

Explore the roads!
Enjoy the journey, follow
your own path.
In Pakoštane, you can
never make the wrong turn.

Hear our stories!
Stop and simply listen
to the storytellers of
Pakoštane: knights,
the oracle, the squares,
fishermen, the stone walls...

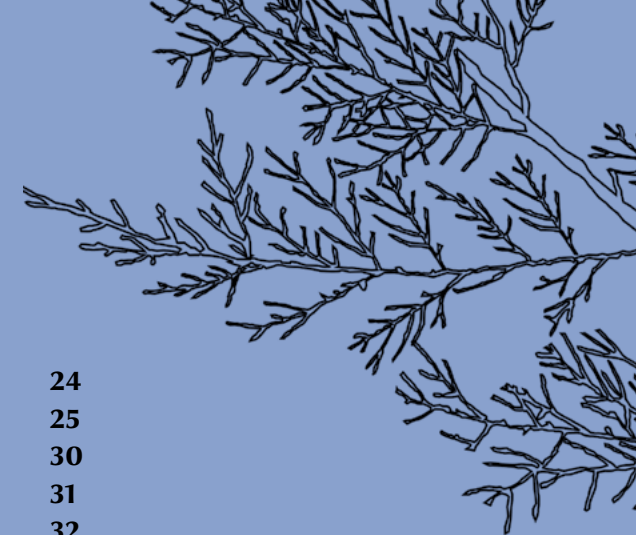
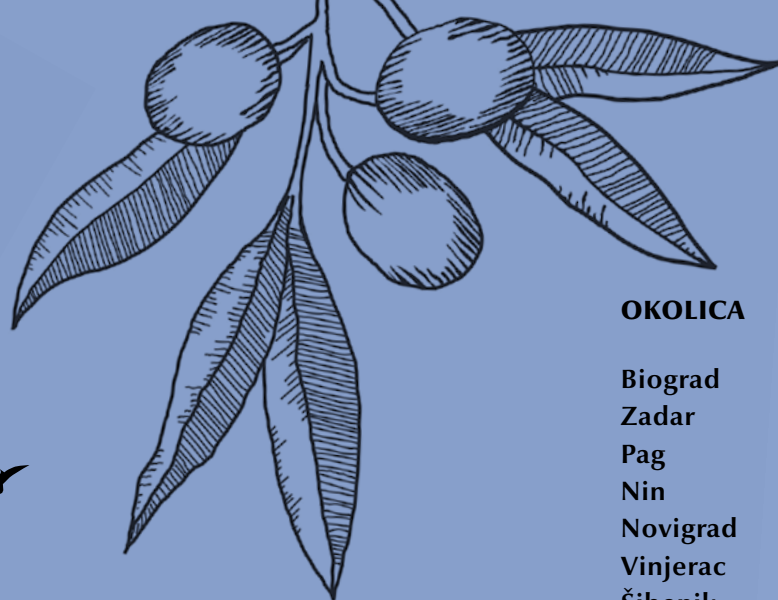
Reveal the gardens!
Discover the green-blue
soul of the Pakoštane
region, which adds a
delicate touch to your
experiences.

PAKOŠTANE

**Explore
the roads!**

**ON THE SEA,
BY THE LAKE**





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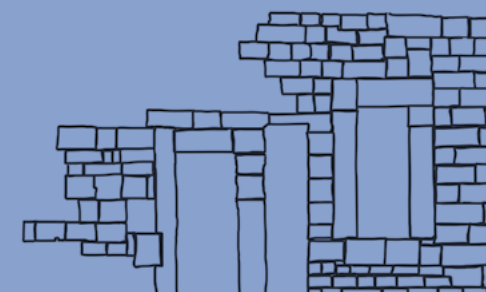
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ZADAR COUNTY

Zadar County encompasses the coast of northern Dalmatia and the hinterland of Ravni kotari and Bukovica. The high Velebit massif separates it from Lika and continental Croatia and has influenced its development over the centuries, up until the breakthrough of the Sveti Rok tunnel, which is a crucial part of the traffic connection between the north and south of Croatia.

Municipality of Pakoštane

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| ① MAŠKOVIĆA HAN | ⑤ ORNITHOLOGICAL RESERVE |
| ② PEĆINA SPRING | ⑥ ČELINKA |
| ③ KAMENJAK | ⑦ DRAGE |
| ④ PROSIKA | ⑧ VRGADA |

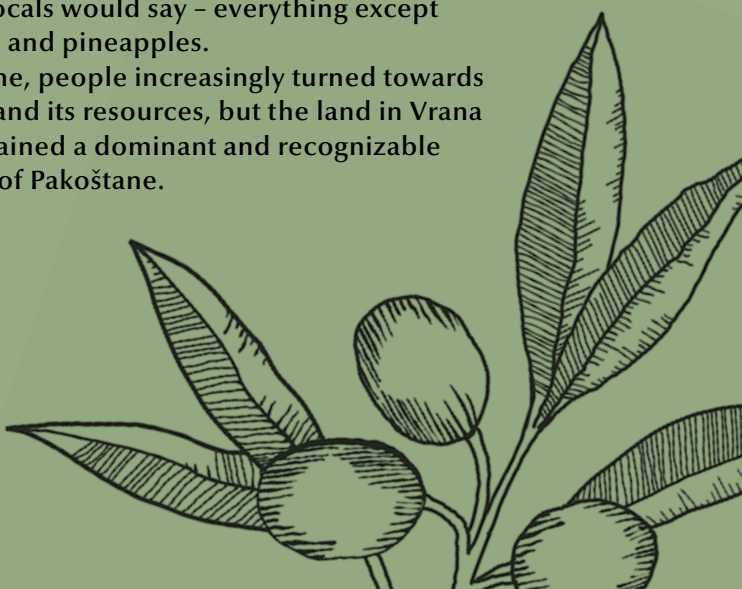


THE LAND AND ITS GIFTS



Pakoštane is located on a narrow strip of land between Lake Vrana and the sea, between two waters, fresh and salt. However, it was the land, the old provider, that had the greatest influence on the lives of the local population. People sailed the sea and left, but it was on the land that they stayed. The land bound them to this place, demanding dedication and hard work. Agriculture was traditionally the main occupation of the local farmers, who cultivated fields they held under lease. On the fertile fields around Vrana, people grew corn, wheat, broad beans, beans, chickpeas, barley, onions, olives, as well as various fruits and vegetables. As the locals would say – everything except bananas and pineapples.

Over time, people increasingly turned towards the sea and its resources, but the land in Vrana has remained a dominant and recognizable imprint of Pakoštane.







7.4 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Mašković Han

Jusuf Mašković Han in Vrana was built in the 17th century and served for civilian purposes for lodging, as a retreat and residence. The facility was commissioned by Jusuf Mašković, a native from Pakoštane who became a high dignitary at the Turkish court. The construction of the Han began during the onset of the Candian War but was never completed due to the death of Jusuf Mašković. As a monumental and luxurious residence, the Han was supposed to be used by Mašković in his old age, when he retired from service. This westernmost monument of civil Islamic architecture in Europe stood empty and abandoned for years until recently, when its reconstruction began, supported by EU funds. This was the first project for which the Croatian Ministry of Culture received funds under the IPA 2009 programme for Croatia. Nowadays, Mašković Han is an elegant building which comprises a hotel, restaurant, collection of local archaeological findings, and a space for various events, gatherings, and shops.

7.4 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Pećina Spring

The Pećina spring is located just above Gradina, the old town of Vrana. Drinking water springs from the rocky surroundings, a cave nestled among the cliffs, and flows into Lake Vrana. Throughout its course, it is used for watering orchards and vegetable gardens. The air temperature in the cave is always 2 to 3 degrees lower, thereby offering its visitors a refreshing respite on hot summer days. The spring was one of the three beginnings of the Roman aqueduct that supplied Zadar and its neighbouring farms with water. It was built during the reign of the emperor Trajan in the year 100 and was dedicated to the nymphs, mythical protectors of water. Later, in 1899, the cave was named after Archduke Charles Stephen (Cro. *Karl Stipan*) following the emperor's personal permission. Legend says that a prophetess from Vrana used to sit at the mouth of the cave, where she predicted the future by scooping water from the stream.



7.4 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Vrana

Vrana is a place of layered history dating back to Roman times, witnessed through the remains of villas, roads and the aqueduct that used to supply Zadar with water. In the Middle Ages, Vrana was a strategic and spiritual centre and, due to its position near royal cities such as Nin, Biograd and Knin, it became an important stronghold of the Knights Templar and Hospitaller. It is the birthplace of famous Renaissance masters – sculptor Francesco and architect Luciano Laurana. During the Ottoman period, it was the westernmost Turkish fortress, and the Jusuf Mašković han (inn) is a reminder of that era. With the arrival of the Venetians and the Borelli family, the draining of the swamp and the construction of the Prosika canal began. The result was the fertile Vrana Field – the heart of life in this region.

7.4 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Gradina

In the very heart of historic Vrana, not far from the Maškovića han, stands Gradina – a medieval hillfort whose walls still bear witness to turbulent times. From the 11th to the 14th century, it was the seat of both ecclesiastical and secular power, and it was here that the Croatian royal crown and other valuables were once kept. Walk among the remains of the Gothic church of St Catherine and peer into the past from the top of the main defensive tower. A visit to Gradina is not just a trip – it is a journey through time that will connect you with the heritage of one of the most important historical sites in this region.



18 km

DISTANCE FROM PAKOŠTANE

Kamenjak

At the top of the Kamenjak hill, above Lake Vrana, an eponymous lookout point was built in 2006. It can be reached on foot, by bike, or by car, following a well-maintained path featuring educational panels and stone benches for an occasional break. It is certainly worth the effort because the view from Kamenjak is unforgettable - some would even say the most beautiful on the Adriatic coast. It stretches across the lake and the sea, all the way to Kornati, and, weather permitting, even further. Upon reaching the top, you will find a souvenir shop and a tasting room offering local artisan cheeses and wines for a short break, as well as archaeological remains which are worth a visit.

13 km

DISTANCE FROM PAKOŠTANE

Prosika

The Prosika canal, which connects Lake Vrana with the Adriatic Sea, was dug through in 1770 to drain the swampy ground and prevent the spread of malaria. The construction of this canal was started by the Borelli family, who owned the town of Vrana and its surrounding area at the time. This canal made the land around Lake Vrana more economically viable as it was no longer just a muddy morass, but rather an area suitable for agriculture. Without malarial mosquitoes, the whole area became a healthier and more pleasant place to live. A small, picturesque harbour, with a restored fisherman's hut from the 19th century and a bird hide nearby, is located on the southern part of the canal.



2 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Ornithological reserve

Due to dense reeds and floodplains inhabited by a wide variety of bird species, the north-western part of Lake Vrana was declared a bird reserve in 1983. This is where hundreds of swamp birds nest and feed, while many migratory and wintering birds find rest and shelter here in winter. Up to 100,000 different species of birds can be found on the lake on warm and sunny days.

A 600-metre-long educational path runs through the reserve to the very heart of the bird kingdom. By taking this route, preferably in the morning or late afternoon, you have a good chance of seeing different types of birds.

5 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Čelinka

The Čelinka lookout point above Drage offers a beautiful view of Vrgada, the Kornati islands, and Lake Vrana, which is located just below the northern hillside. Archaeological remains on the hill tell the story of the first inhabitants in this area. You can reach the top of the hill by car or on foot, with the natural scenery making it an attractive destination for an excursion and active holiday.



5 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Drage

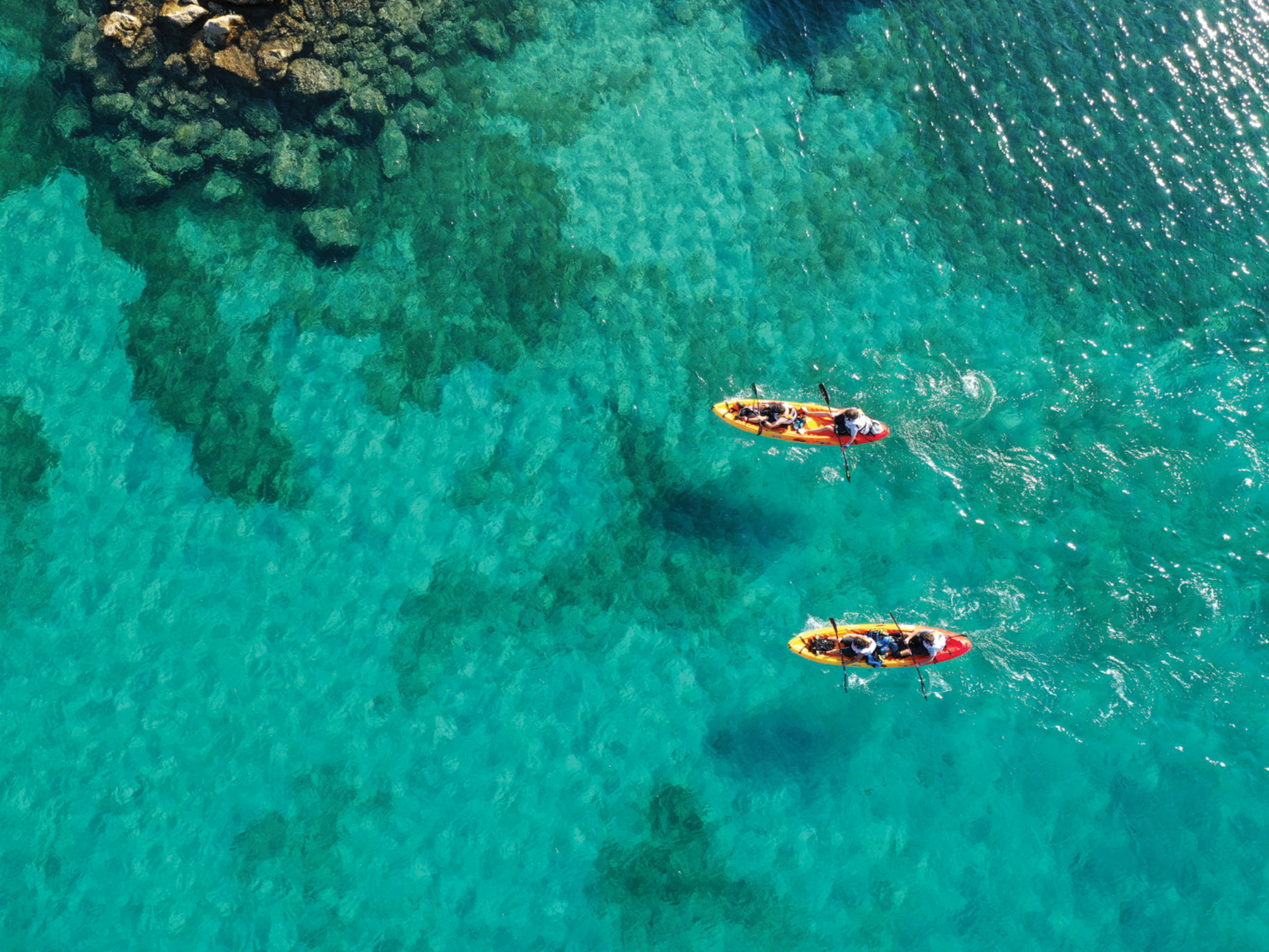
Drage, a picturesque village in the immediate vicinity of Pakoštane, is located below the Liburnian fort of Čelinka. It is distinguished by its beaches with crystal-clear water, as well as beautiful inlets and coves surrounded by a pine forest. You will find a freshwater lake in the hinterland of Drage, while numerous islands and islets on the seaward side provide an ideal habitat for fish, mussels, and crabs. Drage locals are accomplished fishermen, and their summer celebration is named *Dragarske bumbete*, after the small fishing boat (*bumbeta*). The location of the new Marina Drage in Dugovača bay makes it a prime starting point for cruising the archipelago all the way to Pašman and Ugljan, and even all the way to Žirje for those who prefer longer routes. There is a parking lot nearby, and a shuttle service to and from the Zadar Airport is available.

3 NM

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Vrgada

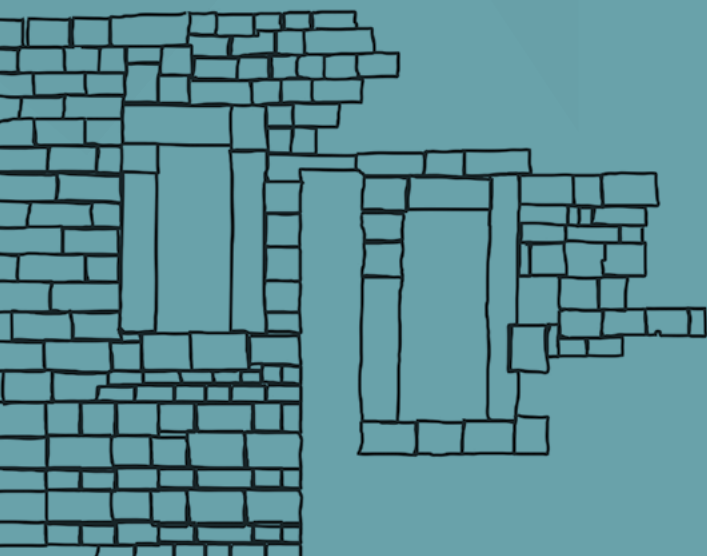
An island “for the soul” featuring a playful coastline filled with numerous bays and beaches, fragrant pine forest, and thirteen islets. There are no cars on Vrgada, life is quiet and simple, and visitors are welcomed on the pier. The island boasts beautiful nature, but also tells many historical stories and holds remnants of the past. In the summer months, visitors to Vrgada are greeted by a chorus of crickets, whose song wafts through the air and is the first thing you hear when you step onto the island. A fertile field surrounded by hills stretches through the centre of the island. The top of Gradina, one of these hills, offers a magical view of the surroundings, with no other audible sounds but the wind and seagulls. You can reach Vrgada from Pakoštane in about half an hour by taking the Vrgadinka ship.





Surroundings

**Biograd / Zadar / Pag /
Nin / Novigrad / Vinjerac /
Šibenik / Skradin / Trogir /
Split / Primošten**





7 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Biograd

Due to its position on the most indented part of the Croatian Adriatic coast, Biograd has become a centre of nautical tourism. The town is dominated by a beautiful, large marina, which is why its inhabitants call it “the town next to the marina”. Biograd was founded by Croats in the late 9th century and it has been the seat of the mediaeval Croatian state and its rulers ever since. Apart from its cultural and historical heritage, this royal town is known for its exceptionally beautiful beaches, picturesque inlets, and various accommodation facilities. Its elegant seafront faces the island of Pašman, from which it is divided by a picturesque strait dotted with a number of islands and islets, and connected by a ferry.



35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Zadar

Although it is three thousand years old, the city of Zadar now feels younger than ever. Because of its historic city centre, stone streets and buildings, beautiful promenades, parks, plantations, its Sea Organ playing music through the motion of the waves, as well as its spectacular sunsets, it is considered one of the most romantic cities in Europe. Designed at the request of the Roman emperor Augustus, it has retained many architectural features that have not been surpassed in modern times.



ZADAR
35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Cathedral of St. Anastasia

As a spiritual place, the Zadar Cathedral has existed just as long as the city of Zadar itself. The Romans built their temple at the location of the ancient Liburnian temple, whereas the Christian cathedral was erected on the very edge of the Roman forum. This is something that can be called the "Zadar style" - creating buildings from ancient fragments, combining the past and the present. The Cathedral of St. Anastasia, a beautiful Romanesque building, which was built on the site of an early Christian basilica, is the largest church in Dalmatia.

ZADAR
35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Chest of St. Simeon

Located on the main altar of the Church of Saint Simeon in Zadar, the Chest of St. Simeon is the most valuable work of mediaeval goldsmiths' craft in Croatia. It contains the mummified remains of the eponymous saint, Simeon the God-Receiver, who has been worshipped in Zadar since the 12th century. The Chest was commissioned by Queen Elizabeth Kotromanić and made by the Milanese goldsmith Francesco. It was officially declared a zero-category cultural monument by the Ministry of Culture. Shaped in the form of a sarcophagus, it depicts the lying figure of a saint on its upper part, while his miracles are presented on the other surfaces.



ZADAR
35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

SICU

In the building of the church of St. Mary, a representative exhibition was established in 1972 – the permanent exhibition of religious art “The Gold and Silver of Zadar”, which is one of the most valuable exhibitions in Croatia. Thanks to the Benedictine nuns, this treasure has been preserved during times of strife and wars which have ravaged the city of Zadar. They still look after this precious collection of Christian icons, works of art, and handicrafts in their monastery, welcoming visitors and guiding them through the centuries during which the collection was built.

ZADAR
35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Sea Organ and Sun Salutation

Unlike the conventional pipe organs, which produce sound by driving wind through the organ pumps, the *Sea Organ* plays music using the power of the sea, i.e. the sea waves. It is located in the western part of the Zadar waterfront, in the immediate vicinity of the Sun Salutation. In May 2006, architect Nikola Bašić won the European Prize for Urban Public Space for his design of the Sea Organ in Zadar. This Prize, established in 1999, is awarded biennially, with the aim of recognising the renovation and creation of public urban spaces.



88 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Pag

The town of Pag is one of the most interesting towns in this part of Croatia. Over the years it has been rebuilt twice, each time taking a new shape. The first change took place when the town of Caska was destroyed by an earthquake in the 4th century, and the second one when locals themselves felt that they should have a more secure town than the one they were living in at that time. Thus, a new town was built close to the old one, according to the plans of the famous Croatian sculptor and architect Juraj Dalmatinac (George the Dalmatian), and residents moved in on the 14 May 1443. Nowadays, Pag is a charming town with white stone houses and is known for its salt and salt pans, its cherished tradition of making the widely known "Pag lace" (*paška čipka*), as well as for its delicious Pag cheese, the flavour of which blends a variety of wild and medicinal herbs growing on its karst pastures.

49 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Nin

Nin is a small, picturesque town located about 15 km north-west of Zadar. The centre of this ancient town is a 500-metre-wide islet connected to the mainland by two bridges. It was built on the former estuary of the Miljašić Jaruga stream. The town of Nin is known for its long sandy beaches and its rich history, being one of the royal towns in the times of past Croatian rulers. On its northern side it is bounded by a sandbar and the Ždrijac weekend resort. The salt pan is located in the east, and the new part of the town in the south and west. The Church of the Holy Cross, the most famous monument of church architecture in the town of Nin, is also known as "the smallest cathedral in the world". The artificial hill at the entrance to the city is the location of the small, lovely Church of St. Nicholas.



40 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Novigrad

Nestling in a bay resembling a river reach, beneath the remains of an ancient fortress, lies one of the most picturesque towns on the Adriatic – Novigrad. An enchanting place with a turbulent past, which is now an oasis of peace for fishermen and tourists, a true stone sleeper. Located in a bay of the Novigrad Sea, the town of Novigrad has retained its original mediaeval appearance and building style to the greatest extent possible. An interesting fact is that the fortress dominating the city was once the place where Queen Elizabeth Kotromanić was imprisoned.

54 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Vinjerac

Vinjerac is one of the most beautiful small Dalmatian towns with a history spanning centuries. Throughout the past, it was the birthplace of many sailors and sea captains. The Velebit massif, which dominates the Vinjerac region, determines the climate and is the reason for the crystal-clear sea. Vinjerac is an ideal destination for day trips. Nearby are the Velika Paklenica canyon (Paklenica National Park) and Sveto Brdo, which is the symbol of the area and dominates the entire Podvelebit Channel.



40 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Šibenik

Šibenik is situated in the central part of the Croatian Adriatic coast, in the picturesque and indented bay where the Krka River, one of the most beautiful karst rivers in Croatia, flows into the sea. Šibenik is the administrative, political, economic, and socio-cultural centre of the Šibenik-Knin County and one of the oldest towns founded by Croatian rulers. It was first mentioned in 1066 in a deed of gift signed by King Petar Krešimir IV, which is why this town is also called the Town of King Krešimir. The Cathedral of St. James is the most significant architectural achievement of the 15th and 16th centuries and was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000. The St. Nicholas Fortress, which is a symbol of the town's resistance to conquerors, along with three other fortresses, was also added to this list in 2017. There are two national parks near Šibenik (the Krka National Park and the Kornati National Park).

53 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Skradin

Skradin is a small, picturesque, and romantic town located on the spot where the river meets the sea. It is situated at the very entrance to the Krka National Park, from where you can visit the Skradinski buk and Roški slap waterfalls, as well as the Franciscan monastery on the Visovac island. Skradin is one of the most significant destinations for nautical tourism in the Adriatic. It is home to the popular ACI marina, which is frequently visited by world celebrities. The archaeological site Bribirska glavica, known as the "Croatian Troy", is located in the close vicinity to the town and represents a harmonious blend of nature and historical structures. Skradin also boasts an excellent gastronomic offer.



84 km

DISTANCE FROM PAKOŠTANE

Trogir

Trogir is located in the central part of Dalmatia. Being naturally protected, its port is favourite destination for sailors. Trogir is considered one of the best-preserved Romanesque-Gothic towns in Central Europe and should you visit it, you will experience the beauty of its historical heritage. The town core comprises a castle and a tower surrounded by stone walls, and the most significant cultural monument is the Trogir Cathedral, the main west portal of which is a work of Master Radovan. Trogir is located only 5 km from the Split Airport and 15 km from the motorway. Regardless of your starting point, no town, port, or island is far from Trogir. This and the days of sunshine per year in this town make it an ideal destination for pleasant summer holidays and for exploring Dalmatia.

103 km

DISTANCE FROM PAKOŠTANE

Split

Split is a city whose inhabitants proudly describe as “the most beautiful in the world”, and this ancient but eternally young city with a cheerful atmosphere will quickly convince anyone of this. With its urban rhythm and Mediterranean temperament, with its heart rooted in Diocletian’s Palace, Split has been proudly standing here for more than 1700 years. It is the metropolis of the Croatian south, the largest Dalmatian city and its economic and cultural centre. The city centre of Split features the ancient 4th-century palace of the Roman emperor Diocletian, which has been under UNESCO’s protection since 1979. The mediaeval town core is placed along its southern seafront, hugging the antique palace. Split is rich in cultural heritage and typical southern, Dalmatian atmosphere. Its integral part is the Marjan hill, a protected forest park offering the most beautiful view of Split.



65 km
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Primošten


Primošten is a small, picturesque town with its core on an islet connected to the mainland by a narrow strip of land. An aerial view reveals its harmonious circular layout, with streets creating an atmosphere of a typical Dalmatian town. Primošten is known for its vineyards surrounded by drystone walls, which create breathtaking images of a unique blend of grapevines, stone and sea. A photo of one of the Primošten vineyards is displayed on the wall of the UN headquarters in New York.



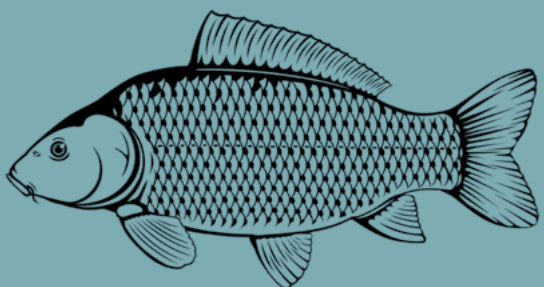




Rivers and lakes



Zrmanja / Krupa / Kudin most /
Bijela / Babića jezero /
Vrelo Une / Slapovi Krke /
Roški slap / Samostan visovac /
Plitvička jezera / Manastir Krupa /
Mićanovi dvori / Velika Paklenica /
Mala Paklenica





47 km
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Zrmanja

Zrmanja is a river in southern Croatia, springing from below the Poštak mountain in the south of Lika, and flowing into the Novigrad Sea, 12 km from the town of Obrovac. Its most prominent tributary is the Krupa River. It is a favourite destination for rafting and canoeing enthusiasts. Due to the pristine nature surrounding its diverse flow, many consider it to be the most beautiful river in Croatia.

54 km
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Krupa

Krupa is a tributary of Zrmanja and features beautiful waterfalls and an exciting canyon. Its high waterfalls make it an ideal destination for kayaking and canoeing adventurers, but it also offers calmer routes for more relaxed, family-friendly canoeing. Krnjeza River is a tributary of Krupa that flows into it near the Kudin bridge.



61 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Kuda's bridge

Legend says that this bridge is a monument to love. The bridge was named after Kuda, and his grandson tells the story of the great love between Kuda and Milijana, a beautiful girl who lived on the other side of the river. Kuda built this remarkable piece of civil engineering so that Milijana and her wedding party would be able to come to his side. The bridge was built using the drystone wall technique, with 12 arches made of sedimentary blocks and the same number of stone pillars. For more than 200 years, the arches have been resisting even the strongest currents. This 109-metre-long bridge is protected as a cultural monument and many consider this location to be one of the most beautiful places on the Krupa River.

35 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Bijela

Bijela is a small river near the town of Karin, springing from the Bijela voda cave, below the Pržun hill. The river runs downstream through a 3-kilometres-long canyon and flows into the Karin Sea. The same as its neighbouring karst river of Karišnica, the Bijela River receives a poor waterflow, so it is generally low and the canyon tends to be dry for most of the year. During periods of heavy rains, when the stream swells with water, waterfalls are visible from the road passing by Karin in the direction from Zadar to Obrovac. There are no well-maintained hiking trails, so you have to cut your path across the stream and toward the waterfalls, jumping from one rock to another, and up the slopes on both sides of the canyon.



113 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Babića Lake

Babića Lake is circular in shape, 22 metres deep, open on one side and protected by limestone rocks on the other. It is a great place for swimming. The lake is distinguished by its blue colour and extremely cold and clean water. It is located on the outskirts of the small village of Tiškovac and can be accessed by an all-terrain vehicle, on foot, or by a mountain bike. Many people from the Zadar County do not know about this wonderful lake because it is much easier to access it from the Bosnian and Herzegovinian side, although it is territorially part of the Zadar County. The lake is a must-visit destination for those adventurers whose itineraries include the more wild and unexplored routes.

116 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Una river spring (Vrelo)

It was the ancient Romans who named the karst river of Una (the only one), due to its exceptional beauty. Vrelo is one of the river springs and is located near Donja Suvaja in Lika at 396 m above sea level. A blue and green lake is formed at the spring, surrounded by forest and high cliffs. Vrelo is the deepest karst spring in Croatia and one of the five deepest karst springs in the world. It was explored to a depth of 248 m, but the bottom has never been reached.



49 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Krka waterfalls

The Krka River, one of Croatia's most beautiful karst rivers, springs in the vicinity of Knin and flows into the Adriatic Sea near Šibenik. Krka National Park is open to visitors all year round, offering educational tours, ethnographic presentations, as well as swimming during the summer months. The Krka waterfalls are the most visited part of the National Park and consist of a series of travertine cascades, islets, and backwaters. By walking along the educational trail leading along and around the waterfalls, visitors can learn more about the diversity of the flora and fauna and learn about the traditional lifestyle of the locals in the old (restored) mills.

65 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Roški slap waterfall

Roški slap waterfall is easily accessible and can be visited throughout the year. It is 650 metres long and consists of 12 waterfalls with an overall height of 27 m. The waterfalls on the left bank of the Krka River propel small wheat and corn mills, and some of them are still in use today. After Roški slap, the Krka River transforms into the elongated Lake Visovac. An eponymous islet is located in the middle of this lake, featuring a church and a Franciscan monastery, which makes the landscape of the lake even more unique.



62 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Visovac Monastery

The picturesque island of Visovac, in the eponymous lake, is located at the bottom of the Miljevci plateau in the Krka National Park. It can be reached from Drniš in 10 minutes by car. The islet is home to a church dating from the 17th century and a Franciscan monastery. The oldest preserved parts of the complex are the water well rim from the 14th century and parts of the monastery cloister from the 15th century. The monastery houses a very valuable collection of books, works of art, and other important documents.

135 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Plitvice Lakes

Plitvice Lakes is the largest and oldest national park in Croatia, whose beautiful forests, lakes, and waterfalls are simply indescribable. We will therefore just quote what foreign visitors have said about this unique place. CNN Travel has declared Veliki slap (Great Waterfall) in the Plitvice Lakes as the third most beautiful in the world, while the Hello magazine calls it a "water paradise". The LA Times quoted Offbeat Traveler, which invited its readers to visit the Plitvice Lakes by declaring it a "breathtaking" park. It has been recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979.



48 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Krupa Monastery

The Krupa Monastery is located at the foot of Velebit mountain, near the source of the eponymous river. It was built in 1317 and tradition says that it was founded by the monks from the Krupa Monastery on the Vrbas River. It is a must-visit destination for families and tourist groups. There are several meadows suitable for camping in the vicinity of the monastery, next to the many Krupa branches. The monastery is home to a number of valuable cultural and spiritual treasures.

46 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Mićanovi Dvori

The Mićanovi Dvori rural homestead is located in the village of Kruševo, a hamlet of Župani, just above the Zrmanja canyon. It is a favourite family and business travel destination. This traditionally furnished estate offers a range of services to its guests, from home-cooked meals and beverages to boat excursions on the Zrmanja River, as well as canoeing and white water rafting experiences. The homestead is designed in accordance with the highest European standards, offering a complete and superior service.



70 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Velika Paklenica

Paklenica National Park extends over a littoral slope of southern Velebit, directly above the settlement of Marasovići, all the way to the summit zone (Vaganski vrh, Babin vrh, Sveto brdo). It encompasses the area of torrential watercourses of the Velika and Mala Paklenica rivers, i.e. their recognisable canyons which are vertically carved into the southern slopes of Velebit, and the wider surrounding area. A relatively small area contains an extraordinary wealth of geomorphological phenomena and forms, diverse flora and fauna, attractive landscapes, and untouched nature. The Velika Paklenica canyon is one of the most popular excursion destinations. Climbing events are organised at the vertical rocks of Anića kuk, especially in early May.

66 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

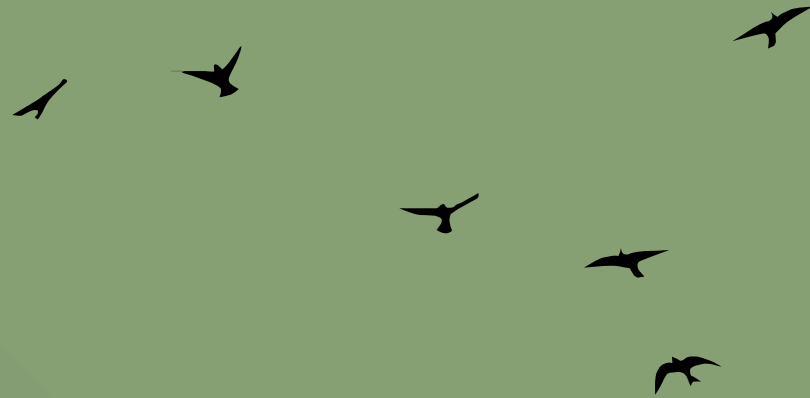
Mala Paklenica

Mala Paklenica is a canyon parallel to the Velika Paklenica canyon. Unlike Velika Paklenica, which is an unmissable excursion destination offering well-marked hiking trails, vertical climbing, resting areas, and a mountain lodge, Mala Paklenica is not maintained as well and has fewer visitors, but it is still very similar to its more famous sister. It is an interesting place for those who prefer their wilderness to be untouched.



Hinterland

Kličevica / Asseria /
Benkovački sajam /
Cerovačke pećine





21 km
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Kličevica

The Kličevica fortress is located near Benkovac, on an elevated plateau above the eponymous river. Surrounded by a pine forest and unspoilt nature, it is an ideal destination for excursionists, sports and recreation enthusiasts, and all those who are eager to discover the splendour and beauty of the Benkovac region. The fortress was built in 1454, during turbulent historical times, by the noble Kurjaković family as protection against Venetian invasions. Its significance is also evidenced by the battles fought to take control over it.

24 km
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Asseria

Asseria, an abandoned and ruined Liburnian and Roman settlement, is certainly the most attractive site in the immediate vicinity of Benkovac. Asseria has been arousing interest since the late 18th century, when the Venetian travel writer, Alberto Fortis, full of enlightened enthusiasm, lamented the reasons for its demise and forged plans to go back there once he was “supplied with the necessary equipment for digging”. Systematic archaeological research has been carried out in Asseria since 1998 and has led to many interesting findings about life in this town that vanished a long time ago.



19 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Benkovac Fair

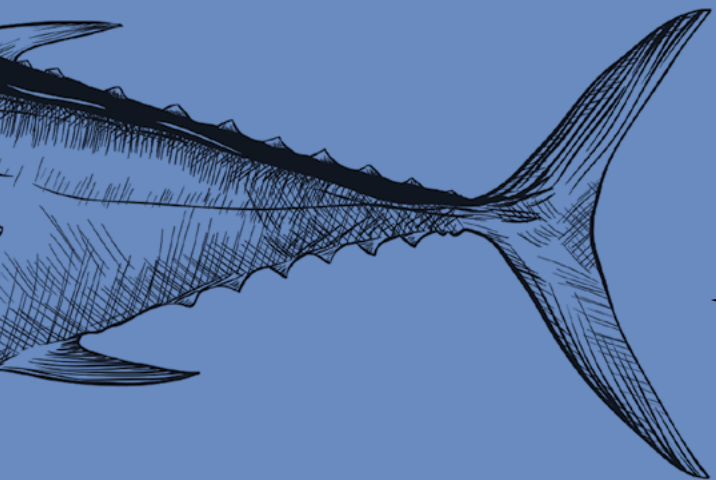
Home-grown agricultural and traditional craft products, a rich gastronomic offer, Ravni kotari wines, thousands of visitors, a general buzz, laughter, meeting people, and good entertainment - all this and more is offered at the Benkovac Fair. With its century-old tradition, it contributes significantly to the economy and tourism of the town. The fair is located on the main road leading from Benkovac to Karin and is held on the 10th day of each month. The offer at the fair depends on the season, so each month of the year has its own striking products. That is why it is always worth visiting.

77 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

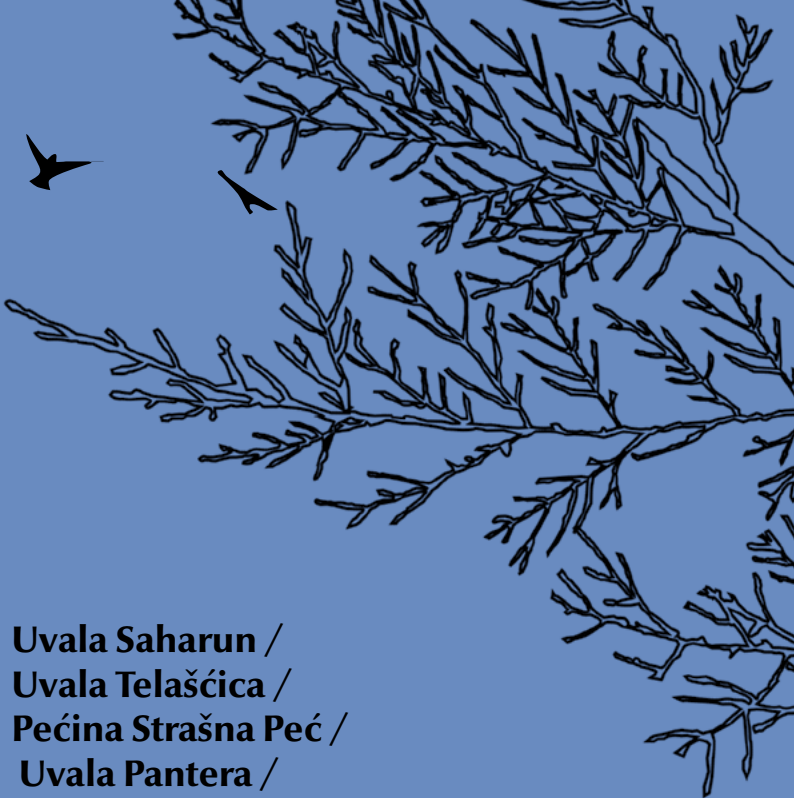
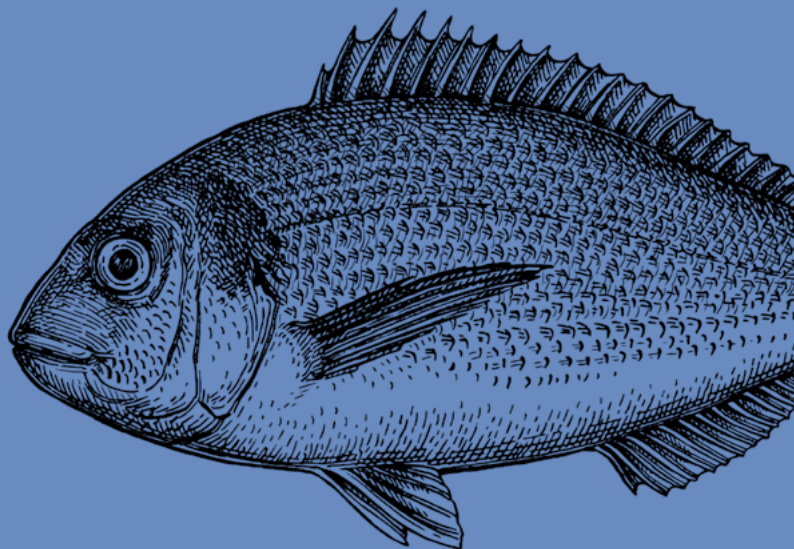
Cerovac Caves

The Cerovac Caves are the largest cave complex in Croatia. They are located 4 km southwest of Gračac, on the north-eastern slope of the Velebit hill of Crnopac (1403 m), in the southern part of the Velebit Nature Park. These caves are one of the largest sites of cave bear in Croatia, as well as the site where fossilised human bones and a bronze axe head have been found. The human bones belonged to the so-called cave bear hunter from the Upper Pleistocene period, who lived about 20,000 years ago. The cave is 3,800 metres long, and the entire cave complex has the length of 4 kilometres. The Upper Cave is 1200 metres long, while the Lower is 2400 metres. A much smaller, Middle Cave is situated between them. The average temperature in the caves is 11 °C.



Sea

Uvala Saharun /
Uvala Telaščica /
Pećina Strašna Peć /
Uvala Pantera /
Sali / Božava /
Otočić Školjić /
Ćokovac / Kornati





78 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Saharun Bay

Saharun is a vast sandy beach stretching for almost a kilometre and facing the open sea. The beach is located on the north-west coast of Dugi otok, near the Veli Rat lighthouse. The fine, white sand gives the sea a distinctive blue and green colour which, among other things, makes the Saharun beach one of the most beautiful beaches on the Adriatic. The shoreline is covered with coarse gravel and the water is shallow up to a distance of 100 metres from the shore. At the end of a permitted swimming area, at a distance of about 250 metres from the coast, the sea is about 3.5 metres deep. The bay has a beautiful catering facility, owned by a hotel in Božava, from where an electric train runs on a daily basis, an attraction for both children and adults.

67 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Telaščica Bay

The Telaščica Nature Park is deep natural bay, the largest in the Adriatic. It is completely uninhabited and was declared a nature park 1980. The bay is about 8 km long and between 150 and 1800 m wide. Salt lake Mir is one of the attractions located nearby and it can be reached by road from the town of Sali on the island of Dugi otok. Tourists can go to Telaščica for a day trip by numerous tourist boats or by yachts. On the strip of land between lake Mir and the sea, there is an area with many stones arranged in the shape of people, which tourists have been stacking for decades in memory of the legend of an ill-fated love.



71 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Strašna peć cave

An excursion to the Strašna peć cave is the number tourist destination not only on the island of Dugi otok, but also beyond. In 1904, it was visited by the Austro-Hungarian emperor Franz Joseph, who, impressed by its beauty, ordered its restoration. This is how the iron entrance door and two lanterns were installed, together with the access staircase from the sea side. The entrance to the cave is situated at an altitude of 70 metres. A few metres from the entrance, which was probably created by erosion, the channel descends (first gently but then quite steeply), to the bottom of the cave, which is filled with collapsed ceilings. The cave has a path and is suitable for tourist visits.

85 km

DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Pantera Bay

The Pantera Bay is located on the north-western side of Dugi otok and has the status of a protected natural monument in the Zadar County. The highest lighthouse in the Adriatic, the 42-metres high Veli Rat lighthouse, is located on the outer side of the bay, facing the open sea. Three towns are located on the shores of the Pantera Bay - Veli Rat, Soline, and Verunić. The bay is a perfect sailing and surfing spot for beginners.



12 NM
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Sali

Sali is the largest town on the island of Dugi otok, located on its southern part. It is known for its tradition of fishing and fish processing, which is evidenced in the first written testimony on fishing in this region. The picturesque and interesting sights of this settlement are also enhanced by events such as *"Saljske užance"*, a well-known cultural event, and the musical festivity of *"Tovareća mužika"*, a trademark of Sali. The proximity of Telašćica and Kornati makes this settlement an even more desirable destination.

12 NM
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Božava

Božava is a town located on the north-western side of Dugi otok. It is situated in the vicinity of the Saharun beach, which can be reached by a tourist train in the summer months. The Veli Rat lighthouse is also nearby and together with the beautiful landscape of the north-west side of the island forms a protected natural area of the Zadar County. Besides attractive beaches, Božava is characterised by attractive hotel facilities, while the friendly locals make it an even more charming location. Božava has a fast boat connection to Zadar, as well as a ferry service via Brbinj.



5 NM
DISTANCE
FROM
ZADAR

Školjić islet

Galevac (Školjić) is an islet located near the coast of the island of Ugljan and the town of Preko, which is only about 80 metres away. Galevac is home to the Franciscan monastery of St. Paul, the First Hermit, with the church of St. Paul dating back to the 15th century. In the 17th century, the islet with the monastery also served as a lazaret, and besides its name of Školjić, it was also known by a third name – Lazaret. It is a favourite excursion destination and the kindness of the Franciscans is an additional reason to visit Galevac.

2 NM
DISTANCE
FROM
BIOGRAD

Čokovac

Čokovac is a hill featuring the Benedictine monastery of St. Cosmas and Damian. It was probably named after *čok* (one of the local words for a blackbird) which still nests in this area. The monastery was founded in the 12th century next to the village of Tkon on the island of Pašman, on the foundations of an ancient Byzantine fortress and an early Christian church. It is the only active Benedictine monastery in Croatia and is a well-known Glagolitic centre. The hills offer a stunning view of the island, the sea, and the mainland, across Ravni kotari and Lake Vrana, all the way to Velebit and Dinara. The Benedictines have now opened their doors to tourists and casual visitors.



10 NM
DISTANCE
FROM
PAKOŠTANE

Kornati islands

The Kornati National Park is part of the Kornati islands group in Central Dalmatia. It covers an area of 220 km² and includes 89 islands, islets, and cliffs. Of the entire park area, which abounds in natural features, only one quarter is land, while the remainder is a marine ecosystem. The vertical cliffs, the “crowns” of the Kornati islands, face the open sea and are the most popular phenomenon of the entire archipelago. The “crowns” also provide habitat for rare species of flora and fauna. The underwater world of the Kornati archipelago hides a variety of fascinating stories as well. Nowadays, the Kornati islands are an oasis of nautical tourism, complemented by a top gastronomic offer.





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