

FOLLOWING THE TRAILS OF BAN JOSIP JELAČIĆ

THROUGH
TUROPOLJE AND BANOVINA

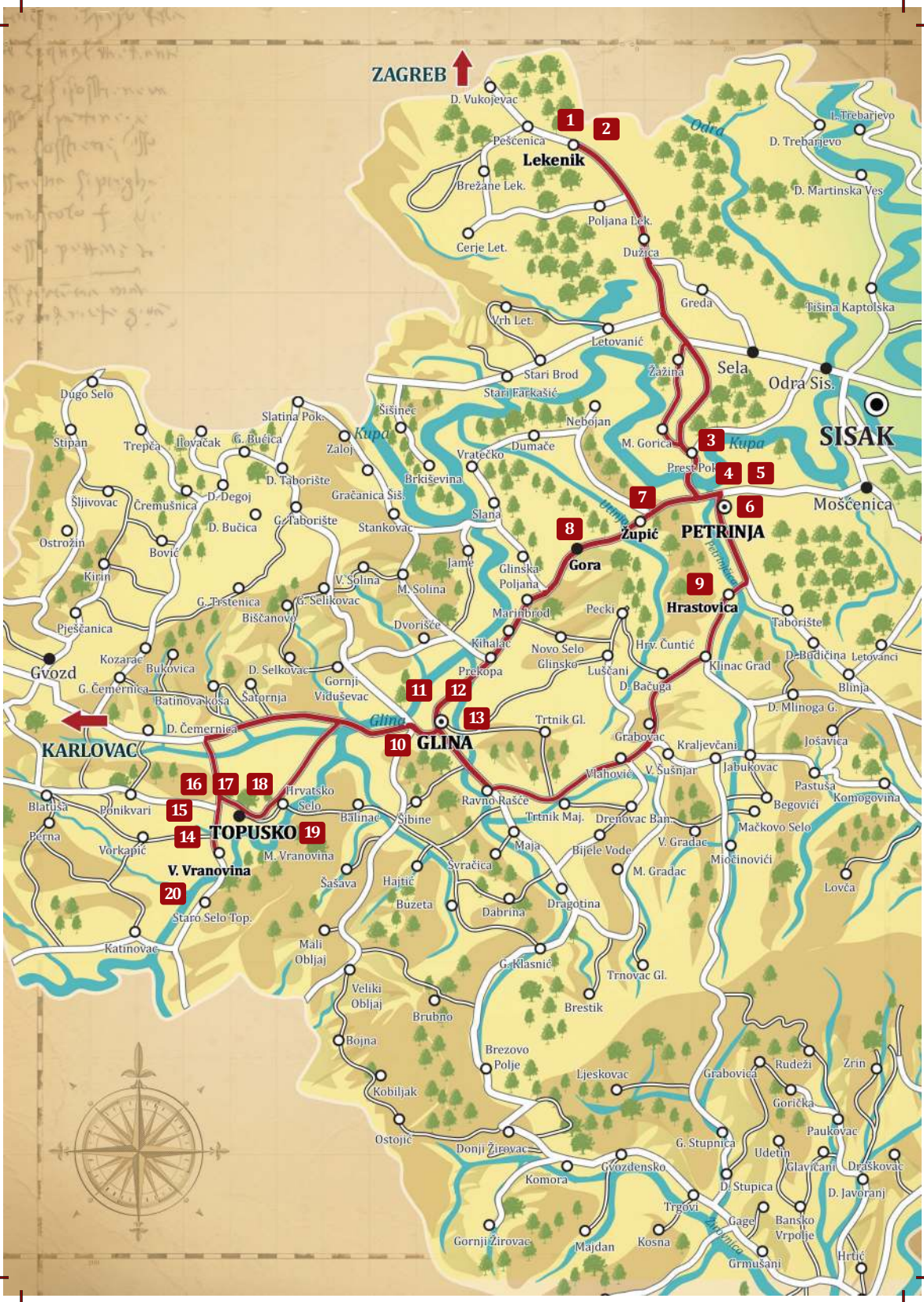




On the slopes of Zrinski hills, in the picturesque Banovina intertwined with woods, numerous rivers, streams, thermal springs and springs of drinking water, **the trail of ban Josip Jelačić** is paved, leading through lowlands of Turopolje towards Zagreb and beyond. Seeing that this historical region was governed by the Croatian ban, it was thus called *Banovina*. More precisely, since the year 1595, along with the name *Pokupska*, *Banska krajina* was also used, and after the famous king Leopold's Charter, issued in 1703, the name *Banska krajina* prevailed for the whole area between rivers Kupa and Una. This name was in use until the so-called military border regiments were dissolved in 1873, and since then it was called *Bansko okružje*. Since the Military regiment was finally demilitarized in 1881, the term *Banovina* has been used. In this area, numerous villages, hamlets, districts and towns sprung up, all of which abound in historical and ethnographic heritage and the remnants of sacral buildings. What was once a famous military area was separated from the civil part of Croatia by a bridge over the river Kupa, a jugular vein to the residents of this turbulent area. It was here where the homeland was being protected, patriotism and revival ideas spread, and Croatian songs were born.

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LEGEND

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Positioning of Sisak-Moslavina County
in the Republic of Croatia



Theme trail within the Sisak-Moslavina
County



Lekenik

1 MEMORIAL STONE

On the 160th Anniversary of the Emperor's decree delivery to ban Josip Jelačić by the postman Klempaj, the Tourist Board of Lekenik placed a memorial board in front of the municipal office building in the centre of Lekenik on 25 March 2008.

J. Jelačić's high esteem of postman Klempaj can also be proven by the fact that Josip Klempaj was appointed the first General Director of the Croatian-Slavonian posts in the same year!

"The circumstances demand an introduction of new regulations and changes into Croatian posts and since you are considered such a skillful postman and an honest person in our homeland, I invite You to visit Zagreb until 11 August this year at the latest, to provide me assistance with Your wise counsels in the field of postal profession"- wrote ban Jelačić in form of an invitation to postman Klempaj before his appointment to the position of General Director of all post-offices.

To mark this historical event, the Tourist Board of the Lekenik municipality organizes a three-day manifestation "Ban Jelačić's and postman Klempaj's days" behind the Croatian Home (Hrvatski dom) since 2008.



Lekenik

2

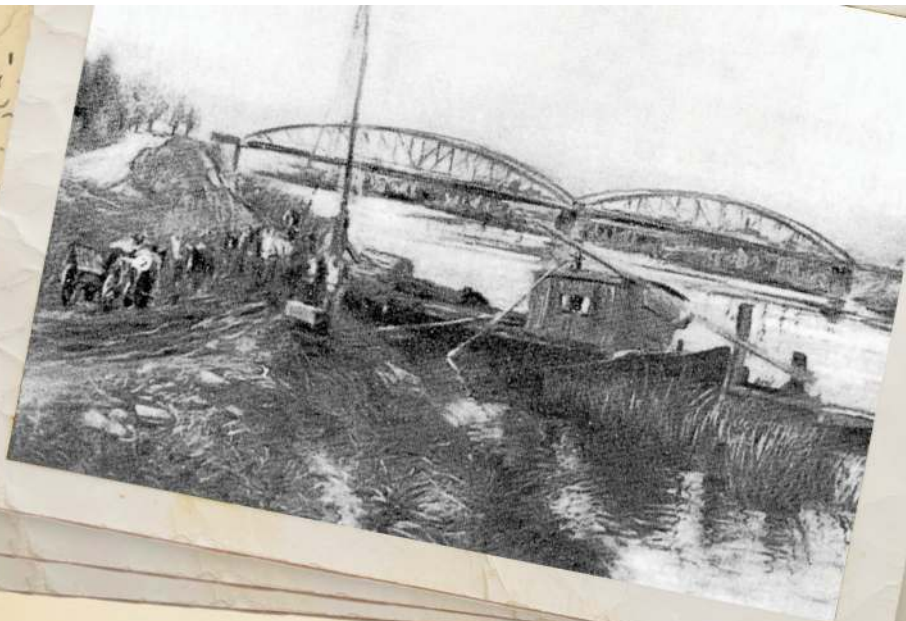


CROATIAN HOME

The first mention of Lekenik dates back to 1217 when the Hungarian-Croatian king Andrew II confirmed some estates as belonging to Zagreb's Kaptol. Lekenik was then mentioned as the upper boundary point of Kaptol's property Dužica. Till the half of the 20th century the place received first sings of urbanization. Since 1 February 1837 a post-office was set up and Josip Klempaj was the first postman. According to some historical sources the house of Josip Klempaj, which was also a post-office and a rest station, stood in place of the Croatian Home (Hrvatski dom) or next to it. Klempaj's home was open to everyone. Taking a rest and refreshment in Lekenik was a common and established habit, practiced by numerous travelers on their way to Zagreb and Vienna. Postman Klempaj thus developed a friendship with many notables from the Monarchy's public life sphere, among others with Glina's general J. Jelačić as well.

One of the most significant events in the history of Lekenik was the delivery of the Emperor's decree to Glina's general Josip Jelačić on 25 March 1848 to appoint him Ban of the Kingdom of Croatia, Slavonia and Dalmatia. The decree was delivered to him by Lekenik postman Josip Klempaj. Josip Jelačić made a stop at Klempaj's rest station on his way to Zagreb after Baron Dragojlo Kušlan informed him in Glina of the newly arisen situation and the proposals for his appointment to this honorable and high rank. Jelačić set out for Zagreb in the night of 24 to 25 March and in the morning hours of 25 March 1848 Jelačić reached the first rest station and post office in Lekenik together with his accompaniment. The Lekenik postman received a sealed letter from the Emperor by the high-speed cavalry post. The letter contained a decree appointing Josip Jelačić the Croatian ban. Without any hesitation postman Klempaj rushed into the room of general Jelačić who had just finished his meal. Kneeling before him Klempaj handed Jelačić the Emperor's letter covered with five large red seals.

"I am highly confident that the Kingdom of Croatia, Slavonia and Dalmatia will find clear confirmation of My fatherly sentiments in your fulfillment of this honorable duty of ban and My selection of You for the post. I am willing to affirm these sentiments very shortly, as soon as the Croatian Parliament (the *Sabor*) presents me with its proposals on nationality and language..." – stood in the Emperor's letter. He went out before the gathered mass of peasants who observed him fearfully, while postman Klempaj exclaimed: *Long live ban Jelačić!* General Jelačić set out for Zagreb only in the early evening hours, and on 28 March 1848 he came back to Glina thus avoiding the great assembly, which resulted in the issuance of the program "*Zahtjevanja naroda*" (The Demands of the People) and the conclusion to appoint him the Ban, not wanting to face the crowds before taking an oath to the king. Again he made a stop at Lekenik where he stayed for some time engaged in a conversation with postman Klempaj. In the afternoon he continued his travel to Glina.



Petrinja

3



THE BRIDGE OVER KUPA RIVER

The river Kupa and the town of Petrinja are bound together by numerous historical events. During the 18th and 19th century, various goods were transported along the Kupa river, from Sisak to Petrinja and Karlovac, and this well developed navigation contributed to a faster growth of Petrinja, which also became a strong trade and craft center.

The Kupa river between Brest and Petrinja was bridged for the first time by a wooden bridge in 1594, and then in 1861. The constructed metal bridge with two arches, which was opened in 1898, was torn down during the Serbian aggression on Croatia in late September 1991, and the new one was opened for traffic on May 4, 1998.

During the Banska krajina period up to the year 1783 the bridge over the river Kupa represented a sort of dividing line between the Civil and Military parts of Croatia, and from 1841 to 1848 ban Josip Jelačić, who was then commander of the 1st regiment seated in Glina, frequently crossed it. After the Croatian Parliament was established and Jelačić inaugurated as the Croatian ban in June 1848, he returned to Banska krajina on August 14, 1848, and tried to get the support from the locals' in fighting off the Hungarians. This was the final stage of the Croatian National Revival (*The Illyrian movement, 1835 - 1848*), during which patriotism and ideas of the Croatian revivers prevailed. In Žažina, ban Jelačić was greeted by his years long superior, general of the Banska brigade, Ivan Kempen, and he escorted him to Petrinja. On the bridge over Kupa river, a delegation of prominent residents of Petrinja, led by the mayor Herman Wagner, greeted ban Jelačić. This historical event was further enhanced by the town guard playing patriotic songs, and when they were crossing over the bridge, the church bells rang and shots were fired from the mortars as the numerous residents of the town of Petrinja wished them a warm welcome.



Petrinja

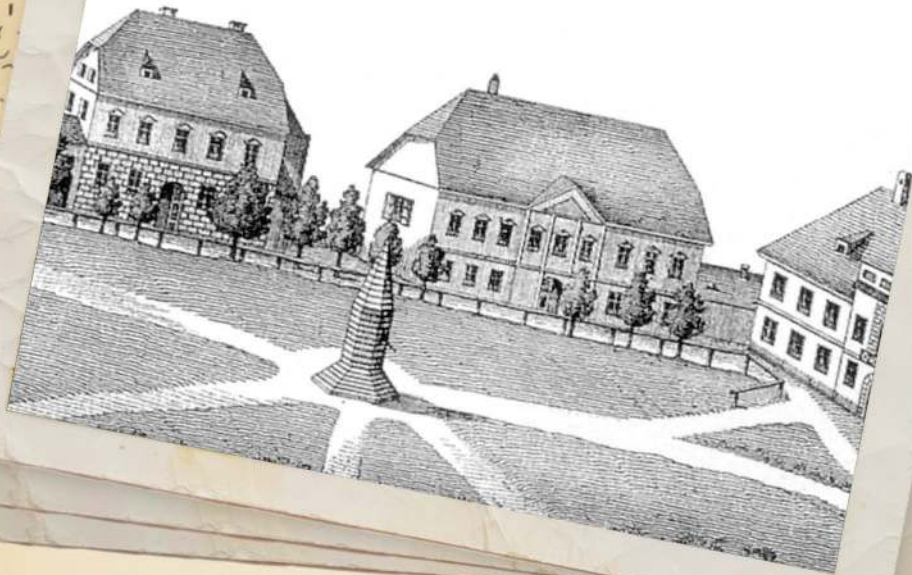
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THE BUILDING GENERALIJE

Petrinja gradually became an urban settlement outside the old Turkish fort built in 1592, and started to quickly develop in the 18th century. Thanks to its strategic position, in 1753 Petrinja became a military and administrative center of Banska krajina, and in 1777, as a military community, it got all the imperial benefits and remained the seat of the 2nd Banska regiment and the brigadier general of the entire Banska krajina. During that time, in the 1780's, the town square was slowly being built, in the form of a typical border-land, rectangular shape, around which military, administrative, sacral and representative buildings were erected. The most prominent of these is the *Brigadiers Quartier*, i.e. the apartment of the general of the Banska brigade, most often referred to as *generalija*. It is situated on the intersection of the town's main streets, with the front facing one of the oldest streets in Petrinja, the Kaniža Street, which was then the main entrance when coming from Zagreb.

The *generalije* building (today, it is the Municipal Court) was the seat of the superior military command of the Banska brigade (1st Banska regiment, seated in Glina, and 2nd Banska regiment, seated in Petrinja). Josip Jelačić, as a general and commander of the 1st Banska regiment in the period from 1842 till 1848, frequently visited the *generalije* building. But his most important visit to Petrinja was after he was inaugurated as a Croatian ban. It was on August 14, 1848. Followed by numerous residents, after a ceremonial entry into the town, with church bells ringing, shots being fired from the mortars and the town guard playing patriotic songs, outside the *generalije* building, the mayor Ivan Kempen held a speech. He emphasized the historical meaning of ban Jelačić's visit to Banska krajina, and he backed his ideas on fighting off the Hungarians. With general Kempen, other superior officers issued their support and approval, and then, in a festive patriotic climate, said goodbye to ban Jelačić.



Petrinja

5



THE STROSSMAYER PROMENADE

Landscaping of the square (today known as the Strossmayer promenade) begun in the 1780's, when some of the most important urbanistic and architectural interventions were made in that part of town. At the beginning of the 19th century, the square was used to hold fairs and other social events. In 1818, when the emperor Franjo II. came to visit the town, a great celebration was held in his honor: In 1890, the fair was relocated to the former *generals' garden* (*generalska bašća*, today a marketplace), and in 1891 it was officially named promenade. That same year, the meteorological post was built there, and in 1892 also a musical pavilion. It was a period of intense landscaping of the promenade, and when Josip Juraj Strossmayer died in 1905, it was renamed to Strossmayer promenade. In 1912 – 1913 a fountain with brass figures, a work of sculptor Ferdo Ćus, was placed at the park.

From 1842 to 1847 Josip Jelačić, then the commander of the 1st Banska regiment, used to hold the annual military exercises at the square, under the surveillance of general Kempen who used to watch from the *generalije* building. On August 14, 1848, as a newly elected Croatian ban, Josip Jelačić strolled down the park to the city hall, where he was greeted by vicar Latinović, mayor Wagner and other spokesmen. The people of Petrinja, in a patriotic manner, gave their support to his revival ideas and were greatly honored by his visit.

The Strossmayer promenade became a protected monument of the park architecture in 1969. There can be found prominent Illyrian linden trees, planted during Napoleon's Illyria in 1809 – 1813, as well as various decorative and other exotic plants. The park is dominated by the St. Lovro church (St. Lovro is the town's patron), built in 1780. It was completely destroyed in 1992 during the Serbian aggression on Croatia (Croatian War of Independence), and a new one was built from 1996 – 2000 on the so-called *facsimile* principle.



Petrinja

6



EXCURSION SITE *PIGIK*

On a gentle hill, just a kilometer outside the town on the route to Glina, lies the *Pigik*, named so after the economic manifestation *The Petrinja Exhibition of Gastronomy and Cooking – PIGIK*, which was held here in the 1960's. The older residents call this location the firing range, because in the 19th century, the town firing range was there. The shooting club was founded in 1816, and is one of the oldest sport clubs in town.

Josip Jelačić, as the commander of the 1st Banska regiment, often came to Petrinja on official duty, and privately, he came to see his brother Đuro, who lived in Petrinja and was the superior officer in the 2nd Banska regiment. In September 1845, Josip Jelačić and his brother Đuro, who was the president of *the Shooting Club Petrinja*, took part in an annual contest between the shooters from Sisak and Petrinja. After the official part of the ceremony, Josip Jelačić and other members of the Club, along with other fans of shooting, continued to socialize and dance to the music. These social events were obviously a forerunner of the future excursion site that became the venue for various town manifestations.

At *Pigik*, interred is the wine cellar which, during the first half of the 20th century, served as a natural storeroom for keeping ice for the town residents and the *Gavrilović* factory. People of Petrinja named this ice storage *Ledana* (led=ice). The Kvaternik family owned the estate, and the last known owner was Slavko Kvaternik. In the 60's, the firing range became a popular excursion place *Pigik*, with catering and tourist offerings. The new *Hotel Gavrilović*, opened in 1987 for *Univerzijada*, was destroyed during the Serbian aggression.



Župić

7



VILLAGE ŽUPIĆ

Not far from Petrinja, on the road heading towards Glina, lies the village Župić, where as a tribute to ban Jelačić, a monument was placed in 1846. The road from Gora to Župić was in a very bad state in the 1840's, with big, hazardous serpentines, so the vicar of Gora, out of respect for the residents of Gora and the neighboring villages enticed the works to be done on this road. They were conducted by ban Jelačić and his soldiers from 1843 to 1846. Jelačić also did the widening on the already existing, but deteriorated road from Župić to Petrinja. Because of a successful construction and reconstruction of this very important route, the officers and military officials expressed their gratitude by placing a monument to ban Jelačić in the village Župić, not far from that very road he built. The monument was revealed on June 1st, 1846 and general Jelačić attended the ceremony, along with his brother Đuro and other close relatives, numerous officers from the regiments Glina and Petrinja, the residents of Petrinja, Glina and neighboring villages. The author of the text inscribed on the monument, poet Ivan Trnski, as agreed with Jelačić and other Illyrians and patriots, demanded that the words be written in Croatian, which was very bold at the time, seeing that the official and prevailing language was German.

The monument rose in honour and gratitude to general Jelačić, quickly acquired a new name among the people – *Ban's Stone* (*Banov kamen*). The monument was damaged and torn down several times. It was damaged for the first time in 1891, then after the World War I, only to be completely torn down after the Second World War, in 1947. The restoration of the monument was initiated by Matica hrvatska from Petrinja, and the ceremony revealing the restored piece is to be held in 2009, on ban Jelačić's 150th death anniversary.



Gora

8



THE VILLAGE GORA

The village Gora, a historical place about 8 km southwest of Petrinja, is situated near the main route Petrinja - Glina. Already in the 12th century, the friars Templars are in Gora, and king Bela III. (1172 - 1196) gave them estates there. After the Templars order was abolished in 1312, their estates, the convent and the church were taken over by the order Ivanovci (*Order of St. John*). The village Gora was mentioned for the first time in 1201, and according to the list of parishes of the Zagrebian bishopric from the year 1334, there were four churches in Gora. With the invasion of the Turks in 1591, the Gora bishopric was completely destroyed, all the churches were torn down and the people banished. After the Turks were ousted, the estates in Gora were taken over by the provosts of Zagrebian Kaptol in 1650. As the church in Gora became a pilgrimage church, in 1781 an atrium was built in front of it, along with the lobby to meet the pilgrims' needs. Later on, the sacristy and the chapel of St. Ana were built. During Serbian aggression on Croatia, the valuable church in Gora was destroyed.

As the commander of the 1st Banska regiment, Josip Jelačić on regular basis came by and supervised the work of all 12 companies (captaincies) of the Glina regiment, but mostly he did so in the Gorska captaincy seated in Gora, which recruited the men from the neighboring villages. The reason for that was his friendship with the administrative officer and a passionate Illyrian, Ivan Trnski, who wrote several songs and reveilles, such as *Ljubimo te naša diko* and march *Oj Banovci, oj junaci*. Jelačić spent a lot of time in Gora, talking to promoters of the idea of the Croatian national revival, including the vicar of Gora, Josip Španić, whom he helped build a new rectory (1843-1848). Jelačić often came to the Church of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Gora, attended the famous parish fair on the Assumption (on August 15), and was also a great admirer of St. Ana (July 26), when he prayed mostly for his late mother Ana.



Hrastovica

9



THE VILLAGE HRASTOVICA

Hrastovica is situated 5 km south of Petrinja, and is mentioned for the first time in 1206 in the Charter of King Andrija II. The village lies just beneath the Hrastovička gora (Hrastovica hill), where numerous shrines and fortresses were built, and people living in the valley went there for centuries during peaceful times to make an offering to deities, and in war times they used to come looking for sanctuary and to defend their homes. In the 13th century the estates in Hrastovica belonged to the Zagrebian bishops, and later to the Babonić family. According to the list of parishes of the Zagrebian bishopric from the year 1334, Hrastovica is mentioned as a parish with the Church of St. Quirinus. There used to be a Franciscan monastery, and it is probable that the Gornja and Donja utvrda (Upper and Lower fort) were built by the Zagrebian bishops to help defend their estates. In the 16th century, the area was dominated by the Turks. Turbulent historical events intertwined in Hrastovica, and on February 12th 1905, Stjepan Radić organized the 1st Convention of the Croatian Populist Party. Josip Jelačić often came to Hrastovica and Hrastovička gora since the military exercises of the regiments were held there. During his stay, he used to stop by one spring in Hrastovica and drink some water. This spring was later named *Banovo vrelo* (*Ban's spring*) after him. Hrastovička gora is the northwestern part of Zrinska gora (Zrin mountain), the valley of the river Petrinjčica dividing the two. The area is filled with fossils of mollusks and shells that only live in seawater, which confirms that the sea was here in the past. Thanks to the natural and cultural sights, Hrastovica and Hrastovička gora became a popular excursion site to the nature lovers. Hiking trails were set up, leading from the village center, the Church of St. Bartol, leading through the chestnut forest with numerous drinking water springs, to the highest peak, the Cepeliš (416 m) with a recently restored climbers' lodging.



Glina

10 JELAČIĆ'S PARK

Jelačić's Park, for which it is well known, from the documents, that it was during Jelačić's authority that the alley of plane-trees was planted, is the pearl of the town of Glina and an important monument of the Croatian military-borderland park heritage, almost fully preserved in its original form.

The town park was landscaped in the first half of the 19th century, when the military complex was being restructured and new facilities were being added. The park was placed amidst the military buildings. Along the park, there are other important public buildings: the Roman Catholic church, the parochial residence, school, and during the 19th century the horticultural landscaping of the park was defined. The park, as the town's urban core, is under protection as a valuable park surface when it comes to location, as well as the horticultural elements.

The park today also has its history. When in 1969 Glina once again became an inhabited town, on the place where the park once stood was a plain that was retaining water. When the fort was being built and underground tunnels dug, that area was gradually being filled up and raised. In 1769, in the southeastern part of where the park is today, the chapel of St. John of Nepomuk was erected. The chapel was there for 130 years. After the area was leveled, it was called the Glina Square („*Glinjski trg*”). In 1845, when larger part of the fortresses was already destroyed and the ditches filled, the pathway was moved a little bit towards the southwest, and the central part of today's park was planted. The plane-trees were planted according to Jelačić's wishes, who was a general in Glina at the time, and was later proclaimed the Croatian Ban. Jelačić's Park is situated in the center of Glina and is surrounded by roads on all sides, stretching through the area of 13.585,00 m². Around it there are double alleys of plane-trees and horse-chestnuts, and inappropriately, lime and maple trees. There are as much as 167 trees in the park. It is surrounded by a hornbeam hedge, and on the grass surfaces, small rosy bushes can be found. The tracks are covered with sand or asphalt, and there is a pavilion in the centre. The monumental tree tops, primarily the plane-trees' ones, dominate the area, but in time, this, unfortunately, led to the classicist traits and composition of the park to become vague.



Glina

11



LAND REGISTRY OFFICE

The main building of the former regiment in Glina was built in the middle of the 19th century (around 1845). After it ceased to serve as a military object, it received an administrative function. The building is freestanding and single-story with an interior setup and a structural system characteristic of the 19th century military administrative building construction. The organization and shaping of its façade is characteristic of the neoclassical style. Ground façade contains blind arcades with windows and a central gateway. A rizalit zone in the first storey of the building is highlighted by four pilasters. The building has a high four-eaved roof. There is a trade object in its yard dating back to the time period of the main object brick construction and a more recent coal cellar.

The building has a high architectural value and thanks to its location on the main town square it played an important role in shaping the urban matrix of the historical town centre. It served as Jelačić's headquarters with his offices on the first floor and a guest lounge on the ground floor. Citizens referred to it as the "oberstarija", derived from the word "der Oberst", meaning *general*.

The 1st Banska regiment was established and recruited in the western part of the Banska borderland in the region of the former Glina captaincy, the Second Banska regiment was in the eastern part of the former Petrinja and Dubica captaincy. After their establishment, each Banska regiment had four battalions; each battalion contained four companies consisting of 240 soldiers and two additional companies with 120 elite soldiers – grenadiers.



Glina

12



HOME OF THE CROATIAN ANTHEM

Multi-storey town house with an “L”-shaped layout was erected in the middle of the 19th century. The ground floor was built in brick, while the first floor in wooden plastered planks which gave the façade a coherent shape as a representative town house with the characteristics of the historicist style. The house was originally a residential and trade object. In addition to its urban architectural value, it also has a historical significance due to the fact that the Croatian national anthem was composed in it.

The house of Petar Peleša, a wealthy merchant from Glina and member of the Croatian national parliament (the *Sabor*), gained historical importance when a young 25 year-old cadet Josip Runjanin made the music for the Croatian anthem *Lijepa naša domovina* (*Our beautiful homeland*) in 1846, based on the verses written by Antun Mihanović.

This house, which was at the time the largest and most beautiful house in Branimir Street in Glina, served as a meeting place for the First Banska regiment officers and other prominent citizens of Glina. They shared their “frontline” memories, played music and sang Illyric songs over a glass of tasteful liqueur or wine. Josip Runjanin, who was a good pianist and a guitarist, poet Ivan Trnski, teacher Jakov Novaković, bandmaster Dragutin Slanka, who was also a good guitarist and a pianist and Josip Wendl, a flutist and a great admirer of Beethoven and Mozart, as well as many others also came to these musical evenings.

The house is almost 200 years old and has been declared a monument of culture. It suffered damage in 1995 when an airplane projectile landed in close proximity to its main façade. The detonation caused damage to its façade, carpentry, the inner walls, ceilings and floors of the rooms facing the street. The house is still under renovation.



Glina

13



THE CASSINO BUILDING

The complex of the Cassino Hotels has two, functionally connected, separate buildings. The older, two-storey angle building no. 19, was built in the 19th century, and was originally an inn and a restaurant. Building no. 17 is a newer one, a representative two-storey building erected in the beginning of the 20th century in a turn-of-the-century style - neobaroque. In the year 1913, the older object was reconstructed and became hotel (with rooms on the ground and first floor), and a new object was turned into a public place with a coffee shop and a restaurant on the ground floor, and a representative hall for parties and dancing on the first floor. Both buildings were inadequately adapted during the 60's. The ground floor was reconstructed in the 80's. This building is, judging its style characteristics, the most valuable non-historical object. At the beginning and the middle of the 20th century, it played an important social and cultural function, as all the big events in the public life were somehow associated with it. The objects on the Stjepan and Antun Radić Street no. 17 and 19 are under protection as the cultural and historical core of the town of Glina.

This angle building was a favorite meeting point of the frontiersmen officers of the 1st Banska regiment. It is here that the first cultural and patriotic initiatives started, as well as arrangements and operations of the distinguished activists from Glina, especially the ones gathered around the general and later the Croatian ban, the noble Josip Jelačić of Bužim.



Topusko

14



BAN'S PALACE

The new building in Bistre kupke (Clear Baths) was built between the warden's apartment and bathing facilities. This project was probably the work of a famous Zagrebian architect, Bartol Feldbinger. One part of the building was furnished to meet the needs of the regiment's commanding officer. During his official visits (as a commander) to Topusko, Jelačić used to stay here, but also when he came as a ban with his wife Sofija, who came for therapy in 1853. Ban's wife also stayed here alone in 1857, and her husband came to visit her four times. In 1862, now a widow, Sofija came in once again for treatment.

In memory of ban Jelačić and everything he did for Topusko, the room he used to stay in remained untouched until the building was torn down. All the furniture was here: the bed, the writing-desk with the inkpot, the wall clock, etc. Only the silver cutlery that the ban used was given to the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Zagreb at the beginning of the 20th century. The building was called "Banski stan" (*Ban's apartment*), (Plan, 1904) or „Banska palača“ (Ban's palace). (J. Kempf, 1927). It was completely destroyed during World War II.



Topusko

15



SOFIJA'S BATH

In the new „Spiegelbad“ building, one room had a bathtub for the ban and his wife Sofija. This „Extra Bad“ bath was at the end of the hall, near the kitchen and dining room, and it had a separate entrance right across the main entrance in the Ban's palace, so that it could be reached in the shortest possible way from the room.

The tub was made from concrete, countersunk into the floor, with concrete steps all paved in white ceramic tiles. It also had a nicely shaped brass reinforcement bars.

It survived the destructions of World War II, and remained intact in its whiteness for years, shining through a space overgrown with weed. In 1980 it was filled with fine sand in order to protect it from deterioration and possible damaging, and the brass bars were taken down and stored in the archives of the spa, but it disappeared during the Serbian aggression on Croatia.

Ban Jelačić and his wife Sofija came to Topusko in June and July 1853. To celebrate the end of her treatment, her recovery and leaving Topusko, the officers of the 1st Banijska regiment and the Slunj regiment prepared a celebration in her honor. The ball was held on July 16, 1853, in a richly decorated setting between Nikolino brdo (Nikola's hill) and the Clear Baths.

Today, this celebration is known as *Sofija's Ball*.



Topusko

16



VILLA MIRNA

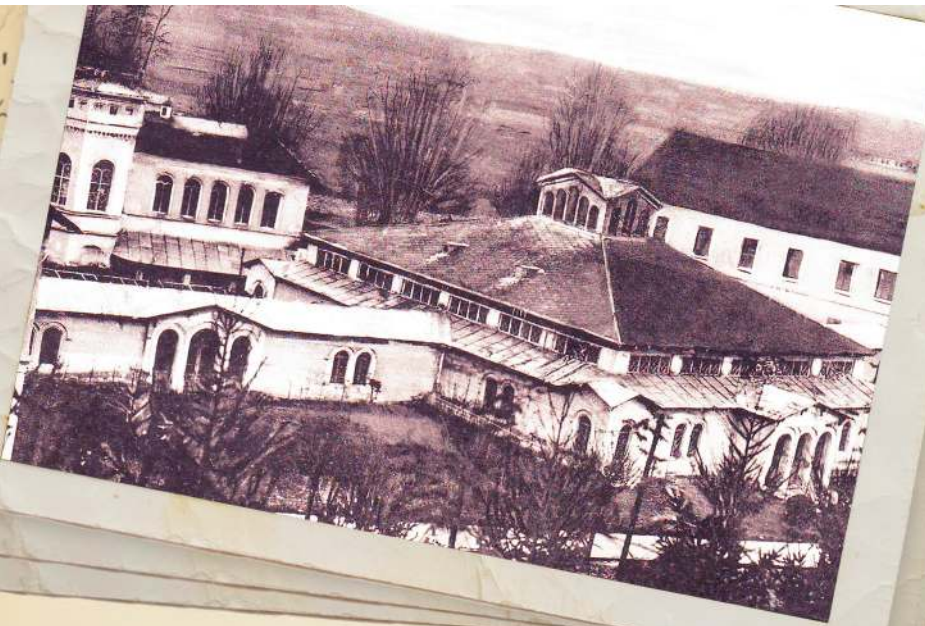
The original building was made as a vacation house by count Janko Drašković around 1830, thus continuing the tradition of the Drašković family – spending time in Topusko. He also built a big, bricked barn in the yard.

The apartment building was a single-story house with basement. From the street, you would enter the hallway, and the basement entrance was from the yard, across the open porch with arches. There was a spacious kitchen, two restrooms, a bathroom and a pantry. On a detailed urbanistic plan from 1841, which was verified by J. Jelačić himself, a new allocation of the Drašković house and barn was defined.

In the year 1842, Josip Jelačić bought the apartment building and the barn from the Drašković family, and the ownership crossed over to Command of the Military krajina, becoming a business apartment. He first furnished the house to meet his own needs, and later also the apartment for the chief physician of the Topusko Spa. In 1847-1848 he used the funds of the Vienna Court War Council (Hofkriegsrat) and turned the barns into a housing space, so that senior officers can stay there for free. It has been so for a hundred and fifty years. While some repair works were done on the house and barns, the original form wasn't touched until the year 1910.

With the reconstruction in 1910, an additional space was added to the front part of the house, and the facade was redesigned. Only the garden and a part of the basement kept its original form. After this reconstruction, it became one of the most beautiful buildings in Topusko and therefore a protected cultural monument. The author of this reconstruction was architect Dionis Sunko. The reconstructed barns continued to be used as accommodation space, only now for civilians, not military personnel. They were destroyed during the Second World War.

In time, additional rooms were built in the attic, and the restaurant kept its well-known traditional quality until it was destroyed during the War of Independence.



Topusko

17



MUD BATHS OR PEAT BATHS

They were named after a thermal mud, i.e. peat which was used for treatments.

People who were not so well-off used to come here and undergo treatments in an open spring and in improvised bathing cabins.

After the year 1818, the spring was covered with roof, and a small indoor pool was built, with a buffet to accommodate the “common people”.

The Mud baths only begun to develop when general Jelačić came to Topusko. He first tore down the old ones, and built the new “People baths” (“Pučke kupke”), he roofed over the spring and built a cooling tank with a tower for lifting up thermal water. He also reconstructed the existing ancillary objects.

Then projects were made for higher category facilities: “Mud baths” for distinguished persons – “Honoratioren Schammbad”, two accommodations buildings for military personnel and civilians, “Offiziers Trakt” and “Ziviltrakt”, the spa restaurant – “Honoratiorenrestauration” and a luxurious building with a beauty- and therapy-salon – “Cursaales”. Of all of these projects, only the therapy-salon wasn't built.

During Jelačić's time, a modern building of the Mud baths, with a big swimming pool and eighteen separate cabins with tubs was built. Special attention was given to decorative elements and the equipment in all the facilities. These baths and the cooling tower are the only objects left after the destructions during the War of Independence.



Topusko

18



THE SPA RESTAURANT (GROSSE HONORATIORENRESTAURATION)

It was the last in a string of projects in Jelačić's program, and was carried out following his exact concept. Situated right across the main entrance into the Mud baths, its longer side parallel to the street, it had a slanted, double-eaved tile-covered roof, finishing with a rich, distinctive crest in the center of the building, that had a small, slightly elevated decorative triangle. Next to the street there was a roofed terrace with a colonnade of profiled metal columns and a wrought-iron fence. There were ancillary objects in the yard and an ice-house dug in the slope of Nikola's Hill. Near the main hall there were smaller salons and a room for dancing, while in the back, there was a kitchen with a subsidiary entrance from the back yard.

The form and function of the building remained unchanged until 1910, when the facade was partially reconstructed in order to get an even more representative appearance. A new entrance was made in the front, in the centre, with three openings that finish in semi-circle arches, and above the roof crest a parapet made of profiled clay columns was made. This hid the view of the roof, and above the main entrance and the balustrade, came a decorative roof triangle. The building remained in function as the spa restaurant.

In this building, the 1st session of the Croatian Parliament was held on May 8 and 9, 1944 (3rd ZAVNOH convention). Painters Edo Murtić and Zlatko Prica made a mural on side of the richly furnished hall. They made a picture with a motive of Zagreb in the future. As a tribute to this important event, the building was completely reconstructed and refurbished in 1984, and became a Memorial Home ZAVNOH (The State Antifascist Council of the National Liberation of Croatia).

The main hall was redesigned for conventions and congresses, and the ancillary space became a sort of a museum. The mural was carefully restored by its own authors. Everything was destroyed to the ground during the aggression on Croatia.



Topusko

19



THE STONE MEMORIAL

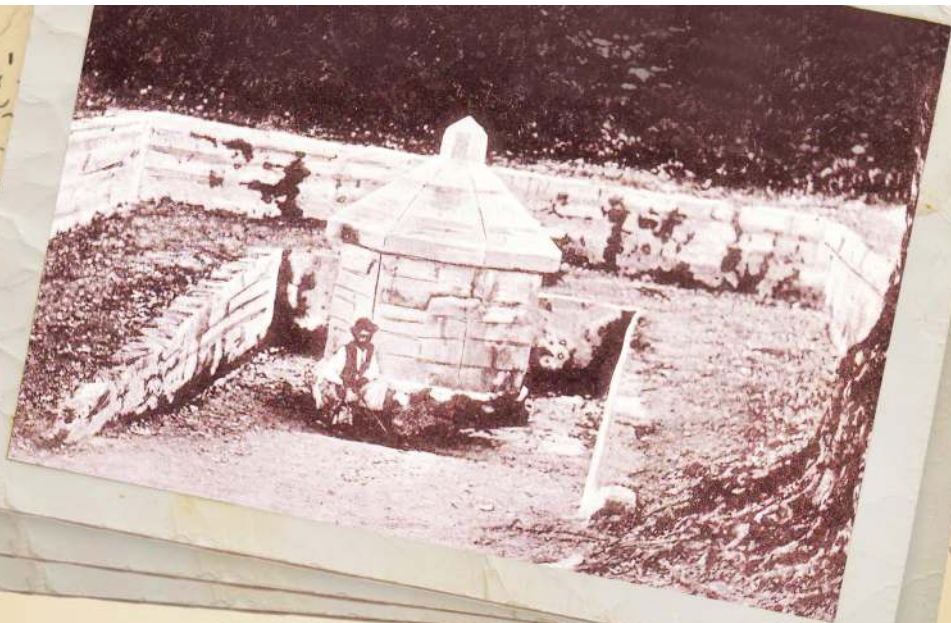
This is another memorial in Topusko that guards the name of Josip Jelačić. Hewn in solid rock by an unknown frontiersman, stands the name of Josip Jelačić.

On the slope of Babić hill, next to the road leading to the catholic cemetery, there is a unique "Stone memorial" – a silent witness to the history of Topusko – with names, initials, dates and other "drawings" engraved in solid rock. These nicely formed and hewn "graffiti in stone" deserve to be seen, studied and preserved.

Each inscription is a life story, a message... together they are a precious document of a time passed. This is a story we can read by reconstructing the historical facts we know and the dates that were carved in stone.

This epigraph tells us that it was made prior to 1806 and the arrival of the frontiersmen, that it survived the French "Illyria" and the return to the Military Border. In 1818 emperor Francis I. and empress Caroline opened the memorial book of Topusko by putting their signature, and the signatures of the distinguished entourage, into it, and here the memorial of the soldiers protecting the peace and carving in stone behind the sentry box their names, thoughts and messages was created.

On this anonymous monument, in a bay leaves frame, stands, carved in stone, the name of the then commander of the 1st Banska regiment, Nestor, which proves that he was considered the "true father of Topusko" even then. And as we read the story, we come to Jelačić, who also earned his place on this stone. The famous, characteristic initials of the beloved commander and ban, Josip Jelačić – J.J. – are carved into a heart of stone. Later, some vandals tried to erase his name from the carved heart, but the stone was stronger...



Velika Vranovina

20



THE JELAČIĆ SPRING

The spring can be found in the village Velika Vranovina, just outside Topusko. Tradition says that this spring was often visited by general Josip Jelačić. He commanded that the spring and the surroundings be landscaped, so as an expression of gratitude, people called the spring *Jelačić's spring*.

The spring is on an octagonal base, enclosed by a meter-high wall made of stone slabs, and the vertical corners had stone semi-columns, all covered with a stone slab. Around the spring is a space with its three sides decorated in stone subwall, above which is another sub-wall with stone benches and tables where people can sit down and rest. The spring could be reached on foot, riding a horse or on wagons from Topusko down the road to Vranovina.

Because of its drinkable cold water, it was a popular excursion site for years. Today, Jelačić's spring is again ready to welcome the visitors, as it has been linked to the spa promenade.

ACCOMMODATIONS, RESTAURANTS, HOSPITALITY ESTABLISHMENTS, AND OTHER TOURIST CONTENT FEATURED ON THE THEME ROUTE

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Coffee bar „Kolovrat“

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tel: +385 44 772 121

Coffee bar „Arka“

Dužica 4, Dužica, 44272 Lekenik
mob: +385 91 508 6747

Coffee bar „Egos“

Zagrebačka 11, Žažina, 44272 Lekenik

Coffee bar „Centar“

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Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana 14, 44250 Petrinja
tel: +385 44 816 198

Pizzeria „Klobuk“

Trg Stjepana Radića 16a, 44250 Petrinja
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Coffee bar „Shpitza“

Trg hrvatskih branitelja bb, 44250 Petrinja

Coffee bar „Croatica“

Trg hrvatskih branitelja 2, 44250 Petrinja

Slot machine club „Admiral“

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The City Pub

Nazorova 14, 44250 Petrinja

Bistro Bjekići MG

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mob: +385 98 902 6364
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Soda shop „Edi“

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Kralja Tomislava 14, 44400 Glina

Coffee bar „As“

Žrtava domovinskog rata 19, 44400 Glina

Coffee bar „As-Kim“

S. i A. Radića 23, 44400 Glina

Coffee bar „Spitza“

S. i A. Radića 27, 44400 Glina

Coffee bar „H2O“

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Coffee bar „Chivas“

Frankopanska 8, 44400 Glina

Coffee bar „Speed“

Hrvatska ulica 22, 44400 Glina

Bistro „Ara“

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S. i A. Radića 19, 44400 Glina

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S. i A. Radića 27, 44400 Glina

Hospitality trade „Plavi 9“

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Coffee bar „Matrix“

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Coffee bar „Opatovina“

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OTHER TOURIST CONTENT

Žažina

- **Garden Centre “Kaktusi – Bešlić”** - the 60-year family tradition of growing cactuses made this into the largest collection in Croatia; a permanent exhibition of cactuses and succulents “Čudesni svijet biljaka” (Wondrous World of Plants).

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Letovanić

- **Ethno Collection Božidar Škofač**

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tel: +385 44 751 155, mob: +385 91 528 7510

- **Family run farm Monika Brodarić** – recreational horse riding

Information: Letovanić 185B, 44271 Letovanić
mob: +385 91 553 2790

- **Family run farm Đurđica Kasajić** – horse riding, carriage rides, boat rides, bicycle rental

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mob: +385 91 252 5393

- **Family run farm Mario Kolić**

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Hrastovica

- **Mountain lodge at Hrastovačka gora** – recreational mountain hiking on marked mountain trails through a woodland environment of tame chestnuts, to the highest peak of Cepeliš at the altitude of 415 metres.

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e-mail: info@hpd-zrin.hr
www.hpd-zrin.hr

Petrinja

- **Capriccia Centre** – adrenalin programmes (paintball, archery, splatmaster, berggo-cart...)

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- **Gallery of modern art "Krsto Hegedušić"** – memorial gallery and exhibition space, established in 1987 as a memorial to Krsto Hegedušić, painter, graphic artist, and art educator born in Petrinja. The holdings of the Gallery include highly-valuable art pieces by renowned Croatian artists.

Information: Strossmayerovo šetalište 1, 44250 Petrinja
tel: +385 44 814 299, mob: +385 98 262 107
e-mail: gkh@hd-petrinja.hr

- **Gallery of the formally educated painter Davor Žilić** – a family exhibition and retail gallery of paintings, sculptures, handicrafts, and souvenirs; exclusive representative of the academic painter Davor Žilić.

Information: Srnakova 22, 44250 Petrinja
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- **Secondary occupation Stanešić** – a workshop featuring traditional crafts from Petrinja.

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- **Pottery Val**

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- **Family run farm Alen Tišinić** – this family run business is a real attraction located at the village of Taborište near Petrinja that offers school in nature programmes, a fun park, a small zoo, accommodations in a renovated river ship, and traditional food grown at the farm.

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Glina

- **„Dangube“ d.o.o.** - in the City of Glina, settlement Brestik and hunting grounds Popov gaj, they offer hunting tourism services.

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