



CONTENTS AND SERVICES

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TOURIST VISIT TO THE BLIDINJE NATURE PARK

Blidinje lake - Masna Luka - Cave of Mijat Tomić - Dugo polje stećak necropolis- Diva Grabovčeva grave in Kedžara - Ski center

The Blidinje Nature Park is home to a vast wealth of natural and cultural treasures and a place of numerous fascinating stories and legends. The enchanting landscapes of the entire park have been attracting tourists from all around the world. Enthralled by the vistas of Blidinje's vast expanses, they capture some of the most beautiful photos that can be taken in this part of Europe.

Did you know that the Blidinje Nature Park is home to the largest mountain lake in the entire Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as another smaller lake that is known as the highest lake in the whole country in terms of altitude? And did you know that the park also features the highest cliff in the entire Balkans region?

Many facts place this nature park among the best of the best, including the Diva Grabovica Canyon, which is 1800 meters deep, equalling the depth of the Grand Canyon. Exploring the entire area and enjoying everything that the Blidinje Nature Park has to offer requires ample time, but the position of its most beau-

tiful parts is such that they can all be visited in about 2 hours. It is right there, to the most stunning parts of this park, that we take you on a 120-minute adventure, that will stay in your memories for a lifetime, and you will certainly want to experience again.

In the approximately two hours of adventure, you will have the opportunity to visit some of the most interesting and significant points in our Nature Park, where you will get to know the intriguing history of this region while also experiencing its exceptional beauty.

This tourist excursion is unique, because as you journey through the stunning nature and land-scapes, you also travel through five hundred years of this region's history.

The first such point, and also the meeting point with the guide, is the **Blidinje Lake** itself, after which our Nature Park was named. The guide will not only tell you facts about the lake but also stories and legends related to its origin. The sound of the turbulent mountain water

perfectly blends with legends from Blidinje's past, providing a harmonious experience while being near the Blidinje Lake. Above the water, the peak of Čvrsnica called Jelinak will attract you to take the most beautiful photo from the Blidinje Nature Park right there beside the lake, with the peak in the background.

Next, you will visit **Masna Luka** to explore the church and monastery of St. Elijah the Thunderer, where two interesting art galleries can also be visited. Masna Luka is renowned for its natural springs of drinking water, with the Jasle spring as the most famous one, which we will also visit. It is also known as one of the largest habitats of the endemic munika pine. This place is nestled amidst the embrace of Čvrsnica's three beautiful peaks: Lisac, Jabuka and Crveni kuk. The heights of these peaks will make your passage through Masna Luka even more beautiful. Čvrsnica's higher peaks above them will make you feel as being somewhere beneath the Himalayas.

Upon leaving Masna Luka and reaching Dugo Polje, you will have the opportunity to step away from the vehicle and take a walk to the Vran mountain slopes and breath in the fresh mountain air. During this walk, the guide will lead you to the **Mijat Tomić Cave** and introduce you to the people who greatly marked this region – the hajduks. The restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti, located near the cave, got its name inspired by their legacy.

The next stop takes us a little further back in time to the **Stećak Necropolis in Dugo Polje**. Stećaks are medieval tombstones typical for this region. These 150 stećak tombstones, located in Dugo Polje for centuries, have been

listed as UNESCO World Heritage since 2016, making them an ideal site to learn more about the story of these silent witnesses of the medieval history of the Blidinje area.

After that, the journey through history does not end; it continues just a few kilometres away, where we visit the grave of Diva Grabovčeva on Kedžara. Diva Grabovčeva was a girl who tragically met her fate at this very spot. She was killed in the late 17th century because she refused to marry a local bey, whose Turkish people were ravaging, plundering, and tormenting the Christian population in this Balkan region at that time. Even today, Diva Grabovčeva remains a symbol of resistance against oppression, injustice, and occupation, while also showcasing how faith has helped the local people preserve their identity throughout the centuries and write their rich history in golden letters.

Her entire story is fascinating. The guide will ensure that you get to know her life story in more detail

Finally, returning from history to the present, we visit the Risovac Ski Centre, a skiing complex built on the slopes of Čvrsnica, which is the heart of the winter tourism offer in the Blidinje Nature Park. Here we have the opportunity to learn more about the work and significance of this ski centre, providing us with a magnificent view of the park. This is where we end our tour, and the guide bids you farewell, leaving you to continue enjoying the enchanting landscape, where the chirping birds, the tales of the ancient forest canopies, and the gentle mountain breeze will invite you to stay longer or come back to meet them – again!



Price of the tour: BAM 100

The price includes a tourist guide for the Blidinje Nature Park area throughout the duration of the program.

Duration of the tour: 2 hours

Note: One guide can accompany a group of up to 50 people.

HIKING TOURS WITH A SPECIALISED GUIDE

Vitlenica - Hajdučka vrata

One of the most beautiful hiking tours on Čvrsnica and in the entire region is the one passing along the trail from Vitlenica to Hajdučka vrata.

The tour takes approximately 4 hours in one direction, during which you can experience the diverse beauty of Čvrsnica mountain up close. The first hour takes you through the Muvarnica forest park. The forest is abundant in tall century-old pine and fir trees, with a few beech trees scattered around. Covering a vast area of 500 hectares, this green oasis of peace is also home to various bird species whose singing complements the hiking experience in this area.

Emerging from the forest, you immediately arrive at the first viewpoint where benches are placed for resting. This is where most hikers decide to take their first longer break. This spot is perfect for capturing the first real photos of the hiking adventure, as it offers the first glimpses of the Čvrsnica slopes and its perhaps most famous peak, Veliki Vilinac (2118 meters above sea level). Looking up at that peak evokes a sense of awe and reverence, as the cliffs adorning Veliki Vilinac show that reaching its peak is no easy task. The entire

scene from this viewpoint is complemented by numerous smaller peaks, which appear sharp and impassable beside them. Trostruki and Dvostruki kuk, Mali Vilinac, Lomivrat, and Mala Oštrovača are just some of them.

Right there, between those peaks, the hiking trail continues towards Hajdučka vrata. Passing through several valleys and gorges, the entire tour takes on a completely new appearance and awakens the true mountaineer in you. Along this trail, you have the opportunity to pass through the old abandoned settlement of former shepherds and cattle herders. This whole area is called Zaglavlje and is located at an altitude of 1560 meters. Among the ruins of the old houses, one small cottage still stands, resilient and defying time. With renovation and constant care, the house continues to serve as a shelter in case of bad weather. Depending on the season in which you hike this trail, this area is perfect for getting to know rare species of herbs and flowers growing on Čvrsnica.

The trail continues further below the peak Stog, where it is best to take another slightly longer break before the final and steepest ascent. Behind that peak, you enter the high areas of Čvrsnica, and there, temperature can often change by a few degrees within a short time. As you hike further, Veliki Vilinac is getting closer, and hikers can be spotted on it, while a look back offers views of the mountains Vran and Raduša.

After about three hours of a moderately challenging hike, you reach the crossroads of Hajdučka Vrata <-> Veliki Vilinac/Vilinac Mountain Hut. The crossroads is located at an altitude of 1860 meters. It takes a little less than an hour from this point to Hajdučka Vrata, depending on how much the magnificent views of the grandiose peaks of Prenj in the distance or the area around Peštibrdo, which is full of cliffs and high rocks, will captivate you. Five minutes before reaching the endpoint, you pass by the highest lake in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Crnjak Lake is located at an altitude of exactly 2000 meters above sea level, just like Hajdučka Vrata, which is only a five-minute walk away from the lake.

As you pass those last few meters of the trail, you step out onto the most beautiful viewpoint you have ever visited. A stone circle with a diameter of five meters is the perfect addition to the entire scene and an excellent attraction for all nature lovers and photographers seeking to capture the breath-taking beauty of the surroundings.



- the starting point is accessible via a 3.5 kilometres long gravel road, which can be rough in some places, especially after heavy rains
- water is available near the hiking trail at the Vilinac Mountain Hut; reaching it requires an additional forty minutes of hiking
- the length of the trail is approximately 16.5 kilometres (both ways) and has an elevation gain of about 700 meters. It is classified as a moderately difficult hiking tour. The trail is wellmarked and cut. Markers for night hiking are placed throughout the forest.

Hajdučka vrata was declared a natural monument as far back as 1985, and today, it attracts thousands of hikers each year. The fact that this location was considered for filming a part of "The Lord of the Rings" shows how popular it is and how its popularity has been increasing over time. Behind Hajdučka vrata, you'll find the canyon of Diva Grabovica, offering stunning views extending far to Prenj, Velež, and Čabulja. Deep at the end of the canyon, you can catch a glimpse of one of the coldest rivers in Europe - Neretva. Diva Grabovica's canyon is impressively deep with 1800 meters, which is equal to the depth of the Grand Canyon. The remarkable fact about Dive Grabovica is that the entire canyon lies entirely within Čvrsnica. Adjacent to Hajdučka vrata is a peak at an altitude of 2038 meters (Trinjača), where you'll find a notebook to sign and leave your mark.

The return journey offers a new experience as the trail looks completely different, and you might feel like you are walking on an entirely new path you haven't explored before. This adds to the uniqueness of the entire hiking tour, making it one of the most beautiful and special ones. You will surely take numerous memories with you and an equal number of stunning photos as a souvenir from the Blidinje Nature Park.

- Starting point: Vitlenica, altitude of 1470 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.673061, 17.622733
- · Hiking time: 7 hours
- · Trail length: 16.5 km
- Elevation gain: 700 m
- · Drinking water: available
- · Difficulty of ascent: moderately difficult

Vitlenica - Veliki kuk

Veliki Kuk is a perfect example of why Čvrsnica stands out in many ways compared to the surrounding mountains and beyond.

From this point you can observe birds flying below you! This cannot be experienced anywhere else.

Veliki kuk is the most rugged place on the entire Čvrsnica mountain. Its cliffs, which drop vertically an incredible 1300 meters, make it the largest vertical drop on the entire Balkan Peninsula. This is yet another aspect that makes Blidinje Nature Park a destination for the most beautiful vacation and unforgettable adventures. Nowhere else will you be able to stand at the edges of cliffs that seem to have no end, nowhere else will you be able to spread your arms and feel as if you are flying.

The starting point for the ascent to Veliki kuk is the same as for Hajdučka vrata. You follow the same path for a good part of the way, about three hours from the starting point, until reaching the intersection Hajdučka Vrata <-> Veliki Vilinac / Vilinac Mountain Hut (a more detailed description of the trail to this intersection is provided in the text for the Vitlenica - Hajdučka vrata tour). To reach Veliki kuk, you need to turn right towards Vilinac Mountain Hut, and right next to it, you will catch the first glimpse of the cliffs of Veliki kuk, which will leave you speechless. It takes about another one and a half hours from the mentioned intersection to reach the cliffs, making the entire hike a little more challenging than the one to Hajdučka vrata. Passing by Vilinac Mountain Hut, it's worth noting that this hut is situated at the highest elevation in the entire Dinaric

- the starting point is accessible via a 3.5-kilometre-long gravel road, which can be rough in some places, especial-

ly after heavy rains

 the length of the trail is approximately 17 kilometres (both ways) and has an elevation gain of about 800 meters. It is classified as a difficult hiking tour. The trail is well-marked and cut. Markers for night hiking are placed throughout the forest.

Alps, which further highlights Čvrsnica's significance. You have the option to spend the night at the hut (with prior notice) and enjoy a drink or a meal when the hut is open. Below the hut, you'll find a spring and a cistern with potable water that never runs dry. So, this tour has water available along the trail. While gently descending towards Veliki kuk, the slopes of Velika Čvrsnica unfold before you, revealing panoramic views of Pločno, Ivina kosa, Kapci, Veliki Jelinak, and the most distant peak of all - Peštibrdo. Each of these peaks stands over 2000 meters tall. After about 10 minutes, you'll come across a sign indicating the trail for Veliki kuk. The trail is well marked and cut, leading you to the cliffs after an additional half-hour walk.

Observing the Diva Grabovica Canyon from this spot is indeed the best option, as the canyon forms right below Veliki Kuk. Being in the middle of a canyon that is 1800 meters deep and standing at the edge of cliffs that plummet vertically for 1300 meters provides an experience that goes far beyond what words and pictures can convey. Wherever your gaze falls, you will be rewarded with an unforgettable view.

Despite being less known and less popular compared to other destinations on this famous mountain, Veliki kuk definitely deserves a visit and admiration, as it holds tremendous potential to become as popular as Hajdučka vrata. Once you arrive at this spot, you will understand why we say this. Due to the rugged terrain, it offers an opportunity to spot and observe chamois.

- Starting point: Vitlenica, altitude of 1470 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.673061, 17.622733
- · Hiking time: 9 hours
- Trail length: 17 km
- Elevation gain: 800 m
- · Drinking water: available
- · Difficulty of ascent: difficult



Masna Luka - Pločno

Masna Luka serves as the starting point for numerous hiking trails within the entire Blidinje Nature Park. From there, you can access hiking paths leading towards Vran and the most beautiful peaks of Čvrsnica. The Mountain Lodge in Masna Luka serves as the central hub for all these trails, allowing you to embark on various hiking adventures in different directions. There is also a well-maintained asphalt road leading to the starting points of the trails, which is cleaned in the winter.

One of those trails leads to the highest peak of Čvrsnica and also the highest peak of the entire Blidinje Nature Park – peak Pločno. Standing proudly at an altitude of 2228 meters, it oversees all the happenings within the park and stands above the natural beauty unfolding below it throughout the year.

The starting point for the ascent to Pločno begins at the Mountain Hut in Masna Luka or slightly below it, near the church of St. Elijah. Both trails merge into one after about 10 minutes and continue through a pine forest, which is the largest European habitat of the endemic munika pine. The trail is quite steep at the beginning. After the first hour and a half of hiking, you'll encounter some beautiful viewpoints. The first highlight above the pine forest is Ćužića kuk. The trail passes right next to its cliffs, which can be as high as 300 meters. Ćužića kuk is a peak that separated from the main ridge of Čvrsnica and offers refreshing shade to Masna Luka. Looking back from this point, you'll have the opportunity to observe the entire Blidinje Nature Park, from the lake to Kedžara, with the Vran peaks seemingly within arm's reach. As you ascend to the flatter part behind Ćužića kuk, you can see the ridge connecting Pločno to other high peaks of

The length of the trail is around 17 km (both ways) and has an elevation gain of 1200 m above sea level. It is classified as a difficult hiking tour. The trail is well-marked and cut.

Čvrsnica. The trail continues over smaller hills and valleys until you reach the intersection of Veliki Vilinac <-> Pločno. This intersection is located above the peak Juneći kuk, after which the most challenging part of the entire trail follows. Before reaching the final destination, you'll encounter a steep scree slope, which provides an excellent adventure. Although it might appear impossible to ascend such a steep slope from a distance, the well-maintained hiking trail along the scree makes it a comfortable and safe experience, allowing you to stand and admire the cliffs surrounding Pločno, which beautifully crown Čvrsnica's highest peak. When you finally emerge at the top of the scree slope, the view below will surely fill you with pride and a true mountaineering spirit, as climbing such a steep terrain is a remarkable mountaineering achievement.

Next to the highest point of Pločno, there has been a small military base for a long time, and a gravel road leads to the top, starting from Barzonja. There are always two soldiers at the base who allow visitors to take pictures near Čvrsnica's highest point, but one should not count on getting water from them. That's why it's necessary to take a sufficient amount of water with you before starting this tour because there is no water along the trail. From Pločno, you can observe all the surrounding mountains, and on clear days, even those that are far away in Bosnia or towards Montenegro. You can also spot the sea, and the most experienced hikers can even distinguish Durmitor among all those mountains to the east.

The entire trail is well cut and marked, but demands a good physical condition and stamina from the hikers who decide on this venture.

- Starting point: Masna Luka, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.632475, 17.541513
- Hiking time: 9 hours
- Trail length: 17 km
- Elevation gain: 1200 m
- · Drinking water: available
- · Difficulty of ascent: difficult

Barzonja - Jelinak

Passing and staying near the Blidinje Lake will recharge your batteries like few other experiences you've had before arriving at the Blidinje Nature Park. And did you know that you can observe this beautiful lake, filled with clear and pristine mountain water, as if it were in the palm of your hand from an altitude of 1800 meters? Well, that's exactly what the hiking trail from Barzonja, (near the church of St. Mary Major) to the 1805 m high peak of Jelinak offers. Although the entire hike is relatively short in distance, it should not be underestimated! Hikers cover a little over 6 km (in both directions), but with an elevation gain of around 600 meters above sea level, which means that the trail is quite steep.

The ascent starts precisely from the point where Čvrsnica emerges from the meadows of Blidinje, stretching far into the heights. Along the ridge called Jelina kosa, you can observe the entire Blidinje region, as well as the area of Bara that extends towards Drežnica. The entire ridge is very steep on both sides, so it is strongly recommended to strictly follow the marked hiking trail, which runs along the ridge and is the safest option throughout the journey.

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- The trail is well-cut and marked throughout its entire length, but there is no water available along the way. Despite being challenging, this is one of the easiest hiking trails on Čvrsnica and is excellent for those with a lower fitness level. The entire ascent takes from two to two and a half hours at a very leisurely pace.
- The length of the trail is approximately 6 km (both ways) and has an elevation gain of about 600 meters above sea level. It is classified as a moderately difficult hiking tour. The trail is well marked and cut.

What makes this entire trail truly stunning is the breath-taking view of the Blidinje Lake. As you ascend towards the peak, the view of the lake becomes even more beautiful. This vantage point is the only place where you can have the lake in the palm of your hand, and that's what sets this trail apart from others. Upon reaching the top, you can also witness another remarkable sight that completes this whole experience. It's the view of Velika Čvrsnica and those peaks above 2000 meters that are in close proximity to the Jelinak peak. Along with the beautiful sights of Vran and the panoramic view of Blidinje, this trail offers glimpses of Tomislavgrad and all the surrounding mountains that encircle it, while to the south, the entire Biokovo mountain range can be seen, with Mosor in the background.

We can say that this trail is the most beautiful tour for panoramic sightseeing throughout the Blidinje Nature Park. It offers a range of excellent locations to capture amazing photos, the kind that few people have. For those who are more prepared, it is worth mentioning that the trail continues further towards Pločno.

- Starting point: Barzonja, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.592846, 17.474191
- · Hiking time: 4.5 hours
- · Trail length: 6 km
- · Elevation gain: 600 m
- · Drinking water: available
- · Difficulty of ascent: moderately difficult

Masna Luka - Munika - Orlovača -Crveni kuk - Masna Luka (circular tour)

Taking a tour that offers different landscapes throughout the entire journey is a truly remarkable experience. If you dare to embark on such an adventure, the tour starts from Masna Luka over Munika, under the cliffs of Orlovača, and traverses through the central part of Čvrsnica, before descending below Crveni Kuk back to Masna Luka.

At the very beginning, in Masna Luka, you will be welcomed by perfectly preserved nature with springs and pine forests. The chirping of birds from tall trees or their flocks flying above the hills around Masna Luka will lift your gaze high above. And up there, above the treetops and hills, you will catch sight of the peaks of Lisac, Crveni Kuk, and Jabuka. These three peaks form the backdrop of Masna Luka. Overlooking this gem of the Blidinje Nature Park, the entire area makes for a perfect destination for the relaxation you need! The perfect blend of cliffs, sharp peaks, and a beautiful green oasis of peace promises this hiking tour to be the best choice. This tour first leads below these peaks and then goes behind them in its second part, leaving you curious to discover what lies beyond them.

The first part of the trail leads below the peak of Lisac (altitude 1753 meters) towards Orlovača (altitude 1942 meters), which towers even higher behind it. This section of the trail offers the most beautiful viewpoint overlooking Masna Luka. From the cliffs of Lisac, you can have a clear view of the entire area of Masna Luka with its surrounding places. It will undoubtedly be one of the most memorable viewpoints you have ever experienced. A little further from the viewpoint, you will come across the lovely mountain hut Munika, owned by the Croatian Mountaineering Society HPD Prenj 1933 Mostar. The hut might not always be open, but it is isolated and provides a great spot for a well-deserved rest. The trail continues through a rocky valley below Orlovača, with steep ascents and parts covered in scree. This area is known for sightings of chamois, and the landscape is dotted with cliffs.

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The length of the trail is approximately 14.5 km (circular route), with an elevation gain of around 750 m above sea level. The trail is classified as a moderately difficult hiking tour. It is well-marked and cut.

Looking back, you can also see Vran mountain in the distance. As you reach the plateau of Čvrsnica, Orlovača is left behind, and new vistas open up to the vast expanse of Čvrsnica. From the Pločno ridge, across Veliki Jelinak and Peštibrdo, all the way to Veliki Vilinac, you can admire the beauty of this mountain. At this point, the trail splits, leading to Mali Vilinac and the White Trail of Via Dinarica.

Continuing further along the Via Dinarica trail, in the direction of Masna Luka, you pass through a vast area that forms one enormous valley. The valley is called Lokva, and its size seems surreal. Walking along its edges, you continue into the hinterland of the peaks you saw at the beginning. On one side, you have views of Velika Čvrsnica, and on the other side, you can see more cliffs of Orlovača emerging from the deep forests of Masna Luka. Slowly "cruising" through this part of the mountain, the view of Masna Luka reopens, but this time from the opposite direction. What you admired and saw at the beginning is now literally a part of you because you are up there, at that spot, while down below, you can see where you started. After some time, you reach another trail intersection. Now, the path to the right leads towards Pločno, while the one on the left, below Crveni kuk (altitude 1743 meters), descends into Masna Luka. Finally, the only thing left is to descend a well-made trail into Masna Luka to the starting point and take one last look up to see where you were just a while ago. The hike is of moderate difficulty, with several steep ascents. Throughout its length, it consistently keeps hikers excited as it offers different landscapes and numerous positions with phenomenal views.

- Starting point: Masna Luka, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.631385, 17.546259
- Hiking time: 7 hours
- · Trail length: 14, 5 km
- Elevation gain: 750 m
- Drinking water: not available
- · Difficulty of ascent: moderately difficult

Ascent to Veliki Vlingc

With its altitude of 2118 meters, Veliki Vilinac is perhaps the most popular peak for climbers on the entire Čvrsnica mountain range. Somewhat isolated from all the other 2000 m high peaks on this mountain, it is easily recognizable from a great distance and from all surrounding mountains. Its unique position allows those who reach its peak to have a complete view of the entire Čvrsnica. Looking across vast valleys and smaller peaks through the heart of the mountain, you can see the grand ridge around Pločno on one side, or the peaks of Trinjača and Velika Oštrovača on the other side - all equally beautiful. Down on the Muharnica -Hajdučka vrata trail, you can observe people patiently climbing towards their ultimate destination, as that trail is perfectly visible from Veliki Vilinac.

Given that the Blidinje Nature Park is filled with numerous beautiful hiking trails, Veliki Vilinac can be reached from various directions. Each of these trails offers something new and different, and the mountaineers, for whom Čvrsnica is like a mother, always make an effort to ensure that all these paths are safe and well-maintained for visitors and nature enthusiasts.

The easiest and primary trail to reach Veliki Vilinac is the one that leads from Vitlenica to its peak. This trail is the same as the one used to reach Hajdučka vrata. At the intersection of Hajdučka vrata – Vilinan mountain hut, you need to turn right and then go above the Vilinac mountain hut, turning right again. The ascent to the peak follows the ridge, which is slightly steeper. This trail is well-known for having water sources along the way, as there is a spring and cistern near the mountain hut that hikers pass by.

The second trail leading to Veliki Vilinac starts from the top of the ski slope and leads via Mali Vilinac to Veliki Vilinac. If the cable car/lift is out of order, hikers need to hike up to the top of the ski slope first. The trail begins by passing through tall treetops, then reaches an area known as Mandin Plan (there is a ladder at one point that can be in poor condition if not replaced, and a climbing rope beside the ladder). This area is located opposite Orlovača and is abundant with tall cliffs, offering a beautiful viewpoint of a part of the Blidinje Lake, the surroundings of Badnja, and the rest of the Blidinje Nature Park towards Risovac. Continuing on, the trail leads to Mali Vilinac before making its final steep ascent to the peak of Veliki Vilinac.

The third trail to Veliki Vilinac is the White Trail of Via Dinarica. It starts from Masna Luka and passes below Crveni kuk, reaching the intersection of Veliki Vilinac - Pločno. At this point, hikers need to turn left towards Vilinac. The trail continues, passing numerous small hills and valleys towards its destination. It also leads below Mali Vilinac before finally reaching the peak of Veliki Vilinac after a steep and challenging ascent.

All three trails for ascending Veliki Vilinac are well-marked and maintained. Each of these trails offers beautiful viewpoints. Whichever trail you choose, you won't go wrong because each of them is beautiful in its own way. Indeed, ascending this peak is a special experience from all three mentioned directions.

If you decide to take the trail with the starting point on the ski slope, it is important to note that there are ladders at one point that can be in poor condition if they haven't been replaced for a while.

It is important to take an ample amount of water with you as there is only water available along the trail that leads from Vitlenica to Veliki Vilinac.

From the direction of Vitlenica:

• Starting point: Vitlenica, altitude of 1470 meters

· Coordinates for the starting point: 43.673061, 17.622733

Hiking time: 8 hours

• Trail length: 16 km

• Elevation gain: 850 m

• Drinking water: available

· Difficulty of ascent: very difficult

From the direction of Masna Luka:

Starting point: Masna Luka, altitude of 1200 meters

• Coordinates for the starting point: 43.631385, 17.546259

Hiking time: 9 hours

• Trail length: 17 km

• Elevation gain: 1000 m

• Drinking water: not available

• Difficulty of ascent: very difficult

From the direction of the ski-slope:

· Starting point: ski-slope, altitude of 1280 meters

Coordinates for the starting point: 43.650296,17.570898

· Hiking time: 8 hours

• Trail length: 12 km

• Elevation gain: 1050 m

• Drinking water: not available

• Difficulty of ascent: very difficult



Ascent to Veliki Vran

From ancient times, Vran mountain has been a place of noble endeavours that teach us about the way of life in this region throughout history and how people utilized the mountain for various purposes.

If you set out on the trails leading to the peaks of Vran, following its well-marked and clean hiking paths, keep in mind that centuries ago, it was here that shepherds grazed their livestock. Under those green treetops, hajduks dreamed during the hot summer days, hiding from the Turks. Centuries before humans, wolves and bears protected their territory, fighting for this great gem of the Blidinje Nature Park.

Many things change over centuries, but the mountains and their peaks remain the same. The hajduks may be gone, but now there are tourists wandering through these beautiful expanses in search of stories that echo through Vran. If you decide to embark on such a quest and your desire leads you to Veliki Vran, the highest peak of the mountain, we have two best options for you. One trail to Veliki Vran starts behind the restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti, and the other begins from Kedžara, more precisely from the gravel road leading to the grave of Diva Grabovčeva.

The trail that starts behind the restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti and leads to Vran has its starting point about 300 meters behind the restaurant at the entrance to the forest. There is a large power substation at this spot, and you can also use the overhead power lines passing above it as a reference point. Right near the beginning of the trail, you'll find the lower cave of hajduk Mijat Tomić. The whole story surrounding the cave serves as an excellent introduction to the day ahead of you. Before emerging into an open area, the trail initially leads through a forest of pine and beech trees. From the grassy patches above the forest, you can observe the Blidinje Nature Park towards Risovac and parts of Čvrsnica around Veliki Vilinac. The trail continues steeply towards the peak, passing by Hajdučko vrelo where the water sometimes dries up. When there is water, it is not recommended for drinking. Upon reaching the higher area of Vran mountain, you'll come to a trail intersection. Here, it's important to keep to the right side to avoid going in the wrong direction. The trail to the left leads to the peaks of Vran and Mali Vran. By turning right and after some time, you'll catch a glimpse of the peak you are heading to. It will take another 30-40 minutes to reach Veliki Vran from this point.

This trail is excellent because the descent is easier. It's a well-made trail that provides true pleasure during hiking. It's marked all the way, but there is no sign at the previously mentioned intersection; instead, you need to go right.

If you decide to take the trail from Kedžara to Veliki Vran, be prepared for a slightly longer hike. Unlike the trail behind the restaurant, this path doesn't ascend steeply; instead, it mostly traverses the mountain at an angle, making it longer. It starts from the gravel road that leads to the grave of Diva Grabovčeva. Right from the gravel road, you'll see the initial trail markings, and after about 15 minutes, you'll enter a dense shade created by the canopies of centuries-old beech trees. As you emerge into a clearing, you'll come across an old watering trough with a diameter of 5 meters, built with chiselled stone. This area is called Prskalov dolac, and the watering trough used to serve shepherds who grazed their livestock in this area. It's a great spot to take a rest, but an even better one is just above it. Re-entering the thick beech forest, you'll reach a place where you can see remnants of a campfire. This area is almost entirely shaded, and the beech trees are so thick that they can't be embraced. All of this invites you to take a longer break before continuing the more challenging ascent. After resting, the trail continues very steeply towards the ridge of the mountain. This part is equally challenging for both ascent and descent. Once you reach approximately 2000 meters, all that's left is to walk along the ridge to reach the peak of Veliki Vran.

Veliki Vran, with its altitude of 2074 meters, holds the title of the highest peak of the entire Vran mountain range. The most fascinating experience from this peak is the view of three magnificent lakes: Buško Lake, Blidinje Lake, and Ramsko Lake. All three, each more beautiful than the other, are visible from this stunning

peak. The sight of Vran mountain and Čvrsnica together appears grandiose. All of its major peaks are clearly visible, just like Blidinje Nature Park around Risovac, Dugo Polje, and the Blidinje Lake.

Not only can you listen to the whispers of history, whose voices have been wandering

among the peaks and forests of Vran for centuries, but you can also enjoy the views of the vastness of this mountain that seem to have no end.



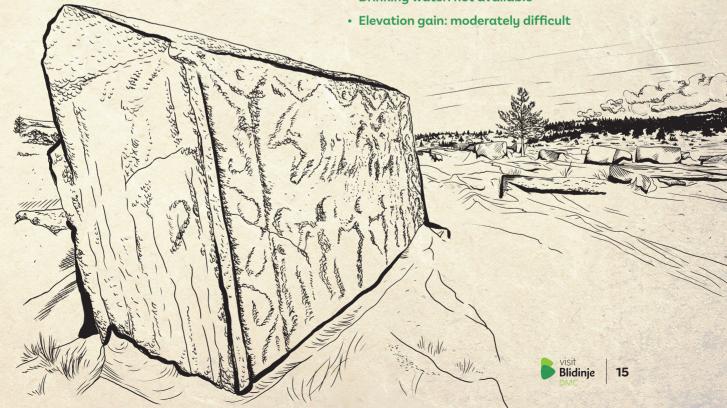
- it is not recommended to consume the water from the spring Hajdučko vrelo, which is located on the trail that leads behind the restaurant to Veliki Vran
- both trails are well-marked and maintained
- a good gravel road, approximately 2 km long, leads to the starting point of the trail that leads from Kedžara to Veliki Vran.
- to reach the starting point of the trail behind the restaurant, you need to walk an additional 300 meters on flat terrain and then find the initial trail marking after passing the power substation.

From the direction of the restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti:

- Starting point: Behind the restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti, altitude of 1250 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point:
 43.654853, 17.528620 Hiking time: 7 hours
- Trail length: 8 km
- Elevation gain: 850 m
- · Drinking water: not available
- · Difficulty of ascent: moderately difficult

From the direction of Kedžara:

- Starting point: towards Kedžara, altitude of 1300 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.676900,17.542074
- · Hiking time: 7.5 hours
- · Trail length: 9 km
- Elevation gain: 800 m
- Drinking water: not available



Velika Draga / Omrčenica - Mali Vran

The peaks that can be seen from Veliki Vran towards Tomislavgrad are most easily reached by taking the route through Velika Draga and Omrčenica. The largest and closest peak you will be heading to from that direction is called Mali Vran. What makes it particularly special is the cave located nearby, known as the upper cave of Mijat Tomić.

There is a longer and a shorter version of this trail. The longer version starts just 2 km away from the Blidinje Lake. To reach this point, you need to drive towards Tomislavgrad from the lake and look for the signboard indicating "Via Dinarica" leading to Mali Vran. From there, a gravel road heads towards Mali Vran, but it is not in the best condition, so it is better to start on foot. At one point, the marked trail deviates from the gravel road and takes you through a forest, passing several private holiday houses. This area is called Velika draga, and the trails eventually reaches Omrčenica, where the shorter version of the trail begins.

The shorter version bypasses the entire section, but the gravel road leading to the starting point at Omrčenica is quite rough, which is why the longer version is recommended. At the point where both trails meet, a proper mountaineering ascent to Mali Vran begins. The trail continuously leads through sparse pine and beech forests, and with each step, the view behind becomes more beautiful. The path is steep, with significant gain in altitude in a short time. Soon, you can see Omrčenica down below as if it were in the palm of your hand, and only a short way left to the top. When you finally complete the final steep climb and arrive at Mali Vran, you'll be rewarded with phenomenal views in all directions. From

Raduša, Tušnica, and Kamešnica to the west, all the way to the Blidinje Lake, Čvrsnica, and the ridge towards Veliki Vran on the other side. The best part is that the Blidinje Lake is fully visible and appears to be very close, as well as the massive Čvrsnica above it. From Mali Vran, you might get the best sense of how vast Vran is, extending to the left along its ridge, above Blidinje Nature Park. All those smaller peaks that make up the middle of the mountain remain unnoticed due to the large ridge visible from the Blidinje area. Only after reaching this peak will you realize how much of Vran mountain is still hidden and unexplored. It becomes apparent why this mountain served as a refuge for the hajduks in ancient times.

Once you have reached Mali Vran, it is definitely recommended to visit Mijat's upper cave (Mijatova gornja špilja). It is just a 20-minute walk from this peak, on the left side of the trail that continues along the ridge. The cave's entrance rises to a height of 3 meters, which is quite astonishing to see at such a high altitude. Inside the cave, countless life stories of the hajduks who sought refuge in this area have unfolded over time. It is no wonder that the cave bears the name of the folk hero and hajduk, Mijat Tomić.

The descent back is not overly difficult, although returning to the starting point of this longer version is quite a long hike. However, during the return, you can once again admire all the mountains to the west, to which the sun escapes in the later part of the day and sets behind them. The entire trail is well-maintained and marked, but it's essential to carry an ample supply of water as there are no water sources along the trail.

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- The longer version of the trail starts by passing a gravel road that is rough in some places
- a gravel road from the village Lipa to Omrčenica leads to the starting point of the shorter version, and the road is very rough in some places
- There is no water along the trail, so it is necessary to carry an ample supply of water.

The longer version through Velika draga:

- Starting point: Tomislavgrad Blidinje road, altitude of 1180 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.612779, 17.421986
- Hiking time: 10 hours
- Trail length: 23 km
- Elevation gain: 1000 m
- Drinking water: not available
- · Difficulty of ascent: very difficult

The shorter version from Omrčenica:

- Starting point: Omrčenica, altitude of 1280 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.648799,17.415843
- · Hiking time: 7 hours
- Trail length: 8 km
- Elevation gain: 700 m
- · Drinking water: not available
- · Difficulty of ascent: moderately difficult

INFORMATION

- The fee for a specialized mountain guide is BAM 200.00
- One guide accompanies a group of up to a maximum of 8 people

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIKING:

- it is mandatory to wear sturdy footwear that provides ankle support (hiking boots)
- it is mandatory to carry items that will protect you from worsening weather conditions (raincoat, jacket, etc.)
- it is mandatory to bring a backpack with enough food and water that will last until you return to the starting point (minimum 2 litres of water per person)
- Do not rely on mobile signal, thoroughly study the trail you plan to hike. Having a map of the Blidinje Nature Park is desirable, but it is essential to memorize key points, such as trail intersections, as it might come in handy
- it is always best to start hiking tours early in the morning (more time for enjoying the scenery, appreciating nature, and a lighter pace that reduces the risk of injuries). Hiking in the early morning also ensures a timely return to the starting point before late evening hours.
- it is mandatory to protect yourself from the sun (sunscreen, hat, sunglasses)

EASY HIKING TOURS

Idyllic walk in Masna Luka

Masna Luka can be described as the heart of the Blidinje Nature Park. Its hinterland is surrounded by the high peaks of Čvrsnica. It is precisely due to these high peaks that it is rich in water and natural springs. The area of Boričevac and Badanj stretches in front of Masna Luka, intertwined with numerous gravel and hiking paths.

A walk through this area offers visits to diverse landscapes. Starting from the Church of St. Elijah and its viewpoint, its starts with a gentle descent to the lowest points of Masna Luka, which mostly consist of a marshy area abundant in water. Right at the beginning, you'll reach the Jasla spring, where you can replenish your supply of mountain water for the rest of the journey. As you descend to the marshy part, you'll come across a hiking trail that leads to various parts of Čvrsnica. Alongside this trail, during snowmelt and heavy rains, a sizable stream flows through meadows and forests of the endemic munika pine, murmuring gentle and pleasant sounds, always soothing to the ears. This very spot will convince you that Masna Luka is more beautiful than any movie scene you have ever seen. Finally, you'll reach a lake whose water level varies depending on the season. Above the lake, there is a beautiful viewpoint overlooking the entire

Masna Luka, which requires an additional half-hour of light ascent.

On the way back to the starting point, you pass through Badnje, still offering a complete view of Masna Luka. The sight of Čvrsnica becomes even more captivating, awakening a desire in people to challenge themselves on some of the more difficult hiking trails that lead to this mountain. Walking past the holiday houses in Badnje, your gaze will surely be fixed on Čvrsnica and its towering cliffs, and you won't have to worry about choosing the best sport for photos because literally every meter in this area is perfect for capturing stunning photos.

On the way back, it's best to sit down and take a rest at the campsite in front of the Masna Luka Mountain Hut, where the thick shade provides excellent conditions for having a meal.



- Starting point: Masna Luka, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.631385, 17.546259
- · Hiking time: 2.5 hours
- Trail length: 6.5 km
- Elevation gain: around 200 m

Tour around the Blidinje Lake

The tour around the Blidinje Lake offers much more than just admiring the lake itself. Walking along its shores gives you the opportunity to enjoy incredible views of Vran and Čvrsnica mountains.

The journey starts from the Blidinje Mountain Hut, and along the way, you'll come across the church of St. Mary Major and Barrelland Blidinje (a popular barrel). The lake is located at an altitude of 1185 meters and is considered the largest mountain lake in the whole of Bosnia

and Herzegovina. Walking alongside it, you'll feel the fresh mountain air on your face, while your eyes will be captivated by the green expanses beneath Jelink and further across the entire Vran mountain range.

Exploring the largest mountain lake in the entire country is a unique experience that can only be experienced in the Blidinje Nature Park. This experience becomes even greater as you completely encircle the lake and take in every corner.



- Starting point: alongside the lake, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.615579, 17.500498
- · Hiking time: 3 hours
- Elevation gain: 10 km
- · Difficulty of ascent: around 30 m

Gills with 100 viewpoints (Barzonja)

At the place where Čvrsnica emerges from the Blidinje Nature Park and stretches steeply towards the sky and clouds, you will find the areas of Barzonja, Glavica and Grad. These places are full of smaller peaks that resemble a real-life Hobbiton. It is up to you to take a walk and experience first-hand scenes like from "The Lord of the Rings".

The grassy peaks, ranging from 1200 to 1400 meters in height, do not require significant mountaineering effort, making them ideal for

leisurely walks and pleasant gatherings. Each of these peaks offers a unique scenic view of the Blidinje Nature Park. Situated between Vran and Čvrsnica, and just above the Blidinje Lake, they are always the best choice if you opt for a leisurely walk and are eager to take in beautiful landscapes.

In this area, there are no marked hiking trails, but the terrain is suitable for walking without much effort.



- · Starting point: Barzonja, altitude of 1230 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.592940, 17.473971
- · Hiking time: 3 hours
- · Trail length: 8 km
- Elevation gain: around 200 m

Watching the sunset in the Blidinje Nature Park

Watching the sun set behind Vran or lower towards Tomislavgrad is worth every taken step. Choosing an ideal spot from one of the peaks around Barzonja or Glavica, settling in, and witnessing one of the most beautiful sights that this world has to offer us every day is truly priceless. Before the sunset, you can also enjoy the excellent viewpoints around the Blidinje Lake and on two majestic mountains – Vran and Čvrsnica, which are the pride of the Blidinje Nature Park.



- · Starting point: Barzonja, altitude of 1230 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.592940, 17.473971
- · Hiking time: 2.5 hours
- · Trail length: 6 km
- · Elevation gain: around 100 m

Exploring Blidinje Nature Park from Borova Glava

Borova Glava is a peak located near the Blidinje Lake. At an altitude of 1317 meters, it is positioned exactly in the middle of the Blidinje Nature Park, providing an excellent view in all directions. From this vantage point, the view of Čvrsnica takes on a whole new dimension. It appears unbelievably close, allowing you to see the outlines of cliffs and their shadows, as well as trees swaying side by side.

The ascent to Borova Glava takes only half an hour, and you can reach it from two directions. For this reason, it is possible to do a circular

tour, allowing you to visit the immediate vicinity of the Blidinje Lake on the way back to the starting point.

There is a large cross at the very top, and the location is excellent for taking photos that capture the beauty of the Blidinje Lake with Čvrsnica behind it. It is even possible to spot hikers on the ridge of Vran mountain. In the heart of it all, you will find the Blidinje Mountain Hut, which can serve as both the starting and ending point of your hike, providing a place to rest after the walk.



- Starting point: alongside the lake, altitude of 1200 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.615591, 17.500475

· Hiking time: 2.5 hours

Trail length: 4.5 km

• Elevation gain: 130 m

The most beautiful views of Čvrsnica from Galuša

If you are looking for a location from which the massiveness and grandeur of Čvrsnica can be best admired, then Galuša is the perfect place.

Galuša is a 1418-meter-high peak of Vran mountain. It is located right next to Dugo Polje, which immediately suggests the kind of view you can expect of Čvrsnica. To reach Galuša from the field, you'll need to ascend at an altitude of about 230 meters, and every single meter is worth turning back and gazing at Čvrsnica. Once you reach the top, you'll want

to stay as long as possible and surely come back again. The ascent itself is not overly demanding and takes about 40 minutes at a very leisurely pace.

On the other side of Galuša, you will find the peak of Vran at an altitude of 2027 meters. The view of the peak and the steep trail leading to the top is truly awe-inspiring. The White Trail of Via Dinariza also leads through Galuša, and our tour follows the markings of this trail.



- Starting point: alongside the road, altitude of 1200 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.621970, 17.505349
- · Hiking time: 2.5 hours
- Trail length: 4 km
- Elevation gain: around 200 m

A walk through two stećak necropolises

The Blidinje Nature Park, with all its natural wonders, also has much to offer in terms of history, historical events, and cultural heritage left by our ancestors for us to preserve.

The stećak necropolis of Dugo Polje offers just that. Besides being a national monument of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is also under UNES-CO protection. Visiting such a place and hearing details about historical events, presented in the best way by our licensed guides, holds significant value.

Incorporate some activity and visit another stećak necropolis to make this an even greater experience.

Besides the Dugo Polje stećak necropolis, you can also visit the Risovac stećak necropolis as part of this walk. It takes just one hour of leisurely walk to go from one destination to the other.

An active vacation with glimpses of history sounds like a perfectly fulfilling day in the Blidinje Nature Park, where you can also enjoy the beautiful landscapes of Risovac and admire the highest peaks of Vran and Čvrsnica. There are only a few places that offer such a perfect harmony of nature and history as Blidinje does.



- Starting point: Dugo polje necropolis, altitude of 1240 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.663079, 17.542351
- · Hiking time: 3 hours
- Trail length: 10 km
- · Elevation gain: around 50 m

A walk-through history to Diva's grave

Numerous events from the past have been forever recorded and documented in the Blidinje Nature Park. To keep this history alive even after centuries, we have created a trail that leads from Sovićka Vrata to the grave of Dive Grabovčeva.

Walking through the lower areas beneath Vran mountain, accompanied by our licensed guides, you will learn why the hajduks sought refuge in these mountains and why they sought revenge due to Turkish oppression.

With a leisurely pace and accompanied by pleasant storytelling, you will arrive at Diva's grave, where you will hear the story of the girl Diva Grabovčeva, her strong faith, and her tragic fate that befell her at that very spot.

This tour also offers beautiful views of the Blidinje Nature Park area, including Dugo Polje and Risovac, as well as the entire ridge of Velika Čvrsnica. Alongside the historical facts, you can also enjoy the park's stunning scenery.



- · Starting point: Sovićka vrata, altitude of 1250 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.688961, 17.591424

· Hiking time: 3 hours

• Trail length: 11 km

• Elevation gain: around 250 m

The view from the edge of Blidinje Nature Park to the Draženka Canyon

The Drežanka Canyon marks the outer boundary of the Blidinje Nature Park. It is situated between the Čvrsnica and Čabulja mountains, with some areas reaching an incredible depth of 1500 meters.

We will take you on an easy walk from Barzonja to a point where you can enjoy the best view of the Drežanka Canyon. Passage beneath the steep slopes of Jelinka and the beautiful scenery of the higher areas of Čvrsnica, accompanies you every step of the way. When you reach the final destination, the ruggedness and beauty of this canyon will leave you breathless.

It appears as if carved with a sword, and its depth and steep slopes on both sides are truly rare to see in this part of Europe.

The entire walk follows a gravel road. At the beginning, there is a gentle ascent, and towards the end, there is a slight descent to reach the final destination.



- Starting point: Barzonja, altitude of 1230 meters
- · Coordinates for the starting point: 43.592940, 17.473971

Hiking time: 4 hours

• Trail length: 15 km

• Elevation gain: 300 m

A walk through the Muvarnica forest park

The Muvarnica forest park covers an area of 500 hectares. It can be described as the lungs of the Blidinje Nature Park. Tall spruce, pine and beech trees create an oasis of greenery, peace and silence, making it an ideal location for observing the forest's diverse flora and fauna.

The Muvarnica forest park also features a hiking trail that ascends to the high slopes of Čvrsnica and continues towards Veliki Vilinac, Veliki Kuk, and Hajdučka Vrata. The first part of the trail takes about a 40-minute walk through the forest. It is not overly demanding, and the path is shaded by century-old trees, providing relief from the summer heat. The ul-

timate destination of this trail is a viewpoint from which you can witness the magnificent peak of Čvrsnica - Veliki Vilinac. The viewpoint offers a spectacular view of numerous sharp peaks beneath Vilinac, including Lomivrat, Stog, Dvostruki kuk, Trostruki kuk, and Mali Vilinac.

This part of the trail through the forest is considered an easier hiking path, even though it gains elevation along the way. It is perfect for those who may not be physically prepared for high-altitude mountaineering but still want to experience the joys of this hobby.



- · Starting point: Vitlenica, altitude of 1470 meters
- Coordinates for the starting point: 43.673061, 17.622733
- · Hiking time: 2.5 hours
- Trail length: 5 km
- Elevation gain: around 150 m



INFO

- The fee for a specialized mountain guide is BAM 200.00.
- One guide can accompany a group of up to 8 people

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VISITORS:

- it is mandatory to wear sturdy footwear that provides ankle support (hiking boots)
- it is mandatory to carry items that will protect you from worsening weather conditions (raincoat, jacket, etc.)
- it is mandatory to bring a backpack with enough food and water that will last until you return to the starting point (minimum 2 litres of water per person)
- do not rely on mobile signal, thoroughly study the trail you plan to hike. Having a map of Blidinje Nature Park is desirable, but it is essential to memorize key points, such as trail intersections, as it might come in handy
- it is always best to start early on easier hiking tours to ensure that the hike can be completed before it gets dark (this approach allows more time for enjoying the scenic landscapes, appreciating nature, and maintaining a leisurely pace, which reduces the risk of injuries.)
- hiking tours that include watching sunset typically involve returning to the starting point during twilight, so it is essential to bring a flashlight to such tours (one flashlight per person)
- it is mandatory to protect yourself from the sun (sunscreen, hat, sunglasses)

BIKING TOURS

Exploring the Blidinje Nature Park on the "Mountain bicycle trail"

This bike trail takes you past two stećak necropolises, four churches of Blidinje, passes by the grave of Diva Grabovčeva, and then circles around the entire Vran mountain. It follows the edges of the beautiful and azure Blidinje Lake and through various landscapes unique to the Blidnje Nature Park.

The tour starts from the administration building of the Blidinje Nature Park. Right from the start, it descends to Masna Luka to visit the church of St. Elijah. After exploring the church and the Franciscan House of Prayer, this biking tour passes through the beautiful landscapes of Badnje and Ivan dolac, offering excellent views of the high slopes of Čvrsnica overlooking Masna Luka and the ski slopes. Continuing through Ivan dolac and the area with numerous charming holiday houses, it reaches an asphalt road (regional road R-419). After a few hundred meters, a right turn on the asphalt road leads to the Ski-slope for a short rest (it is possible to have a drink in the restaurant). After enjoying the ski slope, the tour leads back to the asphalt road, continuing further to the Risovac stećak necropolis. Next to the stećaks is the old church of Risovac, and a little further along the road, you can see the new large church. From these stećaks to the ones at Dugo polje, the route passes through the Risovac field, adorned with cultivated meadows and small green hills, giving the entire tour a special ambiance, conveying the feeling of being on a lower plateau rather than in a high mountain area. After visiting the Dugo polje stećak necropolis, consisting of

150 stećak tombstones, which is also protected by UNESCO, the tour continues through Kedžara to the grave of Diva Grabovčeva. After a brief historical overview of events forever engraved in the Blidinje Nature Park, the tour proceeds in a circular route around the entire Vran mountain.

Through the villages of Trebiševo and Prokos, and further through Omrčenica, you arrive at the very edge of the Blidinje Nature Park. The entire route passes through vast forested areas, providing a true oasis of peace in the hinterland of Vran mountain. The entire path follows a gravel road. Descending down Omrčenica, you reach the Duvno region and the beginning of the village called Lipa. Here, you switch from the gravel road to an asphalt road that leads from Tomislavgrad to Blidinje. It gently ascends to the exit of the valley that separates Vran and Lib mountains. On the plateau with views of Čvrsnica, Vran, and the Park area between them, you need to turn right and pass through the fields in the village called Svinjača. This place is full of slightly higher hills covered with tall grass, providing excellent vistas of the entire park. At the end of this village, you return to an asphalt road, now the one that connects Blidinje with Posušje. The tour continues downstream towards the lake. Along the way, you pass by the church of St. Mary Major and then along the edges of the Blidinje Lake. After enjoying the lake and the high cliffs of Cvrsnica above it, the tour continues on the asphalt road until returning to the starting point in Masna Luka.



Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre > Masna Luka > Badnje > Ivan Dolac > Ski-slope > Risovac necropolis > Dugo polje necropolis > grave of Diva Grabovčeva > Trebiševo > Prokos > Lipa > Svinjača > Barzonja (church of Gospa Snježna) > Blidinje Mountain Hut (alongside the lake) > Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre

Tour length: around 66 km



Exploring the Blidinje Nature Park on the "Wolf Bicycle Trail"

This bicycle trail takes you on a circular tour through the entire central area of the Blidinje Nature Park. It passes by two stećak necropolises, four churches in Blidinje, and the grave of Diva Grabovčeva. Along the way, you will also visit the ski slope in Risovac and circle around the entire Blidinje Lake.

The tour starts from the administration building of Blidinje Nature Park. Right from the start, it descends to Masna Luka to visit the church of St. Elijah. After exploring the church and the Franciscan House of Prayer, this biking tour passes through the beautiful landscapes of Badnje and Ivan Dolac, offering excellent views of the high slopes of Čvrsnica overlooking Masna Luka and the ski slopes. Continuing through Ivan Dolac and the area with numerous charming holiday houses, the route reaches an asphalt road (regional road R-419). After a few hundred meters, a right turn on the asphalt road leads to the Ski-slope for a short rest (it is possible to have a drink in the restaurant). After enjoying the ski slope, the tour leads back to the asphalt road, continuing further to the Risovac stećak necropolis. Next to the stećaks is the old church of Risovac, and a little further along the road, you can see the new large church.

After the old church in Risovac, the tour continues further to Sovićka Vrata, from where there is an excellent view of the entire area of

the Blidinje Nature Park that you previously passed through. After that point, the route transitions to a gravel road, offering a clear view of the majestic Čvrsnica mountain. This path leads to the grave of Diva Grabovčeva, and after exploring this historically significant site, which holds great cultural value for the entire region, the route continues on a gravel road to yet another important location. Descending gently, you reach the Dugo Polje stećak necropolis, which is under the protection of UNESCO and consists of 150 stećak tombstones.

After exploring the stećak tombstones, the tour continues along a long asphalt road towards the Blidinje Lake. It passes by the restaurant Hajdučke Vrleti and the chapel of St. Anthony before reaching the lake. The tour then continues in a circle around the lake, passing by the church of St. Mary Major on Barzonja and ventures into the forest expanses of Čvrsnica. Travelling along the lower side of the lake, you will also pass by "Barrelland", whose unique architecture fits perfectly into the entire area. Before reaching the end of the tour, you will ride through the forested fire road in Boričevac. After passing through the area of tall pine trees, you will eventually reach an asphalt road leading back to Masna Luka. After just a few minutes of riding on this road, you will arrive at the end of this bicycle tour.



Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre > Masna Luka > Badnje > Ivan dolac > ski-slope > Risovac necropolis > Sovićka vrata > grave of Diva Grabovčeva > Dugo polje necropolis > Hajdučke Vrleti > St. Anthony chapel > Blidinje Mountain Hut > Barzonja (church of St. Mary Major) > Barrelland > Boričevac > Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre

Tour length: around 44 km

Exploring the Blidinje Nature Park on the "Hajduk Bicycle Trail"

This biking route takes you through beautiful landscapes, starting from Masna Luka, passing through Badnje and the ski slope, to the Risovac stećak necropolis. Then it continues to the Dugo Polje necropolis, which is protected by UNESCO. Throughout the ride, you will be in the heart of the Blidinje Nature Park, and this trail offers excellent views of Vran and Čvrsnica, as well as parts of the Blidinje Lake and Risovac.

The tour starts from the administration building of Blidinje Nature Park. Right from the start, it descends to Masna Luka to visit the church of St. Elijah. After exploring the church and the Franciscan House of Prayer, this bicycle tour passes through the beautiful landscapes of Badnje and Ivan Dolac, offering excellent views of the high slopes of Čvrsnica overlooking Masna Luka and the ski slopes. Continuing through Ivan dolac and the area with numerous charming holiday houses, it reaches an asphalt road (regional road R-419). After a few hundred meters, a right turn on the asphalt road leads to the ski-slope for a short rest (it is possible to have a drink in the restaurant). After enjoying the ski slope, the tour leads back to the asphalt road, continuing further to the Risovac

stećak necropolis. Next to the stećak necropolis is the old church of Risovac, and a little further along the road, you can see the new large church. From this stećak necropolis to the one at Dugo polje, the tour passes through the Risovac field, adorned with cultivated meadows and small green hills, giving the entire tour a special ambiance conveying the feeling of being on a lower plateau rather than in a high mountain area. After visiting the Dugo polje stećak necropolis, which is also protected by UNESCO and consists of 150 stećak tombstones, the tour continues through the central part of the Blidinje Nature Park.

By following the long asphalt road towards the Blidinje Lake, the views on all sides will leave a lasting impression of the extraordinary beauty of the Blidinje Nature Park. Upon reaching the lake, you can enjoy and rest amidst the gentle sounds of its rippling waters swayed by the mountain breeze. After the lake, you will need to pass along the edge of Dugo Polje towards the Boričevac forests, then traverse through the gravel path and tall pine forest to return to the asphalt road leading back to Masna Luka. After a few minutes on the asphalt, you will reach the starting point where this tour ends.



Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre > Masna Luka > Badnje > Ivan dolac > ski-slope > Risovac necropolis > Dugo polje necropolis > Hajdučke Vrleti > St. Anthony chapel > Blidinje Mountain Hut > Boričevac > Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre

Tour length: around 32 km

Exploring the Blidinje Nature Park on the "Vilinac Bicycle Trail"

This bicycle trail takes you through the most beautiful and popular areas of the Blidinje Nature Park. It is a delightful tourist excursion through the park, experiencing it in a leisurely manner on two wheels, following the green destination concept, and leaving no environmental footprints.

The tour starts from the heart of the entire park, which is Masna Luka. With breath-taking views of the magnificent Čvrsnica mountain and a ride along the edges of the forest of endemic munika pine, the entire route follows an asphalt road that doesn't require significant physical effort. Besides exploring the fascinating attraction of Masna Luka, the tour also takes you to the Dugo Polje stećak necropolis. As you exit onto the main road connecting Posušje, Tomislavgrad, and Jablanica, you need to head right towards the necropolis. It's worth mentioning that UNESCO has recognized the beauty of this centuries-old stećak necropolis and placed it under protection. After a glimpse of history by the necropolis, you return along the same road towards the Blidinje Lake. The long stretch of 6.5 km between these two points takes you alongside Hajdučke Vrleti, the lower cave of Mijat Tomić, the chapel of St. Anthony, and eventually leads to the Blidinje Lake. The long asphalt road

that requires hardly any turns allows for a leisurely ride while enjoying the sights, which can be captivating for hours. Čvrsnica and Vran follow your every step throughout the journey. The views of their high peaks will leave you in awe, and all this beauty will call you to try mountain hiking and venture up to those heights to become a part of all that splendour.

Upon reaching the lake, you will come across the Blidinje Mountain Hut, situated in the most ideal location. Next to the lake is the perfect place to rest your body, soul and eyes. Just sitting and listening to the turbulent mountain water would be entirely fulfilling in today's world, but you will also feel the gentle mountain air caressing your face. Behind the lake, your gaze will be captivated by Jelinak, Čvrsnica's green peak, overlooking the lake, making the entire landscape even more beautiful.

With pure enjoyment along the lake, the same asphalt road leads you back to Masna Luka, providing more opportunities to enjoy the diverse beauties of the Blidinje Nature Park. Lastly, we always recommend to descend to St. Elijah's Church in Masna Luka and check out why this place is the centre of everything, and then end the tour at the Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre.



Visitor Centre Visit Blidinje > exit onto the main road > Dugo polje necropolis > Hajdučke Vrleti > St. Anthony Chapel > Blidinje Lake > return back to Masna Luka via asphalt road > St. Elijah church > Visit Blidinje Visitor Centre

Tour length: around 19 km



- The fee for a specialized cycling guide is BAM 200.00.
- One guide can accompany a group of up to 8 people.
- Bicycles can be rented at a rate of BAM 5.00 per hour or BAM 25.00 per day.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VISITORS:

- All four bicycle tours are located in high mountainous areas, and a significant portion of the route follows roads with rough gravel
- It is necessary to bring sufficient food and water to sustain you throughout the entire chosen route

MISCELLANEOUS

Tour of a rural household with traditional breakfast/lunch

Over the many centuries of inhabiting these areas, the residents of the Blidinje Nature Park have developed their own way of life, which is still preserved today in the rural households located in this area.

Our rural households are located right within the Nature Park at an altitude of 1200 meters. The tour lasts for two hours, during which you have the unique opportunity to get to know the life of the people in this protected area, taste products prepared according to traditional recipes, and if you wish, you can also purchase these products. These households are home to domestic animals, so children will especially enjoy the experience of interacting with the animals, making it an unforgettable experience for them.



- Price of the arrangement: BAM 40/pax for adults;
 children aged 3-12 get 50% discount, children under 3- free of charge.
- The price includes a guided tour of the household and breakfast or lunch prepared from local ingredients in a traditional way.

Canoeing on the Blidinje lake

Visit Blidinje has included in its offer of activities and experiences in the Blidinje Nature Park a panoramic canoeing tour on the Blidinje Lake with professional guides. This allows visitors to experience Blidinje Lake and Blidinje Nature Park from a new and special perspective.

This type of canoeing tour is as a unique and eco-friendly way to explore the beauty of the Blidinje Nature Park.

By offering such activities, Visit Blidinje aims to promote the park's beauties and values in the most beautiful and sustainable manner possible.



Duration and price of the panoramic canoeing tour:

- · 30 minutes, BAM 20 per person
- · 60 minutes, BAM 40 per person

Franciscan house of prayer, Masna Luka

Located in the heart of the Blidinje Nature Park, on the slopes of Čvrsnica mountain, the Franciscan House of Prayer in Masna Luka is an oasis of peace situated at an altitude of 1204 meters. It is the result of the centuries-long love and care of the Franciscan friars from the Herzegovinian Franciscan Province towards these lands and its people. In the past,

these lands were home to shepherds and their flocks, while in recent decades, it has become a destination for individuals seeking to rest their bodies and find their souls.

The entire complex is a harmonious entity, and its architecture blends perfectly and unobtrusively into the natural surroundings.



The Franciscan House of Prayer offers the following:

- 40 single rooms and 8 en suite double rooms
- a chapel with seating for about 30 people
- a dining area
- a large hall with a capacity of 60 seats
- a small hall with a capacity of 40 seats
- a common room.

INFO:

For all information, please check the official web site at www.masnaluka.ba
For inquiries, please contact us at info@masnaluka.ba

Archery

Archery and arrows are tools used since the earliest beginnings of human civilization, while today, their usage is primarily recreational. Engaging in archery helps improve coordination and concentration, and when combined with pure mountain air and beautiful surroundings, it offers a healthy and enjoyable activity for people of all ages.

Upon arrival at the estate, you will be greeted by a professional instructor who provides equipment and instructions, and teaches proper archery techniques. During approximately two hours, you will have the opportunity to practice, compete, and have a great time in a relaxed atmosphere.



INFO:

- Price of the arrangement: BAM 30 per person; 50 % discount for children
- Price includes: professional instructor, bows and arrows, targets, and materials for recording results.
- NOTE: Minimum 2, and maximum 20 participants.

Picnic tasting experience in nature

Picnic in nature is a great way to spend quality time with loved ones. A picnic in the Blidinje Nature Park with locally selected products is an experience you will surely cherish for a long time.

Whether you need relaxation after a busy workweek or seek fun and enjoyment with out-

door dining, Blidinje Nature Park offers a picnic as the ideal solution. All you need to do is reach out to us, and we will prepare everything necessary for the picnic, including equipment and carefully selected products that you will taste in a unique natural setting.



INFO:

- Price of the arrangement per person: BAM 40
- The offer includes: picnic equipment, location suggestion, selection of traditional products for tasting, and wine.

Getting to know herbs and their everyday application

The Blidinje Nature Park is a unique blend of the Mediterranean and mountains. Plants have adapted to the specific microclimatic conditions and developed their strongest survival components, while people have found ways to utilize them for their own survival.

There are limited written records about life in Blidinje, but there are recipes for products that are still used today, prepared in a traditional manner.

The exchange of raw materials with the population from the southern regions has changed over time, but the recipes have remained the same for centuries.

Preserving health and strength and surviving the winter were essential tasks. The herbs of the Blidinje Nature Park, then and now, fulfil all these tasks

Our workshop takes you on a journey into the past, where you will learn how to apply traditional recipes in the present and enrich the quality of life in a simple way. We will explore herbs such as yarrow, St. John's wort, peppermint, thyme, plantain, and St. John's wort flowers, as well as our conifer trees combined with rakija (brandy), olive oil, honey, and beeswax, just as our grandmothers used to do.



Workshop concept:

- 1. Arrival and welcome drink: tea and rakija (brandy).
- 2. Preparation of mountain balm using ready-made macerates; basic instructions on how to enhance macerates and balms with essential oils approximately 30 minutes
- 3. Walk to Masna Luka, getting acquainted with the methods of picking herbs, attitude towards herbs, how to differentiate between the scents of herbs and animals, how to be cautious of snakes, follow animal trails, and administer first aid for wasp and bee stings. Stories about hajduks and herbs; connection between herbs and legends – approximately one and a half hour of walking
- 4. Return to the administration building of the Blidinje Nature Park; the macerates have solidified; labels are attached, and tea is chosen to take home; other products from the offer may be purchased.

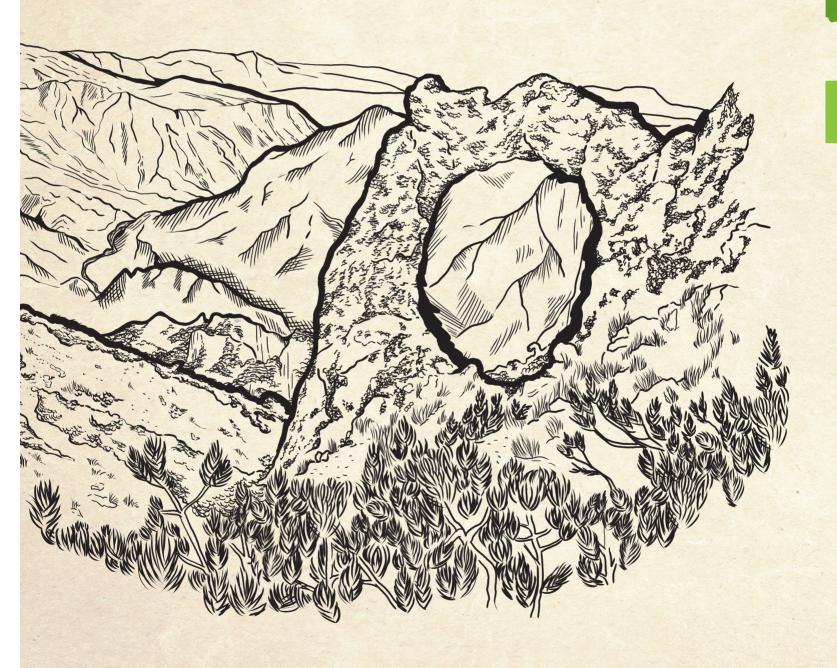


As part of the workshop, you get:

- 50 ml balm
- 50 g tea

INFO:

- The price of the arrangement: BAM 85 per person
- Duration of the workshop: 3 hours
- Minimum number of participants: 4
- Maximum number of participants: 10



ACCOMODATION & GASTRONOMY

Blidinje nature park Administration building/ Visitor centre

The administration building of the Blidinje Nature Park is located in arguably the most beautiful part of the park, in Masna Luka, under the stunning Čvrsnica mountain, providing one of the most magnificent views of this beautiful area. The building serves as a unique visitor centre and can accommodate 35 people. It includes a restaurant, kitchen, and a conference hall.



- The conference hall is available for rental and comes equipped with a projector, screen, and laptop. The rental price is BAM 200.00 for up to 4 hours.
- Office rental is also available at a price of BAM 50 per day.

The building offers the following rooms:

- · 1 single room (twin bed)
- · 8 double rooms (twin beds)
- · 2 triple rooms (twin beds)
- · 3 quadruple rooms (twin beds + bunk bed)
- The accommodation price per night is BAM 65 per person with breakfast included.
- Note: If a room is used by only one person, the accommodation price with breakfast is BAM 75 per person.

Hajdučke vrleti Blidinje

Hajdučke Vrleti is located in a separate and stunning location, in the heart of a mountain paradise. It is a fusion of timeless architecture, astonishing natural beauty, and the hospitable traditions of Herzegovina. The interior of the building is unique and original, crafted over the years with great love and attention to every detail. Hajdučke Vrleti serves as an oasis of relaxation and great entertainment, a place that offers a diverse range of experiences and is a gastronomic paradise that will satisfy even the most discerning quests.

The gastronomic story of Hajdučke Vrleti is based on authentic and traditional Herzegovinian cuisine, both original and with a modern twist. The menu is adapted to the seasonal availability of ingredients while also listening to the desires and needs of its guests. Throughout its history, Hajdučke Vrleti has preserved numerous interesting traditions, with the most prominent being the establishment of the "Hajduk Republic of Mijat Tomić" in 2002 and the launch of the unique event "Dobro slaži i ostani živ" (Lie and stay alive) in 2003.



- · Accommodation capacity: 38 people
- Accommodation price: BAM 30.00-75.00
- · Restaurant: 220 seats
- It can house all kinds of special events and conferences, business meetings and team-building events.

Restoran Staza Blidinje

If you wish to spend some quality time in nature, the Staza Restaurant offers you a pleasant mountain ambiance with a rich selection of local traditional dishes and international specialties, along with catering and accommodation facilities.

You can taste homemade dishes and drinks while enjoying the beautiful terrace surrounded by a century-old pine forest. There are both indoor and outdoor playgrounds, work street equipment, a ski slope for children and adults, and additional activities. If you and your friends simply want to relax with a coffee or other drinks, there is also a ski bar available.



- · Accommodation capacity: 24 people
- · Accommodation price: BAM 45.00-65.00
- · Restaurant: 200 seats
- It can house private celebrations and business gatherings.

Restoran Risovac

Relax in a pleasant mountain ambiance with friendly staff and delicious traditional food at the Risovac motel-restaurant, located right at the entrance to the Blidinje Nature Park from the direction of Jablanica.

The restaurant has 140 seating places, with 100 indoor and 40 on the outdoor terrace, offering a beautiful view of the Blidinje Nature Park.

As an additional service, the facility includes 6 rooms, comprising four triple rooms (double and single bed) and two double rooms (double bed). The rooms are small but comfortable, equipped with a private bathroom and a skylight.

There are also two newly furnished one-bedroom apartments of 50 m² each for 4 people.



- · Accommodation capacity: 24 people
- · Accommodation price: BAM 30.00-200.00
- · Restaurant: 140 seats
- It can house private celebrations and business gatherings.

Konoba Vilinac

Pension Vilinac is located in the beautiful Blidinje Nature Park. Besides accommodation services, it also offers two taverns (Mali Vilinac and Veliki Vilinac), a ski and snowboarding school, ski rental services, and ski equipment servicing. Pension Vilinac stands out as an excellent choice for those who want to experience both the untouched nature of Blidinje and have an unforgettable experience in the snow.

The taverns (Mali Vilinac and Veliki Vilinac) guarantee fun and comfort, and offer refreshments with various homemade liqueurs, teas, hot and cold drinks. Moreover, you can explore their vast selection of house specialties, topnotch local cuisine, and grilled dishes.



- · Accommodation capacity: 7 apartments, 4 rooms and a wide range of holiday houses
- · Accommodation price: BAM 30.00 50.00
- · Restaurant: 50 seats
- · It can house festive events.

Restoran Bosiljna

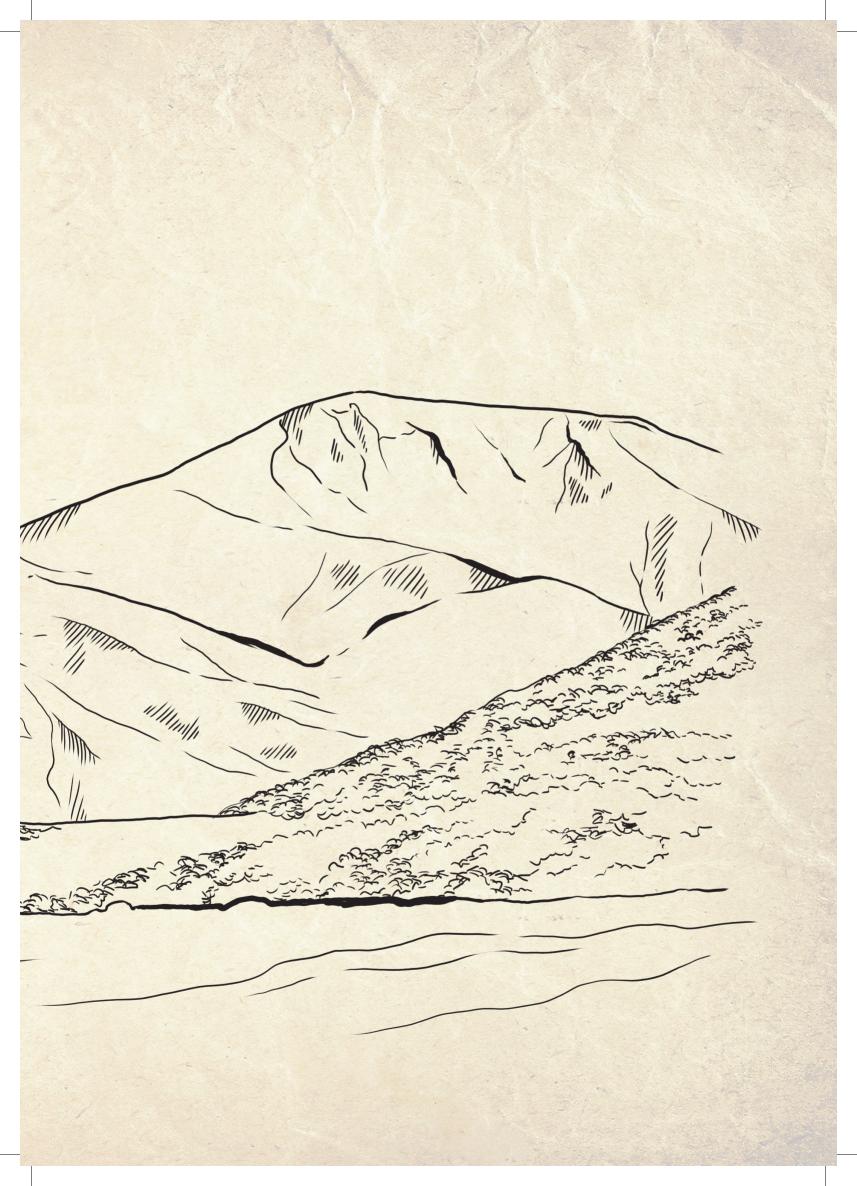
The restaurant was opened back in 1983. Today's tourists seek to consume authentic products and enjoy untouched nature. Restaurant "Bosiljna" is the perfect place for this. The restaurant offers a selection of old Herzegovinian traditional dishes, with all ingredients from nearby family farms, ensuring top-notch

quality. Both local guests and foreign tourists are thrilled with such an offer, and their praises keep pouring in. At the "Bosiljna" restaurant, you can taste exquisitely prepared homemade dishes and drinks following age-old recipes, while enjoying the beautiful terrace surrounded by a century-old beech forest.



- Accommodation capacity: 13 people
- Accommodation price: from BAM 40.00
- · Restaurant: 200 seats
- · It can house festive events.









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