

ZADAR REGION

Say YES! to everything

Explore amazing places and experiences in Zadar Region


CROATIA
Full of life

SAY YES! TO ZADAR REGION, SAY YES! TO EVERYTHING

The Zadar region has a truly amazing geographical position, located in the centre of the East Adriatic and surrounded by stunning nature of great variety. This is the place where natural and cultural heritage coexists in perfect harmony and where lovely coastal resorts provide excellent conditions for both active vacation and relaxed family holiday.

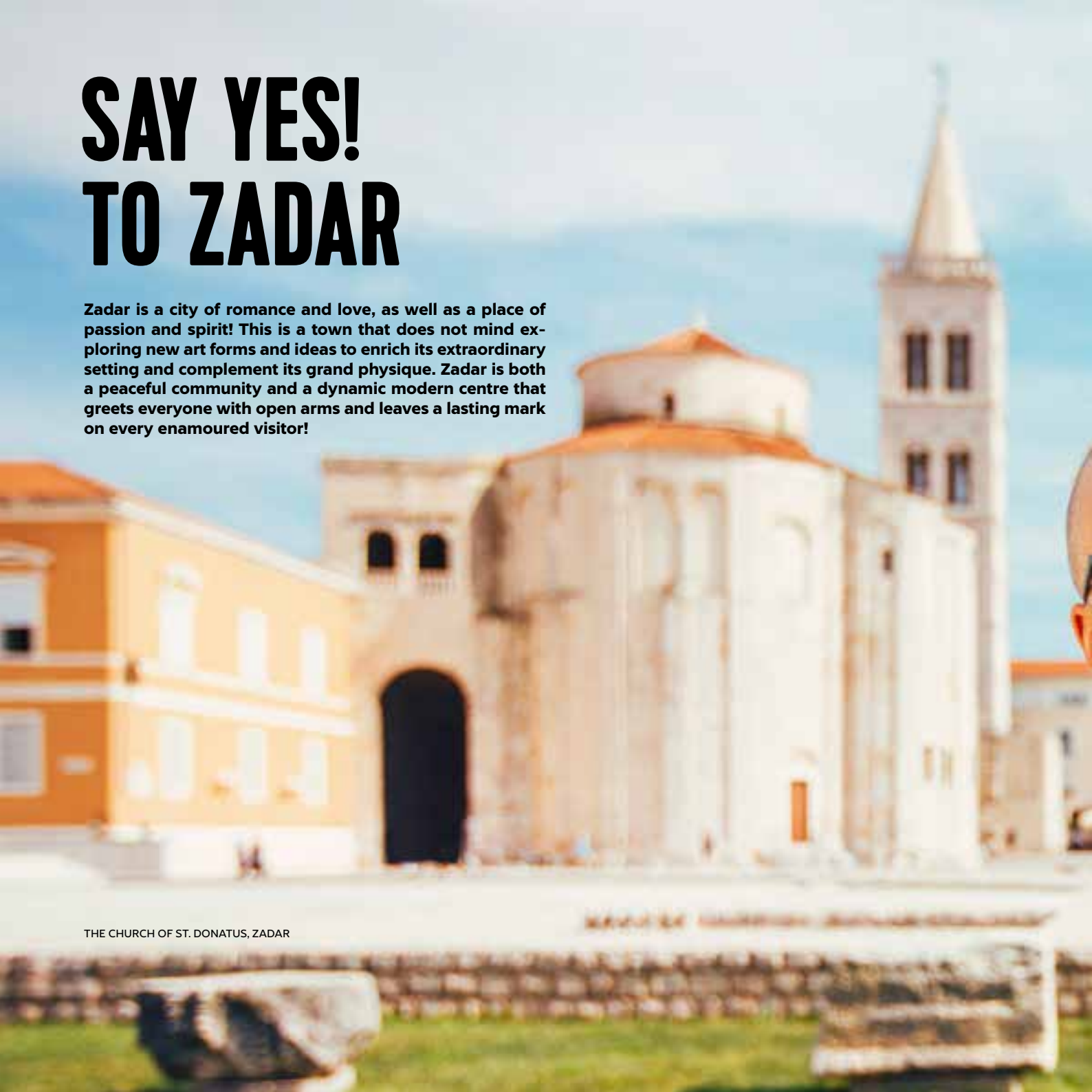




SAY YES! TO ZADAR

Zadar is a city of romance and love, as well as a place of passion and spirit! This is a town that does not mind exploring new art forms and ideas to enrich its extraordinary setting and complement its grand physique. Zadar is both a peaceful community and a dynamic modern centre that greets everyone with open arms and leaves a lasting mark on every enamoured visitor!

THE CHURCH OF ST. DONATUS, ZADAR



TOP 10 CITY
Zadar, Croatia

lonely planet

BEST IN TRAVEL
2019

Don't miss

- listen to the sound of the waves and marvel at „the most beautiful sunset in the world” (A. Hitchcock)
- sip some coffee or a cocktail with the locals at the many cafés, lounge bars or restaurants
- take a ferry or a catamaran to one of the nearby islands and take a dip in the bluest sea

CATHEDRAL OF ST. ANASTASIA, ZADAR





Zadar Must See & Do

Explore 3000 years of history!

Get to know the symbol of Zadar – the Church of St. Donatus and travel through time.

The Church of St. Donatus is an amazing church from the 9th century, a sightseeing must and the largest pre-Romanesque structure in Croatia! It's 27 m high and 22 m wide, has a specific cylindrical shape, a double interior and it stands out with its originality. Today, it mostly serves as a remarkable venue for medieval renaissance music.

The whole structure is an architectural example of the Carolingian period and it is considered the most significant of its kind in Europe. Most of its ornaments largely originate from the ruins of the nearby Roman Forum. Built between the 1st century BC and the 3rd century AD and commissioned by the first Roman Emperor Augustus, the forum complex features an elaborate design of temples and colonnades with one proud column standing intact to this day. Take spectacular photos on the site!

Light and music show by nature

Fall in love with the spectacular installations that show how well art and nature mix.

First you have to meet THE SEA ORGAN – a sound art object and experimental musical instrument that creates lovely chimed tunes using only the rolling power of sea waves. The installation looks like a series of broad steps leading down into the sea hiding clever engineering beneath their surface. Nikola Bašić, a renowned architect, has devised an ingenious system of resonant chambers that produces syncopated ever-changing tunes which soothe and excite the minds of countless amazed visitors as they chill and linger on the Riva for hours just to hear that dreamlike sound once again before they leave.

Right next to it is THE GREETING TO THE SUN - another installation of the brilliant architect symbolizing the communication between man and nature. This stirring monument consists of 300 multi-layered glass plates that absorb solar energy during the day and create a spectacular waterfront light show just after sunset. These installations are a holiday for all your senses.

Feel like a knight!

See if you like the City Walls as much as UNESCO does.

Zadar was once the largest city-fortress in the Republic of Venice and its City Walls were an important part of an elaborate defence system. The City Walls of Zadar, together with the other five components of the Venetian Works of Defence of the 16th and 17th century, located in today's Croatia, Italy and Montenegro, joined UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2017 as an outstanding monument of the modern maritime fortification scheme. The most impressive part of the Walls is the Land Gate, the main historical entrance to the city built in 1543 by Michele Sanmicheli, a famous Venetian architect. As an integral part of the Walls, it is considered one of the finest Renaissance monuments in whole Dalmatia, boasting its triumphal arch, central passage and two smaller side arches for pedestrians. Study history in a new way!

Step by step hedonism

Learn about the local food and rituals every step of your walk-through Zadar – from colourful markets, fresh Mediterranean ingredients, local dishes and coffee get-togethers that last for hours.

Zadar nucleus' lively feel, with its restaurants, bars, coffee shops and bakeries makes spending time here one of the most enjoyable things to do. This vibrant quarter with a great atmosphere is in the oldest part of the Town of Zadar where the present meets the past. Wander around many narrow streets and stone-paved alleyways or splendid, picturesque squares. When you feel the need to take a break, stop at a traditional "konoba"- a trattoria style restaurant featuring local delicacies. Afterwards, act like the local people: find your favourite spot and experience the feeling of coffee drinking being less of a habit and more of a sacred ritual. They enjoy drinking it for hours. Try some delicious, fresh Mediterranean local foods, taste some of the excellent regional wines, or find the best ice-cream in town. Regardless of what you do, just soak up that cheery atmosphere.

Discover more

Street style in Zadar

Also known as the Wide Street, Kalelarga is the main and the most beloved street in Zadar, probably older than the city itself! Extending in the east-west direction, following the print of the main longitudinal Roman street (Decumanus Maximus), Kalelarga, for many, is a place of fun and leisure, processions and celebrations.

Meet the “Riva”

This lovely city promenade constructed in 1874 offers a stunning view of the Zadar Channel and its neighbouring islands. It is a favourite gathering spot of the local people where you can experience the relished Mediterranean custom of *dolce far niente*, i.e. pleasant idleness!

Five reasons to love the centre

The Five Wells Square is located on a site between the medieval City Walls and the Renaissance Grimani Bastion. It features five lined-up wells built during the siege by the Turks in the 16th century. You can find the oldest park in Croatia on top of its adjacent bastion.

Take me to church!

Or even better – a whole complex. The Episcopal complex of Zadar includes the Roman Forum, the Cathedral of St. Anastasia, the Archbishop’s Palace, the Church of St. Donatus, the Zmajevic Seminary, the Orthodox Church of St. Elias, the Benedictine Nunnery and several other buildings. For some golden moments, visit the permanent Exhibition of Church Art – the Gold and Silver of Zadar!

See (but don’t touch) the Museum of Ancient Glass

It’s baffling that a medium as delicate as glass could survive the earthquakes and wars that have plagued this region over the millennia, but this impressive museum has thousands of objects on display!

Make the Rector’s Palace your palace

One of the city’s prized buildings, the 13th century Rector’s Palace, has experienced many changes over the years. Today, it unites a museum space, its temporary exhibition halls, a video gallery, concert and multimedia halls – all in different styles reflecting the rich history it holds.

Set sails from Zadar

Marina Dalmacija, the largest marina in Croatia, is located on the outskirts of Zadar, amidst the villages of Bibinje and Sukosan. The position is magnificent – in the centre of this most beautiful and interesting coastline, only a stone’s throw away from the fabulous islands which make up the Dalmatian coast, this natural gateway opens opportunities to explore one of the best cruising areas in the world.





**Enjoy the music
of the sea**

ZADAR EVENTS

Tuna, Sushi & Wine Festival
Wings for Life
Zadar Outdoor Festival
Musical Nights at St. Donatus
Night of the Full Moon
Fig Festival
Advent in Zadar

Near-by destinations:

BIBINJE

A lively and quaint coastal locality next to Zadar, Bibinje has a tradition of Dalmatian harmony singing which you can often hear on the lovely waterfront promenade.

SUKOŠAN

Sukošan is notable for its gastronomy in typical rustic taverns. The village is nestled along the deep cove called Golden Port because the incredible sunsets and a special color it gives the sea.

ZADAR ISLANDS

Silba, Olib, Premuda, Ist, Molat, Škarda, & Iž and Rava. A group of islands northwest of Zadar and numerous islets around create a small archipelago which represent a real paradise for yachtsmen and fishing fans.



THE NIN SALT PANS

| 12-13 | SAY YES! TO THE NIN RIVIERA



SAY YES! TO THE NIN RIVIERA

Nin is the oldest royal Croatian town and the place where the Croatian state was born. Today, Nin Riviera is a modern-day tourist destination that offers all types of activities for individuals and families alike: exquisite sandy beaches and intimate lovely coves as well as utterly entertaining resorts of the highest quality.

Don't miss

- Relax on sandy beaches
- Visit the Salt Museum and pans
- Taste a part of the tradition – the Nin šokol

Play and learn





Nin Riviera Must See & Do

Plan a royal visit

See the church where seven Croatian kings were crowned and feel like a king of the world yourself when you see the sunset.

A famous symbol of the Nin Riviera is the Church of St. Nicholas, a 12th century Pre-Romanesque church very important for Croatian reigning dynasties. The small fortress-like church was built in the late 11th century and is only 5.9 m long, 5.7 m wide and 6 m high. According to the legend, seven Croatian Kings were crowned in Nin and, each of them, after the coronation, had to ride to it with their escorts where they would be presented to the people and, as a sign of royal power in a symbolic ritual, incise all four sides of the world with their swords. In addition to enjoying the church's colourful history and distinctive heritage, visitors can also observe an amazing sunset that will only add to their memorable experience!

Feel like a queen

Discover the sandy Queen's Beach or find another that will be your queen of beaches.

Places like the Zaton Holiday Resort provide numerous entertainment and adventure options, but if you prefer therapeutic leisure, head to the sandy Queen's Beach and enjoy a royal treatment with mud and the healing pools. The nearby beaches of Vir, Privlaka or Vrsi also are worth a visit.

The lovely sandy coves of Bilotinjak, Ždrijac and the Queen's Beach are regarded as some of the best beaches in Croatia and their mild yet continuous winds also create a great setting for enjoyable windsurfing and kitesurfing. Some of the beaches in the region are particularly suitable for kids, as their parents can relax and enjoy freely while the children have fun.

Taste a museum

If you want to add a little saltiness to your sweet vacation, the Salt Museum is a must.

Salt has been produced in Nin since the Roman times and the local community is very proud of its traditional production according to the highest ecological standards.

About 100,000 visitors per year learn more about unique salt production and find a wide range of salt products. They also taste and purchase the famous flower of salt, an exquisite delicacy considered "the caviar of salt" by many. It is universally appreciated by the pickiest of gourmets around the globe. Those who work in the local salt works take great pride in the fact that salt is not produced by machines here, but rather harvested directly from salt pans shaped by the impact of the sun, sea and wind and enriched by the diverse wildlife and healing mud. To make your vacation even sweeter, add a little salt!

Love is in the (Nin) air

Find out why Nin has been granted the official label of "European Best Romantic Destination"!

Kiss your loved one on the marked "kissing points", share your memories on the wall, buy a rose from the magical fairy dance at a romantic concert and grab a spot on the beloved "kissing bench". The old town is the perfect setting to fall in love, get engaged or plan a wedding. If you are a hopeless romantic, Nin is just the place for you. And if you're not - you will become. Find your prince(ss) charming in the charming Town of Nin!

Discover more

Get lucky

One of Gregory's bronze statues, all made by famous Ivan Meštrović, can be found in Nin next to the Church of St. Anselm. The legend says that by touching his big toe, you can fulfil all your wishes, so come and try your luck!

Sail through history

Condura was arguably the smallest yet deadliest galley-type vessel in the history of warfare. Croatian Kings of the 11th and 12th century had up to 20 thousand oarsmen ready to propel them at a moment's notice and one of the Conduras can be seen today at the Museum of Nin Antiquities.

See the smallest cathedral in the world

The Church of the Holy Cross, dubbed "The Smallest Cathedral in the World", is one of Nin's greatest symbols. This untouched 9th century Pre-Romanesque church is a kind of a sundial that determines the exact dates of equinoxes and solstices.

Surfing in Nin

If you want to fly between the magical pre-historical town of Nin and the rocky outline of the Island of Pag with the peaks of Velebit in the background, then you have to try windsurfing. You can enjoy windsurfing and kitesurfing here since this is the region where windless days are rare.

Stay at the Lanterna Lighthouse

The Lighthouse Villa Lanterna on Vir island was originally constructed in 1881. The main edifice was built of stone. It is situated on an isolated spot in a pine tree forest adjacent to an attractive pebble and sandy beach.



EVENTS

Nin Saltworks Open Door Days
Šokolijada
Night of Privlaka Fishermen
and Sabunjaras
Salt Festival
Sand Festival

Nin Riviera destinations:

ZATON

Zaton with its beautiful beaches is the home of the biggest and the most awarded camping resort in the area.

VIR

An island connected to the mainland by a bridge hosts many sporting events and concerts of Croatian pop singers throughout the year.

PRIVLAKA

Privlaka lies on a sandy peninsula that extends for kilometres of lagoon and fields between the Bay of Nin and the Zadar Channel.

VRSI

Vrsi, a village located at the top of the Nin lagoon, is known for its secluded beaches along its beautiful coastline.



SAY YES! TO THE BIOGRAD RIVIERA

Biograd on the Sea, or simply Biograd, is a beautiful seaside resort and an important nautical centre located on a small peninsula at the very heart of the Adriatic Coast. The town is surrounded by exceptional nature and its visitors can explore many national and nature parks and two nature parks in its vicinity, admire its rich and interesting cultural heritage or enjoy excellent beaches and lovely promenades.



Don't miss

- Sail the Archipelago
- Have a fun day at the Fun Park
- Go on a romantic excursion to a heart-shaped island

Biograd Riviera Must See & Do

Top of the pops

Find the best beaches for your needs!

The Biograd riviera has a number of beautiful and popular beaches, all within arm's reach from the town and are easily accessed by several pleasant promenades such as Bošana, Dražica and Soline. However, those who are prepared to travel a bit further should definitely visit Crvena Luka as well, a sandy picturesque cove well worth a short 3 km trip. It will be worth it, trust us.

The water around these Blue Flag quality beaches is very clear and the pine trees on most of them provide a welcome shade and shelter from the hot and bright Mediterranean sun. If you get bored from relaxing, don't worry. The riviera's family beaches also offer all sorts of recreational and sporting activities, as well as an opportunity to have fun in well-equipped children's playgrounds and to enjoy gastronomic specialties.

Navigate your vacation

The most beautiful way to explore the Archipelago is on a boat. See it for yourself!

The entire archipelago is perfect for sailing as it features a crystal-clear sea, mild tidal movements and light sea currents. Add stunning views, nature and routes to the mix and you got yourself an extraordinary nautical experience! Located in the most indented part of the Adriatic Sea, an area with the largest number of islands and several national and nature parks, Biograd is the ideal starting point for all those who love sailing, especially between April and October.

The town has a long and proud maritime history and it is one of the most popular nautical spots in Northern Dalmatia offering excellent facilities of well-equipped marinas along with the cosiness and intimacy of little private bays and numerous opportunities to explore the stunning natural environment. No wonder it attracts many yachtsmen and boating enthusiasts who come for one of the 50 annual regattas. Sail away!

The fun starts here

Fun Park Biograd has only one mission - creating fun for the whole family.

A vacation with too much fun? Said no one ever. So, if you are in the mood for some adrenaline and entertainment, head to Fun Park Biograd. This theme park offers tons of fun and spectacular entertainment for the whole family in the very heart of the Adriatic Coast. Visitors can choose their adventure from one of the three adrenaline ride themes based on the concepts of space, pirates and the Wild West respectively. The park, however, has something for everyone, from computer simulations and gaming rooms to magicians, jugglers, circus performers, stand-up comedians and similar entertainers from around the world. Just reading about it is fun!

Fall in love with this island

The Island of Galešnjak is known for its heart shape, but there are more reasons to fall in love with it.

As most things related to love, discovering this island was also an accident. This tiny island of only 0.132 square kilometres of land was accidentally discovered during a Google Earth search. It instantly became a topic on TV channels such as CNN and BBC. The whole world found out about Galešnjak, the island with the most perfect heart shape in the world. You can plan your romantic trip also but note that it does not have any kind of man-made structures or accommodation facilities. In our opinion, that makes it even more romantic, don't you think? Enjoy romantic moments under the stars or swim along the clear pebble beaches surrounding the tiny island with your loved one.



A young woman with brown hair, wearing a white tank top with some text on it, is laughing heartily with her mouth wide open. She is sitting on a roller coaster car. In the background, a large Ferris wheel is visible, and other people on the roller coaster are also laughing and raising their hands. The scene is set outdoors at a fair or amusement park.

**Have a ride of
your life**

Discover more

Paradise for bird(watcher)s

Vransko Lake - the designated nature park and the largest natural lake in entire Croatia is also a well-known ornithological reserve for 251 bird species! The park is a karst valley located alongside the Adriatic Coast and it spreads over 57 km² of a unique wetland.

Hiking and biking!

This area has exceptional panoramic hiking and biking trails that will both excite and relax you. There is a great variety of choices for all lovers of these sports, including easier nearby trails towards Soline lined with pine trees and gravel roads towards Pakoštane, as well as more distant and demanding routes around Lake Vrana and up the rolling hills of the neighbouring islands.

Meet the natives

Numerous factual records of the turbulent and rich history of the Biograd region have been stored in this fascinating heritage museum. Located in the wonderful setting on the Biograd shoreline, the museum reveals historical facts and tells stories of crowned kings, respected noblemen and wealthy merchants, those who resided here permanently and those who stayed in Biograd for shorter periods of time.

Architecture is a religion

Biograd and its surroundings hold several interesting sacral monuments of various styles and from different historical periods. The 11th century Basilica of St. John, the 12th century walled Benedictine monastery on Čokovac Hill, the unadorned 16th century Church of St. Roch, the 18th century parish Church of St. Anastasia and the charming 19th century Church of St. Anthony all serve as a testimony of time and show the area's rich sacral heritage.



EVENTS

Gastro Biograd
Days of Vrana Knights
Materine užance
Biograd Boat Show

Biograd Riviera destinations:

BIOGRAD

The crowning site of the Croatian and Croatian-Hungarian rulers, Biograd is situated between the biggest freshwater lake in Croatia (Vrana Lake) and a labyrinth of almost 300 islets, islands of rocks in its archipelago.

PAKOŠTANE

A charming Dalmatian village of unique position perched between Vrana Lake and the dozen islands in front of it of which the biggest is Vrgada, an island without cars.

SV. FILIP I JAKOV

Sveti Filip i Jakov is known for its clean sea and lovely beaches, a long tradition of Flower Festival in April all accompanied by the Mediterranean atmosphere and Dalmatian harmony singing.



SAY YES! TO THE ISLAND OF PAG

Pag is a fascinating island with unique geographical features, a colourful vibrant community, rich cultural heritage and an exciting tourist offer. It is the home of eponymous cheese, lamb and lace, all universally acknowledged, appreciated and celebrated around the globe!



Don't miss

- Try the famous Pag cheese
- Party like a rock star
- Get beautiful handcrafted lace for your home

THE PAG LACE





Island of Pag Must See & Do

Buy or make the most beautiful souvenir

Learn to love the Pag lace and learn about it!

UNESCO protected Pag lace is a finely crafted product of beauty and delicacy that many grateful owners frame and regard as artwork. Thanks to the nuns of the local Benedictine monastery, who were the first to start perfecting and teaching fine-thread ornamental lacemaking in the 15th century, Pag lace has been an important source of income for many skilled and industrious local women ever since. Some of them were even invited to the court of Empress Maria Theresa to hand-weave for her exclusively! Fully learning the craft of Pag lacemaking is a lengthy and complex process. However, you can also test your skills by enrolling in the beginner course under the guidance of some of the most experienced and talented lace-makers on the entire island.

Beach, please!

If you are looking for the perfect beach, come to Pag.

Pag has many lovely coves and stunning beaches, wedged between the unique moonlike landscape of the rugged island and the crystal-clear coast of the calm Adriatic Sea. Ideal for enjoyment, leisure and all sorts of fun activities, they range from larger bustling locations to smaller private havens of both sandy and gravel texture. Make sure to visit exceptionally beautiful beaches in Kolan and Poveljana and relish the nature of the island.

Love at first bite

Not to sound cheesy, but you will fall in love with this cheese!

Pag has a long and proud tradition of artisan cheese making and its sheep-milk type is considered one of the best in the world! Pag cheese is regularly awarded and included on various top lists of prominent experts and food critics. It is often proclaimed the best in many categories, even ahead of the most outstanding French cheeses. It is usually rather hard and has a very distinctive flavour which comes from resilient sheep grazing on the aromatic shrubs of sage and thyme covered by sea salt scattered by the gusts of the strong bura wind. Famous Gligora Dairy is one of the most awarded dairies in the world and offers exciting educational and tasting tours to its numerous visitors who get a chance to try exceptional cheese. Find out more about its greatness and fall in love with it at first bite!

Get to know Pag

The Town of Pag might be small, but it has a long history.

The Town of Pag, the largest settlement on the eponymous island, is a typical medieval town built in the 15th century according to the project of George the Dalmatian, an ingenious master builder, hired by the Venetians who ruled the area. The first cornerstone was laid in 1443. In accordance with what were the latest ideas in town planning back then, the main streets and the cross streets intersect at right angles and lead to four city gates. The sober central square, the Petar Krešimir Square, includes the Church of St. Mary and the Ducal (Rector's) Palace. In 1499, Dalmatian began working on the city walls but only the Skrivanat Tower of the nine original towers remains. The best way to get to know the town is to take a walk through it and create your own history.

Discover more

The sacred triangle trail

The Sacred Triangle of Pag is a very popular tourist site that links three sacred spots where the Christian churches were built on the foundations of pagan places of worship. This rugged inaccessible area poses quite a challenge to all those who love to hike and presents a unique adventure, while offering wondrous views of the surroundings from the highest point of the island.

Party heaven

Pag is home to several traditional festivals that faithfully promote intangible heritage of the area. However, it has gained a global attention because of its spectacular dance music festivals. Over the last 15 years, the Zrće Beach hosted countless universally acclaimed and globally popular DJs and it has acquired a lasting reputation of the place to be, with over a million partygoers visiting each year!

Try the Pag salt

Pag salt has always played a very important role in the lives of the local people. There is evidence that organized production by natural evaporation started one thousand years ago! Visitors can learn more about its rich history in a lovely onsite museum that is the largest manufacturing plant of its kind in entire Croatia today.

Birdwatching all day long

Kolanjsko blato is the most extensive area of low marshy and sandy coastline and shoals, wide shallow bays, lagoons and protected straits in Croatian littoral.

Cycle to the Moon!

The breathtaking scenery of the northern part of the Island of Pag is impossible to compare with anything else on the planet because it mostly resembles the Moon. Explore the area that is shaped by the bura wind on a bike!



**Love at the
first bite**

EVENTS

International Lace Festival
Cheese Festival
Pag Art Festival
Shimuni Open

Pag Riviera destinations:

PAG

The “designed” town of Pag is situated on an unusual rocky island and is famous for its arabesque Pag lace recognised by UNESCO, its delicious lamb meat and fantastic cheese.

KOLAN

Kolan, is known as the home of the famous cheese production but also the location of many beautiful beaches.

POVLJANA

In the south of the island of Pag in a beautiful natural bay with crystal clear sea, not far from the ornithological reserve, lies the village of Poveljana.



Don't miss

- Hike the magnificent trails in the Paklenica NP
- Raft or canoe down the River Zrmanja canyon
- Try the local mussels in Novigrad

A man with a backpack is climbing a rocky mountain peak. He is wearing a dark blue jacket and shorts. The background is a rugged, rocky landscape under a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The man is looking down and to the side, focused on his climb.

SAY YES! TO PAKLENICA RIVIERA

Visit the home of captivating legends and thrilling adventures, sandy and pebble beaches, hundreds of plant and animal species listed by UNESCO and Winnetou movies! Enjoy the mountains and the sea and see why it was virtually designed for adventure tourism.

VIEW AT THE PAKLENICA CANYON AND STARIGRAD





Paklenica Riviera Must See & Do

Where the mountains touch the sea

The Paklenica Riviera is renowned for its amazing contrasting climate, scenery and culture combinations. Find your match!

The Paklenica Riviera delights the visitors with its amazing scenery variation – from the rocky shore with romantic coves, green forests, mountain tops to old villages. This area is known for the craziest combinations – the Paklenica Riviera merges the mountain and the sea, Mediterranean climate and the mountain climate, tradition and the modern times. All this is best observed from pebble beaches as you enjoy the crystal-clear sea. The magnificent Velika and Mala Paklenica canyons that cut deep into Velebit particularly delight the visitors. Those who seek adventure and intimacy can find a small place among the many hidden coves where they can be on their own.

Climb to the top

The Paklenica National Park is at the heart of Croatian rock climbing and is known as one of the top European rock-climbing areas.

Paklenica is a place of outstanding natural beauty. It is also the most visited climbing site in Croatia. Rock climbing is very varied: from single pitch sport routes to big wall rock climbing routes up to 350m long, catering to absolute beginners as well as the most experienced rock climbers. There are 590 routes here in total on good quality limestone rock with the majority of the routes bolted. No wonder that the International Climbers Meeting that gathers climbers from across the globe takes place here each year to take part in exciting events and competitions. The majestic canyons of Velika Paklenica and Mala Paklenica are, according to many, the most impressive parts of the park, with the former being over 700 m high, 50 to 800 m wide and 14 km long! Just 2 kilometres away from the sea, Paklenica is among the favourite destinations for families with children.

High (on adrenaline) at the Paklenica National Park

With more than 150 km of outstanding mountain trails and two grand peaks higher than 1,750 m, the Paklenica NP is a true heaven for every hiker!

You do not have to be a skilled climber to realise the beauty of Paklenica. You can have a memorable trekking experience on numerous scenic trails in the park. However, hiking is, by far, the best way to truly get to know Paklenica, as there are several very popular routes that offer magnificent views of the Adriatic and take your breath away. This is where the highest and most amazing peaks and tops of Velebit are located, such as Vaganski Vrh (1757 m) and Sveto brdo (1753 m). They are reserved for experienced climbers. However, the Paklenica National Park rewards the visits of those who do not have any climbing experience but only a desire to be among the amazing mountains by providing them with an experience. Paklenica, with its peaks, position and natural features is one of the top alpine and tourist destinations. This is confirmed by the fact that experienced climbers classify it among their most picturesque experiences. Ain't no mountain high enough to keep you from getting to Paklenica!

See what the river canyons can offer you!

Rafting on the wild rapids of the upper reaches of the Zrmanja River will leave even the most experienced adventurers breathless!

If you like rivers, you will love Zrmanja. The Zrmanja River has been penetrating its way towards the sea for many centuries and, by breaking carbonate-based grounds, it has created one of the most impressive canyons in Croatia. Therefore, it was protected as a significant landscape attracting a great number of nature lovers every year. You can choose between taking a boat ride on the Zrmanja River, a kayak and a canoe expedition, rafting down the river, or even relaxing in a local household, all while enjoying an astonishing view of the canyon. Something for everybody!

Discover more

Find out why the Novigrad Fortress is legendary!

Get to know the fascinating tales from the medieval City of Novigrad.

Safari anyone?

The fairy-tale of the Zrmanja Canyon, the enchanting Zadar Archipelago, the magnificent limestone formations of Tulove Grede, wonderful views of the Adriatic and much more are all a part of an utterly enjoyable jeep safari ride!

Get to the cycling heaven

The whole area is a tremendous spot for both leisurely scenic cycling, as well as intense off-road mountain biking! Explore the unusual tracks around Posedarje, Jasenice and Ražanac and choose your favorite!

Cave in to these magnificent caves!

Visit many caves of Paklenica Riviera and the most famous one - Modrič Cave! It is known for its beauty, not just famous (sur)name. What's especially fascinating is a great number of cave decorations, stalactites and stalagmites, beautiful immense underground chambers, as well as an amazing viewpoint at the entrance!

You jump, I (bungee) jump!

Try out the hugest bungee jump in Croatia from the iconic Maslenica bridge! Get your adrenaline going 5 m/16.4 ft above the surface where the rope stops. Whether you are a beginner or an old jumping fox - you will get equally excited!

Explore the Krupa River and the monastery!

The spectacular canyon and waterfalls that were carved by Krupa and Zrmanja river can only be topped by the monastery that was built on its banks. See what happens when nature and history work together!



Climb to the top

EVENTS

International Climbers Meeting
Zrmanja Adventure Festival
On the Trail of Winnetou
Highlander Velebit
100 Miles of the Velebit Ultra
Trail

Paklenica Riviera destinations:

STARIGRAD

The amazing location on the beautiful coastline right where the highest Croatian mountain range Velebit emerges gives it fairytale scenery.

NOVIGRAD

Novigrad is a place where the sea has crept deep into the mainland creating a fjord-like bay embraced by the old stone houses, a fortress and a genuine spirit of pristine fishermen.

POSEDARJE

Sheltered in the Novigrad Sea, joining agriculture and tourism lies Posedarje, a peaceful and appropriate for a vacation away from the city throng or crowded resorts.

RAŽANAC

Ražanac offers unique views of a stone nest under the mighty mountain and is known for its fresh air coming from the northern peaks of the Velebit mountain range.

JASENICE

Under the crags of the Velebit extending towards the sea lies the locality of Jasenice where guests can relive the scenes of the famous western serial Winnetou along the Zrmanja River Canyon.

OBROVAC

Obrovac found its place on the banks of the karst beauty - the green-blue River Zrmanja - just before it enters the Novigrad Sea.





SAY YES! TO THE ISLANDS

Feel the breeze of the alluring Adriatic Sea, moor your vessel in the welcoming harbours and eco-friendly marinas, discover the beauties of stunning nature parks and swim in turquoise waters of serene coves. While you have a wonderful time sailing, boating, yachting or rowing in this amazing environment, do not forget to investigate the rich cultural heritage of the region and to enjoy some solid-ground activities on panoramic coastal and insular hills!



Don't miss

- Take a selfie at the mesmerizing Sakarun Beach
- Taste olive oil like no other
- Try a new way of trekking

PANTERA, DUGI OTOK ISLAND



An aerial photograph of a coastline, showing a small island with a lighthouse and a bay with turquoise water. The image is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping a yellow background.

The Islands Must See & Do

A natural choice for adventurists

Try not to be amazed by this nature park.

Telašćica is a wonderful bay and a designated nature park located on the south-east part of Dugi Otok (Long Island). This beautiful bay set in a harmonious environment includes 6 charming islets and is surrounded by 13 islands, all covered with lush vegetation of evergreen forests. Telašćica was proclaimed a nature park thanks to its rich flora and fauna, distinctive geomorphological phenomena, clear seabed teeming with marine life, as well as its interesting archaeological heritage. Choose your favourite spot among 25 small beaches, 161 m high cliffs, a salt lake with medicinal properties, picturesque and unusual islands and amazing viewpoints!

Challenge accepted?

Try out a new way of trekking. If you dare.

Have you heard of škraping? After the global hit called trekking, Croatia got the bragging rights to its own adrenalin sport – škraping. It is running and fast walking on sharp and steep coastal cliffs. Even though it is a very demanding discipline, it has gathered many fans. Since 2006, škraping competitions on Pag have been taking place in three categories: Ultra (47 kilometres) – intended for experienced athletes; Light (25 kilometres) – introduces the participants to the antiquities and beauties of Pašman, and Đir (12 kilometres) walking or running on fresh air. Check which category best suits you and head into a sports adventure!

Try liquid gold

Olive oil makes everything better. Even your vacation. Try it on the island of olives!

This region has had a long intimate connection with the „green gold“ that grows in countless rows of fruitful olive trees. The whole area is lush with olive trees that delight the eye and exude a rich pleasant fragrance. However, the island closest to Zadar, the green Island of Ugljan, is covered by exquisite olive groves. Its small village of Muline is the best place to discover the secrets of the trade and learn more about the ancient craft of great olive oil making. Taste the liquid gold and make some golden memories on this shining island!

Dream beach for a dream vacation

Imagine your dream beach. White sand, turquoise water and pine trees? Well, now you can also visit it. Sakarun Cove is a natural gem of the region, widely known and regularly listed among the most beautiful coves in the world! But there is another great beauty in the area.

Sakarun is a wide 800-metre-long sandy beach with a view of the open Adriatic Sea. It is located on the northwest coast of Dugi Otok (Long Island). This exceptional beach has gained a well-deserved reputation for its distinctively white sand, clear turquoise sea and thick rows of pine trees that provide a welcome shade on hot summer days. Sakarun is a spectacular place of beauty, peace and tranquillity suitable for everyone, as the calm shallow waters surrounding the beach offer safety and relaxation in an extraordinary setting of changing hues and colours.

Discover more

Cycle through time

Cycling on the islands is a unique experience. Wherever you go, sooner or later you will end up on a beach and the views are fascinating – both in the direction of the coast and other archipelagos. The islands themselves are still witnessing the past times and a way of life which does not change so quickly here.

High(!)lights of Telašćica

On the outer side of the Telašćica Bay, vertical cliffs rise into the most prominent steep slope of the Adriatic Sea – the famous “stene” of Dugi Otok, reaching a height of 161 m and depths of 85 m. Be sure to look for dolphins that swim along the cliffs and red corals that live underwater on the cliffs.

A lake for people with a special taste

After the last ice age, the global sea level rose by approximately 120 metres, and the karst depression was filled by sea water through numerous underground micro cracks. The unusual salt lake Mir in Telašćica nature park was created due to the underground connections with the sea. See and taste it for yourself!

A view from the fortress

The St. Michael fortress on Ugljan island, built in the 12th century by the Venetians, measures 265 metres in height and makes an ideal walking tour. Along the walk, enjoy superb views across the rest of the island, the Zadar archipelago, the mainland and Dugi otok.

Monastery known for its rich history

The last Benedictine monastery inspires the visitors with its history dating back to the 14th century. In addition to the interesting history, the visitors of Pašman island are also delighted by the nature and the vistas extending from it.

Exploring from another perspective – a kayak!

See picturesque fishing villages, coves and beaches from a kayak! In the meantime, swim and snorkel in the pristine clear sea and take photos everyone will be jealous of.

An aerial photograph of a sailboat on clear, turquoise water. The boat's red sail is prominent, extending from the right side towards the center. The water's surface is textured with small waves. The text 'Great sailing wherever you stop' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right.

Great sailing
wherever
you stop

EVENTS

Škraping
Božava Trail
Kali Fishermen's Nights
Saljske Užance

Near-by destinations:

KALI, Ugljan island

With long tradition of fishermen, Kali are most famous for its tuna all over the world.

KUKLJICA, Ugljan island

Another old fishing locality on the island of Ugljan is Kukljica which is also among pioneers in tourism on the islands of Zadar Region.

PREKO, Ugljan island

The fortress of St. Mihovil (Michael) ascending at the back of Preko, the centre and the port of the island of Ugljan, dominates the island and offers unforgettable views of the Zadar archipelago.

UGLJAN, Ugljan island

Discover the peacefulness of the Franciscan monastery, antique ruins, cycling or walking on the kilometre-long trails along the dry-stone walls, unforgettable views or just taking it easy on the beach.

PAŠMAN, Pašman island

Safe harbours and sandy beaches are ideal spots for a great summer holiday in Pašman, the village on the homonymous island that is the centre of the area.

TKON, Pašman island

The last village on the south of the island of Pašman and the port from which ferries to Biograd operate. The Benedictine monastery is situated on top of Čokovac hill, just 2 kilometres of Tkon.

SALI, Dugi otok island

The centre of Dugi otok is Sali, the biggest and one of the most charming villages on the island with a more than a thousand years long fishing tradition.

BOŽAVA, Dugi otok island

Not far from Božava lays the famous Sakarun beach which proclaimed as one of the most beautiful beaches in the world.



SAY YES! TO THE RURAL

If you want a vacation far from crowds that is closely connected to the authentic experiences of this area, walk its rural paths. Here you can enjoy historical stories, luxury villas, autochthonous gastronomy and favourite drinks that are globally renowned. Fill your batteries the old fashioned rustic way!

Don't miss

- Enjoy a glass of award-winning wine
- Learn about the history on the site
- Relax at a luxury villa



The Rural Must See & Do

History carved in stone

Witness some eras gone by in the former Roman City of Asseria.

The grand City of ASSERIA was nestled between the present day Bukovica and Ravni Kotari. It is one of the most important Liburnian and then Roman settlements in the area of northern Dalmatia, located in the area of the present-day village of Podgrade close to the City of Benkovac. The city was known for its triumphal arch, forum, aqueduct and cippus, a type of a Liburnian gravestone. They were discovered in the greatest numbers in this area. In addition to cippus, numerous other stone monuments were found here: portrait steles, decorations on public structures, altars and many others. All this is proof of a very developed stonemason economy that exists even today.

Looking for a peace of mind?

Relax far from crowds, in a place that feels like home. A luxury home.

If you are looking to rest in silence and tranquility of pristine nature, you've come to the right place. A holiday house by the sea or a luxury villa with a swimming pool in the interior will give you the beauty and the pleasures of the simple life. Enjoy the view of the coastline of the mountain mass and the flatlands of Bukovica and Ravni Kotar. When you feel energized and relaxed, go for a walk. Explore many antique villages, historical Roman monuments as well as preserved medieval towns. Then head back to your beautiful home and relax in the peace of untouched nature.

Fairy-tale castle with an imaginative history

Find out why this castle has been delighting its visitors for centuries.

The most noticeable cultural-historical monument in Benkovac is Kaštel Benković, a fort named after the great Croatian Benković family who built it in the second half of the 15th century. However, there are also some other theories about its origin. Some say that it was built by Croatian lords in the Middle Ages. In the beginning, this mysterious castle played a defensive role. However, the Turks conquered it in 1527. The proof of the importance of this structure for this area is the fact that it marks the beginning of history of the City of Benkovac. The castle is just as important today even though it has a different function – it serves as the ideal stage for various manifestations and represents the centre of cultural life.

Take a divine break

Try the nectar of the gods – Croatian wine that has won many hearts and awards around the globe.

If you appreciate good wine, don't miss out on the vineyards of this region, because they are equally amazing to see and taste. Vineyards and orchards of the region have been cultivated for more than 3000 years making outstanding wines. Predominantly red wine sorts, like Zinfandel, Merlot, Cabernet and similar, have put the Zadar region on the world's wine map and have won numerous awards around the world. They say that life is too short to drink bad wine – so hurry!

Taste the tradition

If you are a true foodie, you have to try peka.

The food that joins every top list about Croatian food is undoubtedly – peka. Peka is better than just food – it is a way to prepare food. To prepare it you need a dome or bell-shaped terracotta or steel lid that you heat by burning wood below it. Then you place the food you wish to cook in a round tray underneath the peka and put embers on top of the peka itself which then cooks your food. The best part? You can cook almost anything. You can go traditional and prepare the classical octopus or veal with potatoes and vegetables or be creative and make up your own recipe. The two most important ingredients are patience, because the process takes a few hours, and love!

Discover more

Go back in time...

...And meet the traditional inhabitants of the Dalmatian hinterland! If you want to experience authentic, loud, local fiesta you must come to Fair of Benkovac.

A festival for the queen of fruits!

Figs – you either like them or hate them. But if you are in the first group, you will adore the festival in Zadar dedicated to this unique fruit!

Wine&bike

You probably heard of beer yoga, but we have something even better – a cycling tour that will show you beautiful panoramas and most famous wineries of the region.



A feast for your
taste buds

EVENTS

Bike and Wine
Vinfest
Benkovac Fair

Near-by destinations:

BENKOVAC

At the bottom of a hill on which Kaštel Benković fortress dominates the whole area, lies the town of Benkovac, rich in rural atmosphere and picturesque landscapes.

POLIČNIK

Poličnik is the village situated just 16 km northeast of Zadar offering many holiday villas with private pools to those who desire privacy and peace.



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Full of life

