

# Out & About

**MAISTRA'S TIPS, IMPRESSIONS & MORE.**

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**THE RENOVATED HOTEL MONTE MULINI BRINGS THE  
PRESTIGIOUS RIVA DESTINATIONS CONCEPT TO ROVINJ**

**OBNOVLJEN MAISTRIN HOTEL MONTE MULINI  
U ROVINJ DOVODI PRESTIŽNI RIVA DESTINATIONS**



**CROATIA'S NATIONAL PARKS - The Magnificent Eight**

NACIONALNI PARKOVI HRVATSKE - Osam veličanstvenih

**Cap Aureo, helmed by Chef Jeffrey Vella, was honored with its first Michelin star**

Maistrin restoran Cap Aureo, pod vodstvom chefa Jeffreyja Velle, nagrađen je prvom Michelinovom zvjezdicom



# EDITORIAL

## UVODNIK



**Tomislav Popović**  
President of the Management  
Board of Maistra  
Predsjednik Uprave Maistre

Dear guests,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the world of Maistra Hospitality Group. Whether your wish is to unwind completely, to be inspired by culture, or to enjoy an active break by the sea and in nature, our hotels, resorts, and campsites in Istria, Zagreb, and Dubrovnik are designed to provide authentic experiences, exceptional service, and lasting memories.

This season, we are especially proud to highlight the recently refurbished Hotel Monte Mulini, which welcomes guests in an even more elegant setting after a substantial investment. With new amenities and experiences, the hotel is now part of the exclusive Riva Destinations concept by the iconic Italian brand Riva within the Ferretti Group, placing Rovinj alongside prestigious destinations such as Monaco, Venice, Paris, Lake Como, and Mallorca.

We are equally delighted to celebrate Cap Aureo, newly honored with its first Michelin star, while Agli Amici Rovinj has retained its impressive two-star distinction. Together, these achievements make Rovinj the only destination in Croatia boasting four Michelin stars, firmly cementing its reputation as one of the most exciting culinary destinations in the country. In this edition, we guide you through all eight of Croatia's national parks, uncover captivating stories and little-known facts about Dubrovnik, and bring you tailored suggestions for adrenaline seekers, fans of active breaks, and explorers of authentic local life. You will also find inspiring ideas for day trips to the charming town of Varaždin and the picturesque coastal gem of Cavtat.

We hope the following pages will inspire you to explore more, create lasting memories, and embark on journeys filled with genuine indulgence.

Dragi gosti,

želim vam srdačnu dobrodošlicu u svijet Maistra Hospitality Grupe. Bilo da tražite trenutke potpunog opuštanja, inspirativne susrete s kulturom ili aktivan odmor uz more i prirodu, naši hoteli, resorti i kampovi u Istri, Zagrebu i Dubrovniku osmišljeni su kako bi vam pružili autentična iskustva, vrhunsku uslugu i uspomene koje ćete dugo pamtiti.

Ove sezone posebno izdvajamo obnovljeni hotel Monte Mulini, koji nakon značajne investicije goste dočekuje u još elegantnijem izdanju. Uz nove sadržaje i iskustva, hotel postaje dio ekskluzivnog koncepta Riva Destinations legendarnog talijanskog brenda Riva iz Ferretti Grupe, čime se Rovinj pridružuje prestižnom društvu destinacija poput Monaka, Venecije, Pariza, jezera Como i Mallorce.

Izdvajamo i uspjeh Cap Aureo, koji je dobio svoju prvu Michelinovu zvjezdicu, a Agli Amici Rovinj zadržao je svoje dvije zvjezdice. Time Rovinj postaje jedina destinacija u Hrvatskoj s ukupno četiri Michelinove zvjezdice, potvrđujući svoj status jedne od najzbudljivijih gourmet destinacija.

U ovom broju vodimo vas kroz svih osam hrvatskih nacionalnih parkova, otkrivamo fascinante priče i zanimljivosti o Dubrovniku, donosimo preporuke za ljubitelje adrenalina, aktivnog odmora i autentičnih lokalnih iskustava te inspirativne ideje za izlete u šarmantni Varaždin i slikoviti Cavtat.

Nadamo se da će vas stranice koje slijede inspirirati za nova otkrića, nezaboravne trenutke i putovanja ispunjena istinskim uživanjem.

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THE MENU DRAWS ON THE ENDURING CLASSICS OF ITALIAN CUISINE, REIMAGINED IN A MODERN STYLE  
KUHINJA SE OSLANJA NA BEZVREMENSKE KLASIKE TALIJANSKE GASTRONOMIJE, INTERPRETIRANE NA SUVREMEN NAČIN



TOMASSINO RESTAURANT, SHERATON ZAGREB HOTEL

# Tomassino confirmed its excellence in gastronomy and service

RESTORAN TOMASSINO POTVRDIO IZVRSNOST GASTRONOMIJE I USLUGE

Tomassino Restaurant has received the prestigious Haute Grandeur Global Excellence Awards 2026, confirming its excellence in gastronomy and service through four distinguished categories: Best Gourmet-style Cuisine Global, Best Italian Cuisine in Europe, as well as Best Food and Wine Pairing Experience and Best Food Gastronomy Restaurant in Croatia

Restoran Tomassino osvojio je prestižnu nagradu Haute Grandeur Global Excellence Awards 2026, potvrđujući izvrsnost gastronomije i usluge kroz čak četiri kategorije: Best Gourmet-style Cuisine Global, Best Italian Cuisine in Europe te Best Food and Wine Pairing Experience i Best Food Gastronomy Restaurant u Hrvatskoj

Tucked inside the Sheraton Hotel in the heart of Zagreb, Tomassino brings an authentic Italian spirit and turns every visit into a memorable experience. From the moment you walk in, it's clear that the Italian approach to life is celebrated here, unhurried and centered on enjoyment and being present in the moment. The ambience is both cozy and refined, with just the right amount of hotel sophistication to give the interior its character. The menu draws on the enduring classics of Italian cuisine, reimagined in a modern style and adapted to the rhythm of city life. Freshly made pasta, carefully selected cheeses, premium olive oil, and seasonal ingredients come together to balance tradition and creativity, offering guests familiar flavors in a new and refined form. The wine list follows the same philosophy. The knowledgeable staff guide guests through a thoughtfully curated selection of Italian labels, creating a seamless harmony between food and wine, where every sip enhances every bite. The interior radiates warmth and understated elegance, balancing hotel luxury with relaxed Italian charm. This atmosphere makes Tomassino an ideal place for business lunches, intimate dinners, or casual gatherings over a glass of wine – a place guests return to time and again. Tomassino is especially captivating in the evening, when the space takes on an extra dimension. Through carefully designed Wine & Dine concepts, the restaurant brings together lovers of fine food and wine, blending indulgence, creativity, and expertise into a single experience. These events offer a heightened level of enjoyment, where sophisticated dishes are paired with a curated selection of Italian wine labels to create evenings that stay with you. Step into this little slice of Italy in Zagreb, a place made for lingering, where conversations unfold naturally and every visit feels special. ■

U samom središtu Zagreba, skriven unutar hotela Sheraton, restoran Tomassino nudi autentičan talijanski duh i pretvara svaki posjet u pravi doživljaj. Čim uđete, jasno je da se ovdje njeguje talijanski pristup životu: bez žurbe, s naglaskom na užitek i osjećaj za trenutak. Atmosfera je topla i elegantna, s dozom odmjerenog hotelskog luksuza koji daje ritam prostoru. Kuhinja se oslanja na bezvremenske klasike talijanske gastronomije, interpretirane na suvremen način i prilagođene urbanom ritmu grada. Svježe pripremljena tjestenina, pažljivo birani sirevi, vrhunsko maslinovo ulje i sezonske namirnice stvaraju sklad između tradicije i inovacije, nudeći gostima poznate okuse u novom, profinjenom ruhu. Vinska karta prati tu filozofiju s lakoćom. Stručno osoblje vodi goste kroz pomno odabrane etikete, stvarajući skladan odnos između vina i jela, u kojem svaki gutljaj nadopunjava svaki zalogaj. Interijer restorana odiše toplinom i nenametljivom elegancijom, balansirajući između hotelskog luksuza i talijanske ležernosti. Upravo takva atmosfera čini Tomassino idealnim mjestom za poslovne ručkove, intimne večere ili opuštenu druženja uz čašu vina - mjestom kojem se gosti rado vraćaju. Tomassino se posebno ističe u večernjim satima, kada prostor dobiva dodatnu dimenziju. Kroz pažljivo osmišljene Wine & Dine koncepte, restoran okuplja ljubitelje vrhunske kuhinje i vina, spajajući hedonizam, kreativnost i stručnost u jedinstveno iskustvo. Takvi događaji donose novu dimenziju uživanja, u kojoj se sofisticirana jela sljubljuju s odabranim talijanskim vinskim etiketama, stvarajući večeri koje ostaju u pamćenju. Zavirite u ovu malu talijansku oazu u centru Zagreba, na mjesto gdje se uživa polako, razgovara dugo i gdje svaki dolazak ima svoj poseban razlog. □



TEKKA BY LONE AND CHIAVALON

## A unique fusion of Istrian and Japanese cuisine

JEDINSTVENA FUZIJA ISTARSKE I JAPANSKE KUHINJE

Istria and Japan lie nearly 10,000 kilometers apart, worlds away in culture and tradition, with very few points of contact. And yet, these seemingly opposite destinations have discovered a common language: food.

At Tekka by Lone, a Maistra restaurant recommended by the Michelin Guide, and through the craftsmanship of the Chiavalon family, renowned Istrian producers of premium extra virgin olive oil, distance dissolves into flavor. Years of collaboration between these partners have shaped a bold new concept: a signature Istrian-Japanese culinary experience. As Tedi Chiavalon, who runs the Chiavalon olive mill with his brother Sandi, and Saša Pribičević, head chef at Tekka by Lone, explain, this is not a trend-driven reinterpretation, but a natural evolution of a cuisine that brings together Japanese precision and the character of the Istrian terroir. "Although olive oil is not part of traditional Japanese cuisine, the philosophy behind it – purity, balance, and a focus on natural flavors – closely aligns with the Japanese culinary approach. Chiavalon oils, with their vibrant freshness, aromatics, and structure, are used not to overpower but to gently elevate each dish. In Tekka's culinary language, the oil becomes a subtle yet essential element, completing the flavor profile, enhancing texture,

Istru i Japan dijeli gotovo 10.000 kilometara zračne linije. Riječ je o dvije potpuno drugačije kulture, koje imaju vrlo malo dodirnih točaka, ali čak i takva, oprečna podneblja mogu pronaći zajednički jezik – kroz hranu.

To su u praksi dokazali Tekka by Lone, Maistrin restoran s Michelinovom preporukom, i obitelj Chiavalon, istarski maslinari poznati po vrhunskom ekstrapjevičanskom maslinovu ulju. Radi se o suradnji koja traje već nekoliko godina, a rezultirala je razvojem jednog novog koncepta: istarsko-japanske kuhinje.

Kako su nam otkrili Tedi Chiavalon, koji s bratom Sandijem vodi uljaru Chiavalon, te Saša Pribičević, glavni chef restorana Tekka by Lone, to nije reinterpretacija trenda radi, nego prirodan razvoj kuhinje koja spaja japansku preciznost s istarskim terroikom.

„Iako maslinovo ulje nije dio tradicionalne japanske kuhinje, filozofija koja stoji iza njega – čistoća, balans i naglašavanje prirodnih okusa – vrlo je bliska japanskom kulinarskom pristupu. Ulja Chiavalon, sa svojom izraženom svježinom, aromatikom i strukturom, koriste se kao element koji ne dominira, nego nadopunjava jelo. U Tekkinu izričaju ulje postaje suptilan, ali ključan alat za zaokruživanje okusa, dodavanje teksture i stvaranje nove dimenzije u tanjuru“, istaknuli su.



**THIS SPECIAL BLEND  
IS AVAILABLE FOR  
PURCHASE AT THE  
CHIAVALON SHOP IN  
HOTEL LONE**

**OVAJ POSEBAN BLEND  
MOŽETE KUPITI U  
CHIAVALON SHOPU U  
HOTELU LONE**

and opening a new dimension on the plate,” they note. The goal of the collaboration was to create a distinctive extra virgin olive oil, one that moves beyond a simple finishing touch to become an integral part of Tekka’s culinary identity. As a result, guests are invited into an experience exclusive to Tekka by Lone, one that goes beyond the use of exceptional olive oil to form a thoughtful and carefully composed narrative.

In essence, guests are tasting a product shaped by true collaboration: from the olive harvest, in which the Tekka team was directly involved, to the final blend developed in partnership with chef Saša Pribičević. This adds a further layer of authenticity and depth, as each dish carries a trace of that shared process.

This collaboration is far from over; it marks the beginning of a new chapter defined by ongoing exploration and refinement – from future harvests and limited-edition oils to curated gastronomic events and guest experiences. Looking ahead, the vision is to further connect high-end gastronomy with the craft of olive oil production, creating products and experiences that go beyond expectations, giving guests something rooted in the local landscape yet meaningful on a broader stage. ■

Cilj suradnje bio je stoga razviti jedinstveno ekstradjevičansko maslinovo ulje koje neće biti samo dodatak jelima, nego aktivni dio Tekkina gastronomskog identiteta. Gosti tako u Tekki by Lone mogu otkriti iskustvo koje nije moguće replicirati nigdje drugdje. Ne radi se samo o korištenju vrhunskog ulja. U pozadini je jedna lijepa, smisljena priča.

Gost, naime, konzumira proizvod koji je nastao u zajedničkom procesu – od berbe maslina, u kojoj je sudjelovao Tekkin tim, do selekcije finalnog blenda u suradnji sa chefom Sašom Pribičevićem. To iskustvu daje dodatnu autentičnost i dubinu, jer svako jelo u sebi nosi i dio tog zajedničkog rada.

Ovo nikako nije kraj ove jedinstvene suradnje, već su u planu daljnja eksperimentiranja i razvoj – kako kroz nove berbe i limitirana izdanja ulja tako i kroz zajedničke gastronomske događaje i iskustva za goste. Kako su naveli, u budućnosti žele još više povezati svijet vrhunske gastronomije i proizvodnje maslinova ulja te i dalje stvarati proizvode i doživljaje koji pomiču granice očekivanog i gostima nude nešto autentično lokalno, a istodobno globalno relevantno. □



**GUESTS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO EXCLUSIVE DINNERS CREATED BY RENOWNED CHEFS, FEATURING CAREFULLY DESIGNED FALL MENUS**

GOSTE OČEKUJU EKSKLUZIVNE VEČERE KOJE POTPISUJU RENOMIRANI CHEFOVI, UZ PAŽLJIVO OSMIŠLJENE JESENSKE MENIJE

## AUTUMN GOURMET WEEK BY MAISTRA COLLECTION

# Istria's cuisine with a luxurious twist

## OKUSI ISTRE U LUKSUZONOM IZDANJU

When the summer crowds fade, Rovinj reveals perhaps its most beautiful side: fragrant, elegant, and devoted entirely to the art of enjoyment. Against this backdrop, Autumn Gourmet Week by Maistra Collection takes place each October; it's a seven-day culinary event that turns Istria into an essential fall destination for all who love exceptional flavors.

In the refined setting of select Maistra Collection hotels, guests can look forward to exclusive dinners created by renowned chefs, featuring carefully designed fall menus paired with wines from Istria's most celebrated winemakers. During this gourmet week, Rovinj transforms into a true culinary stage where local traditions meet contemporary fine dining.

Rovinj's famed restaurants, including Puntulina, El Bugadur, Rio, Giannino, and Artičoka, add another layer to the experience with inventive menus that highlight the very best of Istrian cuisine. At the same time, cocktail lovers will be delighted by GinIstra, a relaxed tasting experience featuring Istrian gins and signature cocktails. In addition to outstanding dinners, visitors can enjoy walks through the vineyards, truffle hunting, cooking classes, and intimate tastings that reveal Istria's most authentic side. The Maistra package brings together luxurious accommodation, gourmet dining, wellness and spa amenities, and exclusive perks for culinary experiences, making it the perfect formula for a fall getaway to Rovinj. ■

Kad ljetne gužve utihnu, Rovinj pokazuje svoje možda i najljepše lice - mirisno, elegantno i potpuno posvećeno uživanju.

Upravo u tom ozračju, u listopadu svake godine održava se Autumn Gourmet Week by Maistra Collection, sedmodnevna gastronomska manifestacija koja Istru pretvara u nezaobilaznu jesensku destinaciju za sve ljubitelje vrhunskih okusa.

U elegantnom ambijentu odabranih hotela brenda Maistra Collection goste očekuju ekskluzivne večere koje potpisuju renomirani chefovi, uz pažljivo osmišljene jesenske menije i njihovo sljubljivanje s vinima najpoznatijih istarskih vinara. Rovinj tijekom ovog gourmet tjedna postaje prava kulinarska pozornica na kojoj se susreću lokalna tradicija i suvremena gastronomija.

Poseban doživljaj donose i poznati rovinjski restorani poput Puntuline, El Bugadura, Rija, Giannina i Artičoke, koji kreativnim jelovnicima predstavljaju najbolje od istarske kuhinje. Ljubitelji koktela oduševit će, pak, GinIstra, iskustvo kušanja istarskih džinova i signature koktela u opuštenoj atmosferi.

Osim vrhunskih večera, posjetitelji mogu uživati u šetnjama vinogradima, lovu na tartufe, radionicama kuhanja i intimnim degustacijama koje otkrivaju autentičnu stranu Istre. Maistrin paket uključuje luksuzni smještaj, gourmet večere, wellness & spa sadržaje te posebne pogodnosti za gastronomske aktivnosti, što čini idealan recept za jesenski bijeg u Rovinj. □

**AUTUMN GOURMET WEEK  
BY MAISTRA COLLECTION  
OCTOBER LISTOPAD  
Maistra Collection hotels**





"I AM PROUD THAT OUR WORK HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AT THIS LEVEL", SAID JEFFREY VELLA, CHEF AT CAP AUREO

"PONOSAN SAM ŠTO JE NAŠ RAD PREPOZNAT NA OVAKVOJ RAZINI", IZJAVIO JE JEFFREY VELLA, CHEF CAP AUREA



**GREAT HONOUR VELIKO PRIZNANJE**

## Cap Aureo awarded its first Michelin star

CAP AUREO DOBIO PRVU MICHELINOVU ZVJEZDICU

Cap Aureo, Maistra's signature restaurant at the Grand Park Hotel Rovinj, helmed by Chef Jeffrey Vella, was honored with its first Michelin star last year. The restaurant's concept is built on seasonality, locally sourced ingredients, and an imaginative, vegetable-forward approach, reflected in its own description as "a place that loves vegetables." The tasting menu features around twenty courses that change every few weeks, following subtle microclimatic shifts and the availability of the freshest produce.

"This star is not only a tribute to our team, but to the entire idea behind Cap Aureo – a cuisine that mirrors the landscape, the changing seasons, and a profound respect for the nature that surrounds us. I am proud that our work has been recognized at this level and grateful for the opportunity to offer guests something authentic, inspired by Istria yet distinctly contemporary," said Jeffrey Vella, Chef at Cap Aureo. Agli Amici Rovinj, another Grand Park restaurant created in partnership between Maistra and acclaimed Italian chef Emanuele Scarello, has successfully retained its two Michelin stars, thus remaining the only restaurant in Croatia to hold this highest distinction.

Thanks to the newly awarded star, Rovinj now stands as the only destination in Croatia with three Michelin-starred restaurants, further cementing its status as one of the region's premier gastronomic hotspots. ■

Maistrin restoran Cap Aureo, smješten u Grand Park Hotelu Rovinj i pod vodstvom chefa Jeffreyja Velle, nagrađen je prošle godine svojom prvom Michelinovom zvjezdicom. Njegov koncept temelji se na sezonalnosti, lokalnim namirnicama i kreativnom pristupu povrću, zbog čega se sam restoran opisuje kao "mjesto koje voli povrće". Degustacijski jelovnik sastoji se od dvadesetak sljedova koji se mijenjaju svakih nekoliko tjedana, prateći mikroklimatske promjene i dostupnost svježih namirnica.

"Ova zvjezdica nije samo priznanje našem timu nego i cijeloj ideji Cap Aurea – kuhinji koja odražava krajolik, godišnja doba i duboko poštovanje prema prirodi koja nas okružuje. Ponosan sam što je naš rad prepoznat na ovakvoj razini i zahvalan što imamo priliku gostima ponuditi nešto autentično, nadahnuto Istrom, a istovremeno suvremeno", izjavio je Jeffrey Vella, chef Cap Aurea.

Restoran Agli Amici Rovinj, također u sklopu Grand Parka, koji djeluje u suradnji Maistre s renomiranim talijanskim chefom Emanueleom Scarello, potvrdio je svoje dvije zvjezdice, ostajući tako jedini restoran u Hrvatskoj s tim, najvišim priznanjem.

S ovom novom zvjezdicom, Rovinj postaje jedina destinacija u Hrvatskoj s tri restorana nagrađena Michelinovim zvjezdicama, čime dodatno učvršćuje svoj status vrhunskog gastronomskog središta regije. □



PRESTIGIOUS LIST PRESTIŽNA LISTA

## Grand Park Hotel Rovinj named one of The World's 50 Best Hotels 2025

GRAND PARK HOTEL ROVINJ NA LISTI THE WORLD'S 50 BEST HOTELS 2025

Grand Park Hotel Rovinj, part of the Maistra Hospitality Group, is the first and only hotel from Croatia to be included among the world's best hotels on the renowned list of The World's 50 Best Hotels 2025. This recognition further confirms its position as a premier luxury hotel, not only in the region but also on the international stage.

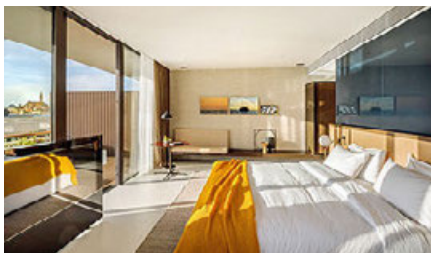
The list is shaped by the votes of more than 800 independent experts in hospitality and luxury travel, including hoteliers, travel writers, and seasoned hospitality professionals. They assess each hotel based on their own stay experience, service standards, and the overall guest experience, creating a trusted and globally relevant guide to the world's finest hotels. Last year, Grand Park Hotel Rovinj received another prestigious honor: the Michelin Key, an award granted by the Michelin Guide to hotels that excel in overall stay quality, design, and hospitality. ■

Grand Park Hotel Rovinj, dio Maistra Hospitality Groupa, prvi je i jedini hrvatski hotel među 50 najboljih hotela svijeta uvrštenih na prestižnu listu The World's 50 Best Hotels 2025. Time je rovinjski Grand Park još jednom potvrdio status jednog od vodećih luksuznih hotela u regiji i šire.

Lista The World's 50 Best Hotels temelji se na glasovima više od 800 neovisnih stručnjaka iz područja hotelijerstva i luksuznog turizma – uključujući hotelijere, putopisce i profesionalce u ugostiteljstvu. Stručnjaci ocjenjuju hotele prema iskustvu boravka, kvaliteti usluge i ukupnom doživljaju, što osigurava vjerodostojnu i globalno relevantnu listu najboljih hotela svijeta. Grand Park Hotel Rovinj prošle je godine primio također prestižno priznanje Michelin Key, koje Michelinov vodič dodjeljuje hotelima koji se ističu iznimnom kvalitetom boravka, dizajnom i gostoljubivošću. □

LAST YEAR, GRAND PARK HOTEL ROVINJ RECEIVED ANOTHER PRESTIGIOUS HONOR: THE MICHELIN KEY

GRAND PARK HOTEL ROVINJ PROŠLE JE GODINE PRIMIO TAKOĐER PRESTIŽNO PRIZNANJE MICHELIN KEY



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GROUP

*Feel  
reborn*



## AMARIN

# A Mediterranean paradise for family memories

## MEDITERANSKI RAJ ZA OBITELJSKE USPOMENE

Picture the sun slowly setting over the Adriatic Sea, children laughing as they run along the beach, while you sit back with an aperitif in hand, taking in the magical view of the sunset. This is everyday life at Amarin, where family memories are shaped by a distinctly Mediterranean spirit

Zamislite sunce koje se polako smiruje nad Jadranskim morem, djeca veselo trče po plaži, a vi, opušteni, s čašom aperitiva u ruci, uživate u čarobnom pogledu u suton. To je svakodnevica u Amarinu, mjestu gdje se stvaraju obiteljske uspomene s mediteranskim pečatom

It all began in 2016 with the opening of Amarin Family Hotel, Croatia's first hotel designed exclusively for families, setting new standards for hospitality tailored to guests of all ages. That innovative concept laid the foundation for the destination's evolution into one of the Adriatic's most comprehensive family resorts and a welcoming haven for families from around the world. Today, Amarin includes a hotel, a resort, and a campsite, three distinct yet seamlessly integrated properties. Ongoing investment in every aspect of the guest experience, from premium accommodations and sports facilities to diverse dining, entertainment, and relaxation offerings, only reinforces its position as a leader in family tourism.

Amarin Resort's evolution is reflected in its ongoing investment in accommodations, bringing greater comfort and style with each passing year. Since 2025, guests have been welcomed into 271 newly renovated standard studios

Sve je počelo 2016. godine otvaranjem Family Hotela Amarin, prvog pravog obiteljskog hotela u Hrvatskoj, koji je postavio potpuno nove standarde u ponudi prilagođenoj obiteljima s djecom svake dobi. Taj inovativni koncept postao je temelj za razvoj cjelokupne destinacije, koja se danas izdiže kao jedna od najcjelovitijih obiteljskih oaza na Jadranu, privlačeći roditelje i djecu iz cijelog svijeta. Danas Amarin obuhvaća hotel, resort i kamp, tri prostorno odvojene, ali sadržajno savršeno povezane cjeline, a kontinuirana ulaganja u sve segmente ponude, od vrhunskog smještaja i sportskih aktivnosti do raznovrsne gastronomije, zabave i opuštajućih trenutaka, samo potvrđuju njegovu neospornu poziciju predvodnika u obiteljskom turizmu.

Razvoj Resorta Amarin vidi se kroz kontinuirana ulaganja u smještajne kapacitete, koja svake godine donose još više ugone i stila. Od 2025. godine goste dočekuje čak 271 obnovljeni standard studio i apartman, uređen u modernom mediteranskom stilu koji majstorski spaja praktičnu



**TODAY, AMARIN INCLUDES A HOTEL, A RESORT, AND A CAMPSITE, THREE DISTINCT YET SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATED PROPERTIES**

DANAS AMARIN OBUHVAĆA HOTEL, RESORT I KAMP, TRI PROSTORNO ODVOJENE, ALI SADRŽAJNO SAVRŠENO POVEZANE CJELINE

**AMARIN'S DINING SCENE FUNCTIONS AS A VIBRANT, FULLY INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM THROUGH MAIEATS CONCEPTS DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE RESORT AND CAMPSITE**

GASTRONOMSKA PONUDA AMARINA FUNKCIONIRA KAO ZAOKRUŽEN ŽIVOPISNI SUSTAV KONCEPATA MAIEATS, RASPOREĐENIH PO RESORTU I KAMPU



and apartments, designed in a contemporary Mediterranean style that blends practical functionality with timeless aesthetics. Every detail, from clean lines to the color palette, draws inspiration from the sea and sun. Together with elegant designer Premium apartments, the resort offers a harmonious and diverse range of accommodations to suit every preference, whether you're traveling with toddlers or teenagers. Meanwhile, Amarin Camping Village is in the final phase of a multi-year investment project, including comprehensive upgrades to pitches, glamping tents, and mobile homes in a variety of configurations, offering a nature-immersive stay with full comfort. The Premium mobile homes stand out in particular: this season, their terraces are being enclosed with glass walls and additional heating is being introduced, hinting at an extended season and the chance to enjoy Mediterranean evenings beyond the summer months. The campsite holds a high four-star rating, aligning seamlessly with the overall standard and image of the hotel and resort, and contributing to a cohesive destination experience.

Amarin's sports offerings continue to evolve across the entire complex, with a steady pace of investments that keep up with the expectations of guests seeking an active getaway. As early as 2023, the multi-purpose court for small-sided football and handball was renovated, while the beach volleyball area was upgraded into a dedicated zone with one main and two additional courts, ideal for friendly competitions or family matches. In 2025, two seaside tennis courts were further enhanced, expanding the resort's sports infrastructure and rounding out its active recreation options for all ages.

Amarin's dining scene now functions as a vibrant, fully integrated ecosystem through MaiEats concepts distributed across the resort and campsite. In 2024, the interior of Lumina Board Restaurant at Amarin Resort received a makeover, creating a warm, inviting space that encourages guests to linger over dinner. The new season brings additional experiences sure to surprise you. At Amarin Campsite, social life centers around the redesigned central plaza near the campsite reception – an ideal gathering place for evening

funkcionalnost s bezvremenskom estetikom, gdje su svaka linija i boja inspirirane morem i suncem. U kombinaciji s elegantnim dizajnerskim premium apartmanima, resort danas nudi skladnu i raznovrsnu paletu smještaja koji odgovara svakom ukusu i svačijim potrebama, bilo da putujete s malom djecom ili adolescentima. Istovremeno, kamp Amarin u završnoj je fazi višegodišnje investicije koja obuhvaća temeljito unapređenje parcela, glamping šatora i mobilnih kućica različitih vrsta i stilova, pružajući iskustvo blisko prirodi, a opet i mnogo komfora. Posebno se ističu premium mobilne kućice, čije se terase ove sezone zatvaraju staklenim stijenama i u koje se uvodi dodatno grijanje, čime se diskretno najavljuju i potencijalni koraci prema produljenju sezone, omogućavajući uživanje u mediteranskim večerima i kad nije ljeto. Kamp ima visoku kategorizaciju od 4\*, što se savršeno uklapa u cjelokupnu zonu i imidž hotela i naselja, stvarajući harmoničnu sliku destinacije.

Sportska ponuda u Amarinu razvija se na razini cijelog kompleksa, s jasnim vremenskim slijedom ulaganja koja prate ritam gostiju koji žele aktivan odmor. Već 2023. godine obnovljeno je polivalentno igralište za mali nogomet i rukomet, a kompleks za odbojku na pijesku unaprijeđen je u zonu s jednim glavnim i dva pomoćna terena, idealna za turnire s prijateljima ili obitelji. U 2025. godini dodatno su uređena i dva teniska igrališta smještena uz samo more, čime se sportska infrastruktura dodatno širi i upotpunjuje ponuda aktivnog odmora za sve uzraste.

Gastronomska ponuda Amarina danas funkcionira kao zaokružen živopisni sustav koncepata MaiEats, raspoređene po resortu i kampu. Godine 2024. osvježen je interijer pansionorskog restorana Lumina u resortu Amarin, donoseći svjež, topao ambijent koji poziva na dulje večere. Nova sezona donosi dodatna iskustva koja će vas iznenaditi. U kampu Amarin središte društvenog života novouređeni je centralni trg uz recepciju objekta, koji je pravo mjesto susreta, večernjih dječjih programa, plesnih showova i predstava s maskotom Marinom. Na trgu je okupljeno nekoliko ključnih koncepata: Rosemary Bread & Deli s dnevno svježim pekarskim proizvodima koji mirišu na mediteransko jutro, Mastralon Beer Garden kao zona opuštanja posvećena sceni s hladnim craft pivom i namijenjena ugodnim razgovorima te dodatna pet grooming usluga, koja je u ovakvim resortima rijetkost, a vašem će kućnom ljubimcu učiniti



MAISTRA SELECT  
**AMARIN RESORT**  
**FAMILY HOTEL AMARIN**  
MAISTRA CAMPING  
**AMARIN CAMPSITE**



Rovinj, Istria, Croatia

children's programs, dance shows, and performances featuring Marin the mascot. The plaza brings together several signature concepts: Rosemary Bread & Deli, offering daily-fresh baked goods with the aroma of Mediterranean mornings; Maistralon Beer Garden, a laid-back space dedicated to the craft beer scene with cold brews and good conversation; and a pet grooming service, an uncommon amenity at resorts like this, ensuring your four-legged companion has a memorable stay too. The same campsite area is also home to Sea Salt Quick Bite, a food truck bar serving street food favorites made from local ingredients, perfectly positioned by the pool complex for quick bites between swims. This extensive offering is complemented by dining options elsewhere at Amarin: Basilico Pizza Pasta, poolside at Amarin Resort, where Italian classics meet waterfront views; and Lovor Real Grill, on the beach below Amarin Family Hotel, renowned for breathtaking sunsets that elevate every meal into a true culinary experience.

At Amarin, children are at the heart of everything, and Ultramarine Kids Club is designed as a magical space for play, learning, and exploration, where every day brings a new adventure. Programs include arts and drama workshops that spark creativity, STEM activities that teach through play, and outdoor sports like swimming, sailing, tennis, and football that build confidence, plus a modern gaming lounge for digital entertainment. A special highlight this season is the opening of a brand-new Ultramarine Kids Club at Amarin Campsite, tailored for mini and junior age groups, along with a large Game Room for teenagers. At the Resort, the Kids Club outdoor playground is nestled in natural shade, adjacent to the sports courts and Garden Bar – an ideal setting where the whole family can enjoy time together and parents can relax. Ultramarine Day adds another layer of excitement: it's an all-day family event featuring activities like family yoga for bonding and relaxation, LEGO robotics for budding engineers, pool-based aqua aerobics, sports tournaments for those with competitive energy, virtual reality experiences offering futuristic adventures, and a closing evening celebration. Following a successful debut in 2025, this year it takes place on three dates (June 16, July 14, and August 11) giving families the chance to experience three unforgettable days.

boravak nezaboravnim. U istoj zoni kampa smješten je i Sea Salt Quick Bite, food truck bar sa street food klasicima pripremljenim od lokalnih namirnica, savršeno smješten uz bazenski kompleks za brze zalogaje između plivanja. Ovu bogatu ponudu nadopunjavaju i sadržaji u drugim dijelovima Amarina: Basilico Pizza Pasta uz bazen u Resortu Amarin, gdje se talijanski klasici sudaraju s pogledom na vodu, te Lovor Real Grill na plaži podno Family Hotela Amarin, poznat po nezaboravnim zalascima Sunca koji se pretvaraju u prave kulinarske spektakle.

U Amarinu su djeca, očekivano, u središtu cijelog koncepta, a Ultramarine Kids Club osmišljen je kao čarobni prostor igre, učenja i istraživanja, gdje svaki dan donosi novu avanturu. Programi uključuju likovne i dramske radionice koje pobuđuju kreativnost, STEM aktivnosti koje educiraju kroz igru, sportove na otvorenom poput plivanja, jedrenja, tenisa i nogometa koji izgrađuju samopouzdanje, ali i modernu gaming zonu za trenutke digitalne zabave. Posebna je novost ove sezone otvaranje potpuno novog Ultramarine Kids Cluba u kampu Amarin za mini i junior uzrast, kao i velikog Game Rooma za tinejdžere. Resort ima vanjsko igralište Kids Cluba, smješteno u prirodnom hladu, uz sportske terene i Garden Bar, stvarajući idealno okruženje za cijelu obitelj i mjesto gdje se i roditelji mogu opustiti. Dodatnu dimenziju pruža Ultramarine Day, cjelodnevni obiteljski event koji uključuje aktivnosti poput family yoga za zajedničko opuštanje, LEGO robotike za male inženjere, aqua aerobica u bazenu, sportskih turnira za razvijanje natjecateljskog duha, virtualne stvarnosti za futurističke pustolovine i večernjeg partyja koji će zapečatiti dan. Nakon uspješnog prvog izdanja 2025., ove godine održava se u tri

**Ultramarine Kids Club is  
designed as a magical space for  
play, learning, and exploration**

Ultramarine Kids Club osmišljen je kao čarobni prostor igre, učenja i istraživanja

**AMARIN RESORT'S EVOLUTION IS REFLECTED IN ITS ONGOING INVESTMENT IN ACCOMMODATIONS, BRINGING GREATER COMFORT AND STYLE WITH EACH PASSING YEAR**

RAZVOJ RESORTA AMARIN VIDI SE KROZ KONTINUIRANA ULAGANJA U SMJEŠTAJNE KAPACITETE, KOJA SVAKE GODINE DONOSE JOŠ VIŠE UGODE I STILA



The new water amenities are primarily located at Amarin Campsite, but their availability to resort and hotel guests perfectly illustrates how the entire destination is interconnected, with everyone sharing in the aquatic fun. Guests from these properties have access to the campsite pool complex, which includes an outdoor pool with sea views that invites lounging, an indoor heated pool with a children's section and water features for the youngest swimmers, and the star attraction: a large inflatable water park offering fun for children and adults alike, complete with slides and waves to suit all preferences. Resort guests enjoy free pool access, with sun loungers and umbrellas available for rent. Adjacent to the pool complex is an additional activity zone featuring Tuffo Splash Bar, a summer stage, and a large children's playground, transforming this space into an all-day gathering and entertainment hub for families. Tuffo Splash Bar operates on a self-service model with convenient QR code ordering: simply order from the comfort of your lounge, pay via smartphone, and receive an SMS notification when your order is ready for pickup.

From the pioneering Amarin Family Hotel to today's comprehensive destination uniting a high-category resort and campsite, Amarin has evolved thoughtfully and strategically. The phased investments of recent years are now nearing completion, resulting in a destination that delivers a complete experience – from exceptional accommodations and dining to children's programs, sports, and relaxation that come together in perfect harmony. Amarin is, ultimately, a place where every generation finds something of their own: children discover adventure, parents find peace, and together they create priceless family moments that become lasting memories. ■

termina: 16. lipnja, 14. srpnja i 11. kolovoza, dajući obiteljima priliku za tri nezaboravna dana.

Novi vodeni sadržaji primarno su smješteni u kampu Amarin, no upravo njihova dostupnost gostima resorta, ali i hotela najbolje ilustrira povezanost cijele destinacije, gdje se svi dijele vodene radosti. Gosti navedenih jedinica imaju mogućnost korištenja bazenskog kompleksa u kampu, koji uključuje vanjski bazen s pogledom na more što poziva na ljenčarenje, zatvoreni grijani bazen s dječjim dijelom i vodenim efektima za najmlađe istraživače te najveću atrakciju, veliki akvagan koji pruža zabavu i djeci i odraslima, s toboganima i valovima za sve ukuse. Ulaz na bazene za goste resorta je besplatan, a ležaljke i suncobrani dostupni su uz doplatu, omogućavajući personalizirano opuštanje. Uz bazenski kompleks smještena je i dodatna zona sadržaja, uključujući Tuffo Splash Bar, ljetnu pozornicu i veliko dječje igralište, što ovaj prostor pretvara u cjelodnevno mjesto okupljanja i zabave za obitelji. Tuffo Splash Bar je self service, ali ima mogućnost naručivanja preko QR koda, iz udobnosti svoje ležaljke, i plaćanja putem mobitela, a osoblje vam šalje SMS kada je narudžba gotova i spremna za preuzimanje.

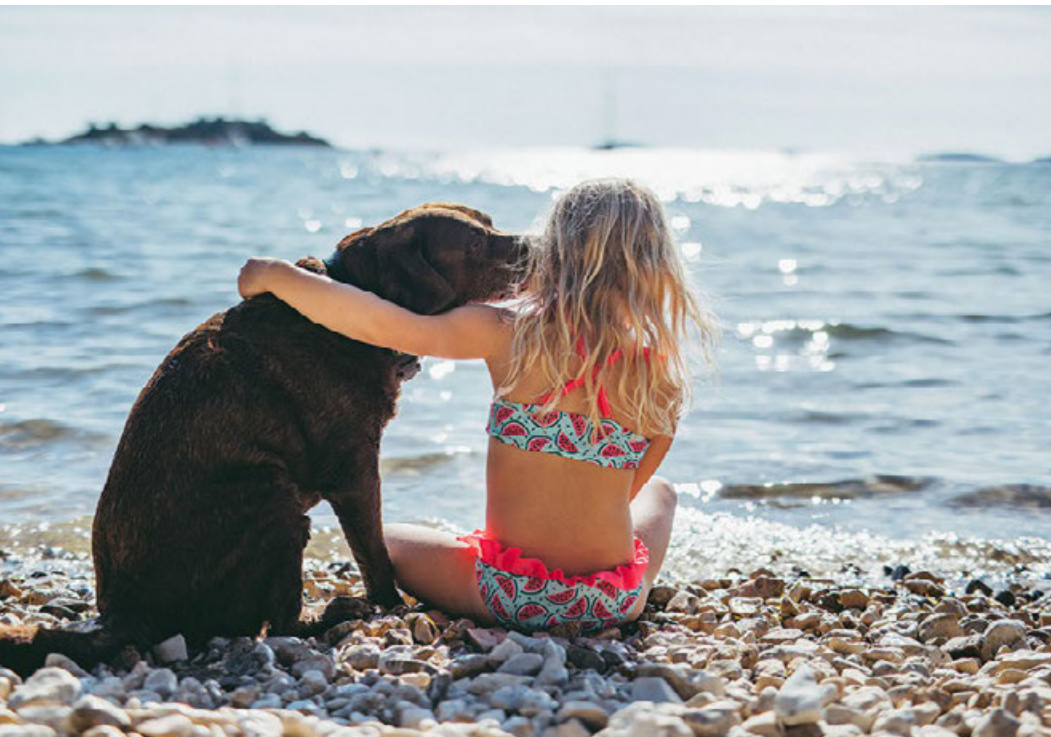
Od pionirskog Family Hotela Amarin do današnje kompleksne destinacije koja objedinjuje resort i kamp visoke kategorije, Amarin se razvija promišljeno i strateški. Ulaganja koja se odvijaju kroz faze posljednjih godina danas su u završnici, a rezultat je destinacija koja nudi cjelovito iskustvo, od vrhunskog smještaja i gastronomije do sadržaja za djecu, sporta i opuštanja koji se stapaju u savršenu harmoniju. Amarin je danas, u konačnici, mjesto na kojem svaka generacija pronalazi nešto svoje: djeca avanturu, roditelji mir, a zajedno neprocjenjive obiteljske trenutke koji postaju uspomene za pamćenje. □

# MaiSky

KIDS CLUB

ONLY  
SKY  
IS THE  
LIMIT





**THOSE WHO TAKE PART IN THE ACTIVITIES AND COLLECT A FULL SET OF STAMPS ARE REWARDED WITH DOG BALLS AS A COMPLIMENTARY GIFT**

SUDJELOVANJEM U ANIMACIJSKIM PROGRAMIMA I ZA DOVOLJNO PRIKUPLJENIH PEČATA GOSTI DOBIVAJU LOPTICE ZA PSE NA DAR



**NEW DOG-FRIENDLY EXPERIENCES AT MAISTRA CAMPSITES NOVE DOG FRIENDLY USLUGE U MAISTRINIM KAMPOVIMA**

## Polari looks for the campsite's cutest dog

### POLARI BIRA NAJSIMPATIČNIJEG PSA

Dogs are warmly welcomed at every Maistra campsite, where each property proudly lives up to its dog-friendly title. You'll notice it right away on the well-maintained dog beaches and at the modern outdoor showers designed especially for four-legged guests

Kućni ljubimci rado su viđeni gosti u svim Maistrinim kampovima jer svaki od njih s ponosom nosi svoju dog-friendly titulu. To u prvom redu potvrđuju uređene plaže za pse, ali i moderni tuševi za četveronožne posjetitelje

Last year, the pet-friendly experience at Campsite Polari was taken to a new level. The campsite introduced new services such as a dedicated dog park for play and socializing, and all sanitary facilities were equipped with dog shampoo. In addition, starting last season, guests have been able to order a pet amenities kit via the Maistra app or directly at the reception desk, with practical extras for a more comfortable stay such as safety gates, cozy dog beds, and bowls for food and water. Encouraged by the excellent feedback from guests, Maistra has expanded some of these services to its other campsites this year: at Amarin, for instance, a new partner has even been brought in to provide professional dog grooming services.

Campsite Polari also launched a series of dog-friendly entertainment programs last year, and guest feedback was so positive that they are returning this season. As a result, this year's line-up includes a contest to choose the campsite's cutest dog, open-air movie nights where four-legged companions are welcome, and guided morning walks through the campsite that guests can enjoy together with their pets. Those who take part in the activities and collect a full set of stamps are rewarded with dog balls as a complimentary gift. ■

U kampu Polari prošle je godine iskustvo boravka s ljubimcima podignuto na potpuno novu razinu. U tom su objektu implementirane nove usluge poput psećeg parka za igru i druženje, a svi sanitarni čvorovi dobili su šampone za pse. Osim toga, gosti od prošle sezone mogu putem aplikacije Maistra ili na recepciji naručiti pet kit, koji sadrži sve potrebne dodatke za udoban boravak (ograde za pse, krevetiće i posudice). Ponukana odličnim reakcijama gostiju, Maistra je dio spomenutih usluga ove godine uvela i u svoje druge kampove – u Amarinu je čak ugovoreni novi zakupac koji nudi usluge dog groominga.

Kamp Polari lani je ujedno osmislio dog-friendly animacijske programe, koji su bili tako dobro prihvaćeni među gostima da s njima nastavljaju i ove godine. Ove će sezone stoga imati izbor najsimpatičnijeg psa, movie night na otvorenom uz mogućnost dolaska gostiju s kućnim ljubimcima, a uveli su i jutarnje šetnje kampom na koje gosti mogu doći u pratnji svojih pasa. Sudjelovanjem u animacijskim programima i za dovoljno prikupljenih pečata gosti dobivaju loptice za pse na dar. □



THESE AWARDS ARE A DIRECT OUTCOME OF CONSISTENT INVESTMENT OVER THE YEARS IN BOTH ACCOMMODATION AND ON-SITE AMENITIES

OVA PRIZNANJA REZULTAT SU NIZA INVESTICIJA U SMJEŠTAJ I DODATNE SADRŽAJE TIJEKOM GODINA

# Maistra campsites rank among Europe's finest

## MAISTRINI KAMPOVI MEĐU NAJBOLJIMA U EUROPI

For many years now, Maistra's campsites have been counted among Europe's top camping destinations, a status backed up by a host of respected international awards

Maistrini kampovi već godinama slove za jedne od najboljih u Europi, što potvrđuju i brojna priznanja

Polari, Amarin, Valkanela, and Veštar have all retained the coveted ADAC Superplatz title for a second consecutive year. That's the highest quality accolade a European campsite can receive, awarded only to sites that deliver outstanding levels of service, amenities, and infrastructure, and it is particularly highly regarded by guests from the German-speaking markets. On top of that, Veštar, Amarin, and Valkanela have again earned the ANWB Top Camping (Top Erkende) recognition, underscoring their strong reputation and popularity with campers. The award is presented by ANWB, the Royal Dutch Touring Club, one of Europe's largest and most influential motoring and travel associations, whose seal of approval carries significant weight with Dutch holidaymakers.

It is not only awards that speak to the success of these campsites; the professional camping community does as well. PiNCAMP, the camping platform of ADAC, Europe's largest motoring club and the world's second-largest automobile association, with over 22 million members, has examined the booking interest of German campers and compiled a ranking of the 100 most sought-after campsites in Europe. In this ranking, Veštar, Valkanela, and Polari stand out as being among the 25 most popular campsites in Croatia, highlighting their strong appeal to the German market.

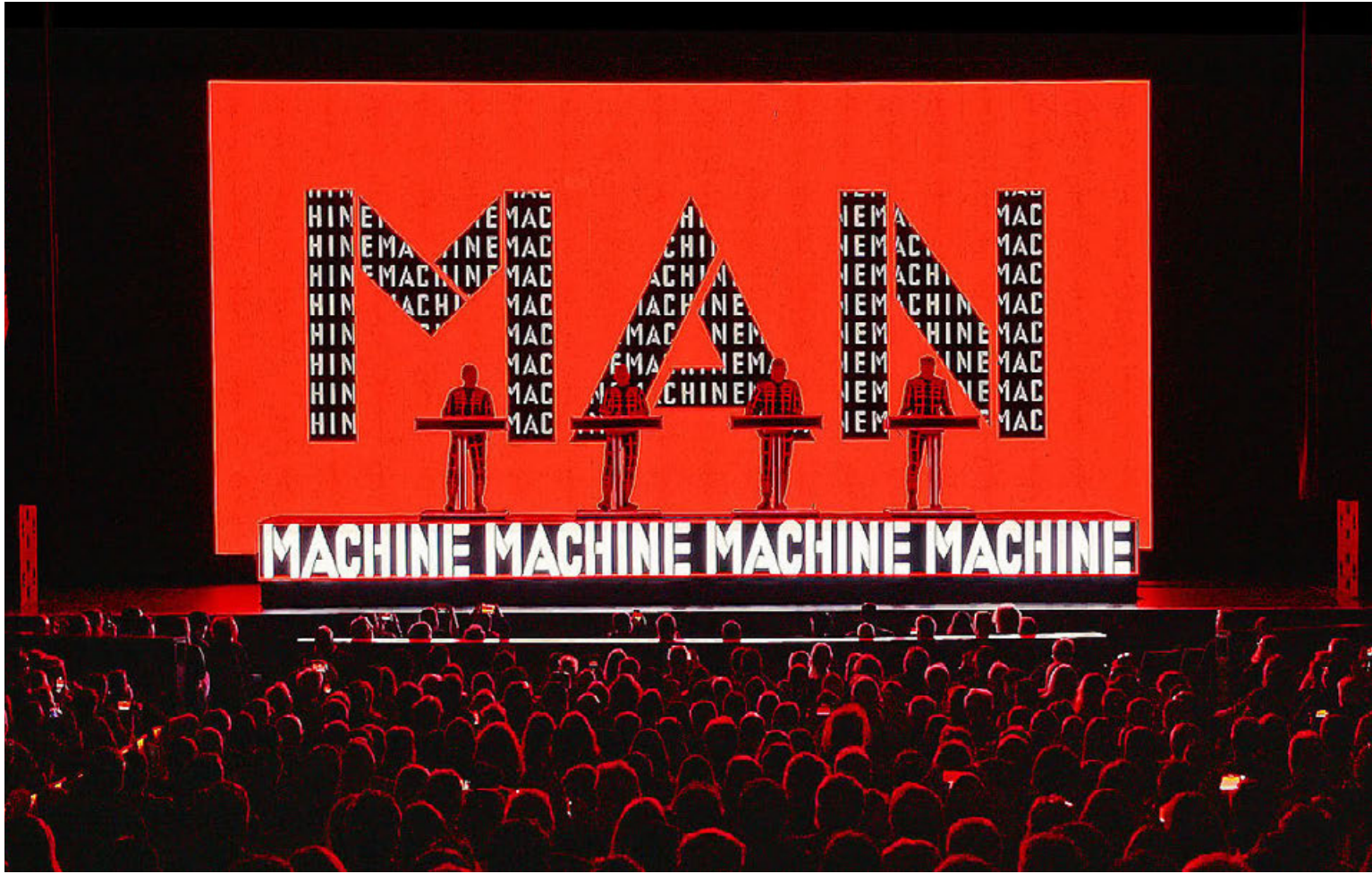
That's not the end of the awards. At the ACSI Awards 2026, based on guest ratings from across Europe, Maistra Camping's campsites once again received international recognition. Valkanela campsite won the Nicest campsite for children award, while Koversada Covered and Polari campsites were included in the Top 25 campsites in Croatia. These awards are a direct outcome of consistent investment over the years in both accommodation and on-site amenities. At the top of the portfolio stands Veštar, Maistra's flagship campsite and its only 5-star property, designed to deliver a complete package of services and facilities for a truly premium stay. Valkanela is tailor-made for active guests, bringing together nature and a wide choice of sports, while Polari offers a distinctive experience that blends unspoiled nature with easy access to the nearby town. Camping Amarin rounds out the collection as an excellent option for families, and it welcomes the new season with a newly built pool complex. ■

Polari, Amarin, Valkanela i Veštar drugu su godinu zaredom osvojili prestižnu oznaku ADAC Superplatz, najveće priznanje za kampove u Europi, koje se dodjeljuje onima s visokom kvalitetom usluge, sadržaja i infrastrukture, što posebno cijene gosti s njemačkog tržišta. Osim toga, Veštar, Amarin i Valkanela ponovno su nagrađeni i priznanjem ANWB Top Erkende, koje ukazuje na izvrsnost i popularnost među posjetiteljima. Potonju nagradu dodjeljuje Algemene Nederlandse Wielrijdersbond, nizozemski automobilistički i turistički savez, jedna od najvećih i najpoznatijih putničkih organizacija u Europi, kojoj posebice vjeruju nizozemski turisti.

Popularnost navedenih kampova ne potvrđuju samo nagrade nego i mišljenja struke. PiNCamp, kamping portal ADAC-a, najvećeg njemačkog i europskog te drugog najvećeg automobilskeg kluba na svijetu, koji ima više od 22 milijuna članova, analizirao je potražnju za odmorom među njemačkim kampistima i objavio popis 100 najtraženijih kampova u Europi, a Veštar, Valkanela i Polari nalaze se među 25 najboljih kampova u Hrvatskoj.

Nije to kraj nagradama. Na dodjeli ACSI Awards 2026, temeljenoj na ocjenama gostiju iz cijele Europe, kampovi Maistra Campinga ponovno su dobili međunarodna priznanja. Kamp Valkanela osvojio je nagradu Nicest campsite for children (najljepši kamp za djecu u Hrvatskoj), dok su kampovi Koversada Covered i Polari uvršteni među Top 25 kampova u Hrvatskoj.

Ova priznanja rezultat su niza investicija u smještaj i dodatne sadržaje tijekom godina. Veštar je perjanica Maistrinih kampova i jedini kamp iz grupacije s 5 zvjezdica koji nudi kompletnu uslugu sa svim potrebnim sadržajima za premium odmor. Valkanela je savršena destinacija za aktivne goste koji žele uživati u prirodi i sportu, a Polari pruža gostima jedinstveno iskustvo blizine prirode i grada. Kamp Amarin, pak, nudi idealnu cjelinu za savršen obiteljski odmor, a u novu sezonu ulazi s novim bazenskim kompleksom. □





**MAGICAL SETTING OF THE PULA ARENA IS  
IDEAL FOR ENJOYING TOP-CLASS CONCERTS**

ČAROBNO OKRUŽENJE PULSKE ARENE IDEALNO  
JE ZA UŽIVANJE U VRHUNSKIM KONCERTIMA

## LIVE MUSIC

# Summer concerts under the stars

## KONCERTNO LJETO POD ZVIJEZDAMA

Is there anything better than enjoying great live music outdoors on warm summer evenings, especially in the magical setting of the Pula Arena or on the vibrant festival stages of Croatia's capital, Zagreb? As in previous years, organizers have lined up an impressive roster of major regional and international stars who have included Croatia on their tour schedules and are set to deliver memorable performances. Here are the standout concerts taking place this summer in Pula and Zagreb, adding even more to your Croatian experience! ■

Ima li što ljepše od uživanja u odličnoj glazbi na otvorenom, tijekom toplih ljetnih večeri, u čarobnom okruženju pulske Arene ili na festivalskim lokacijama našeg glavnog grada, Zagreba? Kao i prijašnjih godina, i ove su se sezone organizatori pobrinuli za pregršt sjajnih koncerta velikih glazbenih zvijezda koje su Hrvatsku uvrstile u svoje turneje i koje će se pobrinuti da održe događaj za pamćenje. Otkrili smo nabolje koncerte koje ovo ljeto možete poslušati na spomenutim mjestima u Puli i Zagrebu, a koji će vam dodatno obogatiti odmor u našoj zemlji! □

### JUNE LIPANJ

**Empire of the Sun** ŠRC Šalata, Zagreb, 10. 6. 2026.  
**Tricky** Boogaloo, 13. 6. 2026.  
**Lenny Kravitz** Arena Pula, 14. 6. 2026.  
**The Offspring** Zagrebački velesajam, 14. 6. 2026.  
**Sabaton** Zagrebački velesajam, 15. 6. 2026.  
**A Perfect Circle** ŠRC Šalata, 16. 6. 2026.  
**Sting** Arena Zagreb, 17. 6. 2026.  
**Ricky Martin** Arena Pula, 19. 6. 2026.

**INmusic festival** Zagreb, Jarun, 22. - 24. 6. 2026.  
**Gorillaz, Jack White, Kings of Leon, Idles, The Flaming Lips, Manic Street Preachers, Jehnny Beth, Fat Dog, Sprints...**

**Black Eyed Peas** Zagreb I Bundek, 26. 6. 2026.  
**Cabaret Voltaire** Tvornica kulture, 26. 6. 2026.  
**David Byrne** Arena Pula, 28. 6. 2026.  
**Mastodon** Tvornica kulture, 28. 6. 2026.

### JULY SRPANJ

**Breaking Benjamin** Tvornica kulture, Zagreb, 2. 7. 2026.  
**Jovanotti** Arena Pula, 3. 7. 2026.  
**John Legend** Arena Pula, 4. 7. 2026.  
**Beat** ŠRC Šalata, 7. 7. 2026.  
**Marilyn Manson** Arena Zagreb, 16. 7. 2026.  
**Moby** Arena Pula, 23. 7. 2026.  
**Dropkick Murphys** ŠRC Šalata, Zagreb, 27. 7. 2026.  
**Kraftwerk** Arena Pula, 28. 7. 2026.  
**Nu Genea** Malo rimsko kazalište, 29. 7. 2026.  
**Black Coffee** Arena Pula, 31. 7. 2026.

### AUGUST KOLOVOZ

**Sting** Arena Pula, 1. 8. 2026.  
**Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds** Arena Pula, 4. & 5. 8. 2026.  
**Amyl and the Sniffers** ŠRC Šalata, Zagreb, 8. 8. 2026.  
**Lorde** Arena Pula, 18. 8. 2026.  
**Tom Odell** Arena Pula, 23. 8. 2026.  
**Judas Priest** Arena Pula, 25. 8. 2026.



## NEW PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES NOVI PROGRAM I SADRŽAJI

# Olive trees as a link between the new and old Koversada

## MASLINE KAO STJECIŠTE NOVE I STARE KOVERSADE

For more than half a century, Koversada has stood as one of the signature landmarks of Vrsar and of Istria as a whole. Established in 1961 as Croatia's first and largest naturist park, it helped reshape Croatian tourism and gradually grew into a beloved gathering place for naturists from every corner of Europe

Koversada je već više od pola stoljeća jedan od glavnih simbola Vrsara, ali i Istre. Najveći i najstariji naturistički park u Hrvatskoj 1961. je promijenio vizuru hrvatskog turizma i s vremenom postao naturističko stjecište gostiju iz svih krajeva Europe

Today, the campsite is as vibrant as ever, yet it has adapted to the spirit of modern times while preserving its deep connection with the local community and the unspoiled nature that has surrounded it from the very beginning. It has now taken on a new shape as two campsites: Koversada Uncovered Naturist and Koversada Covered. Koversada Uncovered Naturist continues to uphold the naturist tradition for which this area is famous, while Koversada Covered opens up the beauty of the Koversada island to all guests who seek the comfort and amenities of a contemporary seaside resort.

Each of the two campsites has its own distinct character and appeal. Koversada Uncovered Naturist stands out for its proximity to Lim Channel, a 13-kilometre-long protected sea inlet and special marine reserve, while Koversada Covered is home to one of the most beautiful sandy beaches on the western coast of Istria and offers the option of renting premium mobile homes and themed pitches. What unites them is the consistently high standard of service that defines all Maistra properties, including continuous investment in new facilities and upgraded accommodation.

In 2025, both campsites received a new, shared reception area, which now serves as the welcoming face of Koversada Park Camping Resort. In the textile section of the campsite, guests can now enjoy a beach volleyball court and the new MaiSky Kids Club, with a large outdoor playground and a stage for children's activities. This part of the resort is also home to the latest MaiEats concepts, including Kapula Burger Bar and Feral Trattoria.

This year, Koversada Uncovered Naturist is adding the new Tuffo Splash Bar right on the seafront, a sports center with an on-site dive center, and a new Rosemary Bread & Deli spot. The standout

Danas taj kamp i dalje živi punim plućima, ali se prilagodio modernom duhu vremena, zadržavši pritom poveznicu s lokalnom zajednicom i netaknutom prirodom, s kojom raste rame uz rame od samog početka. Tako kultnu Koversadu sada čine dva kampa – Koversada Uncovered Naturist i Koversada Covered. Prvi i dalje njeguje naturističku tradiciju po kojoj je ovaj kraj poznat, a drugi otkriva ljepote otočica Koversada svim gostima koji traže komfor modernih ljetovališta.

Svaki od njih krije vlastite posebnosti i ljepote. Koversada Uncovered Naturist ističe se blizinom Limskog kanala, specijalnog morskog rezervata dugačkog 13 kilometara, a Koversada Covered dom je jedne od najljepših pješčanih plaža na zapadnoj obali Istre te nudi opciju najma premium mobilnih kućica i tematskih parcela. Ono što dijele jest visoki standard usluge koji prati sve Maistrine objekte, što podrazumijeva i kontinuirano ulaganje u razvoj sadržaja i smještaja. Prošle su godine oba kampa dobila novu, zajedničku recepciju, koja je novo lice Koversade. U tekstilnom dijelu kampa lani je ujedno uređen teren za odbojku na pijesku te je otvoren novi MaiSky Kids Club s velikim vanjskim dječjim igralištem i pozornicom, kao i novi MaiEats outleti: Kapula Burger Bar i Feral Trattoria.

Ove godine Koversada Uncovered Naturist dobiva novi Tuffo Splash Bar odmah uz more, sportski centar u sklopu kojega je i centar za ronjenje te novi ugostiteljski objekt Rosemary Bread & Deli. Najveća novost u tekstilnom dijelu kampa uvođenje je programa povezanih s prirodom, ponajprije s maslinom koja je njegov glavni simbol.

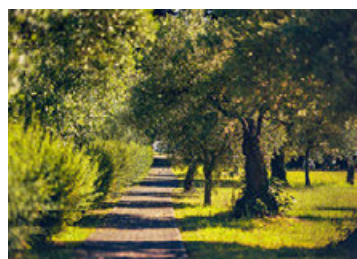
Kroz radionice sadnje maslina i izrade prirodne kozmetike te kreativne aktivnosti gosti mogu aktivno sudjelovati u priči destinacije. Osim toga, mogu i osobno postati dio Koversadine priče. U okviru programa "Čuvari masline" gosti mogu posvojiti



new feature in the textile section of the campsite is a curated program of nature-inspired activities, centered on the olive tree as the resort's defining symbol.

Through hands-on workshops in olive planting and making natural cosmetics, as well as creative activities, guests can actively take part in the destination's story. They can also quite literally become part of Koversada's story. As part of the "Olive Tree Guardian" program, guests can adopt one of 1,295 olive trees in the on-site grove and give it a name. In return, they receive a personalized certificate and a wooden tag with the name of the tree and its "guardian", which is placed permanently in the grove. The contributions are directed into the upkeep and maintenance of the grove, meaning the program actively supports the preservation of the local landscape and the destination's sustainability. An extra highlight is a gift bottle of olive oil from the season in which they became an Olive Tree Guardian, rounding off the experience with an authentic, tangible product of nature.

Another highlight of the olive-themed offer is the Olive Tree Picnic. As the name implies, guests can immerse themselves in untouched nature while savoring a thoughtfully prepared menu based on local ingredients and premium olive oil from the region. All of this shows that a summer stay at Koversada is about much more than just a few days of vacation; it's about an experience that weaves together a sense of freedom, unspoiled nature, and the rhythm of the Istrian way of life. Whether you choose the naturist tradition or the comforts of a modern textile campsite, Koversada offers a rare balance between heritage and contemporary tourism. That balance is where its true character lies: in the ability to evolve with the times while remaining true to itself. ■



**THROUGH THE "OLIVE TREE GUARDIAN" PROGRAM, GUESTS CAN ADOPT AND NAME ONE OF 1,295 GROVE TREES**

**U OKVIRU PROGRAMA "ČUVARI MASLINE" GOSTI MOGU POSVOJITI I IMENOVATI JEDNO OD 1295 STABALA U MASLINIKU**

jedno od 1295 stabala masline u masliniku te mu nadjenuti ime. Kao potvrdu sudjelovanja dobivaju personalizirani certifikat i drvenu pločicu s imenom masline i vlasnika koja ostaje trajno postavljena u masliniku. Uložena sredstva usmjeravaju se u njegu i održavanje maslinika, čime program aktivno doprinosi očuvanju lokalnog krajolika i održivosti destinacije. Dodatnu vrijednost čini poklonoboca maslinova ulja iz sezone u kojoj su postali čuvari masline, čime se iskustvo zaokružuje kroz autentičan i opipljiv proizvod prirode. Još jedno posebno iskustvo povezano s maslinom jest i Olive Tree Picnic. Kao što i samo ime govori, gosti imaju mogućnost iskusiti boravak u netaknutoj prirodi uz pažljivo osmišljenu gastronomsku ponudu zasnovanu na lokalnim namirnicama i maslinovu ulju. Iz svega navedenog jasno je da se ljeto u Koversadi ne svodi na nekoliko dana odmora, nego na iskustvo koje spaja slobodu, prirodu i autentičan istarski način života. Bilo da birate naturističku tradiciju ili suvremeni komfor, Koversada nudi rijetku ravnotežu između naslijeđa i modernog turizma. Upravo u toj ravnoteži leži njezina posebnost – u sposobnosti da se mijenja, a da pritom ostane vjerna sebi. □



HOTEL MONTE MULINI IS SET BETWEEN  
THE PROTECTED FOREST PARK AND LONE BAY,  
IN A LOCATION THAT OFFERS BOTH TRANQUILITY  
AND SEAMLESS ACCESS TO THE TOWN

HOTEL MONTE MULINI SMJEŠTEN JE IZMEĐU  
PARK-ŠUME I UVALE LONE, NA LOKACIJI KOJA  
ISTODOBNO NUDI I MIR I POVEZANOST S GRADOM

The beauty  
of 'La Dolce Vita'

Ljepota 'slatkog života'

Monte Mulini



In Rovinj, the first signs of the season appear as early as spring. Days by the sea begin to stretch, the town gradually comes alive with travelers, and the coastal path leading toward the Golden Cape once again becomes part of the city's everyday flow. As Rovinj begins to awaken from its winter slumber, Hotel Monte Mulini, set between the protected forest park and Lone Bay, in a location that offers both tranquility and seamless access to the town, reopens for the season. Following a EUR 9 million investment, Monte Mulini welcomes guests this year with thoughtfully refined guestrooms, restaurants, and shared spaces that now feel even calmer, more streamlined, and more in tune with the surrounding landscape. Rooms are designed in warm, natural tones with a focus on elegance and comfort, while the generous interiors, carefully selected furnishings, and inviting terraces create an ideal setting for unwinding with views of fragrant Mediterranean greenery and the sea. New features and experiences, conceived for relaxation and indulgence, complete the offering.

The most significant change, however, comes through a new partnership. Monte Mulini is now among the select few properties that have introduced Riva Destinations, a lifestyle concept created by the legendary Italian brand Riva and developed within the Ferretti Group. With this, Rovinj joins an exclusive circle of only eleven destinations worldwide, including Monaco, Venice, Paris, Naples, and Como. The idea behind the concept is to bring the aesthetic and lifestyle of Riva Destinations ashore, extending it beyond the world of yachting.

U Rovinju se sezona osjeća već u rano proljeće. Jutra uz more postaju dulja, grad se postupno puni turistima, a šetnje uz obalu prema Zlatnom rtu vraćaju se u svakodnevni gradski ritam. I baš u to vrijeme, dok se Rovinj budio iz svojega zimskog sna, hotel Monte Mulini, smješten između park-šume i uvale Lone, na lokaciji koja istodobno nudi i mir i povezanost s gradom, ponovno je otvorio svoja vrata. Nakon investicije od 9 milijuna eura, Monte Mulini od ove sezone dočekuje goste s pomno dotjeranim smještajnim jedinicama, restoranima i zajedničkim prostorima, koji su sada još smireniji, pročišćeniji i usklađeniji s okruženjem. Sobe su uređene u toplim prirodnim tonovima s naglaskom na eleganciju i udobnost, a prostrani interijer, pažljivo odabran namještaj i udobne terase stvaraju savršen ambijent za opuštanje uz pogled na mirisno mediteransko zelenilo i more. Osim toga, uvedeni su i novi sadržaji i iskustva, osmišljeni za revitalizaciju u hedonističkom stilu.

Najveći iskorak ipak proizlazi iz novog partnerstva. Monte Mulini je među rijetkim adresama koje su uvele Riva Destinations, lifestyle koncept legendarnog talijanskog brenda Riva, razvijen u grupaciji Ferretti. Time se Rovinj pridružuje vrlo uskom krugu destinacija -

**THE GENEROUS INTERIORS, CAREFULLY SELECTED FURNISHINGS, AND INVITING TERRACES CREATE AN IDEAL SETTING FOR UNWINDINGS**

PROSTRANI INTERIJER, PAŽLJIVO ODABRAN NAMJEŠTAJ I UDOBNE TERASE STVARAJU SAVRŠEN AMBIJENT ZA OPUŠTANJE





Within this context, the hotel has introduced Riva Lounge and Riva Privée, spaces conceived as a reinterpretation of the distinctive design language of Riva yachts. Set on the lowest level, with views that open directly toward the sea and a layout that feels like a natural extension of the shoreline, Riva Lounge embodies Mediterranean ease and the art of living in the moment. Just like its predecessor, the Wine Vault restaurant, the Riva Lounge celebrates authentic Mediterranean flavors. Every dish is shaped by understated simplicity and the rich taste of seasonal ingredients, enhanced with a subtle Italian note, turning lunch and dinner into meaningful rituals framed by a sophisticated setting.

Riva Privée offers a more discreet setting, designed for intimate private gatherings and special occasions. Both venues draw on Riva's instantly recognizable

## Riva Lounge and Riva Privée are envisioned as a reinterpretation of the signature aesthetic of Riva yachts

Riva Lounge i Riva Privée osmišljeni su kao reinterpretacija prepoznatljive estetike Riva brodova

njih tek jedanaest, među kojima su Monako, Venecija, Pariz, Napulj i Como. Ideja cijelog koncepta je prijenos estetike Riva Destinacija i načina života izvan same nautike.

U tom su se kontekstu u hotelu otvorili Riva Lounge i Riva Privée, prostori osmišljeni kao reinterpretacija prepoznatljive estetike Riva brodova. Smješten na najnižoj razini, s pogledom koji se otvara prema moru, Riva Lounge funkcionira kao produžetak obale i definiran je mediteranskom lakoćom i umjetnošću življenja u trenutku. Baš kao i njegov prethodnik, restoran Wine Vault, i Riva Lounge slavi autentične mediteranske okuse. Svako je jelo definirano elegantnom jednostavnošću i punim okusom sezonskih sastojaka, uz suptilan talijanski štih, a ručak i večera zahvaljujući profinjenoj atmosferi postaju pravi ritual.

Riva Privée je diskretniji, zamišljen za manja, privatna okupljanja i posebne prigode. Oba prostora oslanjaju se na prepoznatljiv vizualni jezik Rive: mahagonij, rebrasti javor, polirani čelik i krom, uz prigodne akvamarinke tonove. Cijeli dizajn interijera inspiriran je stilom pedesetih godina prošlog stoljeća i estetikom Dolce Vite, a prostor je oplemenjen autentičnim dizajnerskim elementima poput lampi Aquariva i stolica inspiriranih modelom Aquarama, kao i arhivskim fotografijama koje evociraju naslijeđe i mitologiju brenda Riva. Koncept se temelji na suptilnoj eleganciji i vrhunskoj izradi, bez naglašene ekstravagancije, u skladu s identitetom hotela Monte Mulini.



MAISTRA COLLECTION  
MONTE MULINI ADULTS  
EXCLUSIVE HOTEL

★★★★★

A. Smareglia 3, 52210, Rovinj



visual language, with mahogany, ribbed maple, polished steel, and chrome, complemented by accents in aquamarine tones. The entire interior design takes its inspiration from mid-twentieth-century style and the Dolce Vita aesthetic, while the space is enriched with authentic design elements such as Aquariva lamps, chairs modeled on the iconic Aquarama, and archival photographs that evoke the heritage and mythology of the Riva brand. At its core, the concept embodies subtle elegance and outstanding craftsmanship rather than overt extravagance, perfectly in tune with the identity of Hotel Monte Mulini.

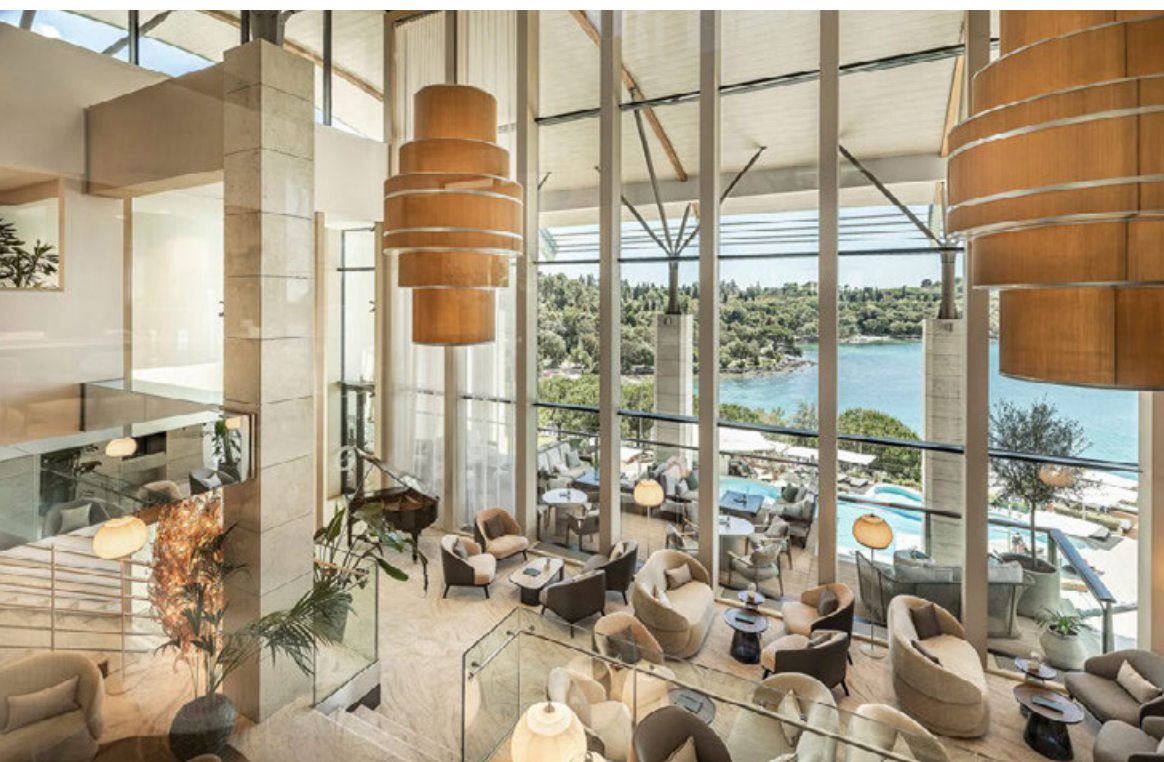
At Monte Mulini, Riva Destinations also takes on a distinctly functional role. Guests have access to an Riva Aquariva Special luxury speedboat, the contemporary evolution of one of the brand's most iconic boats. Time on the water becomes an integral part of the stay, whether through exploring the Rovinj archipelago, curated sunset cruises, or private events at sea.

With this renovation, Monte Mulini defines its direction even more clearly and enters a new phase of its evolution, building on seventeen years of outstanding hospitality and pairing it with the timeless elegance of one of the world's most renowned yachting brands. In Rovinj, a destination that in recent years has been carefully balancing between preserving its character and pursuing its aspirations, such a strategy feels thoughtful and genuinely sustainable over the long term. ■

Riva Destinations ovdje ima i svoju funkcionalnu dimenziju. Gostima je na raspolaganju luksuzni gliser Riva Aquariva Special, suvremena verzija jednog od najpoznatijih modela ovog proizvođača. Izlazak na more tako postaje neraskidiv dio iskustva hotela, bez obzira na to je li riječ o istraživanju rovinjskog arhipelaga, promatranju zalaska Sunca ili organizaciji privatnog događaja na pučini.

Monte Mulini ovom obnovom još preciznije definira svoj smjer i ulazi u novu fazu razvoja, spajajući svoju 17-godišnju tradiciju vrhunskog gostoprimstva s bezvremenskom elegancijom jednog od najpoznatijih svjetskih nautičkih brendova. U Rovinju, gradu koji posljednjih godina sve češće balansira između autentičnosti i ambicije, ovakav pristup djeluje promišljeno i dugoročno održivo. □





**MONTE MULINI IS NOW AMONG THE SELECT FEW PROPERTIES THAT HAVE INTRODUCED RIVA DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING MONACO, VENICE, PARIS, NAPLES, AND COMO**

ROVINJ SE PRIDRUŽUJE VRLO USKOM KRUGU DESTINACIJA KOJE SU UVELE RIVA DESTINACIJU, MEĐU KOJIMA SU MONAKO, VENECIJA, PARIZ, NAPULJ I COMO

ROMANTASY GETAWAY IN ISTRIA ROMANTASY ODMOR U ISTRI

# Stepping into the pages of a book

DOSLOVAN BIJEG MEĐU RETKE IZ KNJIGA

For years, books have been one of the greatest inspirations for travel. Lush portrayals of destinations, whether grounded in reality or entirely fantastical, have stirred readers' imaginations and provided that much-needed nudge to step out into the world and experience these romantic backdrops in person. In the 19th century, Lord Byron's epic poem Childe Harold's Pilgrimage prompted many young Englishmen to follow in its footsteps and discover the charms of Europe for themselves. These days, travel influencers, films, and series have a similar effect, igniting our wanderlust in new ways. Yet lately, travelers have been returning to the medium where it all began – books. More specifically, to stories infused with a touch of fantasy.

The trend is known as “romantasy travel” and it revolves around visiting real-world places that evoke the settings of beloved books. The movement was popularized on TikTok, particularly within the BookTok community, which helped bring the romantasy genre into the mainstream and, in doing so, opened the door to a new way of traveling. A recent 2026 travel trends report by Booking.com, based on insights from 29,000 people across 33 countries, revealed that seven out of ten travelers are interested in visiting a destination inspired by romantasy fiction.

This kind of travel centers on castles, towers, waterfalls, city walls, and other landmarks that could easily serve as the backdrop for a tale of knights, love, magic, and fantastical creatures. Croatia is especially rich in such destinations, as evidenced by its selection as a filming location for the series Game of Thrones.

With the exception of Dubrovnik, which is a story all its own, there is one region that seems to overflow with places plucked straight from a fairy tale. That region is Istria, Croatia's largest peninsula, where you can find almost everything, from castles to waterfalls. In the following pages, we have highlighted a selection of locations that can instantly transport you into the world of literary fantasy.

Knjige su godinama bile jedna od glavnih inspiracija za putovanja. Fantastični opisi mjesta, što stvarnih, što nestvarnih, pobudili bi maštu čitatelja i ponudili onaj prijeko potreban poguranac da izađemo u svijet i osobno doživimo te romantične kulise. U 19. stoljeću epska je poema “Putovanje Childea Harolda” (Childe Harold's Pilgrimage) Lorda Byrona inspirirala brojne mlade Engleze da u sličnom aranžmanu istraže čari Europe. Jednak učinak danas imaju i travel influenceri, ali i filmovi i serije, no u posljednje se vrijeme putnici vraćaju mediju s kojim je sve i počelo – knjigama. Preciznije rečeno, pričama s predznakom fantastike.

Trend se zove “romantasy travel”, a podrazumijeva posjećivanje lokacija koje podsjećaju na mjesta iz omiljenih knjiga. Ovu je inicijativu popularizirao TikTok, odnosno BookTok zajednica koja je pogurala romantasy žanr u mainstream i time otvorila vrata jednoj novoj vrsti putovanja. Naime, izvještaj platforme za putovanja Booking.com o trendovima za 2026., koji je obuhvatio 29.000 ljudi iz 33 zemlje, pokazao je da je sedmero od desetero putnika potencijalno zainteresirano za posjet destinaciji inspiriranoj romantasy literaturom. Pritom govorimo o dvorcima, kulama, slapovima, zidinama te ostalim znamenitostima koje lako mogu biti kulisa za roman o vitezovima, ljubavi, čaroliji i fantastičnim bićima. Hrvatska je posebno bogata takvim destinacijama, što potvrđuje i činjenica da je izabrana kao jedna od zemalja za snimanje serije “Igra prijestolja”.

Izuzev Dubrovnik, koji je priča za sebe, jedna regija vrvi mjestima koja kao da su ispala iz svijeta bajki. Riječ je o Istri, najvećem hrvatskom poluotoku koji krije gotovo sve, od dvoraca do slapova. U nastavku smo izdvojili nekoliko lokacija koje će vas u trenutku odvesti u svijet književne fantastike.

**“ROMANTASY TRAVEL” REVOLVES AROUND VISITING REAL-WORLD PLACES THAT EVOKE THE SETTINGS OF BELOVED BOOKS**

**“ROMANTASY TRAVEL” PODRAZUMIJEVA POSJEĆIVANJE LOKACIJA KOJE PODSJEĆAJU NA MJESTA IZ OMILJENIH KNJIGA**







**DVIGRAD IS A FASCINATING ABANDONED MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT THAT STILL HOLDS THE SECRETS OF ISTRIA'S**

**FASCINANTNI DVIGRAD NAPUŠTENO JE SREDNJOVJEKOVNO NASELJE KOJE ČUVA TAJNE PROŠLOSTI ISTRE**



#### **DVIGRAD RUINS**

Limaska Draga,  
Kanfanar

## **DVIGRAD**

Dvigrad is a fascinating abandoned medieval settlement that still holds the secrets of Istria's past. First mentioned in historical records in 879, its story stretches back even further, to prehistoric times, when it formed part of a fortified hilltop site within the Roman province. Even its very name, meaning "two towns," hints at its origins, recalling the two original towns that once stood here: Moncastel and Parentin.

Dvigrad lies in the Limaska Draga, a deep valley that stretches from the Lim Channel to Pazin. The town itself occupies a ridge between 150 and 175 meters above sea level, where today you can explore the remains of Moncastel; the other part of Dvigrad, the fortress of Parentin, was destroyed to its foundations, leaving only a flat plateau behind. According to local legend, Henry Morgan, the infamous British pirate, hid his treasure in the Dvigrad area after his raid on Panama. The story goes that, while fleeing from English warships, he was driven deep into the Adriatic and eventually reached the Lim Channel. After dropping anchor along its shores, he discovered Dvigrad, already largely deserted by then. There, he allegedly buried his hoard and settled nearby in a village now known as M(o)rgani.

## **DVIGRAD**

Fascinantni Dvigrad napušteno je srednjovjekovno naselje koje čuva tajne prošlosti Istre. Prvi se put u povijesnim knjigama spominje 879. godine, ali svojim postojanjem zadire još u prapovijest, kao dio nekadašnje gradine u sastavu rimske provincije. I samo mu ime govori da su se ovdje prvotno nalazila dva grada – Moncastela i Parentina.

Dvigrad je smješten u Limskoj drazi, dubokoj udolini koja se proteže od Limskog kanala do Pazina. Samo je naselje smješteno na koti od 150 do 175 metara nadmorske visine, a danas se mogu razgledati ostaci Moncastela (drugi je dio Dvigrada, kaštel Parentin, uništen do temelja i od njega je ostao samo zaravanak).

Postoji legenda prema kojoj je Henry Morgan, zloglasni britanski gusar, na području Dvigrada sakrio svoje blago nakon što je osvojio Panamu. Legenda kaže da je tijekom bijega od jedrenjaka engleske flote bio potjeran duboko u Jadransko more i da je u konačnici stigao do Limskog zaljeva. Nakon što se usidrio na njegovoj obali, pronašao je i Dvigrad, koji je do tada bio već gotovo potpuno napušten, te odlučio tamo sakriti blago. Svoj je novi dom Henry Morgan pronašao blizu Dvigrada, u selu koje danas nosi naziv M(o)rgani.



**A PARTICULAR HIGHLIGHT IS THE VISITOR CENTER HOUSE OF THE WITCH MARE, DEDICATED TO THE RICH TAPESTRY OF LOCAL TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

POSEBNA JE ATRAKCIJA CENTAR ZA POSJETITELJE "KUĆA VJEŠTICE MARE", POSVEĆEN RAZNOLIKOJ MATERIJALNOJ I NEMATERIJALNOJ KULTURNOJ BAŠTINI

## MOROSINI-GRIMANI CASTLE

Stretching across almost the entire northern side of the main square, the Placa, in Svetvinčenat, the stone Morosini-Grimani Castle dominates its surroundings. The best-preserved castle on the peninsula, it has stood for centuries as the symbol of Svetvinčenat, once welcoming soldiers, noble guests, travel writers, and merchants, and today drawing visitors and travelers from around the world. The original fortress was built here in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, though centuries of conflict left it frequently destroyed, rebuilt, and reshaped. The castle took on its present appearance in 1589, when Venetian nobleman Marino Grimani, later Doge of Venice, reconstructed the fire-damaged structure based on plans drawn up by the Venetian architects Scamozzi and Campagna. Today, Morosini-Grimani Castle is regarded as one of the finest examples of Venetian architecture of its period in Istria and a former key stronghold of the Venetian military, fully renovated and reopened to visitors in 2020. A particular highlight is the visitor center House of the Witch Mare, dedicated to the rich tapestry of local tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Through the story of the famed Istrian witch, guests can explore local myths and legendary beings, and can even test their mettle in virtual archery and sword fighting challenges to "defend" the castle. Morosini-Grimani Castle is also home to Escape Castle Svetvinčenat, a unique, large-scale escape game experience.

## KAŠTEL MOROSINI-GRIMANI

Preko gotovo cijele sjeverne strane Place, glavnog trga u Savičenti (Svetvinčenat), proteže se kameni kaštel Grimani. Najočuvaniji kaštel na poluotoku i najveća savičentska građevina već je stoljećima simbol mjesta i odredište vojnika, gostiju vlastele, putopisaca i trgovaca, a danas znatiželjnih prolaznika i turista.

Prva je tvrđava sagrađena još početkom 13. stoljeća, no burne godine ratovanja za posljedice su imale često uništavanje pa obnavljanje i promjenu izgleda kaštela. Sadašnji oblik građevina dobiva 1589. godine, kad Marino Grimani obnavlja spaljeni kaštel po nacrtu venecijanskih arhitekata Scamozzija i Campagne. Kaštel je danas jedna od ponajljepših mletačkih gradnji tog razdoblja u Istri i jedna od najvažnijih utvrda mletačke vojske, a potpuno je obnovljen 2020. godine.

Posebna je atrakcija Centar za posjetitelje "Kuća vještice Mare", posvećen raznolikoj materijalnoj i nematerijalnoj kulturnoj baštini. Od legendarne istarske vještice doznat ćete sve o mitskim bićima Istre, a možete se okušati u virtualnoj streljačkoj i mačevalačkoj bitki za obranu kaštela. Dvorac Morosini-Grimani ujedno je jedini na svijetu u kojem možete igrati popularni escape room.



**MOROSINI-GRIMANI CASTLE**  
Svetvinčenat 20,  
Svetvinčenat  
[grimanicastle.com](http://grimanicastle.com)



**ALTHOUGH MOTOVUN IS SMALL IN SIZE, ITS HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE IS REMARKABLY RICH**

IAKO MOTOVUN POVRŠINOM NIJE VELIK, NJEGOV POVIJESNI I KULTURNI ZNAČAJ IZNIMNO JE BOGAT



**MOTOVUN**  
Northwestern Istria  
[motovun.hr](http://motovun.hr)

## MOTOVUN

In the northern part of Istria, high above the valley of the Mirna River, sits Motovun, arguably the most famous and most captivating of Istria's medieval hilltop towns, its silhouette among the most iconic symbols of the region's interior. The town is dominated by a 13th-century Romanesque-Gothic bell tower with a crenellated parapet, standing beside the 17th-century Parish Church of St. Stephen. On the central square, you will also find the Romanesque municipal palace, the largest secular building in Istria from that era, framed by a cluster of other historic buildings and landmarks. Although Motovun is small in size, its historical and cultural significance is remarkably rich. Within its old town alone, there are 26 protected cultural monuments, placing this Istrian hilltop gem among the most valuable historic ensembles in Croatia. Equally impressive is the nearby Motovun Forest, where common oak, narrow-leafed ash, and elm thrive in a lush, river-fed landscape that has been declared a special reserve of forest vegetation. Beyond its rich plant life, the forest is now renowned as one of the region's most important truffle habitats, home to prized underground fungi that local lore credits with aphrodisiac qualities.

## MOTOVUN

U sjevernom dijelu Istre, iznad doline rijeke Mirne, smješten je vjerojatno najpoznatiji i najatraktivniji istarski srednjovjekovni gradić Motovun, čija je veduta jedan od poznatih simbola istarske unutrašnjosti. Motovunom dominira romaničko-gotički zvonik nazubljenog kruništa iz 13. stoljeća, smješten do župne crkve sv. Stjepana iz 17. stoljeća. Na središnjem se gradskom trgu nalazi i romanička komunalna palača, najveće profano zdanje u Istri iz tog razdoblja, a ukolo su i brojne druge povijesne građevine. Iako Motovun površinom nije velik, njegov povijesni i kulturni značaj iznimno je bogat. Tome u prilog ide i podatak da je unutar stare jezgre čak 26 zaštićenih spomenika kulture, što ovaj istarski gradić svrstava među najvrednije povijesne cjeline u Hrvatskoj. Jednako je impresivna i obližnja Motovunska šuma, gdje rastu hrast lužnjak, poljski jasen i primorski brijest, a cijelo je područje proglašeno posebnim rezervatom šumske vegetacije. Osim po bogatstvu biljnog svijeta, danas je nadaleko poznata i kao jedno od najvažnijih nalazišta tartufa, skupocjenih podzemnih gljiva kojima se, prema vjerovanju, pripisuju i afrodizijačka svojstva.



**THE WATERFALL DROPS AROUND 25 METERS FROM A CLIFF INTO A SMALL, STRIKINGLY TURQUOISE POOL AT ITS BASE**

**SLAP JE VISOK OKO 25 METARA I U SVOJEM PODNOŽJU TVORI PREKRASNO TIRKIZNO JEZERCE**

## SOPOT WATERFALL

Among Istria's many natural attractions, the Sopot Waterfall stands out as a true hidden gem. It sits near the village of Floričići, close to the small historic hilltop town of Pićan, and is considered one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Istria, a favorite spot for hikers and day-trippers alike. The waterfall drops around 25 meters from a cliff into a small, strikingly turquoise pool at its base. Visitors can enjoy two scenic viewpoints: one dedicated to Perun, the Old Slavic god of the sky, positioned directly above the waterfall, and another named after Perun's wife, Mokoš, the goddess of fertility and protector of women, located halfway down the western descent toward the pool. What makes the area around the waterfall even more special is a centuries-old bridge, built in Napoleon's time as the main link between the surrounding villages and the town of Pićan. Over the years, water has damaged it more than once, but the local community has always rebuilt it, with the most recent restoration completed in 1953.

The best time to visit is in spring or fall, when the stream is full and the waterfall is at its most impressive, as it may run dry during the hottest, driest summer months. ■

## SLAP SOPOT

Istria je prepuna prirodnih ljepota, a među skrivenim draguljima ističe se slap Sopot. Nalazi se kod naselja Floričići, nedaleko od Pićna, i jedan je od najljepših slapova u Istri, pa ga rado posjećuju izletnici i pješaci. Slap je visok oko 25 metara i u svojem podnožju tvori prekrasno tirkizno jezerce.

Uz slap postoje dva vidikovca: vidikovac staroslavenskog boga Peruna koji je kao vladar neba smješten odmah iznad slapa i vidikovac njegove žene Mokoš, božice plodnosti i zaštitnice žena, koji se nalazi na polovici spusta sa zapadne strane prema jezeru.

Ono što područje oko slapa čini još posebnijim je Višestoljetni most, sagrađen u Napoleonovo doba kao glavna poveznica okolnih sela s Pićnom. Voda ga je oštetila više puta, no mještani su ga uvijek iznova obnavljali. Posljednji je put most obnovljen 1953. godine.

Najbolje je vrijeme za posjet ovom lokalitetu proljeće ili jesen jer za sušnih ljetnih mjeseci nema vode, pa ni slapa. □



**SOPOT WATERFALL**  
Central Istria,  
near Floričići & Pićan

## TORTA DE MANDOLE

# The second renaissance of the Vodnjan's signature dessert

## DRUGA RENESANSA SLATKOG SIMBOLA VODNJANA

The year is 1942. A housewife in Vodnjan sits down at her kitchen table and, in her recipe notebook, writes in large letters: *torta de mandole*, or almond cake.

She notes only three ingredients: almonds, eggs, and sugar. To be exact, 300 grams of almonds, 300 grams of sugar, and eight eggs. The preparation is just as straightforward. Beat the egg whites in one bowl, then beat the yolks with the sugar in another. Into the yolk mixture, slowly fold in the finely ground almonds and the beaten egg whites, adding them alternately and stirring from bottom to top with gentle, unhurried strokes, until the batter is silky and free of lumps.

Finally, pour the mixture into a pan, slide it into a cold, unheated oven, and bake for 40 minutes.

That housewife, whose name has been lost to time, could not have imagined that, in that very moment, she was describing a cake that would become a symbol of the Vodnjan area some eighty years later.

In 2024, the Vodnjan Tourist Board launched an initiative to have the traditional Vodnjan *torta de mandole* recognized and protected as part of Croatia's intangible cultural heritage, marking an important step toward ensuring that this sweet treasure is never forgotten again.

We say "never again" because, for a time in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it quietly disappeared from Vodnjan's home kitchens. Once an indispensable centerpiece of every major family celebration, especially weddings and christenings, it was slowly pushed out of memory by sweeping demographic changes and shifts in local farming. In the process, it faded from the minds of the Bumbari, as the people of Vodnjan have long been known in the old local idiom.

Godina je 1942. i jedna domaćica iz Vodnjana sjela je za kuhinjski stol i u svoju bilježnicu recepata zapisala velikim slovima: *torta de mandole*. Kao sastojke je navela samo tri namirnice – bademe, jaja i šećer. Točnije, 300 grama badema, jednako toliko šećera i osam jaja. Postupak pripreme isto je tako jednostavno objasnila. Istuči posebno bjelanjke i zatim žumanjke sa šećerom. U smjesu sa žumanjcima naizmjenično dodavati fino mljevene bademe i snijeg, tako da se miješa odozdo prema gore, sporim pokretima, kako bi se dobila smjesa bez grudica. Smjesu zatim uliti u kalup pa je staviti u hladnu pećnicu i peći 40 minuta.

Domaćica, čije ime nije poznato, nije bila svjesna da je tog trenutka opisala tortu koja će 80 godina poslije postati zaštitni znak vodnjanskog kraja. Turistička zajednica grada Vodnjana pokrenula je, naime, 2024. godine postupak zaštite tradicionalne vodnjanske *torte de mandole* kao nematerijalnog kulturnog dobra i time napravila važan korak u nastojanju da se ovu slasticu više nikada ne zaboravi. Kažemo više nikada zato što je u jednom razdoblju prošlog stoljeća ona neprimjetno iščeznula iz kuhinje vodnjanskih domaćinstava. Iako je nekada bila neizostavna slastica svih velikih obiteljskih svečanosti, posebice vjenčanja i krštenja, brojne demografske i agrarne promjene potihom su je izgurale iz sjećanja Bumbara, kako se po starinski zovu žitelji Vodnjana.

**IN 2024, THE VODNJAN TOURIST BOARD LAUNCHED AN INITIATIVE TO HAVE THE TRADITIONAL VODNJAN TORTA DE MANDOLE RECOGNIZED AND PROTECTED AS PART OF CROATIA'S INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

TURISTIČKA ZAJEDNICA GRADA VODNJANA POKRENULA JE 2024. POSTUPAK ZAŠTITE TRADICIONALNE VODNJANSKE TORTE DE MANDOLE KAO NEMATERIJALNOG KULTURNOG DOBRA







**SVJETLANA CELIJA, OWNER OF THE ICONIC VODNJANKA RESTAURANT, BREATHED NEW LIFE INTO THE TORTA DE MANDOLE**

SVJETLANA CELIJA, VLASNICA KULTNOG RESTORANA VODNJANKA, UDAHNULA JE NOVI ŽIVOT TORTI DE MANDOLE



That culinary injustice was finally righted by Svjetlana Celija, owner of the iconic Vodnjanka Restaurant. It was she who breathed new life into the *torta de mandole*, reinventing it under the name bumbarska torta. Through long conversations with Vodnjan's home cooks, she traced the original recipe and brought it to her restaurant's menu. Later, in cooperation with the Vodnjan Tourist Board, she began hosting workshops on making *torta de mandole* and helped initiate the protection process for this beloved dessert, all with the aim of sharing the story of Vodnjan's traditional cake throughout Croatia and beyond.

So how did *torta de mandole* actually originate?

No one can say for sure, but its origins likely reach back well before 1942. There are accounts that this almond cake was already being made in 1902, if not earlier, yet the housewife from our opening scene was the first to commit the recipe to paper and thus ensure it could be passed down from generation to generation and safely carried into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As for the list of ingredients, it, too, is very much a child of its time, as Celija explains.

"Since the Middle Ages, Vodnjan and its surrounding countryside have been known as an agricultural region, especially for their almond groves. It was only natural, then, that housewives cooked with whatever ingredients were close at hand. That is why *torta de mandole* relied on just three things: almonds, sugar, and eggs," explains Celija, adding that, at the time, there were also special bitter almonds that lent the dessert an even deeper flavor. In the past, locals planted almond trees in a softer soil called *girasso*, which gave the nuts their distinctive aroma and, in turn, gave the cake a taste that was impossible to resist.

Tu konditorsku nepravdu ispravila je Svjetlana Celija, vlasnica kultnog restorana Vodnjanka. Upravo je ona udahnila novi život *torti de mandole* te je iznova osmislila pod nazivom bumbarska torta. U razgovorima s vodnjanskim domaćicama ušla je u trag izvornom receptu i uvela je ponudu svojeg restorana. Zatim je, u suradnji s Turističkom zajednicom grada Vodnjana, organizirala radionice izrade *torte de mandole* te je sudjelovala u prijavi postupka zaštite te slastice, sve s ciljem da se priča o tradicionalnoj vodnjanskoj torti dozna u cijeloj Hrvatskoj, pa i šire.

A kako je, zapravo, nastala *torta de mandole*?

To nitko ne zna, ali njezino je porijeklo moguće datirati i prije 1942. godine. Postoje informacije da se *torta de mandole* pripremala još 1902. godine, pa i prije, ali je domaćica s početka teksta bila prva koja je recept stavila na papir te time omogućila da se prenosi s koljena na koljeno i sigurno stigne do 21. stoljeća. Što se, pak, tiče popisa sastojaka, oni su također rezultat tadašnjeg vremena, što nam je objasnila Celija.

"Vodnjan i područje Vodnjanštine od srednjeg su vijeka poznati kao poljoprivredni kraj, posebice po svojim plantažama badema. Stoga je normalno da su domaćice u kuhinji koristile namirnice koje su im u to vrijeme bile dostupne. Tako su i za *tortu de mandole* koristile samo tri sastojka – bademe, šećer i jaja", govori Celija i dodaje da je u to doba bilo i posebnih, gorkih badema, koji su još više obogaćivali okus slastice. Vodnjanci su badem, naime, u prošlosti sadili na tlu zvanom *girasso*, koje je bilo mekše, što je plodu davalo poseban miris, a torti od njega okus kojem je bilo nemoguće odoljeti.



Unfortunately, the Second World War and the waves of migration that followed gradually wiped out many almond plantations, while numerous families took with them the precious recipe notebooks that held fragments of their culinary past. In this time of upheaval, *torta de mandole* slipped out of everyday life in Vodnjan. Yet, thankfully, it lived on in the minds and hearts of a small number of people who continued to cherish its story and, in doing so, saved it from the merciless passage of time. Today, *torta de mandole* is going through a revival, and locals in Vodnjan are proudly putting it back in the spotlight. Its comeback is also encouraging the return of some old traditions, with fresh efforts now underway to reintroduce almond trees to the Vodnjan region so the cake can again be prepared using local, homegrown ingredients. ■

Nažalost, Drugi svjetski rat i demografske migracije nakon njega doveli su do toga da su plantaže s vremenom nestale, a brojne su obitelji sa sobom odnijele i dragocjene kuharice u kojima su zabilježeni dijelovi kulinarske prošlosti. U tom je previranju i *torta de mandole* nestala iz vodnjanske svakodnevice, ali je, na sreću, ostala u mislima i srcima nekolicine onih koji su njezinu priču nastavili njegovati i time je sačuvali od nemilosrdnog zuba vremena. Danas *torta de mandole* doživljava renesansu, a Vodnjanci je s ponosom opet stavljaju na pijedestal. Osim toga, ona svojim postojanjem inspirira i povratak nekih starih tradicija, pa tako sada ponovno niču inicijative koje bi vratile bademe na područje Vodnjanštine kako bi se ova slastica mogla ponovno pripremati od autohtonih namirnica toga kraja. □

## BUMBARI: THE HOSTS AN EMPEROR ONCE CALLED UNFRIENDLY

For centuries, Vodnjan's residents who speak the Istroromance (Istriot) language have been known as the Bumbari, which is why *torta de mandole* is also known as bumbar cake. It is not completely clear how they got this nickname. One theory links it to a mispronunciation of *burbero*, meaning "unfriendly," while another connects it to the phrase *fa bumba*, meaning "to drink." In any case, there are three legends that tell the story of how the Bumbari got their name.

According to one legend, the name was given by Emperor Franz Joseph during his visit to Vodnjan. The locals gathered to welcome him, bringing gifts, and assembled at the site where a silk-processing factory once stood. When the emperor stepped off the train, the people of Vodnjan fell silent, unsure of what to say, simply staring at him. "Ma che gente burbera!" he reportedly said, meaning "What unfriendly people!" But the *podestà* (mayor) misheard it as "Ma che gente bumbara!" and from that moment on, the people of Vodnjan came to be known as the Bumbari.

In another version, it was the emperor who coined the nickname after hearing the town band, then known simply as the *banda*, playing so loudly that it sounded to his ears like "bum... bum..." and thus, the Bumbari were born. A further anecdote ties the name to German and Hungarian soldiers once stationed in Pula. One of them, having received permission to visit Vodnjan, drank the local wine and exclaimed, "Buona bumba!" or "Good drink!" and from then on, the locals, it is said, were called the Bumbari.

## BUMBARI: DOMAĆINI KOJE JE CAR PROGLASIO NELJUBAZNIMA

Stanovnici Vodnjana koji govore istroromanski (istriotski) od davnina se nazivaju Bumbarima, zbog čega *tortu de mandole* zovu i bumbarska torta. Premda nije u potpunosti jasno zašto su dobili taj naziv, pretpostavlja se da je naziv nastao pogrešnim izgovorom riječi *burbero*, što bi značilo negostoljubivi, ili *fa bumba*, što znači piti. Postoje, naime, tri legende o tome kako su dobili ime.

Prema jednoj, nadjenuo im ga je car Franjo Josip prilikom posjeta Vodnjanu. Ljudi su dolazili na doček i donosili mu darove. Doček je bio na mjestu gdje je nekada bila tvornica za preradu svile. Kad je car izašao iz vlaka, Vodnjanci nisu znali što bi rekli, šutjeli su i tupo ga gledali. Tada je rekao: "Ma che gente burbera!" (Kakvi neljubazni ljudi!), a podesta (gradonačelnik, op. a.) je razumio: "Ma che gente bumbara!" – i od tada se Vodnjanci nazivaju Bumbarima.

Prema drugoj verziji, car im je dao takav nadimak jer je gradska glazba, koju su nekad nazivali *banda*, glasno svirala *bum... bum...* i otud ime Bumbari. Uz nastanak njihova vezuje se i anegdota prema kojoj je jedan od vojnika iz Njemačke i Mađarske koji su svojedobno bili u Puli zatražio dozvolu da ode u Vodnjan, gdje je popio vina i povikao: "Buona bumba!" (Dobro piće!), pa Vodnjance od tada nazivaju Bumbari.

LUNGOMARE PLAZA, GRAND PARK HOTEL ROVINJ

# Exclusive shopping on the promenade

## Ekskluzivni shopping na promenadi

### PARK CONCEPT STORE

Within an elegantly designed space where contemporary luxury meets refined design and lifestyle aesthetics, guests will discover a carefully curated selection of prestigious international and local brands.

The luxury interior and lifestyle segment features names such as Fancy, Polspotten, Skogsberg & Smart, Bang & Olufsen, and Doiy, while the atmosphere of sophisticated living is further enriched by the iconic Dr. Vranjes and Voluspa scented candles and diffusers.

The world of niche perfumery is represented through a selection of renowned fragrance houses including Kilian, Byredo, Xerjoff, Tiziana Terenzi, Montale, Mancera, Birkholz, and many others, creating a unique experience for true lovers of luxury fragrances. The beauty segment is further elevated by luxurious Philip B. haircare products, celebrated for their exceptional quality and exclusive approach to beauty and care.

The fashion segment combines authenticity, contemporary design, and timeless elegance through carefully selected Croatian brands such as A'Marie and XD Xenia Design, alongside internationally recognized names including People Like Us, Rains, United Nude, and Gilis, while exclusive Balmain and Valentino sunglasses collections add the finishing touch to the sophisticated fashion expression. ■

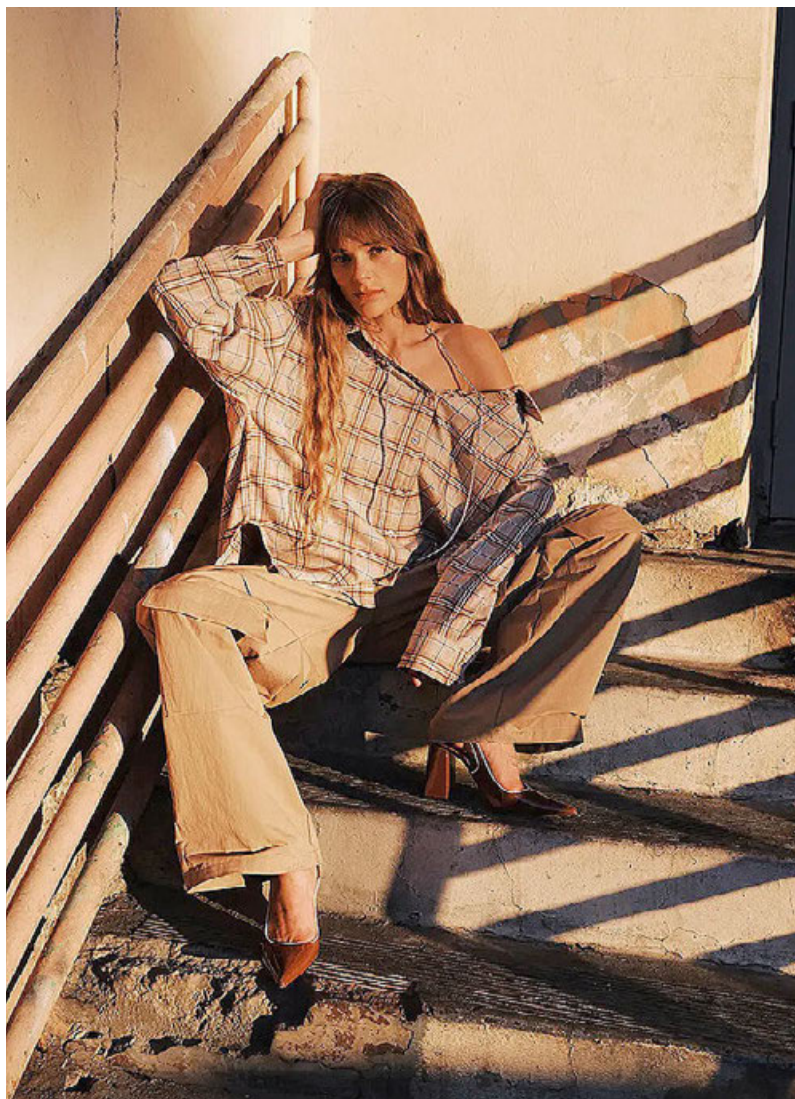
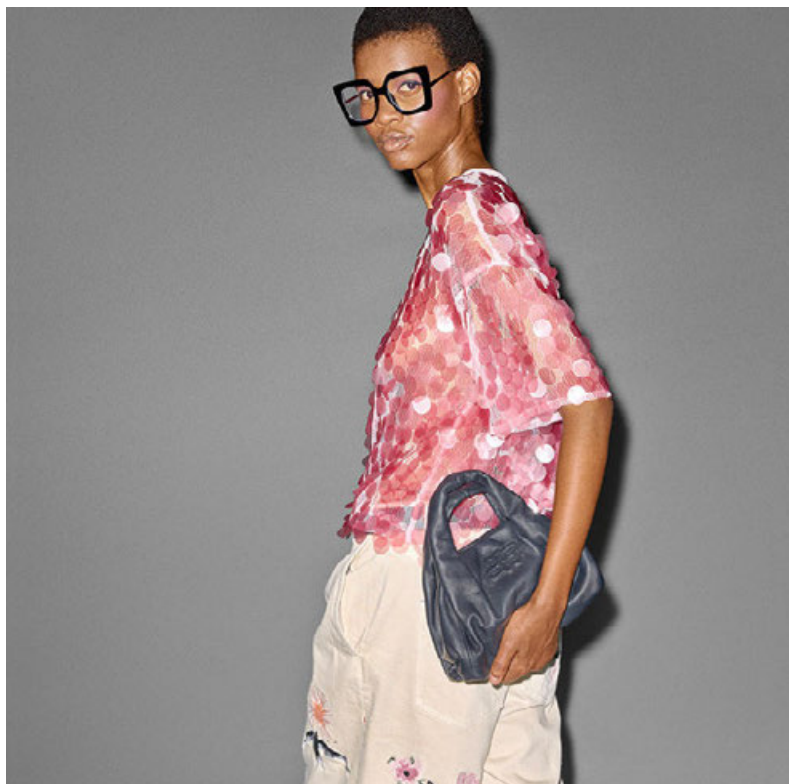
U elegantno osmišljenom prostoru, gdje se suvremeni luksuz susreće s profinjenim dizajnom i lifestyle estetikom, nalazi se pažljivo kuriran izbor prestižnih svjetskih i domaćih brendova. Luxury segment interijera i lifestyle detalja čine imena poput Fancy, Polspotten, Skogsberg & Smart, Bang & Olufsen i Doiy, dok atmosferu sofisticiranog življenja dodatno obogaćuju prepoznatljive Dr. Vranjes i Voluspa mirisne svijeće i difuzori.

Svijet niche parfumerije predstavlja selekcija renomiranih parfemskih kuća među kojima se ističu Kilian, Byredo, Xerjoff, Tiziana Terenzi, Aqua Di Parma, Montale, Mancera, Birkholz i mnogi drugi, stvarajući jedinstveno iskustvo za istinske ljubitelje luksuznih mirisa. Beauty segment dodatno upotpunjuju luksuzni Philip B. proizvodi za njegu kose, poznati po vrhunskoj kvaliteti i ekskluzivnom pristupu njezi.

Modni segment spaja autentičnost, suvremeni dizajn i bezvremensku eleganciju kroz pažljivo odabrane hrvatske brendove A'Marie i XD Xenia Design, uz međunarodno priznate brendove poput People Like Us, Rains, United Nude i Gilis, dok sofisticiran modni izričaj dodatno naglašavaju ekskluzivne kolekcije sunčanih naočala Balmain i Valentino. □







## GARDEROBA

This contemporary fashion retailer specialised in Scandinavian design offers brands such as GANNI, By Malene Birger, Stine Goya, Rodebjer, The Garment, Rotate, Baum und Pferdgarten, TKEES and Cala Jade among others, including Scandinavian fashion jewellery.

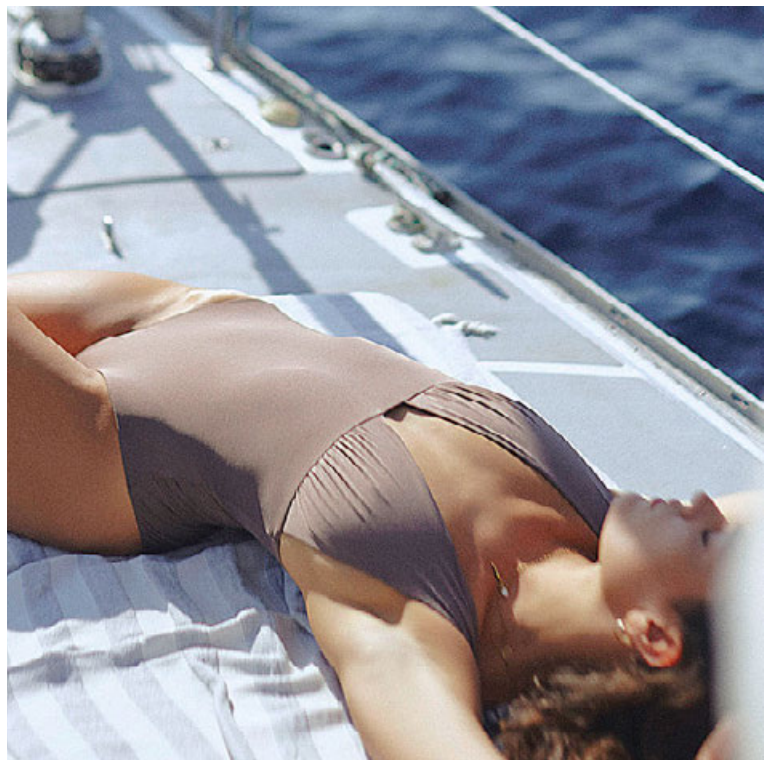
Ova trgovina specijalizirana za skandinavski modni dizajn nudi suvremene brendove kao što su GANNI, By Malene Birger, Stine Goya, Rodebjer, The Garment, Rotate, Baum und Pferdgarten, TKEES i Cala Jade te skandinavski modni nakit.



### MORE CONCEPT STORE

More Beachwear's flagship store, alongside its swimwear luxury collection designed and crafted in Croatia, also presents a selection of beach bags, hats and accessories from Ibeliv, Sans Arcidet and K-Jacques, as well as exclusive silk scarves and wraps with the artistic signature of Saša Šekoranja.

More Beachwear flagship boutique, uz visokokvalitetne kupaće kostime proizvedene u Hrvatskoj, nudi selekciju torbi za plažu, šešira i modnih dodataka brendova Ibeliv, Sans-Arcidet i K-Jacques, kao i ekskluzivne svilene marama i šalove s potpisom Saše Šekoranje.





## DOBNER

Dobner Jewelry Store, located in the heart of the Lungomare Plaza promenade in Rovinj, is the perfect destination for lovers of fine jewelry and luxury watches. Our selection features renowned Italian brands such as Pomellato, Vhernier, Crivelli, Dodo, and Chantecler, offering unique, elegant, and sophisticated pieces.

Draguljarnica Dobner, smještena u srcu Lungomare Plaza šetnice u Rovinju, predstavlja idealnu destinaciju za ljubitelje vrhunskog nakita i satova. U našem asortimanu nalaze se renomirani talijanski brendovi: Pomellato, Vhernier, Crivelli, Dodo i Chantecler, koji nude jedinstvene, elegantne i sofisticirane komade.





## BELLE EPOQUE

Luxury boutique for women and men with unique selection of brands from Zimmermann, Pucci, Simkhai, Missoni, Etro, Camilla, Orlebar Brown, Melissa Odabash, Marc-Antoine Barrois, Ormonde Jayne, Aurelie Biedermann, Thameen London, Histoires de Parfums and others.

Luksuzni butik za žene i muškarce s jedinstvenim izborom brendova od Zimmermann, Pucci, Simkhai, Missoni, Etro, Camilla, Orlebar Brown, Melissa Odabash, Marc-Antoine Barrois, Ormonde Jayne, Aurelie Biedermann, Thameen London, Histoires de Parfums i drugi.





### VILEBREQUIN & FIVE STAR FASHION

Vilebrequin's unique patterns and vivid prints, and versatile palette of styles in the Five Star Fashion Store – Gant, Barbour, Polo Ralph Lauren and Lauren Ralph Lauren.

Jedinstveni uzorci i živopisni printevi Vilebrequina, te svestrana paleta stilova u trgovini Five Star Fashion – Gant, Barbour, Polo Ralph Lauren i Lauren Ralph Lauren.





## EYE CLUB ROVINJ

From London to Rovinj, British eyewear company Eye Club presents some of the world's most exclusive eyewear brands on the Lungomare Plaza. Choose from their popular own brand, or luxury designers such as Anna-Karin Karlsson, Dita, Lunetterie Générale, Thierry Lasry as well as popular mainstream independent collections such as Retrosuperfuture, Gigi Studios, James Ay, Komono and of course, for all the family, IZIPIZI.

Od Londona do Rovinja, britanska tvrtka za naočale Eye Club na Lungomare Plazi predstavlja neke od najekskluzivnijih svjetskih brendova naočala. Možete birati između njihovog popularnog vlastitog brenda ili luksuznih dizajnerskih imena poput Anna-Karin Karlsson, Dita, Lunetterie Générale i Thierry Lasry, kao i popularnih nezavisnih kolekcija poput Retrosuperfuture, Gigi Studios, James Ay, Komono te, naravno, za cijelu obitelj – IZIPIZI.



## SALT

SALT concept store at Hotel Monte Mulini, created and run since 2015 by an Italian duo from Milan. It features its own Made in Italy collection and a selection of high-end international brands: ERES, MII Collection, Dragon Diffusion, Vipera Leather Bags, Ivam Resortwear, Rita Mennoia Resortwear, Trudon.

SALT concept store u hotelu Monte Mulini, koji je 2015. godine osmislio i od tada vodi talijanski dvojac iz Milana. U ponudi ima vlastitu kolekciju Made in Italy te izbor luksuznih međunarodnih brendova: ERES, MII Collection, Dragon Diffusion, Vipera Leather Bags, Ivam Resortwear, Rita Mennoia Resortwear i Trudon.





## HAVANA CIGAR SHOP

# AN EXCLUSIVE HAVEN FOR HEDONISTS

## EKSKLUZIVNA OAZA ZA HEDONISTE

In a modern world ruled by speed and stress, carving out moments just for yourself is more important than ever. The world of cigars offers a unique way to find balance between the hectic pace of everyday life and the need for deeper, more serene experiences. For more than 25 years, Havana Cigar Shop, operated by the Zagreb-based company Camelot, has catered to discerning cigar enthusiasts with a curated selection of premium brands, including Davidoff, Habanos, Oliva, Plasencia, Oscar Valladares, Joya de Nicaragua, and Arturo Fuente.

Located within Lungomare Plaza, this exclusive destination has become home to a diverse community of hedonists, businesspeople, collectors, and all who appreciate a truly refined atmosphere. Here, guests discover premium cigars alongside carefully selected high-end spirits, pipe and rolling tobacco, pipes, lighters, unique handcrafted ashtrays, and

other smoking accessories. Beyond its broad range of premium cigars, Havana Shop is a go-to destination for men's gifts, distinctive accessories, and humidors, offering something for every taste. ■

U modernom svijetu obuzetom brzinom i stresom, pronalaženje vremena za sebe postaje sve važnije nego ikad. Svijet cigara nudi jedinstvenu perspektivu na to kako pronaći balans između ubrzanog ritma svakodnevnog života i potrebe za dubljim, smirenijim iskustvima. Camelot ovu priliku uživateljima cigara osigurava već više od 25 godina, nudeći premium brendove poput Davidoffa, Habanos, Olive, Plasencije, Oscara Valladaresa, Joya de Nicaragua i Artura Fuentea.

U sklopu Lungomare Plaze, ova ekskluzivna zajednica hedonista, poslovnih ljudi, kolekcionara i svih koji znaju cijeniti vrhunsku atmosferu nalazi



**BEYOND ITS BROAD RANGE OF PREMIUM CIGARS, HAVANA SHOP IS A GO-TO DESTINATION FOR MEN'S GIFTS**

OSIM ŠIROKOG IZBORA PREMIUM CIGARA, HAVANA SHOP NUDI I IDEALNE DAROVE ZA MUŠKARCE

svoj dom, mjesto gdje ih čekaju premium cigare, ali i pomno odabran asortiman ekskluzivnih alkoholnih pića, duhana za lule i motanje, lula, upaljača, unikatnih, ručno rađenih pepeljara te ostalog pribora za pušače. Osim širokog izbora premium cigara, Havana Shop nudi i idealne darove za muškarce, jedinstvene dodatke i humidore... ukratko - za svakog ponešto. □



## CHIAVALON CONCEPT STORE AT HOTEL LONE

# MEET THE LOCAL PRODUCER BEHIND ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST AWARDED OLIVE OILS

UPOZNAJTE LOKALNOG PROIZVOĐAČA KOJI STOJI IZA JEDNOG OD NAJNAGRAĐIVANIJIH MASLINOVIH ULJA NA SVIJETU

Step into the new Chiavalon Concept Store in Lone Hotel and discover the story of a local producer that has become one of the most awarded olive oil producers in the world. Here, the finest organic extra virgin olive oils, gourmet delicacies and the new Chiavalon Olive Theory skincare collection, created from award-winning olive oil, powerful olive bioactive extracts, and the most advanced next-generation ingredients - come together in a unique sensory experience inspired by the Mediterranean lifestyle.

Whether you are searching for an authentic Istrian gift, a premium skincare ritual or simply a moment to enjoy the flavours of the region, Chiavalon invites you to explore something truly different. Every product reflects their passion for quality, sustainability and the rich heritage of Istria.

Guests of Maistra can enjoy a free tasting of their world-awarded organic olive oils and experience the aromas, flavours and philosophy that have made Chiavalon internationally recognised. Chiavalon team will guide you through the world of olive oil, local gastronomy and skincare inspired by the extraordinary power of the olive tree.

Visit the Chiavalon Concept Store at Hotel Lone and discover why olive oil in Istria is far more than just food – it is a way of life. ■

Zakoračite u novi Chiavalon Concept Store u hotelu Lone i otkrijte priču o lokalnom proizvođaču koji je postao jedan od najnagrađivanih proizvođača maslinova ulja na svijetu. Vrhunska organska ekstradjevičanska maslinova ulja, gourmet delicije i nova kolekcija za njegu kože Chiavalon Olive Theory, nastala od nagrađivanog maslinova ulja, moćnih bioaktivnih ekstrakata masline i najnaprednijih sastojaka nove generacije, ovdje se spajaju u jedinstveno osjetilno iskustvo inspirirano mediteranskim načinom života.

Bilo da tražite autentičan istarski poklon, vrhunski ritual njege kože ili jednostavno trenutak za uživanje u okusima regije, Chiavalon vas poziva da otkrijete nešto

uistinu posebno. Svaki proizvod odražava njihovu strast prema kvaliteti, održivosti i bogatoj istarskoj baštini.

Gosti Maistre mogu uživati u besplatnoj degustaciji svjetski nagrađivanih organskih maslinovih ulja te doživjeti arome, okuse i filozofiju koji su Chiavalonu donijeli međunarodno priznanje. Tim Chiavalona provest će vas kroz svijet maslinova ulja, lokalne gastronomije i njege kože inspirirane iznimnom snagom masline.

Posjetite Chiavalon Concept Store u hotelu Lone i otkrijte zašto je maslinovo ulje u Istri mnogo više od hrane – ono je način života. □

**THE SOPHISTICATED DERMOCOSMETIC LINE CHIAVALON OLIVE THEORY WAS CREATED FROM AWARD-WINNING OLIVE OIL, POWERFUL OLIVE BIOACTIVE EXTRACTS, AND THE MOST ADVANCED NEXT-GENERATION INGREDIENTS**

SOFISTICIRANA DERMOKOZMETIČKA LINIJA CHIAVALON OLIVE THEORY NASTALA JE OD NAGRAĐIVANOG MASLINOVOG ULJA, MOĆNIH BIOAKTIVNIH EKSTRAKATA MASLINE I NAJNAPREDNIJIH SASTOJAKA NOVE GENERACIJE



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# Three decades of Sheraton Zagreb Hotel

30 godina hotela Sheraton Zagreb





**Zagreb Hotel**

**OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS, SHERATON ZAGREB HOTEL HAS EVOLVED INTO ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST RECOGNIZABLE LUXURY HOTELS**

**U POSLJEDNJIH 30 GODINA SHERATON ZAGREB IZRASTAO JE U JEDAN OD NAJPREPOZNTLJIVIJIH LUKSUZNIH HOTELA U GRADU**



**THE HOTEL FEATURES 306 GUEST ROOMS AND SUITES, INCLUDING A PRESIDENTIAL SUITE, AND OFFERS EXTENSIVE FACILITIES FOR BUSINESS EVENTS**

HOTEL RASPOLAŽE S 306 SOBA I APARTMANA, UKLJUČUJUĆI I PREDsjedNIČKI, TE NUDI BOGATU INFRASTRUKTURU ZA POSLOVNE DOGAĐAJE



Located in the very heart of the city, at Kneza Borne 2, Sheraton Zagreb Hotel sits at the crossroads of Zagreb's daily life and the rhythm of global travel. Surrounded by the city's major attractions, key thoroughfares, and cultural landmarks, this iconic hotel has, for three decades, served as a distinguished meeting place for business leaders and travelers from around the world. Designed by architect Marijan Turkulin as a contemporary business and conference property, the hotel was completed and opened in 1995, when it joined the international Sheraton Hotels & Resorts portfolio.

Over the past 30 years, Sheraton Zagreb Hotel has evolved into one of the city's most recognizable luxury hotels, seamlessly combining business and leisure experiences. The hotel features 306 guest rooms and suites, including a Presidential Suite, and offers extensive facilities for business events, ranging from versatile meeting spaces to a Grand Ballroom spanning more than 600 square meters. Guests can also enjoy a selection of restaurants and bars, a wellness and spa center with an indoor pool, and a fully equipped fitness center.

During its evolution, the hotel has undergone several renovation cycles, the most significant of which took place in 2015, when guest room interiors, public areas, restaurants, and the wellness facilities were extensively upgraded, further enhancing both the guest experience and alignment with contemporary luxury hospitality standards. As part of this, special attention was devoted to the culinary offering, including the redesign of restaurant and bar spaces, and the opening of the Tomassino Restaurant and the &More by Sheraton Bar. Established in 1937 in the United States, the Sheraton brand has grown into one of the world's best-known hotel networks, with a presence in destinations worldwide. Within this global family, Sheraton Zagreb continues to uphold the brand's high international standards of service and quality.

Today, Sheraton Zagreb serves as a vibrant backdrop to city life. It stands as an essential business and tourism hub, renowned for hosting conferences, corporate meetings, and social events, while seamlessly blending the needs of business

Hotel Sheraton Zagreb u samom je središtu grada, u Ulici kneza Borne 2, na mjestu gdje se zagrebačka svakodnevnica prirodno susreće s ritmom putovanja. U neposrednoj blizini glavnih gradskih atrakcija, prometnih pravaca i kulturnih sadržaja, ovaj kulturni hotel već tri desetljeća djeluje kao stabilna točka susreta poslovnih ljudi i putnika iz cijelog svijeta. Projektiran prema zamisli arhitekta Marijana Turkulina kao moderna poslovno-kongresna građevina, hotel je dovršen i otvoren 1995. godine, kada postaje dio međunarodnog lanca Sheraton Hotels & Resorts. U posljednjih 30 godina Sheraton Zagreb izrastao je u jedan od najprepoznatljivijih luksuznih hotela u gradu, kombinirajući poslovne i turističke sadržaje. Hotel raspoložbe s 306 soba i apartmana, uključujući i predsjednički, te nudi bogatu infrastrukturu za poslovne događaje poput kongresnih dvorana i Grand Ballrooma, površine veće od 600 m<sup>2</sup>. Uz to, gostima su na raspolaganju restorani i barovi, wellness i spa centar s bazenom te fitness sadržaji.

Tijekom njegova razvoja u hotelu je izvedeno više renovacija, od kojih je najznačajnija bila ona 2015. godine, kada su obnovljeni interijeri soba, zajednički prostori, restorani i wellness zona, čime je dodatno unaprijeđena razina usluge i usklađenost s modernim standardima luksuznog smještaja. Posebna je pozornost posvećena gastronomskoj ponudi, uključujući renovacije restorana i barskih prostora, te su otvoreni restoran Tomassino i bar &More by Sheraton. Kao dio globalnog brenda Sheraton, osnovanog 1937. godine u SAD-u, hotel djeluje u okviru jedne od najpoznatijih svjetskih hotelskih mreža, prisutne u brojnim destinacijama diljem svijeta. Zahvaljujući tome, Sheraton Zagreb uspješno održava visoke međunarodne standarde usluge i kvalitete.

Danas je Sheraton Zagreb svojevrsna kulisa gradskog života, hotel koji predstavlja važnu poslovnu i turističku točku grada, poznat po organizaciji konferencija, poslovnih susreta i društvenih događanja, i koji uspješno povezuje potrebe poslovnih putnika i turista.

Upravo u tom, kontinuiranom ritmu, paralelno s razvojem hotela odvijala se i profesionalna priča Stjepana Jakopača, bell



STJEPAN JAKOPAČ, THE BELL CAPTAIN AT SHERATON ZAGREB HOTEL. IS PART OF THE HOTEL'S EVERYDAY LIFE SINCE ITS VERY BEGINNINGS

STJEPAN JAKOPAČ, BELL CAPTAIN ZAGREBAČKOG SHERATONA, OD SAMIH POČETAKA DIO JE NJEGOVE SVAKODNEVICE

travelers and tourists alike. Moving in that same continuous rhythm as the hotel itself is the professional journey of Stjepan Jakopač, the Bell Captain at Sheraton Zagreb Hotel. This year, as Sheraton marks its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Mr. Jakopač celebrates the same milestone, having been part of the hotel's everyday life since its very beginnings. His perspective offers insight into what has changed over the decades, but also into what has remained constant: the central role that people play in the story of Sheraton Zagreb.

**How do you remember your first working day at the hotel?**

I was excited and a little nervous on my first day because I was stepping into a completely new world. That first day has stayed with me in a very positive way, because I immediately felt the team spirit and the energy of working with people

**How long have you been working as bell captain, and how did your professional journey at the hotel begin?**

My professional journey began quite spontaneously. I was looking for a job opportunity when a position at the hotel opened up. I started with basic tasks, learned on the job, and over time worked my way up. Each new responsibility was a step forward and a chance to develop my skills.

**Could you share what first attracted you to this job, and what has convinced you to stay for so many years?**

What attracted me most at the beginning was working with people and being in a dynamic environment where no two days are the same. What has kept me all these years are those small moments with satisfied guests who return again and again, along with a positive working atmosphere. On top of that, constant learning, the feeling that my work has real value, and the opportunity to grow have all given me extra motivation to stay in this profession.

**Looking back, how would you describe the changes the hotel has experienced over the last three decades?**

captaina zagrebačkog Sheratona. Ove godine, kada Sheraton obilježava 30 godina postojanja, isti jubilej obilježava i gospodin Jakopač kao netko tko je od samih početaka dio njegove svakodnevice. Njegova perspektiva donosi uvid u promjene, ali i u ono što se u ovih 30 godina nije promijenilo, a to, pak, pokazuje koliko veliku ulogu imaju ljudi u priči o Sheratonu.

**Kako se prisjećate svojeg prvog radnog dana u hotelu?**

Prvog radnog dana bio sam uzbuđen i pomalo nervozan jer sam ulazio u potpuno novi svijet. Taj prvi dan ostao mi je u lijepom sjećanju jer sam odmah osjetio timski duh i pozitivnu energiju rada s ljudima.

**Koliko dugo obavljate posao bell captaina i kako je počeo vaš profesionalni put u hotelu?**

Moj profesionalni put počeo je sasvim spontano. Tražio sam priliku za posao i otvorila se mogućnost rada u hotelu. Krenuo sam od osnovnih zadataka, učio kroz rad i s vremenom napredovao. Svaka nova odgovornost bila je korak naprijed i prilika da razvijem svoje vještine.

**Što vas je u početku privuklo ovom poslu i što vas je zadržalo u njemu svih ovih godina?**

Na početku su me najviše privlačili rad s ljudima i dinamično okruženje u kojem nijedan dan nije isti. Ono što me zadržalo

Today, Sheraton Zagreb stands as an essential business and tourism hub to city

Danas Sheraton Zagreb predstavlja važnu poslovnu i turističku točku grada

**TOURISM WILL KEEP MOVING FORWARD WITH GROWING DIGITALIZATION, BUT THE PERSONAL TOUCH WILL REMAIN THE MOST IMPORTANT THING**

TURIZAM ĆE SE I DALJE RAZVIJATI UZ SVE VEĆU DIGITALIZACIJU, ALI OSOBNI PRISTUP I DALJE ĆE BITI NAJVAŽNIJI



In the last 30 years, hospitality has become highly modernized: digitalization, online reservations, and higher guest expectations have completely transformed the way we work.

**In your view, what has changed the most in your role and in how guests behave over these 30 years?**

The biggest change is the speed and availability of information. Today's guests are more informed, more demanding, and expect personalized service, while the work has become much more dynamic and tech-driven.

**Over the course of your career, have you had the chance to meet famous guests? Is there an anecdote or unusual request that has particularly stayed with you?**

I've had the opportunity to meet many well-known people, including politicians, actors, athletes, and singers. There are plenty of anecdotes; for example, a guest who asked for his room to be rearranged in the middle of the night because of "negative energy." It was an unusual request, but one we still managed to accommodate. Another time, a guest asked us to arrange a yacht charter in Zadar with just a two-day notice. Despite the tight deadline and the complexity, we managed to organize every detail, which really showed how resourceful you need to be when working with guests.

**What's your typical workday like?**

My workday starts with checking reservations and organizing the shift, followed by communicating with guests, handling their requests, and coordinating with colleagues.

**Which part of your job would you describe as the most rewarding, and which as the most challenging?**

The most rewarding part is working with people and seeing guests satisfied, while the most demanding moments are unexpected situations and working under pressure.

**In your opinion, what makes this hotel special?**

svih ovih godina upravo su mali trenuci zadovoljnih gostiju koji se vraćaju i dobra radna atmosfera. Uz to, stalno učenje, iz kojeg je bilo jasno da moj posao ima vrijednost i mogućnost razvoja, dodatno me motiviralo da ostanem u ovom poslu.

**Kako biste opisali promjene koje je hotel doživio tijekom posljednjih 30 godina?**

U proteklih 30 godina hotelijerstvo se jako moderniziralo: digitalizacija, online rezervacije i veća očekivanja gostiju u potpunosti su promijenili način rada.

**Što se najviše promijenilo u vašem poslu i ponašanju gostiju u tom razdoblju?**

Najveća su promjena brzina i dostupnost informacija. Gosti su danas informiraniji, zahtjevniji i očekuju personaliziranu uslugu, a posao je postao dinamičniji i tehnološki usmjeren.

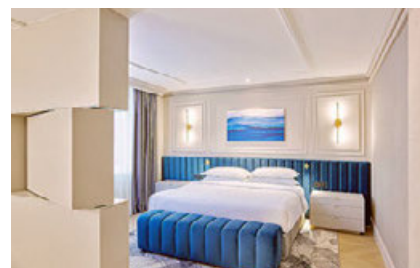
**Jeste li u karijeri imali priliku susresti poznate osobe? Postoji li neka anegdota ili neobičan zahtjev gosta koji vam je posebno ostao u sjećanju?**

Imao sam priliku upoznati brojne poznate osobe, poput političara, glumaca, sportaša i pjevača, a i anegdota je mnogo. Primjerice, jedan od gostiju tražio je da mu se soba preuredi usred noći zbog "negativne energije", što je bilo neobično, ali smo mu ipak izašli u susret. Jednom je gost zatražio da mu se organizira najam jahte u Zadru u roku od dva dana. Unatoč kratkom roku i izazovu, uspješno smo organizirali sve potrebne detalje, pokazavši snalažljivost u radu.

**Kako izgleda vaš uobičajen radni dan?**

Moj radni dan počinje pregledom rezervacija i organizacijom smjene, nakon čega slijedi komunikacija s gostima i rješavanje njihovih zahtjeva te koordinacija s kolegama.

**Koji biste dio posla izdvojili kao najljepši, a koji kao najzahtjevniji?**



**SHERATON ZAGREB CONTINUES TO UPHOLD THE BRAND'S HIGH STANDARDS OF SERVICE AND QUALITY**  
 SHERATON ZAGREB USPJEŠNO ODRŽAVA VISOKE MEĐUNARODNE STANDARDE USLUGE I KVALITETE

For me, the hotel stands out for its quality of service, long-standing tradition, and the personal approach we take with every guest.

**How would you describe the team and working atmosphere, and how important are your colleagues in your day-to-day work?**

The team is professional and closely connected, and my coworkers are essential—great service just doesn't happen without good collaboration

**What does this job mean to you personally, and what are you most proud of after 30 years of work?**

This job means a great deal to me, because through it I've had the chance to meet many different people and cultures. I am most proud of my many years of experience and of the satisfaction of our guests. I am also proud to have been named Employee of the Year at Sheraton Zagreb Hotel in 2006 and again in 2007, and to have received an award in 2008 from Mr. Roeland Vos, then President of Starwood's Europe, Africa and Middle East division.

**What advice would you give to new employees who are just starting at the hotel?**

I would tell them to be patient, courteous, and open to learning – the way you treat guests is the key to success.

**What would you wish for the hotel in the years to come?**

I wish the hotel continued success, many satisfied guests, and a strong continuation of its tradition of quality.

**How do you see the future of the hotel, of tourism, and of the bell captain's role?**

Tourism will keep moving forward with growing digitalization, but the personal touch will remain the most important thing. The bell captain's role will stay essential for making that great first impression and ensuring a top-tier guest experience. ■

Najljepši dio je rad s ljudima i zadovoljstvo gostiju. Najzahtjevniji su rad pod pritiskom i nepredviđene situacije.

**Po čemu je, prema vašem mišljenju, ovaj hotel poseban?**

Sheraton Zagreb ističe se kvalitetom usluge, dugom tradicijom i osobnim pristupom baš svakom gostu.

**Kako biste opisali hotelski tim i radnu atmosferu te koliko ulogu kolege imaju u vašem svakodnevnom radu?**

Tim je profesionalan i povezan, a kolege imaju ključnu ulogu jer bez dobre suradnje nema kvalitetne usluge.

**Što vam ovaj posao osobno znači i na što ste najponosniji nakon 30 godina rada?**

Ovaj mi posao znači mnogo jer sam kroz njega upoznao različite ljude i kulture. Najponosniji sam na dugogodišnje iskustvo i zadovoljstvo gostiju. Ponosan sam i što sam proglašen najboljim djelatnikom hotela Sheraton Zagreb 2006., a zatim i 2007. godine, te sam dobitnik priznanja predsjednika Starwooda za Europu, Afriku i Bliski istok 2008. godine Roelanda Vosa.

**Koji biste savjet uputili novim zaposlenicima koji tek dolaze u hotel?**

Budite strpljivi, ljubazni i spremni učiti – odnos prema gostima ključ je uspjeha.

**Što biste poželjeli hotelu u godinama koje dolaze?**

Puno uspjeha, zadovoljnih gostiju i nastavak kvalitetne tradicije.

**Kako vidite budućnost hotela, turizma i uloge bell captaina?**

Turizam će se i dalje razvijati uz sve veću digitalizaciju, ali osobni pristup i dalje će biti najvažniji. Uloga bell captaina ostat će ključna u stvaranju prvog dojma i kvalitetnog iskustva gostiju. □



INTERVIEW: MARTINA VALIDŽIĆ

# Travel as a Necessity

## Putovanje kao potreba

**M**artina Validžić is one of the most recognizable and beloved faces on Croatian Radiotelevision (HRT), where she has spent more than two decades building her career as a journalist, editor, host, and author. Over the years she has worked alongside some of the country's leading television editors and across nearly every format, from shows such as the tourism-focused program *Boje turizma* (The Colors of Tourism), the talk show *Osmi kat* (Eighth Floor), the daily current-affairs show *Hrvatska uživo* (Croatia Live), and the morning show *Dobro jutro, Hrvatska* (Good Morning, Croatia) to numerous summer specials, sports broadcasts, and flagship entertainment programs, where she honed her craft and developed her signature journalistic style.

Her body of work spans countless interviews with world-renowned figures, coverage of international film and music festivals and fashion weeks, as well as travel features filmed across the globe, ranging from adrenaline-filled adventures to on-camera culinary experiments. In recent years, she has turned to original documentary projects, where she weaves together travel, social issues, and a deeply personal approach to storytelling. Series

Martina Validžić prepoznatljivo je i omiljeno lice Hrvatske radiotelevizije, na kojoj je tijekom više od dva desetljeća izgradila karijeru novinarkе, urednice, voditeljice i autorice. Njezin profesionalni put počinje uz ponajbolje televizijske urednike, radom na gotovo svim formatima televizijskog programa, od emisija kao što su "Boje turizma", "Osmi kat", "Hrvatska uživo" i "Dobro jutro, Hrvatska" do brojnih ljetnih specijala, sportskih prijenosa i ključnih emisija Zabavnog programa HRT-a, gdje je učila posao i oblikovala vlastiti novinarski potpis.

U njezinoj biografiji stoje i brojni intervjui sa svjetski poznatim imenima, reportaže s međunarodnih filmskih i glazbenih festivala te tjedana mode, kao i putopisne priče snimane na svim stranama svijeta, od adrenalinskih izazova do gastronomskih eksperimenata pred kamerom. Posljednjih godina okreće se autorskim dokumentarnim projektima u kojima spaja putovanja, društvene teme i osobni pristup priči. Serijali poput "Sretnih gradova" i "Serijskih brijača" donose pogled na gradove i pop-kulturu kroz ljude, svakodnevicu i ono što se rijetko vidi u turističkim okvirima. Danas pripada generaciji autora koji istovremeno pišu, produciraju, snimaju i vode vlastite projekte, od ideje

MARTINA VALIDŽIĆ IS PART OF A GENERATION OF CREATORS WHO WRITE, PRODUCE, SHOOT, AND HOST THEIR OWN PROJECTS

MARTINA VALIDŽIĆ PRIPADA GENERACIJI AUTORA KOJI ISTOVREMENO PIŠU, PRODUCIRAJU, SNIMAJU I VODE VLASTITE PROJEKTE



HER WORK HAS BEEN FILMED ACROSS THE WORLD, YET HER FOCUS NEVER CHANGES: SHE IS ALWAYS DRAWN TO THE PEOPLE, THE STORIES, AND THE ENERGY OF THE PLACES SHE VISITS

NJEZINI RADOVI SNIMANI SU DILJEM SVIJETA, A U FOKUSU JOJ UVIJEK OSTAJE ISTO: LJUDI, PRIČE I ENERGIJA MJESTA KOJA POSJEĆUJE

such as Sretni gradovi (Happy Cities) and Serijski brijači (Serial Addicts) explore cities and pop culture through the people who live there, everyday life, and moments that rarely make it into tourist brochures. Today she is part of a generation of creators who write, produce, shoot, and host their own projects, taking them from the initial idea all the way to the final edit. Her work has been filmed across the world, from Europe to Asia and North America, yet her focus never changes: she is always drawn to the people, the stories, and the energy of the places she visits. In our interview, she talks about what makes a city a good place to live, how she spots authentic hospitality, and why the voices from the street matter more to her than official spokespeople and scripted messages.

**You've dedicated years to television, starting in music journalism and evolving into author-driven documentary series. Looking at your career now, what is most important to you about what you've managed to create under your own name, with your own way of working and your own sensibility?**

The first twenty years were intense, euphoric, driven by pure adrenaline. There were plenty of twists and sharp turns, sudden overcast skies and unexpected rays of sun, days of calm and days of storms. More than once I caught myself wondering, "Why do I have to go through all of this? Why do I have to learn everything the hardest pos-

do finalne montaže. Njezini radovi snimani su diljem svijeta, od Europe do Azije i Sjeverne Amerike, a u fokusu joj uvijek ostaje isto: ljudi, priče i energija mjesta koja posjećuje.

U razgovoru za Out&About govori o tome što grad čini dobrim za život, kako prepoznaje autentično gostoprimstvo i zašto su joj važniji ljudi s ulice nego službeni sugovornici.

**Iza Vas su godine rada na televiziji, od glazbenog novinarstva do autorskih dokumentarnih serijala. Kad danas razmatrate svoj profesionalni put, što je ono najvažnije što ste uspjeli izgraditi vlastitim imenom, pristupom i senzibilitetom?**

Prvih 20 godina bilo je intenzivno, euforično, adrenalinski. Puno zavoja i oštih skretanja, puno nepredviđenih naoblaka i neočekivanih Sunčevih zraka, juga i bure... često sam se znala pitati – zašto ja sve ovo moram prolaziti, zašto sve moram naučiti na najteži način, ali tih prvih 20 godina televizijsko-radijskog novinarskog života u petoj brzini poslužilo mi je u svim situacijama koje sam doživljavala ponovo u posljednjih pet godina kao autorica dokumentarnih serijala. Intenzitet se pojačao, srce je još snažnije tuklo, ali toliko sam postala samodostatna da me malo toga može iznenaditi. Prilagodljiva sam svim prilikama i neprilikama. Redateljica sam, scenaristica, novinarka, voditeljica, glazbena urednica, bila sam i snimateljica, često i danas snimam, a počela sam i montirati i sve sam bolja i

sible way?" But those first two decades of life in television, radio, and journalism, always in fifth gear, have helped me handle every situation I've encountered again over the past five years as the author of documentary series. The pace has only picked up, my heart beats even faster, but I've become so self-reliant that very little can surprise me now; I can adapt to almost anything, good or bad. I am a director, screenwriter, journalist, host, and music editor; I have worked as a camera operator and still often shoot today, and I've also taken up editing – and I keep getting better at it. I know every part of the production process. I wanted to master it all so that no one could accuse me of not knowing what I was doing. And that, honestly, is what I'm most proud of: the fact that I didn't give up after everything, but instead pressed the accelerator even harder. We all evolve with our experiences, but my core has stayed the same. I'm proud of that too. People used to tell me that someone like me had no place on HRT's screen, that I was too loud, too big, too messy, too rock'n'roll, that I laughed too much, used too much slang, and that because of all that some people assumed I wasn't educated, that in every way I was "too much." There were moments when I tried to make myself smaller and quieter, when I turned into this smoothed-over, washed-out version of myself. Fortunately, that period was so brief it's almost erased from my memory. I've always paid attention to what happens outside the lines, to the kind of creators who hold the spotlight on the world's most powerful TV channels. I don't think most of them would make it in Croatian media, because they don't "follow the script": they have strong personalities, they're distinctive characters who attract attention, both positive and negative. And that's the key to a successful TV project: people simply can't help but watch you, even the ones who don't like you. It's exactly those imperfect individuals who make the difference. I'm far from perfect myself, but I would rather be that way for the viewers who also look beyond the usual boundaries, who aren't interested only in our own little backyard. And it genuinely lifts me when I see that there is, after all, a small but powerful group like that here.

**In Sretni gradovi you examined what makes a city a good place to live, and in Serijski brijači you looked at how TV series shape everyday life and the identity of cities. Where do you find the spark for projects like these, and how do you know when a subject can grow into a compelling series?**

It takes a lot of reading, listening, watching, and simply being around people. My ideas start to click into place like a puzzle the more I interact with people or immerse myself in all of the above. I'm a committed pop-culture enthusiast; I spent years in popular TV showbiz programs, worked as a music and film journalist, and hosted and edited music shows on both TV and radio, so being drawn to pop culture is second nature to me. I'd been discussing the impact of TV shows with my editors for a while, and Vesna Karuza was so enthusiastic about Turkish dramas that we started brainstorming what we could create around them. But with today's rights issues being so complicated and costly, we abandoned the idea of a series that would follow the making of TV shows from beginning to end, and instead I shifted my focus to the ripple effects of series on tourism, economics, culture, and society. After the very first episode, which focused on Mexican telenovelas, something remarkable happened. I'd never received so many positive reactions, so much enthusiasm, such a wave of nostalgic stories about the days when there were only two channels and everyone ended up watching the same soaps. People were absolutely delighted.

There's still plenty of material for a second season, but that's a conversation for later. I already have a whole folder of scripts and show concepts I've written and would like to produce. At the mo-

bolja. Poznajem svaki segment proizvodnje. Htjela sam sve naučiti kako mi nitko ne bi mogao prigovoriti da nešto ne znam. I na to sam, ustvari, najponosnija. Da nisam odustala nakon svega, nego sam još jače nagazila gas. Svi se mi mijenjamo u skladu s iskustvima, ali ono temeljno u meni ostalo je isto. I na to sam ponosna. Govorili su mi da ovakvi poput mene nemaju što tražiti na ekranu HTV-a. Da sam preglasna, prevelika, preraščupana, da sam prevelika rockerica, da se previše smijem... Za neke sam se previše koristila žargon, pa su zbog toga zaključili da nisam obrazovana. U svemu sam "previše". Imala sam trenutke kad bih sebe umanjivala i stišavala, i bila neka ispeglana, beskrvna verzija sebe. Srećom, to je toliko kratko trajalo da se toga više gotovo i ne sjećam. Oduvijek gledam što se događa vani, kakvi autori vladaju ekranima na najjačim svjetskim televizijama. Mislim da ih većina ne bi prošla u domaćim medijima jer nisu kao "po špagi", nego imaju jak karakter, osebuje su ličnosti koje privlače pozornost, i pozitivnu i negativnu. A to je ključ uspješnosti TV projekta, da čak i oni koji te ne vole ne mogu da te ne gledaju. Upravo takvi, nesavršeni pojedinci čine razliku. Ja sam daleko od savršenstva, ali radije ću biti takva za onih nekolicinu gledatelja koji također gledaju što se događa izvan crte, a ne samo u našem malom dvorištu. I veseli me kad shvatim da ovdje ipak postoji moćna gomilica.

**U "Sretnim gradovima" istraživali ste kvalitetu života, a u "Serijskim brijačima" utjecaj televizijskih serija na svakodnevicu i identitet gradova. Odakle inspiracija za takve projekte i kako prepoznate da neka tema može postati dobra emisija?**

Treba puno čitati, slušati, gledati i družiti se s ljudima. Meni se ideje kao puzzle slažu što sam više u interakciji s ljudima ili dok radim sve navedeno. I inače sam velika obožavateljica pop-kulture, dugo sam radila u popularnim televizijskim showbiz emisijama, bila sam glazbena i filmska novinarka, voditeljica i urednica glazbenih emisija na televiziji i radiju, prirodno mi je težiti pop-kulturi.

O utjecaju TV serija već sam prije razgovarala s urednicama, čak je Vesna Karuza bila toliko oduševljena turskim dizijima da smo počeli razgovarati što bi se moglo s time napraviti. Budući da su autorska prava danas u složenosti i cjenovno otišla nebu pod oblake, odustali smo od serijala u kojem bismo pratili produkciju serija od početka do kraja te sam se orijentirala na feedback serija u svakom pogledu – turističkom, ekonomskom, kulturnom, društvenom. Dogodilo se nešto nevjerojatno nakon prve epizode koja je tematizirala meksičke telenovele. Nikad više pozitivnih reakcija, oduševljenja, nostalgčnih sjećanja na vremena kad smo imali samo dva TV programa i bili primorani gledati sapunice – ljudi su naprosto bili oduševljeni.

Ima tu još prostora za drugu sezonu, ali o tom potom. Imam cijeli jedan folder scenarija i projekata koje sam napisala i koje bih htjela raditi. Trenutačno piskaram i o sportu, neki serijal na tu temu, vidjet ćemo što će iz toga proizaći.

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that I was too loud, too big,  
too messy, too rock'n'roll, that  
I laughed too much...

Govorili su mi da sam preglasna, prevelika, preraščupana, da sam prevelika rockerica, da se previše smijem...

"THERE'S A SAYING THAT EVERY JOURNEY  
CHANGES YOU. I WOULD ABSOLUTELY AGREE."  
"POSTOJI ONA FLOSKULA DA TE SVAKO  
PUTOVANJE PROMIJENI. SLOŽILA BIH SE S TIME."



ment, I'm also scribbling away at an idea connected with sports, a series built around that theme, so we'll see what grows out of it.

**When you arrive in a city for the first time, what is it that tells you the most about its character? Is it the streets and squares, the people you meet...?**

Wherever I go, I always make a point of visiting the market, because that's where you feel the city's heartbeat. I also like to explore the outskirts, the more everyday, working-class neighborhoods. It would have been just another typical travel series if, say, in New York, a city that's been filmed to death, I had limited myself to Manhattan. I was just as interested in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens. They inspired me so much that I'd go back in a second just to spend more time with the locals.

**How much do accommodation and the feeling of hospitality shape your experience of a destination?**

Since we're out on location all day, hotels for us are really just for sleeping, showering, and grabbing breakfast. I forget most of them; the ones that stay with me are almost always because of the people. In Anchorage, Alaska, for instance, we were put up in a hotel where the staff were all Samoan women – there's a significant Samoan community in Alaska. I became so friendly with them that every morning at breakfast they'd share ideas and suggestions about what else we should film. I'll never forget them. They were so colorful, tall, and loud that I felt like I was one of them.

**What makes a hotel unforgettable, as opposed to one you immediately forget?**

There was a place in San Francisco that I'll never forget, though it would be more accurate to call it a flophouse than a hotel. We'd been traveling from Zagreb to San Francisco for almost an entire day and finally arrived, only to discover that our accommodation was in the Tenderloin, a neighborhood widely known for severe homelessness and an open-air drug scene. The crew waited for me in the van while I went in to ask about parking. Outside the entrance, people were sleeping on the sidewalk, many visibly struggling with addiction, including fentanyl. Inside, the "front desk clerk" was getting a massage from a colleague while eating curry. The smell was unbearable, and the décor... I'm better off not describing it. That night we all slept in our clothes and skipped showering entirely. By the next morning, we were already arranging to switch to a hotel that was at least somewhat more respectable. None of us are spoiled, most of us actually camp regularly, but when you're working, you need a room that feels safe, with a clean bed and a decent shower. That's the minimum. And if breakfast is really good, what more could you ask for! My crew and I could easily make a side career out of reviewing hotel breakfasts. American hotel breakfasts, even in four-star properties, can't really compete with European ones, and especially not with Croatian hotel breakfasts: we're clear winners on that front. I have to give credit to the Austrians too. And from the Asian side, the Chinese deserve a mention. During the Winter Olympics in Beijing, breakfast at the Shangri-La Hotel was the highlight of the day; after that, you could work flat out, in fifth gear, until evening.

**If you had to single out one quality that hoteliers and hosts should never lose, regardless of trends or levels of luxury, what would it be?**

I still remember an incredibly dynamic, capable French hotel manager in Beijing during the 2022 Winter Olympics, and the determination and energy he brought to resolving every extraordinary situation in the hotel that served as our home for nearly a

## Wherever I go, I always make a point of visiting the market, because that's where you feel the city's heartbeat

U svakom gradu obavezno posjetim tržnicu, jer ondje osjetiš bilo grada

**Zbog posla puno putujete. Kad prvi put dolazite u neki grad, što vam najviše otkriva njegov karakter? Jesu li to ulice i trgovci, ljudi koje susrećete ili nešto drugo?**

U svakom gradu obavezno posjetim tržnicu, jer ondje osjetiš bilo grada, ali i istražim one rubne dijelove, četvrti u kojima živi radnička klasa. Bio bi to jedan klasičan turistički serijal da sam, primjerice, u New Yorku, koji je toliko puta bio na ekranu, ostala samo na Manhattanu. Mene su zanimali i Bronx, i Brooklyn, i Queens. Toliko su me inspirirali da bih ponovo onamo išla i družila se s lokalnom ekipom.

**Koliko na vaše iskustvo destinacije utječe smještaj, ali i osjećaj gostoprimstva?**

Budući da smo po cijele dane vani na snimanju, u hotelima doslovce samo noćimo, tuširamo se i doručujemo. Većine hotela niti se ne sjećamo, no oni koje pamtiš ostanu ti u sjećanju najviše zbog ljudi. U Anchorageu na Aljasci bili smo smješteni u hotelu u kojem su radile isključivo Samoanke (velik broj Samoanaca ondje živi), s kojima sam se toliko sprijateljila da su mi svaki dan za doručkom davale ideje i savjete o tome što bi još bilo zanimljivo snimiti. Njih neću zaboraviti nikada. I još su bile toliko živopisne, visoke i glasne kao da sam njihova.

**Što razlikuje hotel koji se pamti od onoga koji se zaboravlja?**

Jedan hotel u San Franciscu, iako bi ga se prije moglo nazvati svratištem, nikada neću zaboraviti. Putovali smo iz Zagreba do San Franciscu skoro cijeli dan. Konačno stižemo na odredište, a kad ono – smještaj nam je u kvartu Tenderloin, poznatom po najvećem broju beskućnika i narkomana u San Franciscu i cijelom Bay Area. Dečki su me čekali u kombiju, a ja sam otišla pitati gdje se možemo parkirati. Ispred ulaza su ležali beskućnici, ovisnici o fentanilu i ostali narkomani. Ušla sam unutra, a "repcionara" je masirala kolegica dok je jeo curry. Vonj je bio nesnosan, a kakav je bio interijer, bolje da vam ne pričam. Znam samo da smo svi tu noć u sobama spavali odjeveni, tog se dana nismo tuširali. Drugi dan smo ipak tražili u zamjenu barem malo pristojniji hotel. Nitko od nas nije razmažen, većina nas čak i redovito kampira, ali kad radite, morate imati sigurnu sobu, čist krevet i tuš. To je minimum. A ako je dobar i doručak, nema veće sreće! Inače, moja ekipa i ja mogli bismo raditi recenzije doručaka. Američki hotelski doručci, pa čak i u hotelima s četiri zvjezdice, mogu se sakriti pred europskim, a posebice hrvatskim hotelskim doručcima. Mi smo svakako u tome pobjednici. I Austrijanci, mora im se priznati. Kad je riječ o hotelima u Aziji, u doručcima su najbolji Kinezi. U hotelu Shangri-La u Peking, gdje smo boravili za vrijeme Zimskih olimpijskih igara, već je doručak bio vrhunac dana. Nakon njega mogao si cijeli dan raditi u petoj brzini.

**Kad biste morali izdvojiti osobinu koju hotelijeri i domaćini nikada ne bi smjeli izgubiti, bez obzira na trendove i luksuz, što bi to bilo?**

# I've been living out of a suitcase for the last five years, always in fifth gear. But it's been unforgettable in every possible way

Čini se da posljednjih pet godina živim u koferu. I u petoj brzini. Ali bilo je nezaboravno u svakom smislu

month. The Chinese had extremely strict pandemic protocols in place, so aside from the sports venues and the press center, there was nowhere else we were allowed to go. Once work was done for the day, we were essentially confined to spending our evenings in the hotel lobby. That's where colleagues from Slovenia, Canada, Germany, and other countries gathered, but it was usually our Slovenian neighbors and us who would end up around the lobby piano, singing songs by Croatia's beloved singer Oliver Dragojević. The French manager never complained; on the contrary, he would bring us cigarettes from outside because they were far too expensive in the hotel, and we weren't allowed to go out. He would often sit with us, sharing stories of his journey from Paris to Beijing, and asking with genuine curiosity about our situation, our athletes, and Croatia. You might think it's the five-star hotels and lavish dinners you remember most, but it's the people who leave the deepest mark.

For me, kindness should always be the number-one criterion. Strong social and emotional intelligence are among the most important assets you can have, whether you work in hotels or in the media. Our job is to "read" a room as soon as we enter, to notice who is bored, who is down, who has checked out. Being able to read that is like having a superpower. It's just a superpower that should never be misused, only refined.

## What does travel represent for you: an escape, professional curiosity, a search for new stories, or a way to better understand yourself and others?

For me, travel is a basic need, even if it's only as far as Karlovac. I have to be on the move. I love being with people from all social backgrounds, religions, skin colors, and nationalities, learning about new cultures and traditions, and taking in new places. If I had to stand still, I'd simply dry up. When I travel, I flourish, I grow, I change for the better. It's how I satisfy my thirst for life. There's a saying that every journey changes you. I would absolutely agree. At the very least, it changes you in the sense that you've expanded your knowledge. You come back knowing more than when you left.

## Which journey has changed your perspective the most?

The journey that changed my life, without question, was going to the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2021, at the height of the coronavirus crisis. My favorite colleagues from HRT's Sports Desk invited me to join them and be part of a project where I would film feature stories and report live from the field, with a clear warning: movement around the city would be heavily restricted and the safety precautions because of COVID would be intense. For me, that only made it more of a challenge. In my case, it was the kind of offer you simply don't turn down. How was it? Our team was just my dear colleague, cameraman Krešimir Ostarčević, and me, with only the most basic equipment, no fancy extras, and everything done in fifth gear. Every day we were



**IN SRETNIM GRADOVI SHE EXAMINED WHAT MAKES A CITY A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE, AND IN SERIJSKI BRIJAČI SHE LOOKED AT HOW TV SERIES SHAPE EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE IDENTITY OF CITIES**

U "SRETNIM GRADOVIMA" ISTRAŽIVALA JE KVALITETU ŽIVOTA, A U "SERIJSKIM BRIJAČIMA" UTJECAJ TELEVIZIJSKIH SERIJA NA SVAKODNEVICU I IDENTITET GRADOVA

Nikada neću zaboraviti jednog energičnog, sposobnog i okretnog Francuza, menadžera hotela u Pekingu u kojem smo boravili tijekom Zimskih olimpijskih igara 2022. i volju i energiju kojima je svladavao sve izvanredne situacije u to vrijeme u hotelu koji nam je bio dom gotovo mjesec dana. Kinezi su bili još stroži kad su se provodile pandemijske sigurnosne mjere, pa se osim borilišta i novinarskog centra nigdje drugdje nije smjelo boraviti. Nakon posla bili smo osuđeni večeri provoditi u predvorju hotela. Ondje su bili i kolege iz Slovenije, Kanade, Njemačke i ostalih zemalja, no naši susjedi Slovenci i mi često bismo se okupili oko klavira u predvorju i pjevali Oliverove hitove. Menadžer Francuz ne samo da nije ništa rekao nego nam je čak izvana donosio cigarete, jer su u hotelu bile preskupe, a mi nismo smjeli van. Često bi sjeo s nama i pripovijedao nam svoj životni put od Pariza do Pekinga, ali i zanimajući se živo za naše prilike, zemlju i sportaše. Naravno da pamtiš luksuzne hotele i raskošne večere, ali ljudi su ti koji ti se usijeku najdublje u sjećanje. Mislim da bi ljubaznost trebala uvijek biti prvi kriterij. Visoka socijalna i emocionalna inteligencija predstavljaju najveću vrijednost, kako u hotelijerskom poslu tako i u novinarskom. Mi trebamo znati "pročitati" stanje u prostoriji, čim uđemo, trebamo uočiti komu je dosadno, tko je "tužan", a tko "nezainteresiran". Kad to znaš prepoznati, kao da imaš supermoć. No nikada je ne treba zloupotrebljavati, nego razvijati.

## Što za vas znače putovanja: bijeg, profesionalnu radoznalost, potragu za novim pričama ili možda način da bolje razumijete i sebe i druge?

Meni je putovanje potreba, pa makar do Karlovca. Moram se kretati. Želim se družiti s ljudima iz svih društvenih slojeva, svih vjera, svake boje kože i nacionalnosti, upoznavati nove kulture i običaje, vidjeti nove predjele. Uvenula bih da stojim na mjestu. A ovako cvatemo, rastemo, mijenjam se nabolje. I utažujem žeđ za životom. Postoji ona floskula da te svako putovanje promijeni. Složila bih se s time. Promijeni te barem utoliko što si proširio znanje. Znaš više nego kad si krenuo.

## Koje vam je putovanje najviše promijenilo perspektivu?

Putovanje koje mi je promijenilo život svakako je bilo ono na Ljetne olimpijske igre u Tokio 2021., u najžešćem razdoblju pandemije koronavirusa. Moji najdraži kolege iz Sportske redakcije HTV-a pozvali su me da otputujem s njima i budem dio projekta u kojem bih radila



out filming stories and people, capturing everything happening away from the competition venues in Tokyo and the nearby areas, and by the end of those three weeks we had gathered enough material to easily make a full documentary. Viewers responded wonderfully, as did the TV critics, and that's when the then head of the documentary department, Vladimir Brnardić, suggested: maybe we should ask Martina to do a mini-series about Qatar, the host country of the World Cup. In the meantime, my "sports crew" invited me again to join them in covering the Winter Olympics in Beijing, which led to the mini-series Inshallah Qatar, and then I went on to follow the World Cup in Qatar as well... and after that came two seasons of Sretni gradovi, then Serijski brijači. Looking back now, I've basically been living out of a suitcase for the last five years, always in fifth gear. But it's been unforgettable in every possible way.

**Is there a destination you haven't experienced yet that remains a big, unfulfilled travel wish? Maybe even a potential TV project?**

I've long had my heart set on Central and South America; I have this sense that I would feel instantly at home there. That's exactly how I felt when I first went to Mexico. Since then I've called it my second homeland. The people smile, they don't avert their gaze, their eyes are alive, curious, and genuinely delighted to see you; they sing, and you can't help but sing with them. I've since come across all sorts of articles and rankings claiming that Mexicans are the friendliest people in the world, and I agree one hundred percent. That's why my wish is to explore the whole of Spanish-speaking Latin America. I've been learning Spanish for years for that reason, listening to the music, watching the films, and don't even get me started on the food – I'd try everything. I'm preparing myself, so maybe one day I'll make a series called My Homelands from Past Lives.

**One last question: much of your career in journalism and on screen has revolved around music. Which three songs would you suggest to foreign visitors in Croatia, to help them understand our mentality and to showcase, at least in part, our culture?**

Oliver Dragojević - Ča je život vengo fantažija

Josipa Lisac - O jednoj mladosti

Vice Vukov - Tvoja zemlja ■

reportaže i javljala se uživo s terena uz upozorenje da su u kretanju gradom velika ograničenja zbog protupandemijskih mjera, što je meni bio još veći izazov. U mojem slučaju, bila je to ponuda koja se ne odbija! U timu smo bili samo moj dragi kolega snimatelj Krešimir Ostarčević i ja isključivo s osnovnom opremom, svakodnevno smo snimali priče i ljude, radeći sve u petoj brzini. Snimali smo sve što se događalo mimo sportskih terena u Tokiju i okolici. Toliko se toga nakupilo u tri tjedna da smo komotno mogli napraviti i dokumentarac. Gledatelji su reagirali sjajno, baš kao i TV kritičari, pa je tadašnji urednik Dokumentarnog programa Vladimir Brnardić predložio: "Možda bismo Martini mogli dati da napravi mini serijal o Kataru, zemlji domaćinu Svjetskog nogometnog prvenstva". U međuvremenu su me moji sportaši pozvali da s njima pratim i ZOI u Pekingu, zatim je nastao mini serijal "Inshallah Qatar", a onda sam pratila i Svjetsko nogometno prvenstvo u Kataru. Usljedile su dvije sezone "Sretnih gradova" pa "Serijski brijači"... Sada gledajući, čini se da posljednjih pet godina živim u koferu. I u petoj brzini. Ali bilo je nezaboravno u svakom smislu.

**Postoji li destinacija koju još niste doživjeli, a da vam je velika, neispunjena putnička želja? Možda i potencijalni televizijski projekt?**

Oduvijek mi je velika želja vidjeti Srednju i Južnu Ameriku, osjećam da bih tamo bila kao doma. Upravo sam takav osjećaj imala kad sam posjetila Meksiko. Otad govorim da je to moja druga domovina. Zbog ljudi koji se smiju, koji ne skreću pogled, nego su im oči žive, radoznale i s veseljem te promatraju, koji ti se vesele i pjevaju, a i ti s njima. Naišla sam razne članke i top-liste prema kojima su najsrdačniji ljudi na svijetu upravo Meksikanci. Sto posto se s tim slažem. I baš zbog toga želja mi je upoznati cijelu hispanoameričku kulturu. Zbog toga godinama učim španjolski, slušam njihovu glazbu, gledam filmove, a o hrani da i ne govorim – sve bih probala. Pripremam se, pa možda jednog dana napravim serijal "Moje domovine iz prošlih života", ha-ha.

**I pitanje za kraj: velik dio vaše novinarske i voditeljske karijere vezan je uz glazbu. Koje biste tri pjesme preporučili stranim gostima koji su posjetili Hrvatsku kako bi im približile naš mentalitet i pokazale im, barem djelomično, našu kulturu?**

Bile bi to pjesme "Ča je život vengo fantažija" Olivera Dragojevića, "O jednoj mladosti" Josipe Lisac i "Tvoja zemlja" Vice Vukova. □



## STRUDEL ŠTRUDLA

# The sweet hallmark of Hotel International

## SLATKI POTPIS HOTELOVA INTERNATIONAL

*Apple strudel is a timeless dessert classic. The warm, inviting aroma of baked apples, cinnamon, and golden, flaky pastry quickly fills the air, while the first cut reveals delicate, airy layers whose flavor lingers long after the last bite*

*Štrudla od jabuka pravi je bezvremenski klasik među slasticama. Taj divan, omamljujući miris toplih jabuka, cimeta i tankog zapečenog tijesta brzo ispunjava prostor, a prvi rez otkriva slojeve, istovremeno lagane i bogate okusom koji ostaje i nakon posljednjeg zalogaja*

No wonder it's so beloved – each slice brings a sense of warmth and a touch of home, almost soothing. In our culture, strudel is part of the ritual of Sunday lunches, family gatherings, and special moments shared over a cup of coffee. But how did it make its way to our table?

The strudel as we know it today was shaped by Central European culinary traditions and arrived in our region during the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Vienna played a key role in this story, as Apfelstrudel became the benchmark against which all strudels are still judged. While it was originally inspired by the delicate, ultra-thin pastries of the Middle East, it developed its distinctive form here: hand-pulled dough, stretched until nearly transparent, wrapped around a generous seasonal filling.

Across Croatia, strudel has become a staple of traditional cooking, from inland regions to the coast, where it has taken on many local variations. While the ingredients may seem simple, the true artistry lies in the technique. Hand-stretching the dough until almost paper-thin is a skill honed over time. Even the smallest details, like a layer of breadcrumbs that absorbs excess apple juice, play a role in the final texture, while the balance of sweet and gently tart flavors, rounded out with cinnamon and vanilla, gives strudel a warmth and clarity of flavor that we return to time and again.

Ne čudi što je toliko omiljena kad svaki zalogaj pruža osjećaj topline i onog nečeg domaćeg, gotovo utješnog. Uostalom, u našoj kulturi štrudla je dio rituala nedjeljnog ručka, obiteljskih okupljanja i trenutaka koji se dijele uz kavu.

A znate li kako je došla na naše stolove?

Oblik u kakvom je danas poznajemo štrudla je dobila u srednjoeuropskoj kuhinji, a na naše je prostore stigla u doba Austro-Ugarske Monarhije. Beč je pritom imao ključnu ulogu jer je ondje Apfelstrudel postao standard prema kojem se i danas mjeri dobra štrudla. Iako inspirirana tankim tijestima Bliskog istoka, ovdje je dobila svoju prepoznatljivu formu: ručno razvlačeno tijesto gotovo prozirne tankoće i bogat, sezonski nadjev.

U Hrvatskoj je s vremenom postala nezaobilazan dio domaće kuhinje od kontinentalnih krajeva do obale. Svaka regija razvila je svoju verziju, a iako sastojci za štrudlu možda djeluju jednostavno, prava vrijednost krije se u tehnici. Ručno razvlačenje tijesta do



ACROSS CROATIA, STRUDEL HAS BECOME A STAPLE OF TRADITIONAL COOKING, FROM INLAND REGIONS TO THE COAST

U HRVATSKOJ JE ŠTRUDLA S VREMENOM POSTALA NEZAIBILAZAN DIO DOMAĆE KUHNJE OD KONTINENTALNIH KRAJEVA DO OBALJE.

IN THE KITCHEN OF HOTEL INTERNATIONAL BY MAISTRA CITY VIBES, THIS TRADITION HAS BEEN LOVINGLY PRESERVED FOR OVER 40 YEARS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF NADA NOVOSEL

U KUHINJI HOTELA INTERNATIONAL BY MAISTRA CITY VIBES TA SE TRADICIJA NJEGUJE VEĆ PUNIH 40 GODINA, A ZA TO JE ZADUŽENA GOSPOĐA NADA NOVOSEL



In the kitchen of Hotel International by Maistra City Vibes, this tradition has been lovingly preserved for over 40 years under the guidance of Nada Novosel. Over time, her strudel has become one of the hotel's most recognizable signatures, a dessert that keeps guests coming back. Her craft is rooted in an unchanging routine: the dough is stretched until it feels, as Nada says, "just right," the filling is prepared without precise measurements, and each step relies on know-how that cannot truly be written down. "I've been doing this for years, so I really work by feel. If you asked me for the perfect ratio of ingredients, it would be very hard to say – for strudel or any of my other desserts," Nada tells us.

Forty years in the same kitchen speaks to discipline, passion for the craft, and an extraordinary level of consistency. Staff have changed over the years and guests have come and gone, but one thing has remained constant: the high standards Nada has always upheld. "As long as it's delicious and people are happy, that's what matters," she says of her strudel, perhaps unaware of how rare this has become today, especially in large cities and hotel systems, where truly authentic, handmade desserts, prepared according to the recipes passed down from our grandmothers and great-grandmothers, are increasingly hard to find.

For four decades at Hotel International by Maistra City Vibes, Nada Novosel has earned the trust of her guests, showing that true quality takes time and deserves to be savored at a leisurely pace. We invite you to stop by, relax over a cup of coffee or tea, and try her celebrated strudel. Discover a genuine taste of Zagreb, right in the heart of Hotel International. ■

gotovo prozirne tankoće smatra se pravim kulinarским umijećem koje se prenosi iskustvom. Čak i detalji poput sloja krušnih mrvica koji upija višak soka iz jabuka imaju svoju ulogu u konačnoj teksturi, a kombinacija slatkog i blago kiselkastog okusa, uz cimet i vaniliju, savijači daje toplinu i jasnoću okusa zbog koje joj se uvijek vraćamo.

U kuhinji hotela International by Maistra City Vibes ta se tradicija njeguje već punih 40 godina, a za to je zadužena gospođa Nada Novosel. Njezina štrudla s vremenom je postala jedan od simbola hotela, prepoznatljiv desert zbog kojeg se gosti rado vraćaju. Njezin rad temelji se na rutini koja se ne mijenja: tijesto se razvlači dok ne bude "taman", nadjev se priprema bez strogo mjerenih omjera, a svaki korak ovisi o iskustvu koje se ne može prenijeti zapisom. "Budući da ovo radim već godinama, sve radim, kako se kaže, od oka i da me sad pitate koji je idealan omjer sastojaka, bilo bi mi vrlo teško reći, kako za štrudlu tako i za ostale slastice", govori nam gospođa Nada. Četrdeset godina u istoj kuhinji znači disciplinu, ljubav prema poslu i nevjerojatnu dosljednost. Generacije su se izmjenjivale, gosti dolazili i odlazili, ali jedno se nije nikad mijenjalo - standard koji je gospođa Nada uvijek držala i održala na istoj, visokoj razini. "Ma samo da je fino i da su ljudi zadovoljni", kaže Nada Novosel o svojoj štrudli, a nije niti svjesna koliko je danas rijetko, pogotovo u velikim gradovima i velikim sustavima, pronaći ovako autentičnu, ručno rađenu slasticu prema receptima naših baka i prabaka. U hotelu International by Maistra City Vibes Nada Novosel izgrađuje povjerenje već 40 godina, podsjećajući nas na vrijednost kvalitete koja ne treba požurivati i u kojoj valja uživati. Stoga vas pozivamo u naš hotel, sjednite na kavu ili čaj i isprobajte slavnu Nadinu štrudlu. Doživite simbol Zagreba u srcu hotela International! □

**RECIPE****Nada's apple strudel****INGREDIENTS****For the dough:**

- 1 kg all-purpose flour
- 500 g bread flour
- 0.5 l lukewarm water
- Pinch of salt
- 2–3 tablespoons oil (for brushing)

**For the filling:**

- 1.5–2 kg grated apples
- Sugar, to taste (depending on how sweet the apples are)
- Cinnamon, to taste
- Vanilla sugar or vanilla
- Breadcrumbs, as needed

**PREPARATION****1 Making the dough**

In a large bowl, combine the all-purpose and bread flour, then add a pinch of salt. Gradually pour in the lukewarm water and knead until you get a soft, supple dough that should be on the softer side but not sticky.

**TIP:** Let the dough rest for 5 minutes, then knead it again with a mixer fitted with dough hooks on high speed for about 5 minutes, until it becomes smooth and elastic.

When the dough begins to pull away from the bowl, shape it into a ball, lightly brush it with oil, cover, and let it rest for 30 minutes.

**2 Stretching the dough**

Lightly dust the work surface with flour. Start by rolling the dough out with a rolling pin, then switch to stretching it by hand, working slowly and gently until it is very thin, almost paper-thin.

**TIP:** If the dough feels tough and resists stretching, let it rest for another 10 minutes before continuing.

**3 Preparing the filling**

If the grated apples are very juicy, lightly squeeze out the excess juice. Add sugar, cinnamon, and vanilla, and gently mix to combine.

**4 Assembling the strudel**

Sprinkle the stretched dough evenly with breadcrumbs.

**TIP:** This is a key step; the breadcrumbs absorb the excess juice and keep the dough from becoming soggy.

Spread the apple filling evenly over the breadcrumbs.

**5 Rolling**

Carefully roll the strudel up by hand. If you are working on a tablecloth, you can use it to help you roll. Transfer the strudel to a baking sheet and lightly brush the top with oil.

**6 Baking**

Bake in a preheated oven at 180°C for around 40 minutes, or until the strudel is a lovely golden brown.

**7 Resting (a key step)**

**TIP:** Once baked, leave the strudel to rest for at least 2 hours before cutting. This allows the filling to set and the flavors to meld, so the slices hold together and the strudel is perfect for serving.

**NADA'S TIP**

"If you're in a hurry, it's better not to start at all. Strudel needs a calm kitchen and plenty of patience."

**RECEPT****Nadina štrudla od jabuka****SASTOJCI****Za tijesto:**

- 1 kg glatkog brašna
- 500 g oštrog brašna
- 0,5 l mlake vode
- prstohvat soli
- 2-3 žlice ulja, za premazivanje

**Za nadjev:**

- 1,5 – 2 kg naribanih jabuka
- šećer (u željenoj količini, ovisno o slatkoći jabuka)
- cimet (po ukusu)
- vanilin šećer ili vanilija
- krušne mrvice (prema potrebi)

**PRIPREMA****1. Izrada tijesta**

U većoj posudi pomiješajte glatko i oštro brašno te dodajte prstohvat soli. Postupno dolijevajte mlaku vodu i mijesite dok ne dobijete podatno tijesto koje treba biti mekano, ali ne ljepljivo.

**SAVJET** Ostavite tijesto da se odmara 5 minuta, a zatim ga miješajte i mikserom (koristeći nastavke za tijesto), i to na većoj brzini oko 5 minuta, dok ne postane glatko i elastično.

Kada se počne odvajati od posude, oblikujte ga u kuglu, blago premažite uljem pa pokrijte i ostavite da se odmara 30 minuta.

**2. Razvlačenje tijesta**

Radnu površinu lagano pobrašnite. Najprije tijesto razvaljajte valjkom, a zatim ga nastavite razvlačiti rukama, polako, nježno i strpljivo, dok ne postane tanko gotovo kao papir.

**SAVJET** Ako osjetite da je tijesto žilavo i ne da se razvlačiti, ostavite ga da se odmori još 10 minuta.

**3. Priprema nadjeva**

Ribane jabuke ocijedite rukama (ako su jako sočne). Dodajte šećer, cimet i vaniliju pa sve pažljivo promiješajte.

**4. Slaganje štrudle**

Razvučeno tijesto najprije ravnomjerno pospite krušnim mrvicama.

**SAVJET** Ovo je ključni korak jer krušne mrvice upijaju višak jabučnog soka i sprečavaju da tijesto postane mokro.

Preko toga rasporedite nadjev od jabuka.

**5. Motanje**

Štrudlu pažljivo zarolajte ručno (ili s pomoću stolnjaka ako ga koristite). Premjestite je u lim za pečenje i premažite malom količinom ulja.

**6. Pečenje**

Pecite u prethodno zagrijanoj pećnici na 180 °C oko 40 minuta, dok ne poprimi lijepu zlatno-smeđu boju.

**7. Odmaranje (ključni korak)**

**SAVJET** Nakon pečenja štrudlu ostavite da miruje najmanje 2 sata prije rezanja. Tako će se nadjev stabilizirati, a okusi povezati i štrudla će biti savršena za posluživanje.

**SAVJET TETE NADE**

"Ako ti se žuri, radije nemoj niti počinjati. Štrudla voli mir i strpljenje."

DISCOVER A DIFFERENT SIDE OF ZAGREB UPOZNAJTE JOŠ JEDNU STRANU ZAGREBA

# An adrenaline-fueled escape in the Capital

ADRENALINSKI DOŽIVLJAJ U METROPOLI

Zagreb is a city of many faces. Croatia's capital is often cited as one of the cities with the most museums in the world, enjoys a reputation as one of Europe's greenest capitals, and is home to one of the continent's most visited Advent markets, offering a whole spectrum of memorable experiences—from striking architecture to superb traditional cuisine.

Yet beyond these well-known highlights, Zagreb also boasts a remarkably diverse range of adrenaline-filled activities. Thanks to the proximity of Sljeme and Medvednica, the city's "backyard" mountain, there are countless opportunities for hiking and exploring nature, while the city itself is full of creative, experience-driven concepts. Here in Croatia's metropolis you can, for instance, step into the cockpit of an Airbus A320 simulator or blow off steam in a dedicated room by smashing old printers and plates. We have selected six standout spots that are sure to thrill adrenaline lovers and fun seekers, revealing yet another side of Zagreb.

Zagreb je grad s mnogo lica. Hrvatska metropola pripada među gradove s najvećim brojem muzeja u svijetu, na glasu je kao druga najzelenija europska prijestolnica, već godinama ima jedan od najposjećenijih adventskih sajmova u Europi, a k tome nudi i niz nezaboravnih doživljaja, od prekrasne arhitekture do fantastične tradicionalne hrane. Iako se možda na prvu ne povezuje s time, Zagreb ima i veoma raznoliku ponudu adrenalinskih sadržaja. Blizina Sljemena odnosno Zagrebačke gore nudi brojne mogućnosti planinarenja i istraživanja prirode, a grad je prepun kreativnih zabavnih koncepata. U hrvatskoj je metropoli, primjerice, moguće iskusiti kako je upravljati Airbusom A320 ili ispucati stres razbijanjem starih printera i tanjura.

Izdvojili smo stoga šest odličnih lokacija koje će zasigurno oduševiti ljubitelje adrenalina i dobre zabave te im otkriti jednu drugu stranu Zagreba.

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IAKO SE MOŽDA NA PRVU NE  
POVEZUJE S TIME, ZAGREB  
IMA VEOMA RAZNOLIKU PONUDU  
ADRENALINSKIH SADRŽAJA





AMAZINGA IS CROATIA'S LARGEST ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, AND AERoclUB SLOBODAN PAD IS CROATIA'S ONLY SKYDIVING CLUB CERTIFIED BY USPA

AMAZINGA, JE NAJVEĆI ZABAVNI CENTAR U HRVATSKOJ, DOK JE SLOBODAN PAD HRVATSKA JEDINI DOMAĆI USPA CERTIFICIRANI AEROKLUB

### AMAZINGA

Laser tag, arcade games, trampolines, bumper cars, play areas, and obstacle courses – Amazinga brings all of this and much more together under one roof as Croatia's largest entertainment center. It operates at two locations in Zagreb: in Avenue Mall and at the Zagreb Fair, with the latter spanning an impressive 11,000 square meters. The center offers more than 12 different attractions, and its heart is a 1,800-square-meter trampoline park, where visitors can jump, compete, and simply enjoy the feeling of flying. For those craving even more adrenaline, Amazinga also features laser tag battles in a 450-square-meter maze illuminated with UV lighting, a variety of outdoor games, and a VR zone that can take you on a rollercoaster ride, into a fight with zombies, or on a journey into outer space.

### SLOBODAN PAD

Aeroclub Slobodan Pad is Croatia's only skydiving club certified by USPA, the United States Parachute Association, which means it provides both introductory and advanced skydiving courses that follow some of the strictest safety standards in the world. For first-time jumpers, there is the option of a tandem jump with a USPA-certified instructor: all you really need to do is summon your courage, and the instructor takes care of everything else.

Beyond classic jumps, the aeroclub also offers an indoor wind tunnel experience, one of the safest and most modern way to feel the sensation of free fall without ever boarding a plane. Jumps are organized across all regions of Croatia, from Zagreb and Istria to Dalmatia and Slavonia, and all equipment used in these activities is TSO-certified, guaranteeing a high level of quality and safety.

### AMAZINGA

Laser tag, arkadne igre, trampolini, autiči za sudaranje, igraonice, poligoni... sve ovo i još mnogo toga nudi Amazinga, najveći zabavni centar u Hrvatskoj. Nalazi se na dvije lokacije u Zagrebu – u Avenue Mallu i na Zagrebačkom velesajmu, s time da se potonji prostire na čak 11.000 četvornih metara. U ponudi ima više od 12 različitih atrakcija, a srce Amazinge je trampolinski park na površini od 1800 kvadrata, gdje posjetitelji mogu skakati, natjecati se i jednostavno uživati u letenju. Za one koji žele još više adrenalina, Amazinga nudi i laser tag bitke u labirintu od 450 četvornih metara s UV rasvjetom, brojne igre na otvorenom i VR iskustvo koje vas odvodi na vožnje rollercoasterom, u borbu sa zombijima ili na putovanje u svemir.

### SKOK PADOBRANOM

Slobodan pad Hrvatska jedini je USPA certificirani aeroklub u Hrvatskoj, što znači da provodi tandem skokove padobranom te sve metode početne i napredne padobranske obuke prema najvišim svjetskim standardima sigurnosti. Za one koji prvi put skaču, u ponudi je skok u tandemu s USPA certificiranim instruktorom, što je najsigurniji, najbrži i najlakši način da se iskusiti padobranstvo i slobodni pad. Zagarantirano je vrhunsko uzbuđenje uz 100 posto adrenalina.

Osim klasičnih skokova, aeroklub nudi i iskustvo u zračnom tunelu (wind tunnelu), najsigurnijem i najmodernijem načinu da se doživi slobodan pad bez potrebe za uzlijetanjem avionom. Skokovi se organiziraju u svim regijama Hrvatske – od Zagreba i Istre do Dalmacije i Slavonije – a oprema korištena u svim aktivnostima posjeduje TSO certifikat koji jamči vrhunsku kvalitetu i sigurnost. Više informacija pronađite na [slobodanpad.hr](http://slobodanpad.hr)



**PARAGLIDING IS A TRULY SPECIAL FEELING, AND IF YOU WANT TO EXPERIENCE FLYING A COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, VISIT THE FLIGHT ROOM**

**PARAGLIDING JE UISTINU POSEBAN OSJEĆAJ, A AKO ŽELITE DOŽIVJETI UPRAVLJANJE KOMERCIJALNIM ZRAKOPLOVOM, POSJETITE THE FLIGHT ROOM**

### PARAGLIDING TANDEM FLIGHT

Paragliding is a truly special feeling, and the charms of free flight are even easier to enjoy when everything is under the supervision and accompanied by a specially trained and experienced CCAA licensed tandem pilot. Preparation for the flight takes only 30 minutes, followed by 20 minutes of free flight, with the opportunity to control the paragliding wing. Of course, under the supervision of a tandem pilot. Depending on weather conditions, flights are carried out in Zagreb, Zagorje, Gorski Kotar, Dalmatia, Istria, Lika and Slavonia. Find more information at [www.paragliding.hr](http://www.paragliding.hr).

### THE FLIGHT ROOM

The Flight Room is Croatia's first and only publicly accessible Airbus A320 flight simulator, tucked away at Kranjčevićeva 36 in the heart of Zagreb. With no prior flying experience or pilot training required, visitors can step into a faithful replica of an Airbus A320 cockpit, complete with realistic controls and 4K visuals, and under the guidance of experienced instructors discover what it feels like to operate a commercial aircraft. There are three core packages to choose from: a 30-minute "taster" flight with takeoff and landing, a 60-minute session that includes a detailed pre-flight briefing and a series of different maneuvers, and a comprehensive 90-minute experience featuring a full flight from Zagreb to Split. The Flight Room welcomes participants of all ages, from children who want to feel the thrill of flying to adults who want to finally live out their pilot-for-a-day dream.

### PARAGLIDING TANDEM LET

Paragliding je uistinu poseban osjećaj, a u čarima slobodnog leta je još lakše uživati kada je sve pod nadzorom i u pratnji posebno osposobljenog i iskusnog CCAA licenciranog tandem pilota. Priprema za let traje svega 30 minuta, nakon čega slijedi 20 minuta slobodnog leta, s time da imate priliku upravljati paragliding krilom. Naravno, pod nadzorom tandem pilota. Ovisno o vremenskim uvjetima letovi se izvode u Zagrebu, Zagorju, Gorskom kotaru, Dalmaciji, Istri, Lici i Slavoniji. Više informacija pronađite na [www.paragliding.hr](http://www.paragliding.hr).

### THE FLIGHT ROOM

The Flight Room prvi je simulator leta Airbus A320 u Hrvatskoj otvoren za javnost, a smješten je u Kranjčevićevoj 36. Bez ikakvog prethodnog iskustva i pilotskog znanja, posjetitelji mogu sjesti u repliku pilotske kabine s autentičnim instrumentima i 4K vizualima te uz vodstvo iskusnih instruktora doživjeti kako se upravlja komercijalnim zrakoplovom. U ponudi su tri osnovna paketa: kratki let od 30 minuta s polijetanjem i slijetanjem, sat vremena leta s detaljnim briefingom i višestrukim manevrima te sveobuhvatno iskustvo od 90 minuta s letom od Zagreba do Splita. The Flight Room je prilagođen svih dobnim skupinama, od djece koja žele iskusiti uzbuđenje letenja do odraslih koji sanjaju o pilotiranju.



**SMASHIT IS ZAGREB'S FIRST SMASH ROOM, AND THE OLD LOCK UP FEATURES TEN THEMATICALLY DIVERSE ESCAPE ROOMS**

SMASHIT JE PRVA SOBA ZA RAZBIJANJE U ZAGREBU; THE OLD LOCK UP IMA ČAK DESET TEMATSKI RAZNOLIKIH ESCAPE SOBA



**SMASHIT**

SmashIt is Zagreb's first smash room, a unique concept where visitors can legally and safely let go of stress and frustration by smashing things to pieces, all within a fully controlled setting. Equipped with full protective gear that comes with every package, guests step into a dedicated room and let loose on old printers, plates, glassware, and various other objects, while the staff takes care of all the cleanup afterward. SmashIt is located at Galovačka 15, with the entrance on Vukovarska Street, and visits are by appointment only, with advance booking by phone required.

**THE OLD LOCK UP**

The Old Lock Up ranks among Zagreb's top escape room venues, featuring ten thematically diverse rooms spread across several locations around the city. Every room plunges players into a distinct world, whether it is a sinister hospital, coffins sealed in a crypt, a cursed abandoned cabin, a horrifying circus, or high-intensity missions such as infiltrating a Mexican cartel bunker or facing a terrorist attack on the U.S. embassy.

The success rate ranges from just 17 percent for The Bailiff, the most challenging room, to 67 percent for Circus, which highlights how carefully designed the scenarios are and how demanding they can be even for experienced escape room players. Each room can accommodate groups of two to six players (with the exception of The Crypt, which takes up to five), and the standard adventure lasts 60 minutes. ■

**SMASHIT**

SmashIt je prva soba za razbijanje u Zagrebu, potpuno jedinstven koncept u kojem posjetitelji legalno i sigurno mogu izbaciti iz sebe sav stres i frustracije razbijajući predmete u kontroliranom okruženju. Uz svu potrebnu zaštitnu opremu koja je uključena u svaki paket, gosti slobodno razbijaju elektroničke uređaje poput printera, tanjure, staklene posude i razne druge predmete, a čišćenje nakon završetka preuzima osoblje. SmashIt se nalazi u Galovačkoj ulici 15, s time da je ulaz u Ulici grada Vukovara. Radi se prema dogovoru, uz obveznu telefonsku najavu.

**THE OLD LOCK UP**

The Old Lock Up jedan je od vodećih escape room centara u Zagrebu, s čak deset tematski raznolikih soba raspodijeljenih na nekoliko lokacija diljem grada. Svaka soba nudi jedinstvenu priču i atmosferu, od mračne bolnice i zaključanih lijesova u kripti, preko uroka u napuštenoj vikendici i zastrašujućeg cirkusa, do akcijskih scenarija poput upada u meksički kartelski bunker ili terorističkog napada na američko veleposlanstvo.

Stopa prolaznosti varira od samo 17 posto za The Bailiff, najtežu sobu, do 67 posto za Circus, što govori koliko su scenariji pažljivo osmišljeni i izazovni čak i za iskusne igrače escape rooma. Svaka soba može primiti skupine od dva do šest igrača (uz iznimku The Crypta koji ih prima do pet), a standardno trajanje avanture je 60 minuta. □



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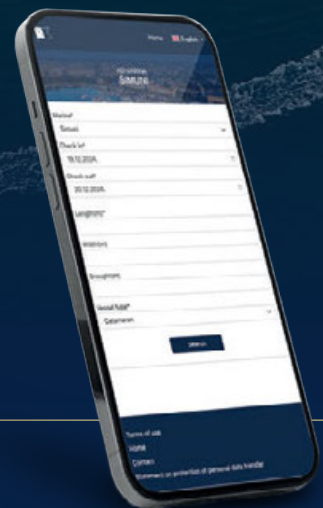


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## VARAŽDIN

# A baroque jewel within easy reach of Zagreb

## BAROKNI DRAGULJ NA KORAK OD ZAGREBA

Often described as a “little Vienna,” this city captivates at first sight

Često opisan kao “mali Beč”, ovaj grad osvaja na prvi pogled

Less than an hour’s drive from Zagreb, a completely different world unfolds, one where baroque elegance meets the easygoing rhythm of continental Croatia. Varaždin, often described as a “little Vienna,” captivates at first sight with its graceful squares, beautifully kept parks, and quiet sophistication that sets it apart from other Croatian cities.

This is a place where days are measured in strolls through the historic center, coffees on sun-drenched terraces, and spur-of-the-moment discoveries of galleries, museums, and tucked-away courtyards. Whether you come for a weekend or a brief escape from everyday city life, Varaždin offers an experience that weaves beauty, culture, and effortless comfort into one seamless whole.

Even at first glance, it is easy to see why so many people call it a “little Vienna.” Its historic center is almost completely preserved, and the succession of baroque palaces, squares, and churches bears witness to the time when Varaždin was the political and cultural heart of Croatia. The city reached its peak in the 18th century, when it briefly became the country’s

Na manje od sat vremena vožnje od Zagreba otvara se jedan posve drukčiji svijet, svijet u kojem se barokna elegancija susreće s opuštenim ritmom kontinenta. Varaždin, često opisan kao “mali Beč”, osvaja na prvi pogled svojim skladnim trgovima, uređenim parkovima i tihom profinjenošću koja ga izdvaja među hrvatskim gradovima.

Mjesto je to gdje se dani mjere šetnjama povijesnom jezgrom, kavama na suncem okupanim terasama i spontanom otkrivanjem galerija, muzeja i skrivenih dvorišta. Bilo da dolazite na vikend ili kratki predah od gradske svakodnevice, Varaždin nudi iskustvo koje spaja ljepotu, kulturu i lakoću boravka u jedinstvenu cjelinu.

Već na prvi pogled jasno je zašto ga mnogi nazivaju “malim Bečom”. Povijesna jezgra gotovo je u potpunosti očuvana, a niz baroknih palača, trgova i crkava svjedoči o razdoblju kada je Varaždin bio političko i kulturno središte Hrvatske. Grad svoj procvat doživljava u 18. stoljeću, kada postaje i privremena prijestolnica, a upravo tada nastaje njegov prepoznatljiv urbani identitet, elegantan, uređen i skladan. Iz Varaždina potječu neki od najznačajnijih Hrvata, primjerice Vatroslav Jagić, jedan od najvažnijih slavista 19. stoljeća, povjesničar i političar Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski, iznimno bitan za razvoj hrvatskog nacionalnog identiteta, te Rudolf Fizir, pionir zrakoplovstva, da nabrojimo samo neke.

Danas je ta varaždinska baština aktivni dio svakodnevice: muzeji, galerije i kazališta integrirani su u život grada,

**VARAŽDIN OFFERS AN EXPERIENCE THAT WEAVES BEAUTY, CULTURE, AND EFFORTLESS COMFORT INTO ONE SEAMLESS WHOLE**

VARAŽDIN NUDI ISKUSTVO KOJE SPAJA LJEPOTU, KULTURU I LAKOĆU BORAVKA U JEDINSTVENU CJELINU



**VARAŽDIN'S HERITAGE IS AN ACTIVE PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE: ITS MUSEUMS, GALLERIES, AND THEATERS ARE WOVEN INTO THE CITY'S RHYTHM**

DANAS JE VARAŽDINSKA BAŠTINA AKTIVNI DIO SVAKODNEVICE: MUZEJI, GALERIJE I KAZALIŠTA INTEGRIRANI SU U ŽIVOT GRADA

## WHAT TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE IN VARAŽDIN

**Stari Grad (Old Town) Castle** – a medieval fortress and the city's most recognizable landmark, housing part of the City Museum

**Korzo and the historic center** – the heart of city life, perfect for wandering between baroque palaces

**Varaždin Cemetery** – one of the most beautiful cemeteries in Europe, celebrated for its park-like landscaping and distinctive arcades

**Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – a striking baroque church in the very center of Varaždin

**Varaždin City Museum** – a network of museums spread across several locations, showcasing everything from history to art

**Gallery of Old and New Masters** – a must-see for lovers of fine art

**Drava River promenade** – unwind in nature, enjoy cycling routes, or have a picnic by the water

**Špancirfest** - the city's best-known late-August street festival that transforms Varaždin into a lively open-air stage

**Varaždin Baroque Evenings** – a premier music event dedicated to baroque music, taking place each September

**Parks and gardens** – ideal for a gentle break and for experiencing Varaždin's "green" side

## ŠTO VIDJETI I DOŽIVJETI U VARAŽDINU

**Stari grad Varaždin** - srednjovjekovna utvrda i najprepoznatljiviji simbol grada, danas dio Gradskog muzeja

**Korzo i povijesna jezgra** - srce gradskog života, idealno za šetnju među baroknim palačama

**Varaždinsko groblje** - jedno od najljepših u Europi, poznato po hortikulturnom uređenju i arkadama

**Katedrala Uznesenja Blažene Djevice Marije** - impozantna barokna crkva u središtu grada

**Gradski muzej Varaždin** - kompleks muzeja raspoređen na više lokacija, od povijesti do umjetnosti

**Galerija starih i novih majstora** - nezaobilazna za ljubitelje likovne umjetnosti

**Šetnja uz Dravu** - opuštanje u prirodi, biciklizam ili piknik uz rijeku

**Špancirfest** - najpoznatiji ulični festival koji se održava krajem kolovoza i grad pretvara u veliku pozornicu

**Varaždinske barokne večeri** - vrhunski glazbeni događaj posvećen baroknoj glazbi, koji se održava se u rujnu

**Parkovi i perivoji** - savršeni za lagani predah i doživljaj "zelenog" Varaždina

capital, and it was during this period that its distinctive urban character took shape: elegant, well-kept, and perfectly balanced. Varaždin has given rise to some of Croatia's most notable figures, including Vatroslav Jagić, one of the most important Slavic scholars of the 19th century, Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski, a historian and politician crucial to the development of Croatian national identity, and Rudolf Fizir, an aviation pioneer, to name just a few.

Today, Varaždin's heritage is an active part of everyday life: its museums, galleries, and theaters are woven into the city's rhythm, creating a vibrant cultural scene rather than a static monument to the past. More than just a city of history, Varaždin is also a place where nature and urban life go hand in hand. Lying at the meeting point of Alpine and Pannonian regions, it is surrounded by greenery, bordered by the Drava River, and framed by carefully tended parks that lend a sense of calm and ease to every stay. The surrounding area is known for its diverse landscapes, from riverbanks and forests to gently rolling vineyards, making it ideal for leisurely walks, cycling, or simply escaping the urban rush. The city itself is compact, walkable, and understated, yet rich in things to see and do. A Saturday stroll through the center, coffee on the main promenade, Korzo, or an unplanned visit to one of the galleries is all part of its rhythm, one that doesn't depend on the season. It is no coincidence that the local tourist board highlights Varaždin as an ideal day-trip destination, a place to be discovered slowly, but one that leaves a lasting impression.

People are an important part of Varaždin's identity. Their welcoming nature, professionalism, and genuine hospitality are often what guests talk about long after they leave. The local community plays an active role in shaping the visitor experience, whether through gastronomy, culture, or simple everyday encounters on the street. This human touch gives the city a warmth that goes beyond its architectural beauty. Varaždin is also an important educational center, home to University North, which adds to its vibrancy and contemporary energy by attracting students from across Croatia and the wider region.

The local food scene rounds out the Varaždin experience. The Varaždin area is known for the authentic flavors of continental Croatia, from traditional homemade dishes such as Varaždin cabbage, a protected product often served as a side with meat, and hearty white soup, to Varaždin klipici (elongated bread rolls) and modern interpretations of regional cuisine. Local specialties and wines play a special role, as do simple, homegrown ingredients that reflect the region's close connection with its surroundings.

Of course, festivals such as Špancirfest and the Varaždin Baroque Evenings further highlight the city's vibrant cultural life, but they are just the highlights of what Varaždin provides all year round. Beyond the buzz of festival season, the city reveals its true character: peaceful, sophisticated, and genuinely authentic.

Varaždin is, ultimately, a destination that does not rely on spectacle to impress. Its architecture, rhythm, and people are more than enough. And for anyone seeking a short escape from Zagreb without compromising on the quality of the experience, this baroque jewel remains one of the most pleasant and complete options. ■

čineći ga živom kulturnom scenom, a ne statičnim spomenikom prošlosti. Osim što je grad povijesti, Varaždin je i prostor u kojem se priroda i urbani život nadopunjavaju. Smješten na prijelazu alpskog i panonskog prostora, okružen je zelenilom, rijekom Dravom i uređenim parkovima koji stvaraju osjećaj smirenosti i lakoće boravka. Ovaj kraj poznat je po raznolikim prirodnim motivima, od riječnih obala i šuma do brežuljkastih vinograda, što ga čini idealnim za lagane šetnje, biciklizam ili jednostavno bijeg od gradske vreve. Sam Varaždin je kompaktan, lako prohodan i nenametljiv, ali istovremeno bogat sadržajem. Subotnja šetnja centrom, kava na Korzu ili spontani ulazak u neku od galerija dio su njegova ritma koji ne ovisi o sezoni. Turistička zajednica s razlogom ga pozicionira kao izletničku destinaciju, mjesto koje se otkriva polako, ali ostavlja snažan dojam.

Važan dio identiteta Varaždina čine i njegovi ljudi. Upravo njihova otvorenost, profesionalnost i osjećaj za gostoprimstvo često su ono što posjetitelji najviše pamte. Lokalna zajednica aktivno sudjeluje u oblikovanju turističkog doživljaja, bilo ugostiteljskim i kulturnim manifestacijama, bilo svakodnevnim susretima na ulici. Taj "ljudski faktor" daje gradu toplinu koja nadilazi njegovu arhitektonsku ljepotu. Grad je ujedno i važno obrazovno središte sa Sveučilištem Sjever, koje doprinosi njegovoj živosti i suvremenoj energiji, privlačeći studente iz cijele Hrvatske i regije.

Gastronomska scena zaokružuje doživljaj. Varaždinski kraj poznat je po autentičnim okusima kontinentalne Hrvatske, od tradicionalnih i domaćih jela, kao što su varaždinsko zelje, inače zaštićeni proizvod, koje je čest prilog uz mesna jela, bela juha ili varaždinski klipici, do modernih interpretacija lokalne kuhinje. Posebno mjesto zauzimaju lokalni specijaliteti i vina, ali i jednostavne, autohtone namirnice koje održavaju povezanost s okolinom.

Naravno, festivali poput Špancirfesta ili Varaždinskih baroknih večeri dodatno naglašavaju kulturnu energiju grada, no oni su, zapravo, vrhunac onoga što Varaždin nudi tijekom cijele godine. Izvan festivalskih gužvi grad otkriva svoj pravi karakter, koji je miran, profinjen i autentičan.

Varaždin je, u konačnici, destinacija koja ne zahtijeva spektakl da bi impresionirala. Dovoljni su njegova arhitektura, ritam i ljudi. A za sve koji su u potrazi za kratkim bijegom iz Zagreba, bez kompromisa u kvaliteti doživljaja, ovaj barokni dragulj ostaje jedna od najugodnijih i najpotpunijih opcija. □

## More than just a city of history, Varaždin is also a place where nature and urban life go hand in hand

Osim što je grad povijesti, Varaždin je i prostor u kojem se priroda i urbani život nadopunjavaju

THE MOST FAMOUS AND MOST VISITED NATIONAL PARK IS PLITVICE LAKES, BUT CROATIA HIDES SEVEN MORE INCREDIBLE LOCATIONS THAT WILL BLOW YOU AWAY WITH THEIR MAJESTIC NATURAL BEAUTY

NAJPOZNATIJI I NAJPOSJEĆENIJI NACIONALNI PARK SU PLITVIČKA JEZERA, ALI HRVATSKA KRIJE JOŠ SEDAM NEVJEROJATNIH LOKACIJA KOJE ĆE VAS ZADIVITI LJEPOTOM VELIČANSTVENE PRIRODE



# The Magnificent Eight

## Osam veličanstvenih

Over the years, the covers of leading magazines such as *National Geographic*, *Wanderlust*, and *ADAC Reisemagazin* have been graced by images of Croatia's natural beauty. Whether it is the crystal-clear Adriatic, deep green forests, dramatic mountain ranges, or a coastline scattered with islands, Croatia is renowned far and wide for its natural attractions. At the very heart of this appeal are its national parks: this small country boasts no fewer than eight of them, and together they welcome several million visitors every year. National park status is the second-highest level of protection an area in Croatia can receive; only strict reserves are safeguarded more strongly. The best-known and most frequently visited of these is Plitvice Lakes National Park, but Croatia also boasts seven more extraordinary places that captivate every visitor and showcase the astonishing beauty and harmony of largely untouched nature.

Naslovnice poznatih časopisa kao što su *National Geographic*, *Wanderlust* ili *ADAC Reisemagazin* barem su u jednom trenutku svojeg postojanja ukrasili naslovnicu s prirodnim ljepotama iz Hrvatske. Nevažno je li riječ o kristalno plavom moru, gustim šumama, prekrasnim planinskim lancima ili razvedenim otocima, Hrvatska je nadaleko poznata po svojim prirodnim atrakcijama. Pritom su posebno u fokusu nacionalni parkovi, kojih ova zemlja ima čak osam, a oni svake godine privuku više milijuna posjetitelja. Status nacionalnog parka druga je najviša razina koju neko područje može dobiti, zaštićenija su samo područja proglašena strogim rezervatom. Najpoznatiji i najposjećeniji nacionalni park su Plitvička jezera, ali Hrvatska krije još sedam nevjerojatnih lokacija koje će zadiviti svakoga i podsjetiti na nevjerojatnu ljepotu i savršenstvo veličanstvene prirode.

### PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK

The roar of the Great Waterfall, the untouched feel of the Čorkova Uvala forest, and the mirror-like surface of Lake Kozjak are just a few of the images that will stay with you for a lifetime. Plitvice Lakes is not only Croatia's most visited national park, but also its oldest, and it was among the country's first sites to be inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The park is made up of sixteen larger, named lakes and many smaller ones, all linked in a series of cascading waterfalls. Guides love to point out that tufa is still actively forming here, which means the landscape is literally reshaped from year to year.

One of the most remarkable things about this national park is how each season dresses it in a new, equally stunning guise. In winter, snow and ice lock the lakes and waterfalls in a crystalline embrace; in summer, warm, sunny days make it ideal for long walks; in autumn, the trails glow with soft, romantic hues; and in spring, fresh greens burst to life and the waters swell with new energy. This is one of those rare places that look exactly as magical in real life as they do in photographs.

### NP PLITVIČKA JEZERA

Grmljavina Velikog slapa, divljina šume Čorkova uvala, poput stakla glatka površina jezera Kozjak – samo su neki od prizora koji će vam ostati u trajnom sjećanju. Plitvička jezera, osim što su najposjećeniji, ujedno su i najstariji nacionalni park Hrvatske, a među prvima su u zemlji stavljena na UNESCO-ov Popis svjetske prirodne i kulturne baštine. Nacionalni park sastoji se od šesnaest većih, imenovanih, i znatnog broja malih jezera koja su kaskadno povezana slapovima. Zanimljivost koju vodiči vole naglasiti je da se sedra i dalje aktivno stvara, što znači da se pejzaž doslovno mijenja iz godine u godinu.

Ono što je nevjerojatno kod ovog nacionalnog parka jest da ga svako godišnje doba odijeva u novo, jednako prekrasno i raskošno ruho: od zimskih mjeseci, kada snijeg i led okuju jezera i slapove, do toplog i za šetnju idealnog ljeta, preko romantičnih zagasitih boja jeseni, sve do proljeća, kada se sve zazeleni i voda nabuja... Ovo je jedno od rijetkih mjesta koja na fotografiji izgledaju kao u stvarnosti.



INFO  
[np-plitvicka-jezera.hr](http://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr)





IN THIS NATIONAL PARK JUST INLAND FROM ŠIBENIK, THE KRKA RIVER CREATES A DAZZLING SEQUENCE OF WATERFALLS, CASCADES, AND LAKES

NEVJEROJATNA IGRA VODE, SLAPOVA, KASKADA I JEZERA SMJESTILA SE NA PROSTORU PARKA U ZALEĐU ŠIBENIKA



## KRKA NATIONAL PARK

In this national park just inland from Šibenik, the Krka River creates a dazzling sequence of waterfalls, cascades, and lakes. In a little over 100 square kilometers, seven majestic waterfalls carve their way through the landscape, stunning visitors with their beauty and the thunder of water in free fall. Most people are first struck by Skradinski Buk, a sweeping chain of 17 waterfalls. The park's other great attraction is Roški Slap, a calmer and usually less crowded spot, famous for its line of small cascades nicknamed "the necklaces." A special highlight is the boat excursion to the little island of Visovac, home to a Franciscan monastery that has stood here since the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Around the park you can also visit old watermills that have been restored and turned into ethnographic exhibits. Krka has several entrances, with Skradin the favorite for many visitors because their visit begins with a scenic boat ride into the park. It is important to know that swimming at Skradinski Buk is no longer allowed, even though many visitors still associate Krka with that experience.



INFO  
[np-krka.hr](http://np-krka.hr)



## NP KRKA

Nevjerojatna igra vode, slapova, kaskada i jezera smjestila se na prostoru parka u zaleđu Šibenika. Na malo više od 100 četvornih kilometara površine sedam je impresivnih slapova koji oduzimaju dah ljepotom i zaglušujućim šumom vode u slobodnom padu. Krka na prvu najčešće impresionira Skradinskim bukom, nizom od čak 17 slapova. Druga velika atrakcija je Roški slap, mirniji i s manjim gužvama, poznat po "ogrlicama" sitnih kaskada. Poseban je doživljaj izlet brodom do otočića Visovac, na kojem se nalazi franjevački samostan iz 15. stoljeća. U ovom nacionalnom parku možete vidjeti i stare mlinice koje su pretvorene u etnografski postav. Park ima više ulaza, a Skradin je najpopularniji jer uključuje vožnju brodom. Važno je znati da kupanje kod Skradinskog buka više nije dopušteno iako ga mnogi još povezuju s tim iskustvom.



THIS ENCHANTING ISLAND CLUSTER JUST OFF PULA IS RIGHTLY CONSIDERED A JEWEL OF THE ISTRIAN PENINSULA

ČAROBNO OTOČJE NEDALEKO OD PULE S RAZLOGOM SE SMATRA BISEROM ISTARSKOG POLUOTOKA

## BRIJUNI NATIONAL PARK

This enchanting island cluster just off Pula is rightly considered a jewel of the Istrian peninsula, and travelers began seeking it out as an ideal holiday retreat as early as the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Brijuni archipelago is made up of 14 islands and islets, the best known of which is Veliki Brijun, the largest and most frequently visited island in the park.

Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito was also captivated by these islands, welcoming statesmen from around the world to Brijuni, as well as many of the exotic animals he received as gifts, including llamas and zebras. One of the most famous residents is Lenka the elephant, a beloved symbol of Brijuni. Here you can also see dinosaur footprints more than 100 million years old, a striking reminder of the giant creatures that once roamed these shores.

## NP BRIJUNI

Čarobno otočje nedaleko od Pule s razlogom se smatra biserom istarskog poluotoka, a turisti su ga kao idealno mjesto za odmor otkrili još krajem 19. stoljeća. Brijuni se sastoje od ukupno 14 otoka i otočića, a najpoznatiji je Veliki Brijun, koji je i najčešće odredište turističkih posjeta.

Ovo je otočje obožavao i Josip Broz Tito, koji je na Brijune dovodio državnike iz cijelog svijeta, a iz njegova vremena potječu i egzotične životinje koje je dobivao na dar – ljame, zebre, a možda i najpoznatija stanovnica Brijuna – slonica Lenka. Ovdje možete vidjeti i otiske dinosaura stare više od 200 milijuna godina, koji su podsjetnik na velike životinje koje su nekad hodale ovim krajolicima.



INFO  
np-brijuni.hr





THE ARCHIPELAGO BOASTS ALMOST 90 ISLANDS, ISLETS AND REEFS, A SEASCAPE SO INTRICATE THAT IT IS OFTEN CALLED A "STONE LABYRINTH"

ARHIPELAG S GOTOVO 90 OTOKA, OTOČIĆA I HRIDI, ZBOG ČEGA GA ČESTO ZOVU "KAMENI LABIRINT"

## KORNATI NATIONAL PARK

Kornati is not the kind of national park you simply walk around; it is a destination you experience from the sea. The archipelago boasts almost 90 islands, islets and reefs, a seascape so intricate that it is often called a "stone labyrinth." The most dramatic sight here is the line of sheer cliffs along the outer edges of the islands, known as the "crowns," plunging almost vertically into the deep blue of the Adriatic. Kornati has long been a favorite destination for sailors from all over the world. Still, you don't need your own sailboat to enjoy it: local skippers run day trips for visitors from nearby coastal towns such as Vodice, Biograd, Murter and Dugi Otok, and most excursions include time for swimming in secluded coves. Out on the islands you can see long lines of *suhozidi* or dry stone walls, silent witnesses to the hard lives of shepherds and farmers who once worked this harsh terrain. The park today has almost no permanent residents, which only heightens the feeling of remoteness and the sense of truly unspoiled nature.



INFO  
np-kornati.hr



## NP KORNATI

Kornati nisu klasičan park za šetnju, nego destinacija koju doživljavate s mora. Radi se o arhipelagu s gotovo 90 otoka, otočića i hridi, zbog čega ga često zovu "kameni labirint". Najimpresivniji prizor su strme litice s vanjske strane otoka, tzv. krune, koje se okomito obrušavaju u more. Kornati su oduvijek omiljena destinacija nautičara iz cijelog svijeta. Ali čak i ako nemate jedrilicu, ne morate ostati uskraćeni za ove ljepote: izlete brodicama za turiste organiziraju lokalci iz svih obližnjih mjesta, primjerice iz Vodica, Biograda, s Murtera i Dugog otoka, a većina tura uključuje kupanje u skrivenim uvalama. Na otocima možete vidjeti i suhozide koji svjedoče o životu pastira i težaka. Zanimljivo je da park gotovo nema stalnih stanovnika, što dodatno pojačava osjećaj izolacije i očuvanosti prirode.



THE HIGHLIGHTS OF MLJET ARE VELIKO AND MALO JEZERO, TWO SALTWATER LAKES CONNECTED TO THE SEA

GLAVNA ATRAKCIJA SU VELIKO I MALO JEZERO, DVA SLANA JEZERA POVEZANA S MOREM

## MLJET NATIONAL PARK

The oldest protected marine area in the Mediterranean lies at the far south of Croatia and covers around two-thirds of the country's most densely forested island, Mljet. Sea and saltwater lakes, sinkholes and caves, a remarkable variety of plant and animal life, and a rich tapestry of cultural and historical heritage – you will find all of this on Mljet. The highlights of Mljet are Veliko and Malo Jezero, two saltwater lakes connected to the sea, with a tiny islet in the middle of the larger lake crowned by a 12<sup>th</sup>-century Benedictine monastery that you can reach by boat. The park is also famous for its dense pine forests, which cast deep, natural shade even in the height of summer, and for the village of Polače, where the remains of a Roman palace, the third-largest preserved Roman structure in Croatia, still stand today. One more intriguing detail is that Mljet often appears in the legend of Odysseus and is sometimes said to be the island where he was stranded.

## NP MLJET

Najstarije zaštićeno područje na Mediteranu nalazi se na samom jugu zemlje i zauzima oko dvije trećine najšumovitijeg hrvatskog otoka, Mljeta. More, jezera, krške jame i špilje, brojne biljne i životinjske vrste, bogata kulturna i povijesna baština... Sve ćete to pronaći na Mljetu.

Glavna atrakcija su Veliko i Malo jezero, dva slana jezera povezana s morem, a u sredini Velikog jezera nalazi se otočić s benediktinskim samostanom iz 12. stoljeća do kojeg se dolazi brodom. Park je poznat i po gustim borovim šumama koje stvaraju prirodni hlad čak i usred ljeta, ali i po mjestu Polače, gdje se nalaze ostaci rimske palače, treće najstarije očuvane rimske građevine u Hrvatskoj. Zanimljivost je da se Mljet često spominje u legendi o Odiseju, koji je na otoku navodno bio zatočen.



INFO  
[np-mljet.hr](http://np-mljet.hr)



THIS PARK IS A DREAM FOR SEASONED HIKERS AND CLIMBERS ALIKE.

OVAJ PARK SAN JE SVIH ISKUSNIH PLANINARA I ALPINISTA



## PAKLENICA NATIONAL PARK

Home to some of the highest peaks of the Velebit range and its most dramatic climbing cliffs, this park is a dream for seasoned hikers and climbers alike. The best-known hiking routes follow Velika and Mala Paklenica, two striking canyons carved deep into the slopes of Velebit. Velika Paklenica is the more accessible of the two, with a trail that runs along the stream all the way to the mountain hut. Along the way, you pass beneath Anića Kuk, one of Croatia's most iconic climbing walls.

Another major attraction are the caves: Paklenica boasts as many as 115 speleological sites, each sheltering its own underground world of numerous endemic animal species, but the one that draws the most visitors is Manita Peć in the lower part of Velika Paklenica. In the lower zones, the park is rich in forests, while the higher peaks are bare karst and rock, yet from up there you are rewarded with some of the most breathtaking views of the Adriatic Sea and the Velebit range.



INFO  
np-paklenica.hr



## NP PAKLENICA

Park u kojem se nalaze neki od najviših velebitskih vrhova i najimpresivnije penjačke stijene san je svih iskusnih planinara i alpinista.

Najpoznatije planinarske staze su Velika i Mala Paklenica, dva impresivna kanjona usječena duboko u Velebit. Velika Paklenica je pristupačnija i njome vodi staza koja prati potok sve do planinarskog doma. Usput ćete proći ispod Anića kuka, jedne od najpoznatijih stijena za penjanje u Hrvatskoj. Još jedna atrakcija su špilje – Paklenica krije čak 115 speleoloških objekata, u kojima obitava cijeli jedan svijet mnogobrojnih endemskih vrsta životinja, a posjetitelje najviše privlači špilja Manita peć u donjem dijelu Velike Paklenice.

Park je u nižim dijelovima bogat šumama, dok su viši vrhovi krševiti i kameni, no s njih se pružaju neki od najljepših pogleda na Jadran i Velebit.



## RISNJAK NATIONAL PARK

In Croatia's greenest region lies a national park where, on just over sixty square kilometers, no fewer than sixteen different forest communities thrive, and around 70 percent of the area falls under strict protection. Risnjak National Park is located in Gorski Kotar and takes its name from the lynx (*ris* in Croatian), a rare, protected animal that lives here, alongside bears and wolves. Two main massifs shape the park: Risnjak (1,528 meters above sea level) and Snježnik (1,506 meters), both firm favorites with hikers and nature lovers, while the lower slopes are accessible even to those who prefer gentler climbs. One of the most popular trails takes you up to the summit of Veliki Risnjak, from which, on a clear day, the view stretches all the way to the sea. Another standout place is the source of the Kupa River, one of the most beautiful karst springs in Croatia. The path to the spring is relatively undemanding and suitable for most visitors. Risnjak is perfect for an escape from the summer heat, as temperatures here are significantly lower than on the coast. There are no crowds or mass tourism, which today is a true rarity.

## NORTHERN VELEBIT NATIONAL PARK

Velebit may not be the highest mountain in Croatia, but it is the best-known and a firm favorite with hikers, and its northern part is protected as an area of outstanding natural beauty. The most famous attraction is the Premužić Trail, one of Europe's most beautiful hiking routes, which threads its way through rocky terrain and cliffs yet manages to avoid steep, punishing climbs. The trail is about 57 kilometers long, but it can easily be walked in shorter sections. A particularly impressive part of Velebit is the Hajdučki and Rožanski Kukovi area, a maze of rocks and karst formations that looks almost otherworldly. It is a place where, in the course of a single day, you can experience complete mountain stillness and sweeping views of the sea. The flora here is exceptionally rich, with many endemic species, the most famous of which is Velebit degenia (*Degenia velebitica*), Croatia's rarest plant and one of the country's national symbols. ■

## NP RISNJAK

U najzelenijem dijelu Hrvatske smjestio se nacionalni park u kojem se na tek šezdesetak četvornih kilometara smjestilo čak 16 šumskih zajednica, a 70 posto parka u zoni je stroge zaštite.

NP Risnjak nalazi se u Gorskom kotaru, a ime je dobio po risu, rijetkoj i zaštićenoj životinji koja ovdje živi, s time da na tom području obitavaju još i medvjedi i vukovi. Parkom dominiraju masivi Risnjak (1528 metara nadmorske visine) i Snježnik (1506 metara nadmorske visine), omiljeni među planinarima i ljubiteljima prirode. Niži predjeli dostupni su i onima koji nisu za svladavanje težih uzbrdica. Jedna od najpopularnijih ruta vodi do vrha Veliki Risnjak, s kojeg se za vedrog dana vidi sve do mora. Posebno zanimljivo mjesto je izvor rijeke Kupe, jedan od najljepših krških izvora u Hrvatskoj. Staza do izvora relativno je nezahtjevna i pogodna za većinu posjetitelja. Risnjak je idealan za ljetni bijeg od vrućine jer su temperature znatno niže nego na obali. Nema gužvi ni masovnog turizma, što je danas uistinu rijetkost.



INFO  
[np-risnjak.hr](http://np-risnjak.hr)



## NP SJEVERNI VELEBIT

Iako nije najviša, Velebit je svakako najpoznatija i među planinarima omiljena hrvatska planina, a njegov sjeverni dio zaštićen kao mjesto posebne ljepote. Najpoznatija atrakcija je Premužićeva staza, jedna od najljepših planinarskih ruta u Europi koja prolazi kroz kamen i litice, ali bez velikih uspona. Dugačka je oko 57 kilometara, ali se može prolaziti u dijelovima.

Posebno dojmljiv dio Velebita su Hajdučki i Rožanski kukovi – labirint stijena i krških oblika koji izgledaju gotovo nestvarno. Zanimljivo je da ovdje možete u jednom danu doživjeti potpuni planinski mir i pogled na more. Flora je izuzetno bogata, s brojnim endemskim vrstama, od čega je najpoznatija velebitska degenija, najrjeđa biljka u Hrvatskoj i jedan od simbola zemlje. □



INFO  
[np-sjeverni-velebit.hr](http://np-sjeverni-velebit.hr)



MODERN HISTORY MODERNA POVIJEST

# 10 impressive Dubrovnik facts you may not know

## 10 IMPRESIVNIH ČINJENICA O DUBROVNIKU KOJE MOŽDA NISTE ZNALI

**A**t first glance, Dubrovnik may win you over with its architecture, stone walls, and seaside setting, but its real magic is hidden in the stories and details visitors often overlook or never hear about at all. For centuries, this was a remarkably well-run, forward-thinking republic that pioneered ideas far ahead of its time. From healthcare and social welfare to trade and diplomacy, Dubrovnik developed systems that inspired and influenced others. That is why its history feels surprisingly modern, and the blend of beauty and functionality makes it one of the most intriguing historic cities on the Mediterranean. Read on to discover 10 impressive facts about Dubrovnik.

Dubrovnik na prvi pogled osvaja svojom arhitekturom, zidinama i položajem uz more, no njegova prava vrijednost krije se u detaljima koje često ne primjećujemo ili čak i ne znamo. Ovaj je grad stoljećima bio uređena i napredna republika koja je uvodila inovacije daleko ispred svojeg vremena. Od zdravstva i socijalne skrbi do trgovine i diplomacije, Dubrovnik je razvijao sustave koji su postali uzor drugima. Upravo zato njegova je povijest iznenađujuće moderna, a kombinacija ljepote i funkcionalnosti čini ga jednim od najzanimljivijih povijesnih gradova na Mediteranu. U nastavku pročitajte 10 impresivnih činjenica o Dubrovniku.



**FROM HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE TO TRADE AND DIPLOMACY, DUBROVNIK DEVELOPED SYSTEMS THAT INSPIRED AND INFLUENCED OTHERS**

OD ZDRAVSTVA I SOCIJALNE SKRBI DO TRGOVINE I DIPLOMACIJE, DUBROVNIK JE RAZVIJAO SUSTAVE KOJI SU POSTALI UZOR DRUGIMA





**THIS PHARMACY HAS BEEN IN UNINTERRUPTED OPERATION SINCE 1317**

**OVA LJEKARNA NEPREKIDNO DJELUJE OD 1317. GODINE DO DANAS**

## 1 ONE OF EUROPE'S OLDEST WORKING PHARMACIES

Tucked inside the Franciscan Monastery of the Friars Minor, within Dubrovnik's Old City walls, lies a pharmacy that has been in uninterrupted operation since 1317. Widely regarded as one of the three oldest continually operating pharmacies in Europe, it is also among the continent's oldest pharmacies open to the public. Over the centuries, it cared not only for the city's residents but also for sailors and travelers passing through this busy maritime republic. These days, visitors can step inside to discover original wooden furnishings, timeworn prescriptions, and a fascinating collection of historic medical instruments.

## 2 ONE OF THE FIRST STATES TO ABOLISH SLAVERY

As early as the 15th century, the Republic of Dubrovnik made the landmark decision to ban the slave trade, making it one of the earliest states in Europe and the world to do so. It was a Republic-wide measure, binding across all its territories, and part of a broader commitment to a more just and humane society. While slavery continued to exist in much of the world, Dubrovnik had made its position unmistakably clear. It was a reflection of its advanced legal thinking and sense of social responsibility.

## 1 JEDNA OD NAJSTARIJIH LJEKARNI U EUROPI

U sklopu franjevačkog samostana Male braće, unutar zidina starog grada, nalazi se ljekarna koja neprekidno djeluje od 1317. godine do danas. Smatra se jednom od tri najstarije kontinuirano otvorene ljekarne u Europi i jednom od tri najstarije s javnim pristupom u Europi. Osim što je služila građanima, bila je važna i za pomorce i putnike koji su dolazili u Dubrovnik. Danas se u njoj mogu vidjeti originalni ljekarnički namještaj, stari recepti i zbirka medicinskih predmeta.

## 2 MEĐU PRVIM DRŽAVAMA KOJE SU UKINULE ROPSTVO

Dubrovačka Republika donijela je odluku o zabrani trgovine robljem još u 15. stoljeću, čime se svrstala među najranije zajednice koje su učinile takav iskorak. Ova odluka odnosila se na teritorij Republike i bila je dio šire politike humanijeg društva. Iako ropstvo tada nije nestalo u ostatku svijeta, Dubrovnik je jasno definirao svoje stajalište o tome. Takva odluka govori o razvijenoj pravnoj svijesti i društvenoj odgovornosti.

## 3 PRVA KARANTENA NA SVIJETU

Godine 1377. Dubrovnik uvodi organiziranu karantenu kao odgovor na prijetnju kuge. Odluka je nalagala da svi putnici i roba iz rizičnih područja moraju provesti određeno vrijeme izolirani prije ulaska u grad. Karantena se provodila na obližnjim otocima Mrkan, Bobara i Supetar. Ova mjera smatra se prvom sustavno organiziranom karantenom u svijetu i postavila je temelje modernim epidemiološkim praksama.



### **3 THE WORLD'S FIRST QUARANTINE**

In 1377, Dubrovnik introduced the world's first systematic, legislated quarantine in response to the threat of plague. The measure required all travelers and goods arriving from high-risk areas to undergo a set period of isolation on the nearby islands of Mrkan, Bobara, and Supetar before setting foot in the city. This pioneering system laid the foundations for modern epidemiological practice.

### **4 ONE OF THE OLDEST PUBLIC ORPHANAGES**

Dubrovnik stands among the first cities in Europe to organize and fund an orphanage as a public institution. Located within the city walls, it cared for abandoned children without relying solely on private donations. The state took responsibility for their upbringing and education, which was a remarkably forward-thinking approach for the era. In doing so, Dubrovnik demonstrated a highly developed sense of social policy and genuine concern for its community.

### **5 PIONEERING MARITIME INSURANCE LAW**

As a significant maritime power, Dubrovnik developed one of the earliest formal maritime insurance systems in Europe. This law gave merchants and shipowners protection against losses at sea, making trade safer and more predictable, and further strengthening the Republic's economy. Consequently, Dubrovnik set standards that would later spread to other maritime powers across the Mediterranean and beyond.

## For centuries, Dubrovnik was a well-run, forward-thinking republic far ahead of its time

Dubrovnik je stoljećima bio uređena i napredna republika daleko ispred svojeg vremena

### **4 JEDNO OD NAJSTARIJIH DRŽAVNIH SIROTIŠTA**

Dubrovnik je među prvim gradovima u Europi koji je organizirao i financirao sirotište kao javnu instituciju. Nalazilo se unutar gradskih zidina i brinulo o napuštenoj djeci bez oslanjanja isključivo na privatne donacije. Država je preuzela odgovornost za odgoj i obrazovanje te djece, što je bilo iznimno napredno za to doba. Time je Dubrovnik pokazao da ima razvijen osjećaj za socijalnu politiku i brigu za zajednicu.

### **5 RANI ZAKON O POMORSKOM OSIGURANJU**

Kao važna pomorska sila, Dubrovnik je razvio jedan od prvih sustava pomorskog osiguranja u Europi. Grad je imao zakon koji je trgovcima i brodovlasnicima omogućavao da se zaštite od gubitaka na moru. Time je trgovina postala sigurnija i predvidljivija, što je još više ojačalo gospodarstvo Republike. Dubrovnik je tako postavio standarde koji su se poslije proširili i koje su usvojile i druge pomorske sile.



DUBROVNIK ALSO MAINTAINED A SOPHISTICATED LEGAL SYSTEM GOVERNING MARITIME TRADE AND THE SAFETY OF NAVIGATION

GRAD JE IMAO I RAZRAĐEN PRAVNI SUSTAV KOJI JE REGULIRAO POMORSKU TRGOVINU I SIGURNOST PLOVIDBE

## 6 AN ADVANCED SEWAGE SYSTEM

Within the Old City, Dubrovnik developed one of the earliest organized sewage systems in medieval Europe. The system provided drainage for wastewater and contributed to sanitation in a densely populated urban environment. Remarkably, significant parts of that same system are still in use today, a testament to the quality of its construction. At a time when hygiene conditions in most European cities were poor, Dubrovnik was far ahead of its time.

## 7 MARITIME SAFETY REGULATIONS

Dubrovnik maintained a sophisticated legal system governing maritime trade and the safety of navigation. Regulations covered everything from the loading of cargo and the responsibilities of the crew, to conduct at sea, reducing risk and ensuring fair resolution of disputes. This level of organization was essential to Dubrovnik's rise as a major trading power.

## 8 AMONG THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THE UNITED STATES

In 1783, the Republic of Dubrovnik was among the earliest states to extend recognition to the newly independent United States of America. This was part of a broader diplomatic strategy of maintaining good relations with emerging powers. While it was not the very first, its early recognition speaks to the Republic's political awareness and diplomatic reach. At the time, Dubrovnik maintained an extensive network of consuls and envoys across Europe.

## 6 NAPREDAN KANALIZACIJSKI SUSTAV

Unutar starog grada razvijen je jedan od prvih organiziranih kanalizacijskih sustava u srednjem vijeku. Sustav je omogućavao odvodnju otpadnih voda i pridonosio higijeni gusto naseljenog urbanog prostora. Mnogi dijelovi tog sustava i danas su u funkciji, što govori o njegovoj kvaliteti. U vremenu kada su higijenski uvjeti u mnogim europskim gradovima bili loši, Dubrovnik je u tome bio znatno napredniji.

## 7 PRAVILA SIGURNOSTI NA MORU

Grad je imao razrađen pravni sustav koji je regulirao pomorsku trgovinu i sigurnost plovidbe. Postojala su pravila o ukrcaju tereta, odgovornosti posade i ponašanju na moru. Ovi propisi smanjivali su rizik i osiguravali pravedno rješavanje sporova. Takva razina organizacije bila je ključna za razvoj Dubrovnika kao trgovačke sile.

## 8 MEĐU PRVIMA PRIZNAO SAD

Godine 1783. Dubrovačka Republika bila je među prvim državama koje su priznale neovisnost Sjedinjenih Američkih Država. Ova odluka bila je dio promišljene diplomatske strategije kojom je Dubrovnik održavao dobre odnose s velikim silama. Činjenica da je bio među onima koji su to učinili najranije potvrđuje njegovu političku relevantnost. Dubrovnik je u to vrijeme imao razvijenu mrežu diplomatskih predstavništava diljem Europe.



**WITHIN THE OLD CITY, DUBROVNIK DEVELOPED ONE OF THE EARLIEST ORGANIZED SEWAGE SYSTEMS IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE**

UNUTAR STAROG GRADA RAZVIJEN JE JEDAN OD PRVIH ORGANIZIRANIH KANALIZACIJSKIH SUSTAVA U SREDNJEM VIJEKU

## 9 THE FIRST MANUAL ON TRADE AND BOOKKEEPING

In 1458, Benedikt Kotruljević, a merchant and diplomat from Dubrovnik, wrote a work considered the first manual on trade and double-entry bookkeeping in Europe. His writings laid the foundations of modern business record-keeping. Although the work was not published until over a century after it had been written, its significance for the development of economics is beyond doubt. Through individuals like Kotruljević, Dubrovnik further cemented its reputation as a major center of commerce and intellectual life.

## 10 A RENAISSANCE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM AHEAD OF ITS TIME

In the 15th century, Dubrovnik built an advanced water supply system that carried drinking water to the city from springs in the countryside. The system included an aqueduct a network of public fountains, several of which still stand in the Old City today. While waterworks had existed in Croatia since antiquity, this Renaissance-era system was remarkably sophisticated for its time. It greatly improved the quality of life for the city's residents and raised the standard of urban living in Dubrovnik. ■

## 9 PRVI PRIRUČNIK O TRGOVINI I KNJIGOVODSTVU

Godine 1458. Benedikt Kotruljević napisao je djelo koje se smatra jednim od prvih priručnika o trgovini i dvostavnom knjigovodstvu u Europi. Njegovi zapisi postavili su temelje modernog vođenja poslovnih knjiga. Premda je djelo objavljeno kasnije, njegovo značenje za razvoj ekonomije je neupitno. Obrazovani i poduzetni Dubrovčani dodatno su učvršćivali trgovačku reputaciju grada.

## 10 RENESANSNI VODOVOD ISPRED SVOJEG VREMENA

Dubrovnik je u 15. stoljeću dobio razvijen vodovodni sustav koji je dovodio pitku vodu iz više izvora u Grad. Sustav je uključivao akvadukte i javne fontane, od kojih su neke i danas vidljive u starom gradu. Iako su vodovodi postojali još u antičko doba na području Hrvatske, ovaj renesansni sustav bio je iznimno napredan za svoje doba. Omogućio je kvalitetniji život stanovnicima i uvelike unaprijedio urbani standard. □

The blend of beauty and functionality makes this city one of the most intriguing on the Mediterranean

Kombinacija ljepote i funkcionalnosti čini ovaj grad jednim od najzanimljivijih povijesnih gradova na Mediteranu



50 YEARS OF KUD MARKO MAROJICA 50 GODINA KUD-A "MARKO MAROJICA"

# Folklore with a touch of gold

FOLKLOR S DAŠKOM ZLATA

On April 30, 1976, under the artistic direction of Branko Tadić and accompanied by Antun Lise on *lijerica*, a traditional three-stringed bowed instrument from southern Dalmatia, the Marko Marojica Folklore Ensemble (KUD Marko Marojica) from Župa Dubrovačka gave its first public performance. Presented as part of the International Workers' Day celebrations, that debut opened a new chapter in the history of this coastal community just outside Dubrovnik. Thanks to a dedicated group of local enthusiasts, the ensemble soon gained recognition across Croatia and internationally, becoming renowned for its gold-embroidered costumes and Župa dances, or *župske bale*, a suite of five traditional dances, including the *župska polka*, *mazurka*, *dueta*, *župski čičak*, and the celebrated *župska poskočica*.

Župa Dubrovačka is a picturesque municipality located just six kilometers southeast of Dubrovnik's historic Old City. Closely tied to Dubrovnik for generations, the area shares a deep bond with what locals affectionately call "the City," a name they capitalize to emphasize its significance and central role in their everyday lives. It was not unusual for Župa Dubrovačka to

Pod umjetničkim vodstvom Branka Tadića i uz pratnju ljeričara Antuna Lise, 30. travnja 1976. godine Kulturno-umjetničko društvo "Marko Marojica" iz Župe dubrovačke održalo je svoj prvi nastup. Tom izvedbom u povodu Praznika rada otvorena je nova stranica povijesti malenog mjesta podno Dubrovnika, koje je zahvaljujući šačici mještana postalo nacionalno, pa i globalno poznato po svojim nošnjama sa zlatnom srmom i Župskim balama, skupu od pet plesova koji čine "Župska polka", "Mazurka", "Dueta", "Župski čičak" i čuvena "Župska poskočica".

Župa dubrovačka malena je općina koja se nalazi šest kilometara jugoistočno od povijesne jezgre grada Dubrovnika. Ovaj je kraj godinama vezan uz Grad, kako Dubrovčani vole oslovjavati svoje rodno mjesto, naglašavajući tim prvim velikim slovom njegovu važnost i veličinu. Nije neobično da se Župa dubrovačka s vremenom vrlo lako izgubila u sjaju svojeg većeg brata. Kako bi izašli iz te sjene i dali svoj obol turističkoj ponudi dubrovačkog kraja, mještani Župe dubrovačke prije pedeset su godina odlučili osnovati KUD "Marko Marojica", a kao svojevrсни osnivači vode se Pasko Pendo, Mato Vlašić i Braco Grbić. Kako nam govori Mateo Čanić, današnji umjetnički voditelj tog društva,

**IN THE FIVE DECADES SINCE ITS FOUNDING, KUD MARKO MAROJICA HAS GROWN INTO ONE OF THE DEFINING SYMBOLS NOT ONLY OF ŽUPA DUBROVAČKA BUT OF DUBROVNIK AS WELL**

KUD "MARKO MAROJICA" U OVIH 50 GODINA TAKO JE POSTAO JEDAN OD SIMBOLA NE SAMO ŽUPE DUBROVAČKE NEGO I DUBROVNIKA



THEIR COSTUMES TRULY STAND OUT;  
RICHLY DECORATED WITH GOLD SRMA,  
A DELICATE METALLIC THREAD ONCE USED  
TO EMBELLISH CEREMONIAL GARMENTS

NOŠNJE SU UISTINU NEŠTO POSEBNO;  
KRAŠENE SU ZLATNOM SRMOM, TKANINOM  
S POSEBNIM ZLATNIM NITIMA KOJOM SE  
UKRAŠAVALA SVEČANA ODJEĆA



## KUD Marko Marojica gained recognition across Croatia and internationally

KUD Marko Marojica nacionalno je, pa i globalno poznat po svojim nošnjama

be overshadowed by the glow of its more famous “big brother,” Dubrovnik. Determined to step out of that shadow and contribute something of their own to the area’s tourism, locals came together 50 years ago to establish KUD Marko Marojica, with Pasko Pendo, Mato Vlašić, and Braco Grbić considered its founding figures. As the ensemble’s current artistic director, Mateo Čanić, explains, the first rehearsals took place at the Astarea Hotel, before the ensemble later moved to a former pharmacy building in Srebreno. Those early members were known as the most spirited in Župa, people who simply loved to dance and sing. As Čanić recalls, “they began by collecting folk costumes from residents of Župa Dubrovačka and set out to revive the region’s traditional dances. It wasn’t only the older generation who joined, but also young people and children, who finally had something more to do than water polo, brass band, or football.”

In the five decades since its founding, KUD Marko Marojica has grown into one of the defining symbols not only of Župa Dubrovačka but of Dubrovnik as well. The ensemble appears regularly at the city’s major festivals and celebrations, showcasing its dances and costumes to visitors from around the world. It is their costumes that truly stand out. Richly decorated with gold *srma*, a delicate metallic thread once used to embellish ceremonial garments, the men’s attire is further accented by gold *polajne*, heart- or cross-shaped pendants worn around the neck. The versions worn on stage today are lovingly restored or newly made and no longer contain real gold. The original historic costumes, in which fragments of real gold were woven into the fabric, are carefully preserved and brought out only for the most special and important occasions.

“For generations, merchants from Kosovo and Turkey traveled to this region, trading in gold and fabrics, and locals insisted on having real gold leaf stitched into their costumes,” says Čanić. “Many pieces also bear embroidered initials, a sign of how much they meant to their owners and why they were so carefully passed down through generations. Sadly, many costumes have been lost over time, some even because people chose to be buried in them. The greatest losses, however, occurred during the Croatian Homeland War.”

Župa Dubrovačka was devastated during the occupation, and many residents lost their homes and, with them, part of their tangible heritage. The war also affected KUD Marko Marojica, which was forced to suspend its activities between 1992 and 1997 before being revived through the efforts of Petar Srijemski and Marin Srijense.

As Čanić points out, “people’s enthusiasm, especially among those who had danced before the war, was focused on preserving their identity and heritage. I believe the ensemble became a place where locals could, at least for a moment, escape reality.”

With renewed momentum, KUD Marko Marojica not only resumed its activities but also broadened its scope and repertoire. A key figure in this process was Sulejman Muratović, then artistic director of the Lindo Folklore Ensemble, who introduced new choreographies for the Dubrovnik *lindo* circle dance and the dances of Konavle. In 2014, the ensemble went a step further by engaging Croatia’s most renowned choreographer, Branko Šegović, to create a new choreography inspired by the traditional dances of Split. Today, the ensemble brings together 120 members across two folklore sections: a junior group for children from preschool through fifth grade, and a senior section ranging from high school students to members in their seventies and beyond. Alongside dance, they also carefully preserve the region’s musical heritage, performing in a mixed *klapa* singing group and a tamburitza ensemble. ■

u najranijim početcima probe su se izvodile u prostorijama hotela Astarea, a poslije su se preselili u zgradu apoteke u Srebrenom. Prvi članovi bili su ljudi od zabave u Župi, oni koji su voljeli balati i pjevati. “Oni su prikupili narodne nošnje od drugih žitelja Župe dubrovačke i počeli ponovno izučavati tradicionalne plesove toga kraja. Nije tu bilo samo starijih ljudi nego i mladih i djece, koji su napokon dobili još jednu aktivnost koja nije bila nužno ograničena na vaterpolo, limenu glazbu ili nogomet”, kaže.

KUD “Marko Marojica” u ovih 50 godina tako je postao jedan od simbola ne samo Župe dubrovačke nego i Dubrovnika, a kako njegovi članovi redovito nastupaju na brojnim gradskim manifestacijama, njihov su ples i nošnje vidjeli ljudi iz gotovo cijelog svijeta. A upravo su im nošnje nešto uistinu posebno. Ukrašene su zlatnom srmom, tkaninom s posebnim zlatnim nitima kojom se ukrašavala svečana odjeća. Muškarci na svojim opravama oko vrata imaju i zlatne “polajne” u obliku srca ili križa. Verzije koje nose na nastupima obnovljene su ili iznova šivane i nemaju pravo zlato, a na starinske su se nošnje doista uvezivali djelići zlata. Ti izvorni primjerci čuvaju se samo za posebne prigode.

“U naš su kraj godinama dolazili trgovci s Kosova i iz Turske koji su se bavili prodajom zlata i tkanina, a mještani su tražili da im se u nošnje uistinu ušiju i listići zlata. Mnoge od njih imaju i uvezene inicijale, što samo govori koliko su im bile vrijedne i zašto su se pomno prenosile s koljena na koljena. Nažalost, velik broj nošnji smo izgubili jer su se ljudi čak i pokapali u njima. No, još je veća šteta nastala zbog Domovinskog rata”, govori nam Čanić.

Župa dubrovačka bila je tijekom okupacije spaljena, brojni su mještani izgubili svoj dom, a time i dio svoje materijalne povijesti. Ratne okolnosti utjecale su i na KUD “Marko Marojica”, koji je od 1992. do 1997. bio prisilno ugašen, ali se inicijativom Petra Srijemskija i Marina Srijense opet vratio.

“Entuzijizam ljudi, pogotovo onih koji su i prije rata plesali, bio je usmjeren na očuvanje identiteta i baštine. Mislim da je KUD predstavljao mjesto gdje su mještani, barem nakratko, mogli pobjeći od stvarnosti”, ističe Čanić.

Ponesen novim elanom, KUD je nastavio s radom te čak proširio svoje djelovanje i repertoar. Za to je zaslužan Sulejman Muratović, tadašnji umjetnički voditelj Folklornog ansambla “Lindo”, koji je postavio koreografiju “Dubrovačke poskočice lindo” i “Konavoskih plesova”. Nakon toga su se odlučili učiniti korak dalje, pa su 2014. godine doveli najpoznatijeg hrvatskog koreografa, šjora Branka Šegovića iz Splita, koji je osmislio koreografiju “Splitskih plesova”. Danas KUD ima 120 članova, koji su podijeljeni u dvije folklorne sekcije: onu za najmlađe, od vrtićke do petog razreda osnovne škole, i sekciju seniora, u kojoj su svi ostali, od srednjoškolaca pa sve sedamdesetogodišnjaka i još starijih. Uz ples, njeguju i glazbeni dio: mješovitu klapu i tamburaše. □

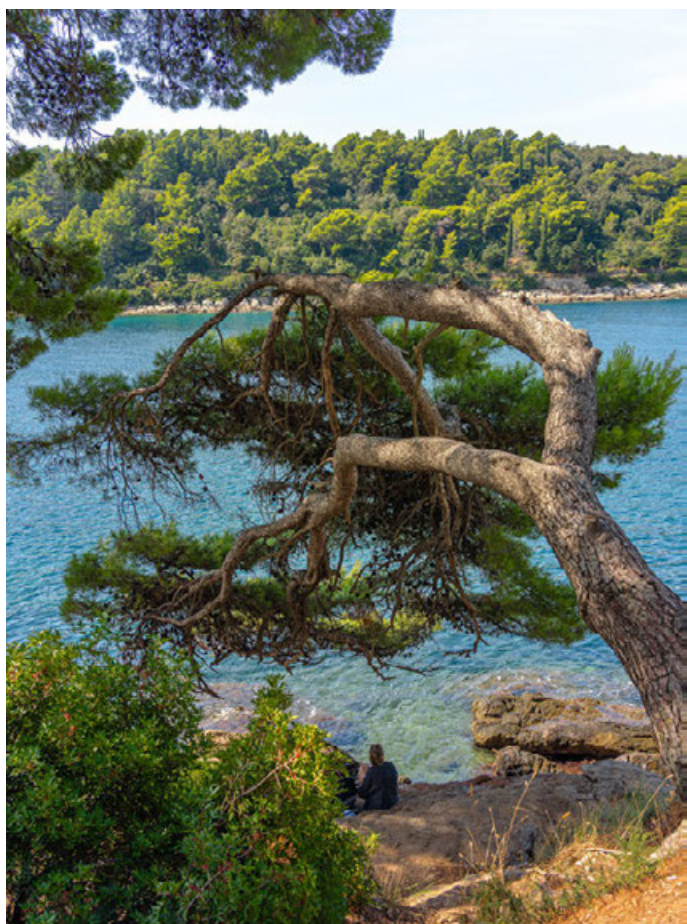




## CAVTAT

# A hidden Mediterranean gem

SKRIVENA TAJNA MEDITERANA



Some trips are months in the making, carefully planned down to the last detail. Others begin as a simple detour and end up becoming your most treasured memories. One such detour leads to Cavtat, a true hidden gem at the very southern tip of Croatia. Just a short drive from Dubrovnik, it feels like a different world the moment you arrive. While Dubrovnik hums with constant energy, crowds, and conversation, Cavtat moves at a gentler pace, offering a quieter, more relaxed, irresistibly charming escape.

Postoje putovanja koja planiramo mjesecima i ona druga, neplanirana skretanja koja se nerijetko pretvore u najljepše uspomene. Baš jedno takvo skretanje vodi prema Cavtatu, pravom malom dragulju na krajnjem jugu Hrvatske. Tek kratka vožnja dijeli ga od Dubrovnika, no razlika u atmosferi odmah je primjetna. Dok Dubrovnik pulsira energijom, ljudima i gotovo neprekidnim žamorom, Cavtat diše sporije, nudeći jedan tiši, opušteniji, neodoljivo šarmantan svijet.

**AS YOU COME INTO CAVTAT, YOU'RE WELCOMED BY A LOVELY WATERFRONT PROMENADE, LINED WITH TALL PINES AND PALM TREES**

**KAD DOĐETE U CAVTAT, ČEKA VAS DIVNA ŠETNICA UZ MORE, POD KROŠNJAMA BOROVA I PALMAMA**

**THE TOWN'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE  
ADDS A SPECIAL NOTE TO ITS  
CHARACTER**

POSEBNU NOTU GRADU DAJE NJEGOVA  
KULTURNA BAŠTINA



As you come into Cavtat, you're welcomed by a lovely waterfront promenade, lined with tall pines and palm trees swaying in the soft coastal breeze. The town's history echoes through its stone streets, while your gaze is drawn again and again to the glittering blues of the Adriatic. It is difficult to pinpoint what captivates you first. Perhaps it's the picturesque coves and crystal-clear sea, the harmony of historic architecture and nature, or that subtle feeling you have stepped into a place that has managed to preserve its true authenticity.

Cavtat's story reaches far back into the past. Once the Greek settlement of Epidaurum, it has grown into an elegant fishing town, with a historic core that still reflects the legacy of the former Dubrovnik Republic. Walking along its more than seven kilometers of shoreline, you'll come across hidden beaches, tiny coves, and picture-perfect views at every turn. The town's rich cultural heritage adds a special note to its character. In the very heart of Cavtat stands the birthplace of Vlaho Bukovac, now a museum dedicated to the life and work of one of Croatia's most celebrated painters. Just above the town, on a hilltop, rises the striking Račić Family Mausoleum, a masterpiece by sculptor Ivan Meštrović, offering one of the most breathtaking views of the southern Adriatic.

Cavtat has something to offer every type of guest. From waterfront restaurants and bars to options

Kad dođete u Cavtat, čeka vas divna šetnica uz more, pod krošnjama borova i palmama koje se njišu na laganom povjetarcu. Njegovim kamenim ulicama odzvanja šapat povijesti dok vam pogled neprestano bježi prema svjetlucavim nijansama Jadrana. Teško je reći što osvaja prvo. Možda su to pitoreskne uvale i kristalno čisto more, možda sklad stare arhitekture i prirode, a možda osjećaj da ste zakoračili u mjesto koje je uspjelo sačuvati svoju autentičnost.

Njegova priča seže duboko u prošlost. Nekadašnje grčko naselje Epidaurum danas živi kao elegantno ribarsko mjesto, čiji "stari grad" i dalje nosi pečat vremena Dubrovačke Republike. I dok šetate uz obalu dugačku više od sedam kilometara, otkrivat ćete skrivene plaže, male uvale i prizore koji izgledaju kao razglednice. Posebnu notu gradu daje njegova kulturna baština. U samom srcu Cavtata nalazi se kuća Vlaho Bukovca, pretvorena u muzej koji svjedoči o životu jednog od najznačajnijih hrvatskih slikara. Nedaleko, na brežuljku iznad grada, uzdiže se impresivni Mauzolej obitelji Račić, remek-djelo Ivana Meštrovića, s kojeg se pruža jedan od najljepših pogleda na južni Jadran.

Ponuda u samom Cavtatu prilagođena je različitim profilima gostiju. Tu su restorani i barovi uz more, kao i sadržaji za obitelji s djecom. Iako malen, ovaj gradić ima jasno organiziranu infrastrukturu i sasvim dovoljno sadržaja za jednostavni izlet dok boravite u Maistra Selectu.



## Cavtat moves at a gentler pace, offering a quieter, more relaxed, irresistibly charming escape

tailored for families with children, there is plenty to enjoy at your own pace. Despite its size, this charming seaside getaway is well organized and offers more than enough experiences for a perfect day trip while you are staying at Maistra Select.

Cavtat is surrounded by Konavle, a region that reveals yet another side of Dalmatia. Fertile fields, vineyards, olive groves, and traditional villages create a perfect counterpoint to the coastline, giving you a taste of local gastronomy and customs. For those eager to explore, the Rat and Sustjepan peninsulas offer scenic walking and cycling trails that link the shore with the countryside, while the Sokolov Greben viewpoint opens up sweeping panoramas that stay with you long after you leave.

Perhaps Cavtat's true charm lies in its balance: that refined blend of nature, history, and the effortless Mediterranean way of life. It is therefore no surprise that it was recently named the most beautiful coastal destination in Europe for 2026 by European Best Destinations, as featured in Forbes, chosen from among more than 200 locations.

So if you are already in Dubrovnik and think you have "seen it all," this might be the right time to wander off the beaten track. After all, the most unforgettable places are often the ones that stay out of the spotlight – and Cavtat is definitely one of them. ■

Cavtat diše sporije i nudi jedan tiši, opušteniji, neodoljivo šarmantan svijet

Cavtat okružuju Konavle, regija koja otkriva još jedno lice Dalmacije. Plodna polja, vinogradi i maslinici te tradicionalna sela stvaraju savršen kontrast obali, dajući vam uvid u lokalnu gastronomiju i običaje. Za one željne istraživanja, poluotoci Rat i Sustjepan nude slikovite pješačke, ali i biciklističke staze koje povezuju obalu i zaleđe, dok vidikovac Sokolov greben otvara panorame koje ostaju urezane u pamćenje.

I možda upravo u toj ravnoteži leži posebnost Cavtata, taj spoj prirode, povijesti i profinjenog mediteranskog načina života. Nije stoga iznenađenje da je nedavno, prema izboru organizacije European Best Destinations i objavi u magazinu Forbes, proglašen najljepšim obalnim mjestom u Europi za 2026. godinu, i to u konkurenciji više od 200 lokacija.

Stoga, ako ste već u Dubrovniku i mislite da ste vidjeli sve, možda je pravo vrijeme da skrenete s uobičajenih ruta. Jer ponekad su najljepša mjesta upravo ona o kojima se najmanje govori. Cavtat je definitivno jedno od njih. □

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