

LIKA-SENJ REGION

10+1

REASON

FOR GETTING OFF THE HIGHWAY  
AND DISCOVERING THE REGION

**CROATIA**  
Full of life

[www.visit-lika.com](http://www.visit-lika.com)



Contents:

1. BRINJE . . . . .	6
2. SENJ . . . . .	8
3. GACKA . . . . .	10
4. PLITVICE LAKES NP . . . . .	12
5. VELEBIT . . . . .	14
6. PERUŠIĆ . . . . .	16
7. GOSPIĆ . . . . .	18
8. KARLOBAG . . . . .	20
9. LOVINAC - SVETO BRDO . . . . .	22
10. NOVALJA - ISLAND OF PAG . . . . .	24
11. GASTRONOMY . . . . .	26

Lika-Senj region should be visited during all four seasons throughout the year. This interesting region will surprise you with its beauty, exceptional points of interest and the particularly warm welcome of its hosts.

While driving towards the sea, or coming back from the sea, you only need to "descend" from the motorway and visit some of the Lika towns and localities Velebit foothill villages, refresh your body and soul by enjoying the intact nature of Gacka and Velebit and explore the first class attractions found at every step.






























Lika is mystical and beautiful, preserved and wild, unique in its link of elements: stone, wood, water, water sources, rivers, and the handshakes and smiles of its hosts. Simply said, it is a magnificently preserved natural environment.

Welcome!

Lika-Senj County Tourist Board



**LEGEND**

-  Motorway
-  State road
-  County road
-  Local road
-  Railway tracks
-  Road numbers
-  National park
-  Nature park
-  Elevation
-  Bridge
-  State boundary
-  Parking, rest area
-  Ferry, ferry line
-  UNESCO
-  Sports airport
-  Tourist information
-  Place of pilgrimage
-  Castle, palace
-  Old town, fortification
-  Protected forest
-  Cave
-  Important hunting grounds
-  Important fishing area
-  Hotel
-  Restaurant
-  Museum
-  Cycling trail
-  Church
-  Climber's lodgings



# Brinje

Sokolac, Rokina bezdana - cave,  
Brodić Lake  
A1 - Exit 8



## The Gate to Lika

Travelling south from Zagreb and having passed the tunnel Mala Kapela, the first place for turning into the Lika region is Brinje. The old road that connected Lika and Gacka with the sea across Vratnik and onto Senj has now an attractive road for those who are visiting this area for the first time. For those who have travelled this road in the past, it serves as a reminder of the time that passed by when the rhythm of life moved at a much slower pace.

Brinje is first mentioned in 1343 as "Brigna", and the second time on June 18 of the same year as "Bregne". It is considered that the name derives from the chakavian local dialect "brnja", i.e. simple juniper tree that grows in the area. The second explanation can be attributed to the local dialect "brinia", which means exaltation, also a characteristic of the Brinje region landscape. Remains of the old town of Sokolac (hill-fort) can be seen on top of the hill in the center of Brinje. It was founded at the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century by Nicholas IV Frankopan as the residence of this noble family. The three-floor chapel of the Holy Trinity with vaults and Frankopan coat of arms is one of the most important Gothic monuments in Croatia.

### Did you know?

Historians agree that it is difficult to establish the exact source when and how the name Sokolac came to be used. One of the stories starts with the wedding of Nicholas IV with Dorothy Gorjanski, when, on the eve of the wedding, Nicholas sent a present to Venice - a horse and falcon (sokol) and goes by saying that when man left the town, falcons made their nests high up in the sky thus inspired historians and people to call the town by this name.



### Our recommendation

The Holy Trinity Chapel in Sokolovac is a worldwide cultural heritage monument and one of the most beautiful medieval monuments in Croatia.

St Fabian and Sebastian Chapel is a protected worldwide cultural heritage monument and one of the oldest sacral buildings in the Brinje municipality area. The building is late Romanesque style of sacral constructions dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

The parish church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary was built by the well-known defender and liberator of Lika from the Ottomans, the priest Marko Mesić, born in Brinje around the year 1700, on the remains of the older monastery church of St. Mary dating back to 1476.

The church of St. Vid dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and is one of the oldest sacral buildings in Brinje.

In the very center of Brinje, on the Josephine Road, there is a stone bridge across the 200-year-old Gate Jaruga stream. The bridge was built in 1801 by the industrious hands of by coastal and

Brinje builders and stone-carvers. There is a sundial on the bridge with a stone sphere for reconstruction.

A bronze monument to the Brinje miners is the work of the academic sculptor Koste Angelija Radovanija. The miners from Brinje are well-known as builders of many roads and tunnels throughout Europe, breaking tunnels from Tierra del Fuego to Siberia and, therefore, famous throughout the world.

### Activities

- angling on Brodić Lake where there is a Hunter's Home
- strolling in the locality and surroundings
- for cavers - abyssal Cave Rokina and Cave Siničić near Letinca village from the neolithic period as an important and unique archeological prehistorical site. A paleolithic hunter lived here 9500 years before Christ and left some pictures on the rock face of the cave that have not been solved until this day.

Brinje - Sokolac



## Useful Information:

### What to See



Brinje - view from the town Sokolac



Church Načauća sv. Križa 1820., Križpolje



The stone bridge across Gate Jaruga built in 1801.

### Eating Out

#### Restaurant VICTORIA

3 Frankopanska, 53260 Brinje  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 700-746, Fax: (0)53 700-005  
Cell.: +385 (0)98 245-173  
www.vici-victoria.hr

### Where to stay

#### Hotel Lika-North

PUO Brinje, Tel.: +385 (0)53 646 050

#### Hotel Lika-South

PUO Brinje, Tel.: +385 (0)53 646 040  
www.restaurant-lika.com

### Brinje Tourist Office

62 Frankopanska, 53260 Brinje  
Tel.: + 385 (0)53 701 407  
Fax: + 385 (0)53 701-210  
info@visitbrinje.hr  
www.visitbrinje.hr



# 2 Senj

Fortress Nehaj, Summer Carnival  
A1 - Exit 9, Žuta Lokva



## The Oldest City of the Croatian Littoral

The city of Senj, known for its tempestuous and rich history, was founded more than 3000 years ago. Fortress Nehaj that dominates the city under the Velebit was built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century served for the defense from foreign conquerors such as Turks and Venetians. The fortress hosts the museum collection of objects of the Senj Uskoks the Senj Port Authority and the permanent exhibition of Senj named Churches Through History and Senj City and Noblemen's Coats of Arms. There is a restaurant on the ground floor. In the old city nucleus with its various shops, narrow streets, strongholds, and sacral objects you can observe the singular diversity of this city connected by sea with other Mediterranean cities, while by road with the hinterland over Vratnik Pass (700 m).

### Did you know?

In 1248, the Senj bishop became the only bishop in the Catholic world that could use the Glagolitic script and the national language in liturgy by permission from Pope Innocent IV. This encouraged the development of the script during the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries mentioned in many preserved Glagolitic inscriptions and handwritten books and documents.



**Getting there:** To reach Senj descend from the motorway A1 at Žuta Lokva, Exit 9.

### We Recommend

- besides Fortress Nehaj in Senj, historical park visit the City Museum located in the palace of the Vukasović family and the permanent exhibition of sacral art that is open to visitors from July 15 to September 1
- church of St. Mary, votive church of Senj sailors and fishermen
- remains of the Senj Plaque, around the year 1100, written in Glagolitic
- monumental Cilnica Square
- the Great Gate, the end of Josephine's road and the entrance into the city
- Uskočka Street, magnificent and intact example of medieval architecture
- Sundial built on the Adriatic Highway in the northern part of the city, at the 45<sup>th</sup> parallel
- Park of Senj Writers that houses the church of St. Mary of Art, votive church of Senj sailors and fishermen Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary

### Senj Surroundings

Zavratnica is a natural karst phenomenon at the foot of the Velebit. It is located at 2.5 km south of Jablanac, the ferry landing for the island of Rab. The gorge is about 900 m long

and from 50 to 150 m wide. Remains from prehistoric localities were found on Krasnica hill standing over the bay.

A particular point of interest for divers is the sunken German ship from the World War II at a depth of 8 to 10 m. Zavratnica can be reached by boat or foot trail from Jablanac. Center for the protection of preying birds „Grifon“ - research and educational Center for the protection of preying birds at Crnika (5 km south from Sv. Juraj, 14 km south from Senj), managed by „Grifon“ non-profit organization that deals with the protection of nature primarily through the protection of preying birds. Besides the permanent exhibitions at the Center, you can also tour a part of the rehabilitation of preying birds who were injured and are recovering until they are released into the nature.

### Events

- Bicycle race „Zavižan climb“ (from 0 to 1594 m), June
- Manifestation "Days of the Uskok", reconstruction of the events and customs from the time when Fortress Nehaj was built: July 11th - 13th
- Samba festival – Samba mania, two-day festival, July
- Klapa Senj festival, July
- Senj concert evenings, July, August



## Useful Information:

### What to See



### Zavratnica

A hiking trail to Zavratnica starts right under the kiosk selling ferry tickets. The bay is 900 m long and from 50 to 150 m wide. The canyon rises up to 100 meters. Thanks to its natural values, it was pronounced "protected landscape" back in 1964, and from 1981 a part of Velebit Nature Park.

### Eating Out



You can refresh in Senj at many restaurants and taverns that offer a large selection of dishes based on the combination of coastal and Velebit traditions.

### Where to stay

Accommodation can be found at the LIBRA hotel located on the coast at Obala dr. Franje Tuđmana 8, Hotel ART, Obala kralja Zvonimira 4, and large number of private apartments and vacation houses.

Upper picture: Senj  
Lower picture: Nehaj Fortress

### Senj Tourist Office

Stara cesta 2, 53270 Senj  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 881-068  
Fax: +385 (0)53 881-219  
info@tz-senj.hr  
www.tz-senj.hr

### Nehaj Fortress

Nehajeva bb, Senj  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 885-277  
gradski.muzej.senj@gs.t.com.hr



# 3 Gacka

Gacka River, Sinac vrilo and mills,  
Refuge for young bears at Kuterevo  
A1 - Exit 10, Otočac



## Green - Turquoise Oasis

Gacka is a valuable ethnographic locality where the abundance of true values meet unanimously: beauty, water, landscape, tradition, authenticity and, naturally, gastronomy! The karst precipice of Gacka, the queen among rivers, source of life for the inhabitants of Gacko polje, and a discovery of peace and beauty for tourists and travellers.

Water from the river is drinkable water (second in Europe in quality), the autochthonous brown trout is the most sought after river fish, the water plants of Gacka River were once cut to feed cattle, on the sources (in Sinac - Tonković and Majerevo vrilo) and waterfalls (in Švica) mills for grinding wheat have been renewed as have stamping-mills for washing and "softening" of domestic woolen textile and baskets for rolling and washing woolen blankets.

## Otočac - Center of the Early Croatian Gacka Region

While the river seduces you with its beauty, it surely does not come to your mind that you are in the proximity of the oldest locality of the Croatian population. Proof of this is on the Bašćanska Plaque from 1100, and other proof can be seen in the homeland museum of the town of Otočac.

### Did you know?

A stamping mill for making cloth has been preserved in Sinac, in other words, hand woven products made of wool that were acquired from sheep. To prepare the rough fiber for creation of comfortable clothes, it was necessary to soak it and then beat it. This was done in stamping mills, special water-mills adjusted for this purpose.

Mills were also renewed where, along with the sound of clear water falling on the stone wheel of the mill, one can smell the odour of freshly ground flour.



**Getting there:** Gacka can be reached from motorway A1 at Exit no.10 for Otočac. On the road towards the locality of Vrhovine in the direction of Korenica and Plitvice there is a sign for turning towards Sinac, i.e the source of the Gacka River.

**Tour Plan:** The town of Otočac is the center of the Gacka region and the first urban locality where you can visit many sights, such as church of the Holy Trinity in the town center, the chapel of the Holy Virgin Mary in Poljica dating from 1723 and other interesting ethnographic features in Gacka Museum.

Upon leaving Gacka you can turn northeast to Plitvice Lakes National Park or southeast to North Velebit National Park.

### Activities

- cycling trails in Gacka River valley and the Velebit foothill villages
- walking trails: Humac, Gacka
- marked hiking trails : Otočac - Zavižan
- sports airport: Otočac, Špilničko polje
- Gacka River game fishing
- Kayaking and bird watching at the Gacka river; Marković turfs hiking trail

### We Recommend

- Gacka Museum located in the city center with a rich archeological collection, daily visits on working days from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Group visits outside working hours

- according to earlier appointment
- ethnographic collection of traditional values in the Gacka region - Grčević collection, Ličko Lešće
- Gačan park of Croatian memory – the collonades of the regional and national history from 9th to 21st century
- Otočac sculpture Calvary with fifteen stone columns set from the base of the Fortica to the Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows
- shrine of the Mother of God from Krasno, (Mother of God of Carmel) and St Ann from Kosinj
- game fishing in the Gacka River is an attraction for anglers for the river is known for its brown trout that grows five times faster than in other rivers of the karst regions, particularly favorable for its optimal temperature and the alkile chemical composition of the water

### Events

- Gacka carnival, Otočac Day; January-February
- Folklore festival of Lika-Senj County: May
- Gacka Cup; Taekwando Gacka Cup: May
- Days of Gacka, concerts and theater performances: July - August
- Barkan memorial bicycle race, June
- Ekoetno Gacka, exhibition - sale fair in Sinac, July
- Gačan tournament of old sports - October
- Advent Otočac, December.

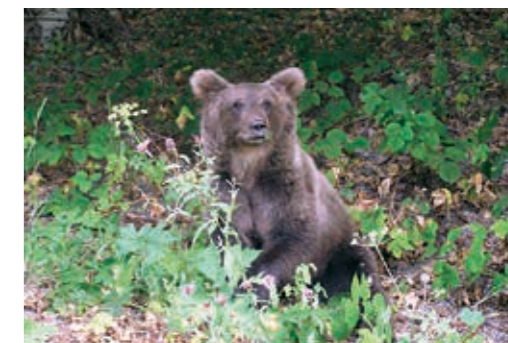
Upper picture: Lake Švica  
Lower picture: Gacka River



## Useful Information:

### What to See

Velebit refuge for young bears and cubs  
Velebit Association of Kuterevo (VUK)



Cell.: +385 (0)91 5835 412  
Ivan Pavenka Crnković  
53225 Kuterevo, 103 Pod crikovom  
www.kuterevo-medvjedi.org  
kuk-kuterevo@gs.t-com.hr

### Eating Out

Specialities from Lika can be tasted in any restaurant:

- Restaurant "MAJSIĆ"**, Čovići 108 b,  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 761 009,  
www.restoran-majsic.hr
- Inn "ČAMAR"**, Otočac, Gornja Dubrava bb.,  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 771 558
- Bistro "RIBIČ"**, Otočac, Ante Starčevića 44,  
Cell.: +385 (0)98-179 6888
- Bistro "VRILLO GACKE"**, Sinac 15,  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 743 019
- Bistro "BUMERANG"**, Otočac, Vivoze 10b,  
Cell.: +385 (0)98 497 485

### Where to stay

Accommodation in Otočac can be found in hotels or private apartments

- Hotel Park Exclusive**, 33 Kralja Zvonimira,  
Tel.: + 385 (0)53 617 984  
hotel-park@email.t-com.hr
- Hotel Zvonimir**, 28 Kralja Zvonimira,  
Tel.: + 385 (0)53 135 773  
www.hotel-zvonimir.hr
- Hotel Mirni Kutak**, 63 Gornja Dubrava,  
Tel.: + 385 (0)53 771 589  
www.hotel-mirni-kutak.hr
- Hotel Gacka**, Ličko Lešće 315,  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 787 508  
hotelgacka@gmail.com

**Otočac Tourist Office**  
53220 Otočac, 17 Kralja Zvonimira  
Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 771-603  
tzg-otoca@gs.t-com.hr / info@tz-otocac.hr  
www.tz-otocac.hr

**Croatian Center for Autochthonous Fish and Crab from Karst Waters**  
Otočac, 10 Kralja Zvonimira  
Cell.: +385 (0)91 2222-397  
www.pastrveituristi.otocac.hr

**"Gacka" Society for Gacka River Protection and Management**  
53220 Otočac, 5a Bartola Kašića  
Cell.: +385 (0)91 6701-954  
www.gacka.hr

**For visiting, sight-seeing and milling**  
Jure Kolaković - Majerevo vrilo  
Cell.: +385 (0)99 571-6940



# 4 Plitvice Lakes NP

16 terraced lakes, falls, caves, woods, restaurants with a rich gastronomic offer, hotels, campsites  
A1 - Exit 10, Otočac



## The only natural value in Croatia listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List

The Plitvice Lakes are situated somewhat further from the motorway, which is good, but not too far not to be "en route" and visited on the way to the sea. It is definitely one of the places to come with someone dear to your heart, holding hands or embracing and walking around the magical landscape surrounded by the sound of the falls and the crystal clear water. You can also come alone with a smile on your face to greet all the living creatures around you, the ones flying, crawling, swimming, running... or to stop for a second with your camera that you surely must have with you and catch the last ray of the sun on the drops of dew before they dry. Words are needless when speaking of the frozen falls that resemble lacework. This is unconditionally to be seen and experienced with your own eyes.

### Did you know?

It is said that the Proščansko Lake got its name from stakes or the legend of the Black Queen, whom people "begged" to send rain during the great drought and soak the thirsty earth. The queen took pity on them, covered the sky with black clouds, and rain fell and fell until the lakes were formed. This lake is second in size and depth.



**Getting there:** A1 highway from Zagreb, Otočac exit, through Vrhovina and Vrela Koreničkog for less than an hour, taking the exit to D1 state road at the restaurant Borje and continuing towards the Plitvice Lakes.

**Tour Program:** The park has two entrances, north or Entrance 1 opposite the Lička kuća restaurant, and the south one or Entrance 2 opposite the turning for hotels Plitvice and Bellevue. 8 various programs of visit and sightseeing are at the disposal for the guests, which include walking along the paths and wooden bridges, trade ride and boat trip on Lake Kozjak. The panorama train and the electrical boat connect the Lower and Upper Lakes and are included in the price of the ticket.

All information can be obtained at info centers located at entrances 1. and 2.

### Activities

Walking, hiking on Lička Plješevica and Mrsinj, paragliding in Bjelopolje, riding the electrical boat and train, photography, cycling, skiing, rowing.

### We recommend

Plitvice Lakes are a world jewel of an inestimable value. Their specific beauty is a refuge for nature lovers and an inspiration for artists, and the unique and rich nature an exploration polygon for scientists. Visit Štefanija's islet on the Lake Kozjak.

The islet was named in honor of Queen Štefanija who visited Plitvice Lakes on September 5, 1888. Queen Štefanija was the

first woman from our famous Hapsburg - Lotarin dynasty who visited the lakes 70 years after the Queen and Empress Caroline visited them in mid June, 1818.

Hiking trail Medvjedak is an arranged and marked hiking trail that leads to the peaks Oštri Medvjedak (889 m above sea level) and Tupi Medvjedak (868 m above sea level). The view from peak Oštri Medvjedak reaches up to Lička Plješevica, Una Valley (Bihać), Korana Valley, Drežnik Grad and Ličko Petrovo Selo. An impressive view of a part of Plitvice Lakes, Lička Plješevica and Mala Kapela spreads from Tupi Medvjedak peak.

Špoljarić sawmill and water-mill is located in Korana village. It is a traditional farm building and a cultural heritage construction showing the old manner of grinding wheat. The mill is set in motion by the strength of the water.

Šupljara is cave located along the eastern edge of the Lower Lakes, in a limestone canyon above the trail that leads to the Kaluderovac Lake. Baračeve Caves are located at about 16 km from the Plitvice Lakes National Park. They are connected to the underground flow of the Korana River that emerges from the waters of the Plitvice Lakes and Plitvice stream. They consist of three caves: Velika and Mala (Big and Small), Gornja and Donja (Upper and Lower) and Nova (New) Barač Cave. Gornja Baračeva cave is arranged for tourist sightseeing. Hiking trail Medvedak – educational and recreational trails of forest ecosystems: „Čorkova uvala” – 21 km long, „Plitvice” trail – 9 km long.



Plitvice Lakes

## Useful Information:

### What to See

The park hosts especially valuable and attractive buildings of traditional crafts that are driven by water power: mill, sawmill and dumbbells, which are being gradually restored and presented to the visitors.

### Eating Out



National restaurant LIČKA KUĆA with a rich offer of traditional dishes and its unique architecture. Tel.: +385 (0)53 751 382

Restaurant POLJANA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-092

Restaurant BORJE, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-777

Restaurant MACOLA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 776-170

Restaurant BABIĆ, Tel.: +385 (0)53 776 779

Bistro VUČNICA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751 282

Bistro PLJEŠEVICA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 776 701

Bistro VILA VELEBITA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 755 040

Bistro ŠAPINA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 776 083

Bistro FORTUNA, Tel.: +385 (0)53 753 031

### Where to stay

Within the boundaries of the national park, in its lake area there are the following:

JEZERO \*\*\*, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-400

PLITVICE \*\*, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-100

BELLEVUE \*\*, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-700

On the edges of the national park there are:

Hotel MACOLA \*\*\*, Tel.: +385 (0)53 776-228

Hostel FALLING LAKES, Cell. +385 (0)99 4137 242

Hotel GRABOVAC \*\*\*, Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-999

Autocamp KORANA \*\* Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-888

Campsite BORJE \*\*\* Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-790

There is an option to stay at family bed and breakfasts and Student home in Korenica (during summer) and Pastoral center located at Plitvice Lakes.

### Plitvice Lakes National Park - booking and information

53231 Plitvička jezera  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 751-014, 751-015  
Fax: +385 (0)53 751-013  
info@np-plitvicka-jezera.hr  
www.np-plitvicka-jezera.hr

Plitvice Lakes Tourist Office  
6 Trg sv. Jurja, 53230 Korenica  
Tel./Fax: + 385 (0)53 776-798  
info@tzplitvice.hr  
www.discoverplitvice.com



# 5 The Velebit

NP North Velebit, Velebit NP  
A1 – exit 10, Otočac



## The World of Silence and Freshness

In 1978 the Velebit was inserted in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves ("Man and the Biosphere Program" (UNESCO). Within the nature park there are a number of protected localities: 2 national parks (North Velebit, Paklenica). National Park North Velebit includes several previously protected areas - Strict nature reserve Hajdučki and Rožanski kukovi, Botanical reserve Visibaba and Botanical reserve Zavižan-Balinovac-Velika kosa, within which there is a well-known Velebit Botanical Garden, a declared monument of landscape architecture. More than 300 caves have been discovered in the area of National Park North Velebit of which the most important cave structures are Cerovačke Caves and Lukina Cave. In the past, this area was settled by a greater number of people that left their traces in the numerous ruins of stables, sacral buildings and cultural monuments. Today, they are witness of times gone by, customs and culture of the inhabitants of this mysterious mount.

Paklenica National Park extends onto the southern slopes of the Velebit Massif, and the most attractive features are the monumental canyon of Velika and Mala Paklenica whose vertical cliffs over 400 m high have made Paklenica a world-known rock-climbing center.

### Did you know?

Premužić Trail is the hiking trail that leads along the Velebit across the craggy ground of the North and Mid Velebit. The beginning of the trail is at Zavižan Climber's Lodgings and then across Veliki Alan Pass and onto Oštarijska vrata. It was built from 1930 to 1933. The designer and construction organizer was the forest engineer Ante Premužić (1889 - 1979).



**Getting there:** North Velebit National Park can be reached from the motorway, exit for Otočac towards Krasno locality. At Oltari village there is a road sign for Zavižan (entrance into Babić-Siće where tickets can be bought for the North Velebit National Park tour). You can reach Babić Siće from Krasna by driving along the gravel road (5 km) through Vukelići village. You can also reach Zavižan from the coastal skran, turning to Sveti Juraj from the Adriatic coastal road onto a curvy mountain road which is 12 km long and takes you to Oltari (950 m).

**Tour Plan:** The national park can be reached from the continent, directions Mrkvište, Ledena Draga, Begovača and Štirovača, or from the southwest hiking trails, and from directions Brisnica and Gornje Klade on the coast, while on the northeastern side from Krasno.

A circular tour of Veliki Zavižan starts from the road at the entry to the Velebit botanical garden, and it is possible to go down on the circular path in the garden from the top and then take it back to Balinovac and Velika kosa where you will reach the lodge for which you need about 2-3 hours. The view from the top extends towards the sea and the islands of Krk, Prvič, Goli otok, Sveti Grgur and Rab, while in the distance onto the islands of Cres and Lošinj with noticeable Osorčica. The Velebit peaks Veliki and Mali Pivčevac and on the other side Balinovac and Vučjak can be seen from the climber's lodgings and somewhat further on Mali Rajinac (1699 m) and further on Rožanski kukovi.

You can start your Velebit hike from Premužić Trail, from its beginning at 2 km from the botanical gardens, and up to Rossieva koliba refuge (about 2 hours).

### Activities

- instructive, cycling and hiking trails, alpinism, caving, bird-watching

- walking along Premužić Trail suitable for all ages
- photo safaris of mountain endemic flowers and wild animals
- horseback riding in North Velebit National Park
- cycling "Climb onto Zavižan" - June

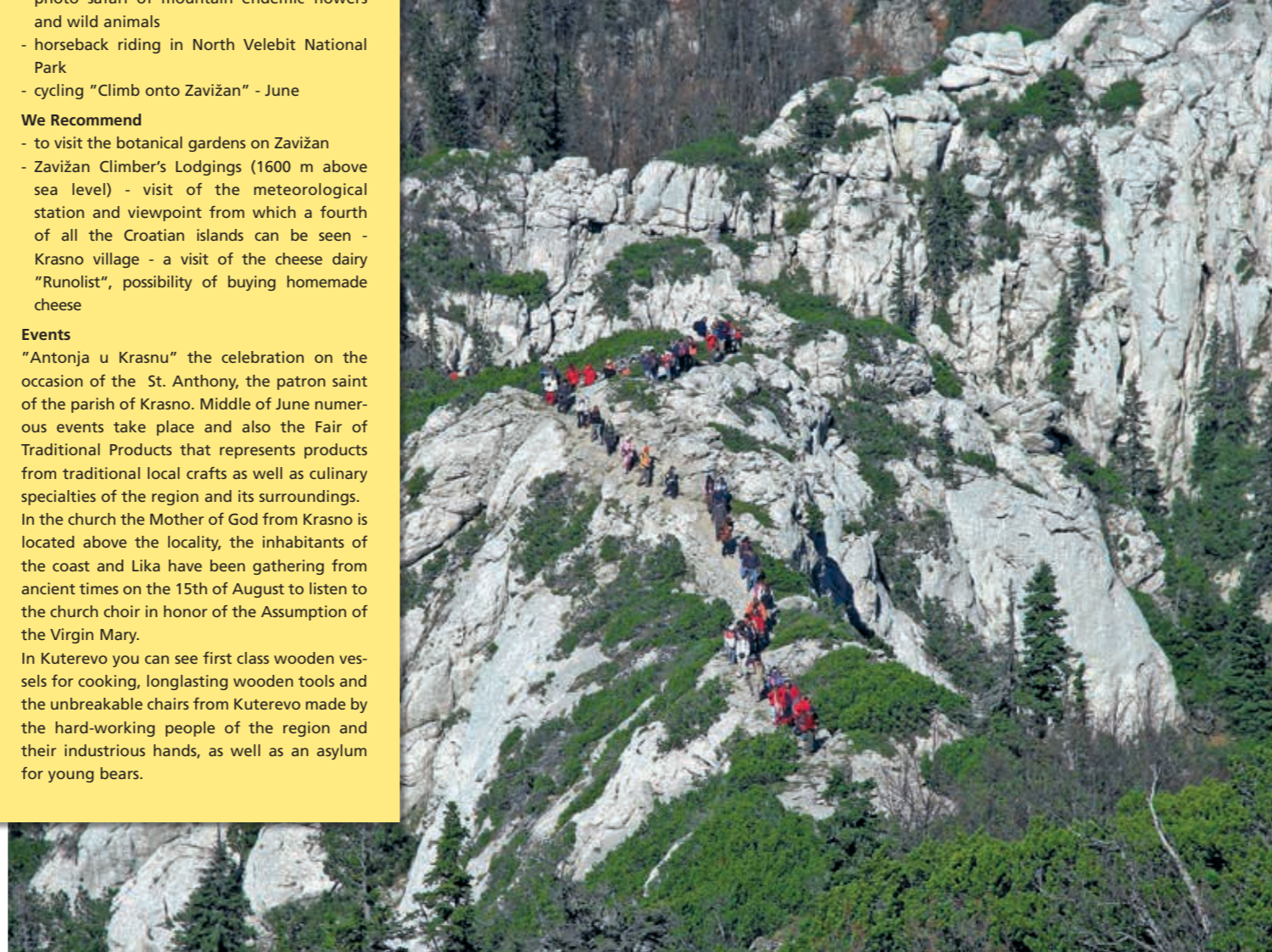
### We Recommend

- to visit the botanical gardens on Zavižan
- Zavižan Climber's Lodgings (1600 m above sea level) - visit of the meteorological station and viewpoint from which a fourth of all the Croatian islands can be seen - Krasno village - a visit of the cheese dairy "Runolist", possibility of buying homemade cheese

### Events

"Antonja u Krasnu" the celebration on the occasion of the St. Anthony, the patron saint of the parish of Krasno. Middle of June numerous events take place and also the Fair of Traditional Products that represents products from traditional local crafts as well as culinary specialties of the region and its surroundings. In the church the Mother of God from Krasno is located above the locality, the inhabitants of the coast and Lika have been gathering from ancient times on the 15th of August to listen to the church choir in honor of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

In Kuterevo you can see first class wooden vessels for cooking, longlasting wooden tools and the unbreakable chairs from Kuterevo made by the hard-working people of the region and their industrious hands, as well as an asylum for young bears.



## Useful Information:

### What to See

In North Velebit National Park- Rožanski and Hajdučki kukovi where Lukine Caves are located - 1392 m deep, Slovačke Caves - 1320 m, and in Velebit Nature Park.



There are also smaller caves and pits, as well as many important geomorphological (Kiza, Tulove grede, kuk Stapina etc.) and hydrological constructions (source and flow of the Zrmanja). The National Park Administration is to be notified for any visits to the caves.

### Eating Out



Tavern JURE, Krasno, Tel.: +385 (0)53 851-100

Bistro MANJAN, 109 Krasno, Krasno Polje, Tel.: +385 (0)53 851-014

Bistro LIBERTAS, Krasno, Tel.: +385 (0)53 851 066

### Where to stay

Accommodation in climber's lodgings

#### PD ZAVIŽAN

Contact person - superintendent Ante Vukušić  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 614-209

#### PD ALAN

Contact person HPS +385 (0)1 4824-142

#### Hotel DEGENIJA

Krasno b.b., Tel.: + 385 (0) 53 851 205

Accommodation in Krasno

#### Mother of God from Krasno Shrine

Krasno b.b., Tel.: +385 (0)53 851-007

#### Croatian Forests - Accommodation Building

Šumarija Krasno, Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 851-116

Accommodation TOMAIĆ, Tel.: +385 (0)98 162-2772

KRASNA House, Tel.: +385 (0)53 572-335, 672-131  
www.krasno-kuca.com

#### Velebit Nature Park Public Institution

4b Kaniža gospička, 53 000 Gospić  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 560-450  
Fax: +385 (0)53 560-451  
www.velebit.hr

#### North Velebit National Park Public Institution

Krasno b.b., 53274 Krasno  
Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 665-380, 665-390  
www.np-sjevorni-velebit.hr  
npsv@np-sjevorni-velebit.hr

#### Paklenica National Park Public Institution

14a Dr. Franje Tuđmana, 23244  
Starigrad-Paklenica  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 369-155, 369-202,  
369-803 (Reception entrance to the park)  
www.paklenica.hr

Upper picture: North Velebit NP entrance  
Lower picture: Premužić Trail





# 6 Perušić

Kosinjski Bridge, Lika River  
Kruščica Lake, Grabovača Cave Park  
A1 - Exit 11, Perušić



## The Wealth of the Cave World

Perušić and its surroundings are located in the center of Lika, northwest of Ličko polje and 12 km from Gospić.

Perušić was first mentioned in 1487. It was founded by brothers Dominik and Gašpar Perušić, a noble family that came from Dalmatinska Zagora (Dalmatian hinterland). The locality was named after them, and upon a hill they built their defense tower that has various names in literature - the old town of Perušić, Gradina, but most often called *Turska kula* (Turkish tower) built in the 16th century. The tower had three floors and is encircled by a thick drystone wall whose remains appear in mere outline.

Park Grabovača (770 m), a very unique cave park is located 2,5 km from the center of Perušić.

It consists of six caves and one pit: Samograd, Medina Cave, Amidžina Cave, Velika Kozarica, Mala Kozarica, Tabakuša and Slipica-pit/Japaga.

There is a priceless wealth of underground karst structures in Grabovača, even ¼ of all the protected cave structures in Croatia.

Even though the town of Perušić is situated in the interior of the region, it is gaining all the more touristic importance, particularly with those who love peace and the beauty of nature.

### Did you know?

A short time after the printing machine was invented, the Frankopan princes founded the first printing house in the Kosinj area where the Glagolitic breviary was printed in 1491, the oldest book known to have been printed on Croatian ground.



**Getting there:** Perušić can be easily reached by taking Exit 11 from the motorway.

**Tour Plan:** The main attractions for tourists are Samograd Cave in Grabovac Park, the Lika River and Kruščica Lake. Perušić is the center for starting the climb on Velebit "Klanac - Donje Pazariste - Štirovaca", as well as hunting in the local hunting - grounds and game fishing in the Lika River.

### We Recommend

The viewpoint is the highest point on Grabovača, at 770 m above the sea level. Panoramic view from there extends over the Lika karst plateau with the Lika River Canyon, the artificial lake of Kuščica and the green wall of the Velebit in the distant horizon.

The parish church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross from the 17th century is a late Baroque church with a Gothic facade, 28 protected elements of the interior, during Turkish times converted into a mosque, and after the liberation from the Turks again into a Catholic church. The bell tower holds the cross from the old Zagreb cathedral restored in 1988, organ dating from 1888 that was restored in 2005 and is still played at various concert events in the county.

Lake Kruščica, situated in Ličko polje was created in 1966 as an artificial accumulation lake with an eighty-meter-high dam whose depths hold a sunken village and the church of St. Eliah.

*Kaluđerovac*, traditional processing, shaping and presentation of fashion objects made of wool of the autochthonous sheep pramenka.

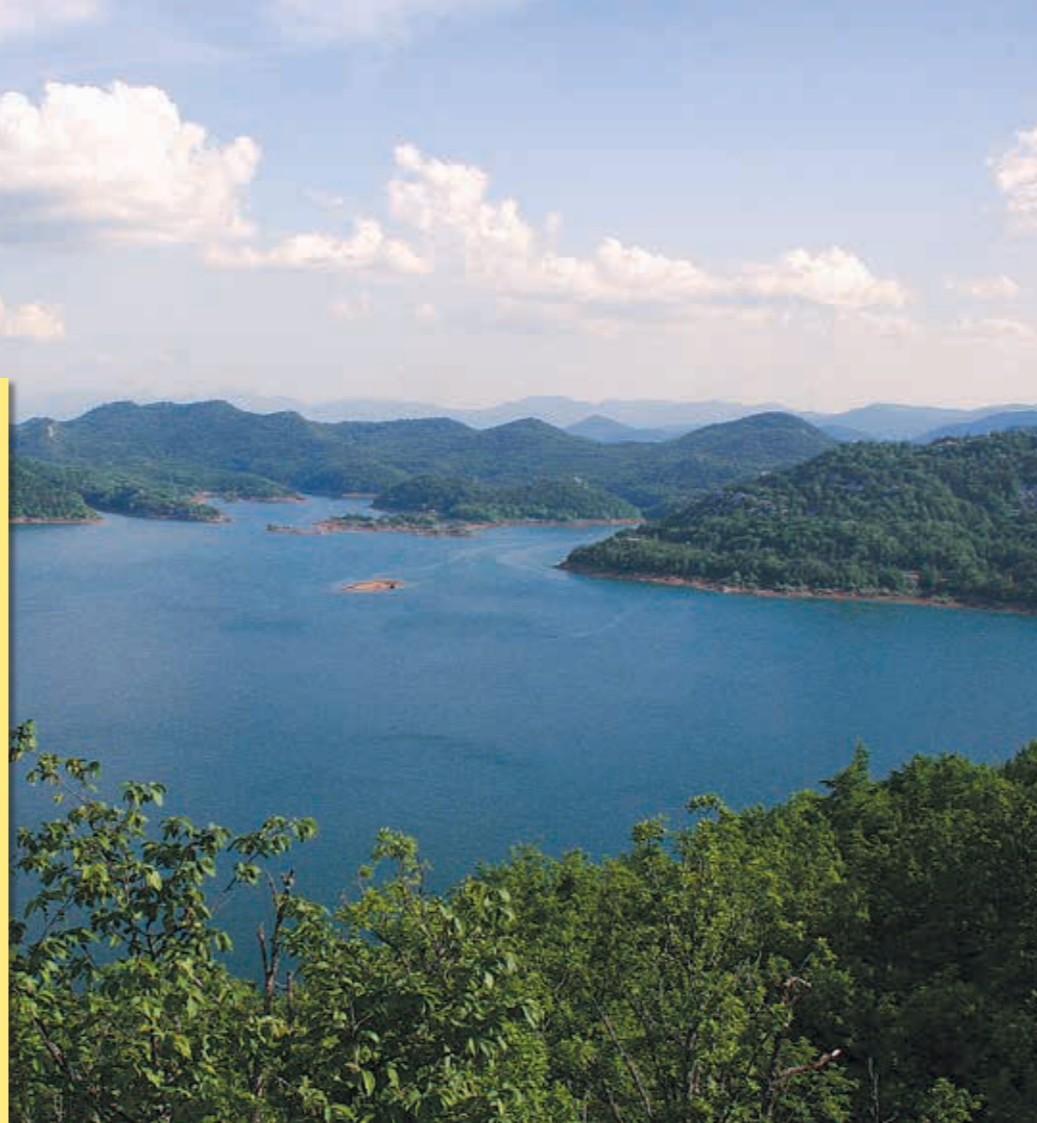
*Kosinj Bridge* is made of stone, seventy meters long and crosses the Lika River, connecting Upper and Lower Kosinj. The bridge dates from the 19th century and was made by "stone wedging" technique, unique for its opening in arches reflecting in the water as regular circles.

### Activities

Besides walking, hiking, cycling and other outdoor recreation, in the summer months you can bathe in the Lika River or go rafting on Kruščica Lake. Hunting with a licence is permitted in the surrounding hunting-grounds and game fishing in the Lika River.

### Events

- A great celebration with cultural and entertainment program on the day of the town, September 14, is organized next to the church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Perušić.
- Canoe races, rowing regattas on the Rijeka River: in May.



## Useful Information:

### What to See



Remains of the old town of Perušić dating from the 16th century.



The church of the Holy Cross from the 17th century is situated on the road from Perušić to Klanac



Samograd Cave, Grabovača Cave Park



Gornji Kosinj

### Eating Out

**Restaurant ALBATROS**, Perušić, 22 Varoš  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 679-759, Cell.: +385 (0)98 497-407  
[www.albatros-perusic.hr](http://www.albatros-perusic.hr)

### Where to stay

There is no hotel accommodation in Perušić. It is possible to get information on private accommodation at the Perušić Tourist Office.

**Perušić Tourist Office**  
53202 Perušić,  
2 Trg popa Marka Mesića  
Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 679-233, 679-188  
[www.tz-perusic.hr](http://www.tz-perusic.hr)  
[tzperusic@gmail.com](mailto:tzperusic@gmail.com)

**"Grabovača Cave Park" Public Institution**  
Perušić, 2 Trg popa Marka Mesića  
(Town Hall building)  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 679-233  
Cell.: +385 (0)99 212-7587  
[pp.grabovaca@gs.t-com.hr](mailto:pp.grabovaca@gs.t-com.hr)  
[www.pp-grabovaca.hr](http://www.pp-grabovaca.hr)

**Croatian Culture and Art Society Perušić**  
[www.hkud-perusic.hr](http://www.hkud-perusic.hr)

Upper picture: Lake Kruščica

Lower picture: Kosinj Bridge



# 7 Gospić

Lika Museum, Autumn in Lika  
Smiljan - MC Nikola Tesla  
Žitnik - Ante Starčević House  
A1 - Exit 12, Gospić



## The Center of Lika-Senj County

Through history, the city of Gospić had the role of traffic and military center. It was only in the 19th century that its influence in Lika started strengthening and today it is the administrative and cultural center of Lika-Senj County and the center of the newly founded diocese.

The city and its surroundings are mostly known for their natural beauties. On a small area and at about 500 m above sea level, there are three national parks (Plitvice Lakes, Paklenica Canyon and North Velebit), a nature park (Velebit), and woods - parks (Laudonov Grove and Jasikovac), the vicinity of the Adriatic coast and areas under special ecological protection.

**Nikola Tesla** - A brilliant scientist who invented the wheel of the modern age and "lightened the world" was born in 1856 in Smiljan. He grew up and acquired his first knowledge in Gospić. The Nikola Tesla Memorial Center that opened in 2006 on his 150th birthday united science, art and tourism in one place.

**Ante Starčević** (1823 - 1896) - "Father of the Homeland", lawyer and representative of the people, was born in Žitnik near Gospić. Exalting Croatian history and culture, he stimulated the emancipation of Croatian self-consciousness.

### Did you know?

Miroslav Kraljević (1885 - 1913), born in Gospić, is one of the creators of modern Croatian painting and the most universal artist from the beginning of the past century.



**Getting there:** From motorway A1, Exit 12, turn for Gospić. In the city there are signposts for Smiljan (about 6 km from the center of Gospić) where Nikola Tesla Memorial Center is situated.

**Tour Plan:** In the old city nucleus of Gospić you can see the statue of a young girl named Marta, made by sculptor Frangeša-Mihanović in remembrance of the introduction of the water system in 1894. There is also the cathedral of the Annunciation of the Holy Virgin Mary built in 1783, Higher Teacher's School Building built in 1869, Murkovića Mill (an old water-mill on Novčica River), the house where the painter Miroslav Kraljević was born.

### We Recommend

A visit to Lika Museum in Gospić a permanent ethnographic exhibition situated inside the museum yard, in the special and traditional Lika House, a log-cabin covered with a shingle roof and interior arrangement that follow the traditional events during the seasons of the year. Visit Nikola Tesla Memorial Center Smiljan where the house where Tesla was born is situated, and a replica of the construction of the testing station from Colorado Springs from 1899 - 1900.

Tesla's turbine in the stream Vaganac and the prototype of a boat at remote control that Tesla made in 1898.

The visit - climb to the home of Ante Starčević in the locality of Veliki Žitnik at the very end of the village near Lika River canyon.

### Activities

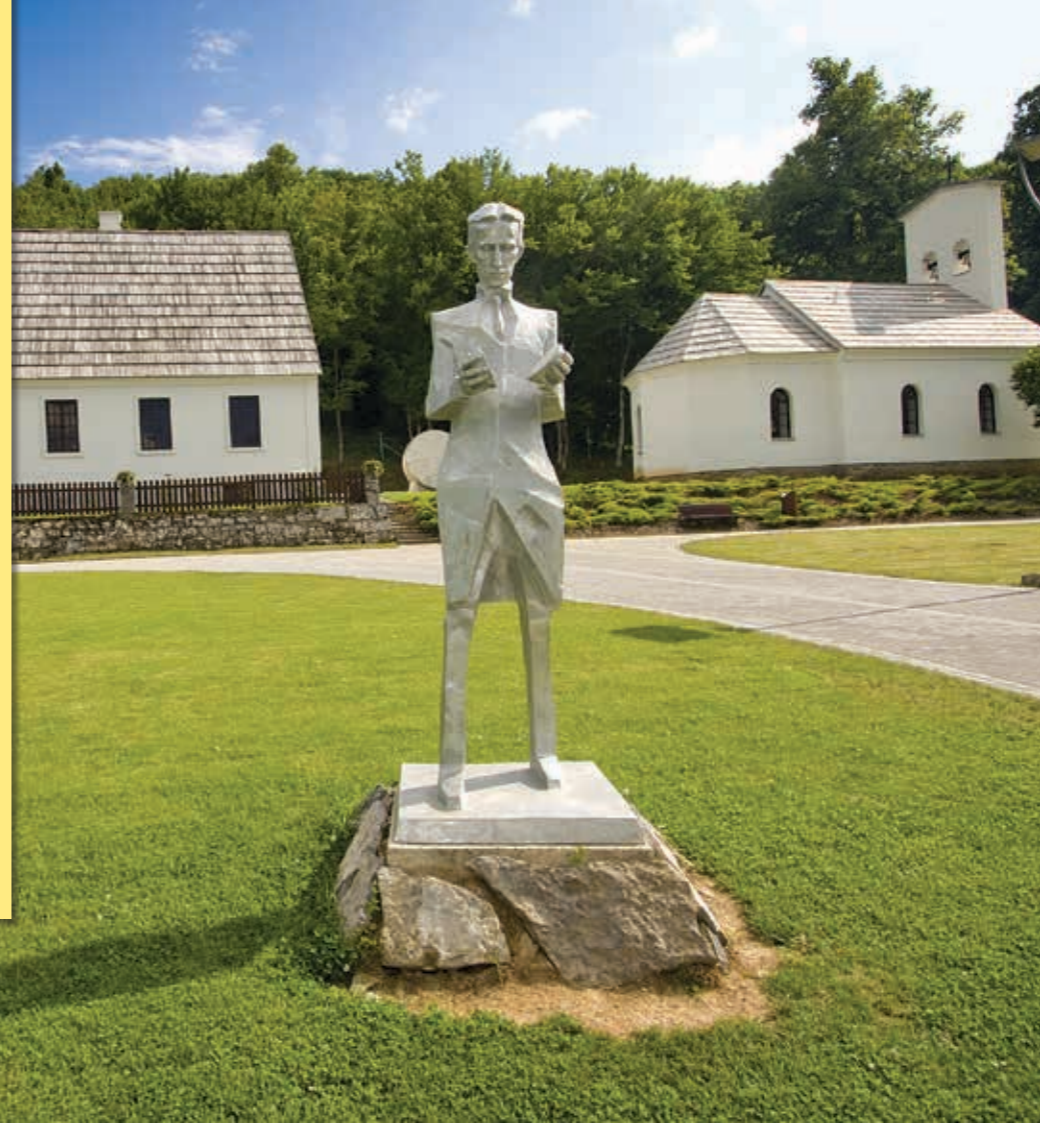
- game fishing
- [www.sru-lika-gospic.com](http://www.sru-lika-gospic.com)
- organized hunting in the surrounding hunting grounds
- team building
- excursion to Velebit Nature Park

### Events

- "Day of the City of Gospić" on July 22nd, the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, the patroness of the city
- "Gospić Musical Summer": from the "beginning of June to the beginning of July, a rich choice of classical music played by nationally and internationally acclaimed artists.
- Likanale has been gathering a great number of artists since 1966 - painters, sculptors, printmakers, ceramicists who have been woven into this region by peculiar connections. Their works are part of the rich gallery fund of Lika Museum.
- "Autumn in Lika" - at the beginning of October, representative performance of exhibitors, their artefacts show the wealth of the fruits, tradition and autochthonous Lika climate and the climate of the exhibitors from the remaining parts of Lika-Senj County.
- Manifestations connected to children's programs: First Applause, All on Rollerskates, Children Draw

Upper picture: Gospić

Lower picture: Monument dedicated to Nikola Tesla, author Mile Blažević



## Useful Information:

### What to See



**Ante Starčević Memorial Home**  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 560-440

**Adventure - Excursion Center Rizvan City** is situated in the small Lika village of Rizvanuša. A unique combination of team building on the sea and mountain, paintball - the terrain is a unique forest/wood adventure park in Croatia!

Brušane bb, Cell.: +385 (0)98 245-769  
[www.adria-velebitica.hr](http://www.adria-velebitica.hr)

### Eating Out



**Restaurant ZLATNA POTKOVA**  
Gospić, Smiljanska b. b., Tel.: +385 (0)53 573-692



**Motel MAKI**  
200 Budačka, Gospić, Tel.: +385 (0)53 575-510  
[www.motel-maki.hr](http://www.motel-maki.hr)

### Where to stay

**Hotel ANTE**  
9 Jasikovačka, Gospić  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 570-570

**Hotel ANA**  
18 Zagrebačka, Gospić, Tel.: +385 (0)53 560-360

**Gospić Tourist Office**  
Bana Ivana Karlovića 1, 53000 Gospić  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 560-752,  
Fax: +385 (0)53 574-784  
[tz.gospica@gs.t-com.hr](mailto:tz.gospica@gs.t-com.hr) / [www.tz-gospic.hr](http://www.tz-gospic.hr)

**Tourism Information Center, (TIC)**  
Bana Ivana Karlovića 1, Tel.: +385 (0)53 560-754  
[ticinfo@gs.t-com.hr](mailto:ticinfo@gs.t-com.hr)

**Lika Museum**  
Working hours for visitors: Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Visits possible by appointment:  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 572-051

**Nikola Tesla Memorial Center**  
Information and appointments:  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 746-530,  
Fax: +385 (0)53 746-538  
[mcnikolatesla@mcnikolatesla.hr](mailto:mcnikolatesla@mcnikolatesla.hr)  
[www.mcnikolatesla.hr](http://www.mcnikolatesla.hr)  
Group visits are asked to take appointments earlier at Tel.: +385 (0)53 572-051  
or Fax: +385 (0)53 560-545  
working days from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



# Karlobag

Karlobag, Terezijana  
A1 - Exit 11, Gospić (to Karlobag)



## Karlobag - Ideal Connection of Mountain and Sea

Travelling along the Adriatic coast, south of Senj, one reaches Karlobag. A Roman colony built as an important transport port it was called Vagium, Skrisia and Bigi-Bag. In 1525 the Turks have completely destroyed it by burning it to the ground. Duke Karlo had it rebuilt and thus, the city got its name. Karlobag can be reached from Gospić, across Baške Oštarije. It is an unavoidable tourist destination and an occasion for a break from a long trip. Due to its Mediterranean climate and the combination of sea and mountain, it is the best way for experiencing summer heat and Velebit hinterland freshness, all in one day.

## The Velebit Foothill Coast

Sveti Juraj is 9 km south of Senj. Ribarica and Cesarica are small and quiet fishing and tourist localities. Jablanac is a ferry landing for the island of Rab. Lukovo Šugarje with the church of St. Luke from 1733, and Barić Draga with campsite "Žalo". Prizna is a busy ferry landing for the island of Pag and, across Pag Bridge, the connection towards southern Croatia.

### Did you know?

The Capuchin monastery in Karlobag with the church of St. Joseph from 1712 has a rich library. "The Last Supper of Jesus Christ" painting by an unknown author is particularly interesting.



**Getting there:** To reach Karlobag from the motorway exit at Gospić, then across the Velebit and Oštarijska vrata (927 m) as you descend to the sea.

### We Recommend

Stop in Jablanac when travelling from Senj to Karlobag where Miroslav Hirtz Climber's Lodgings is located. Miroslav Hirtz Climber's Lodgings is located in Jablanac. Many say that due to its position at 20 meters above sea level, it is the lowest climber's lodgings in the world. The instructive trail Terezijana, starts in Baška Oštarija (924 meters above sea level), behind the old school, and it ends above Konjsko village (650 m above sea level). Make sure you visit Ravne dobre, take the Šušanj-Štirovača road and take Premužić path.

It covers the 3-kilometer-long part of the old Austro-Hungarian road Terezijana that crossed the Velebit and connected the regimental center of the time, Gospić, with Karlobag port. Terezijana was built in 1786 under the instructions of Emperor Joseph II and named after his mother, Mary Theresa.

Some of very interesting cultural monuments of Karlobag are the Capuchin monastery with valuable paintings (the Last Supper, author unknown), the parish church of St. Joseph built in 1712 at the time of Leopold I with architectural decorations from the 18th century, and the church of the mournful Mother of God. On a hill above the locality stand the ruins of the medieval fortification "Fortica", and the remains of the church of St. Karlo Boromejski built in 1710, of which only the bell tower is

left from the II World War, giving the entire place a particular mark. The monument to Šime Starčević, the writer of the first Croatian grammar in the Croatian language and the parish priest in Karlobag for almost half a century (1814 - 1859) was unveiled in front of the church in 2008. He was the writer of the first Croatian grammar in the Croatian language and a parish priest in Karlobag for almost half a century (1814-1859).

You can take panoramic pictures of the Velebit foothill coast from vKubus viewpoint on Mount Velebit representing the monument to the building of the road Gospić - Karlobag at the time of Emperor Francis Joseph.

### Events

- the International Art Colony is traditionally held every year: July
- Karlobag Carnival: January - February
- fishing feasts: July and August
- concerts and cultural - entertainment evenings in the church of St. Joseph: July - August
- automobile mountain races: June

### Activities

Sports activities, five-a-side soccer, (Atlantida Diving Club with diving training), basketball, bowling, minigolf, Hotel Zagreb outdoor swimming pool and activities on or under the sea, hiking on the Velebit, paintball in Rizvanuša Recreation Center near Gospić and walking on the trails in the woods.



Karlobag

## Useful Information:

### What to See



Remains of the church of St. Karlo Boromejski built in 1710.

### Eating Out

#### Lounge bar and apartments LIFE

Obala Vladimira Nazora bb, Karlobag  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694-917, [www.life-hr.com](http://www.life-hr.com)

#### Restaurant OK

At the end of Hotel Zagreb beach.  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694-185

**Pizzeria ŠUŠANJ**, Vladimira Nazora 15, Karlobag,  
+385 (0)53 694 126, +385 (0)91 564 8779,

**Tavern RIBAR**, Trg Dr. Franje Tuđmana 1, Karlobag  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694 008

### Where to stay

Accommodation in Karlobag is available in hotels and private apartments



#### Hotel ZAGREB \*\*\*

Karlobag, Naselje Bana J. Jelačića b.b.  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694-777 (open only for the season)



#### Hotel VELINAC (Youth hostel)

Karlobag, 1 Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694-008, [www.hotel-velinac.hr](http://www.hotel-velinac.hr)

**Hostel VAL** (open only for the season), Karlobag,  
Vladimira Nazora 13, e-mail: [hostel.val@hep.hr](mailto:hostel.val@hep.hr)

**Hostel BAŠKE OŠTARIJE**, Baške Oštarije b.b.,  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 674 003, mob.: +385 (0)99 392 7127, e-mail: [rc.baskeostarije@gmail.com](mailto:rc.baskeostarije@gmail.com)

#### Karlobag Tourist Office

2 Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana, 53288 Karlobag  
Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 694-251  
[www.tz-karlobag.hr](http://www.tz-karlobag.hr)  
[tzkarlobag@gmail.com](mailto:tzkarlobag@gmail.com)

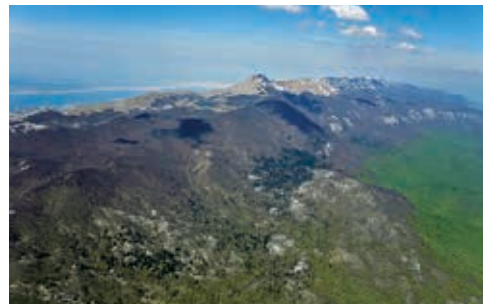
#### MADI Tours Tourist Agency

2 Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana, 53288 Karlobag  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 694-195  
[www.madi-tours.hr](http://www.madi-tours.hr)



# Lovinac - Sveto Brdo

Zir, Debeljača Cave, Sveti Rok  
A1 - Exit 13, Gornja Ploča



## Mystical and Beautiful

The municipality of Lovinac is situated in the south of Lika, on the edge of the Lika basin that is naturally connected to the fields of Gračac, in the Gospić - Udbina - Gračac triangle. A singular geographical boundary in the sub-Mediterranean area from the south, southeast and west is marked by the Velebit massif. Remains of Japodic hillforts such as Rukavinska, Vrkljanske, Cvituša and Razvala; remains and the reconstructed Roman road under Cvituša and the remains of the medieval hillfort in the region of Lovinac such as Novak grad with Štulić Tower, Vranik, Budak, Zagon, Lukavac and Lovinac are witnesses of the century-long settling of the Lovinac region.

Today the municipality of Lovinac is best known for its preserved and protected natural values: attractive natural landscape, thick and intact woods, numerous karst phenomena, clean rivers and streams. The area of the municipality of Lovinac covers the highest peaks of Paklenica National Park such as the special reserve "Sveto brdo" (Holy Mountain) and a large part of Velebit Nature Park.

### Did you know?

The "Travić" mill in Lovinac was built in the 19th century and has been completely restored and in function as the regional center for traditional wheat grinding. The mill and the wooden bridge were restored during 2004/2005 by the inhabitants of Lovinac through the activities of the nongovernmental association "Banica". Today it is one of the biggest tourist attractions in Lovinac.



**Getting there:** Motorway A1, exit in the municipality of Lovinac in Sveti Rok and the Gornja Ploča junction.

**Tour Plan:** The easiest way to tour the Lovinac area is by bicycle, which can be rented in the PZ Lovinac Agricultural Association Building. The entire region is connected with four cycling trails: Ličko Polje Trail, Ričica Valley, Velebit Trail and Suvajski bunari Trail - Japode Trail. The highest points in the municipality are the Velebit peaks: Sveto brdo (1753 m above sea level) and Babin vrh (1744 above sea level). Natural (karst) and artificial lakes, such as the Ričica accumulation - Štikada Lake and Opsenice River - Sveti Rok Lake.

### We recommend

- PZ Lovinac tasting center
- Roman road under Cvituša
- "Turska kula" (Turkish tower) in Varanik
- "Zdunić kula" in Smokrić from 1744.
- stone bridge, water storage and old school in Smokrić
- wells and stone passages across Suvaje
- "Travić" Mlin in Lovinac from the 19 th cent.
- "Josetin" mill at Bakovac Ričica
- "Vrilo mudrosti" in Sveti Rok, on the way to the historical Alan Road across the Velebit
- Alan Road (so-called Majstorica) finished in 1832
- Japodic hillforts: Cvituša, Vrkljanske, Rukavinska
- medieval hillforts: the old town of Lovinac in

Sveti Rok and Štulić Tower in Ploča - cave in Debeljača: found during the exploitation of stone for the construction of Motorway A1

- permanent source of drinking water under the Velebit and Resnik is the biggest natural wealth of the region: Studena source, Holjevac, Vrilo mudrosti (Source of Wisdom), Kozjan, Kuduzovac, Vriline, Liščani bunari (wells) and other.

### Activities

- cycling, sleighing and skiing in the winter (sleighs can be let out in Restaurant Braja)
- summer bathing in Sveti Rok Lake and the rivers
- hiking, free climbing and caving
- hunting and fishing are very popular in the entire Lovinac region

### Events

- Day of the municipality of Lovinac on August 4th when a competition in the traditional Lika games is organized: pulling ropes, throwing stones, throwing horseshoes, climbing the hay stack and other.
- The feast of St Rocco on August 16th is the biggest and best known religious celebration in Lika that has been traditionally celebrated since 1790.
- The feast of St. Michael on September 29th is traditionally the biggest feast in Lovinac.



Upper picture: Sveto Brdo

Lower picture: Lovinac

## Useful Information:

### What to See



Travić Lovinac Mill



Stone crossing across the Suvaja



Rocco's Cave

### Eating Out



#### Restaurant BRAJA

5 Jurjevići, Sveti Rok, 53 244 Lovinac  
Tel./Fax: +385 (0)53 636-173  
djurjevi@globalnet.hr

#### Where to stay

##### Apartments BANICA

28 Lovinac, 53244 Lovinac  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 681-028  
Cell.: +385 (0)98 214-288  
www.banica.info

**Municipality of Lovinac,**  
Ulica Svetog Mihovila 11, 53244 Lovinac  
Tel/Fax: +385 53 681 005  
www.lovinac.hr / opcina@lovinac.hr

##### Development Agency "Sveto brdo"

Centar 34, 53 244 Lovinac  
Tel/Fax: +385 (0)53 681 005  
Cell.: +385 (0)98 490 902  
www.lovinac.hr  
www.svetobrdo.com.hr

**PZ Lovinac – Tasting Center**  
www.lickikrumpir.com

**Agency Lito Lovinac**  
Sv. Mihovila 11, 53244 Lovinac  
Tel: +385 53 681 104 | +385 99 422 9292  
lito@lovinac.hr  
www.lito.lovinac.hr

# 10 Novalja - Island Pag

A1 - Exit 9, Žuta Lokva,  
Prizna - Žigljen ferry  
A1 - Exit Posedarje



## Novalja - the Island Part of the Region

Northwestern part of the island of Pag with its town of Novalja and other localities (Stara Novalja, Lun, Jakišnica, Vidalići, Kustići, Zubovići, Metajna and Gajac) are part of the Lika Senj County as well. Novalja as the tourist center on the island of Pag has been a favourite tourist destination for decades, thanks to the natural features of the area and the diversity of its tourist offer. It is well connected to the mainland with its favorable geographical position with road and sea connection have made attractive tourist destinations closer - the islands of Rab and Lošinj, the city of Zadar and the national parks of Kornati, Krka, Plitvice Lakes, Paklenica and North Velebit that can be visited as daily excursions by car or in organized arrangements. Considering the fact that it is situated in the central sailing directions from Kvarner towards Dalmatia, Novalja is visited by numerous seamen who stop for fuel and water for their vessels.

### Did you know?

Zrće is the most beautiful and world-known beach in Novalja with disco clubs Aquarius, Kalypso, Papaya as well numerous small caffè bars for daily and night entertainment. Zrće has a blue flag which means that it satisfies high ecological standards and is equipped with various facilities that comply with the strict international criteria.



**Getting there:** The island of Pag can be reached in 15 minutes from the north by the ferry line Prizna - Žigljen. It is then just a 10 minute drive to Novalja.

The southern traffic direction, the shortest way across Pag Bridge: from exit Posedarje to Novalja is 65 km away, or an hour drive by car.

**Tour Plan:** With its contents and activities, the museum of Novalja is the central cultural institution. It has a rich ethnographic collections and exhibitions.

*Talijanova buža (Talijan's hole)* - antique underground water system, about 1 200 m long and up to 70 cm wide. The entrance is through the museum and only the initial part can be visited. It was built in the 1st century B.C. during the Roman period and is completely carved out of stone.

The Caska area is archeologically very interesting and recent excavations of the Roman settlement of Cissa have been taking place. According to a legend, it was destroyed during an earthquake in the 4th century.

The archeological collection Stomorica preserves many objects and remains of sacral objects from Novalja's past.

In the 5th century Novalja was the center of the diocese with three big basilicas. The remains of a floor mosaic in one of them can be seen inside the Gothic church of the Mother of God from Ružaria in the center of the town.

### Activities

- Cycling competition Novalja - Lun - Novalja and mini marathon around Novalja
- We recommend the attractive locality of Stogaj near Metajna for climbing lovers, and those who like to hike should visit the Pag Triangle in Novalja's hinterland.

### We Recommend

- ZRČE Beach located of 2 km from Novalja and it disposes of an arranged parking. During the summer season there are local bus connections with Novalja.
- Planjka (Trinčel) Beach is situated north of Novalja, along the southeastern coast of the bay of Stara Novalja.
- Straško Beach (blue flag) with an auto camp bearing the same name is located south of Novalja, while Braničevica is right next to Straško.
- Amphora site in the bay of Vlaška Mala in the Velebit foothill canal: a shipwreck of a Roman merchant ship with a cargo of amphoras from the 1st cent B.C.

### Events

- Easter Breakfast - held in the morning hours of Easter Monday
- The May Feast (May) - held on the eve of May 1st; visitors are offered domestic specialties prepared by the Novalja caterers.
- Novaljski fuštan - this is a modern fashion show with ethnographic elements (fuštan = part of a woman's dress without sleeves worn in earlier days of the past century). It takes place in the secondpart of May.
- The Cultural Summer of Novalja - starts on the eve of the feast of St. Anthony - feast day of Novalja on June 13th and is marked by cultural and artistic, entertainment and sports performances and lasts until September.

### Farm performances

- the exhibition of Pag sheep and Pag cheese is held in the first weekend in July. Visitors are invited to taste the famous Pag cheese.
- The Lun maslinada (olive tasting) is held in Lun Jakišnica.



## Useful Information:

### What to See



Visit Lun and the olive groves at the end of the island of Pag and along the way to the near localities - Jakišnica, Dudići, Varsan and Potočnica, situated in picturesque coves.

Metajna is an interesting place, as well as the nearby localities - Zubovići, Kustići and Vidalići. Stara Novalja emerges in the warm and deeply indented bay just north from Novalja.

### Eating Out

There are many restaurants and taverns in Novalja where you can taste the specialties of the Mediterranean cuisine.



**Restaurant TOVARNELE**  
Lun, 3 Mata, Tel.: +385 (0)91 5311-662  
www.lun.hr

### Where to stay

**Hotel LOŽA**  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 661-326, 661-313  
www.turno.hr

**Hotel LIBURNIJA**  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 661-328  
www.turno.hr

**Hotel BOŠKINAC**  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 663-500  
www.boskinac.com

**Hotel LUNA**  
tel: +385 (0)53 654-700  
www.luna-hotel.hr

**Hotel TERRA**  
tel: +385 (0)53 661-815  
www.hotel-terra.hr

**Campsite STRAŠKO**  
Tel.: +385 (0)53 661-226  
www.kampstrasko.hr

**Novalja Tourist Office**  
Tourist Information Center  
53291 Novalja, 1 Trg Brišćić  
Tel./Fax: + 385 (0)53 661-404  
www.visitnovalja.hr  
info@visitnovalja.hr  
info@tz-novalja.hr

**Tourist portal of the town of Novalja**  
with a large offer of private accommodation  
www.novalja.info

**Stara Novalja Tourist Office**  
Kaštel bb, Stara Novalja  
Tel./Fax: + 385 (0)53 651-077  
tzm-stara-novalja@gs.t-com.hr  
www.tzstaranovalja.hr

Upper picture: Zrće Beach  
Lower picture: Novalja



# Gastronomy

## Simplicity and Delights of the Lika Mediterranean Cuisine

Many recipes derive from traditional peasant cuisine and are original and autochthonous recipes of a determined region that nurses tradition and food preparation "as in the old days". Menus are adjusted to the seasons of the year and the intensity of work. People tend to eat less during the winter, and from spring to autumn when working in the fields they tend to eat more and diversely.

The continental and coastal part of the region have different gastronomic features and recipes, but areas within the region have their own recipes with similar or identical ingredients used in food preparation. The difference lies in skills and preparation methods.

In the continental region, dried and smoked meat such as Lika prosciutto, wether mutton, boar meat or paprika flavored sausages, blood sausages and meat sausages are usually prepared and eaten as hors-d'oeuvres or added to various dishes such as cabbage, beans, stuffed sour kraut (sarma). Various processed meats such as veal thymus or cracklings are also made, as well as jellies, or, as the inhabitants of like call it - dželadija. In fish-pond Leko in Sinac near Otočac, one can find an entire variety of trout products, smoked or marinated fillet, and an trout caviar, which is an excellent specialty of this region.

On the Gacka River in Sinac there is a renewed mill where one can see how wheat was once ground. Bread, as basic food, was once baked by covering it with ashes and live coals from the fireplace, and later, with the use of a baking lid, bread under the baking lid became a specialty.

Developed cattle breeding enriched the Lika table with excellent dairy products, particularly milk (consumed fresh or sour varenika or kiseli-na), often with bread soaked in it, as well as and cream cheese. Lika skripanac, a semi-hard cow cheese made from skimmed milk is a very famous cheese used in preparation of the traditional called presnac. Another well known sheep cheese is Lika basa, which is sour milk or cream added to boiled milk, and once it hardens it is placed in a celan gauze and strained. One dish that is often found on a dining table in lika is cicvara - a cornmeal boild in milk and butter.

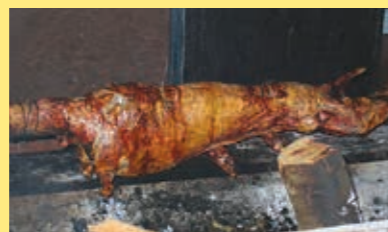
### RENOWNED TRADITIONAL TASTES



**CHEESE.** Sheep, cow and goat milk from grassy Lika to the macchia on the island of Pag from which we get various cheese and their cuisine used in the making of various salty and sweet specialties. Well-known cheeses: škripavac, basa, Krasno and Pag cheese.



**POTATOES.** Potatoes have been the main food in Lika and are most often used in the preparation of dishes. Well-known dishes: potatoes with bacon, potatoes with all types of sauces, roasted potatoes and pole (potatoes baked in half).



**LAMB.** Lamb from Lika and Pag is known by far for its taste and smell. It is traditionally prepared on an open fire or in a pot combined with various other meats. Well-known dishes: spit-roasted lamb, cabbage and meat stew or boiled lamb, Lika pot.



**FISH.** Trout from clean rivers and lakes in Lika (Gacka) and sea fish from the island of Pag are excellent specialties for the lovers of a "light" cuisine. Well-known dishes: baked and boiled trout, trout pâté, marinated fish from Pag.



**OLIVE OIL** - an unavoidable and insufficiently used dressing in the coastal - island part of the region. Olive growing has grown more popular every year and it is present on dining tables as the dressing for fish dishes, as well as boiled and freshed vegetables.



**DRINKS.** According to tradition, a sip of homemade grappa is welcome before every meal: šljivovica (plum, juniper or grape brandy), and, depending on the region, the meal usually ends with Velebit beer or a glass of Pag wine - žutica.



A somewhat modest offer of vegetables is compensated by their excellent quality. Those are oven-baked potatoes (Ličke pole) boiled potatoes, sour kraut, beans, turnip and kohlrabi.

Cakes are traditional, and the best known are masnica (greasy dough filled with cheese, sweet cheese with raisins, garlic and prosciutto), potato pie, spinach pie, batter-fry, kuglof (pound cake) and strudel. Famous Lika batter-fry (deep-fried dough) is served at the end of the feast.

In the coastal-island area, the tastes and smell of the Mediterranean cuisine prevail and abound in vegetables and fish. Fish and seafood are prepared in various ways: boiled, baked, stewed, marinated or other, with plenty of spices and vegetables - mostly garlic, parsley, Swiss chard, broad beans, various filed cabbages and seasonal vegetables.

Asparagus is a specialty prepared in various ways with various foods.

Meat - mostly veal, young beef, chicken, turkey and the particular specialty - lamb from Pag is prepared in various ways and served with an abundance of side dishes.

Macaroni on a needle is a specialty in Novalja, served at every feast along with larded baby beef or goulash.

Among the traditional sweets are plain fritters, hrostuli, various cakes according to the old-time recipes, and the particular specialty is strudel with curd cheese.

However the most famous product from this part of the region is the famous Pag cheese that owes its particular taste to the salt sprinkled grass grazed by the island sheep.

Healthy climate and intact nature offer the possibility of a pleasant vacation away from the city flurry and are another reason to come here again.

[www.lika-gastro.com](http://www.lika-gastro.com)



**A Taste of the Mountains and the Sea** - gastronomy guide of the Lika-Senj region.



**Gacka Cookbook** - traditional food and recipes from Otočac.



## Lika-Senj County Tourist Board

12 Budačka, 53000 Gospić  
Tel/Fax: + 385 (0)53 574-687  
[www.visit-lika.com](http://www.visit-lika.com)  
[www.lika-active.com](http://www.lika-active.com)  
[www.lika-gastro.com](http://www.lika-gastro.com)

