



Mošćenička Draga

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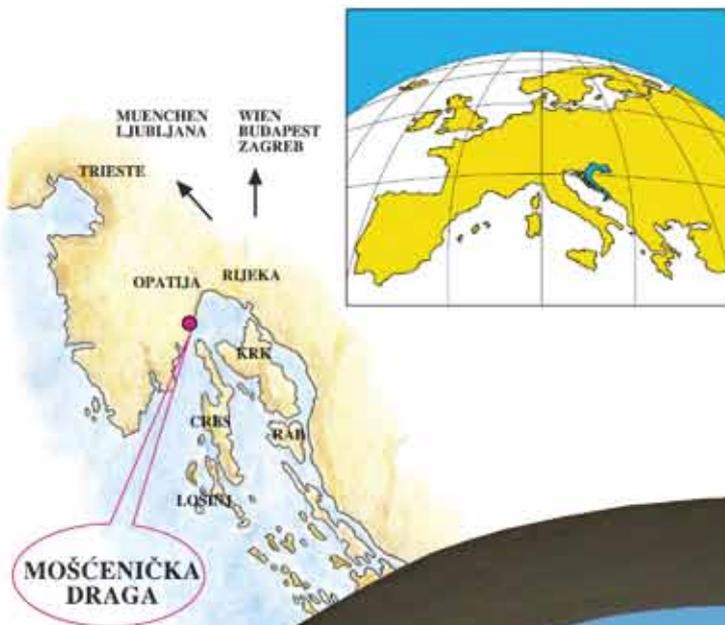
Welcome

*'You do not know my white Sipar and my pebbles
Where as a small child
I chased dreams, caught butterflies,
Looked for seashells among the pebbles
Wondered at the wind, the wave, and the sea,
And waited for the moment to climb Učka Mountain
To see elves and fairies
On winged horses
Chasing rays of sun.*

*You do not know Sipar and the pebbles,
My little empire*

Me, an old man, may not go there anymore'.

*By Rikard Katalinić Jeretov,
'Barba Rike' ('Uncle Rike'), 1940*



Welcome



If you take one scattered stone pebble from our splendid beach, you should know that it is not just a pebble; you have taken with you a 'live' souvenir of our microcosm. **The pearl of the Bay of Kvarner** at the foot of Učka Mountain belongs to no other place than **Mošćenička Draga**, more precisely the Community of Mošćenička Draga, the area which has been carved in high cliffs in the eastern part of the noble **Istria**.

Somewhat 'isolated from the world', for many years M. Draga has been luring tourists, inquisitive people, weekenders, walkers, sportsmen, artists and nature lovers. It steals the hearts of all its visitors and chance travellers with its authentic Mediterranean architecture, the tradition of Primorje (the North coast of Croatia), fishing, and its history. If you are a history lover, then you must visit **Mošćenice** and **Brseč**, two medieval towns situated on high cliffs, Mošćenice at the altitude of 178 m (753 steps), and Brseč at the altitude of 157 m above the bay of Kvarner.

The Community of Mošćenička Draga stretches from **Cesara cove** to **Stupova cove** situated at the foot of the village of **Zagorje (Stepča)**. There are 7 pebbled beaches and numerous

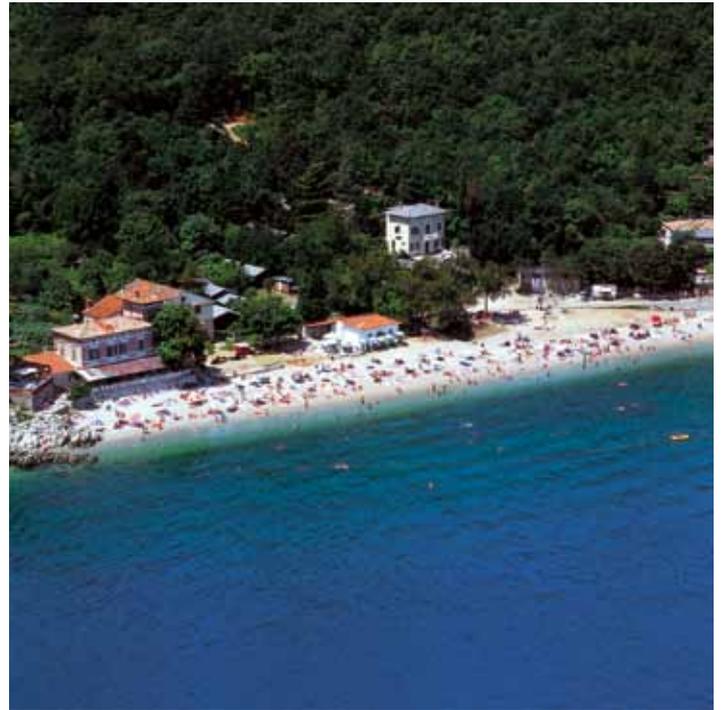
paths through the woods and through the mountains. The land is extremely hilly and it stretches on the area of 63 square kilometers, covering the surface of 4,396 hectares (10,990 acres). Its territory goes deeply into **Učka Nature Park**. The population barely exceeds the number 1,700.

The promenade along the seacoast (*lungo mare*) towards **Sv. Ivan Beach (St. John Beach)** makes you feel very romantic, and all along the way you can hear the murmur of the sea and smell the scent of Mediterranean herbs. The high light of that promenade is **Villa Zagreb (ex. Villa Ossoinak)**, and there are also a number of charming villas along the way to St. Ivan Beach, which are equally beautiful.

The old town of Mošćenička Draga with its clustered houses and its ravines stretches steeply all the way to the sea. In its foundation there is a beautiful small port with fishing boats, small boats, and in summer there is a mini-marina for the tourists' vessels. Mošćenička Draga developed from a little harbour serving the town of Mošćenice, and recorded in the documents about the settlement '*in the port near Sv. Marina (St. Marina)*', which is also the church in the middle of the village.



Beaches



When someone mentions Mošćenička Draga, you will certainly visualise the beach. These are the most beautiful pebbles in the whole Bay of Kvarner, and perhaps in the whole Adriatic Sea. The locals call it **Sipar**, and it is a few hundred meters long. The beach of Mošćenička Draga was gradually formed from the sand coming from the brook of Mošćenička Draga, the spring of which is on the slopes of Učka Mountain, and its pebbles were shaped by sea waves. It stretches on towards St. Ivan, and its particularly beautiful part is the one hidden among the cliffs, below Villa Zagreb. Naturists will find their place under the sun on the beach of **Senjavac**, which is situated after **Sv. Ivan Beach (St. John'**

Beach). Above that beach, high up on a cliff there is 'the red land' – the spot from which generations of young people from Mošćenice and Mošćenička Draga jump into the sea.

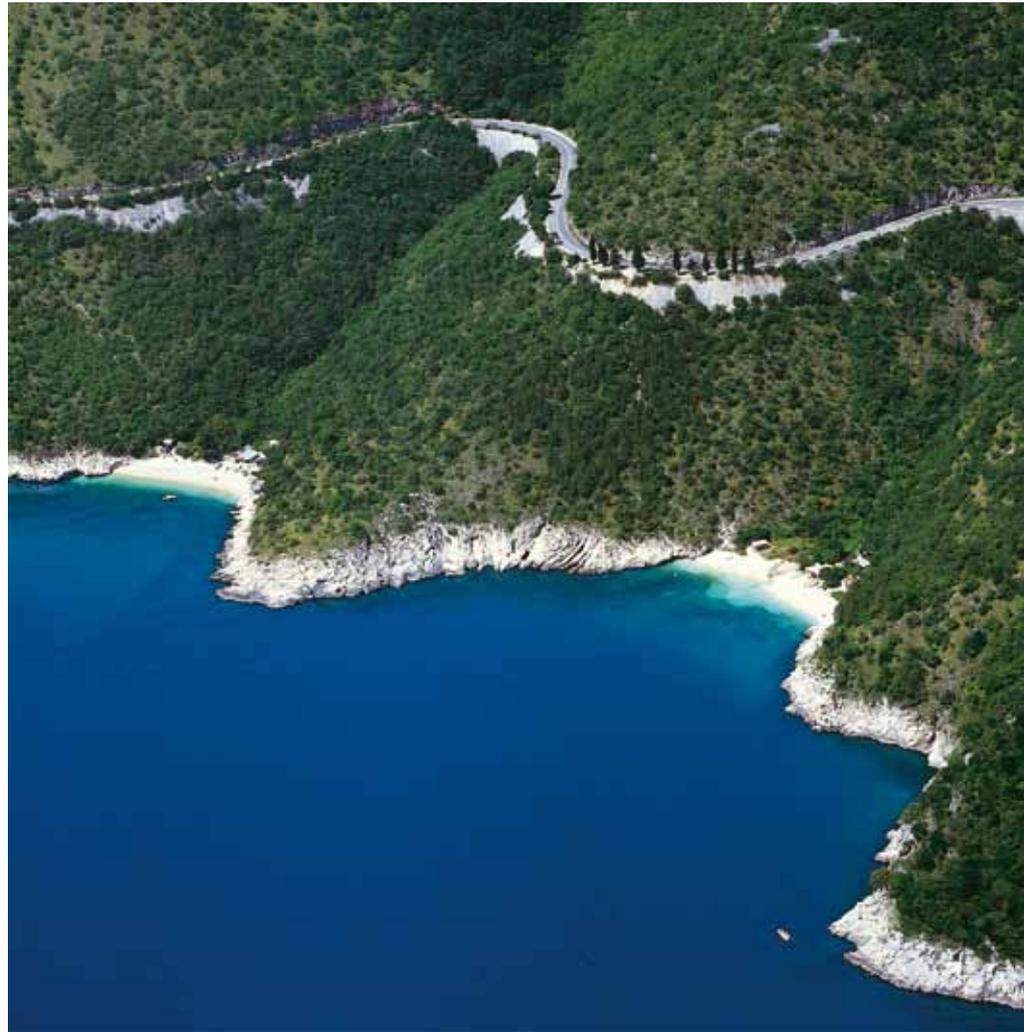


Beaches

We suggest taking a boat from Draga in order to enjoy the rocky coastal scenery and the vegetation while sailing along the coast. You can anchor your boat in the little port of **Kraj** (just 2 kilometers from M. Draga) and walk up to the village.

Between Mošćenička Draga and Brseč there are two rather bigger **beaches, Uboka and Jelenšćica**. You can get there by boat or on foot if you take one of the paths leading there from the main road Rijeka – Pula. If you go by boat in the direction of **Pod Brseč**, towards Plomin, you will arrive at **Stupova beach**. The beach is situated under **Zagorje**. You can also get there by taking a narrow path from the village called **Velo selo**.

By car or on foot, through the valley of Brseč, past the graveyard, you will get down to the **beaches of Klančac and Riva**. Relax on the beach and enjoy the blue of the sea. If you have a small boat, you can go along the coast to visit and explore the coast of Brseč. You can admire the unique outlines of the coast of Kraš, its singularly shaped cliffs coming out steeply from the sea, scarce Mediterranean vegetation and



an occasional olive or fig tree. You can hide in the shade of small sandy coves. On the neighbouring beaches there are old stone fishermen houses which are used to store boats equipment.

In the evening you can try to catch fish, squid or at least a bag of mussels, put them on a grill, or stew them with sea water, pour yourself a glass of wine, and you will realize that you have found a piece of Mediterranean heaven.



Accommodation



HOTELS

Hotels Marina and Mediteran are located in the centre of town and are part of the hotel chain **Liburnia Riviera Hotels** based in **Opatija**.

Hotel Mediteran is a good example of Mediterranean style building with typical balconies, vaults and terraces where you can hear each stroke of the oars, the murmur of the fishermen's voices, smell the scent of pine trees and the sea. The hotel has 69 rooms, most of which have a balcony, all of them featuring telephone and satellite TV. On the ground floor there is a TV parlour, the aperitif bar and an air-conditioned restaurant. We suggest booking a room with a balcony 'on the top floor of Hotel Mediteran', you can take the lift to get there, from where you can see the lights of fishing boats on



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the open sea catching fish which will be served to you the following day.

Hotel Marina was named after the Church of St. Marina in Mošćenička Draga, the patroness of the town. It is a 4 star hotel with 178 rooms: 4 apartments with balcony and sea view, 8 family rooms with balcony, 120 double bed rooms also with balcony (partly sea side, partly hill side). All rooms have satellite TV, mini bar, telephone, air-condition, room

safe. Internet connection is in the lobby. The hotel features a panoramic lift, an air-conditioned restaurant and a big terrace in the hotel atrium where you can enjoy various cultural events. In addition, there is a swimming pool with heated sea water for both hotels and a smaller outdoor swimming pool for children, **Five Elements Wellnes & Spa** - spa relax zone (Finnish sauna, Turkish bath, infrared sauna, whirlpool for 4 people, massage baths and relaxation area),

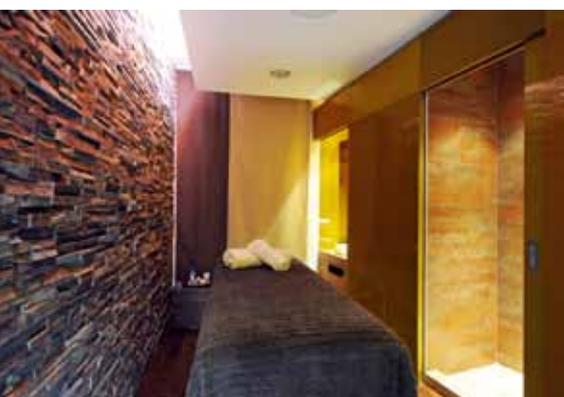


Accommodation



fitness, beauty and massage center, two tennis courts with lights, big convention hall with 220 seats, aperitif bar, pizza restaurant and à la carte restaurant, two TV parlours, and a big car-park for both hotels. Furthermore, the hotel also features a pharmacy, a bank, a GP medical centre, and a hairdresser.

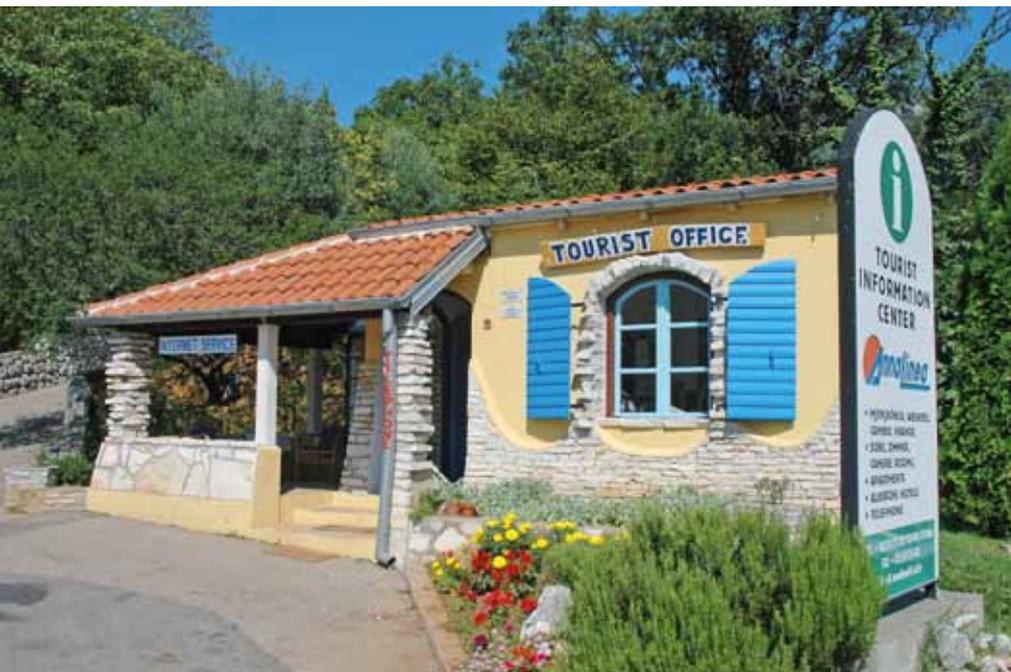
Hotel Marina is surrounded by green pine trees and other Mediterranean plants, and in front of it there is a beautiful park and a playground for children.



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Accommodation



of one-day or two-day trips throughout the summer. We suggest boat trips to the islands of **Krk and Cres**, where you can enjoy the real 'pirate' **Fish picnics** on isolated beaches. Besides the boat trips to the islands, there are also trips

to places along the coastline, so you should treat yourself a slow ride along the **Opatija Riviera**.

In addition to boat trips, there are also a large number of coach trips to nearby resorts, or to places further away, some of which are **Venice, Plitvice Lakes, Brijuni islands, Gorski kotar region or in-land of Istria**.



You should come to a tourist agency a day or two in advance and choose a trip that will enrich your holiday either by allowing you to see cultural sights, to explore untouched nature or simply to go on a real Mediterranean party.

TOURIST INFORMATION

You can ask for information about different kinds of accommodation in our information centres and agencies. The main office of the **Tourist Board**, which is located near the bus stop in Mošćenička Draga, is also the site of the branch office of **Liburnia Riviera Hotels**. **Liburnia Agency** can arrange hotel and private accommodation, it is also an exchange office, and organizes various cultural events. **Annaline** agency, located in the town centre, and the **Info Centre** at the crossroads, can also provide similar information about real estate, hotel accommodation, suites, rooms, and villas or about various cultural events and sights. At our reception desks you can be offered a variety





CAMPSITE

Almost at the town centre there is the **Campsite 'Draga'**, which will enable you to enjoy an undisturbed holiday on its green areas under the boughs of hundreds of years old chestnut trees. Pitch your tent or locate your caravan in the untouched nature, with the soft mountain breeze mingling with the pleasant sea air. The camping site is open almost all year round. The immediate vicinity of the town centre and the beach will make your holiday in this camping site extremely relaxing.



Villas



The Villas of Mošćenička Draga are more than a hundred years old. Their architectural style and elegance make them very attractive to tourists. In Contovo Park, right at the seafront, there is **Villa Biser**, and in the vicinity of the park you can see the very elegant **Villa Maria**. Right on the beach, the villa which belongs to the Hotel Mediteran, is named **Slatina**, one of the oldest villas in Mošćenička Draga. Further along the promenade you should take a look at **Villa Gorgay** (on its ground floor there is a GP medical centre and a dentist) and **Villa Rossa**, to the right on the path along the sea next to the monument on the beach. A few steps away you cannot but notice a typical 'sea castle' and you will be impressed by its magnificence. This **Villa** was named after the town of **Zagreb**. Right there 'in the neighbourhood', under the Mediterranean pine trees, there is **Villa Plan**. On the promenade towards Sv. Ivan (St. John) there are **Villa Istria** and **Villa Primorka**, two beautiful mansions constructed with the pebbles and in Sv. Ivan two other beautiful villas **Rubin** and **Obala**.

It must also be pointed out that there is a very special **Villa Amelia** in the centre of Mošćenička Draga. Across the street from Villa Amelia you can see other **Villa Slatina**. All of these 'treasures' were born at the end of the 19th and at the beginning of the 20th century.

You should see those elegant mansions, take a picture in front of their doors and simply feel the breath of the past. There are also some more modern, also very beautiful villas built in the Mediterranean architectural style, with swimming pools, sport facilities and, of course, luxurious rooms and suites.



Restaurants

Kvarner's, or Draga's scampi – is a gastronomical delicacy of this region. The clean sandy sea bottom in the bay is the ideal habitat for scampi and crabs, that can be found on almost every fish restaurant menu and always fresh. They are prepared in different ways, try one of them, and believe us, you will try the other ways as well.



Restaurants



in Mošćenička Draga you should pop in to **Restaurant Sidro**, which has been attracting a large number of visitors to Mošćenička Draga for dozens of years with its meat and fish specialities, its special grill delicacy. At the crossroads of the road to Mošćenice and Pula there is **Snack Bar Mrvica**, where you can try grilled meat, steakes and other meat specialities, surrounded by nature, under the boughs of chestnut trees. You can order fresh meat and fish delicacy on the terraces of the **Restaurants of Hotel Marina and Hotel Mediteran**, and a delicious pizza in the pizza restaurant of Hotel Marina. You can also try pizza in **Pizzeria Gimi** on the first beach, or **Pizzeria Val** on the beach of Sv Ivan. In Mošćenice is **Restaurant Perun** with an impressive terrace and a view on Kvarner Bay. It offers a wide range of fish and meat specialities, especially Istrian ones. In Sv. Jelena (St. Helen), in the core of nature, on the terrace of **Konoba Slamnjaki**, you can try regional specialities of Istria and Kvarner. When you are in Brseč, do not forget to visit **Konoba Batelan** 'embedded' in the Istrian stone, where you can eat a lot of first class Istrian ham and cheese, drink home-made wine or enjoy seafood.

Enjoy the gastronomic delights offered in our restaurants. Almost all the Mediterranean dishes are prepared with olive oil, which is very healthy. You should try asparagus growing wild in spring, prepared in many different ways, and in autumn there are excellent chestnut delicacies.

If you would like to try high quality fish and fresh scampi from the Bay of Kvarner we suggest you to visit **Restaurant Johnson** on the road to Mošćenice, near the main crossroads of Mošćenička Draga. In **Konoba na Rivi kod Benita** you should try fish, drink wine and enjoy the 'sound' of the sea with small boats swaying silently in the port of Mošćenička Draga. On the promenade along the sea **Restaurant Plaža** is 'touched' by sea waves, and you can try delicious meat and fish specialities there. **Restaurant Dora** with its romantic terrace attracts a large number of walkers. You can spend an unforgettable Mediterranean night there under the light of lanterns drinking wine and eating fish. **Buffet Sportsko** is well-known for its delicious grilled dishes, and the hospitable host will offer you some fish specialities. It is located in the vicinity of a football pitch and a bowling court. Close to Sportsko you can visit **Restaurant Nostromo** and try some delicious fish and crawfish. At the crossroads

Every day you should try something different and with such a large variety of dishes on the menus you will certainly find enough delicious dishes to meet your gastronomic requirements. Bon Appetite!



Sport and recreation

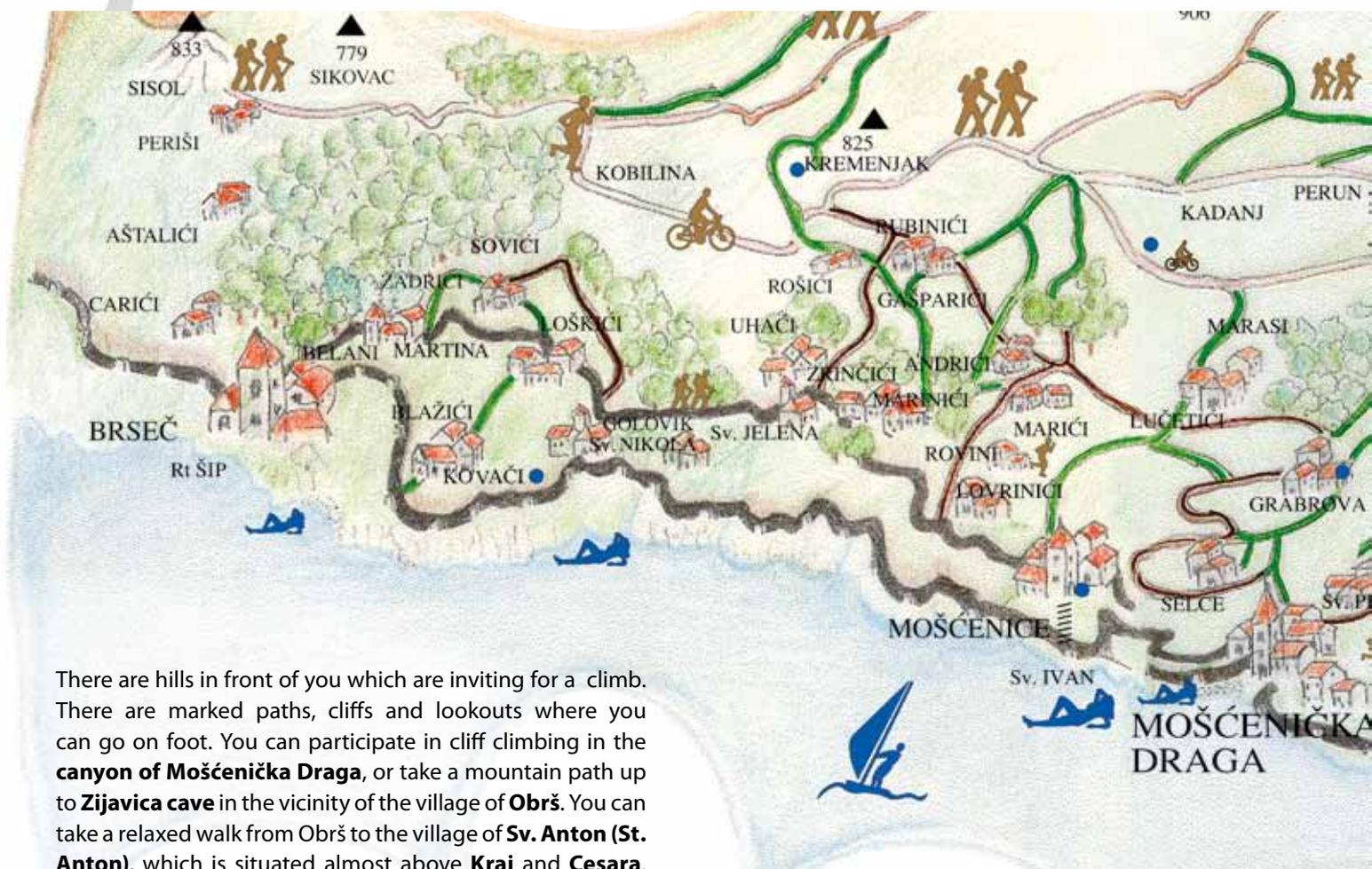
Apart from swimming and morning jogging for recreation, you can use sports facilities and services. In Mošćenička Draga visit the football pitch of **NK Mošćenička Draga** football club, which was founded as early as 1924, and it is part of **the Sports Society of Mošćenička Draga**. The Sports Society does not only offer football, but also a variety of other sports, primarily **Mediterranean bowling** on the nearby bowling court ('jog'), where you can see real competitions. The football pitch of NK Draga is also used for **archery**. You can play **tennis** on two tennis courts at the hotel Marina. Due to the landward breeze which blows gently every afternoon in summer, European and world sailing championships in different categories took place here. You can use the very same breeze to take your windsurf far to the open sea.

When you are already at sea, you can play **water polo** on the beach, rent a **kayak**, a **canoe** or just a **pedal boat** from the **Rent-a-Boat Centre**. You can rent a small boat and start searching for isolated beaches, or try **fishing**. You will see powerful speedboats dragging real parachutes, you can ride them or take off above the Bay of Kvarner and enjoy the view of the region. If you like speeding, on the other hand,



you can rent universally popular **jet skies** and set off to the adventures of wave riding and speed record breaking. However, you should keep far away from the beach in order to avoid hurting swimmers. The underwater area around Mošćenička Draga, especially the area towards Brseč, reveals the diversity of submarine landscape containing a large number of ravines and caves. The **Dive Centar Marine Sport**, located on the main beach in Mošćenička Draga, can help you safely to enjoy the deep sea. Apart from this centre, transport of divers is also done by **DNB**, that is **Diving Boats Orka, Poseidon and Kon-tiki**. While you are diving, your eyes can enjoy the variety of colours, corals, different kinds of fish, weird see grass, reefs. Light up this beauty, make it eternal with your camera and take it home with you as the most beautiful souvenir.





There are hills in front of you which are inviting for a climb. There are marked paths, cliffs and lookouts where you can go on foot. You can participate in cliff climbing in the **canyon of Mošćenička Draga**, or take a mountain path up to **Zijavica cave** in the vicinity of the village of **Obrš**. You can take a relaxed walk from Obrš to the village of **Sv. Anton (St. Anton)**, which is situated almost above **Kraj** and **Cesara**. More persistent walkers can go hiking towards the peaks: **Učka (1396 m)**, **Sisol (835 m)**, **Kremenjak (827 m)**, **Perun (881m)**, **Bodaj (907 m)**, **Maj (969 m)**, or you can simply take a walk through the woods along one of the numerous paths. **Mountain bikers**, of course, can take any direction, so keep your muscles tight if you intend to cross all the way on two wheels. If you like flying, you can 'ride' a **hang glider** or jump off with a **parachute** from the highest peaks.

From Mošćenice you can go in several directions, but before you start we will reveal to you the directions you can take:

Mošćenice – Kalac / Mošćenice – Grabrova / Mošćenice – Selce / Mošćenice - St. Jelena – Brseč.

From **Sv. Jelena (St. Helen)**, **Golovik** and **Martina** you can take one more look at Brseč down below, that slope reaching down to the sea, and you will see glades and meadows in front of the 'town' all the way to the cliff where the little **Church of St. Magdalene** stands out proudly. From **Brseč** you can go further on to the neighbouring **Zagorje**, you can climb up to **Krsonjin** and visit the whole Zagorje, which is a protected ethno-zone. If you want to go climbing the tall Sisol hill you can either take the mountain path from Brseč, a road through the woods from Zagorje or a

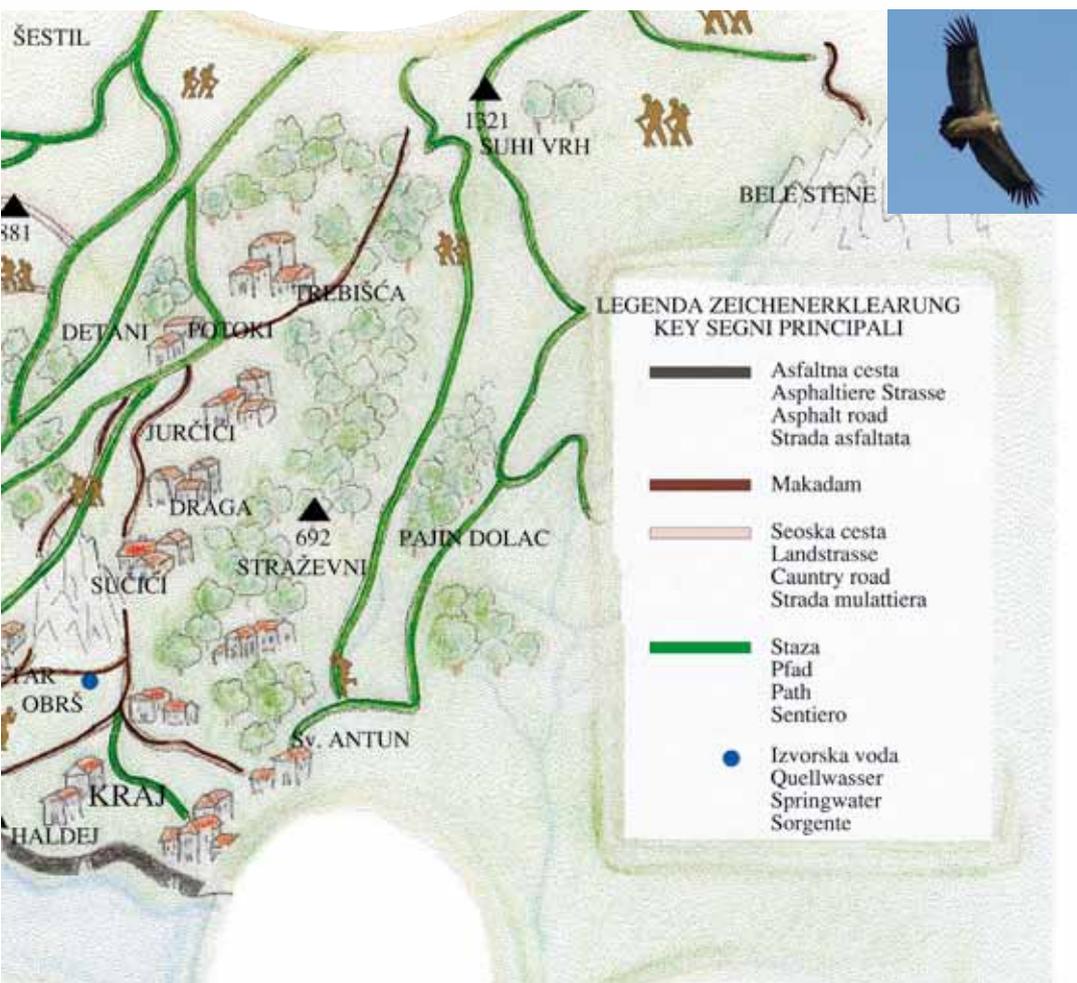
road through the woods from Sv. Jelena (St. Helen). Take a look around you and enjoy all the beauty of **Učka Nature Park**.

UČKA NATURE PARK

The link between the sea and mountain, the Mediterranean and its hinterland, is the basic characteristic of Učka mountain and due to its variety and sorts that live here, it is one of the major biological spots of the European continent. Učka is a unique place on this earth where you can see the steno-endemic BELL-FLOWER (*Campanula tommasiniana*) and one of the last European localities where one can see the



recreation



impressive, among other birds, the Bjeloglavi Sup (Griffon vulture – *Gyp fulvus*) or Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*).

Among other natural treasures and attractions are original buildings and traditional agriculture. The specific esthetics of Učka scenery came into being by the interweaving of traditional skills first and foremost linked to agriculture, livestock farming and forestry exploitation. With his work and long-lasting management of resources, man has formed original cultivated landscapes characterized by numerous dry stone walls, shepherds' shelters and other elements of the historical architectural legacy that today form an authentic cultural-historical inheritance. Many findings are proofs of a long history of human activity in this area

and some date as long as 12 thousand years before Christ (Pupičina cave).

At the peak **Vojak** there is a lookout in the shape of a tower (inside of which there is an impressive exhibition on the past of Učka) from where a magnificent view of Istria, Kvarner, the islands, Gorski kotar, Velebit and the Alps stretches out. In its direct vicinity there is an runway for freeflying.

The lovers of free climbing and alpinism undoubtedly shouldn't miss paying a visit to the spectacular karstic passage **Vela Draga**, a geomorphological monument to nature.



- RANGE:** Učka mountain massif and adjacent part of Čičarija plateau
- PARK AREA:** 160 km²
- HIGHEST PEAKS:** Vojak 1401 meters, Planik 1272 meters
- ESTABLISHING ACT:** Law on Declaring Učka Nature Park, April 1999
- COUNTIES:** Istarska and Primorsko-goranska County
- TOWNS:** Opatija
- MUNICIPALITIES:** Kršan, Lanišće, Lovran, Lupoglav, Matulji, Mošćenička Draga

Events



In summer there are various kinds of entertainment in Mošćenička Draga and surroundings. **Fishermen's Nights** have been traditionally organized for years, and one of the most significant ones is the party organized on St. Marina's Day (St. Marina is the patroness of M. Draga), which is called **Marinina (the Day of St. Marina – the Day of Mošćenička Draga)**. Popular bands play, various games based on local customs are organized, and the final is reserved for marvellous fireworks. Apart from the traditional parties on the seafront, you can also take part in local parties, which are organized all over the community. **Various music, painting, poetry, and musical happenings** take place at the end of the beach, in the *Contovo* park, Mošćenice and Brseč. If you walk across the centre of the town you will often hear **klape of Primorje**, vocal groups singing authentic national songs of Istria, Dalmatia and Kvarner under '*mulberry trees*' near the little port. We would also suggest visiting **exhibitions** culturally related to the past, tradition

and tourism in this area. At the end of August you can visit the international **Brseč Art painting exhibitions**. In the **Church of St. Andrew in Mošćenice** take place classical music concerts and also **Christmas and Easter Concerts**.

Every year at the beginning of January the Carnival opening ceremony begins by raising **the Carnival Flag**, which is a sign that the Carnival has started in the whole area of the Community of Mošćenička Draga. The peak of the carnival is the traditional ceremony of burning down the carnival mascot at the edge of the pier in the centre of Mošćenička Draga. There is a high 'rocket' and **Gobo, our Carnival mascot**, enters it every year, as we 'reach the verdict' that he should *fly to the Moon*. It all takes place on the last day of Carnival, **Ash Wednesday**, and we also call it the '**Carnival Wednesday**', which is the day of fasting, so we recommend white cod-fish spread, or stewed cod-fish, which can be found in almost all the restaurants, and we also recommend the restaurant in **Hotel Marina** for the **last carnival dance**.



Culture and history



Trebišća, a village stolen from the sun, in eternal shade, conceals its fairy tale spirit that it has preserved from the past. When Old Slavs (Croats) first came to this area (7th and 8th century), they found the possibility of survival in this idyllic village at the foot of **Perun hill**, named after **Perun**, the **highest Slavic god of the pantheon, the god of thunder and lightning**. What Olympus is to Greeks, this is Perun to Croats and Slavs. The **Iris**, a Croatian national flower (the Croatian name for it is '*perunika*'), is related to Perun, and it had a special role in the cult of the god Perun. You can find it in April and May growing wild and in gardens along the whole canyon. In the vicinity of the village there is a well which creates a brook going through the Canyon of Mošćenička Draga and further towards its mouth on the beach of Mošćenička Draga. We suggest starting your trip in the morning from Mošćenička Draga, across **Sv. Petar (St. Peter)** and along the road to **Potoki**, and then along the path to Trebišća. You will enjoy the nature, delightful woodland smells, pleasant shade and sounds of the brook. When you enter the village, you will see authentic Istrian



stone houses, a little bridge across the brook, a stable, a historical blacksmith's workshop, and a mill. Trebišća has been registered as an archaeological heritage, and is part of the territory of **Učka Nature Park**.

There are five paths that can take you to Trebišća:

1. **M. Draga – St. Peter (church) – Lovrečići – Donji Laz – Vojvodići – Kuk – Družak Kuk (underneath is Družka peč) – Makići – Jučići – Trebišća**
2. **M. Draga – St. Peter (Gomnina) – Potoki (Detani) – Trebišća**
3. **Mošćenice – pod Matići – Malinski track – Trebišća**
4. **Mošćenice – Grabrova – Trebišća**
5. **Obrš – Sučići – Družak Kuk – Makići – Jučići – Trebišća**

A part of the very beginnings of this area's culture is also the little **church of St. Peter** situated in the same village. Next to the church are visible the remains of an **abbey**, as well as a **stone for blessed water dating from 1573, in Glagolitic script**.

It is its historic **seafaring** that closely connects us with Mošćenička Draga and its surroundings. This area has given birth to many famous captains and worthy seamen, in confirmation of which there are numerous votive paintings in several churches of the Mošćenice and Brseč parish. This coast's most important **votive paintings** are probably to be found in the **Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary** in Kraj. These were given as a sign of gratitude to Our Blessed Lady.

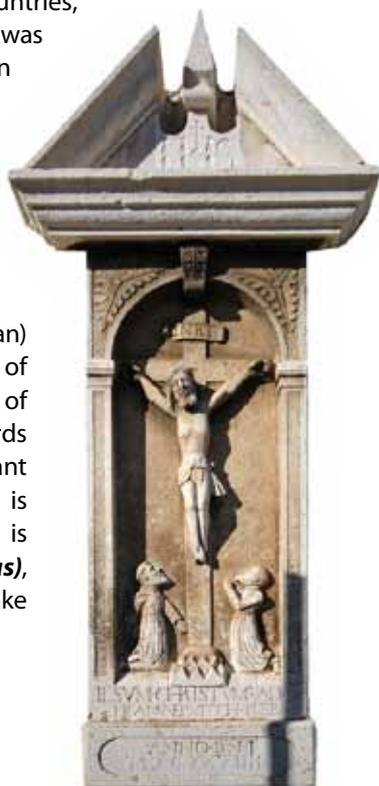




MOŠĆENICE

Mošćenice is a medieval town situated at the foot of Perun hill, above Mošćenička Draga and Sv. Ivan (St. John), where you can enjoy the view of the beautiful outlines of the Bay of Kvarner and its islands.

The town was mentioned when **Slavs** inhabited this area – **Croats** inhabited it in the 7th and 8th century, and before that this area belonged to the **Liburnians**. However, Mošćenice is most frequently related to the first priests saying mass from Glagolitic (Old Croatian) missals, that is to the 16th century, when about forty Glagolitic texts of so called '**Žgombičev zbornik**' were written, one of which is '**Lucidar**'- a kind of medieval encyclopaedia. The holy mass was not said in Latin, as in other European countries, but the Old Slavic language was used instead, both spoken and written, and the alphabet that was called **Glagolitic script** was used until the second half of the 19th century. Mošćenice also had a constitution, ('**Zakon**' which means 'the Law' in Croatian) dating from the first half of the 17th century, some kinds of contracts between feudal lords and serfs. The most important day for Mošćenice (which is celebrated even today), is **Kandelora (Candlemas)**, the day when women take



candles to the Church of St. Andrew for consecration, which was announced to be a **Historical Day of Mošćenice**, a celebration that takes place every year, at the beginning of February. **Mošćenički urbar (The Statute of the town of Mošćenice)**, which is preserved in the National Archive in Zagreb, dates from 1622. A very important family name that is related to the history of Mošćenice is the local **Negovetich de Cumbox** family, who became aristocracy in Mošćenice in 1687. On the town gate there is the coat of arms of **the Habsburg Monarchy** and the year in which the town gate was restored, 1654. As a part of an Austrian province in 1896 Mošćenice became an independent Community. In the 19th century inhabitants of Mošćenice started moving down towards the sea and a new settlement was founded - **Mošćenička Draga**.

When you are in Mošćenice, we strongly suggest you look for the **Ethnographic Museum** at the very entrance to the old town. In the vicinity you should also visit the '**Toš of Mošćenice**' (the **Mill of Mošćenice** - the mill for olives) – the symbol of this Medieval town about three hundred years old.



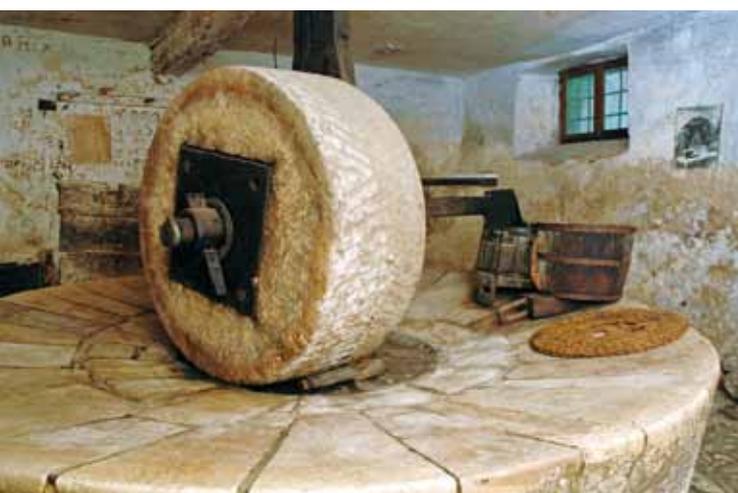
history



'stražnica' ('the guardhouse') – the town lodge, the cistern (in the past it was the main water storage in the town), kaštel – kula (fortress) right in front of the entrance to the town where there is the elementary school now, and on the ground floor there is a gallery and an exhibition hall. In 1968 the historical nucleus of Mošćenice was entered in the **registry of real cultural heritage** according to the Law on Monument Conservation.

The rich religious heritage of Mošćenice is certainly worthy of seeing, so take some time for a thorough visit of **Parish Church of St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Bartholomew's Church, Church of St. Sebastian, Chapel of the Way of the Cross on Calvary hill.**

If it is late and you are tired after a walk in the town, you will need a place to stay. Apart from the **Restaurant Perun** in Mošćenice there are a number of romantic private rooms and suites in the old town and outside it that can be rented. Along the main road to Mošćenička Draga there are very attractive villas with suites, balconies and terraces with the view of the Bay of Kvarner.



Apart from the 'toš' (mill), the **Ethnographic Museum, and Kosnica (Kostnica** – once a graveyard, today a square near the church), there are some other interesting things about Mošćenice that you should see, such as





BRSEČ

Brseč is situated on a 157 m high cliff at the edge of which this town has been standing proudly for centuries overlooking the Bay of Kvarner. We suggest you take a look



at the island of Cres from the west entrance to the town (called **Pregrad**). You can enjoy an unforgettable view from the **cliff near the Church of St. Magdalene**. The old located town of Brseč is a typical medieval town. The first written records of it go back to 1102. The area was inhabited a long time before that, the testimony of which is **Sisol hill**, more precisely the



ancient fortress at its foot, where remnants of a settlement dating from late antiquity have been found. More relevant information about Brseč dates from the first half of the 17th century, when it was under the Venetian government for a very short time, and in the same century it was part of the **County of Pazin**. In the 19th century development of industry was given an impetus by a new road from Pula to Plomin, and further on to Brseč and across Mošćenice all the way to Rijeka. The Medieval spirit of the town, which can be felt in its streets and passages, has been preserved until the present day, although the majority of the houses were built in the 17th century, while the walls, the towers and the church-tower date from early Middle Ages. **Kaštel (the Fortress)**, the old nucleus around which the settlement was founded, also dates from an earlier time. The houses are typical examples of the architecture of Primorje, and some of them still contain inscriptions in Glagolitic alphabet. Like Mošćenice, Brseč also has its own **'toš' (the mill for olives)** dating from the 17th century. In that time **Josip Mavrović**, the parish priest of Brseč, had built the **'Mašunerija'**, a residential building with a large number of rooms, chambers of commerce, and a lodge, and he also had the parish church restored. In the vicinity there is an aristocrats' mansion, a large two-floor house with a fenced terrace and a cistern on the terrace, dating from 1862. **Rajmund Jelušić**, another parish priest of Brseč who founded the **Croatian Reading Club in 1887** and strongly promoted Croatian national awareness, also lived in this house. **Gradska šterna (The Town Cistern)**, is the central square of the old town. **The School of Brseč**, which is situated on that square, was built in 1868.

At the entrance to the old town of Brseč, in the town lodge, there is a *bust* of **Eugen Kumičić** (a Croatian writer of the 19th century), and a little bit further down the old town there is the house in which he was born (on which there is an inscription with his name and a **relief in bronze** demonstrating a scene from his novel 'Začudeni svatovi' *Astonished wedding guests* – made by Ljubo de Karina, a sculptor with an academy degree) which has been turned into a library and a very impressive **Gallery 'Eugen K'**, in which works of art by eminent Croatian and foreign artists are exhibited. **Ljubo De Karina** is an eminent sculptor. We suggest you to visit his **'open-air gallery'** in Zagorje, which is 2 miles from Brseč. His sculptures are displayed to the public in Croatia and abroad (Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Japan).



history



Believe us, you will be impressed by the value of each church and chapel of Brseč. We are listing only the most important religious buildings: **Parish Church of St. George**, **the Church of St. Cross**, **Church of St. Magdalene**, in the cemetery of Brseč there is the **Church of St. Steven**, **the Church of St. Helen** in the village of Sv. Jelena (St. Helen), and also the **Chapel of St. Nicholas** in Golovik.

In Brseč you can find accommodation in private rooms and apartments.

KRAJ

In the end you are in Kraj, the birthplace of **Viktor Car Emin**, a prominent writer. Testimony to early presence of people in this area can be found on **Gradac**, a hill above **Cesara** cove, which is the northern borderline of the Community of Mošćenička Draga, where archaeological findings from ancient times can be seen. There are remnants of a road control station and control fortress. It is divided into **Donji Kraj** and **Gornji Kraj**, and it is 2 km from **Mošćenička Draga**, where you can find accommodation in rented rooms or suites. Today Kraj is a typical Mediterranean village that reminds one of the scenes in Paul Cezane's paintings. The **Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary** in Kraj is a medieval sacred building included in the register of architectural heritage.



Come and visit us again

We are sure that you have enjoyed the crystal clear sea, left your footprints on a sandy beach, climbed the mountain peaks, got to know the myths of the god Perun, smelled the scent of the history of the streets of Mošćenice and Brseč, bought paintings and souvenirs, ridden horses and waves, fell in love again in the enchanting moonlight, relaxed on the beaches of Uboka and Jelenšćica, seen fishermen off to their night fishing, slept on the pebbles of Sv. Ivan Beach (St. John' Beach), spent a night in our hotels, private rooms and suites, sailed on yachts and sailing boats, dived in the blue of the sea, run on sports fields, visited art galleries, old houses

and buildings, healed your soul with the scents of the sea and pine trees, attended numerous concerts and exhibitions, tried our delicious food and toasted with home-made wine, collected pebbles, floated on a boat in hidden coves, flown with a parachute, jumped off a cliff into the sea, listened to Mediterranean songs, danced on traditional parties and come back to us to see our winter carnivals. And in the end, climbed up to the hill on a sunny day, where you could enjoy the view of this marvellous scenery with villages, old towns, settlements, the sea, beaches, coves and mountain peaks, and silently promised yourself: **I will be back next year!**



information

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