



Krka National Park

A total area of 109 km² of the Krka River and its basin was proclaimed the Krka National Park in 1985. This confirmed the exceptional value of the beauty of the karst river, the distinctiveness of its natural phenomena and its cultural and historical monuments. With its seven travertine barriers, the Krka River is a natural karst phenomenon. Krka National Park lies within Šibenik–Knin County and includes the Krka River (from two kilometres downstream of the town of Knin to Skradin) and the lower course of the Čikola River.

Travertine, the fundamental phenomenon of Krka National Park is a common appearance in the surface watercourses of the Dinaric karst, but it rarely builds waterfalls as it has on the Krka River. Travertine, which is limestone that has settled out of the water and accumulated on the travertine-building organisms (mosses, algae, etc.) creates various geomorphological forms.

Due to the distinctive position and various types of habitats along the Krka River, this area stands out for its exceptional wealth of flora and fauna. To date, 1022 plant species and subspecies have been recorded in the park area. Many amphibians can be found

in the lake sections of the river and wetland areas, reptiles inhabit the thickets and rocky areas, while the river is habitat for many endemic fish species. The Krka River is exceptionally important for the spring and autumn bird migrations. Due to the number of species found here, this is one of Europe's foremost ornithological areas.

The area of the Krka River abounds in cultural and historical monuments, traces of human creation since prehistoric times. These include the remnants of the aqueduct in the Roman settlement Scardona, the remnants of the Roman military camp at Burnum and the ruins of the medieval Croatian fortresses from the 14th century: Trošenj, Nečven, Bogočin, Kamičak and Ključica. In terms of size and the level of preservation, Klučica is one of the most important fortified structures in Croatia. Among the sacral structures, the most valuable are the Franciscan Church of Our Lady of Visovac and the monastery Our Lady of Mercy on Visovac Island, and the Krka Monastery (Holy Archangel). The many water mills and washing columns are monuments of rural architecture.



Tourism offer

Boat excursions

- 1 to the Franciscan monastery on Visovac Island, lasts 2 hours (includes 30 minute stop on Visovac Island)
- 2 to Roški Slap waterfall, lasts 3.5 hours (includes 30 minute stop on Visovac Island)
- 3 to the Krka monastery and ruins of the Trošenj and Nečven fortresses, lasts 2.5 hours

An expert guide can be arrived for the above tours by prior agreement. For rides to Skradinski buk, visitors can hire a boat in Skradin with park guide. The hospitality offer of Krka National Park includes restaurants and buffets.

Distance (km)	Knin	Visovac	Roški slap	Krka monastery	Burnum	Puljani	Motorway, exit Šibenik	Motorway, exit Skradin	Lozovac
Drniš	24	15	18	28	21	19	25	33	31
Knin	-	29	42	26	18	22	49	57	54
Lozovac	54	19	30	30	37	41	6	13	-
Skradin	57	10	17	36	39	43	14	4	9
Šibenik	66	31	42	42	49	53	-	25	12

Krka National Park is open to visitors years round, and can be toured by water, road or hiking trails.

Skradinski buk

Skradinski buk, the longest and most commonly visited waterfall on the Krka River is one of Croatia's best known natural wonders. The waterfalls were created by travertine barriers, islands and lakes. The waterfalls can be viewed year round thanks to the network of trails and bridges that allow for pleasant and safe walking.

The Skradinski buk locality can be reached by the Lozovac entrance. From April to October, individual visitors can enjoy the free bus service organized by Krka National Park from the entrance to Skradinski buk. The second entrance is Skradin. From April to November, visitors can be transported by boats organized by Krka National Park according to the sailing schedule. Both the boat and bus service are included in the entrance ticket price for individual visitors.

Nature lovers and hikers can reach Skradinski buk from the Lozovac entrance in about ten minutes on the 800 m walking trail. A 4 km walking and bicycle trail connects the Skradin entrance with Skradinski buk.

Visit the multimedia room in the Branch office in Skradin, where you can become

acquainted with the rest of Krka National Park and choose to visit many of the other attractions, in addition to Skradinski buk.

Ethno presentation

The watermills in the national park along the system of pre-industrial water-powered plants on the Krka River. As a symbol of economic power, they were often a source of conflict. The preserved mills date back to the 19th century. Today, they have high cultural and historical significance, as monuments of rural architecture and the economy of the past, due to their primary activity and traditional appearance. They are also ethnographic monuments. Demonstrations are held in the restored water columns of Krka National Park: see how wheat was milled, cloth washed, bags and carpets woven, horseshoes smithed and learn more about the old fashioned ways of ploughing, food preparation in the old kitchens, etc.



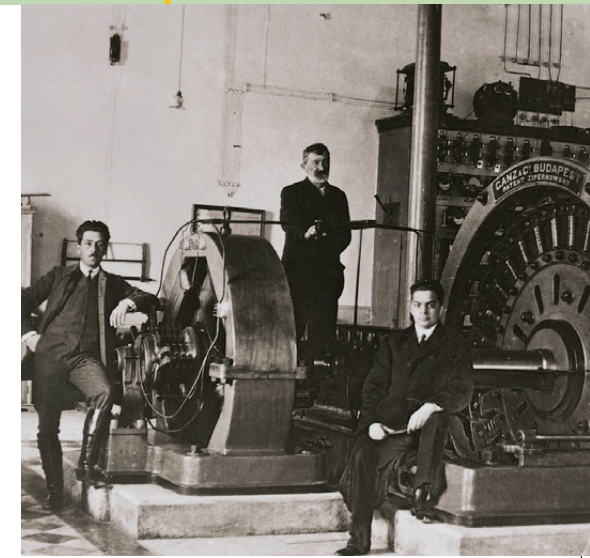
Educational trail

The Skradinski buk trail (1900 m) is a pleasant one hour walk, passing over travertine barriers and offering visitors the opportunity to become better acquainted with the wealth of flora and fauna of the Krka River, especially the living communities of the travertine barriers and the aquatic habitats.



Krka Hydropower Plant

The remnants of the former Krka Hydro-power Plant stand at Skradinski buk. The power plant began operations in 1895, just two days after Tesla's hydroelectric plant at Niagara Falls. Thanks to the builders, Mayor Ante Šupuk and engineer Vjekoslav Meischner, Šibenik received electricity before many European cities.





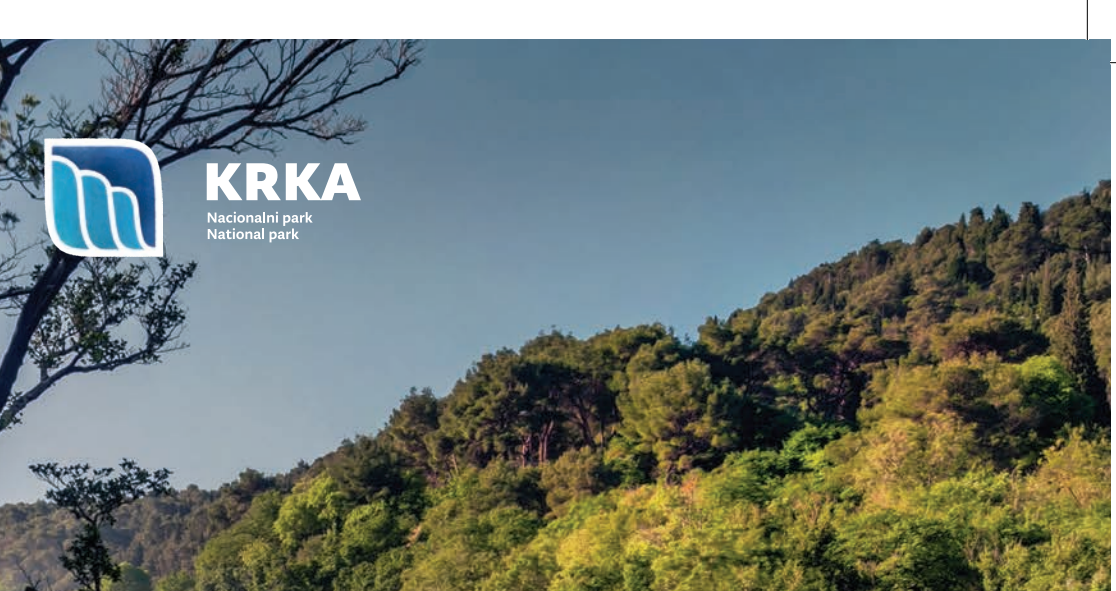
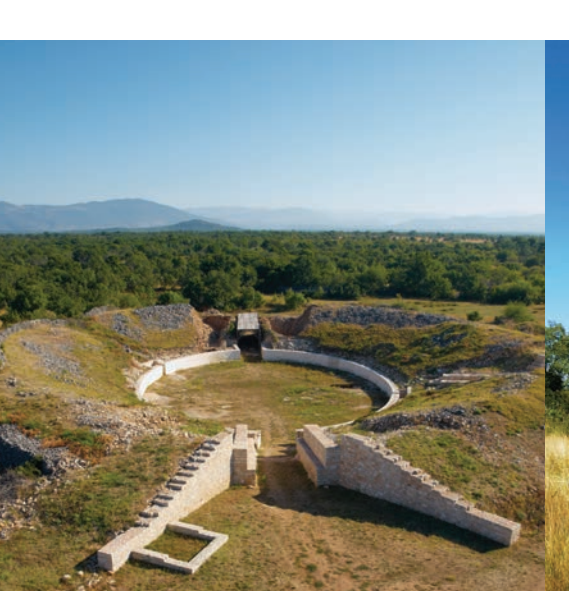
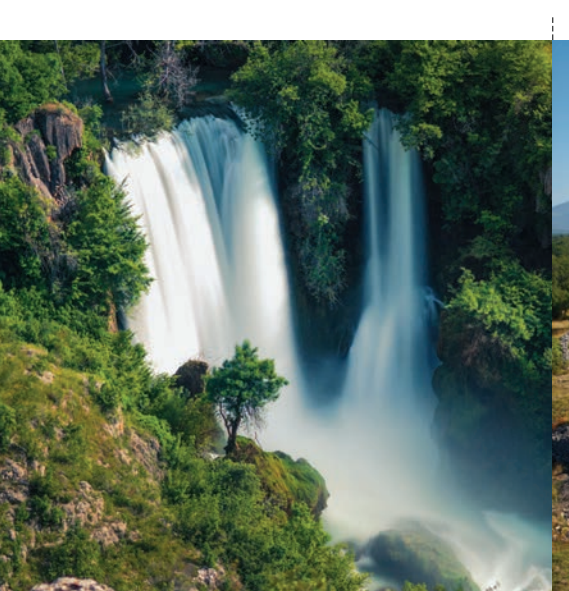
Roški slap

Roški slap waterfall is found 36 km downstream of the source of the Krka River. It was named after the Rog (meaning horn) fortress that stood on the right bank of the Krka River, southeast of the village Rupe. The start of the barrier consists of a series of small cascades (called the Necklaces by the locals), following by numerous backwaters and islets. At this section, the canyon spreads out like a funnel and the Krka River falls 15 m into Visovac Lake.

Roški slap can be reached by road from Drniš, Knin and Skradin or on the organized boat excursions of Krka National Park leaving from Skradinski buk. The tour lasts 3,5 hours and includes a 30 minute tour of Visovac Island. The hospitality facilities at Roški slap are open from April to October. View the watermills, columns and weaver's loom, take a walk on the trail along the Necklaces or take an organized boat excursion to the Krka Monastery and the ruins of the Trošenj and Nečven fortresses (2,5 hours). Entrance tickets for Krka National Park and boat excursion tickets for the Krka Monastery are available at the entrance (reception) of Krka National Park at Roški slap.

The educational walking trail Stinice – Roški slap – Ozidana pećina extends over a distance of 8,5 km and it is one of the loveliest walking trails in Croatia. The trail is fitted with educational panels providing detailed information on the flora and fauna characteristic for the Krka National Park areas, and on the geological phenomena and cultural and historical localities found along the trail.

Ozidana pećina cave, a locality within the framework of the educational walking trail Stinice – Roški slap – Ozidana pećina, is a site of exceptional natural, cultural and historical significance. There is a record of continuous human presence in the cave from 5000 to 1500 B.C. An *in situ* archaeological collection has been put on display in the cave.



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Visovac

Visovac Island is among Croatia's most valuable natural and cultural values. The Franciscan Monastery of Our Lady of Mercy and the Church of Our Lady of Visovac have stood here since 1445. The complex, together with the beautiful landscape of Visovac Lake, comprises a magnificent entity. During its stormy history, Visovac was and has remained an island of peace and prayer, and the Franciscan monastery a fortress of spirituality and faith. The monastery houses a valuable archaeological collection, a collection of historical church linens and dishes and a rich library, with several historical manuscripts, valuable books and incunabula.

Due to the centuries of worship of the Mother of God, this island is often called Our Lady's Island. Visovac has always attracted pilgrims, who today arrive via the organized boat excursions of Krka National Park. Visits to Visovac Island are possible by way of boat excursion from Skradinski buk, Stinice and Remetić (marked on the Krka National Park map). A visit to Visovac Island includes a 30 minute tour of the island, the Franciscan monastery, church and museum.



Krka Monastery

The Krka Monastery, the spiritual centre of the Orthodox faith, stands 3,5 kilometres east of Kistanje, in a bay on the Krka River. Erected on the foundations of an earlier Eremite monastery, it was first mentioned in the written records in 1402. A church built in the Byzantine style stands next to the monastery. Early Roman catacombs are found under the church, and are open to visitors. The treasury of the monastery houses numerous icons and artistic artefacts, and valuable books and manuscripts. The monastery was named after the Krka River, which abounds here in plant and animal species, thanks to the water which provides them with life and the peace that is assured due to man's absence. The Krka Monastery can be visited by organized boat excursions (lasts 2,5 hours) from Roški slap from April to October. It can also be reached by road (marked on the map).

Manojlovac slap

Just several hundred metres from the Burnum archaeological locality, the Manojlovac slap waterfall is found along the road Knin – Kistanje. This is the third waterfall in the series, the tallest and considered by many to be the loveliest waterfall on the Krka River. The waterfall consists of a series of travertine barriers, with a total height of 59,6 m. The largest barrier is 32,2 m high. The canyon around the waterfall is overgrown with lush sub-Mediterranean vegetation, with small fields and pastures lining the river. During periods of high waters, the waterfall crashes into the depths with a deafening noise, creating a veil of mist in a rainbow palette of colours. During the warmer part of the year, the waterfall is dry, as the water is channelled into the reservoir of the nearby Miljacka hydroelectric plant. In 2011, the trail with viewpoint was cleared and reopened to visitors. At that time, a plaque in honour of Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I was revealed, as it was at this very spot that the emperor, together with his wife Elizabeth, admired the beauty of Manojlovac slap.

Archaeological site Burnum

Hidden in the heart of the Dalmatinska Zagora region, deep in the rocks and karst and overgrowth with macchia brush, stands a gem of ancient history: the Roman military camp Burnum. It was erected at the turn of the new era, at a position that allowed for control of the passage across the Krka River. Burnum was the seat of the XI legion of the Roman army of *Claudiae Piae Fidelis* and IV legion of *Flaviae Felix*. Auxiliary units (cohorts) were stationed here in a small camp constructed in the eastern part of the complex.

Visitors can view the arches of the command building in the camp, the only military amphitheatre in Croatia and several walls of the military exercises area. The archaeological artefacts recovered from this locality (weapons, tools, daily use objects) are on display in the Burnum archaeological collection at the Puljani Centre. The locality and archaeological collection are open for visitors during the whole year. Burnum can only be reached by road.



Welcome

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