literal dimensions being all equally inspirational. Such basic messages are located on four lots forming the unity of the Biblical Garden – Vestibule, Sanctuary of the Lady of Stomorija, Sail, and Our Lady's Field.

Vestibule

Vestibule is the entrance to the Biblical Garden. A visitor, arriving along the macadam road from the direction of Kaštel Novi, in the Vestibule gets the first information on the place to which he arrived. On a memorial tablet, a naturally formed monolith, there is the following inscription:

IN MEMORY OF THE SECOND VISIT
BY THE HOLY FATHER, JOHN PAUL II
TO CROATIA
WE ESTABLISHED THE BIBLICAL GARDEN
IN STOMORIJA ABOVE THE BAY
PEOPLE OF KAŠTELA
27th SEPTEMBER 1998



Memorial stone



Small stone bridge



Ancient olive tree



'Snake' tree

- I. Church of Stenoerija
- II. Our Lady's field
- III. Sali



Conceptual design of Biblical Garden

1. Vestibule
2. Pope's olive-tree
3. Memorial tablet
4. Cascade steps
5. Weary poplar-trees
6. Small stone bridges
7. Entrance to the Mystical path
8. Entrance to the Clear path
9. Small stone house
10. Courtyards
11. Dry-stone walls
12. Garden of Eden and stone of knowledge
13. Gethsemane and mill-stone
14. Resting places
15. Line of palm-trees
16. Biblical orchard
17. Obelisk
18. Apple-tree
19. Resting places
20. View groups
21. Wheat - field
22. Biblical vegetables
23. Marshy biblical herbs
24. Cypress
25. Stone crosses
26. Roskary
27. Cedar of Lebanon
28. Way of the Cross
29. Discoidal stone
30. Biblical Bell
31. Lasting olive-tree
32. Memorial tablet to the grains
33. Memorial stone for the grains
34. Stone table



Memorial table - Biblical Bell

The shallow relief portrays a branch of olive and fig, biblical symbols and signs of this climate.

On the right side of the Vestibule, special attention in terms of space was paid to the blessed olive-tree brought from the altar in Split where, in front of a multitude of worshippers, the Pope, John Paul II celebrated a Holy Mass. It is placed opposite the memorial tablet along the axis of the procession towards Our Lady's Field. It is enclosed with a low stone wall suitable to sit on. The higher western wall is used for a popular motive, a recess left in the wall. In their humble homes across Dalmatia, people used such recesses to keep an image of a saint, a wax-candle or a bottle of oil made of the St. John's worth. The day following the day when it was made, there was already a bunch of flowers in it.

The recess may be approached with two stone stairs under which is a stone tablet with the inscription:

POPE'S OLIVE-TREE
BLESSED BY THE HOLY FATHER
JOHN PAUL II
IN SPLIT, ON 21 JAN
4th OCTOBER 1981

ASSOCIATION OF THE BIBLICAL GARDEN OF STOMOreja

Our Lady's Brook drains the precipitations from the wider area and is also enclosed in stone. Across Our Lady's Brook, two small stone bridges are made as an important part of communication through the Biblical Garden, used for the traditional procession from the Sanctuary to Our Lady's Field.

Sanctuary of Our Lady of Stenoerija

The church of Our Lady of Stenoerija in its original form was built in 1189 by domestic noblemen who established it as a benefice.

It is a centennial space of religion and spirituality, a sanctuary and pilgrims' destination. Until the Turkish invasions and ravages, it was a parish church of the surrounding early Croatian settlement called Spiljan on the slopes of Kozjak. Exposed to such perils, its inhabitants moved to the coast and established Kaštrel Novi, but continued to go on pilgrimage there all through to today.

Beneath the altar of the small church, there is an inexhaustible source of healthy potable water. People call it Our Lady's water or Holy water. If you press your ear to the altar, you can hear its quiet gurgling. Water sinks beneath the churchyard and accumulates in the well, passing along the southern side of the church through a stone relief figure of a head "disgorging"

water that gives it the significance of a fountain. Since ancient times, many travellers quenched their thirst here and, according to a legend, a girl who washes her face here will remain young and beautiful forever.

Our Lady's Field

This area was called so from ancient times and is the largest part of the Biblical Garden. It is used as a meeting point and rest area of pilgrims and visitors, and as a centennial procession road on the Feast of Assumption.

According to the adopted projects, all the traditional values of this area will be kept, and new contents will be added. Thus, Our Lady's Field will represent a historical presentation of the Bible with details such as Gethsemane and a mill-stone, Garden of Eden and stone of knowledge, Mystical and Clear Path, obelisk and stone symbols, etc. Plans are made to build a set of stone houses after the fashion of the traditional popular architecture. Special attention is paid to planting and growing biblical plants and their symbolism. The existing biblical plants such as olive, fig, pomegranate, cypress and Judas tree, Jerusalem

pine-tree, white poplar, tamarind, laurel, myrtle, *Jovorka* (*Fiburnum rosea*), ivy, and alike will be enriched with new plant species such as cedar of Lebanon, white willow, carob, hyssop, and alike.

Sali

Sali is the part of the Biblical Garden with the terrain formed like a sail, from where it derived its popular name. It consists of a sequence of terraces with a low wall preserving soil as if with hands and protecting olive-trees and other biblical plants. This part of the Biblical Garden is suitable to stay, gather around the stone tables, sit pleasantly on the small stone walls of terraces along the brook and in the shade of olive-trees.

At the top of the Sali, along the memorial wall, there is an interesting stone composition, a massive stone wall, the so called Biblical Bell, created by composing three uneven natural stone blocks. The upper block is loosely leaned on two horizontal forms. The upper block has excellent acoustics. By pounding on it, we can cause a whole scale of tones



Pope's olive tree



Stone table

– that is a resonance box, a basis for reception and emitting of sound waves and positive vibrations of the spiritual world. The entire composition is made to match the human measure, suitable to sit on and to listen to the sounds of nature.

Terraces of the Soul created the platforms for stone masses – megaliths, each of which marks one of the Croatian greats who contributed with their writing, sculptures or in another way to being the Biblical thought to our space and time.

According to their time, the greats are arranged from north to south:

– ST. HEROME OF DALMATIA – Stridon, 347 (Dalmatia) – Bethlehem, 420

He was the first to translate the Bible to Latin, namely the Old Testament from the original Hebrews, and the New Testament from Greek. His translation of Bible is known as Vulgate. His well-known saying was – *Pater mihi, domine, quia Dalmata sum* (Father me, Lord, for I am a Dalmatian).

– JURAJ DALMATINAC – Zadar, early 15th c. – Šibenik, 1473

The greatest Croatian sculptor and constructor of all times. The cathedral of Šibenik is his masterpiece. He exercised crucial influence on all our constructors, sculptors and stone-dressers and left trace all along the

coast – Pag, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, Dubrovnik... His fitness work, Sarcophagus of Ananias, the Bishop of Split, is currently kept in the parish church of Kalitell Lukčić.

– MARKO MARULIĆ – Split, 1450 – Split, 1524

Among his other works, he wrote *Južifit* based on biblical motives. It was the first printed work in Croatian language (*History of the Holy Widow of Judah in Croatian Verse Mode*). He is considered to be the father of the Croatian literature.

– BARTOL KAŠIĆ – Pag, 1575 – Roona, 1650

He was the first to translate the Bible to Croatian. For the needs of the Illyrian Academy in Roma, he made the first Croatian grammar and is therefore considered its father.

– IVAN MEŠTROVIĆ – Vopjele, 1883 – USA, 1962

The greatest modern world-renowned sculptor. His most familiar technique is stone carving, and he worked a lot in bronze and wood. His creation encompasses a wide range of topics, among which the biblical motives have a significant part (from the life of Jesus, Moses, Annunciation, Nativity, Madonna with Child, Evangelists John and Luke, etc.).

It must be said that for formation of the colonnade of greats, large stone blocks were used that were found at the south-eastern part of Salona and donated by the Archaeological Museum of Split to the



Our Lady's book

Biblical Garden. The selection of large stone blocks was not accidental, as the monumental megaliths arranged separately or in a meaningful sequence have their significance in the history of civilisation. Placed without a practical purpose, they are materialized symbols transferring to future generations some important ideas of that time, travelling through time with their permanence and preserving their memory of exceptional works, events and ideas with their mass. Individually placed at prominent places, they dominate the space, spreading positive vibrations.

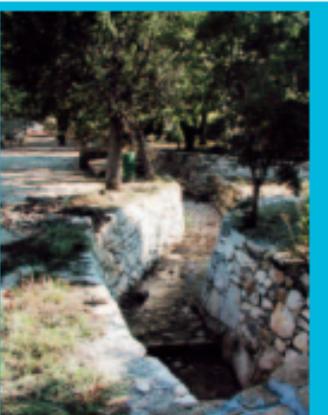
The concept of the Biblical Garden and its arrangement are a collective work and a gift by a number of individuals, associations and companies. The leading force is indisputably the Association of the Biblical Garden of Stonozarija led by the Professor Ivan Bačan.

The Biblical Garden of Stonozarija is the first biblical garden in Croatia. Today there are only few biblical gardens in the world, namely in Israel, England, Wales, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and USA.

Sightseeing of the Biblical Garden is organised by the Tourist Board of the Town of Kalitell (address: Vitari castle, Kalitell Lukčić, phone: 228-155, fax: 227-933, e-mail: trg-kastela@st.hinet.hr).



Memorial to the Croatian greats



Restored bed of Our Lady's brook

One flew over the tourists' nest



Photo: IG Raasch

Gvido Piasevoli

Photo: Gvido Piasevoli, Jörg and Hanni Raasch, FLPA

Currently there are 371 bird species in Croatia, out of which 226 nesting birds, for which Croatia is at the thirteenth place in Europe. All higher-ranking countries have surface area larger than Croatia, which points to exceptional biodiversity.

Bird watching as a way of spending one's leisure time outdoors is becoming increasingly popular in the world. According to some information, there are two million registered bird watchers organized in clubs in Great Britain. Such massive scale and high life standard in British society led to an infrastructure supporting the hobby of bird watching. First of all, there are very specialized tourist agencies leading British tourists – bird watchers all around the world.

Great interest of hobbyists in bird watching is encouraging for active protection of nature and development of scientific observance of birds on the basis of data collected in their natural habitats. Besides scientists, this requires many associates – field volunteers. A consequence of such great interest in birds can be seen in efforts and investments in protection of birds and their habitats as well as in the approach to tourist offer by some associations, agencies, local environments, even regions, based exactly on local curiosities from the world of birds.

What is the profile of an average bird watcher? It has been noticed that among this type of bird

lovers, there are many elderly liking active stay outdoors but also a great number of young people who are intellectually more demanding tourists. Bird watching tourist packages are based on small groups of tourists. The reason for this is the character of bird watching, namely it is impossible to work in large groups that would excessively intimidate birds. As organized groups consist of few members, there is great flexibility of group formation in terms of demands of their members based on bird species, level of physical efforts, etc.

Compared to majority of other countries of central and western Europe, Croatia has a relatively well-preserved environment. Besides small areas under natural habitats, there are semi-natural habitats with preserved major features of communities in natural habitats. In majority of other European countries, significantly changed habitats are prevailing, which negatively influence biodiversity. According to international classification, today there are some 600 types of habitats in the world, some of which are endemic.

Currently there are 371 bird species in Croatia, out of which 226 nesting birds, for which Croatia is at the thirteenth place in Europe. All higher-ranking countries have larger surface area than Croatia, which points to exceptional biodiversity. There are bird species in Croatia inhabiting negligibly changed and very diverse habitats, such as natural river courses, swamps, flooding forests and meadows, sands, islands on open sea, high mountains, and alike. There are some markedly Mediterranean birds, not inhabiting majority of European countries. The central Adriatic is a quite frequent way by which birds from central and north Europe migrate to Africa. During migration, birds gather at certain points, where they can be seen in large amounts in specific seasons.

Croatian nature is protected in a great number of national parks, parks of nature, and reserves, but also by other forms of protection. Some of these protected areas are of special importance for the abundance of the bird world, but there are many interesting birds out of them as well.



Photo: Jörg Raasch

Bee-eater



Rock Thrush



Photo: Hanni Raasch

Hoopoe



Redshank



young Cory's Shearwater



Crag Martin

Cetina River – Important Bird Area

The river of Cetina flows through the County of Split and Dalmatia like its spine. Along its course, many bird species may be observed that belong to different habitats. In its upper part, there are still preserved flooding meadows. In time of low water, when meadows are dry, various bird species are nesting in this area and around it, such as Corncrake, Redshank (its sole nesting place in Croatia), Stone Curlew, and wagtails. The river of Cetina was pronounced the Important Bird Area in Europe by BirdLife International. The central part of Cetina flows through a plain where, among other species, there are colonies of bee-eaters. The lower course flows through the magnificent canyon and the nesting area of Short-toed Eagle, Peregrines, Eagle Owl, Crag Martin (a variety of swallow wintering in Europe), ravens, and many other species. Around the mouth of the river, there are small swampy areas with reeds, where you can find Great Reed Warbler, Moustached Warbler and Cett's Warbler.

Bird world of central Dalmatian mountains

Mountains of central Dalmatia are even up to 1800-meter high and there you can find some typical bird species of high mountains. Besides Golden Eagle and other birds of prey, there are also Shore Lark, Black-headed Wheatear, Rock Thrush, Blue Rock Thrush, Subalpine Warbler, Alpine Accentor, Sombre Tit, Rock Nuthatch, Willowcreeper and Alpine Chough.

Bird world of central Dalmatian islands

Some islands, such as Brač, are relatively large and high, with evergreen woods, cliffs, canyons, and plateaus, so the world of birds looks like that on mainland. In lower areas, there are some typical Mediterranean species, same as on nearby mainland. There you may find Rock Partridge, Sardinian Warbler and Black-headed Gull.

Other islands are of expressly pelagic character, with some specific species such as Cory's Shearwater, Yellow-rumped Shearwater, Shag, Eleonora's Falcon, Yellow-legged Gull, Audouin's Gull, Alpine Swift and Pallid Swift.

Palagruža – birds' bottle-neck

During migration, the small pelagic archipelago of Palagruža is the main bottle-neck of many bird species migrating from throughout Europe.

Pantani swamp – bird reserve

Pantani swamp is a typical Mediterranean swamp with reeds, brackish lagoon, short river and gravel sandbank closing the lagoon. It is located near the ancient historical town of Trogir, by the very coast.

Although relatively small, Pantani swamp is home for as much as 190 bird species, for as many have been registered so far, and for that reason is proclaimed a special reserve. Here it is important to emphasize several varieties of herons and egrets, waders and ducks, and sometimes it is possible to see also Black-winged Stilt, Spoonbill, Pigmy Cormorant, Black Tern and White-winged Black Tern.

Besides the above mentioned species, many other species may be found in central Dalmatia, among which we must emphasize Kentish Plover, Marsh Harrier, Scops Owl, Hoopoe, Crested Lark, and Short-toed Lark, Red-rumped Swallow, Lesser Grey Shrike, Red-backed Shrike, Woodchat Shrike, Water Pipit, Olive-tree Warbler, Ophian Warbler, Penduline Tit, Golden Oriole, Spanish Sparrow, Serin, and many, many others.

At any time of year, a bird-watcher may find something for himself in central Dalmatia. If you are a tourist on a vacation of several weeks, you may choose to spend one day on excursion in nature and watch the birds. You will only need a guide for bird recognition and binoculars. A more demanding bird watcher with telescopes, binoculars, photo, video or other quality equipment may wander for a week or two, observe, wait, and photograph birds, some of which they cannot see in their country. In time of bird migration, particularly in autumn, if you are a lover of waterbirds, you may enjoy observing great number of various birds on Palagruža or, for instance, in Pantani's swamp. In spring you may observe different nesting birds all around, some of which are markedly Mediterranean species. If you love the sea and bathing, you will have the chance in the most torrid part of summer, on those most distant and most romantic islands, to observe some rare and exceptional species – Eleonora's Falcon and Cory's Shearwater, which are nesting at that time. If you like spending winters in mild Mediterranean climate, although you cannot imagine swallows in winter in your country, visit the beautiful natural monuments, Red and Blue Lake near Imotski. Sheep and deer centers, in the depths of which seawater created beautiful lakes, provide shelter to amiable Crag Martins even at time of hardest northern winds.

When you wish to get yourself into the adventure of bird watching, when can you turn to? In Croatia and in County of Split and Dalmatia, there are two or three initiatives for this form of tourism some on local level, and one on the strategic national level. The last one is led by Falco Biodiversity Association (www.angelfire.com/falcon/falco-croatia) of Split, also organizing bird watching tours and leading groups of tourists – bird watchers.



Black-winged Stilt



Golden Eagle



young Eleonora's Falcon

Fishing and fish stories

Željko Kuluz



Photo: Goran Morović

If you love for the sea or passion for fishing is what leads you on vacations, you will definitely want to come to the Croatian Adriatic, among thousands of islands and rocks, some of which seem to be the lonely guards of the open sea. The exuberant coast, islands, and sea, blue open space, vast open sea? Call of the sea and challenge of depths is difficult to resist.

Compared with other seas, the Adriatic is small, but when you put to its open sea in a boat, you will see for yourself that it is large and enormous. Pure sea, diversity of fish and animal species, crabs, cephalopods, planktons, and algae, miraculous and mysterious world worth experiencing. But the time is so short, vacations are often not enough to sooth your curiosity. That's why you need to relax, and when you're relaxed enough, all your senses are in balance. Sounds and fragrances reach you, sensations of light and shadow, frenzy of colours and signs from the depths.

Fishing tradition on the Adriatic is old almost as presence of the man on this coast. Fishing techniques, know-how, and tools were forwarded for generations, from father to son, inherited, but also exchanged with the other Mediterranean nations.

Special attention is paid to boat equipment. Of course, its drive is important, engine, cars, or sails,

but the most important is to have good anchor and enough ropes. You must have spare parts, tools, first aid, signal rockets, lifebelt, and special belt for rescuing from the sea. The compulsory equipment is also a hand lamp, matches, but also a fire extinguisher. Useful tool is also a boat hook or a hook on a long rod. Fishing boats also have *bruslar* or a hook for pick up large fish and *spartila* or *merovica*, also used to take fish out of the sea. To sail and fish, you will need lights: side and top lights, depending on the vessel size and type. It is good to have a radio, and a mobile phone is useful as well. Coastal radio stations (Rijeka, Split, and Dubrovnik) cover almost the entire Adriatic with the network of their emitters. Hydro-meteorological reports broadcasted three times a day will warn you in time of all meteorological developments. Besides the weather forecast for sailors, they also broadcast other information significant for safety of navigation.

Navigation maps, compass, and GPS are also important for safe navigation. Finally, there are fishing tools and baits. Fishnets and fish traps are used by professional and recreational fishermen. Sport fishermen use hooks, long-lines, trills, spearfishing gear, fish spears, and fishing lamps (called *foval*) up to 1000 candles.

Before putting out to the sea, you must load sufficient stocks of food and drinks, fruit and vegetables for salad and boiling, if there is a kitchen on the vessel. There is nothing more delicious than freshly caught and boiled or fried fish – directly from the sea into your pot or frying pan. Fire may be lit only on a grill attached at the outer side of the vessel or on stoves permitted for such purpose. Boiled fish is spiced only with garlic, olive oil, and parsley, pepper if you like, or lemon. A glass of red or white wine, again as you like it. But when you're on the sea you drink what you have brought with you.

All must be carefully planned, tasks allocated, and the schedule respected. You must wake up in time and take suitable clothes and accessories. There is little space aboard and everything must be at proper place. You must not exaggerate in anything. When you arrive aboard you will learn the first rule: always listen the skipper. He is the captain responsible for your life and lives of other passengers.

In no case may you forget to take personal documents or fishing permit. Your host will refer you to the office in charge or personally go to take your daily, weekly, monthly, or annual fishing permit. If you're younger than 18 or older than 65, you will obtain the permit with a special discount.

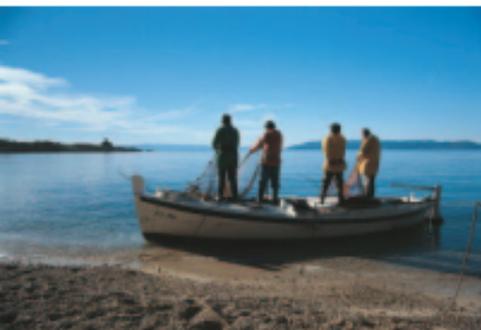
Sport fishing regulations

Due to the tradition and rich heritage, sport fishing is widespread among the Adriatic population. Sport fishermen are members of many sport associations. Almost any small town has its sport fishing association.

Sea fishing in Croatia is governed by the Law on Sea Fishing (N.N. 46/97). The Law stipulated the catching of fish and maritime organisms and their protection, but also the payment of fishing fee. According to the law, a sport fisherman may catch or collect up to 5 kg fish or other maritime organisms daily, excluding cartilaginous fish (various types of shark, dogfish, rays, etc.) and trophy organisms of more than 5 kg weight. Fish and maritime organisms caught in sport fishing must not be in trade.

The Regulation on recreational and sport fishing stipulated the types and quantities of tools and equipment permitted in sport fishing. If you go fishing on your own, get good information on tools you may use and where you may fish, because ignorance of the laws does not exculpate you from your liability, particularly if you repeat the breach (see the Information section).





Closed season and protected fish species

A sport fisherman must know the Order on Protection of Fish and Other Maritime Organisms dated 20th August 2002. The Order determined the notion of not fully grown fish, established the minimum size of commercially important species below which they must not be caught, and closed season for specific species of fish and other maritime organisms (see the Information section).

Those sailing, diving, or fishing should also be informed on the Croatian Law on Nature Protection, protecting particularly rare and endangered species of shells, fish, and animals such as pen shell (*Pisina achilia*) – the lagoset and the most attractive Adriatic shell – or Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*), which is still believed to inhabit distant pelagic rocks and islands of the Adriatic.

Take a deep breath because we are going fishing.

Underwater fishing

Underwater fishing is permitted only on certain locations and only with use of your own strength, meaning by swimming and diving with the force of your own legs, and keeping under water as long as you can hold your breath. If you want to try underwater fishing, it would be advisable to practice in winter the holding of your breath under surface. There is an unwritten diving rule – *never dive alone*, and it is best if your company or assistant are in a boat. The only permitted aids are fins. Of course, means such as explosives or electric current are prohibited in fishing.

Fishing with use of troll, long-line, and fish-line

You can easily imagine a boat slowly sailing along the coast in the morning or in early evening. It is important to have sun behind you. You cannot feel the summer heat due to the wind created by the boat in move. At the same time we enjoy the absolute blue and the green of the coast. Our eyes search the peaks of the islands or mountain heights. The hand-troll line used to catch pelagic fish, or those approaching the surface at a specific season, is on top of your steering or on a rod. So excited, intoxicated with colours and fragrance of the sea, we are in constant panic we'll be late for severe blow of the fish, the adrenaline gush at each even the slightest jerk. We plan in advance the turn or stop of the boat to reduce the fish strength if an exceptionally large one is on the hook. At the end of line, we tied a big plastic bucket to be put down into the sea to wear out the fish. The troll is used successfully for predators, such as dexter (*Demer dorsalis*), seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*), amberjack (*Seriola dumerilii*), but also tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*). Trolls may have different lengths and weights. My first troll for dexter was 130 m long, and along the 1-m-m-thick line there were 44 leads arranged, average weight 12–15 grams. The bait was a needlefish (*Belone belone gracilis*), freshly caught, also with a troll. Today artificial baits are used.

Fishing with a long-line, a special fishing tool with 100–150 hooks, used also by professional fishermen, is also very interesting. Long-line is thrown in the sea by night or during the day, and baits are usually pairs of pilchards, squid, or big worms, caught with special grapple. Big worms is really big, sometimes more than 1 m or long and wider than your little finger: Common pandora (*Pagellus erythrinus*), two-brand sea bream (*Diplodus vulgaris*), sharpnose sea bream (*Diplodus puntazzo*), white bream (*Diplodus spp.*), but also gilthead bream (*Sparus aurata*) love it. Long-line is usually taken out of the sea after 1–2 hours. In the meantime, use the fish-line with heavy lead and 5 hooks above, in hand or on rod, to catch fish living in the seabed, at depths up to 80 meters. Fishing with such fish-line is successful for combers (*Serranus cabrilla*), common pandora, scorpionfish (*Scorpaena scrofa*) and John dory (*Zoarces viverrus*). Fishing with longline by night is successful for lakeus (*Moroneus morone*), when the moon is full, while conger eels (*Anguilla anguilla*) are caught in moonless nights, at time of the fishing darkness.

Fishing by night is a particularly interesting and exceptional experience. But sailing by night or when visibility is low, particularly on boats with no radar equipment, may be difficult and dangerous. That is why you should better go fishing by day and during the day check whether there are any fish-nets or longlines already at the place you plan to fish at. The low bounds fishermen to mark their sunken fishing tools with buoys with a visible boat registration.

Fishing with fishnets

You may find accommodation in some of the picturesque places on islands or on the coast at professional fishermen or those with the permit for recreational or small-range fishing. Ask them to take you to fishing with them. Be persistent. The experience of lowering nets in the sea is also a chance to meet your hosts, their way of life. Taking of the nets out of the sea is a true feat. Entangled in single or triple net, the inhabitants of the sea depths appear in front of you: fish, starfish, crabs, squids, but also seaweeds, particles of ceramics or corals. You will hear a curse or two, fishermen are angry mostly for their bad luck, but the cause of their anger may be also large mammals such as dolphins tearing off and destroying their nets.

Fishing small oily fish by night is a beautiful experience, and if they take you for such fishing, be prepared to listen them unreservedly and to spend a sleepless night. Traditionally, oily fish is caught in moonless nights, with the aid of large fishing lamps of 2000 and more candles. Living on an island, I used to watch fishermen for years. At twilight, they would

sail from the port. Large vessels with floating net and a crew of some ten people would pull behind two smaller boats (*tricerice*). Soon, as the night falls down, several miles away from the coast, they used to lit their lights. The light made the sea shimmer. Large shoals of oily fish would gather under the boats. At the sign of men from the small boats, the large boat would start lowering the net. It was done carefully, not to scare large shoals of pilchards and mackerels. For several hours they would pull out the net and the fish on the main vessel. At dawn I used to watch the fishing boats overloaded with the caught of pilchards. Weary fishermen would be shine like silver, covered with night dew and pilchard scales.

Only professional fishermen are going trolling (troll-net fishing). In summer, you may fish only on open sea, so it takes several days.

Fishing with a spear

Fishing with a spear under the lamplight was always interesting to me, but the most beautiful thing was to watch the plankton dancing in the night beneath the fisherman's lamp while we would wait for squids (*Loligo vulgaris*). The choreography makes plankton move in round and spiral movements, like dancing steps, which are actually the beginning of the life cycle in the sea.



After the Cross

Smiljana Šunde

Photo: Joško Ponoš

Six simultaneous penitent processions walk all night in circle, clockwise – from one place to another, from one church to another. And they never meet. / Being a cross-bearer is a special honour. Young men and boys wait for years to perform their or their fathers' vows to bear the cross. / The mystique of Stabat Mater, resounding in Hvar churches in the Night of Passion, is experienced and remembered as hardly any other religious experience.

If you come on Maundy Thursday (this year, 17th April) after 9 o'clock in the evening, to the door of the parish church of the Assumption in Jelsa (if you manage to approach the door at all), you will face an unusual scene: you will see a cross covered with black veil. Under the cross, there is a bench on which, face turned to the cross and Jesus' tomb, three men kneel, wearing white tunics. The one in the middle is the cross-bearer, and the other two are his helpers. You will notice the cross-bearer's feet with only white woolen socks on them. The other cross-bearer's attendants also wear white tunics, carrying candlesticks and two-meter lanterns in their hands. The priest will soon hand the cross weighting 40 pounds to the cross-bearer, talking to the gathered people about the cross and the cross-bearer. He will give his last instructions prior to heading for the great night penitent procession. During the night, the procession will pass through 5 other places (first Pirve, then Vrižnik, Svinč, Vrbanj), and Vrhoska) and visit the Lord's Tomb in each parish church, decorated with flowers, new wheat, and candles. The priest will not leave for the procession – throughout the night he will welcome and send off the other processions, praying and singing. Namely, simultaneously with the one from Jelsa, processions from the 5 mentioned villages will start as well.

That is how the Night of Passion looks like in the central part of the island of Hvar for more than 500 (some say even more than 600) years. Six simultaneous penitent processions walk all night in circle, clockwise – from one place to another, from one church to another. And they never meet. On Good Friday, around 7 o'clock in the morning, each of them returns to their church of origin. There is no such a unique tradition in the world (or at least, they are not preserved!), although the one in Seville, Spain, looks similar to some extent.

Preparations for the event take months, but are most intensive in the Lent and particularly in the first days of the Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday even-



ing, everything is decorated and lighted – all lights in all houses and in front of them are on. The cross-bearer's house is usually specially marked – there is a large luminous cross on it.

The final part of the Maundy Thursday celebration starts with the Mass celebrating the Lord's Supper, during which the priest washes the feet of twelve of the cross-bearer's attendants. After the supper, the sacristan calls the worshippers: Those who will go, go! Our cross has started! At half past nine, they approach with two wide candles to the altar, where the procession cross stands, and one of the sacristans hands the cross to the priest. The latter carries the cross through the church and hands it to the cross-

bearer, with the occasional speech and prayers for the cross to protect and save the cross-bearer – both tonight in the procession and for the rest of his life.

The sound of clappers is the sign of departure. Two singers start singing: Today we all think of You, who died on the Cross for us... At leaving the church, one of them intones: We bow to You, Jesus, and we bless You, and the others respond: You, who redeemed the whole world with Your Holy Cross.

Two large, heavy candlesticks start first. They are carried by two strong men. Behind them are lanterns on long rods (there are 18 of them in Vrbanj, for instance, 30 in Vrižnik, and as much as 40 in Jelsa). The cross-bearer's attendants are usually his friends



and relatives, often members of ancient fellowships. Along with them, other men follow in the procession as well. Then the wide candles are carried. Then goes the cross-bearer with the cross highly raised above his head – wearing woollen socks. Behind him, there are singers. Thus, the cross is usually in the middle. Women go after it, with candles or small lamps in their hands, and other worshippers and pilgrims follow behind. The cross-bearer's parents are usually also in the procession. The parents of this-year's cross-bearer, Nikla Bratanić, will be in the procession where their son is the cross-bearer for the third time. Namely, Nikla is their third son who will remain recorded as a cross-bearer of Vrhbanj.

The procession walks for some 20 miles – by road, macadam road and paths, through olive-groves and vineyards (that is not just the mileage from one place to another, but also the tour of the churches in those places). The participants sing the archaic religious chants – penitent Lenten songs and say their rosary. In the visit of each church, where the entire procession visits the Lord's Tomb, two singers sing several stanzas of Stabat Mater Dolososa, and the other two respond. Stabat Mater differs from one place to another. It is sung from the bottom of one's heart and the depth of the past centuries.

The people of Ivar are very proud of their unique penitent popular piety. They preserve their tradition and pass it on to the young people. As any other island, Ivar is also a small, closed environment, where life is not at all easy. Therefore, the islanders deeply experience the time of Lent, and the worshiping of the Passion is so deep-rooted. Scattered all around the world, people of Ivar come to their island in the Holy Week even from the most distant countries. But it is not only people of Ivar that come – pilgrims and tourists from all sides come as well. Festies for Ivar are crowded at that time.

Being a cross-bearer is a special honour. Young men and boys wait for years to perform their or their fathers' vow to bear the cross. They wait for as long as 20 years. It happens that in the meantime a person moves away from Ivar, even overseas, but they still come to perform their cross-bearing vows. The cross-bearer of Vrhbanj is one of them: as a boy, he moved to Canada with his parents, and now he comes back to bear the cross.

This year's cross-bearers are (by parish):

Jelsa – Boris Haljić, Pitrve – Marino Radonić, Vrtišk – Vinko Gugičević, Svirče – Mario Plančić, Vrhbanj – Nikla Bratanić, Vrhoska – Dean Kuzma Herić.

Same as the send-off, particularly solemn is the



morning reception of the procession. The parish priest waits in front of the parish church with the multitude of worshippers who did not go in the procession or who went only for one stage. He prays and sings. The cross-bearer of Jelsa runs across the last 50 meters to the parish priest, they both fall on their knees, embrace and kiss each other, and the cross-bearer hands the cross to the priest. This dramatic and deeply moving moment makes almost everyone misty-eyed.

Many things happened in the long history of the island of Ivar, but no matter what happened, what the life and political circumstances were like, this ancient, centuries-long custom was never interrupted. Not even in 1944, when many of Ivar inhabitants were in El Shatt refugees' camp in the Egyptian desert on Sinai. The procession after the Cross was adjourned to the circumstances: tents were arranged as churches, each with the decorated Lord's tomb.

If you don't have your roots in the island of Ivar and if you want to participate in the procession after

the Cross, be prepared for long walking (some 20 miles – from one place to another and around the churches). However, walking in a procession is a unique experience beyond words. If you are not in good shape, you may stay in any of the parish churches of the mentioned 6 villages to wait for the crosses. The procession of Jelsa is the greatest, but the other 5 have their special qualities as well.

If you choose to walk in a procession, you will hear the Lenten chants (Stabat Mater in particular) of only that particular procession, but on the other hand you will see all the 6 churches with decorated Christ's tomb. If you decide to meet the crosses in one of the churches, you will see only that particular church, but you will have the opportunity to see all the 6 processions and hear their specific chants, leaving a strong impression on each person. The mystique of Stabat Mater, resounding in the churches of Ivar in the Night of Passion is experienced and remembered as hardly any other religious experience.



Stone like cheese

Ilma Elenović

Elina Pava Dragović



Beneath a thin layer of soil, Brač seems to be built of stone. Aware of that were ancient Romans, who in their time built towns, amphitheatres, temples, palaces and tombs all across Dalmatia. Brač was the largest source of quality white stone.

Brač in stone

When a stranger arrives by ship to the island of Brač for the first time, he can see a green island with beautiful Mediterranean villages. Only when he climbs its heights, he will notice many stone piles one by the other like white sheep grazing. In the old time, local people lived of scant soil, of sea and stone. When they needed to plant a grapevine or an olive-tree, they had to clear land, collect the stones, and pile them up, as land is not deep here.

Beneath a thin layer of soil, Brač seems to be built of stone. Aware of that were ancient Romans, who in their time built towns, amphitheatres, temples, palaces and tombs all across Dalmatia. Brač was the largest source of quality white stone. We know about their first quarries by the sea, near the modern Škrp or Pučišća. There, in the first centuries of the first millennium A.D., slaves were digging, supervised by Roman soldiers. In the quarries, the remains of which are still visible, they took out and processed stone for Diocletian's Palace, Salona buildings, and many monuments and sarcophagi.

Some of Romans' buildings are still visible on the

island, such as remains of Early Christian basilicas in Sutivan, Supetar, Postira, Pučišća, Povišja, etc. Many Roman remains in fragments are kept in the Museum of Brač in Škrp. All that was made of Brač stone taken out near the very buildings.

When Croats settled in those regions in the 7th c., they accepted the way of life of the old indigenous population. Along with their main occupation – cattle growing – they started cultivating land, fishing, and taking out and processing stone. By accepting Christianity, they started building their own churches. Stone was excavated at the very spots, and large stones for altars and thresholds or capitals were taken from old quarries.

Churches were built in plaster, so called "live" structures, and houses in dry stone, so called "dead" structures. Brač is famous for its field houses called *kućje*, made with no plaster, in dry

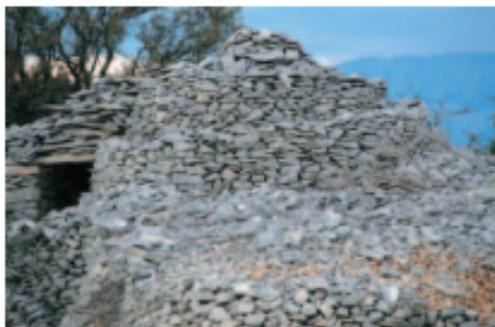
stone, in form of a round dome, with small doors, serving as a shelter from rain and bad weather in the field.

In 1420, Brač accepted the rule of Venice, same as all other Dalmatian municipalities. Because of medieval pirates, the coastal settlements had been deserted, and the population moved to the hinterland. Venice, which guaranteed peace, made a different way of life possible to the local population. People from the hinterland came down to the sea. Houses and farms were built along the coast. New settlements were made on old foundations: there is the sea connecting people, shipping, fishing, trade and stone industry. As Turks approached Brač, a new danger occurred, so the inhabitants of coastal settlements were forced to build stone fortresses for defence of the new risk. In Pučišća, thirteen fortresses were built that served to defend the village. In 1571, Turks entered the port of Pučišća with their navy, and attacked the village, setting fires and killing people. But Pučišća inhabitants managed to defend themselves against Turk invasion from their fortresses.

In early 15th c., cathedrals and other buildings were made in Dalmatia on a large scale. There was high demand for quality stone. Masters came to Brač to old sources of quality stone and continued to excavate and take out stone for new buildings, not only for Dalmatian towns but also for exports to Italy.

According to a document dated 1455, the Master

Andrija Aleli leased the land called Veselje (of Illyrian origin) from Tomalević brothers near the entry to Pučišća bay. He needed stone to build the cathedral of Šibenik. In Pučišća bay, not far from this quarry, as early as one thousand year ago, local people built the early Christian church of St. Stephen, protector of stoneworkers. The church still exists as a permanent monument to Pučišća stone industry. In Pučišća, stone excavation and exports never stopped. Stone from Brač, particularly from Veselje, was in biggest





demand. It is compact and white like cheese. It is high quality stone as you hit it along an imagined line, so it cracks. It can be processed and is suitable for the finest works. It rings like a bell, and roses made of it are just like the lace of the island of Pag.

Backbreaking job

One of the most difficult works is excavating the stone from the ground. First, a coherent stone complex must be found. Then the ground and surface must be cleared to reach the "live" stone. Then it must be cut (harvested) in large blocks, rolled, dragged, carried and loaded on ships. Often, stone blocks were processed at the very spot. Tools used in doing that were primitive and unsuitable. In "live" stone, holes were made and wooden wedges were driven into them. Wedges were watered to make the stone split. Work in a quarry has always been difficult, all through to our times. Only in early 20th c. did machines enter the quarries.

There are several trades related to stone excavation and processing. So called *kravčari* – they take out or "harvest" stone, *zbackari* – they roughly process the excavated stone, *stonemasons* – they process the stone finely, *marinari* – clean, carry, and load stones, and their work is most difficult.

Quarries were private and owners used to exploit them and sell blocks or final products to their clients. Masters, as well as other workers were rented and paid. In Pačičica, half of the population was employed in quarries. After the World War II, all private quarries were nationalised. A company "Jadrancamen" was established. It encompassed all Brač quarries

and was managed by the state. Quarries were expanded and modern machines and equipment started to be used. Processing and excavation of stone was improved. "Jadrancamen" became the most profitable and the most important Brač company. Today, after the homeland war, "Jadrancamen" was sold to a private company, the number of employees was reduced, as well as the scope of works. It sells more blocks, and less final products. Still, majority of Pačičica inhabitants still lives of stone.

School

There is a high school for stonemasons, training students for stone trades. Already in early 20th century, masters taught their students in stone trades. After a three-year study and work and after passing the exam, students became masters. Current school in Pačičica trains students on a higher level so they may enrol university studies. They are students from all regions of Croatia, returning to their native regions after they complete the studies, and opening their workshops or quarries there.

Croatia and the world in Brač stone

Brač people are proud because parts of their island are parts of buildings around the world. It is difficult to name all buildings and monuments in Croatia and world that are made of stone from Brač.

First, there is Diocletian's Palace in Split standing for 1700 years as a masterpiece of the Roman spirit. Medieval church-towers and cathedrals: Šibenik and Trogir, and many Dalmatian fortresses.

Recently, there is Moltrović Gallery in Split, Iluziova building, Our Lady of Health church, Main

Post Office and many houses and shops. In Zagreb: Moltrović Pavilion, Vatroslav Lisinski Concert Hall, Croatian National Bank, etc. In Dubrovnik: hotels Argentina, Excelsior, Belvedere, Rubin kok, etc. In Zadar: Forum Square, St. Mary monastery, many hotels, etc. Numerous hotels in Dalmatia, quays, churches, graveyards and tombstones...

In the world: White House in Washington, Battery Park in New York, monument to Victims of Fascism in Adlis Abadi, promenade in Benghazi, Parliament and New Court in Vienna, Parliament in Budapest, Regent's Palace in Trieste, hotel complex in Soci, Panorama Hotel in Prague, government buildings and hotels and embassies in Belgrade, many monuments and hotels in Montenegro, buildings and hotels in Novi Sad and Sarajevo, etc.

Stonemasonry tradition

Pačičica is the place of origin of many families that became famous for stonemasonry. They are Bračuzola, Bokanić, Rađević, Orlandini, Kačić, etc. Pačičice stone tradition produced the well known sculptors Branko Dežović, Valerije Michielli, etc. Brač gave the famous sculptor Nikola Lužanić and Ivan Rendić, father of the modern Croatian sculpture.

In the old days, it was beautiful in Pačičica, especially in the summer. From all sides you could hear hammers beating on the stone dressed by the stonemasons. The sound of stone was like the sound of church-tower bells. Many beats of stonemasons on thresholds melted with chirps of cicadas and created an orchestra – a symphony remembered as the most beautiful summer melody.



IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

285	International access code for Croatia
021	Area code for County of Split and Dalmatia
92	Police
307-111	Traffic police
93	Fire brigade
94	Ambulance
95	Accurate time
96	Telegrams
9100	Wake-up service
988, 981	Information
961	International calls
962	Phone numbers abroad
970	Radio taxi
967	Road assistance
484-255	Croatian Automobile Club Split
000 520 520	Weather forecast and road information
985	Information Centre and Mountain Rescue Service
	Service
8155	Sea Search and Rescue Service
407-311	Tourist Inspection Split
407-671	Sanitary inspection
310-113	Social Welfare Centre Split
062 777 777	An services
203-506	Split Airport
524-116	Brac Airport
000 333-444	Railroad information
383-777	Customs authorities
Health:	
555-111	Finale Hospital Split
557-111	Novia Hospital Split
357-880	Solus Private Hospital, Split
289-227	Kaljevic Private Hospital, Split
317-070	Institute for Addictions Solin
610-815	Biskovica Hotel Clinic, Makarska

Dialysis centres:

741-300	Hvar
617-100	Isoroki
612-020	Makarska
621-700	Sinj
645-000	Supetar (Brac)
881-461	Trgac

Do not dive alone! Closest decompression chambers are in Split: 255-511
Croatian Navy
343-980 Decompression Chamber at Dr. Golubic

Veterinary stations:

611-370	Makarska
841-605	Isoroki
232-254	Šibenik
821-070	Sinj
565-700	Trgac
881-429	Trgac

AREA CODES FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES

AUSTRIA	+43	HUNGARY	+36
BELGIUM	+32	THE NETHERLANDS	+31
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	+387	GERMANY	+49
VINA	+387	POLAND	+48
CZECH REPUBLIC	+42	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	+421
DENMARK	+45	SLOVENIA	+386
FRANCE	+33	SWEDEN	+46
GREECE	+30	SWITZERLAND	+41
ITALY	+39	USA	+1
CANADA	+1	GREAT BRITAIN	+44

If calling from abroad, first dial the international access code for Croatia (+ + 385), then the area code for the County of Split and Dalmatia (21), and then the desired number. If calling from another county inside Croatia, first dial County of Split and Dalmatia area code (021) and then the desired number.

DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN SPLIT

AUSTRIA	322-525	SPAIN	343-377
GREAT BRITAIN	346-007	HUNGARY	480-019
DENMARK	258-488	GERMANY	363-995
FINLAND	344-044	THE NETHERLANDS	313-286
SLOVENIA	389-204	SWEDEN	302-603
ITALY	349-155	CZECH REPUBLIC	320-277

EXPRESS MAIL SERVICES

COMPANY	TELEPHONE
City Express	457-600
Dnl	371-422
	371-620
Intersauga	588-434
	588-623
	588-622
Dnevna Express	680-153
	680-154

PHONE CARDS

Public telephones operate only with telephone cards available in post offices or at kiosks.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE, CREDIT CARDS, TAX FREE

You can exchange foreign currencies in banks, post offices or exchange offices, at their valid rates of exchange. Foreign currency is not accepted as a means of payment in shops, but only in those most frequently accepted credit cards are: American Express, Diners Club, Mastercard, Visa, JCB, Eurocheques.

Foreign persons can ask for the return of the tax for purchases exceeding 1500 at the latest within a year after the purchasing date. On that occasion, they must present a filled in and certified form for tax return issued by the shop in which they bought the goods.

RADIO AND TVF

Local Radio Stations

Station	Radio
Radio Makarska (rijeka) (97.8 MHz)	615-526
Radio Brac (91.8/102.7MHz)	620-529
Našinski radio Vc (92.5/93.4 MHz)	711-323
Radio Hvar (94.7/95.4)	742-722
Radio Dalmacija (97.8/106.9/107.3)	483-100
Radio Split (101/102/104.5)	483-222
	306-666

MINISTRY OF TRAFFIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS W/ CHANNEL FOR WEATHER FORECAST

(Croatian, English, German, Italian)

PORT CHANNEL

PORT	CHANNEL	TERMINUS
PLULA	73	northern Adriatic – western coast of Istria
RIJNSKA	69	northern Adriatic – eastern part
ŠIBENIK	67	central Adriatic – eastern part
DUBROVNIK	73	southern Adriatic – eastern part

MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE W/ CHANNEL 10 RADIO MARINE OPERATIVE W/ CHANNEL 17

Radiostations broadcasting information on Safety of navigation, safety at sea, news, messages for sailors, weather forecast and other for the central and southern Adriatic are coastal radio-stations Split and Dubrovnik. They broadcast weather forecasts and warnings for sailors in Croatian and English language in the following terms:

RAJAD	TIME (hour)	W/F	TERMINUS
SPIT	7.45, 14.45, 21.45	20	northern Adriatic
021/389-190		07	Kornati
DUBROVNIK	8.25, 15.20, 22.20	21, 23, 01	central Adriatic
(020/ 422-595)		04	Puljanci and Lastovo
		07, 16	southern Adriatic

USEFUL WEB SITES

Basic information on Croatia	www.croatica.com
Croatian National Tourist Board	www.croatiaturism.com
County of Split and Dalmatia	www.dalmanet.com
City of Split	www.visitcity.com
City Guides	www.hrv.hr
Croatian Automobile Club	www.hak.hr
Croatian Hydrometeorological Institute with Weather Forecast	www.hr.meteo.hr
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia (hosted)	www.mzv.hr
Croatian National Bank – exchange rate	www.nbs.hr
Nautical Information – On Line	www.nauticdata.com
Croatia Airlines air carrier	www.croatiaair.com
Adriatic shipping company	www.adriatic.hr
Adriatica shipping company	www.adriatica.com
Jadrolag shipping company	www.jadrolag.com
SEMA-Mitina shipping company	www.sema-mitina.hr
STUF shipping company	www.stuf.com

DIVING CENTRES – WEB SITES

Dinorska (Duba)	www.dinorska-diving.com
Kabul Dabac	www.kabul-diving.com
Split	www.splidiving.hr
Brac (Brac)	www.bracdiving.com
Sumartin (Brac)	www.sumartin-diving.com
Peak	www.peak-diving.com
Pačički (Brac)	www.pacicki-diving.com
Supetar (Brac)	www.supetar-diving.com
Trgac (Dugi Otok) (Duba)	www.trgac-diving.com
Vc (Vlc)	www.vlc-diving.com
Vlc (Vlc)	www.vlc.hr

Kornati (Vlc)	www.duba-diving.com
Kornati (Vlc)	www.croatica-diving.com
Hvar (Hvar)	www.hvardiving.com
Jelsa (Hvar)	www.jelsadiving.com
Brac (Brac)	www.brac-diving.com
Brac	www.brac.hr
Makarska	www.makarska.com
Pločevo	www.plocevo.com
Šibenik Vlc	www.dalmatia-channel.com

HEALTH REGULATIONS

Foreign citizens in the Republic of Croatia personally pay the costs of treatment except in case of emergency – FIRST AID (Makarska Health Centre) and in case they have a patient's list. It may be obtained on certificate on health care benefits filed in their own country before arrival to Croatia in Germany: HR0111 and HR0112 form, in Austria: HR010 and HR016, in Belgium: BY111, in Bosnia and Herzegovina: BH010 and HR016, in Czech Republic: CZ0111, in France only: Croatian citizen: SE-21-00A, in Italy: MD02, in Luxembourg: LV1, in Macedonia: BM010, in the Netherlands: NL0111, in Slovenia: SLO010, SLO014, and SLO017, and in Switzerland: DAN01.1. Injured persons from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and the Great Britain need only their passports. The scope of health care benefits is determined in the Medical Insurance Contract between the Republic of Croatia and the beneficiary's country.

TOURIST FEE

Owners of accommodation in areas with tourist activities are required to register the stay of tourists with the local tourist board of the respective village or city. The tourist board is then required to issue a written residence permit for each registered guest.

Tourists pay a fee for each day of their stay.

In the Republic of Croatia, the fee shall be paid by:

- domestic and foreign citizens who are outside of their place of residence in a tourist facility (hotel, motel, pension, camp, tourist apartment, vacation, rented room, climbers' lodging, berth in a port, various vacation homes for children and the young),
- the owner of a house for letting in a tourist place for all persons staying in his house (week),
- the owner of a vessel in case he is staying aboard the vessel in a port and all the persons aboard the vessel.

The tax is paid per person for each day of stay. The money from the taxes is used for promotion of Croatian tourism, and for improvement of the conditions of stay and the environment.

Tourist places are classified in 5 classes (A, B, C, D, and unclassified). Fees differ for each class and type of the season (main season, early/late season, out of season).

Fees are not paid by:

- children until 12 years of age,
- persons with visual or hearing impairment, and disabled persons,
- participants of school excursions,
- persons treated according to the instruction by a health institution,
- long year guests in a place who assisted the promotion of tourism, according to a special decision by a tourist office,
- passengers on a ship in international traffic,
- owners of old family houses from inheritance, and members of their immediate families.

For children aged 12 to 16, 50 % of the tourist tax is paid.

FINES OF TRAVEL FOR FOREIGNERS

Class	Sea per day in HRK		
	1. main season	2. early and late season	3. out of season
A	7.00	5.00	6.00
B	6.00	4.00	5.00
C	5.00	3.00	4.00
D and others	4.00	2.00	3.00

NAUTICAL REGULATIONS

The owner or operator of a boat over three meters in length and with a motor over 4 kW must, immediately after entering Croatian territorial waters, register their arrival and stay with the next appropriate harbour master's office, in as far as they intend on travelling along the coastline and to the islands.

Vessels arriving by land can be registered with any harbour master's office to be issued the registration of arrival and stay in Croatian territorial waters. On that occasion, they will pay the fee for navigation safety.

The vessel operator is required to register all persons aboard. Furthermore, the owner, or as the case may be, operator of the vessel, must register all persons aboard with the appropriate tourist office so that the compulsory residence fee can be levied.

Navigation safety fee (Order dated 29th October 2002)

Navigation safety fee (valid for a year) paid by foreign yachts and boats for recreation or sport (uninsured) referred to as: foreign vessels) at issue of registration of arrival and stay in the internal waters and territorial waters of the Republic of Croatia, depending on length, amounts to:

1. for boats:
 - up to 7 m length with engine power exceeding 4 kW – HRK 140

- 3 to 4 m length – HRK 210
- 4 to 5 m length – HRK 280
- 5 to 6 m length – HRK 350
- exceeding 6 m length – HRK 420

2. For yachts:

- up to 7 m length – HRK 525
- 7 to 8 m length – HRK 620
- 8 to 9 m length – HRK 720
- 9 to 10 m length – HRK 840
- 10 to 11 m length – HRK 945
- 11 to 12 m length – HRK 1,050
- 12 to 15 m length – HRK 1,220
- 15 to 20 m length – HRK 1,400
- 20 to 30 m length – HRK 1,570
- exceeding 30 m length – HRK 1,750

II.

Amounts under I above are reduced by 10 % for each subsequent registration, at most up to 50 % for the sixth and each subsequent registration.

For reduction of the fee amount under the preceding paragraph, the subsequent registration of the owner or subsequent registration of the vessel shall be recognized.

Article 1 of this Order does not refer to foreign vessels chartered by Croatian legal or natural persons.

Crew charge fee

II.

On foreign vessels it is permitted to have an unlimited number of crew changes, provided that the vessel owner or member of his family (spouse, children, and parents) are absent, and that any change of crewmembers is reported to the harbour master's office or local office.

III.

If a foreign vessel or ill. is owned by a foreign legal entity, the commander must be absent if authorized by the vessel owner and registered as skipper in the list of vessel crew.

Fee amount payable by the foreign vessel captain under preceding paragraph at each registration of crew change, for all crewmembers except the commander amounts to HRK 200 per person.

FISHING REGULATIONS

Not fully grown fish and sea organisms are sexually immature development forms.

Fish, crabs, and sea shells below the stipulated size (mentioned below) must not be processed, kept aboard, transferred to another vessel, unloaded, transported, stored, or traded. Instead, they must be immediately returned into the sea. The stipulated sizes are measured:

1. for fish – from head top to the end of stretched tail fin;
2. for crustaceans – from the top of rostrum to the end of stretched out tail fin, and for spider crab it is the maximum carapace width;
3. for shells – their maximum diameter.

1. Fish (RISCIZ)

- Common pandora (*Pagrus erythrinus*) 12 cm
- Flat-head grey mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) 20 cm
- Mullet (*Liza* sp., *Chelon* sp.) 16 cm

- Sea bream (*Diplodus* spp.) 15 cm
- Amberjack (*Seriola dumerilii*) 45 cm
- Angler (*Lepidotrigla* spp.) 30 cm
- Spearfish (*Tetrapterus belone*) 120 cm
- Sweetfish (*Kiphar gladius*) 120 cm
- Anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) 9 cm
- Black sea bream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*) 18 cm
- Brown meagre (*Sciaenops umbrus*) 20 cm
- Groupers (*Epinephelus* spp.) 45 cm
- Go-head sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) 20 cm
- Common sole (*Solea vulgaris*) 20 cm
- Seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) 22 cm
- Hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) 18 cm
- Common sea bream (*Pagrus pagrus*) 30 cm
- Atlantic bonito (*Sarda sarda*) 45 cm
- Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) 8 cm
- Mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*) 18 cm
- Pilchard (*Sardinia pilchardus*) 18 cm
- Red scorpionfish (*Scorpaena scrofa*) 25 cm
- Stripped red mullet (*Mullus spp.*) 11 cm
- Tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) 70 cm (K, J, KJ)
- Demers (*Demers demers*) 30 cm

2. For crustaceans (CRUSTACEA)

- European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) 24 cm
 - Croatian spiny lobster (*Palinurus aliphicus*) 24 cm
 - Spider crab (*Maja squinado*) 18 cm
 - Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) 7 cm
3. For shellfish (SHELLFISH)
- Great Mediterranean scallop (*Pecten jacobaeus*) 10 cm
 - Stripped Venus (*Venus verrucosa*) 2,5 cm
 - Grooved carpet shell (*Ruditapes decussatus*) 2,5 cm
 - Night's Ark (*Alcea nuda*) 5 cm

A special provision of the Law on Sea Fishing bans the taking of European date mussel (*Lithophaga lithophaga*), so they are not mentioned here.

Closed season is determined according to species. Green sea urchin (*Lacuna viridis*) is permanently protected. Brown meagre (*Sciaenops umbrus*) from 15th May to 15th July, Groupers (*Epinephelus* spp.) from 1st July to 31st August, White sea bream (*Diplodus* spp.) from 15th March to 30th April, and Common demers (*Demers demers*) from 1st April to 15th June. Closed season for crustaceans is also determined: from 1st September to 31st May for European lobster; from 1st September to 30th May for Common spiny lobster (*Palinurus aliphicus*) and from 1st June to 30th November for Spider crab (*Maja squinado*). Regardless of their size, caught female lobsters with external eggs must be returned into the sea, as well as Spider crabs with darkened external eggs. Closed season does not refer to fish and crustaceans bred in fish farms.

REGULATIONS ON SPORT FISHING AT SEA

Article 2

(1) Sea fishing for recreation and sport is permitted only with use of the following types and quantities of fishing tools and equipment:

1. – long line
 - up to two (2) lines total, with those (2) hooks on each line at most;
 - 2. – line with lead weight
 - up to two (2) lines total, with those (2) hooks on each line at most;

3. – trail,
 - up to two (2) trails total, with three (3) hooks on each trail at most;
 - 4. – line with a hook for cephalopods, two (2) lines total at most;
 - 5. – spear-fishing gun
 - two (2) guns total at most
 - 6. – trap for big worms
 - two (2) pieces total at most
- (2) In fishing with the tools under 1, items 1, 2, 3, and 4, it is prohibited to use fishing rod and coil.

Article 3

(1) Permit for fishing at sea for recreation and sport for the Croatian or foreign citizens (hereinafter referred to as the permit) is issued for:

1. – one (1) day;
2. – three (3) days;
3. – seven (7) days;
4. – thirty (30) days;
5. – for the current calendar year (annual permit);
- (2) Permits for one (1), three (3), seven (7) and thirty (30) days (hereinafter referred to as: daily and several-day permits) are issued to Croatian and foreign citizens;
- (3) Current calendar year permits are issued only:

1. to Croatian citizens – homeland war disabled veterans;
2. to Croatian or foreign citizens with permanent residence in the Republic of Croatia, holders of membership card of the Croatian Federation for Sea Sport Fishing or Croatian Fishing Association, issued by a Member State of this Federation.

Article 4

Amount of the fee for daily and several days permits mentioned in Art. 3, Para. 1, items 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this Regulation is established at the amount of:

1. – HRK 60 for one (1) day permit;
2. – HRK 150 for three (3) days permit;
3. – HRK 300 for seven (7) days permit;
4. – HRK 700 for thirty (30) days permit.

Article 7

(1) For fishing TUNA (*Thunnus thynnus*), SWORDFISH (*Xiphar gladius*) and SPEARFISH (*Tetrapturus belone*) for recreation and sport purposes, a special permit is required.

- (2) The special permit under (1) is issued for one (1), three (3), seven (7), or thirty (30) days;
- (3) Fee for the special permit under (1) and (2) is determined at the amount of:

1. – HRK 100 for one (1) day permit
2. – HRK 200 for three (3) days permit
3. – HRK 400 for seven (7) days permit
4. – HRK 1,000 for thirty (30) days permit.

Article 8

(1) Holders of special permits for fishing tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), swordfish (*Xiphar gladius*) and spearfish (*Tetrapturus belone*) are allowed to use only the following types and quantities of fishing tools:

1. up to two (2) long-lines with at most one (1) hook on each line;
2. up to two (2) trails, with or without rod, and coil;
- (2) A person fishing as under (1) may catch at most one tuna or swordfish or spearfish daily.

TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST BOARD	MUNICIPALITY	FIRE BRIGADE	POST OFFICE	ZP CODE	BANK	TAXI	RENT-A-CAR	HEALTH CENTER OR DOCTOR'S OFFICE	PHARMACY
BAKA VODA	620-713	620-244	620-088	620-125	21220	620-320 - Splitka		620-207	620-123	620-077
BOL (BRAC)	625-428	625-011	625-582	625-225	21420	625-155 - Splitka 625-763 - Zravska	098-207-022	625-966 625-093	625-112	625-087
BRIELA	618-327	618-061	618-540	618-442	21222		618-211	619-018		
DUG RAT	724-900	724-900	724-099	724-611	21215	nema		724-025	724-666	
GRADAC	667-611	667-601	nema	667-622	21220	667-642 - Splitka	667-246		667-616	667-666
GRIGNOTE (DOLTA)	654-191	654-123	654-656	654-124	21820			654-194	654-194	654-194
HRAR (HRAR)	741-028	741-120	741-220	741-941	21400	741-023 - Split-olim. 741-005 - Pivradita 741-943 - Splitka		741-742 741-252	741-203	741-002
IGRANE	627-801	625-289		627-800	21229			602-685		
IMOTSKI	841-125	842-200	841-022	841-052	21960	841-200 - Zravska 841-676 - Dubrovačka 861-777 - Pivradita 841-225 - Splitka 842-500 - Croatia		840-911	871-100 871-125	842-896 841-127
JELSA (HRAR)	761-017	761-480	761-263	761-207	21400	761-050 - Splitka 761-674 - Zravska			761-194	761-108
KASTILA										
ŠTAMPLIC				224-670	21217	895-211 - Splitka (airport)	895-227			
NOVA				229-806	21216	220-200 - Splitka				
STARI			220-323	220-428	21216		221-320		220-708	220-406
LUKUĆ	227-823			228-289	21215	228-606 - Pivradita				
KAMBELOVAC				220-808	21214		220-842			221-120
GORNICA			222-323	222-760	21213				222-279	220-020
SUĆURAC		224-122	224-323	224-029	21212	224-124 - Splitka			225-070	224-216

TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST BOARD	MUNICIPALITY	FIRE BRIGADE	POST OFFICE	ZIP CODE	BAWK	TAXI	RENT-A-CAR	HEALTH CENTER OR DOCTOR'S OFFICE	PHARMACY
ELIS	240-578	240-445		240-181	21221				240-005	
KOMAZA (VRS)	713-455	713-644	713-713	713-020	21405	713-288 - Splitka		098/865-000	713-122	713-445
MAKARSKA	012-052 016-288	012-222	016-402	016-983 015-989	21300	015-455 - Splitka 095-150 - Zagrebačka 012-278 - Privredna 016-221 - Dubrovačka	011-365	004-300 012-700 012-165 012-987	012-023	011-227 012-280 011-609 016-481
MARINA	889-015	889-088	889-761	889-389	21222				889-084	889-011
MUNA (BRAČ)	036-223	036-212		036-201	21405	036-440 - Splitka		036-499	036-109	
OKUGI (DUBOVI)	807-311	807-477		806-178	21223					796-370
OMIS	061-350	062-380	061-055	061-224 062-482	21310	064-155 - Splitka 062-065 - Privredna	064-523		062-311 062-025 061-367	062-120 062-782
POGOŠTA	025-560	025-290	025-003	025-041	21227	025-211 - Splitka			025-007	025-222
POSTRANA	203-844	203-545			21312					
POSTIRA (BRAČ)	022-966	022-133		022-105	21410	022-689 - Splitka			022-209	
PLOČIŠĆA (BRAČ)	023-555	023-290		023-200	21412	023-423 - Splitka			023-104	023-680
SEGET	080-558	080-037		080-024						080-220
SILČA (BRAČ)	022-262	022-603		022-008	21425	022-600 - Splitka			022-010	022-728
SIBI	026-352	021-601	025-110	024-190	21230	021-400 - Splitka 026-520 - Zagrebačka 026-101 - Privredna 024-055 - Croatia		098/264-913 700-018	021-700	060-094 060-055 026-686 060-056
SOLIN	210-048	211-236	217-232	211-000	21210	210-772 - Splitka 280-865 - Privredna	212-412		210-671	210-551 212-486
SPLET	348-600	310-111	400-915	282-205 286-980 228-541 539-776 282-865 286-955 480-185	21000	547-643 - Splitka 252-204 - Zagrebačka 401-427 - Privredna 406-050 - Hypo-Alipa-Adria 282-274 - Hrvatska poštanska 467-002 - Croatia 280-055 - Croatia	280-555 481-180 247-777 095-227 345-700 280-455 343-070	288-711 012-366 242-076 051-011	526-111 - Frola 577-111 - Klatina 258-003 - Šibenik 308-237 - Kaluđer 400-680 - Split	348-074 523-188 508-424 460-772 513-188 302-071 222-025
				286-506 507-416 474-020 277-722 274-021 255-256		260-723 - Sonic 245-794 - Hrvatska narodna 257-015 - Inex 245-265 - Podravka 540-280 - Splitka-dalmatinska 486-022 - Turistička 482-000 - HVD Croatia 282-222 - Nova	361-425		547-680 321-622 542-740 268-499 270-745	
STAR GRAD (HVAR)	705-703	705-022	705-126	705-164	21400	705-551			705-122	705-061 705-455
STOBREC	204-010	204-122		206-384	21311					
SUČURAJ (HVAR)	712-203	712-228		712-314	21408	712-209			712-210	
SUPESTAR (BRAČ)	030-551	031-262	030-918	030-053	21400	031-223 - Splitka 030-385 - Privredna	098/207-446	030-709	040-000	040-025 021-174
SUTVAN (BRAČ)	038-124	038-386		038-018	21403					038-194
ŠKOPJE (ŠOLTA)	054-151	054-123	054-666	054-124	21320					054-194
TINJ	032-510	031-030	032-263	031-180	21240	031-055 - Splitka 032-328 - Hypo			032-148	032-022 031-130
TROGR	001-412	001-408	002-762	001-456 001-454	21220	001-077 - Splitka 001-026 - Zagrebačka 005-771 - Privredna	001-227	005-464	002-022 001-461	001-626 004-247 005-541
TUŠIPI	023-100	023-585	023-303	023-302	21325	023-222 - Splitka		023-169		
VG (VRS)	717-017	711-025	711-137	711-060	21400	711-061 - Splitka 711-889 - Splitka-dalm.	711-544		711-117	711-424
VROŽIŠKA (HVAR)	714-127			714-034 714-228	21403					
VROGANC	075-110	074-128	074-093	074-254	21276	074-022 - Splitka 074-400 - Dubrovačka 074-005 - Neveštansko-gosp.		074-121	074-021	
VRLJKA ŽNOVAČIĆE	027-460 027-065	027-207 027-077	027-025	027-010	21236	027-044 - Splitka			027-211	027-010
TOWN/PLACE	BUS	AIR TRAFFIC (ickets)	NAUTIC (ickets)	HARBOR TRAFFIC (ickets)	HARBOR MASTER'S OFFICE	MARINA	GAS STATION (HVA)	STAMBER 1.0 - 30.0	WINTER 1.00 - 21.5.	
BAŠKA VODA (VRS)						020-220	020-119	7:00-20:00	7:00-12:00	8:00-12:00 closed 18:00-19:00
BRELA						098/1802-215				
DUGIRAT GRADAC						097-601	097-621	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00	7:00-19:00 7:00-19:00
ŠKOPJE (ŠOLTA)										
HVAR (HVAR)		741-011 - Atlas	741-132 - Jadrolinija	741-007	744-995 - ACD Pales - 744-980 Jona	741-060		7:00-21:00	7:00-21:00	8:00-16:00 8:00-12:00
IMOTSKI	041-268						041-010 - Šibenik 041-040 - Makarska	0:00-22:00	0:00-12:00	0:00-20:00 closed
JELSA (HVAR)			761-605 - Atlas Jelsa				761-140	7:00-21:00	7:00-21:00	7:30-12:30 ; 8:00-12:00 17:00-19:00
KASTELA ŠTAFILIC (DUBROVNIK)		203-305 - Croatia					227-400 - south 227-944 - north	8:00-22:00	8:00-22:00	8:00-21:00 8:00-21:00
NOVI STAR								non stop	non stop	non stop

TOWN/PLACE	BUS	AIR TRAFFIC (tickets)	MARITIME TRAFFIC (tickets)	HARBOUR MASTERS OFFICE	MARINA	GAS STATION (litre)	SUMMER 1.6 - 30.8		WINTER 1.10 - 31.5	
							Mon-Sat	Sun/Holiday	Mon-Sat	Sun/Holiday
KLJ	098-064-029				713-085					
KAMENJ (MS)										
MAKANSKA	012-333		012-248 - Delfinca 015-411 - Kompas 011-688 - Turistbire	011-507		010-105 - Šušpl 012-660 - Obala 012-566 - Rincac	6:00-22:00 8:00-20:00 non stop	6:00-22:00 8:00-20:00 non stop	6:00-20:00 8:00-15:00 non stop	6:00-20:00 closed non stop
MENA (BRAC)				036-205	036-206 - ACI Mena	036-240 - Marina	8:00-12:00 17:00-20:00	8:00-12:00 8:00-12:00	8:00-12:00 8:00-12:00	8:00-12:00 8:00-12:00
OMIS	064-210		063-015 - Active Holidays			065-113	non stop	non stop	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00
PIZGORA						025-030	7:00-11:00 17:00-20:30	closed	6:00-12:00	closed
SEUJ	021-566					021-112	non stop	non stop	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00
SOLJ						213-216 - Meteoza 210-685 - Sveti Roko	6:00-22:00 7:00-11:30	6:00-22:00 closed	6:00-21:00 7:00-19:30	6:00-21:00 closed
SPLIT	338-883 338-886	362-987 - Croatia 338-440 - Adria 343-422 - Czech 338-445 - Air Dal	338-227 - Adriatica 338-225 - Jadrolinje 338-323 - Jadrolinje 338-218 - SIF Marina 322-252 - SNAV	335-488 363-436	366-563 - ACI Split 364-744 - Mornar 368-813 - Šparut 368-936 - Zenta	569-983 - Krman-south 362-662 - Krman-north 363-737 - Kaplica-south 363-983 - Kaplica-north 369-484 - Obala 549-017 - Pejčan 374-525 - Smeković 538-703 - Sušidar 386-705 - Šparut 374-578 - Viskica-north	6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 non stop non stop 6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 non stop	6:00-22:00 6:00-22:00 6:00-19:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-22:00 non stop non stop 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 non stop	6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 7:00-12:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00 6:00-21:00	
STAR GRAD (HVAR)	165-811			365-080						
SUČURAJ (HVAR)				372-228						
SUPETAR (BRAC)			031-257 - Jadrolinje			031-137	6:00-22:00 16:00-19:30 17:00-21:00	6:00-22:00	7:00-12:00 14:00-19:00	7:00-12:00 7:00-12:00
(ŠOLTA)						054-180 - Uvala Rogač	7:30-12:00 16:00-19:30 17:00-21:00	closed	7:30-11:00	closed
TRJ						031-030	6:00-22:00	6:00-22:00	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00
TROGR	001-405		094-279 - Adria Trogr	001-508	001-544 - ACI Trogr	001-417 005-458 - ACI (marina)	6:00-22:00 8:00-20:00	6:00-22:00 8:00-12:00	6:00-21:00 8:00-15:00	6:00-21:00 closed
TUČEP				023-080						
VG (VG)						711-176	7:00-21:00	8:00-12:00	7:00-12:00	closed 17:00-19:00
VROSKA (HVAR)					704-018 - ACI	704-230 - ACI (marina)	8:00-19:00	8:00-19:00	8:00-19:00	closed
VROGRAC						674-025	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00	7:00-18:00	8:00-14:00
VELJA										
ZADNARJE						729-072	6:00-21:00	6:00-21:00	6:00-19:00	closed
TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST AGENCY	HOTEL		CAMP		SPORT		WINTER A-SPORT		
BAGNA VOCA	032-704 - AS Adria Service 020-527 - Balika Travel Service 025-400 - Bonavia 020-207 - Duga 020-389 - Kamac 021-227 - Mariva turist 021-435 - Pluto turizam	032-080 - Aven 032-413 - Balika Polje 004-055 - Horizont 030-003 - Hotel B. Neda d.d. 011-262 - Hrvatska 020-399 - Milanj 004-888 - Slavija 030-578 - Ustina		778-000 - Dominik 025-293 - Kanun 025-424 - Kita 025-028 - Maria 025-630 - Metar 091-5223-764 - Rijva 098-609-175 - Tense 025-213 - Zlati Rat d.d.	012-229 - AC Erika Polje 020-683 - Nika	020-263 - Diving Club Posejdon				
BOL (BRAC)	025-966 - Adria Tours 025-233 - Atlas 025-693 - Bol Tours	025-144 - Bijela Kuća 306-268 - Bonaca 306-202 - Borak 740-141 - Club Hotel Branatide 306-200 - Elaphusa 306-200 - Elaphusa app. 025-996 - Kobil 025-213 - Zlati Rat d.d.		778-000 - Dominik 025-293 - Kanun 025-424 - Kita 025-028 - Maria 025-630 - Metar 091-5223-764 - Rijva 098-609-175 - Tense 025-635 - Ranc	098/212-419 - Diving School Big Blue 091-2761-111 - Bol Bike Center 025-388 - Tennis Center Zlati Rat 025-650 - Tennis Center Orca Sport				WINTER SPORTS 091-5237-188 - Croatia Gully 098/264-027 - Kagar 098/261-651 - Nautic Center Bol 098/222-842 - Mateo 091-5130-552 - Gasping Comm. NAUTICAL TOURISM 025-289 - Frame 025-745 - Veli 025-228 - Veritas 025-126 - Zlati Rat	
BRELA	018-293 - AS Adria Service 018-019 - Bonavia 018-211 - Maraska 018-122 - Mariva turist	003-207 - Benula 003-222 - Bela d.d. 003-671 - Maestral 003-680 - Mariva 018-423 - Pelegrin 003-207 - Soline			734-280 - B 734-262 - Dario 734-821 - Dijana 734-782 - Duže 735-328 - Ivan (Novlje) 734-968 - Ivo, Duže 734-229 - Ivo (Rogač) 734-120 - Luka 734-805 - Ljubiša 734-420 - Mira 734-593 - Mirasol 734-223 - Miro, Duže 734-099 - Orj 734-722 - Rj 864-777 - Studenc	018-664 - Diving Club Aquaraut 003-222 - Tennis Center				
DUG RAT	734-577 - Adria Tours, Duže 508-887 - Pivi horizont, Duže	725-075 - Pension Bondivole		734-280 - B 734-262 - Dario 734-821 - Dijana 734-782 - Duže 735-328 - Ivan (Novlje) 734-968 - Ivo, Duže 734-229 - Ivo (Rogač) 734-120 - Luka 734-805 - Ljubiša 734-420 - Mira 734-593 - Mirasol 734-223 - Miro, Duže 734-099 - Orj 734-722 - Rj 864-777 - Studenc	734-454 - Diving Club Jadran 734-229 - Watersports, Duže 734-212 - Hunters' Association			NAUTICAL TOURISM EXCURSIONS 734-900 - Information 862-855 - Dmiš 098/202-181 - Pino 734-430 - Toni		

SRPSKA DALMACIJA

CENTRAL MITTEL - CENTRALE STRÉDNI

ŽUPANIJA SPLITSKO-DALMATINSKA
GESPANSCHAFT SPLIT-DALMATIEN

SPLIT & DALMATIA COUNTY
SPLITSKO-DALMATSKA ŽUPA

Imenik iz Anjuna 1. st. n. e.



sv. Đurđa
četaj vjetrova
Makarska - split
1700-1800-1900



ŠIBENIK SV. ĐURĐA - ŠIBENIK



KARNEVALI S PRILAZOM
DORINGI JASTRA
IV ST. - KALONA



ŠIBENIK
IV ST. - KALONA



ŠIBENIK SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK



SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK
1700-1800-1900



SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK
1700-1800-1900



ŠIBENIK SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK



ŠIBENIK SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK



ŠIBENIK SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK



ŠIBENIK SV. MIHAELA - ŠIBENIK



ZAMKE OBLIČNE
PROZORICE
SV. PETAR I
PAVLE
XI ST. - SIRM



plutej s prikazom
hrvatskog vladara
XI ST. - SIRM



penstel - dvoceljana palača
XI ST. - SIRM

sv. Ivo - tkojci
početni majstorski
radovi
1240.



afonika
IV ST. - VI ST.



-  MARINA
MARINA
JACHTHAFEN
JACHTHAFEN KLUB
-  KAPETANJA
HARBOR OFFICE
HAFENAMT
NARODNE SPRAVA
-  TRAJEKT
CAR FERRY
AUTOPHÄRE
TRAJEKT
-  HOTEL
HOTEL
HOTEL
-  AUTO KAMP
CAMPING SITE
CAMPINGPLATZ
AUTOKEMPNIK
-  LUTVRDA
CASTLE
SCHLOSS
TVRZ
-  BENZIN POSTAJA
PETROL STATION
TANKSTELLE
BENZINSKA PUMPA
-  PULJANJSKI DOM
MOUNTAIN HUT
BERGSHÜTTE
HORNSKA CHATA
-  ZRAČNA LUKA
AIRPORT
FLUGHAFEN
LEIŠTE
-  PRICOJNE ZABRANJEN
NATURAL ATTRACTION
NATURALTRAKTION
PRICOJNE ZABRANJEN
-  PUČKA ARHITEKTURA
RURAL ARCHITECTURE
VOLKSRACHTEKTUR
UDNA ARCHITEKTURA
-  ARHEOLOŠKI LOKALITET
ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE
ARCHÄOLOGISCHE LOKALITÄT
ARHEOLOŠKA LOKALITA
-  MESTO HODOVAČA
PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE
WALLFAHRTORT
PILGRIM MESTO
-  GRANICA
BORDER
GRENZE
FRANCA
-  ŽUPANIJSKA
GRANICA
DISTRICT
BORDER
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TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST AGENCY	HOTEL	CAMP	SPORT	RENT-A-BOAT
GRADAC	097-507 - Galibetours 099-297 - Lavandra, Podaca 029-018 - Marica turist, Zastrog 097-502 - PeKaI	020-079-152 - Jakov d.d. , Plača 020-001-505 - Lubinica 020-001-222 - Laguna 020-001-888 - Mosenja, Zastrog 087-502 - Mario Polo 099-379 - Vila Lidaz, Brač	029-300 - Dalmacija 029-023 - Uvala bonova, Podaca 029-190 - Viter	097-378 - Diving Club Felan 020-001-505 - Tennis Center	
HRAB (HRAB)	741-011 - Atlas 741-132 - Jadrolinija 742-098 - Mengla 742-743 - Pelagini Tours	741-024 - Adriatic 741-202 - Amfora 741-744 - Boda 742-400 - Croatia 741-120 - Dalmacija 741-168 - Deffo 741-966 - Palaca 741-028 - Pharos 741-899 - Podstine 741-144 - Sirena 741-820 - Slavija 741-956 - Suncani Hvar d.d.	740-775 - Lič, Sv. Nedilja 740-027 - Mala Mlana	742-490 - Diving Club Jergovan 742-590 - Diving Club Lora 741-792 - Diving Club Petric Dinka	
IGRANE	027-790 - Dalmatins 027-801 - Marica turist	004-222 - Punta		004-025 Diving, Jürgen Krause	
IMOTSKI	041-728 - Desibat 091-0106-983 - Lora 070-232 - Perla Tours	041-700 - Imots 071-040 - Zdobar			
JELSA (HRAB)	761-005 - Atlas 761-905 - Gubustravel 761-245 - Island Travel Agency 761-011 - Lavandra Tours	761-020 - Fontana 761-026 - Jadran 761-024 - Jelma d.d. 761-122 - Mlca 761-008 - Pinus spp.	761-181 - Gribiče 761-210 - Mlca		
KAŠTILA	221-077 - Eridan 222-022 - Euro Travel 224-085 - Kaštelina Tours 227-094 - Ostrog 222-700 - Primal Tours	228-485 - Kaštela 206-222 - Palaca 788-001 - Ruznik 220-223 - Tomanis 228-160 - Vila Žarko	220-543 - Jojo Bilić 224-028 - Kukuljinec 220-573 - Uvala Dragana		
KOMIŽA (HR)	717-220 - Alternativa 717-760 - Danik & Dedić 717-668 - Sebnatours	717-085 - Bilevo		091-2913-802 - Parasailing Club Kaleb 098-205-822 - Diving Center Muzza (De- compression chamber aboard a vessel) 717-450 - Diving Center Iza	098-205-506 - Miro Madras 098-803-108 - Željko Vrhajčić
MAKARSKA	017-038 - Atlas 013-885 - Bakras Tours 015-352 - Biokovo Active Holidays 060-685 - CroatiaTours 011-020 - Dalmatino 012-248 - Delfinatus 011-962 - Euro Tours 011-523 - La Stella Tours 015-050 - Kopački Gibraltar 015-411 - Kompas 011-077 - Makarska 018-147 - Marica 015-010 - Marica turist 028-014 - Mirala 016-824 - Marica-tours 011-727 - Mare-Sub 018-203 - Panturist 016-106 - Peca-tours 012-600 - Plača 010-402 - Pypolno 011-005 - SB-tours 012-505 - Sirena 016-967 - Tempet 011-688 - Turist birc	011-815 - Biokovka 015-244 - Biokovo 015-574 - Bonaca 015-777 - Dalmacija 016-622 - Makarska 015-344 - Meseur 013-744 - Paris	017-044 - Tennis Center Posađan 011-727 - Diving Club Mare Sub 016-322 - Sailing Club Bura 011-811 - Free Flying Biokovo 011-704 - Hunters' Association Sv. Hubert 013-550 - Fishing Club Arban 016-455 - Mountaineering Association Biokovo 011-377 - Tennis Sport Center 012-440 - Speleology and Alpinism Ductum 012-246 - Fitness Performance 002-200 - Fitness Biokovka	EXCURSIONS 098-225-878 - Ameli 091-5210-744 - Calypso 098-477-622 - Jadran II 098-761-358 - Joan 017-028 - Kila Dalmacija 017-028 - Kila Hvara 091-5219-419 - Ispet 011-578 - Ivoja 098-813-621 - Pitar	
MARINA		889-073 - Kabil			
MILNA (BRAČ)		026-116 - Mlca			
OMIS	063-015 - Active Holidays 062-550 - Adriaturist 062-730 - Canyon 079-047 - Emma Tours 757-326 - Šip 079-321 - Turist Center Agency	061-054 - Brač 079-311 - Mala Luka 071-285 - Ruskamen	070-101 - Antina 071-400 - Danijel 064-450 - Galab 071-444 - Linda 063-526 - Lisičina 070-266 - Sirena	091-5289-706 - Free Climbing Maldak 063-161 - Parasailing Kila Dalmacija 061-961 - Cetina 063-413 - Diving Club Almissa	EXCURSIONS 062-405 - Bolibar 062-948 - Kanac 063-078 - Konkordia 061-005 - Mlca 062-855 - Jostan 061-854 - Pino 061-805 - Princess Sissy 062-854 - Salvator
PODGORA	025-766 - Aurora 025-124 - Birgmarer Sub 025-180 - Marica turist 025-404 - Punta Tours	025-766 - Aurora 025-009 - Mediteran 002-111 - Mlcanca 025-249 - Podgora d.d. 001-777 - Podgorica 025-144 - Primonda app.	025-277 - Sutiska	025-124 - Diving Center Birgmarer Sub 025-222 - Fishing Club Kanjac	EXCURSION SHIPS 098-951-237 - Dva brata 091-5619-027 - Germania 098-1756-489 - Otac Nika 098-735-020 - Pilivac 098-602-588 - Triton 098-432-566 - Vittoria EXCURSION SHIPS 091-5961-120 - Calypso 3 091-5234-284 - Neptun 098-813-602 - Šipe

TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST AGENCY	HOTEL	CAMP	SPORT	RENT-A-BOAT
PEDESTRIANA		330-055 - Niva	330-116 - Car	333-902 - Fishing Club Stržanac	
POSTINA (BRAČ)		632-188 - Vito			
SEGET	894-475 - Jurčević	880-001 - Bavaria 880-588 - Medena 880-015 - Medena app. 880-008 - Jadran 894-141 - Vranjica Belvedere app.	880-354 - MORH Camping 894-141 - Vranjica	886-290 - Diving Center Kairo	
SOLCA (BRAČ)	238-220 - Anzableno Tours 638-187 - Tony	629-146 - Galvič, Plojča 629-190 - Punta app.	622-026 - Lučica		EXCURSION 626-001 - Blago 648-079 - Rbar
SRLJ		624-488 - Alkar 626-797 - Matanovi dvari 700-054 - Maše		621-942 - Chivalrus Alka Association	
SPLIT	428-129 - Adriatic Travel 355-205 - Aganville 338-220 - Anzableno Tours 363-233 - Adas 317-350 - Belone Tours 483-700 - Condo Line 338-499 - Croatia Express 338-503 - Croatia Tours 338-439 - Dalma 482-746 - Elite Travel 344-842 - F Tours International 345-182 - Generabariet 398-048 - Glitter 362-448 - Gloria Tours 317-215 - Gulliver 323-323 - IBC 398-656 - Intertours 341-888 - Intertourist 338-227 - Jadrogagent 394-235 - Evamer Express 478-844 - Maestral 339-025 - Magellan 465-480 - Mango 323-880 - Maranta 388-951 - Meridian Ten 346-617 - Palma turist 343-307 - San Diego Tours 338-219 - SEM Tours 388-674 - Sova Tours 346-100 - Split Tours 362-344 - ST-Spektar 398-000 - Sub Rosa 330-460 - Tarentola 347-100 - Turist biro 396-674 - Vagari	340-080 - Adriana 585-455 - Bellevue 485-080 - Consul 481-111 - Globo 388-622 - Jadran Kozak 302-111 - Marjan 406-400 - Park 303-111 - Split 347-053 - Slavija 389-005 - Zenta	345-811 - Mountaineering Association Mesor 341-111 - Golf Club Alka 486-088 - Hunters' Association Split 389-576 - Tennis Club Split 526-806 - Diving Center USA 470-492 - Diving Center Podmarje 544-355 - Diving Center Manta	398-598 - ACI Split 361-712 - BAV Adria Yachting 483-150 - Adria Canal Charter 389-600 - Gringo Nautica 398-420 - Euromarine 543-117 - Maring 388-951 - Meridian Pen 389-430 - Nautika Center Nava 098/255-422 - Offshore Boats 569-834 - Orvus 321-300 - Pivatus 398-578 - Ultra	
STAR GRAD (HVAR)	765-281 - Microtours	765-555 - Adriatic 765-555 - Akada 765-555 - Jadran 765-864 - <i>Belles d.d.</i> 765-555 - Helios I, II, III & IV 765-555 - Helios bng. 765-843 - Jurjevac bng. 765-555 - Tim bng.	765-555 - Jurjevac		
STOBRIČ		325-777 - Zvonimir		325-064 - Tennis School Stobrič	
SUČURAJ (HVAR)			713-371 - Maska		
SUPETAR (BRAČ)	631-105 - Adas 757-316 - Brač Tours 630-722 - Dignid Vertice 630-258 - Maestral 630-056 - Plavik Charter 630-824 - Start 630-560 - Supetar Travel	640-111 - Adria 542-825 - Herkules 630-200 - Kaktus 630-911 - Mandić 621-132 - Dina & Slavia 640-111 - Palma 630-200 - Supetar d.d. 630-648 - Velaris 630-017 - Villa Britanida 630-200 - Villa Diana app. 630-894 - Villa Supetar	630-088 - Supetar	630-421 - Diving Center Kaktus 631-082 - Sport Fishing Club Arban 631-132 - Tennis Center Supetar	
SUTINJAN (BRAČ)	638-476 - Láva		638-166 - Min	638-118 - Sport Centre Aldus	638-123 - Mali Jara
(ŠOLTA)	668-494 - Šolatarist	650-148 - Nečujam app.	658-011 - Mido	658-121 - Diving Center Lesmar	
TILJ	601-322 - Avanturist	602-072 - Manda 601-777 - Sv. Mihovil			
TROGR	881-274 - Adas 882-221 - Avantur 881-554 - Cipica 885-856 - Dalmatia Auras	885-400 - Concordia 885-755 - Fontana 885-444 - Trogrinski dvari 885-205 - Villa Fani 881-223 - Villa Ško 888-060 - Villa Tera	881-065 - Dornić 894-141 - Vranjica Belvedere	884-466 - Sailing Centre Mesor	882-881 - Palma Charter
TUČPI	623-889 - Fin Tours 615-444 - Mariva turist 623-327 - Mire 623-169 - RA Tours	601-505 - Ahudja 601-505 - Ahudja app. 601-202 - Alpa 601-707 - Jadran	601-505 - Ahudja 601-505 - Ahudja app. 601-202 - Alpa 601-707 - Jadran		

TOWN/PLACE	TOURIST AGENCY	HOTEL	CAMP	SPORT	RESORT-BOAT
TOČIPI (continued)		601-282 - Kraljević 605-900 - Laurentum 623-000 - Marina 605-085 - Neptun 601-111 - <i>Delagi d.d.</i> 605-000 - Vila Marja			
VS (VIG)	711-032 - Isona	711-250 - Izza 711-250 - Tamaris 711-138 - Via		711-311 - Diving Center Do Doro 711-357 - Diving Center Anima	
VROŽKA (HVAR)	774-174 - Bio Turist 774-098 - Mediterranean Moton 774-137 - Turistički biro	774-128 - Adriatic 774-039 - <i>Vrožka d.d.</i>	774-034 - Nudist BEK		
VROGRAC		674-872 - Pivan			
VILVA		827-061 - Vila Barbara			
ŽVOŠIŠĆE	628-753 - Brajković Travel 628-076 - Životare	605-233 - Nivita 605-076 - <i>Žvošića d.d.</i>	628-749 - Dala		
TOWN/PLACE	MUSEUM, GALLERY, THEATRE	DISCO CLUB	CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS, OR SPORT EVENTS		
BAŠKA VODA	0815194-039 - Archaeological Museum 630-261 - Malacological Museum			June-September - Summer Festival 13 June - St. Anton, religious festivity 4 August - Fishermen's Evening, Promajna 9-10 August - Folklore Evenings 8 September - Nativity of the Virgin Mary, religious festivity 5-8 December - St. Nicholas, popular festivity	
BOL (Brač)		625-410 - Race Club Kahleberg		April-May Ladies Open Tennis Tour July-August - Summer Festival 5 August - Our Lady of Snow, religious festivity	
BRELA				July - Music Evenings at Maestral Hotel 16 July - Our Lady of Carmel, religious festivity August - Brela Meetings 3 August - St. Stephen, religious festivity August - Fishermen's Evenings	
DUGIRAK				3 March - Annual Anniversary of Dalmacija Club 16-19 March - St. Joseph Days 16 April - Municipality Day July - Sumpetar Festivity July - August - Summer Festival 16 August - St. Rocco, religious festivity, Kilo Jesenica October - Days of Bread	
GRADAC				23 April - St. George, religious festivity, Drenvik July - Folklore Evenings 27 July - St. Margaret, religious festivity, Brist 2 August - Our Lady of Angels, religious festivity, Zaostrog 3 August - St. Stephen, religious festivity, Podaca 16 August - St. Rocco, religious festivity, Drenvik 29 September - St. Michael, religious festivity	
HVAR (HVAR)	741-193 - Franciscan Monastery collection of art 741-069 - R. Lucić collection of art 742-623 - Hydroarcheological Collection Fortica Dopni Palace Gallery 741-059 - Arsenal Gallery 098780-300 - Treasure of Our Cathedral 744-995 - Collection of amphora of Jung Ter Marghalla 741-052 - Benedictine Monastery	742-620 - Tordiva 742-680 - Veneranda		1 January - International New Year's Regatta March-April - Sunčan Rear Open Tennis Tour April - May - International Festival of Documentary Radio Drama May - Days of Rear Theatre May - Dalmata Cup 21 June-23 September - Summer Festival 2 August - St. Stephen, religious festivity	
IZABE				July-September - Summer Festival	
IBOJSKO	841-766 - Town Museum			May - Central Dalmatia Wind Orchestras Show May - Croatian Mandolin Festival May - Imotski Evenings 1-2 August - Our Lady of Angels, religious festivity, and the Municipality Day 15 August - Assumption of the Virgin Mary and popular festivity	
JELSA (HVAR)				July - Days of Wine August - A. Dobronić Evenings	
KAŠTELA	263-245 - Vinski Castle			4 March - Day of Kuzel 23 May - Day of Dalmatian Mountaineers' Association, MalaĐka July-August - Summer Festivals	
KIS	240-578 - Kila Fort			16 August - St. Rocco, religious festivity and the Municipality Day	
KOMIĆA (VS)				July-August - Musical Evenings August - Bocce Tournament August - Fishermen's Evening 6 December - St. Nicholas, religious festivity and the Municipality Day	
MAKARSKA	613-302 - Town Museum 611-256 - Malacological Museum 612-198 - A. Gajki Gallery 612-068 - Gallery of Arts	Grata, Šetalište sv. Petra Gaudemac, Don M. Pavlovića 1 616-838 - Opera, Šetalište fra J. Radčić bb Pje, Pivoševića/pjka bb 615-344 - Tropicana, Hotel Meteer		25 April - St. Marco, religious festivity May - Rousing Regatta 6 June - World Rugby Cup June-September - Summer Festival August - European Sport Fishing Championship August-International Pepsi Cup Women's Volleyball Tournament 8 September - Nativity of Our Lady, religious festivity 18 September - Day of Croatian Navy 24 October - Municipality Day 21 November - St. Dismas, patron of the town, religious and popular festivity	
(VEPINC)					
MARINA				25 July - St. Jacob, religious festivity and the Municipality Day	

TOWN/PLACE	MUSEUM, GALLERY, THEATRE	DISCO CLUB	CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS, OR SPORT EVENTS
MLNA (BRAC)			June-September - Summer Festival 16 July - Our Lady of Carmel, religious festivity August - Bocce Tournament August - Angling Tournament August - Doctors' Choir Concert May - Rafting Tour
OMIS	861-847 - Town Museum 868-210 - Poljca-Gata Museum 861-863 - Franciscan Monastery		16 May - St. John, religious festivity July-August - Summer Festival July - Festival of Dalmatian Harmony Singing 7 August - Inačičko Swimming Dalmatian Open August - Beach Volleyball Tour August - Fishermen's Evening 16 August - St. Rocca, religious festivity, Minica June-September - Summer Festival
PEGORA			10 July - Fishermen's Evening 16-17 August - St. Vences, religious festivity and the Municipality Day
POESTRANA			13 June - St. Anton of Padua, religious festivity July-August - Summer Festival
POSTIRA (BRAC)			May - Days of Vladimir Nazar 16 July - Our Lady of Carmel, religious festivity and the Municipality Day June-August - Summer Festival
SEGET			7 October - Our Lady of Rozarije, religious festivity, and the Municipality Day
SELCA (BRAC)		632-386 - Račienda	April - Easter Concert May - Povlje Evenings 26 June - St. John, religious festivity, Povlje June - Summer Sculpture School 16 July - Our Lady of Carmel, religious festivity September - Summer Painting School May-June - Equestrian Tournament July-August - Alka and Days of the Assumption August, first Sunday - Alka 15 August - Festivity of the Assumption, religious festivity 13 September - Traditional equestrian tournament 8 September - Nativity of the Virgin Mary, religious festivity December-January - Christmas Fair
SRLJ	707-010 - Franciscan Monastery collection 821-949 - Cetina Region Museum		February - Fashion Show April - Miralid Days, Croatian Drama Festival April - Intertaxi, Tourism Fair May - Flowers' Fair 7 May - St. Dujan, town's patron, religious and popular festivity May - International Regatta Dalmatia Cup July - Melodies of Croatian Adriatic 15 July-15 August - Summer Festival July-August - Split Festival and Children's Festival
SOLIN	212-800 - Salona-Tusculum		
SPIT	318-720 - Archaeological Museum 480-149 - Gallery of Arts 344-191 - Town Museum 381-277 - Franciscan Monastery collection 347-788 - Maritime Museum 358-450 - Meltrvić Gallery 340-599 - Mileš Palace 358-455 - Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments 340-108 - Ethnological Museum 322-889 - Museum of Natural History 506-999 - Croatian National Theatre 326-858 - Municipal Puppet Theatre 358-347 - Municipal Youth Theatre	488-558 - Discovery 587-173 - Forum 305-110 - Metropolis 536-883 - Masters 483-487 - Night Club Paganići	
STAR GRAD (HVAR)			15 June-15 September - Summer Festival July-August - Faro, School of Archaeology, Restoration, Mosaics, and Classic Languages July - Music Academy 16 August - St. Rocca, religious festivity, and the Municipality Day 28 August - Wear Swimming Marathon Faro 10 August - St. Lawrence, religious festivity 23 April - St. George, religious festivity
STOBREČ SUĆURAJ			June - Dalmatia Cup International Regatta June-August - Summer Festival 29 June - St. Peter and Paul, religious festivity, Day of Municipality, popular festivity 2 July - Our Lady of Mirca, religious festivity, Mirca 22 August - Organised excursion to Pustinja Blaca August - International ITA Women's Tennis Tour July-August - Summer Festival
SUPETAR (BRAC)	630-088 - Town Museum 630-551 - Museum of the Island of Brač, Šipić 091.5129-312 - Blaca		16 August - St. Rocca, religious festivity July-August - Summer Festival April-May - ECO Challenge 27 September - Cross Country 28-29 September - Days of St. Michael and the Municipality Day, religious and popular festivity
SUTINAN			July-August - Summer Festival
(ŠIBENI) TRILJ			14 November - St. John of Trogir and the Municipality Day, religious and popular festivity
TROGIR	881-406 - Town Museum 894-888 - All Saints Gallery of Arts 881-421 - Karas Collection 881-406 - Cata Dužbin-Ribar Collection 881-426 - Cathedral Treasure		June - Festival of Dalmatian Harmony-Singing Groups 13 June - St. Anton, religious festivity 10 July-30 August - Summer Festival 23 April - St. George and the Municipality Day, religious and popular festivity 13 June - St. Anton, religious festivity July-August - Musical Evenings 15 August - Assumption of the Virgin Mary, religious festivity October - Via Regata October - Competition of Volunteer Firemen July-August - Summer Festival 10 August - St. Lawrence, religious festivity 29 June - St. Peter and Paul and the Municipality Day, religious and popular festivity 7 October - Our Lady of Rozarije and the Municipality Day, religious and popular festivity
TUČPI			
VG (VIG)	711-729 - Archaeological Museum		
VREDSKA (HVAR)			
VRODAC			
VRLJIKA			

Marulić – Father of the Croatian Literature

Interview: Mirko Tomasović, Academy member

By: Smiljana Šunde

Photo: Joško Ponoš, Goran Morović



When in 1552, St. Francis Xavier, a young missionary and the great apostle of India and Japan, died on the island of Sancian, close to the Chinese coast, besides the Breviary, only one another book was found – *Institutiones* by the Croatian writer Marko Marulić. Moreover, the great missionary requested in his Last Will that Jesuit brothers place the work of Marulić with him in his grave, and they did so. *Institutiones*, written by Marulić, where he provided a number of practical morals, supported with examples from saints' lives, was one of the most widely read books throughout Europe in the 16th century. Ignatius of Loyola himself, the founder of the Society of Jesus, classified this book among the fundamental literature for education of Jesuits.

Marko Marulić was born in 1450 in a noble Split family. He was a very prolific writer. Many domestic and foreign scholars examined his life and work, but definitely the most famous in this field is Mirko Tomasović, Academy member whose origin is – same as that of Marulić – also from Split. Mr. Tomasović, Professor of the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb for many years continues to research the life and work of Marulić, scattered in archives and libraries around the world.

Marulić was the Father of the Croatian literature, and it is not a metaphor – claims Professor Tomasović. That great man was a world-renowned writer. As early as 16th and 17th century, he was translated in Italian, German, Spanish, Portuguese, English, Czech... and an excerpt from his best known work in Latin, *Institutiones*, was translated in Japanese as well. It was the first Latin book published in Japan in 1583. One of his poems was probably translated in Chinese as well. Some of his works in Latin, which are numerous, had many editions – both in original and in translations to the so-called world languages. *Institutiones* itself had 62 editions. Marulić's works were published in centres of the printing industry of the time – for instance, in Paris or Venice at most, then in Bern, Lieben, Madrid, Prague... in England, etc. No other Croatian writer had such an international response as he did. In the last decade of his life, he saw some of his works published several times.

Then there was a pause and there was no interest in him for a while. Marulić's works are of religious-philosophical-ethical character and considering the developments in Europe it was understandable. Today, however, the interest in Marulić and his works are being translated again, mostly those in Latin. How-

ever, what came as a surprise even for me, who have been following Marulić's destiny, was the translation of Marulić's *Judith* (*Judith*), an epic written in the old čakavian, the ancient Croatian language. That language is difficult to understand, even to the current speakers of Croatian. Thus, such a complex poetical text, an entire epic, has been translated in English, Hungarian, French, and Italian, and large parts of *Judith* are translated to Spanish and published in Buenos Aires. In Madrid, two years ago, a selection of Marulić's works was also published – with excerpts from *Judith* and his Latin epic *Davidica*.

Why was he named the Father of the Croatian literatures?

That name appeared some hundred years ago, when the 400th anniversary of *Judith* was celebrated in all parts of the then Triune Kingdom – Croatia, Slavonia and Dalmatia, and in Bosnia. Marulić wrote *Judith*, the first acrostical epic in Croatian, according to all the standards of the European Humanist epic poetry. That work was a model for writers of the 16th century. It was a model to writers such as Heiktorović, Zoranić, Baraković... – it can be seen in their literary texts. On the other hand, *Judith* encouraged that generation of Croatian Renaissance writers who doubted in which language to write: whether in Italian that all of them knew or Latin to gain the European fame. Or to write in Croatian, which was at the time unrecognised in terms of literature. When they saw that Marulić, who was already a reputable writer, wrote in Croatian, it was encouragement to follow his lead. That, not only *Judith* – Marulić wrote also *Scasna* (*Scasna*) and some other – we could say –

religious poems. Important thing is that in 1501 Marulić Europeanised the Croatian poetry by applying highly demanding Western European standard to the Croatian language and versification. Therefore the epic *Judith* is interesting as a work of poetry also to experts from England, Hungary, Italy, Spain, not to mention others.

Marulić was the first in Croatia in many things.

Yes. He was the first to translate Dante and Petrarca. He was the first who tried to explain his poetical procedure in the preface to *Judith*. Side by side with *Judith*, there is a translation by Marulić of a mystical medieval work named *De institutione Christi* by Thomas A. Kempis – he translated it to Croatian in 1500 and that is, we could almost say, exemplary Croatian prose. Thus, he wrote Croatian prose as well and was one of its founders. He translated in Latin the so-called Croatian Chronicle, the only version of *Ljetopis papa Dalkijana* (*Chronicle of the Priest of Dublje*), and is therefore in a way the founder of historiography as well. He was also engaged in archaeology – he listed the monuments of Solin (Salona).

Marulić was also the first in Croatia who published emigrating texts. Four or five years ago, a collection of his Latin epigrams was discovered. They show that he was one of the liveliest poets of erotic poetry.

He wrote also a few epistles to Katarina Obrić in





Croatian. He was the first to write comic poetry, such as *Pođila i korizma* (Carnival and Lent), but also his poem *Molba protiv Turka* (Prayer against Turks), which was for centuries a role model of patriotic poetry. It was first published only in 19th century, but his younger colleague Petar Zoranić, in his *Plasine* (Mimicry) paraphrased Marulić's *Prayer against Turks*. It means that the poem circulated in manuscript. It is a shocking description of the Croatia's sufferings under invasion of Ottoman Turks. In another poem – *Tajba grada Hvarosoline* (Complainer of the Town of Hvarosoline) – Marulić described all the atrocities suffered by the people and appealed to Pope in Croatian verses, speaking very angrily not to be lazy as later it will be too late (*Nie lie se ... – Do not be lazy*). Marulić was thus the first Croatian who sent a public – today we would say – “open” letter to the Pope Hadrian VI, in 1522. We could go on and on with this.

Where did he get his education?

First in Split, then in Papsa. Split was flourishing in Marulić's time. From Italy, Humanism and Renaissance were spreading to other Mediterranean countries. For their Humanist school, Split engaged an excellent poet and pedagogue named Tideo Acciarini. Marulić was in his school and already at the age of 16 or 17 he wrote Latin epigrams, some of which are preserved. The reputable Ćuraj Šiljgorić published in 1477 a collection of Latin poems, among which there is the first text by Marulić. It is an epistle by a teenager, 17-year-old Marko Marulić, praising the famous poet Šiljgorić in excellent Latin.

When did he start writing his major works?

According to the available data, *Justitium* was published in 1484 and there were some other editions from the time of so-called incurabula. However, those copies were not identified. But they are found in a Vatican list of the works owned by the Franciscans. However, his “best-sellers” are dated from early 16th century. The first known edition was from 1507 – it was *Justitium*. His second most famous work – *Evangelistarium* – we have a 1516 edition, but there are documents and newly discovered Marulić's letters witnessing that one edition of *Evangelistarium* was published in 1509.

Marulić was a trilingual writer – he wrote in Latin, Croatian, and Italian?

Yes. He wrote much more in Latin than in Croatian, but his Croatian works form or will form – soon – 5 volumes of collected works. Accordingly, he is one of the most prolific writers of the 16th century and in Croatian.

How comes that he lived on the island of Šolta for some time?

Oh, that... His godfather was Rev. Dajam Balistrčić, leading singer in the Split cathedral choir. This man, Balistrčić, following the example of humanistic people, had his country house in Nučjan on the island of Šolta, today we would say a weekend house. He invited Marulić, who spent probably 2 years at his place. There, according to all sources, he was engaged in literature. That is probably when he translated *De institutione Christi* by Thomas A. Kempis.

Follow the Christ.

Yes, *Follow the Christ. Or: Christ's Steps*. But his stay in Nučjan was very significant, as from there he sent the most beautiful Latin elegy to his friend Franjo Božićević Natanis, describing what he was doing on Šolta. He wrote to his friends that he would love to see them and lined what they would eat and drink if they come. So, he wrote the first menu as well. He precisely mentioned the types of fish – cool water and good wine, beans, sea bass, etc. He provided a kind of vision of the island idyll. He called his friends to visit him. At that time it took 8 hours rowing from Split.

Did he travel to some more distant places?

Well, he travelled to Venice at least 3 times.

New documents have been found. You know what? In Venice, on Riva dei Schiaroni, Quay of Croats, he was selling dry figs and wine.

He was selling it by himself?

Well, yes, from his vineyards, as he was a landowner. He had to support himself somehow. The patricians of Split lived in their estates in the today non-existent Split Valley. Marulić had his estate on Šućur, Mertjak... and transported his produce to Venice. He and his brother had a ship as well. It is precisely known what he reported, as there is a customs declaration. He carried dry figs and wine and cloth rolls for processing. His family was large and some things went bad. Two of his brothers died young (he described it in a letter) – one of them had a severe fever, and the other was killed as a galley commander in a battle with Turks. The third brother also died young, so Marko was a sort of head of the family. He also had two sisters. Adriana probably died early, as she is not mentioned as infant, and the other, Bira, was a nun in a Benedictine monastery. She was younger and Marko was very sensible towards her. Thus, due to such a relationship towards his sister, he wrote some works such as: *Spovied Isobabrica* (Confession of Nani), *Sedam smrti grilora* (Seven Deadly Sins), *Pođila i korizma* (Carnival and Lent).

Did anyone of his family establish their own family?

Yes, his brother Valerije. His descendants have been living in Split all through to the 20th century.

His last descendant was Joip Marolić, who was italianized. He posed to Ivan Melitrović for Marko Marulić's monument. After him, the line of Marulić was extinguished. In his late years, Marko Marulić lived in common household with his brother's wife Valerija, whose maiden name was Cindro. Namely, his brother died young and had no children in marriage, but he had children with his servant Ana Marata and he supported all of them.

Marulić had himself buried with conventuals at St. Francis' church.

Yes, he precisely stated where to be buried. He had good relations with the St. Francis' monastery on the coast. It was a seat of humanism and literacy in Croatian language. Bernardin Splićanin, who published his *Lexiconium* in 1495 also lived there. I discovered that Marulić used that work while translating Thomas A. Kempis – he literally accepted quotes from the *Lexiconium*. He “leaned” onto the Humanist Circle of Split, mostly on writers who wrote in Latin, but also those writing in Croatian, such as Rev. Dajam Balistrčić – to whom he dedicated *Justitij*, and translated Kempis at his asking and at his expense. Balistrčić was, therefore, his patron.

How much do tourists nowadays know about Marulić?

When tourists arrive to Split, their programs lack the tour of famous places related to Marulić, such as you have for example for Dante in Florence. Tourists could visit the church of St. Francis, where Marulić was buried. They should go to Papulica dvori where he probably lived. There is a memorial tablet in that house. By his monument, you should say: This is Marulić, the Father of the Croatian literature. You probably haven't heard of him, but your ancestors did read his works. If they are Italians – say how many of his works were published in Italy, if they are Spanish – the same. If they are Germans – say that Marulić's *Justitium* was translated in Germany in 16th c. and had 8 editions, and his works were read by both Catholics and Protestants. And remind them that a monument to Marulić was unveiled in Berlin in 2000. Americans could be told that a symposium on Marulić was held in the Congress Library in Washington. Say something to each group. Let alone that an excursion could be arranged to Nučjan, an Arcadian landscape of the still preserved island of Šolta, where Marulić stayed and worked on his translations. Then, they should be offered a menu recorded in Marulić's Latin writings.

Professor Tomasović, thank you for this interview.

You're welcome. But please leave a copy of the printed text of this interview for our department of Marulić studies.



The Alka Tournament of Sinj

Gabriel Jurišić

Plodan Pudar Vučković, Tomislav Rastić, Ivo Pavanić, 72 Sinj



„Father Andreja Kacic, who was still a young boy when the magnificent battle was won, was singing of the knights of Sinj and playing his folk instrument called gusle:

“The town of Sinj, you're glorious since a heroic combat of ancient days on Cetina river, you're the falcon's nest on which the eye of a prince rests!

You're the home of the bravest knights heroic like falcons in their fights their courage, their sword, their spear made thousands of Turks trembling with fear!”

The word of *Alka* provokes joy and pride in heart of each Cetina man, whether living in his native region or anywhere else, it is a source of good mood, warming the heart and soul. And for all those who heard of it, it is a precious reality and national value. For foreigners and visitors, *Alka* is an interesting and exciting traditional chivalric game.

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What is *alka*? *Alka* consists of two iron concentric rings connected with three diagonal arms between. Contenders on horses at full gallop hit the central smaller circle or any of the three portions of the larger circle with their lances.

The game developed out of medieval chivalric tournaments in Europe, and particularly in the Mediterranean. History tells us that it existed for long in many of our towns: Buje, Krk, Rab, Zadar (until 1820), Šibenik, Split, Hvar, Makarska (until 1832), Imotski and Dubrovnik. There are many folk songs about it, for instance in Makarska dated 1782 (2000 revised edition). The modern age and the new way of

life have caused it falling in oblivion, and it is only the town of Sinj that preserved, developed and improved its *Alka*, which is now not only pride of Cetina region, but also the national and global, both historical and cultural value and entertainment.

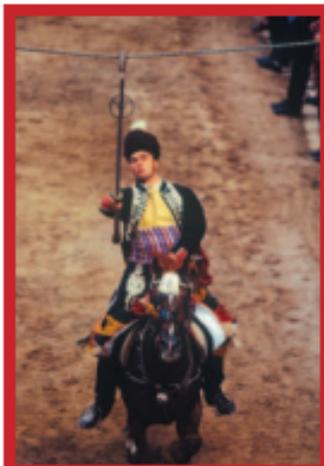
Why *Alka* takes place in Sinj?

In their invasions, following the fall of Bosnia in 1463, Turks were tearing off one by one piece of the Croatian territory and only *“reliqviae reliqvarum – remains of the remains of the once famous Croatian kingdom”* were left. Thus on 29th November 1536 they conquered Sinj as well. During 150 years of the Turkish reign of terror, several attempts to liberate Cetina region gave no results. It was only in 1686 that the Venetian governor Cornaro managed to expel the Turkish force out of Cetina region. Those were the moments of glory for the entire Croatian nation in Dalmatia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, as they announced the liberation of the Croatian lands from the Ottoman reign of terror.

But Turks couldn't get over Sinj. After several unsuccessful attempts, in July 1715, Mehmed-pasha Celic and his 60000 soldiers from Livno broke into Dalmatia. Some went for Diniš, had to go back empty-handed and conquered Vrljika by deceit and killed the entire crew, while the others first attacked Otok and after a few days of bloody battles killed more than 300 brave defenders led by the parish priest, father Stipan Vučković. After the slaughter at Otok, they hit on Sinj, plundered and burnt a newly erected church and besieged the Fortress.

All that happened in those days was recorded by an officer in his Diary of the Siege of Sinj, which is still kept in the archives of the Franciscan Monastery in Sinj. The enormous Turkish army besieged the Fortress with cannons and other weapons. There were 700 brave defenders in the Fortress led by the cavalier, Rev. Ivan Filipović Grčić and father Pavao Vučković. Turks first asked them to surrender the town. When the latter rejected, on the 8th of August





they bombed the Fortress heavily, and in a few days it was almost pulled down. Early morning on the 14th of August, the attackers stormed out and hoped to conquer the town. It was a desperate, life-and-death struggle. Before the noon, in the peak of August heat, in the mist of fight, the Turks started running back. There was riot and confusion ...

Under the walls of the half destroyed town they left the abundant plunder of arms and food and more than 10 000 killed Turkish soldiers, and only 39 fallen Croatian heroes. Unbelievable, but true!

It is impossible to describe joy, pride and happiness poured by that magnificent victory into the souls and hearts of brave defenders of Sinj and the nation. So speaks the witness, writer of the Diary. Then a beautiful sunny day came, the 15th of August, Feast of the Assumption. All the officers and soldiers, monks, and the people were convinced that the defence of Sinj, defeat and rout of a far more superior Turkish force was a gift from Heaven. Therefore, Stjepan Capilli, the archbishop of Split, arrived to Sinj and thanked God and Virgin Mary for the gift of victory, in a solemn mass. In sign of their thankfulness to the Virgin Mary, Croatian officers invested their first salaries to forge a golden crown in Venice, by which they crowned the figure of Our Lady of Mercy, which is since then worshipped as Our Lady of Sinj. They also decided to celebrate the unique victory every year by Alka tournament.

The victory resounded throughout Dalmatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and soon the word about it reached Venice and Rome, Zagreb, Budapest and Vienna.

Alka through centuries

The tradition tells us that Alka tournament was held in Sinj immediately after the magnificent victory. The first written document was a letter by the Count of Turin of 10th February 1798, informing the commissioner in Sinj that the Austrian authorities wanted Alka to be continued as before. The French authorities in their first years of rule even supported the tournament financially. After the Napoleon wars Alka was renewed, according to the 1835 Statute. Throughout the 19th c. it was developing and improving. It must be said that the squares do not accompany each their own Alka, as a servant to a master. At the head of the procession, there is *Arambaša* (captain) followed by the squares in two columns, the horse *Edel* and *Alkars* on horses led by their Duke. In this hierarchical procession, the people recognised themselves as active participants of *Alka* in the Duke, *Alkars* and squires. The audience identified with the brave knights who defended Sinj, won the battle, presented in the formal procession of *Alkars* and their squires. The audience felt as if they had been part of the procession that started as early in 1715 and still continues forward persistently and proudly.

Crowns and the Alka

Since its beginnings, the Alka tournaments were not just a source of pride of Sinj and Cetina region. Many dignitaries showed particular interest in them. In 1818, the Austrian emperor and the Croatian king Franz I., visited Sinj on his journey through Dalmatia. Local people arranged the tournament. The emperor was so thrilled that he decided to award 100 florins out of state treasury each year, and presented the winner with a golden ring with pearls and precious stones. Twenty years later (1838), the Saxon king Friedrich August II. was so impressed with the tournament that he presented the winner with a golden watch with a chain. When the Austrian Grand Duke Albrecht in 1842 watched the tournament, he also presented the winner with a golden watch. The emperor Franz Joseph I. travelled Dalmatia

in 1875 and visited Sinj. Then the Alka was held in his honour. He presented the winner with 30 golden coins and a golden ring. In 1908, the emperor celebrated the 50th anniversary of his rule, and invited the Alkars to the imperial Vienna to have their tournament there. On the occasion of the King Alexander's wedding in 1922, Alka was played in Belgrade. The king gave a golden tobacco box decorated with pearls to the winner. We should recall that in 1932 the Alkars visited Split and held their tournament in the town on the Eschbills of Marjan. After World War II, they visit Zagreb in 1946 and played Alka within the congress of youth. The President Tito gave the Chivalrous Alka Society in 1959 a silver challenge cup, and was present on the anniversary Alka in 1965. Dr. Franjo Tuđman, the first President of the Free Republic of Croatia in 1990 participated in Alka ceremonies.

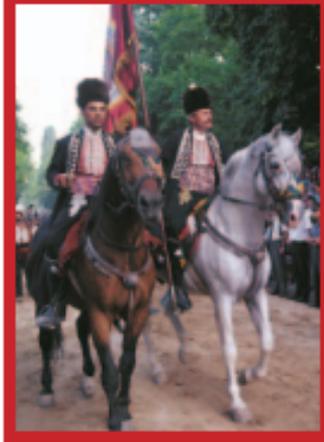
Writers and artists on Alka

The first known poem on Alka was written in Italian by Leonardo Dušan, who was afterwards the mayor of Split. There is a number of works on Sinj heroic and chivalric Alkars, ranging from poems by Father Andrija Kačić to prose by Đanko Simanović and other writers. In Simanović's novel *Alka*, the hero throws the alka in the air and hits the central circle, becoming the winner. For his heroic deed, he wins the young girl his son is in love with. We must say that the 1932 edition of *Alka* was illustrated by Jozo Kljaković, Fran Kršinić, Vanja Radušić, Omer Mujadžić, etc. Alka symbolism and topics were interesting for other artists as well, such as Virgil Mene-gheilo Dinčić, Vladimir Kirin, Vilko Gucan, Zdenka Serić, Frano Šimunić, and others.

Thus in mid 19th c., Antun Barać painted several watercolour paintings presenting *Alkars*. Several watercolours of his younger contemporary, Vincent Prežić, are also dedicated to Alka. The sculptor Franjo Bačić made a large silver shield in 1959, still preserved at the premises of the Chivalrous Alkars' Association. The sculptor Stjepo Sikirić made a monument to *Alka*, placed on *Alka* racetrack and in 1985 he made drawings for the series of golden and silver coins for the 270th anniversary of Alka. The sculptor Ante Jakić made a silver frieze and candlesticks for Our Lady's altar with Alka motifs. Alka was subject of many scientific and popular articles and books and in 20th c. of several monographs with colour photographs. It was neither neglected in film industry. Recently a film was made on Alka (by J. Sedlar).

Alka today

The Duke, the commander, the standard bearer, the *Alkars*, and their squires, beautiful uniforms decorated with silver and gold, the alka ring, lances, old-fashioned pistols, maces, drums, the flag awarded to the winner, horses, keepers of *machalo* (a device producing the sound of a shot without actually firing), music, dignitaries and guests, many people not only from Sinj and Cetina region, but also from throughout Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and numerous tourists from all around the world, staying at Adriatic at that time, they all come to the chivalrous town under the Fortress. On Days of Alka and the Feast of the Assumption there are some 150 000 pilgrims and tourists in Sinj. Whether led by religion or tourist curiosity, they all want to feel the breath of ancient chivalrous times, the joy of victory and defence of one's native soil, a connection with brave heroes, defending their freedom and independence, but also a meeting with the miraculous reality, the beauty of life of the modern Sinj whose customs are a blend of glorious past, conflicts of modern civilization, and a serene look into a better future. It is quite all right to say that no wonder Alka has been pronounced the highest category Croatian cultural heritage, among the top national cultural heritage.



Get to know central Dalmatia through its festivities

Janja Glučina

There are so many beaches and coves on the well-indented Adriatic coast where you will truly repose and enjoy the natural comforts of the Mediterranean climate if you choose any place of central Dalmatia for your vacations. But your pleasure will be complete only if you get to know well the living heart of Dalmatia – its people, their history, culture, and customs, that wisdom of life that helped them to survive in this region for centuries and keep their joy and good spirit despite the painstaking life. You can see and feel it all in each, even the smallest, place in Dalmatia. The local people here and there cherish the old customs and ways of entertainment, and their modern varieties are offered to the modern visitors.

If you go on vacations to Dalmatia this summer, we recommend: Makarska Summer Carnival (early August), Orniš Popular Feast (mid August), or Theatre Encounters in Zagvozd (June to August), where you can enjoy not only the theatre shows but also in company of the Croatian actors, people engaged in culture and celebrities, but also in hospitality of local people and beauties of Biokovo hinterland in summer evenings.

Many tourists coordinate the time of their vacations with these events.

Maybe these stories from the festivities will depict the atmosphere of Dalmatia you have not met yet.



Fishing, riding donkeys, rope pulling contests...

Lovers of the sea, fish, and good time should definitely come in August to the best fishing festivity in central Dalmatia.

At Orniš Feast not only will you eat fish and listen to harmony singing, but also do the fishing, with assistance of local people, of course, and you may win

Great fishermen's feast in Orniš

Photo: Milan Stanić

one of valuable prizes. You will enjoy the fish stories and beauties of the sea, and learn how to throw the fishing net and long line or fish with a hook.

In the evening, on the 15th of August, there are some 50 ships along the great quay of Orniš. On each of them, there is its owner well up in all secrets and moods of the sea, and in all about fish and fishing.

Pick one of the boats, get aboard – the adventure starts!

The boats will take you to Artina beach of Sivoce campsite in Lokva Rogosnica. On the beautiful gravel beach you will get bait. You will spend that evening, and maybe even night, fishing on open sea, under the sky. Only at dawn do boats return to the coast, to Artina beach, which from that moment on becomes the centre of the most important events. Namely, that is where the caught fish is weighed. The one who got the largest fish or the largest quantity of fish will be awarded at the great celebration in the evening. Once the fish is weighed, the fishermen and their assistants may rest, they deserved it.

We recommend you to take good rest as at 7 p.m. on Artina beach the wild all-night-long party starts including entertainment and winner announcements. Throughout the night, tourist may enjoy fried pilchards and good wine, but also other fish and meat specialties as well. Among the fisherman's prizes an interesting one is stay in Orniš next season, as well as dinners on terraces of Orniš restaurants, wine picnics, videotapes on beauties and peculiarities of Orniš, CDs...

But on Orniš festival, everyone wins the main prize – good time on the illuminated Artina Beach, says Milan Stanić, well-known fishing ceremony master. This is a chance to meet popular customs, which have been preserved on only few places.

Participants in the rope-pulling contest may be all those that wish to check their strength with the opposite team, loudly supported by the gathered audience.

Let alone what if's like to jump in a bag? How skillful one must be to do that? – you may ask yourself while watching the contestants. But, don't hesitate – join them.

However, the race of donkeys, an indigenous and until recently typical animal of this region, is what gives special charm to this party. The race takes place on a 100-meters course, on three or four donkeys (they have become rare in Dalmatia). Riders on small tame donkeys will have the audience in stitches.

How weird would this feast be without water polo? It is there, but unusual one. The match takes 30 minutes at longest. It figures, because instead of a ball they use – a watermelon.

Additional information can be obtained at the Tourist Board of Orniš. Director of the Tourist Bureau, Darko Kovačić told us that the feast has a long tradition, it takes place since 1960ies. It was stopped during the war, but thanks to the local enthusiasts of Lokva Rogosnica it was revived. After three years, it has great support by the Tourist Board of Orniš and is presented as the most copious popular feast of Orniš.



International Summer Carnival in Makarska

Photo: Makarska Carnival Association's Archives

In Makarska Carnival, a theatre in the street, everyone is invited from all around the world. There are no conditions; you are offered a great time and the most original product. Celebrating St. Lawrence's Day (early August), with or without a mask, you can experience something special on the town quay.

Your entire life you have been told to be what you are, but you so desperately want to be something completely different. So be that, at least for a day! Come to Makarska, and be part of the greatest theatre in open air. You don't need an audition, nothing but your good will and good mood. Everyone in Makarska can be part of the International Summer Carnival in early August, celebrating St. Lawrence's Day. With the local people, who try to organise as crazy, original, and attractive entertainment as possible, all tourists may participate as well. The only condition is desire to have fun and good time. Don't miss it if you are spending your holidays anywhere in Dalmatia!

It is not a standard carnival as those organised by many countries. It is actually a great outdoor theatre, where everyone has the leading role. Masked people, dressed or undressed, disguised as the wildest characters of this planet or imagined ones from another world, walking, dancing, singing on the town quay, on squares, entering the cafes, restaurants, inviting you to the quay to the craziest play under the clear Mac sky torn apart by magical fireworks. If it weren't for the nearby town port embraced by two small peninsulas, Sv. Petar and Osvajava and, on opposite side, the peak of the proud mountain of Biokovo, rising defiantly just above Makarska, you would not have known where you were, in what time, at which place, who you actually were? While you move, masked and cheerful, in

the craziest group you chose, pressed between the heights of Biokovo touching the sky and unimaginable sea depths, you don't recognise yourself either. You only know one thing: this is the real stuff! This is the night worth waiting for. On the quay of Makarska, waiting for summer, for August – the International Summer Carnival.

While the quay is overwhelmed with the folly of the most beautiful creatures turned into the endemic flowers of Biokovo, cats, Tahiti girls, fish, seashells, and God knows what else, in the town port, just by the quay where the craziest summer night goes on, there are pirates waiting on the boats, cheerful as if they got hold of the most valuable plunder.

"This is what our guests want and ask for, and that is why we are trying to offer it in the best possible way. Although the summer carnival is already a tradition, we try each year to surprise them with something new, original, still inexperienced" says Slavomir Raf-fineli. Many people believe he is the best carnival organiser, an ability inherited from his father Ante, who organised similar parties at carnival times in Makarska some fifty years ago, which are still famous.

Carnival Association of Makarska heartily invites you to join them this year, and next summer already that will definitely be your decision.



Photo: Ivan Merod



Parish fetes in Biokovo region

No one can actually say which year, or even century was the beginning of mass gatherings in some Dalmatian places, along the coast and behind the mountain of Biokovo in the course of year, always on the same dates. We would not mistake to trace the beginning of such traditions to the first days of Christianity in Croatia, developing and spreading with the construction of each sacred edifice.

All these customs are related in calendar to specific saints (titular of churches and parishes). Worshipers would take a vow to a saint to answer their pleas and prayers, and would go to church on that saint's day. Thus, on religious feasts, many people from all the regions would gather in specific places. As so many people had to eat and drink, that's how trade was introduced. From father to son, stories of pilgrimages, festivities, parish fetes, or fairs were transferred. The word *devotat* for a parish fete is a remnant from Turkish times, meaning a gathering, enjoyment, fair. Even today, after any such fete, people talk about it for months. Such way of celebrating holidays and saints was lost as a custom along the coast even before the mass tourism, in mid 1960-ies. But the customs of their ancestors are more faithfully preserved by villages behind Biokovo.

There is an interesting old document by Father Ivan Teršković of 1887 on preparations for the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and atmosphere of its celebration in Vrlička near Imotski. It is one of the largest fetes in Dalmatia, still preserved for significance and presence of thousands of people. According to him, best harvest in the field and in the house was saved for the Assumption. On that day, people would bring out the most delicious things. In early morning, women would dress up, comb their hairs,

and put on their best clothes, prepared the evening before. You could feel the fragrance of quinces that used to season in such clothes. The head of the family would take his wallet, and his wife would take a red decorated bag on her left shoulder. In the bag, there was sweet bread with egg topping, doughnuts, hard-boiled eggs and a piece of smoked ham. People gathered for the mass, girls looking one another weighing out whose clothes fit better. Each of them would take out an mirror, thrust into her belt. The road to Vrlička was crowded with people from all hamlets and distant villages. They would meet, greet, and start a conversation. After the mass, they conversated the words and messages of the priest's sermon, specially prepared for such occasions. Usually it was very hot, so people would refresh at the cool spring of Vrlička and find shelter in the shade of trees. Traders would call others to stands to try roast meat, to buy needles, safety pins, lamps. People would crowd to see and greet their friends and acquaintances, until they all lie down under elms and poplars, on a meadow grown with small afternoon. "In the middle of each group, on the red bag, there is lamb, roast and boiled meat. Wooden pitchers would circulate with toasts, joy, fun and laugh", says friar Teršković.

As time passed, life was changing. The village and the customs have changed. The famous ethnologist who wrote a lot about history and customs of Biokovo villages, Father Vjekoslav Včić in Imotski Memorandum remembers that the ancient custom of wife selection on parish fetes has been lost. In old days it was exactly on parish fetes that girls were selected and often brought home to meet one's parents. He described in details one of the major gatherings for the Assumption on the spring of Vrlička in Proljeće

Significant religious feasts

St. Marco, 25 April, Zadarjaci
 St. Anthon, 13 June, Zadvarje, Vujanji Gorjaci
 Holy Trinity, 15 June, Slivno
 St. Peter and Paul, 29 June, Cista, Vojovac
 Our Lady of Carmel, 16 July, Ranovci, Zagvozd
 St. Eliza, 20 July, Studenci
 St. Ana, 26 July, Imotska Poljana
 Our Lady of Angels, 2 August, Imotski
 St. Stephen, 3 August, Gorica
 Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 15 August,
 Proljeće - Vrlička, Veliki Prolje
 St. Rocco, 16 August, Vujanji Donji
 St. Vincent, 17 August, Podgora
 St. Bartholomew, 24 August, Zadvarje
 Nativity of the Virgin Mary, 8 September,
 Makarska - Vepice, Završane

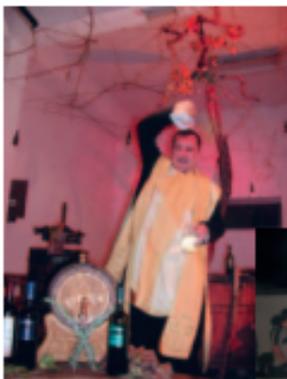
near Imotski. The customs originated from Benedictines since 119 and 140-c. Even when their church was destroyed during the two centuries of Turkish rule, the people of Imotski region did not stop gathering at the same place. The church was reconstructed only after the arrival of Venice in 1718. There was a mass every year on meadows traversed with the spring called Two Eyes, gathering as much as 20 thousand people. That was the place of pilgrimage, and not trade, so the fair was reduced to food and drinks. Father Vjekoslav Včić emphasized the relations of Imotski with Makarska region, and famous pilgrimages to Podgora on St. Vincent. In Imotski, Our Lady of Angels is celebrated, and its mass character is similar to the fete in Vrlička. On the eve of the fete, there is "wild night" with concerts ranging from traditional to rock music; people on the streets are celebrating the memory of liberation from the Turkish rule. A great fair on St. Stephen's day (in old documents called "St. Stephen of Imotski") was held in Gorica, previously part of Imotski region, and nowadays in Herzegovina.

Parish fetes differ only slightly in duration and customs of specific places.

Namely, most of them preserve the tradition of gathering on the eve of a fete. Wooden stands are placed where goods for trade are displayed. Butchers with lambs and spits also arrive the day before and place their spits along the road or on the meadow or on another place suitable for the fete, and the meat is turned on live coals in the afternoon. Wine casks are brought, and as the night falls down, the roast meat is cut and chased down with wine. Different women still bake bread under the baking lid. It is eaten with lamb and famous smoked ham called *štoki* by people on the coast.

Ivan Lenčić, a priest in Zadvarje, the place closest to Makarska littoral and an intersection between Dalmatian and Imotski region, Otavil hinterland, and Bosnia, will tell you how the centuries-long tradition of two-day celebration of St. Anthon, patron of the parish has been preserved. Zadvarje, therefore, remained famous as the greatest fair of goods and cattle in the southern Croatia. Preparations for the





Baptizing the wine

fair start even two days earlier, when traders of all sort of things come from everywhere. They find lodgings in homes of local families. Along the road, for miles and miles, they place stands and spits in front of the houses, you name it they got it. Kid meat is locally bred, the most famous cattle breeder being Ivan Čizmić of Zadarje, today having two hundred goats, sheep, and cows. Čizmić family brings their homemade wine. Then there is Rozarijo Ivanac, a cattle breeder of the neighbouring Goražda Breka, Vicko Bekavac and Mate Sander with his son Ivica. Well known blacksmiths Nogalo of Slivno bring firegal hoes, mattocks, baking lids, prising knives handmade on blacksmith bellows, long forgotten in the modern production. There is always tobacco from Herzegovina, yellow, fragrant, and free-

ly chopped. On an enclosed meadow, there are trucks with cattle. Many people come on the very day of the fair from the surrounding parishes, from more distant Dalmatia and Herzegovina, to votive pilgrimage to St. Anthony's church. After a solemn mass, usually with a sermonizer from another region, there is a procession bearing the saint's statue. After the religious festivities, people scatter around the fair, searching for refreshment. Of course, some start singing the famous guske.

Many Bilokovo villages, always in poverty, emigrated and died out, same as their fairs and fairs. To a smaller range, some fairs have been preserved gath-

small parish fete on St. Elias, same as in Kotica. In Imotska Poljica, St. Ana is celebrated. Local population in Lovuč celebrates Our Lady of Snow on 5th August, and Holy Heart in Krstovica, St. Lawrence in Zinjajevi, St. Peter in Drus, St. John in Župa Biskovska, St. Rocco in Vojzani Donji, and Nativity of the Virgin Mary in Zorjani. A great celebration is in Vitliki Prolog on the Assumption Day and takes two days, 14th and 15th August. Besides the solemn mass with obligatory procession, on that day the main road towards Ljubuški is closed for multitude of people and great number of stands. The parish priest, Rev. Mladen Margeta says the old custom was restored in 1991, and many pilgrims arrive from Herzegovina, Neretva, Makarska litoral. On the fair, the most famous are homemade baskets traded by Jure Radčević and blacksmith Neven Mandarić of the nearby village of Umčani.

Ancient customs deeply noted in local people are becoming more and more attractive to tourists and should be more systematically included in catalogues of original Croatian tourist offer.



Bonfire on the fete

ring some four to five thousand people. Thus, in Zagvozd, Our Lady of Carmel is celebrated, same as in Ranovići, where it is also the Municipality Day. In Slivno, Holy Trinity, a movable feast, is celebrated in late May or early June, and in Krstovica, there is Holy Heart. St. Peter, 29th June, in Čitina is not only the church patron but also municipality patron. In Studenci, people gather for a



Summer festivals

Jakša Flamengo



Photo: Joško Ponoš

If central Dalmatia is called the nursery of the Croatian statehood, the capital of Croatian national rites and the soil with an intensive culture concept from times immemorial in architecture, art, music, and literacy, today it can be said that it is exceptionally rich in tourism contents as well as cultural events spreading out in summer into a fan leaving almost no part of the coast and the islands abandoned. Croatian culture, particularly its festivals, is in summer concentrated on the Adriatic coast and is particularly live on open air of Dalmatian towns. Of course, it is accompanied with the air of street musicians, galleries and exhibitions, often with theatrical groups (Historioni, Teatar u gostima...) with prevalently popular shows visiting all major coastal and island towns and places leaving behind the blue wake of their ship, and a memory of life in the spotlight on town squares. Many other guest appearances from continental Croatia and the world often take the summer tour along the festival coast, blending their appearance at one festival with that at another.

Participating in the overall spirit of Mediterranean, from the time of early Croatian religious poets and the great Marulić, or even earlier, this region lives in a sort of spontaneous scenic life, mixing always reality and fiction, life and imagination, making theatre on the street and bringing the street in the theatrical consecration. Local dialect always had its specific sound common people loved to listen, noblemen increasingly accepted, and visitors listened as a music conquering you with pleasure. In such atmosphere when life turned into a festival in a spontaneous popular expression, in feasts and carnivals, in popular miracle plays and songs, festivals were a logical consequence of a consented continuation of such specific way of living.

On the other hand, Adriatic festivals are definitely our summer window on the world, an identity card of the country and its culture, a portal adding picturesque culture to its pic-



tanque geography. The Mediterranean inclination to life on open and sleepless nights found its reasons in evening drama performances and opera spectacles, harmony singing, and solist concerts, symphony and historic workshop impulses. As if the life, dedicated to daily pleasures, in selected occasions by night more intensively yields to spiritual ones. Of course, unless tourist actions and "attractions" dictate otherwise, and they sometimes do so instead of supplementing its tourist supply the entire Croatian coast can turn into a cacophony of sounds disturbing the peace of night, disturbing one another in wish to be an uncontrolled valve to consumer mentality, craving for all kinds of souvenirs.

At central Adriatic, the County of Split and Dalmatia, the greatest and the oldest festival is the one in Split – Split Summer Festival or as it was called at the beginning, almost half a century ago, Split Summer Events. It is a festival of exceptional range, premieres, and many guest performances, recognizable sign of the summer in Split, representing the most important continuous cultural project of the town for already half a century of its life. It all started on Peristyle where the festival still lives its summer evenings hosting shows in its unique antique premises, which seem to be composed by the weary Salona emperor not only for his resting-place and tomb but also for a sublime permanent theatrical act, for spectacular operas and antique tragedies.

But, as Verdi's Aida, Radames, Nabucco, and other (not only Verdi's) heroes of stentorian voice on Peristyle search for an answer to always new questions on fate, on the nearby Caramita square, there is "high-style popular theatre" where heroes of Goldoni, Uvodić, Sinoje and other comedies search for their excitements. Split Theatrical Summer is the peak of theatrical season and here the festival spreads the cultural limits of Split outside the core of the Diocletian's Palace and the theatre building to the slopes of Marjan and ancient outskirts, but also the neighbouring regions such as Solin, Trogir, Hvar (!) and Biokovo villages, etc. The audience always has a great choice, and sometimes visitors choose Split and Split Festival for their most frequent Adriatic destination due to its summer events, along with Dubrovnik and its festival.

Other places in the county follow suit. All along the Croatian Adriatic coast, there are some fifty summer festivals, significant number of them in central Dalmatia. The audience gets entertainment, but is also devoted to exceptional pleasures, which do not always stop when spotlights are turned down. Hvar Summer Festival is one of the oldest summer festivals on open. Every summer, under its Renaissance cover it offers, after the unique Dubrovnik, the most significant preserved Renaissance atmosphere with the oldest municipal theatre in Europe from 1612, preserved in original form.

Exceptional open-air cultural events are also in Trogir and Makarska, Vis and Omiš, Jelsa and Imotski, Stari Grad and Sinj, Klis and Katišela... It is impossible to list them all, each of them providing not only the usual summer in bathing suits and life of leisure,

but also relevant cultural events going on: Trogir Summer Festival, Makarska Summer Festival, Vis Music Evenings, Imotski Evenings, Harmony Singing Festival in Omiš, Harmony Singing Evenings on Klis, Dalmatian Song Festival in Katiš Kambelovac... and many, many more.

However, one of them definitely deserves special attention – Dalmatian Harmony Singing Festival in Omiš on the mouth of Cetina, at the point of contact of Biokovo and the sea, the legend and the life, tradition and modern sounds. These squares have been for decades the place where but harmony singing groups – *klupe* come, their vocal choirs inheriting their ancestors' tunes, the place where tenors, baritones, and basses come, but also sopranos and alts, arriving not only from all around Dalmatia but from other places, even from outside of Croatia, from wherever the Dalmatian harmony singing is respected and honoured with song. All what rhapsodic whirlpools of Cetina and equally musical sea waves bring to their meeting point in Omiš, it all meets here singing together the song recognizable as music specific of the region and spreading in concentric cycles a capella or with instruments around the county and the world, but best fit for Omiš.

The most intensive life is that of pop music festivals. There are at least two in Split, fighting over priority. They are source of the most popular melodies and greatest and most popular names of pop music that marked this area and are popular in other areas as well. These festivals are also joined by festivals of



children, absorbing the specific atmosphere since earliest childhood, not only in music, whether solo, in harmony singing, or in choir, but also instrumental, folklore and drama, listening to their ancestors' voices in their specific way and bringing in the features of their own time.

To get the whole picture of the summer of culture on the Dalmatian coast and islands, we must not forget poetry events such as *Croatia robitivo* in Selca on the island of Brač, Days of Tin Ujević in Vrgorac, *Dubrovnik* movie in Podstrana near Split, and the newest *Haribal Lucić Summer Days* in Hvar... The festival of Croatian theatrical expression named Days of Marulić organized by the Croatian National Theatre in Split has been herald of the summer season for years, with a symposium of the same name, one of the three organized by the Literary Cycle of Split (the other two are *Hvar Theatre Days* in Hvar and the *Mediterranean Music* in Split in autumn). Jazz evenings and events of alternative, video, and tourist film are also events leaving an increasingly deep trace in the culture of the area.

All in all, the global summer picture of the Split and Dalmatia County could be imagined as a great open air stage where nights turn into days. Here, stone is not just a natural scenery of life but also an active participant in numerous shows, reflecting such life, in artists' performances, both exemplary professionals and fanatic amateurs, domestic and foreign lovers of all-time word, music, or movement.

Most significant summer festivals

- Dubrovnik Summer Festival
- Split Summer Festival
- International Children's Festival in Šibenik
- Music Evenings in Donat, Zadar
- Trogir Summer Festival
- Makarska Summer Festival
- Solin Summer Festival
- Zadar Summer Festival
- Hvar Summer Events
- Vis Music Evenings
- Days of Jazz in Split
- He Phoros hic salta, Stari Grad
- Hvar Theatre Days, Hvar
- Days of Marulić, Split
- Book of Mediterranean Culture, Split
- Melodies of the Croatian Adriatic
- Pop Music Festival, Split
- Zadarfest
- Dalmatian Harmony Singing Festival, Omiš
- Klis Harmony Singing Festival
- Vela Luka Festivities
- Skradin Harmony Singing
- Katišela Dalmatian Chanson
- Šibenik Dalmatian Chanson
- International Festival of Documentary
- Radio Drama, Hvar
- Festival of Dalmatian Harmony-Singing Groups, Tuzupe



Janja Glučina

Photo: Ivo Čagalj



Actors in Zagvozd

Theatre encounters "Actors in Zagvozd"

Some twenty theatrical shows, among which three or four supreme theatre premieres, with gala opening and closing of the festival of actors, take place in summer in Zagvozd, a small place in Dalmatian hinterland where, due to the actors, tourism sprang up!

Zagvozd is not on the sea, has no hotels, no tourist board, but in summer, homes of the local hosts are place of stay for several hundreds of visitors – actors!

Zagvozd has only 1650 inhabitants 5000 of them emigrated to the area of Split and Dalmatia County, and 1000 of them to Germany, Switzerland, and other places in the world. Of all the education and culture institutions, Zagvozd has only a primary school but for five years already, thanks to the culture association "Actors in Zagvozd", whose president is the head of Zagvozd municipality, Božidar Dedić, this is, believe it or not, the centre of summer cultural events.

Zagvozd is, therefore, a place without theatres, but despite that from late June to late August it is the place of gathering of the crème of Croatian actors, culture and public life. In this small area, the festival of actors takes place, with more than 300 actors participating. Shows are staged on open, at the square in front of the local clubhouse called the Actors' Square.

Actors sleeping in homes of their audience

There is another fascinating thing about Zagvozd – the audience! Young and old, they all come to the shows. That is the time when all natives living on other places temporarily return to their homes. Everyone carefully watches the show, including children, no matter whether they understand it or not as they actually come to see what those actors, people sleeping in their homes, actually do. Thus, actors treat their hosts with the festival and live theatre

shows, and their hosts in return provide accommodation, food and bed in their houses.

Theatre encounters "Actors in Zagvozd" provide more and more tourism features to this place. There are plans to establish a tourist board, to arrange some flats or so apartments, as there are more and more visitors! So far, Zagvozd enjoys in its actors, and actors enjoy good food, entertainment, as well as gala dinners on popular feasts prepared by their hosts after each show for actors and visitors in one of many hamlets.

Lovers of good cuisine will appreciate to know that in Zagvozd only natural, truly healthy food is enjoyed, best lamb from nearby meadows, but also all sea delicacies. Tourists, particularly from Makarska Riviera, after a day spent on a beach may "pop over" to Zagvozd, only one hour drive away. One show may gather even as much as two thousand people! Every night, after the show, actors and their friends are guests in local people's homes in many picturesque hamlets!

Presentation of high culture in the backcountry of Dalmatian karst was the idea of the Croatian actor Vedran Mikletić, originating from Zagvozd, who never suspected a success of such proportions. His idea was accepted by actors with great enthusiasm. In 1998, first theatre encounters "Actors in Zagvozd" took place. There were six shows. But from one summer to another, the interest in theatre shows grew, the number of shows and actors grew as well, but also of curious tourists. Enthusiasts were supported by all competent institutions: municipality, county, Ministry of Culture, sponsors...

Besides superior theatre shows, theatrical encounters "Actors in Zagvozd" are also an example of how to attract, entertain and treat a guest, spontaneously, with open soul and heart, and how it should actually be everywhere.

More and more tourists of central Dalmatia are inquiring about the theatre encounters.

Before each show (there are two or three per week), the information point is placed at the entrance to Zagvozd, says Frane Mucić, member of the cultural association and program director. For more information on creation, duration, and future of the actors' festival, as majority of enthusiasts engaged in the Association live abroad, find at: brljantina@st.tel.hr or at phone: 847-080.





No need for signature

Interview: Ivo Pervan, photographer

By: Silvana Jakuš

Photo: Ivo Pervan

When you want to discover the best Croatia has, you have a long way to go to explore its natural beauties, to see through that specific atmosphere of the country that is surprise even to those who thought they know it long and well. The world of photographs of Ivo Pervan – who lives in Split, but has photographed the beauties of the entire country – will show you a different dimension of the same Croatia. Through his eyes and his camera as a medium you will observe some landscapes you wrongfully passed by, cultural heritage that is the basis and ornament of this land, and people you would pass by without noticing them. And you should have stopped ...

Then you will discover a different Croatia and realize that it is equally beautiful – or even more beautiful – with a veil of mist and in clouds, that at such moments its atmosphere has something worth experiencing, something that will prompt you to come in future in all seasons to see for yourself what Pervan discovered in his photographs. Truly, it is a beautiful land at all times.

To present it in his peculiar and recognizable way means to discover details some other people will pass by without noticing or recording them. That is not art, that is skill – says the photographer whose photographs, no matter what region of Croatia or the world he presents, need no signature...

Having discovered the mysterious but so powerful expression of photography while he was still in high school, Ivo Pervan – economist by training – traded the exact language of numbers and economic laws for a camera. Twenty international awards – of which he particularly emphasizes the first award for a poster on the World EXPO Exhibition in Lisbon, which he won together with the designer Boris Ljubičić – 17 independent monographs and 60 where he was a co-author and great number of exhibitions are part of his work, constantly enlarged and enriched with new approaches of this 56-year old photographer. Exhibitions in

Paris, Oslo, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Brussels, Budapest... and many other European and other cities, are a discovery of a new Croatia returning the roundabout road to Croatia stronger than before – as no one is prophet in their own country. And all those that know it, live in it, or just visit it, discover it in a new way – poetic and diverse, almost mythical and heartily warm.

– In seventeen independent photo monographs, beauties of many Croatian regions were written down, primarily the sea and the coast, but also the continental part as well as the Croatian capital, Zagreb. The completion of Zagreb photo monograph – for which I

feel great responsibility, as by it I present the capital of a European country that is also the capital of my homeland – is the beginning of work on the new, Croatian photo monograph. When do I expect its completion? In two years, maybe. The principle of my work is to record each region in all the seasons and soon another year has passed for me. Then I need another six months or a year to sort things out, prepare them for printing and print them out.

If someone asks you to stress the common features of your photographs, what would you single out?

No photograph is accidental, it must be worked





out. If it is made by one hand and one mind, they all must have one common feature. Photographs have quality when a common thread is found in them, recognition regardless of motives. That is so in painting and in sculpture as well. In painters and sculptors, I call it art, and in photography I call it skill. Skill is developed after long work, but it is learned, willingness is required to master certain rules, while painter and sculptor use what God gave them.

Does this mean that photography is a skill open to everyone? If that is so, why the author is 'recognized' in authors' photographs?

Not to everyone. Photography shows the author's personality, everyone gives it his or her personal mark. That is what a person carries inside, that is inclination, but not art. Only near the end of one's life and professional road could that recognition be called the beginning of art to a small percent. It is not false modesty, I am sure of what I am saying as I really want to be fair as to my work. I am very angry to see many people engaging in photography and calling themselves artists. I find them doomed to failure. It is important in life to do something and stay normal. It is often even more difficult to stay normal.

If you were supposed to say to someone who has not been to Croatia, what it's like, how would you describe it?

Croatia is a beautiful country. Have you heard that story I like to so much? When God created the Earth,

great nations had their turn first and God conferred them what He had. When he conferred it all, he saw a small group. "Who are you?" "We're Croat", they said. "Why didn't you speak before?" God asked them, and they said: "We are a small nation, so we're quiet, peaceful, humble... we'll take whatever You give us." "When you're like that, I will give you the part I left for myself." An excellent story, tells a lot of this country. This position is God-given; I believe that our landscapes can be photographed and presented far better than any other on the Mediterranean. There is so much vegetation, direct contact of the sea and the forests you can't see anywhere else, this is the nursery of the culture. One more thing, nowhere else on the Mediterranean will you see such clouds. And we show them so rarely, in fear that tourists wouldn't come if they see them. I am now taming the story around, showing Croatia in another way. With clouds and mist, it is beautiful; my photographs show this is not just a story...

Dalmatia is not just the islands, the coast and the sea but also its inland. If you ask me, I would present them in all the four seasons. We missed a lot for taking pictures of it only in summer.

How do you create your photographs?

I travel a lot; I'm always on the move. While traveling, I take photographs with my eyes and then evaluate when it would be best to come and 'pick' that picture. After thinking it all over and arranging it, one can just come and 'pick' it up. Only few photographs

are created accidentally, just by arriving in a certain moment and taking the picture. I believe that a photograph is worked out, there is no coincidence. I wait for some photographs 2 or 3 years. There is, for instance, a street in Split, long and winding. There are only two days in a year when you can get a fantastic picture. That is on the 10th of February and the 10th of October. On those days the sunrays are just as they should be for me to obtain the desired photograph. Then, I come on the 10th of October, but it's cloudy, so I have to wait until the 10th of February.

Do tourists watch Dalmatia in the real way; do they discover all they should discover? If you were coming to Croatia for vacations, in which season would you come?

In spring or in autumn, especially in autumn. Then it is most beautiful, I know it for sure because I know each even the smallest part of this area. We are the first on the Mediterranean to introduce photographs other than 'summer' ones. I am sure that, primarily with what we have, but also with photographs showing Croatia in all seasons, we can extend the tourist season and develop the coastal tourism even more. I am thrilled by the fact that only fifteen minutes drive from the sea it is already so cool that you have to use blanket by night and you're so close by the sea. Where else in the Mediterranean there are such landscapes, such a direct contact of the forest and the sea? Croatia is truly a beautiful country...



The embodiment of the Dalmatian cuisine

Veljko Barbieri

...this masterpiece of our gastronomic literature shows that even if the Dalmatian cuisine has its equivalents in the Croatian and Mediterranean area, it is definitely unrivalled. ...All these meals are an original libretto to a gastronomic opera noted by Dika Marjanović Radica, as a lasting memento to a permanently emerging cuisine.



Radica's table to remember: Dalmatian Cuisine is an exceptional blend of Mediterranean and Dalmatian influence, infusion of taste and flavour



Dika Marjanović Radica in the national costume of Vlika



Fish that fed Dalmatia and Mediterranean: Radica paid great attention to common-people and poor-people dishes, such as pilchards in variety of ways

The beauty and longevity of old Mediterranean cookbooks is in inheriting. Nowhere else, recipes, so prone to changes from one epoch to another, from one geographical area to another, hide inside the original and therefore intensely attractive message of the past, as in old cookbooks, sometimes long ago obsolete. Their pages are full of underlined text, small marginal notes written by our grandmothers or grand-grandmothers as their personal contribution to a dish offered and chosen. The taste condensed in those old but always attractive books, spices and essences of the Mediterranean, from Portugal and Spain, through Provence, Italy, Istria, Dalmatia, Greece, and Asia Minor, have left their trace on their worn out cover, and the recipes smell of common heritage, turning the letters into complete messes hiding behind their curtains of smoke the silhouettes of ancient cooks and gourmands vanished long ago. Each Mediterranean country has several such cookbooks. Still, rare is the country along the coasts of the Great Sea of yore that gave birth to the Western civilisation, which can pride itself, in layers of its cultural and gastronomic archaeology and still living past, on an original old cookbook that has not lost its vitality, attractiveness, liveliness from its creation until today and, as opposed to many similar books, has never gone out of use. Dalmatia, and Croatia in general, is one of the rare countries that can pride itself with such a gastronomic work. Its name is *Dalmatian Cookbook*, and was born of long-term adventure and search by Dika Marjanović Radica, who researched, tasted, tasted, and wrote down the testimonies of our lost times and offered them to our palate, as a fragrant and tasteful, but also living memento of secrets and elixirs in cooper, ceramic, iron, tin, or aluminium pans, kettles and pots, as ancient fireplaces and grills, all this almost forgotten until her book. When Dika's epopee is finally completed, Dalmatia will obtain a keeper of its gastronomic heritage, a significant testimony of its often-disputed cultural and gastronomic identity. The book is an inevitable dowry of each Dalmatian bride, bringing to her new home and her new kitchen for decades the deposited time revived and noted by Dika Marjanović Radica. It goes back to the times when the first fire danced on an early-Mediterranean fireplace, turning the bloodstained meat or freshly caught fish into a delicious morsel. According to Radica, this fairy-ta-

le of original significance goes back to the penumbra of the Neolithic, which left, same as the Antiquity, an enviable inventory of ceramic jugs and goblets, ritual and cooking utensils. It was always open to various influences and cooking techniques, all of which wrote their unique messages into the great book of memory and oblivion, as part of our common heritage that built Dalmatia. It particularly built its rich cuisine that, unfortunately, was often subject to gastronomic suspicions and denials.

According to such theses – only seemingly convincing in their erroneous starting point – due to being presumably exposed to various influences, the Dalmatian cuisine cannot defend its originality. Fortunately, as Radica proves, they all circumscribe the basis of the art of cuisine. First of all, there is the abundant variety of the Dalmatian land, travelled by Dika Marjanović from islands to the coast, from hinterland to the outcrops of our large rivers. Then there are immense natural resources inspiring the Dalmatian cuisine with their gastro-biological range. True, other nations and influences mingled but, as Radica proves, always interlaced and were carefully arranged ones close to the others or one onto another, as a great menu in which tasteful dishes follow one another according to their taste causality, as if each new culinary surprise emerges from the preceding one.

The Dalmatian cuisine, for the first time clearly harmonised and unified in Dika's book, thus appears as a set of related influences that significantly determined its character, identity, but only as spices of time, enriching an already rich cooking system, as required for preparation of any good dish, arranged through epochs, written down by Radica. If we would examine the history hidden in the Dalmatian Cookbook, we would discover that its natural advantage, as a great market of Mediterranean spices and cultures, was equally praised by Greek authors and gourmets, such as Athenus Agatharchides, Tzoumpopoulos or Aristotle, as well as the Roman writers from Cato and Plinius to Opianus, from Varo to Orogoth Vindictarius, who called himself the lustroous artist, copying the most famous of the most famous, Marcus Gavius Apicius. Medieval statutes of the Dalmatian towns from the 13th to 15th century stipulated where and how to store and sell the choice of meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, unusually abundant even for modern standards. Pilgrims travelling from Venice, along our coast and islands, heading for the

Holly Land and back, whipped by distress, sea and wind, such as Santo Bracca or the German knight Conrad von Gnanenberg, brought excellent meals in the monasteries where they were met with welcome and culinary attention. In the Renaissance, particularly during the Venetian rule, when the Republic of Marco's Lion was at the peak of its power, the Dalmatian cuisine was filled with new techniques and tastes, by mixing olive oil and butter, cheese and macaroni, soon also rice, with as gratin, battered and most of all refined dishes. Just like meals out of Apulian pots and kettles, they found their lost homeland in Dalmatia and have taken root here, adjusted to its cuisine all through to today. All this was noted in Dika's cookbook, but its recipes remember also the times when the fast Saracens ships, besides the fires and pillage, brought also a few spices, such as cloves, vanished with the Antiquity, nutmegs and, at that time extremely expensive, pepper, crops such as aubergine, renewed Roman mixing of sweet and sour additions, so much present in the ancient Dalmatian and Venetian cuisine. Interpreting the ingredients of Radica's recipes, we can discover a strong influence from Apulia and southern Italy, from the times when the Kings of Naples, through three Medieval centuries, occupied the Dalmatian municipalities, Split in particular, from customs and taxes on foodstuffs that arrived to their sophisticated tables, and at return brought the new refinement back to the domestic kitchens.

Back at the time when Dika's book was being made, to our harbours arrived the ships and coasters of Puglia, bringing and taking foodstuffs and mixing kitchen utensils and new culinary techniques. Venice was therefore only a crown that unified all such knowledge along its immense territories, but in its oligarchic-liberal mentality it had understanding for the original Dalmatian gastronomic dialect. The dialect spoken by Radica, which brought to the tables of Senzovina, salty and dried fish, Dalmatian cheese and prosciutto, meat stew, original Dalmatian stew called *paštićada*, boiled cabbage and Swiss chard *alla dalmata*, strong red wine, *marruchino*, aromatic herbs and honey. Alberto Fortis in his famous *Journey through Dalmatia*, praised the agricultural crops, breeding of bovine cattle and small stock and a large choice of fish. After the fall of Venice and Dubrovnik, the French introduced a whole lot of gastronomic knowledge,



Brudet (fish stew) of various fish: Best brudet is made of several types of fish such as: scorpionfish, angle, pieces of demso, seabass, white seabass, John-dory, eel, conger and tuna. Bigger fish is cut into pieces, and small fish left in one piece, such as comber, black scorpionfish, eel, and silas. Such fish make a very tasty brudet. For 1 kg of fish, pour 1/8 l oil and chop 1 onion in this sweat. Add fish and sauté until the fish is slightly yellowed. Add chopped garlic, parsley, salt and pepper, and a spoonful of tomato concentrate, and if it is the season of tomatoes, put a few pieces of tomatoes. Add water to cover the fish, stew for a while, then add vinegar according to your taste and let it stew for 1 1/2 hour on mild heat. While being stewed, brudets must not be stirred, only shake the container now and then so that everything remains as we arranged it.



Stuffed calamari: Arms of a large squid are cut off, the atricals with the head are torn away and the long fin removed. For 50 dkg calamari, the stuffing is made of: 4 spoonfuls of breadcrumbs, chopped squid arms previously cut off, parsley, 4 chopped garlic gloves, salt and pepper, and poured with 8 spoonfuls of oil. Mix all well, stuff the squid trunk, and sew the opening at the end. Arrange it in a steaming tin with some oil and meat from all sides in an oven. They are even more tasty if grilled. Serve with boiled cauliflower or lettuce. Instead of breadcrumbs, 4 spoonfuls of scalloid rice may be added in the stuffing. They may be roasted on oil in an oven, wrapped in aluminium foil.



Various venison à la Dalmatian: Any type of venison is cleaned and roasted in little fat or oil and salt. When roasted, cut it in pieces. Place it in a container; add 3 spoonfuls of oil, 4 garlic gloves and some parsley, all finely chopped, per each piece of venison. Arrange the chopped meat in raw oil, add the juice in which the venison was roasted, shake the container and add some water or some soup now and then. But an mild heat. Before serving, squeeze out juice of 1 lemon, and sauté all for 1/2 hour, add some pepper and serve with small potato horns for *guscheti à la choucaur*.

saahs leaning onto the original Dalmatian stew called *brudet* and Radica's famous *grovac*, and were amazed by the richness of the already complete Dalmatian dishes that were reformated, and often of purely Dalmatian origin, arriving with caravans from the Turkish hinterland to lacunetas, marketplace and kitchens. Such were stuffed cabbage rolls called *srnava* turned into even more tasteful *arombaschi* – stuffed vine leaves, or various dolmas modelled on the Mediterranean and Dalmatian stuffed vegetables the preparation of which is carefully described by Dika Marjanović Radica. Her fish meals also follow their Mediterranean models such as several varieties of *brudet* of the Dalmatian Cuisine, finding their relatives in the Italian *brivido*, *brodetto*, and *zuppa di pesce*, Provençal *houillabaisse*, Spanish and Portuguese *caldeirada*, but only as cognate highlights in common scores, where our gastronomy plays its authentic role. Radica does sovereignly prove that in the bursts of time and its own space, as well as in the capacity of adjusting and inheriting, the taste was purified and the flavours stood out that managed to surpass their own models

and sometimes to impose themselves as their prerequisite. Thus this masterpiece of our culinary literature shows that the Dalmatian cuisine, in the Croatian and in the Mediterranean area, although it may have equivalents, definitely remains unrivalled. It is a mixture of the sea and suburban with the cuisine heritage of its hinterland, special cuisine of mountains and rivers, islands, towns and villages. Its *postolada*, *gnocchi*, *brvjet*, and boiled fish and meat tie in with even more ancient *supjanica* (meat or fish stewed in its own sauce), meat baked in oven, under baking lid, or on fireplace, pots with *grogada*, boiled meat and fish, legumes and bean broth, cabbage and meat stews, dried meat and *costroafno* – dried mutton inherit the entire chain of cooking on trivets and open fire. The same order of things is present in the great range of Radica's desserts and sweets. All these meals are an original libretto to the gastronomic opera noted by Dika Marjanović Radica, as a lasting monument to a constantly emerging cuisine. This woman, who lived in Split, was born in 1892, at the very turn of the century, when it was still possible to listen clearly for a moment the fragrant spirit of an-

cient kitchens. For fifty years, she collected recipes, saving them from the oblivion of time and civilisation, and with a passion of a cook, ethnologist, and true anthropologist of our heritage. When her Dalmatian Cuisine was published in 1932, it became the true bestseller of gastro literature and had ten editions through seven decades. In the book, Dalmatia opened its dining rooms and kitchens, as sanctuaries of its internal essence. When dishes noted by Radica are spread on tables and bar guests and historical personalities sat about their plates, wondering at the clarity of the Dalmatian gastronomic message, the confined time *gusches* forth out of plates, trays and kettles. They are olivics and concentrates of volagmosis heritage, founding its Mediterranean model in the work of Dika Marjanović Radica. We taste them as well, while our palate recognises and singles out all the tasteful and fragrant layers deposited in the Dalmatian menus. Out of the kitchen, standing by a large kettle pouring out the gastronomic history of Dalmatia, Dika Marjanović Radica is waving to us, as a permanent and always live embodiment of a Dalmatian cook.



Rafel à la Topog: Make dough of 50 dkg flour, 6 yolks, 15 dkg butter, 2 bags of vanilla sugar, 10 dkg of regular sugar, milk as needed to blend the dough. The dough is made so as to be medium hard and smooth, placed to rest for 15 minutes, rolled out thinly, cut in pieces and filled with the following filling: 50 dkg almonds, half of that shelled and ground and the other half fried and buttered, 50 dkg sugar, some vanilla sugar, lemon peel, 1 dl maraschino, 40 dkg eggs and some rum. Blend all well. On each piece of dough, place a teaspoonful of filling, cover with dough, and smear ends with egg white to blend better. Press carefully, arrange them in a greased tin and bake on strong heat.



Makonica cake: Make dough of 40 dkg sifted flour (both rough and smooth), 2 yolks, 20 dkg butter, 1 grated lemon peel, some maraschino and 2 spoonfuls of sugar. Make smooth dough and roll out a very thin sheet. Then cover a shallow wide greased form with the sheet on all sides and pour in the filling slowly. Filling: Grind 1 kg dried almonds, add 1 kg powdered sugar, vanilla, beat 15 whole eggs, add almonds, grated peel of 1 lemon and 1 orange, 1 grated nutmeg, and 2-3 glasses of maraschino and mix all well. Roll out the residual dough and cut into bands, and place them in a network on top of the filling. Bake the cake for 2 1/2 an strong heat. When baked, sprinkle it with maraschino well and stew with sugar.



Peches: Sift 75 dkg flour, add 2 handful spoons of fat, 3 spoonfuls of sugar, 1 egg and 1 yolk. Add 1/2 baking powder, 1 bag of vanilla sugar, some grated lemon peel, milk or cream as needed to make he dough. Knead the dough with hands well, make a long form like a sausage, and cut identical pieces out of it as if for potato rolls. Place dough into greased walnut shells to obtain the form of peach-half, form the top and place it in a greased tin in such a way that the opening is on the tin. Bake at mild heat in an oven. When half baked, take it out of shells and bake until finished, when it has to be golden coloured. When cold, fill out with the filling. Filling: Mix 25 dkg peach or apricot jam with 40 dkg ground walnuts, 2 spoonfuls of rum, and sugar if needed, smear the opening of the biscuits with egg white, blend 2 together in form of a peach, and let it for a few hours to dry. When tightly blended, colour the whole peaches first in yolk and some rose colour, slightly red in the centre, and roll it in granulated sugar. Arrange them tastefully in a bowl and decorate with peach-leaves.

Along the Wine Roads of the Central Dalmatia

Želimir Bašić

Photo: Boris Kragić, Želimir Bašić, archives

According to an ancient legend, when God distributed benefits, Dalmatians got grapevine... because, at a place where sun burns the rocks, where soil is thirsty, where rocky ground prevails, hardly any crop may survive. That is exactly Dalmatia and that is where grapevine found its homeland.



The entire political, economic, and even artistic history of Dalmatia is related to winemaking. Since prehistory, grapevine, along with olives and fishing determined the destiny of the inhabitants of the central Dalmatia.

The most recent research has shown that Illyrians who lived in these regions knew grapevine already in Bronze Age and Iron Age. However, the true development of winemaking in central Dalmatia is related to the first Greek settlements on islands. We still have a record from that time (Scholar's Feast) evidencing that in the former colony of Issa, today the island of Vis, wine was produced that compared to other wines proved to be the best in the Antiquity. With the arrival of Romans to these regions, the winemaking significantly improved. Wine was exported from Dalmatia to all regions of the powerful Roman Empire. According to wine-related motives carved in Diocletian's Palace in Split, it is assumed that even the emperor Diocletian not only enjoyed wine, but also grew vegetables and grapes.

As Croats arrived and settled in Dalmatia, they accepted winemaking and soon caught up with their teachers, Romans. According to written documents, special attention at the Croatian court in Middle Ages was paid to wine. This is shown by the fact that there was a court officer called royal wine procurer, who was in charge of production and procurement of wine for the royal court in the period from Prince Matimir to King Petar Krešimir IV. Development of winemaking in central Dalmatia in late Middle Ages was under great influence of independent town-status (Split, Trogir, Hvar, Dubrovnik, etc.). Free towns adopted fundamental legal standards, statutes on winemaking and protected it accordingly.

With appearance of phylloxera, a hazardous grapevine pest, in European vineyards, the interest in Dalmatian wines grew and large exports to France and other countries started, providing great benefits to local population. However, when the disease attacked the grapevine in central Dalmatia as well, vineyards were ruined on massive scale and many families living of wine trade were brought to the edge of subsistence.

The most severe period in the history of Dalmatian winemaking was worsened by the so-called wine clause, i.e. preferential imports of Italian wines. This struck so much the inhabitants of central Dalmatia that they emigrated overseas on large scale, searching for better life.

Since 1990-ies new foundations are made for further development of winemaking on a new basis, first of all in family wine cellars that, along with wineries, become its prime movers.

Dalmatian wines were enjoyed by the famous traveller Marco Polo, the Hungarian king Bela IV, Croatian kings Tomislav and Zvonimir, and Franz Joseph I in Vienna, and more recently by the American president Jimmy Carter, Pope John Paul II during his visit to Croatia, Bismarck II - Prince of Monaco, Belgian king, and other crowns in many countries to which the wines were exported.

Wine-growing hills of Split and Dalmatia County have preserved the groves of original varieties of

grapevine and with them also the tradition and identity of wine. The area of Split and Dalmatia County expands over two winemaking sub-regions - Dalmatinska zagorja, and central and southern Dalmatia - with different climates and soil, reflected in winemaking and thereby also in wine properties.

Zagora

The winemaking sub-region of Dalmatinska zagorja is located in the Adriatic hinterland separated from the sea by two mountains, Mosor and Biokovo. Frequent images here are lonely vineyards in the middle of stone wasteland. Along the slopes of Biokovo, grapevine grows in little Karst valleys, fighting with stone in search of soil, for which it frequently climbs around the rock, forming unusually picturesque vineyards. Descending down the steep-like slopes of Biokovo, we leave behind the Karst and stone. The eye usually finds pleasure in the image of a beautiful green carpet, Imotski Polje valley, with mostly plantation-like vineyards. The most prevalent variety is

Kajundula, of unknown origin, but as it is so frequently grown on Imotski wine-growing hills, it is considered an indigenous variety of this region. Local people call it "the queen and the saint". Wine of this variety is harmonious, and its bouquet has elements of both continental and southern wines (bottled by *Imotski Imotski and Grabovac Proločac*). New impulse for the winemaking in this region was provided by vineyards around Proločac (seat of *Grabovac* winery) with new plants of indigenous and European varieties of grapevine.

Through the mountainous vineyards scattered in valleys between rocky slopes, we arrive to Vignoračko Polje valley called *Jezero* (Lake) as once it was partially under water. Still nowadays, at times of abundant rains, the valley is for the most part flooded. Not once local people harvested grape out of a boat. In the green scenery of mostly plantation-like vineyards, traditional varieties are cultivated (*Meduna, Zlatnica, Blatina, Trnjak, Plavina*, etc. are bottled by *Imotski Imotski and Opuzol Makarska*), and newly introduced varieties (*Vranac, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon*, etc. are bottled by *Imotski d.d., Šibenik*).



Coast

Parallel with Zagora wine road, there are vineyards growing along the coast, intersected with shrubs and abandoned vineyards. Around the villages of Pisk, Mincec and Marušić, vineyards steeply descend towards the sea, ensuring maximum insulation of grapevines. Most frequent varieties here are Plavac Mali and Maraićina. From among dark grapes varieties in Split and Dalmatian County (and Dalmatia in general), Plavac Mali is the most frequent one. It is an indigenous Dalmatian variety that seems to have adjusted its features to the climate and soil of the Karst Dalmatia. In arid areas where almost no other crop can grow, Plavac Mali found its habitat. It is content with very little moisture but on the other hand it requires a lot of sun warmth, which are exactly the conditions characteristic for central Dalmatia. Due to differences in soil and microclimates, there are differences among varieties of Plavac. The most recent genetic studies in the origin of Plavac Mali have shown certain connection between this variety and the famous American grapevine *Zinfandel*.

Island of Brač

The most impressive vineyards of the island of Brač are along its southern slopes, above Bol. Vineyards found their shelter on the small sloping valleys and terraces, and part of them is pressed between the cliffs steeply descending towards the beautiful beaches. For their steepness, vineyards are in perfect position towards sun. Looking at the steep vineyards from the tourist centre of Bol, with a glass of dark red, dense Plavac of pleasant dryness and special bouquet, you may enjoy the specialties of the island. Top-quality wine from grapes growing on these positions is bottled by PZ Bol, Hrvoje Baković and Jakov Carević.

Island of Hvar

The island of Hvar is excellent for winegrowing due to its mild Mediterranean climate with the greatest insolation in Croatia of 2697 sunny hours per year. Winegrowing of Hvar may be divided by soil and varieties in two different parts: winegrowing along the southern slopes of the island and in the valley of Stari Grad – Jelsa. Walking among the vine plants in the valley takes you back to the history, as first vineyards were here planted, in years before Christ, by inhabitants of the Greek settlement of Pharos, remains of which are at the edge of the valley. Today, the indigenous white varieties are prevalent: Bogdanuša, Cetingina, Mekaja, etc. that are rare in other areas, as well as Maraićina, Tihljan, etc. According to a legend, the wine called Bogdanuša (bottled by *Dalmatijanac Ivanić vinarije Stari Grad* and *Plančić Svirčić*) for its exceptional quality was usually consumed for religious holidays, from where it derived its name. Wine of this variety is of greenish-yellow colour, full, harmonious, with a pleasant slightly bitter taste. Maraićina is of specific yellow to gold-yellow colour, fine aroma, full and very harmonious taste.

Completely different, much more savage and picturesque, are wine-growing areas on the southern side of the island. They may be reached from the valley only by a narrow tunnel near the vineyard in Pivce. To experience this winegrowing heaven completely, it should be seen from the sea, as along the craggy hillside, the vineyards are precipitately diving towards the sea. Many vineyards are difficult to reach, let alone cultivate them manually, which is the only option here. These savage positions are refined and encircled by the picturesque villages of Ivan Dolac and Sveta Nedelja, where you can enjoy in ruby, ardent Plavac, of harmonious taste with a slight dose of

bitter. Top quality wine obtained from grapes on these positions is bottled by *Dalmatijanac Ivanić vinarije* under the label *Fanos*, *Zlatan Plavac* or the label *Zlatan Plavac* and PZ Svirčić labelled as *Ivan Dolac*. On the southern side of the island, but more towards the west, there is Milna, a winegrowing oasis of white varieties, mostly Maraićina and Tihljan (bottled by *Lavij-Bracanović* and A. Tuder). The largest town on the island, Hvar, is also located on the edge of pearl vineyards. One of the town attractions is an artistic painting presenting pitchers and glasses full of dark, red wine, creating impression in a spectator that an unknown painter was inspired exactly by the wines produced in Hvar vineyards.

Pakleni otoci

Pakleni otoci, scattered along the sea, across the town of Hvar, are the new groves of Polip (wine bottled by *Lavij-Bracanović*). Thus this natural pearl obtained the winegrowing "wealth".

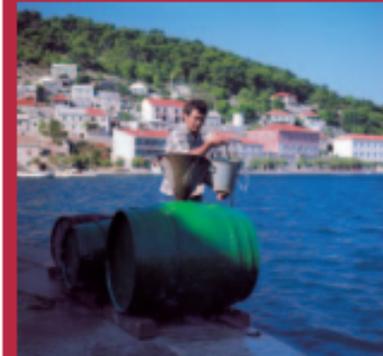
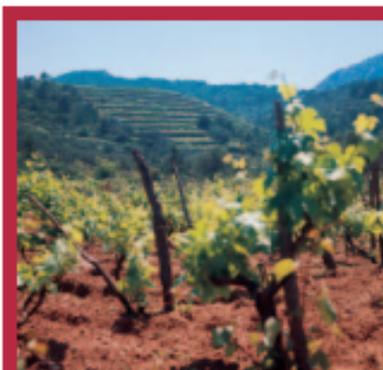
Island of Vis

Far away at sea, like a lonely ship dragged away, defying winds and waves, there is the island of Vis. Numerous archaeological findings show that grapevine has been grown here continuously for more than 2000 years. Vineyards on Vis are scattered around the island. They are along the steep slopes towards Korčula, but also in the valley, former army airport. White varieties are predominant on the island, out of which mostly Tihljan, Vugava, Korkulica, Maraićina, etc. According to some opinions, the oldest variety in this area is Vugava that allegedly originates from the time of Greek colonisation, before Christ, when such vine was grown on these areas. Vugava or Bagava, as called by local population, is the winegrowing symbol of Vis. It is marked by powerful gold yellow colour, specific aroma, and, according to many, luxuriant honey taste and fullness. It is often said to be more of a food than a drink. Vugava can be particularly felt during the vintage in Vis and Korčula in autumn, when wine cellars are open and wooden casks taken out. That is when the entire villages smell of a specific odour marking a new vintage and a new life of Vugava. Vugava is an early maturing variety and most frequently its harvesting starts the vintage in Dalmatia. This wine is produced by several producers on the island of Vis (*PZ Podpišće*, *Lipanević*, *Svilbić*, etc.) under various labels. Among black varieties, the most frequent on Vis is Plavac Mali (bottled by *Progradac*, *PZ Vis*, *Podpiše*, etc.).

Island of Biševci

A special experience is to visit the environmentally completely preserved island of Biševci (3 nautical miles southwest from Vis), known for its natural phenomenon, the Blue Cave. Biševci is, according to many, a winegrowing heaven. Most vineyards are in the sandy valleys in the middle of the island. However, vineyards of higher quality are those on the slopes towards the sea. That is where Plavac Mali is grown exclusively. Same as on Hvar, Brač and Vis, Plavac is here of very rich extract, dark ruby colour, full taste, high percentage of alcohol with prominent aroma featured with slight bitterness and luxuriant bouquet. Top quality wine obtained on these positions is produced by PZ Korčula.

We are not at the end of voyage along the wine roads of the central Dalmatia. There is a number of other picturesque and distinctive vineyards on the island of Šolta, in Kaštela, Cetina region and elsewhere, but we believe that we managed to open slightly the doors to our wine culture and that we discovered part of their treasure that was created for centuries in the traditional manner.



Cetina river challenges

Srdan Fabijanac

Photo: Karlo Ružić



For centuries, intact natural beauties of Dalmatia, including those along the river of Cetina, practically enjoy in themselves on their own. Intact, unexplored, mysterious, except for rare inquisitives who were brave enough centuries ago to step away from the coast and get into the exploring of this part of Dalmatia that was behind their backs.

Many years had to pass until those more audacious decided to explore more deeply what is within their reach. Last years, with development of adventure tourism and outdoor sports (many call them extreme sports), the canyon of Cetina and the town of Otavčić have become a real mecca for admirers of untouched nature. Young adventurers from these regions, becoming aware of all the beauties of Cetina canyon, founded Spirit Association for promotion of outdoor sports and adventure tourism.

To all of you who don't want to spend your holidays only enjoying the sea and sun, we suggest to call 091/5912-913 or 091/5263-813, and the next day you may already enjoy one of the CRO Challenge excursions. These agile boys and girls will have their professional eye vigilant on you and take care that you leave the canyon of Cetina with unforgettable memories.

CRO Challenge offers you: canoe safari, sea kayak, canyoning, climbing, and two-day excursion along Cetina.

What should be specially emphasized is that all these excursions are adjusted to beginners. So, to enjoy them you don't need any experience or special skills, just your good will and desire to meet Dalmatia and the beautiful Cetina canyon in a particular and – you will see – unforgettable way.

Particularly popular among these excursions is the excursion to Cetina canyon. For thousands of years, the river of Cetina was forming the canyon creating marvellous forms in stone of the riverbed. Crystal clear river with pleasant temperature for swimming, cliffs up to 180 meters high, waterfalls, lakes, underground tunnels and 40-meter high waterfall of Gubavica will provide you a true experience of intact nature.

A guide will give you a vest, helmet, and neoprene trousers and the small expedition will go on journey into the unknown. While you're slowly descending the canyon, the sound of river grows stronger and some twenty minutes walking later you are already in the depths of canyon. You're walking through the river and rapids, passing through underground tun-

nels, swimming in natural pools, visiting waterfalls and lakes.

If you however find such an excursion too strenuous, or if you fear that for your bad physical shape you wouldn't be able to endure all challenges, then you are ideal person to tour the calmer parts of Cetina in a canoe (canoe safari). (Although some more demanding parts of the river may be visited if a group of tourists asks their guide to do so). Visitors use uninkable two-seater canoes and first tour the lake and the waterfall, where they stop for some time and swim. To swim in Cetina, we emphasize, you don't need special courage as in summer months its temperature is almost same as the seawater. What follows after the swimming is unforgettable five kilometers of descending along the river and enjoying everything Cetina has been creating in its bed for centuries.

If you're not attracted by the river and you're bored by full beaches and unavoidable summer crowd on the sea, your ideal excursion is sea kayak. Half an hour of easy rowing will take you to deserted gravel beaches that can be approached only by sea. At the place where mountains dive directly to the sea, you can swim and sunbathe, without being distracted by





hundreds of other visitors. With help and attendance of your guide, you will visit the spring of a subterranean river entering sea not far from that spot. At your return, you will linger in a small place near Oštri, from where you headed for the excursion. At your request, it is possible to organize a kayak race. Kayaks that are rented don't require any previous experience, they are made for beginners and unsinkable.

But that is not all. Those braver and more audacious may go climbing the cliffs of Cetina canyon. But only with experienced instructors, who will explain you everything you need to know to make your first steps successful, you will receive exceptional quality climbing equipment providing you maximum safety. After you put on the climbing shoes

and pull tight your belt together with your instructor you may start conquering the heights.

With all that we mentioned, we should also say the following: excursion prices are very affordable, depending on the number of excursionists and type of excursion, they are between 200 and 250 Kuna, and leave you with life-long memories. Members of Spirit Association will provide you professional guides and all required equipment, it is up to you only to decide. If you want to get to know better the options provided by Spirit Association for Adventure Tourism Promotion, you may look for them on the internet at: www.crochallenge.com, and contact them at spir@crochallenge.com

We almost forgot – rafting! We believe you have

not doubted that this type of entertainment also exists on Cetina. You may organize it through Spirit or through Tourist Board of Oštri (phone: 861-350).

Rafting starts from Penić village and takes four hours on average. The course is very safe, adapted to tourists, and again the assistance by professional guides makes your adrenalin flowing. The course ends in the favorite resort of many local people, Radmanovo selište.

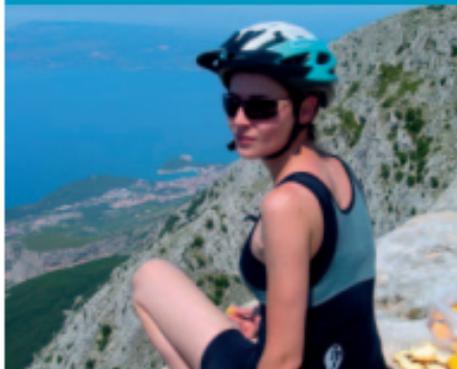
We are aware that for many tourists their first arrival on vacations in Dalmatia means the solution of question where to spend their summer holidays for the rest of their life. It is not only the sun and the sea what Dalmatia offers you in summer.

Head for the adventure and you won't regret it...

Vacations on bike

Srdan Fabijanac

Photo: Tip-extreme, Goran Morović



There are really so many ways to get to know Dalmatia and all its beauties. Let your adventurous spirit heat up, relax and move a step further from the usual vacations. Dalmatia has so many charms that even its inhabitants are unable to get to know them all in their lifetime. Why would you regret tomorrow that you missed seeing and meeting places, people, and their customs? You don't need to be a fanatic to come all the way from your country to Dalmatia on two wheels, although that may have its pleasures and we believe that those more enduring wouldn't regret it.

Still, the real place for such a decision is Makarska. The perfect place for a combination of classic vacations with one of daily bike excursions you will remember for life. There are numerous options. Excursions are organized on three levels, depending on endurance and abilities of the participants, and for those younger, particularly prone to adventurous spirit, a special attraction is the seven-day mountain bike program that will truly discover the numerous attractions of Dalmatia.

Daily tours are divided, as we said, to three lev-

els – the first is intended to practically everyone, ideal for families on vacation as it is adjusted to children. Techniques needed for this level are bike riding on solid, not frequent roads and roads with minimum ascents, and numerous descents, carefulness at descents and braking control. For each of those excursions, which are organized every day except Sunday, the departure and return by minibus is provided. Besides, the organizers will provide you all the required equipment so that you have maximum safety, and you will ride on high-quality Scott bikes



that are regularly serviced. Excursion groups consist of at most eight persons with a professional guide accompanying them.

Level One

On level one you may choose – on Monday, a ride along the Makarska Riviera and getting to know picturesque fishermen's villages, pinewoods, and marvellous coves.

On Tuesday, there is a great descent from Biokovo Mountain. The start is from the peak of Volac (1422 m) offering you a breathtaking view of the central Dalmatian islands, and the great descent along the asphalted road ends on the very coast, in the village of Podgora.

Wednesday brings you the excursion to the canyon of Cetina river, and on Thursday there is a tour of the town of Imotski and its rocky surroundings with its natural phenomena, Blae and Red Lakes. On this tour, you will ride across fertile fields and valleys of the region, and you will see five smaller lakes and rest for a while with you kind hosts in one of the last waterfalls in the region.

On Fridays you can meet the Dalmatian hinterland and visit places where local people still produce famous Dalmatian specialities on their own: wine, brandy, smoked ham, cheese and homemade bread. Saturday brings you an excursion to the marvellous valley of Neretva river where your kind hosts will make you enjoy in numerous plantations of mandarins and oranges.

Level Two

The level two of one-day bike excursions is somewhat more complex and you may join it if you fulfil the following requirements: pedalling upright, keeping the balance and passing across impediments, anticipating and changing gears, careful behaviour at descents, estimation and adjustment of braking on the ground, controlled avoidance of impediments, and also your age must be 16 at minimum. Level Two excursions are organized Monday through Friday and your hosts will provide whatever you need for safety, because as opposed to the first level, you will mostly ride along macadam roads.

On Mondays, excursions are anticipated along the northern side of Makarska Riviera, on Tuesdays the destination is the ravishing mountain of Biokovo. There, from the highest peak of Sveti Jure (1762 m) down

the magnificent descent you will return to Makarska.

On Wednesdays, there are excursions to Cetina, on Thursdays to Blae and Red Lake in Imotski region, and on Fridays to the southern side of Makarska Riviera and Biokovo botanical garden.

Level Three

This level is only for those professionally engaged in biking. You must know how to pedal with clip pedals SPD, negotiate the ascents up to 30 %, bunny hop across small impediments, know various techniques in curves, use front brake up to blockage limit, and keep your balance upright.

The tour starts in Makarska. You will ride through old fishermen's villages, woods, and along beaches to Brača, where you have the first ascent. The road then takes you at the foot of Biokovo, where macadam and goat tracks lead you through descent villages to Gornji Tučepi. That is where you start ascending Biokovo, followed by great descent to Podgora, where your bike will be the only vehicle on the road. Return from Podgora to Makarska across Osujava peninsula.

Seven-day excursions

And finally, something really extraordinary: seven-day mountain bike excursions that will discover you numerous charms of Dalmatia – easy ride along the Riviera, scaling the peak, going downhill Biokovo, testing your strength on macadam roads on the foothills of the mountain, following the flow of Cetina, meeting the nearby islands, in short biking will help you discover new worlds and bring home memories for lifetime.

On day one of excursion, your kind hosts will welcome you, give you the equipment and warn you of what you may expect in the next seven days.

On day two, the first portion from Makarska to Podgora starts. You will ascend Veliko Brdo, go down to old villages Makar and Mlinice and again ascent to Kotlina, where there is the Biokovo botanical garden. After some rest, passing through vineyards, you will ride to Gornji Tučepi, Gornja Podgora, and again downhill to Podgora and back to Makarska.

Then you rest, settle your first impressions, go to sleep and prepare for the next day, when you will meet the north side of Makarska. Again uphill and downhill, again meeting the intact nature, and so day after day. On day four, you are on Cetina, on day five on the already described Biokovo, on day six on Blae and Red Lake. Seven days will pass in no time, maybe you will sometimes feel slight fatigue, which will definitely yield under beauty of the landscape you will discover touring Dalmatia on bike.

And you will be left with beautiful memories of unforgettable, extraordinary vacations that you will describe to those who were not lucky to come to central Dalmatia. For detailed information look on the internet at: www.tipextreme.de or contact Thomas Mravčić at Tip-extreme, phone: 098/1979-177.



Mosor for beginners

Magda Kaliterna

Photo: Mladen Katavić, Marin Roje



On the peak

That day, we found two real mountaineers on Vickov step peak, those dressing according to mountaineers code and always carrying everything in their rucksacks.

They mentioned Italy and looked in that direction through their binoculars. For several times already I came across supporters of that flimsy story that sometimes you can see Italy from the highest peak of Mosor. But who would believe them! From Vickov step (1325 m) you have a breathtaking view of Brač, Šolta, Drenovik, Poljatic, Ivar, Vis... While climbing, you constantly stop and turn around to enjoy the coastal side, but all the while the mountain hides the other side, preparing a great award for you. Only those climbing to the peak will deserve a view deep into the mainland. Čabulja, Čvrsnica, Vran, Ljubuški, Tufinica, Cincar... distant Herzegovinian and Bosnian mountains are covered with snow long after the spring has come. Then there are Karančica, Dinara, Svilaja...

You are on the peak, you have been climbing for more than an hour from the climber's lodge, you're sweating, breathing hard, slightly dizzy from the mountain air, the silence is complete, you feel different than usual and wish to thank to God for all this beauty...

And Italy? Could even Italy be seen from here? There are some thirty miles from Split to Vis and more than one hundred to the Italian coast. High mountains that could be seen are kilometres away from the coast...

Climbing Mosor

Mosor is a "Split" mountain, as if made for Sunday walking. While I carefully descend from the ridge stepping from one stone to the other (going down is often more demanding for those who know than climbing up), I feel sorry for those Split people spending their Sundays walking the town quay thinking of it as the urban pleasure.

Climbing Mosor most often starts in the village of Sitrno Gorje. Bus no. 28 (to Dubrava) on Sunday starts from the town quay at 8:30 a.m. If you go by your own car, after leaving Split, turn towards Žrnovnica and after some twenty minutes ride along the serpentine, there you are on 600 m above sea. Houses of Sitrno Gorje are pressed along the mountain. There is something healthy mountaineering about the village and many excursionists stay there to taste lamb and play *boccia*. Marked hiking trails, worn smooth by many excursionists' feet lead you to the climber's lodge of Professor Umberto Giommetto (approx. 45 min, 870 m). It was built in 1931 and its name originates from the great promoter of mountaineering in Dalmatia (died in 1939). The lodge is open on weekends, you may sleep there, and hosts are excellent cooks. I recommend your cabbage. The cabin has its own water source. I especially recommend that water. You will feel the difference between Mosor water and the one in the city.

A walk on the mountain ridge

Many people spend a whole day there. The lodge is in the wood, there is a meadow below, with small lake Ljusač and a brook, surrounded with clearings and groves. It all calls you to lie down in the grass and repose in the sun (even in winter)... But climb at least to Vickov step!

Vickov step (1325 m, approx. 1 hour and 15 minutes climbing from the lodge) is actually name of the red metal sheet cabin (which 9 persons may sit in) built on the very ridge, modelled upon a similar lodge on Triglav peak (Slovenia). You should definitely ask for book of impressions. It is interesting what people write down once they scale the peak. For strenuous climbing, some write they would never ever climb here again, but there is an old mountaineers' saying: "Fatigue will go, but the pleasure will remain..."

I definitely recommend a walk on the mountain ridge. From Vickov step you can go along the ridge

to the west, to Ljubljana peak and the climber's lodge Lagarnica, to Žrnovnica village or all the way down to Kila. All these are trails of few hours walking.

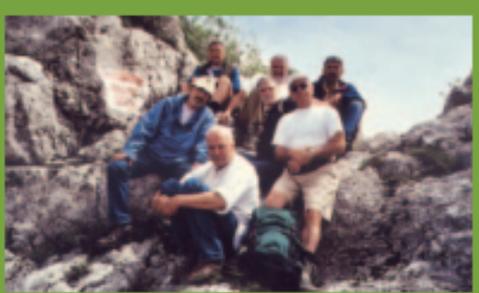
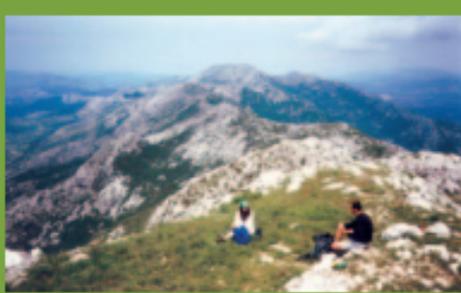
My favourite trail leads from the lodge to the east, to Korik (1319 m). The other name of the peak, Sveti Jure (St. George), is very frequent for Dalmatian mountains. On Korik, the saint even had his church, only remains of which are left. Once a year, the villagers of the surroundings would climb there to perform their vows. There are so many goat droppings on the peak that it is difficult to find a place to sit on.

Back to Split

The track goes down to Gata village. Once there were stories among mountaineers on great hospitality of local people. After going down, the climbers would ask for some water, and the hosts would offer wine. I don't know whether such customs still prevail. But when you're in Gata, you're still nowhere: you must arrive to the bus station in Oreš. The local bus usually does not drive when you need it. Try to hitchhike. Gata is the only place in Mosor area where I have good experience with hitchhiking. If no one stops however, you have an unpleasant hour of descending down asphalted road. More far away from Split you go, the problem of return is greater. Trails crossing to the other side of the mountain and leading to villages Dolač or Dugoopolje pass through beautiful landscapes, but first check for scarce bus lines. On local roads behind Biokovo there is almost no traffic, you may walk from Dolač all the way to Dugoopolje (an hour of walk) without managing to stop any car.

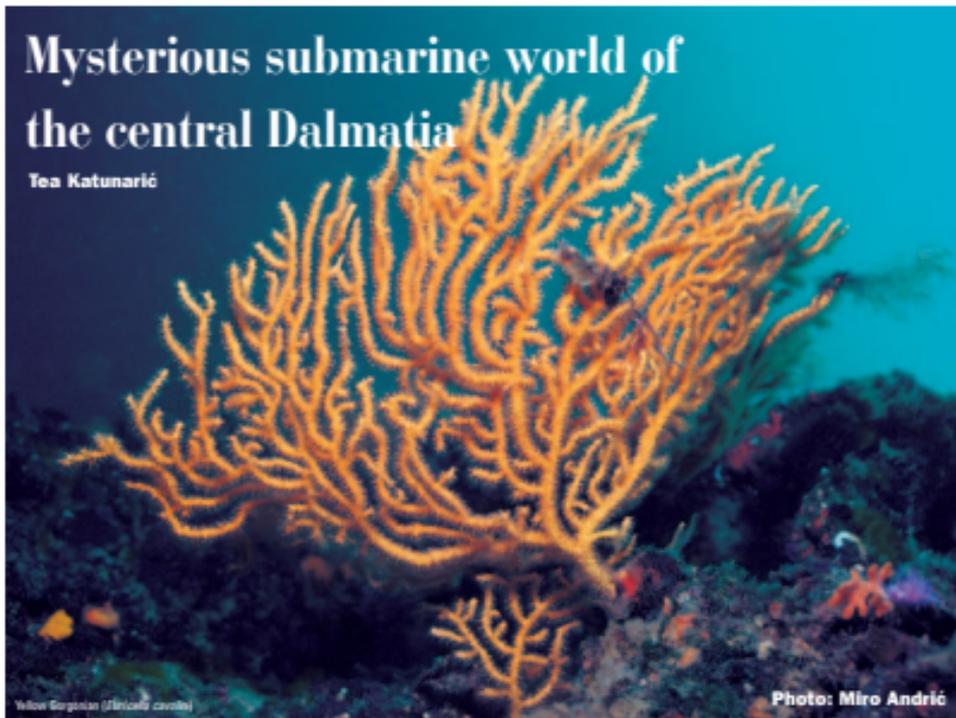
If you are "new" on Mosor

Mosor is quite a good-natured mountain, which means that there probably won't be any unpleasant surprises, such as for example beautiful fair weather on your way up, and then suddenly you find yourself in the middle of a storm, which you may expect even in summer on Biokovo. Hiking trails are well marked. Some roads are however neglected and overgrown, so don't use them. Never experiment: if you lost your marks, you must find them by returning to the last one you saw. Mountaineering clubs organise mountaineering and sportological courses and free climbing courses, so you may come across a large groups of climbers in a rock. But Mosor cliffs are not suitable to try alpinism on your own, without any previous knowledge. There are snakes on Mosor. You probably won't see them, but still be careful what you lean onto or what you catch at, whether a tree or a rock. Although I never saw hunting game on Mosor, you can hear hunters shooting and hearing dogs barking. You may come across shepherds with goats. Somewhere you will be scared by flocks of pigeons loudly flying out of rock holes once they hear you approaching. It is obvious why local people call the pit *gošibula* meaning "pigeons' cave". If you are "new" on Mosor, ask more experienced mountaineers whatever you want to know. Maybe you will come across one of them who climbed Himalayas...



Mysterious submarine world of the central Dalmatia

Tea Katunarić



Yellow Gorgonian (*Gorgonia ventalina*)

Photo: Miro Andrić

The Adriatic, crystal clear and blue, fringed with green pine trees and shrubs, with so many islands and islets, rocks, and sandbanks is known for its beauty. A particularly strong is the impression of the sea meeting the mountains steeply precipitating to its depths in the very centre of the Adriatic – the central Dalmatia. The northern border of the central Dalmatia is the cape Ploča known as Diosmedes' cape. It is also the natural divide of the northern and southern Adriatic. It is the place of collision of southern and northern winds and streams. It was always a dangerous point for sailors. Ancient Greeks worshipped their gods here (same as on Palagruža, the southernmost island of the central Dalmatia) to continue the sailing under their aegis. But the sea was sometimes more powerful than the gods.

The sea depths of the central Dalmatia preserve the diving locations attractive due to the configuration of the seabed and abundance of flora and fauna. Some of them are especially attractive for the mysterious and romantic feeling of diving over the antique shipwrecks on the seabed. The archaeological sites of special natural significance are protected by laws. Diving on such sites is permitted only if arranged by specially authorised diving clubs. Protected areas are the zones of the islands of Vis, Brač, Šibenik, Palagruža and Jabuka. Diving in the sea of these islands is arranged by Vis clubs *Muša*, *Šolje*, *Ravog*, *Fla*, *Ar-Ma* and *Dodori*. Diving in Croatia is permitted only provided you have the diver's card of the Croatian Diving Federation valid for one year, issued by the diving clubs and centres, which also provide

all the required information on protected and prohibited diving zones.

Diving in Croatia has a centennial tradition. As early as late 19th c., sponge harvesters of the island of Krapanj started using heavy diving equipment to harvest sponges from the seabed. The first diving course was organized in 1943 on the island of Vis and in 1950 the first diving centre was established in Split. Since then all through to today, due to improved and simplified diving equipment, diving has developed into an attractive sport for recreation purposes and inevitable part of tourist offer.

There are some 60 diving centres and clubs in central Dalmatia organizing diving excursions for all classes of divers. Exceptionally popular are several-days diving cruises aboard a ship around the islands of cen-



Aglaophenia sp.





Tethya fibrata



Lobster (Homarus gammarus)



Dwarf Cuttlefish (Sepiella roseolaris)

tral Dalmatia: Veliki and Mali Drvenik, Šolta, Brač, Hvar and Vis. The submarine world of these islands, particularly of Vis archipelago – the most distant islands of the central Dalmatia – is abundant in flora and fauna.

The most beautiful diving into the living submarine world is on banks and steep submarine cliffs sinking into the sea depths. There you can see octopuses, groupers, githheads, sea basses, scorpionfish, lobsters, coegee ot, shoals of pichards and merry damselfish or rare large fish (tuna, greater amberjack, etc.). If you're lucky, you will be visited by a benevolent dolphin or a sea horse. Deep submarine rocks are decorated by sponges, sea anemone, various algae and serpulids and also by gorgonias – soft corals of yellow, red, or purple colour. Red corals can be seen only on great depths, as they have been exterminated from shallow waters. All the central Adriatic islands and the coast have interesting submarine rocks and walls suitable for diving, for all divers' classes. I will mention only some of the most visited. A cliff on the island of Drvenik is 30 m deep. It is known for being inhabited with lobsters and various serpulids, and a small cave at its bottom. On the northeast of the island of Brač, the steep cliffs are sinking to 45 m depth.

On the island of Hvar, the steep rocks of the cape Kabal are descending down to 30 m depth, and on 25 m depth there is a submarine tunnel. Waters around the cape are rich in various shoals of fish. The Blakop rock near the same island goes down to 35 m depth. One of the most beautiful diving sites is Vodjak bank on the southwest of Starobodar islet of Pakleni otoci archipelago. The peak of the bank is at 6 m depth and is several meters wide, and a good place for anchoring. The bank goes down to 50 m depth and its bottom is opened into a canyon covered with green, brown and red algae, yellow corals, sponges of all colours, and a forest of yellow, red, and purple gorgonias, up to 2 m high. Shoals of various fish are swimming around it, inhabiting its submarine world together with sea urchins, sea snails, and other sea

organisms. In the waters around Vis, there are numerous submarine rocks, rich in flora and fauna. In the depths of Bilevo and Svetac, you can see red corals. The rocks surrounding Koruila are steeply descending to the sea to 20 m depth, and then mildly descending even deeper. The submarine wall on the island of Kanik descends to 42 m depth. The rock Krava sinks to 40 m depth. It is inhabited by deep-sea urchins and red starfish.

In the coastal part of the central Dalmatia, the most exciting diving for advanced divers is along the rock of Vruja, between Pisk and Brele. The steep slopes of Biokovo precipitate into the sea to 60 m depth. Many underground water flows of this karst area flow into the sea of Vruja, forming submarine caves. Some of them are up to 90 m deep. Submarine flows make the water brackish and favourable to sufficient flora and fauna.

A special charm of discovering the mysteries is in cave diving. Real cave diving is very demanding and requires a special course to be completed. The courses of cave diving are organized by the clubs *Pelagris* of Hvar and *Spjelj* of Split. They organize diving in caves and pits around islands and the mainland.

I will describe some caves where you may dive safely without a course in cave diving.

Advanced divers may enjoy discovering the submarine pit in the cove of Lučice on Brač. The cave was known even in the antiquity. At the very entrance, on 3 m depth, there are two openings leading to the submarine cave. The cave has two rooms – one is larger and 37 m deep, the other is smaller, but up to 47 m deep. From the cave floor, stalactites are rising that were created much before the cave sank down. There is a multitude of sponges, algae, serpulids, corals and fish among them.

The islands of Vis archipelago are known for the beauties of their caves suitable for all classes of divers. The best known and the most visited is the Blue Cave on the island of Bilevo. It got its name for its beautiful blue-silver reflection of light through several

submarine openings and lighting its interior. Many people think that the Blue Cave of Bilevo is more beautiful than the more famous one on Capri. The cave of Bilevo is in the Balani cave, surrounded with high rocks. You may enter through the main entrance on a small boat, but you may also dive in. You will get the real experience of the play of light if you come up from the sea. To exit the cave, you may choose two submarine passages. In the next cove, there is the largest cave of the island of Bilevo called Medvidina (Monk Seal's Cave). Once it was inhabited by the Mediterranean monk seal or as Vis people call it, "the sea bear". Before, the monk seal used to live in many caves of Vis islands, but today it does not live in the Adriatic any more. The Monk Seal Association is nowadays advocating its return. They ask all divers to inform them if they find any monk seal or any trace of it. And if they come across it by any chance, they must not disturb it. The opening of Medvidina cave rises high above the sea. Its spacious interior can also be entered aboard a ship or simply dived into. On its end, there is a small beach. West to Medvidina, there is a 28-m deep picturesque cove of Trešnjevac.

On the island of Vis, on the other side of the islet of Ravnik, there is the Green Cave. It was named so for the green reflection of sunrays getting inside through a floor opening. The cave may be entered aboard a boat or dived into. In its direct vicinity, on 25-m depth, there is a submarine cave where you can see lobsters and various fish.

Besides its natural beauties, the Adriatic keeps the traces of history in its depths. So far some 300 archaeological submarine sites have been registered and they are all protected by laws, so diving on such areas is possible only through authorized diving clubs. Along the coast of the mainland or islands, on very small depths, there are remains of harbours or commercial buildings (islands of Vis, Hvar and Brač, or around the towns of Trogir and Split). On such depths, you can see antique shipwrecks. Mostly only



Red Scorpionfish (Scorpaena rubra)



John Dory (Zoarces fabae)



Common Damselfish (Dablax densus)



arborae are preserved, as the wooden structures of ships decayed with time.

The island of Vis gives you also the joy of diving around shipwrecks. The Italian merchant ship *Zeti*, on 10 to 30 m depth, is a good site for the first shipwreck diving experience. The ship was built in 1883, and ran aground in 1939 on the islet of Mali Barjak. Its stern and warehouse are preserved, loaded with granite blocks it was transporting. Today, the shipwreck is the home of three large conger eels. They are used to the divers' presence and always in the mood for playing.

The Greek cargo ship *Isafiros* was built in 1920. It hit the coast and sank by the cape Stupičić in 1939. The ship is well preserved. Lying on its left side, its size is fascinating. It is some 100 m long. Its remains are at the depth of 20 to 50 m so diving is suitable for all divers' classes.

The Austrian passenger ship *Briguni* was built in 1909 and sank near the Green Cave by the island of Ravnik on Easter 1932. It is a well-preserved vessel, lying on its left side at 38 to 60 m depth. Diving on this location is an unforgettable experience for advanced divers.

Near the islet of Grben, a sailing ship sank in 18th c. Its remains are at 40 to 50 m depth. It is accessed by a plange along the submarine wall to 35 m depth. The plange is suitable for advanced divers. There are 8 pairs of iron canons and ship anchors on the oozy sea bottom.

Near the cape Staničić, on 45 to 55 m depth, there is a very well preserved tugboat *Urvos* of the Italian navy, which sank in 1941. The ship is covered with sponges and corals, and surrounded with shoals of fish. A plange to the ship, along a rope, is very demanding and suitable only for advanced divers.

Near Truda Zalašje cape, a Croatian fishing ship sank in 1995 on 40 to 50 m depth. The plange is more

suitable for advanced divers.

By the cape Polivsko, on 65 to 72 m depth, there are remains of a heavy bombardier B-17G, crashed in 1944.

Diving on all these sites is organized by local diving clubs. They will provide you with all the information you need on the submarine world of their area. Some of them have their own very well arranged web sites. I will mention only those diving centres that I have not mentioned so far in the text. On Trogir area, there are: *Trogir d.c.*, *Sepo cv.*, *Echor Tachir* and *Jastog*; in Kraljeva: *Katolanski Bior*, *Rosso*, *Galeb* and *Katula sub*; on Split area: *Isa*, *PIK Mornar*, *Krosnar*, *Delfin*, *Mediterranean-trading*, *Zenta*, *Hidra*, *Spiner*, *Sub*, *Split*, *Ocean*, *Dinastika*, *Bior association*, *Gogo*, *Hidra* and *Profunditar*; in Dugi Rat: *Advar*; in Omiš: *Almusa* and *Berco*; in Lokva Rogosnica: *Elc*; in Ploče: *Pločak*; in Brač: *Aquasant*; in Brač: *Voda*; *Pavolovic*; in Makarska: *Mora-sub*; in Podgora: *Bryantia* sub; in Igrane: *Petar*; in Gradac: *Jadran* and in Imotski, the town famous for its marvelous karst lakes: *Cyrene jetovi*. On Brač: in Bol: *Nautic center* and *Big Blue sport*; in Pušćica: *Cesar d.c.*; in Šumetar: *Labor* and *Majdana* and in Supetar: *Nauticor* and *Arban*. On Hvar: in the town of Hvar there are diving centres of the clubs *Pelagris*, *Hvar*, *Uvala Lucna* and *Centar Krak*; in Jelsa: *Hal*, *Omlina center* and *Atlas Jela* and in Vrboska: *Odisej*.

The Adriatic still hides so many secrets of the past and preserves some already declining Mediterranean vegetal and animal species. Its cultural and submarine treasure must not be touched, for risk of damage even by touch. Shells must not be collected, as it would disturb the natural balance and impair the beauty of the site. It is not recommended to feed the

fish to avoid disturbance of their natural rhythm. The archaeological monuments must not moved or taken from their site. Any damage or new discovery must be reported to the conservation department, harbour-master's office or police station in charge.

Noble Pen Shell (*Perna nobilis*)



ACI marinas of the central Dalmatia



ACI Trogir (VHF channel 17)
(43° 30,8' N 16° 15,2' E)

HR-21220 Trogir

Tel.: 381-544, Fax: 381-258

Position: southern Adriatic – Trogir Channel.

ACI Marina Trogir is located on the northern coast of the island of Cres, between the Trogir bridge and cape Cabeljan, across the town of Trogir.

Sailing in: The town of Trogir is situated on a small island between the mainland and the island of Cres. Sea depth in the channel north of the town is only 2 m, and even less inside (1 m). The town is connected to the mainland with a solid bridge across the channel. With the island of Cres, on which ACI marina is located, the town is connected with a swing bridge

(2.40 m height) not being open any more. Ships unable to pass under the bridge sail in from the west side, between Cres and Cabelja rock. A visible landmark for navigation is the green lighthouse on cape Cabeljan (Z 80 2s 1m 4M) with the exact position (43° 30,7' N 16° 14,8' E). For those coming from the eastern side, the navigation course is marked with red and green marks. Sea depth in the passage beneath the bridge is 4.5 m.

Open: all year round.

Berths: There are 180 berths and 60 boat places on land available. All berths have power and water supply.

Facilities: Reception, exchange office, restaurant, toilets and showers, grocery shop, repair shop, 10 t crane, parking lot for passenger vehicles. Gas station is at the western end of the marina.



ACI Split (VHF channel 17)

(43° 30,1' N 16° 26,0' E)

HR-21000 Split, Uvala Island bb

Tel.: 381-548, 381-509, Fax: 381-556

Position: southern Adriatic – administrative, cultural and trade centre of Dalmatia.

ACI Marina Split is situated in the south-western part of the city port, north of Suturjan peninsula. A long breakwater provides good protection from southern winds.

Sailing in: When sailing in the city port, landmarks are the prominent church-tower of St. Dojo Cathedral, cape Suturjan, and Marjan hill on the west. The wide entrance to the city port is between the main breakwater the head of which is marked with a green lighthouse (Z 80 6s 11m 10M). The exact position of the green lighthouse on the main breakwater is 43° 30,1' N 16° 25,5' E. Inside the harbor, ACI marina is protected with another breakwater, on the head of which there is a red light-

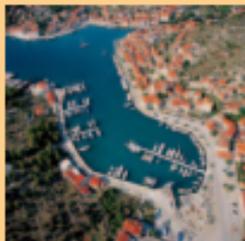
house (C 80 2s 1m 3M). Going around the head of this breakwater, we enter in the ACI marina. Closer to the coast, there are rocks marked with a green buoy.

Open: all year round.

Berths: Marina has 360 berths and 120 boat places on land. All berths have power and power supply.

Facilities: Reception, exchange office, restaurant, snack bar, toilets and showers, grocery shop and nautical equipment shop, repair shop, 10 t crane, slipway (25 t), mast dismantling equipment, parking lot for passenger cars. All year round border crossing in the city port. Gas station in front of Marjan Hill (180 m). Within the Marina, there is one of the main ADAC information service points for boaters.

Having satisfied the strictest ecological criteria regarding safety and purity of water and air-water, ACI Marina Split is one of 10 ACI system marinas that have been awarded the **European Blue Flag**.



ACI Milna (VHF channel 17)

(43° 18,0' N 16° 27,0' E)

HR-21405 Milna

Tel.: 636-366, 636-366, Fax: 636-272

Position: southern Adriatic – western coast of the island of Brač. ACI Marina Milna is located on the south-eastern part of the coast of Milna, opposite to the town.

Sailing in: The town of Milna is located at the end of the deeply cut-in bay on the western coast of the island of Brač. The landmark for sailing in may be the islet of Mihalja 2.5 miles to the west of Milna. It features a green lighthouse (Z 80 3s 14m 4M) and may be sailed around. The exact position of the lighthouse of Mihalja is 43° 20,3' N 16° 24,9' E. Sailing from the islet to Milna is possible along the cape Hijača with a red lighthouse (C 80 3s 1m 3M). The church tower on the end of bay leads us to the entrance to ACI Marina Milna. On the quay in front of the

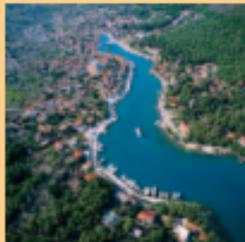
town (eastern side of the bay) there is a red lighthouse (C 80 (2) 5m 4M).

Open: all year round.

Berths: Marina has 170 berths and 20 boat places on land. All berths have completely refurbished, and berths have new water and power supply.

Facilities: Reception desk, exchange office, restaurant, cafe, toilets and showers, repair shop, 10 t crane, slipway (20 t). The gas station is to the west of bypassed specialised for repair of wooden ships (500 m). Along the town quay, there are supermarkets, a grocery shop and a butcher's shop.

ACI Marina Milna has been awarded the **European Blue Flag**.



ACI Vrboska (VHF channel 17)

(43° 18,0' N 16° 41,0' E)

HR-21463 Vrboska

Tel.: 774-018, Fax: 774-144

Position: southern Adriatic – northern coast of the island of Hvar. ACI Marina Vrboska is located on the southern side of the eastern part of Vrboska cove.

Sailing in: Vrboska is the settlement and cove on the northern coast of the island of Hvar, located at the end of a deep and narrow bay. If we arrive from north, a good landmark for navigation will be the island of Zadar cove with a lighthouse (B H 5s 5m 5M). The exact position of the lighthouse is 43° 11,5' N 16° 42,1' E. We sail to ACI Marina Vrboska by going around Glavica peninsula, and by night we will steer the ship towards the red lighthouse marking the entrance to Jelša (C 80 3s 6m 5M). Once we observe the lighthouse on the cape Keč (B H 2s

5m 5M) we will also see the lights of the marina. Those arriving from south will arrive to the marina sailing along the eastern coast of Hvar. By night, they may see all the three lighthouses described above. Besides, on the head of the eastern part of Jelša cove, behind the ACI Marina, there is a constant red light. ACI marina piers are lighted. The Marina provides good protection of all winds.

Open: all year round.

Berths: Marina has 85 berths and 30 boat places on land. Berths have water and power supply.

Facilities: Reception desk, exchange office, restaurant, toilets and showers, repair shop, 5 t crane, parking lot for passenger cars. There is a gas station by the crane. Shopping is possible in the town (500 m).

ACI Marina Vrboska has been awarded the **European Blue Flag**.



ACI Pulačana (VHF channel 17)

(43° 09,8' N 16° 23,9' E)

HR-21650 Hvar, Paklini otoci

Tel.: 744-895, Fax: 744-982

Position: southern Adriatic – Paklini otoci.

ACI Marina Pulačana is located in the cove bearing the same name on the southeast coast of the island of Sv. Klement.

Sailing in: Marina Pulačana on Sv. Klement island (Paklini otoci archipelago) is some 2.4 nautical miles away from Hvar. The cove mostly provides safety from winds and waves. At strong south-easterly or westerly winds, there may however be flooding. On the north, in front of the entrance, there is the rock (bait) visible at low tide. It features a black-and-black column with two balls. By night is marked with a lighthouse (B H (2) 10s 7m 4M) at the position 43° 10,1' N 16° 23,9' E. Because of

the rock's width, it should be kept away from. The entrance to the marina is marked with the letters "ACI". If we arrive from the cape Pelagić, we may firstly take the course towards the rock (bait). If arriving from the town of Hvar, we will see the same landmark, taking care not to sail too close to the island of Gočja. If we want to sail into ACI Marina Pulačana from the south, the course will take us between the islands of Bivošica and Sv. Klement, where sea is less than 5 m deep. The passage is not marked with lighthouses.

Open: mid March to late October.

Berths: Marina has 160 berths with water and power supply.

Facilities: Reception desk, exchange office, restaurant, toilets and showers, grocery shop. The closest gas station (2.5 km) is in the part of the town of Hvar (Križna luka).

What else to visit, see, remember...

Vedrana Ivanišević

Krka, Visovac, Roški Waterfall

If you wish to go on an excursion outside the County of Split and Dalmatia, there are numerous options depending, of course, on your time. You may choose a one-day excursion to the County of Šibenik and Krka, to southwest, with two national parks - Krka River and Kornati Islands. If you choose to visit Krka National Park, the fastest roadway from Split takes you through Mak and Otavice. In Otavice, you can pause and visit a mausoleum of the great Croatian sculptor, Ivan Meštrović, and then continue towards Drenj, a town famous for its prosciutto that was enjoyed even by the British Queen Elizabeth II. From Drenj, where you arrive after an hour and half drive from Split, the road takes you to Krka National Park. Krka, the beauty of karst, wild and unstrained in its upper course, calm and tame in its lower course, attracts tourists mostly with its waterfalls. The most water-abundant fall on Krka is Skradinski Bok, with seventeen steps, between 200 and 400 m wide, and some 800 m long. Upstream from Skradinski Bok, before Roški Waterfall, Krka spreads into Visovsko Lake. This greatest widening on Krka was named after the islet of Visovac in its middle. On the island, you may visit a Franciscan Monastery and a church and walk through a garden abundant in various Mediterranean herbs. There you can see a unique water well with its crown, i.e. above-ground part, made of earth and 20 thousand egg whites used at the time as construction material, but no one knows what 20 thousand yolks were spent for. Going upstream you may come to Roški Waterfall, where there are still old mills that used to grind corn and wheat. At Roški Waterfall, there is also a small restaurant with grilled specialties and homemade prosciutto for your refreshment after enjoying the natural beauties.

Skradin

Going upstream Krka, you will arrive to the southern entrance to the national park, Skradin, a town pronounced protected cultural monument, created in a safe natural cove. For its position, it became a nautical centre and destination of boaters from the entire Europe. Today, this 2000-year old town, which had water supply as early as in Antiquity, attracts tourists with various festivities, lawn bowling contests, carnival floats, and beside all that always offering good lamb, sea-fresh specialties, and thick local wine. As Skradin is close to Šibenik, those eager for adrenaline shock may join the jumpers from Šibenik Bridge during the summer. We mean bungee jumping, of course.

Paklenica, Zadar

After all that, you can take a car and drive westward, to Zadar, with Paklenica National Park. The oldest Croatian national park is the paradise for alpinists, who will not resist climbing 400 m high rock Anica Kuk. For those less adventurous, a sufficient challenge would be to walk Mala and Velika Paklenica. Don't miss to visit Marita Peč, one of the greatest and most beautiful caves on Velebit Mountain, where you can arrive by stone hairpin turns after some 40 minutes walk. After all that, cool down your feet in a stream with potable water. On your return from the Park, you can rest in Starigrad, a picturesque town with a multitude of hotels with convenient accommodation prices. If you prefer hostels, go through to Zadar, an old Mediterranean town with numerous cultural and historical monuments, its history dating back to Antiquity. From Zadar, you can visit Kornati Islands by boat. It is a national park said to have as many islands as there are days in a year.

Dubrovnik, Bačina, Neretva

From the County of Split and Dalmatia, you can go to an excursion towards the south, towards Dubrovnik, UNESCO's town of unique atmosphere. However, the road to it is tortuous, with 5-hour drive to take. On your way, you will pass by Neretva delta, providing in its lower course a multitude of chances for rest and fun. If you are attracted by calm of lakes, stop by in the protected landscape, Bačina, and take a boat trip along small round lakes grown in reeds and naturally connected by channels, where some rare and protected bird species are still nesting. In the lower course of Neretva, where pirates were hiding in ancient times, you can take a trip in a local boat along this marshy area protected with Ramsar Convention, and taste some of their specialties such as eel, frog, or coot stews. This peculiar landscape hides underground caves, the most interesting of which is Prekolac with its 15 m deep lake. If you are into history, visit the village of Vid, 4 km to the

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NP Krka - Roški slap

southwest from Metković, located at the place of antique Narona. It is known for a fact that Greek traders visited this area to purchase the famous Narona iris (Iris ilirica), of which high-quality perfumes and cosmetics were made for distinguished Greek women at the time. In the lower course of Neretva, called Croatian California for its mild climate and fertile ground, you can attend a tourist attraction, a narration race of Neretva boats. However, if you are more drawn to heights, climb Saječnica, 1234 m high, the highest peak of the County of Dubrovnik and Neretva, with the St. Elias chapel.

Calm of Medugorje

For a trip to Medugorje, destination of pilgrims, visited daily by thousands of worshippers from even the most distant parts of the world, by car or by organised transport, you will need some three hours. If you intend to go in that direction from Split or Makarska, it is most simple to drive by Vrginac and Ljubuški to Medugorje. In scant landscape of the severe karst of Herzegovina, you will find kind people and much needed spiritual invigoration. Go on a pilgrimage to the Mount of Our Lady of Peace Appearance - Krševac, and if by chance you come to Medugorje in June, join the celebration of the anniversary of the Appearance, on 25 June. In July, there is a seminar for intental healing in Medugorje from 8 to 12 July, and so far some 450 cases of healing have been reported. Medugorje is a place of facing the spiritual source, a place where natural beauties would not distract you, but instead direct you to your inside self.

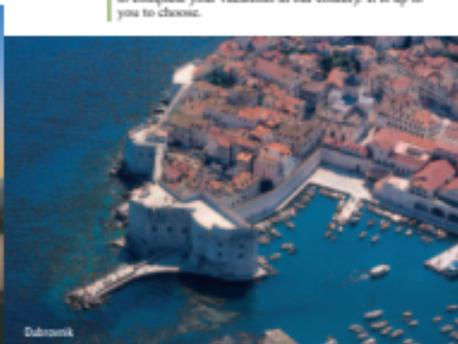
We hope we provided you with some more ideas to complete your vacations in our country. It is up to you to choose.



NP Paklenica



Bačinska jezera



Dubrovnik