

Radovan Pobor and Judith Schürmann Pobor

20 Hikingtrails between the Adriatic Sea and the Skadar Lake



20 staza između mora i jezera



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Contents

Sadržaj

Foreword	3
General Information	5
Coastline - Introduction	8
1 Easy Hiking through the Olive Groves to Stari Bar (Bartula-Stari Bar)	10
2 The Volujica Peninsula	11
3 The "Haj Nehaj" Fortress	12
Coastal Mountain - Introduction	14
4 Sea and Coastal Mountains (Kufin-Presjeka-Buljarica)	16
5 Panoramic Path with descent to the Region of Crmnica	17
6 Vrsuta (1183 m)	18
7 Along the Panoramic Path (Sutorman-Čukulijeri-Zupci)	19
8 Hiking to the Mountain Villages above Bar (Stari Bar-Gornji Mikulići-Gornji Podi)	20
9 Lisinj (1353 m) - A Mountain Ridge with beautiful Viewpoints	21
10 Bijela Skala (Stari Bar-Bijela Skala- Donji Murići)	22
11 Rumija (1594 m) - A Mountain Top between the Lake and the Sea	23
The South Side of Lake Skadar - Introduction	25
12 Circular Route of Livari	28
13 Livari-Pinčići-Bijela Skala-Livari Hiking through the Mountains to the B.Skala Pass	29
14 From the Mountain Village of Livari to the Natural Beach of Donji Murići	30
The "Upper Part" of the Lake Skadar and Crmnica- Introduction	32
15 Mijela Trail - a diverse Cirkular Tour with a View of the Lake	34
16 Hiking over the Pass to the Historic Village of Godinje (Zabes-Godinje)	35
17 Cirkular Hike through the Valley of Orahovštica	36
18 Through the desolate Karst Mountains to the most beautiful Viewpoint of Lake Skadar (Virpazar-Braćeni-Popratnice-Komarno-Viewpoint Zaboj-Komarno)	37
19 Along Old Trade Routes to Rijeka Crnojevića at the beginning of the Lake (Komarno-Poseljani-Rijeka Crnojevića)	38
20 Viewpoint of Vranjina	39
More offers of Nature-based Tourism	41
Epilogue of the authors	43

Apart from the classic seaside tourism on the coast and boat trips on Lake Skadar, the Bar district offers many valuable natural and cultural treasures that are little known but worth discovering. The sea coast is wonderful with its cliffs and coves, although it is very crowded during the summer season. The town of Stari Bar ("Old Bar"), an Ottoman-style town, is surrounded by olive groves at the foot of the Mountain of Rumija. Desolate coastal mountains rise high above the sea and form a picturesque backdrop.

On the other side of the mountains is Lake Skadar. The largest lake in the Balkans is mostly an untouched natural paradise thanks to its inaccessible coast. The southern part of the lake is characterized by bare mountain slopes and karst islands. Impressive chestnut forests and olive groves surround the villages. In the upper part of the lake, a fjord-like landscape beckons with belts of water lilies, reeds and magnificent viewpoints. In the hinterland of the village of Virpazar, known for its boat trips, is the valley of Orahovštica, which with its scattered mountain villages and a clear river forms a microregion.

The riches and potential of the beautiful natural and cultural landscape are best discovered on foot. Once well-established trade routes and small paths lead from village to village, from lake across the mountains to the sea, often with spectacular views.

In the forays into the valleys, on the mountain slopes and along the shore of the lake, one will come across the traces of earlier decades and centuries: dry stone walls and terraces in the middle of the forest, ruins of old mills on watercourses and threshing floors lined with stones bear witness about the struggle of previous generations for survival.

The book presents the most beautiful hiking tours in the district of Bar with a brief introduction to the different regions. In addition, some gastronomic offers and activities in nature-related tourism are pointed out.

Područje Bara osim klasičnog primorskog turizma i izleta čamcima po Skadarskom jezeru – nudi mnoga vrijedna prirodna i kulturna blaga, koja su malo poznata ali uvijek vrijedna otkrivanja.

Morska obala je sa svojim liticama i uvalama vrlo lijepa za kupanje, iako tokom ljetnje sezone vlada velika gužva. Grad Stari Bar ("Stari Bar"), grad u otomanskom stilu, okružen je maslinjacima u podnožju planine Rumije. Usamljene obalne planine uzdižu se visoko iznad mora i čine slikovitu kulisu.

Sa druge strane planina nalazi se Skadarsko jezero. Najveće jezero na Balkanu uglavnom je netaknuti prirodni raj zahvaljujući nepristupačnoj obali. Južni dio jezera karakterišu gole planinske padine i kraška ostrva. Šume impresivnih kestena i maslinjaci okružuju sela.

U gornjem dijelu jezera mami krajolik nalik fjordovima sa pojasevima lokvanja i trske i veličanstvenim vidikovcima. U zaledu varošice Virpazar, poznatog po izletima čamcima, nalazi se dolina Orahovštice, koja sa svojim raštrkanim planinskim selima i bistrom rijekom čini mikroregiju.

Bogatstva i potencijale prekrasnog prirodnog i kulturnog krajolika najbolje je otkriti pješice. Nekada dobro utvrđeni trgovački putevi i male staze vode od sela do sela, od jezera preko planina do mora, često sa spektakularnim pogledom.

U pohodima u doline, na planinske obronke i uz obalu jezera, nailazite na tragove ranijih decenija i vjekova: suvomeđe i terase usred šume, ruševine starih mlinova na vodotocima, gumna obložena kamenjem itd. svjedoče o borbi prethodnih generacija za opstanak.

U ovoj brošuri predstavljene su najljepše pješačke ture u Barskom okrugu i bližoj okolini. Dodatne informacije pružaju uvid u različite regije. Predlozi turističke ponude na stazama nude priliku za autentične susrete s ljudima u selima. Dodatno, predloženi se održivi primjeri turističke ponude.

South side od the lake



Requirements

Due to the rocky terrain and uneven paths, a steady footing is necessary for most of the trails. Physical fitness levels should correspond to the demands of each individual path, including the height difference and mileage to be covered. Some paths are family-friendly. While the paths are well-marked, longer tours in the coastal mountains may require orientation skills and mountaineering experience given the narrow and steep terrain, since the paths are often desolate and there is almost no infrastructure on them.

Equipment

It is recommended to wear long pants and good shoes to protect against vegetation, snakes, and quarries. Hiking poles can also be helpful. Sun and rain protection are advised, depending on weather conditions. In case of thunderstorms and unstable weather conditions, heavy showers should be expected. Additionally, it is important to bring plenty of drinking water, as it may not be possible to refill along many of the paths.

Ideal Time of Year

Spring and autumn are the ideal seasons for hiking in southern Montenegro, with comfortable temperatures and lush vegetation along the paths. From mid-June to the end of August, it is often very hot and dry, and hikers should be mindful of possible forest fires. However, even in the late autumn and winter, hikers can enjoy beautiful sunny and clear days for hiking.

Maps and the Online Platform

This guide is a fantastic resource for hikers looking to plan and navigate the trails independently. Hikers can use the attached QR code to connect directly to the www.outdooractive.com platform and access corresponding maps and GPX data. For those who prefer to have a guide accompany them on their trek, bookings can be made by emailing: info@balkantour.ch

Additional Offers

Contact information for sustainable tourism options that are marked on the maps can be found at the end of this guide.

Knowledge of Foreign Languages

In rural areas, the older generation may only speak Montenegrin. However, young people typically have some command of English.

Important Numbers

In case of emergency, dial **112 for coordination of emergency situations**,

123 for an ambulance, 122 for the police, and 124 for firefighters.

Mobile phone network signals are available in most mountain areas.

Zahtjevnost

Zbog često kamenitih i neravnih staza, na većini njih potreban je siguran korak. Opšta tjelesna kondicija mora odgovarati zahtjevnosti pojedinih staza: visinska razlika i kilometreža koja se savlađuje. Neke od staza su pogodne i za porodice sa djecom. Staze su dobro markirane, ali za duže ture po primorskim planinama potrebne su orientacione vještine i planinarsko iskustvo, budući da su staze često usamljene i gotovo da nema nikakve infrastrukture na njima.

Oprema

Preporučuju se dugačke pantalone i dobre cipele zbog niskog rastinja, zmija i kamenjara. Štapovi za planinarenje takođe mogu biti od pomoći. Zavisno od vremenskih uslova : zaštita od sunca i od kiše. U slučaju grmljavine i nestabilnih vremenskih prilika treba očekivati jake pljuskove. Sa sobom ponesite dovoljno vode za piće jer se na mnogim stazama voda ne može dopuniti.

Idealno doba godine

Proljeće i jesen su idealni za planinarenje u južnoj Crnoj Gori što se tiče temperature i vegetacije. Od sredine juna do kraja avgusta često je vrlo vruće i suvo. Osim toga, pozornost treba obratiti i na moguće šumske požare. Čak i u kasnu jesen i zimu ima prekrasnih sunčanih i vedrih dana za planinarenje.

Karte i online platforma

Uz pomoć ovog vodiča možete sami planirati i šetati po stazama. Pomoću priloženog QR koda možete se direktno povezati na platformu [Outdooractive.com](https://www.outdooractive.com) i dobiti pristup odgovarajućem dijelu karte i gpx. podacima.

Ako više volite biti vođeni, možete rezervisati vodiča na : info@balkantour.ch

Dodatna ponuda

Kontaktni podaci održivih primjera turističke ponude označenih na kartama navedeni su na posljednjim stranicama ovog vodiča.

Poznavanje stranih jezika

Starija generacija u selima često govori samo crnogorski. Mladi ljudi uglavnom mogu manje-više dobro komunicirati na engleskom jeziku.

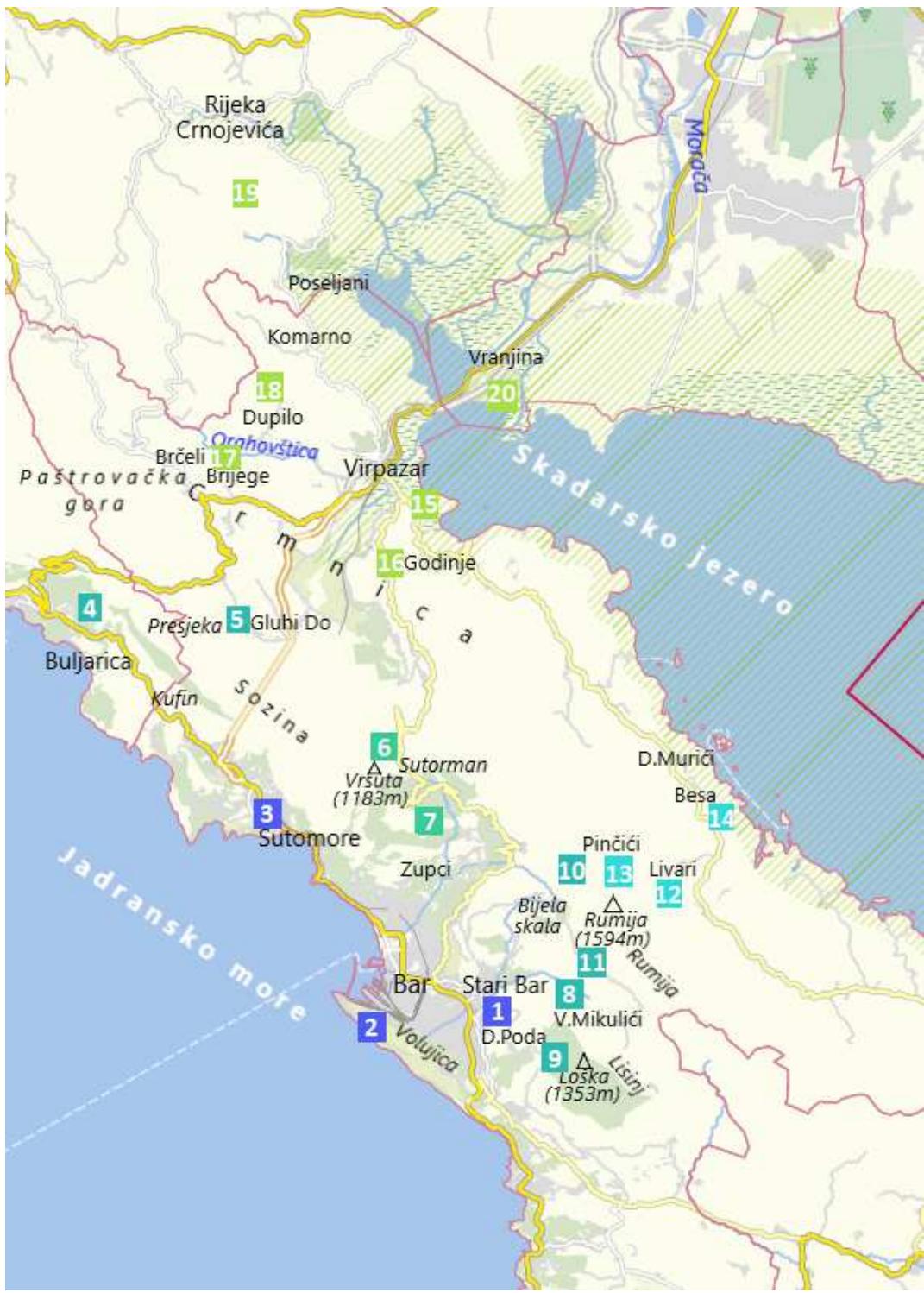
Važni brojevi

112 - koordinacija hitnih slučajeva, 123 - hitna pomoć, 122 - policija, 124 - vatrogasci.

Signal mobilne mreže telefona je u većini planinskih oblasti dostupan.

Orahovštica Valley





Coastline - Introduction

The coastline in the municipality of Bar offers an abundance of cultural and natural beauty. Sandy and pebbly beaches located in small coves, covered with pine forests, invite visitors to swim and sunbathe. The picturesque coastal mountains provide a stunning backdrop. However, during midsummer, the coast can become crowded with visitors, as is the case in many other popular destinations.

Stari Bar (Old Town of Bar) is definitely worth a visit. The town is surrounded by centuries-old olive groves at the foot of the Mountain of Rumija. A stroll through the ruined fortress of Stari Bar is fascinating, with an impressive fortress featuring town walls, an aqueduct, a Turkish bath, churches, and residential buildings that are still intact or have been carefully restored. The town's rich history includes influences from Byzantium, the Slavic dynasties, the Venetians, and the Ottomans, all of which have left their mark on the area. Unfortunately, from the end of the 19th century, Stari Bar lost its significance and was eventually destroyed by gunpowder explosions and a devastating earthquake. However, the surrounding bazaar district is still worth a stroll, with its pleasant and excellent restaurants and souvenir shops. Stari Bar is a town of mixed ethnicity and religion, where Slavic and Albanian Montenegrins, Muslims, Orthodox, and Catholics live together harmoniously.

At the start of the 20th century, previously uninhabitable swamplands near the sea began to be populated more and more. Today, the port town of Bar is characterized by buildings from both the communist and modern era. Wide boulevards are adorned with trees, and the nice promenade by the sea, lined with palm trees and oleanders, invites visitors to take a leisurely stroll.

Sutomore, a small coastal town popular during the summer season, has a nice sandy beach.

Visitors can also explore historical heritage sites, such as the Fortress of Haj-Nehaj and the ruins of the former Benedictine convent on the Ratac peninsula located between Bar and Sutomore.

Morska obala – uvod

Morska obala u opštini Bar ima mnogo toga da ponudi u smislu kulturnih i prirodnih ljepota. Pješčane i šljunkovite plaže smještene u malim uvalama obraslim borovom šumom- pozivaju na kupanje i sunčanje. U pozadini, primorske planine prave slikoviti pejzaž. Usred ljeta, međutim, obala je prepuna posjetioca, kao što je slučaj na mnogim mjestima.

Morska obala - uvod

Zanimljiva je šetnja razrušenom tvrđavom Starog Bara: impresivna tvrđava sa gradskim zidinama, akvadukt, turski hamam, neke crkve i stambene zgrade još su netaknute ili pažljivo restaurirane. Vizantija, slovenske dinastije, Mlečani i Osmanlije ostavili su traga. Od kraja XIX vijeka grad gubi na važnosti i konačno je uništen eksplozijama baruta i razornim potresom. Okolna bazarska četvrt poziva vas na šetnju sa ugodnim i dobrim restoranima i suvenircicama. Stari Bar je etnički i vjerski vrlo mješovit: ovdje zajedno žive slovenski i albanski Crnogorci, muslimani, pravoslavci i katolici.

Od početka XX vijeka počinje sve veće naseljavanje dotad nenastanjive močvare uz more. Danas lučki grad Bar karakterišu građevine iz komunističkog i modernog doba. Široki bulevardi djelimično su ukrašeni drvećem.

Prekrasna promenada uz more ukrašena palmama i oleandrima poziva vas na šetnju. U malom primorskom mjestu Sutomoru, koje je tokom sezone vrlo posjećeno, nalazi se prekrasna pješčana plaža.

Ostali primjeri istorijske zaostavštine mogu se pronaći u Sutomoru (tvrđava Haj Nehaj, tura 3) i u ruševinama nekadašnjeg benediktinskog samostana na poluostrvu Ratac između Bara i Sutomora.

Coastline near Buljarica



1 Easy Hiking through the Olive Groves to Stari Bar

3 km → 1 h ↑ 130m ↓ 150m

Bartula-Stari Bar



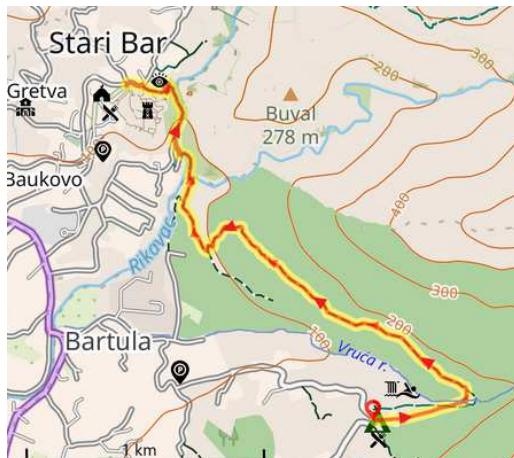
A marked path leads from the camp Bartula through the olive groves and across some streams with crystal clear water. The impressive scenery of the coastal mountains can be seen above the ancient olive trees, far below the sea shines. The second part of the path is partially concreted to facilitate the cultivation of olives. The autochthonous olive variety of "Barska Zlatica" ("Gold Olive of Bar") is characterized by gnarled trees with striking holes and concavities. After the third bridge, a small path on the right leads steeply up the slope to the ramparts of town of Stari Bar. A walk between the ruins of the town in front of the picturesque mountain backdrop is worth well: the impressive fortress with the town walls, the aqueduct, the Turkish bath, several churches and residential buildings are still partially preserved or have been carefully restored.

Difficulty of the path: Easy and diverse hiking, suitable for families with children.

- Olive groves and canyons.
- The ruined city of Stari Bar.
- Below Camp Bartula, a waterfall with a bathing pool beckons.

Tipps

- Instead of the steep climb to the fortress, go left through the settlement to the bazaar.



Lagano pješačenje kroz maslinjake do Starog Bara

(Bartula - Stari Bar)

Od kampa Bartula vodi markirana staza kroz maslinjake i preko potoka s kristalno čistom vodom. Iznad stoljetnjih stabala maslina, primorske planine čine impresivnu pozadinu, a ispod njih blista more. Drugi dio staze je djelimično betoniran radi lakšeg uzgoja maslina. Autohtonu sortu masline Barska zlatica karakterišu kvrgava stabla sa upеatljivim rupama i udubljenjima. Nakon trećeg mosta, mala staza sa desne strane vodi strmo uz padinu do bedema Starog Bara. Šetnja između ruševina grada ispred živopisne planinske kulise i te kako se isplati: impresivna tvrđava sa gradskim zidinama, akvadukt, turski hamam, nekoliko crkava i stambenih zgrada još su djelimično sačuvani ili su pažljivo obnovljeni.

Zahtjevnost staze: lagano pješačenje, raznoliko, pogodno za porodice sa djecom

2 The Volujica Peninsula



9 km → 3 h ↑ 300m ↓ 300m

The desolate and rocky peninsula of Volujica forms a natural shelter for the port of Bar. There are two fields ("Polje") with some estates in the middle. Sheep, goats and cows graze on barren and rocky slopes.

The ascent begins at the Rikavac River tunnel and leads along a macadam road to the passage below the repeater. A marked path leads across a field, with a ruin which serves as a goat barn, and further through the bushes to the protected pebble bay of Bigovica, with crystal clear sea. Back to the ruin we return on the macadam road to the small passage below the repeater station. From here, a marked route with barely visible path leads over a wide ridge to Velji Vrh ("Big Summit" - 182 m).



The terrain is rocky and requires steady walking, but it offers a beautiful view of the sea towards Albania and the Port of Bar. Before the descent, you can make a short visit to the newly renovated church of Sveti Ilija ("Saint Elijah"). Descend on the macadam road through the forest and return to the starting point on the uneven path at the foot of the mountain.

Difficulty of the path: In the second part of the tour (Velji Vrh), surefootedness is required on an uneven and stony terrain. The return at the foot of the mountain leads about 30 m, exposed above a steep wall.

 During beautiful winter days or in springtime and autumn, the peninsula offers panoramic walks in a desolate and interesting landscape. It should be avoided in summer days due to the heat and strong exposure to the sunlight.

- ▷ - If only the first part of the tour is being done, there aren't any difficulties.
- From the beach of Bigovica, a narrow, unmarked path runs along the right side of the bay and offers a beautiful view of the sea.
- A marked path leads from WP 1 to the almost inaccessible Crvena Stijena cove. It is worth climbing to the small pass, where the view opens up towards the steep coast and to Albania. The very risky descent to the desolate beach is not recommended.

Poluostrvo Volujica

Pusto i kamenito poluostrvo Volujica dugačak je greben koji čini prirodni zaklon Barskoj luci. U sredini se nalaze dva polja (ravnice) sa nekoliko kuća i nešto imanja. Na neplodnim i kamenitim padinama pasu ovce, koze i krave.

Uspon počinje kod tunela rijeke Rikavac i vodi makadamskom cestom do prevoja ispod repetitora. Odatle markirana staza vodi preko polja s ruševinom koja služi kao štala za koze, i dalje kroz grmlje do zaštićene šljunkovite uvale Bigovica s kristalno čistim morem. Natrag do ruševine, a onda se vraćamo makadamom do malog prevoja ispod repetitorske stanice. Odavde vodi markirana ruta bez vidljive staze preko širokog grebena do Veljeg Vrha (182m). Teren je kamenit i zahtjeva siguran hod, ali pruža prekrasan pogled na more prema Albaniji i Barsku luku. Prije spusta može se napraviti kratka posjeta do novouređene crkvice Svetog Ilije. Po makadamskoj cesti se spuštamo kroz šumu i neravnom stazom u podnožju planine vraćamo se na početnu tačku.

Zahtjevnost staze: U drugom dijelu ture (Velji Vrh) potrebna je sigurnost na neravnom terenu. Prilikom povratka, u podnožju planine oko 30 m staze je izloženo odronjavanju.

3 The "Haj Nehaj" Fortress

Sutomore



2 km → 1,5 h ↑↓ 170m

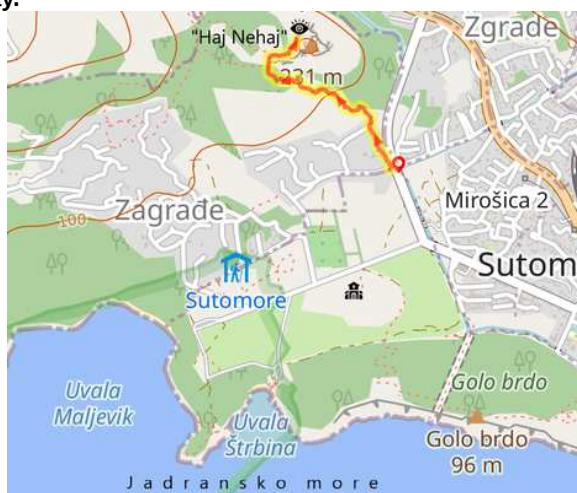
The Haj Nehaj fortress is located on a hill above the main road between Sozina Tunnel and Sutomore. It was built by the Venetians in the 15th century and expanded by the Ottomans in the 16th century. The defensive fortification and the town were built for the purpose of retreating the army, but they were never actually used and inhabited. Haj Nehaj passed into the hands of the Montenegrins in 1877, it was partially destroyed and left to fend for itself ever since. High walls with towers and loopholes are relatively well preserved to this day.

At the intersection of the main road to the Maljevik beach, a marked trail starts behind a few houses and leads through maquis vegetation and sparse oak forest to the pass. The entrance to the fortress is on the west side. From the top, there is a beautiful view of Sutomore, the sea and the coastal mountains.

Difficulty of the path: Steady footing on a stony hiking trail.



Fortress, ruins, view



Tvrđava «Haj Nehaj», Sutomore

Tvrđava Haj Nehaj nalazi se na brdu iznad Jadranske magistrale između tunela Sozina i Sutomora. Sagradili su ga Mlečani u XV vijeku, a proširili Osmanlije u XVI vijeku. Obrambeno utvrđenje i grad izgrađeni su u svrhu povlačenja vojske, ali nikad nisu stvarno korišteni i naseljeni. Haj Nehaj je 1877. godine prešao u ruke Crnogoraca, djelimično je razoren i od tada prepušten sam sebi. Visoke zidine s kulama i puškarnicama do danas su relativno dobro očuvane. Na raskrsnici magistralnog puta za plažu Maljevik, markirana staza počinje iza nekoliko kuća i vodi kroz makiju i rijetku hrastovu šumu do prevoja. Ulaz u utvrđenje je sa zapadne strane. Sa vrha se pruža prekrasan pogled na Sutomore, more i primorske planine.

Zahtjevnost staze: siguran korak po kamenitom terenu.

Stari Bar



Coastal Mountains - Introduction

The Montenegrin coastal mountains consists of several massifs: the Orjen Mountains at the border with Croatia, followed by the Lovćen massif. Pastrovačka Gora and Rumija Mountains separate the region of Crmnica and Lake Skadar from the sea. South of Bar, Lisinj Mountain marks the end of the Coastal Mountains. No matter how abandoned and desolate the coastal-mountainous area is today, traces of earlier settlements can still be found: former mountain villages, remains of stone walls that served to demarcate property or protect arable land, watering holes for cattle... Trade routes led over the mountains, and frequently used passages (e.g. Bijela Skala, number 10) connected villages in the hinterland with the sea coast and the shores of Lake Skadar.

The hiking path of the Coastal-Mountain Transversal (PPT) leads in ten daily stages from Orjen to Lisinje. Due to the length, lack of accommodation and food, and the poor condition of certain stages, hiking the entire long-distance path is recommended only for the experienced hikers in good physical fitness. The regional stages presented here are very attractive, easily accessible and suitable as day tours.

Descent from Vrsuta mountain





View from Mala Vrsuta to Rumija mountain

Crnogorske primorske planine sastoje se od nekoliko masiva: na granici s Hrvatskom su planine Orjena, zatim masiv Lovćena. Paštrovačka gora i Rumija odvajaju Crnvičko polje i Skadarsko jezero od morske obale. Južno od Bara, Lisinj čini poslednju kariku planinskog lanca prema Albaniji. Koliko god da je primorsko-planinsko područje danas usamljeno i pusto, još uvijek se mogu naći tragovi ranijih naselja: pojedinačna imanja, nekadašnja planinska sela, ostaci kamenih zidova („međe“) koji su služili za razgraničenje posjeda ili zaštitu obradivih površina, pojilišta za stoku. Trgovački putevi vodili su preko planina, a često korišteni prevoji (npr. Bijela Skala, broj 10) povezivali su sela u zaleđu sa morskom obalom i obalom Skadarskog jezera.

Planinarska staza Primorsko-planinske transverzale (PPT) vodi u deset dnevnih etapa od Orjena do Lisinja. Zbog dužine, nedostatka smještaja i ishrane, te lošeg stanja pojedinih etapa, pješačenje cijelokupne daljinske staze preporučuje se samo iskusnim planinarima i planinarima dobre fizičke kondicije. Ovdje predstavljene etape po predjelu su vrlo atraktivne, lako dostupne i prikladne kao dnevne ture.

4 Sea and Coastal Mountains

Kufin-Presjeka-Buljarica



8.5km → 3.5h ↑ 470m ↓ 640m

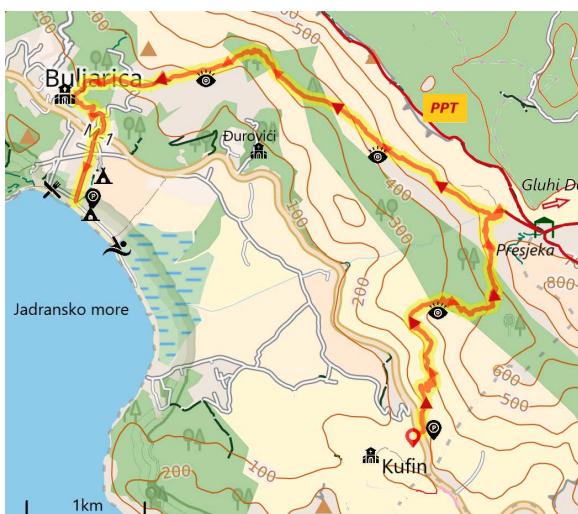
On the road between Buljarica and Sutomore, just before the Kufin pass, a path from the Austro-Hungarian period branches off on the left. Accompanied by wonderful views of the coast, it leads up the mountain. Later, the path runs through secluded forest areas with gnarled old oaks and hornbeams. Below the Presjeka pass, a path branches off to the left on a small meadow. After a short while we reach an idyllically located hunter's hut with a beautiful view of the Buljarica beach. Gently sloping it goes through beautiful oak forest and maquis. A dry stream bed is crossed, after heavy rain karst springs become active here. It continues through open maquis and through forest. After a few steps on a gravel road, a narrow path on the right leads to the idyllic Gradište Monastery. Behind the middle church, a path leads down to the village of Buljarica, from where the beach can be reached in a few minutes.

Difficulty of the path: normal condition and surefootedness.

Tipps

- beautiful view.
- The well-kept Gradište monastery complex with three small churches and a beautiful view is worth a visit. Surrounded by a wide belt of swamps, Buljarica beach is relatively untouched and very nice for swimming.

► combination with path no. 5



More i primorske planine (Kufin-Presjeka-Buljarica)

Dolazeći iz Buljarice, neposredno prije prevoja Kufin, sa lijeve strane vodi staza iz austrougarskog perioda na planinu, sa prekrasnim pogledom na obalu. Kasnije staza prolazi kroz skrovite šumske predjele sa starim stablima hrasta i graba. Ispod prevoja Presjeka, na maloj livadi, lijevo se odvaja staza do lijepo smještene lovačke kuće sa pogledom na plažu Buljarica. Blago strma staza prolazi kroz prekrasnu hrastovu šumu i makiju. Usput se prelazi preko suvog korita potoka, gdje nakon obilnih pljuskova nastaju kraški izvori. Po dolasku na makadam, uska staza vodi desno do idiličnog manastira Gradište. Staza iza srednje crkve vodi do sela Buljarica, odakle se do plaže stiže za nekoliko minuta.

Zahtjevnost staze: normalna kondicija i siguran korak.

5

Panoramic Path with Descent to the Region of Crmnica



9,5km → 3 h ↑100m ↓ 580m

Pastrovačka Gora – The Pass of Presjeka – Gluhi Do

The starting point of the hike is at the Pastrovačka pass on the main road between Virpazar and Petrovac at the seaside. The footpath goes left into the forest and it is a part of the Coastal-Mountain Transversal (PPT). After the oak forest, the bumpy path leads slightly up and down over the ridge with overwhelming views of the sea and the beach of Buljarica. After a beautifully situated barbecue area with a wonderful view, follow a gravel road to the Presjeka pass, where there is an old hunter's hut in the pine forest. On the left a path leads through a flat valley towards Crmnica. On the way we come across barren pastures, small streams, interesting rock formations and ruins of old farmsteads. At the mountain village of Jasen follow the narrow asphalt road for a while and then take the marked shortcut to the village of Gluhi Do, where you arrive directly at the toll booth by the tunnel.

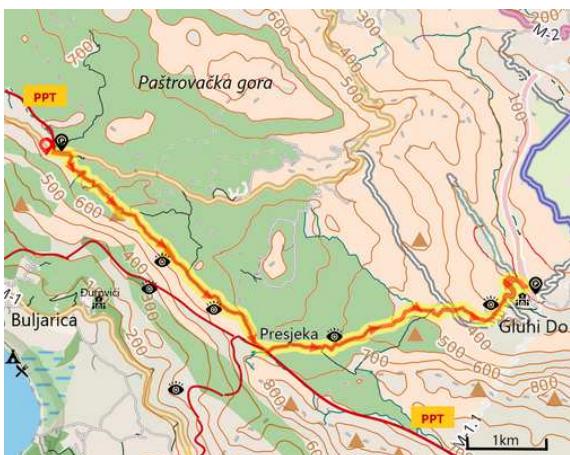
Difficulty of the path: Normal hiking fitness.

Tipps

- A beautiful panorama of the sea and lake, numerous orchids in the spring.
- The trail is suitable for families with children: streams, and stone slabs are inviting to play and discovery.



From the Presjeka pass, hiking trails on the seaside lead to Buljarica or Kufin. (Tour 4). The PPT trail leads south to the Sutorman Pass.



Panoramska staza na Paštrovačkoj gori sa spuštanjem u Crnici

Pastrovačka gora - Presjeka (prevoj) – Gluhi Do

Početna tačka pješačenja je na prevoju magistrale između Virpazara i Petrovca na moru. Pješačka staza ide lijevo u šumu i dio je PPT-a (Primorsko-planinska transverzala). Prvo ide kroz hrastovu šumu, zatim se neravna staza lagano penje i spušta na oko 700 m nadmorske visine preko grebena s prekrasnim pogledom na more i plažu Buljarica neposredno ispod nas. Nakon lijepo uređenog odmarališta sa nezaboravnim pogledom, makadamom se dolazi do prevoja Presjeka, gdje se u borovoј šumi nalazi stara lovačka koliba.

Sa lijeve strane blago strmom dolinom vodi staza prema Crmnici sa jezerske strane. Stazom nailazimo na puste pašnjake, potočiće, zanimljive stijene i ruševine starih imanja. Kod planinskog zaseoka Jasen neko vrijeme pratimo usku asfaltну cestu, a zatim, markiranim prećicama kroz selo Gluhi Do, dolazimo direktno do naplatne rampe tunela Sozina.

Zahtjevnost staze: normalna pješačka kondicija. Pogodno za porodice sa djecom.

6

Vrsuta (1183m)

A Mountain Top with Sea and Lake View

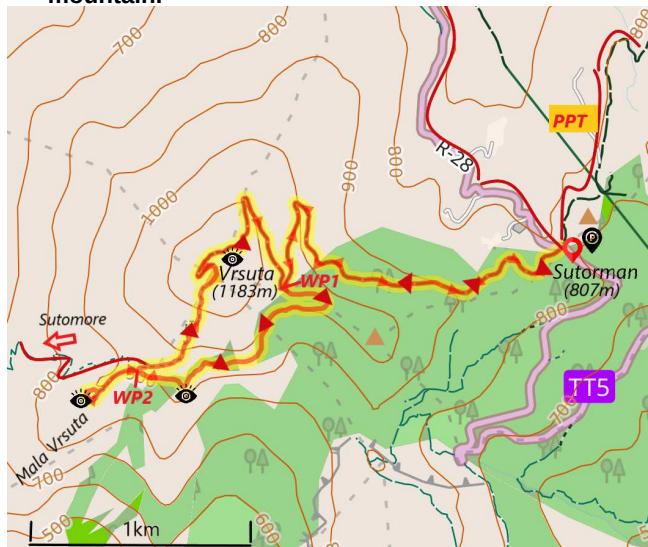


7,8km → 3,5h ↑↓ 530m

The Sutorman Pass is located on the old road from Virpazar to Bar. Situated across the ruined factory (where medicinal herbs were collected and dried), a gravel road leads uphill. We follow it to WP 1, where in a sharp right curve, we get off the road to the left a few steps down through loose gravel to the beech forest. Then the path leads along the slope through oak forest, there are beautiful views of the sea and coastal mountains.

At Mala Vrsuta (WP 2) it is worth to hike along the wide ridge with no visible path, and enjoy the view of the sparkling sea and coast. The ascent to the Vrsuta is steep and pathless. From the top (1183m) there is a very beautiful panoramic view of the mountains of northern Montenegro and northern Albania, Lake Skadar, the region of Crmnica and the sea. When the weather is clear, one can see as far as Croatia and southern Albania, and sometimes even as far as Italy.

To return to the Sutorman Pass, we choose the gravel road on the north side of the mountain.



Difficulty of the path: The ascent on the sea side to the top of Vrsuta, although marked, is pathless and is not recommended during fog.

Tipps wonderful panorama



At the passage near Mala Vrsuta, the path leads towards the Popov Do plateau. There is a monument to the victims of partisan battles. Frome there the path leads through maquis vegetation and over the rocky serpentines in numerous bends towards Sutomore, known for its beautiful beach.

Vrsuta - planinski vrh s pogledom na more i jezero

Prevoj Sutorman nalazi se na starom putu od Virpazara do Bara. Preko puta propale fabrike (tu se skupljalo i sušilo ljekovito bilje) uzbrdo vodi makadam. Pratimo ga do (WP 1), gdje u oštroj desnoj krvini, lijevo silazimo sa makadamske ceste i ulazimo u šumsku stazu. Staza vodi prvo kroz bukovu, pa se onda spušta kroz hrastovu šumu. Na stazi se sa pojedinih kamenih ploča pružaju prekrasni pogledi na more i primorske planine. Kod Male Vrsute (WP 2) isplati se prošetati širokim grebenom bez vidljive staze, i uživati u pogledu na svjetlucavo more i obalu. Označena staza vodi strmo i besputno do vrha Vrsute (1183m), odakle se pruža vrlo lijep panoramski pogled na planine sjeverne Crne Gore i sjeverne Albanije, Skadarsko jezero, Crmnici i more. Kad je vedro vrijeme, vidi se do Hrvatske i južne Albanije, rijetko čak i do Italije. Za povratak na Sutormanski prevoj biramo makadamski put sa sjeverne strane planine.

Zahtjevnost staze: uspon morskom stranom do vrha Vrsute je, iako markiran, besputan te se ne preporučuje po magli.

7 Along the Panoramic Path

Sutorman – Čukuljeri – Zupci (Bar)



9,7km → 3,5h ↑ 250m ↓ 850m



Through a forest of tall beech trees, we reach the abandoned Čukuljeri pasture, a high plain surrounded by forest and karst hills. We leave the PPT path soon and reach a small pass. From here, the rocky path descends steeply to the old road (Virpazar – Bar) and after a few more shortcuts through the forest we reach the village of Zupci above the town of Bar.

Difficulty of the path: Normal fitness and steady footing for downhill on a rocky terrain.



- The desolate plateau of Čukuljeri.
- View on the coast and the town of Bar on the descent.



At Čukuljeri we continue via the PPT towards the pass of Bijela Skala.

Panoramском стазом Sutorman- Čukuljeri- Zupci (Bar)

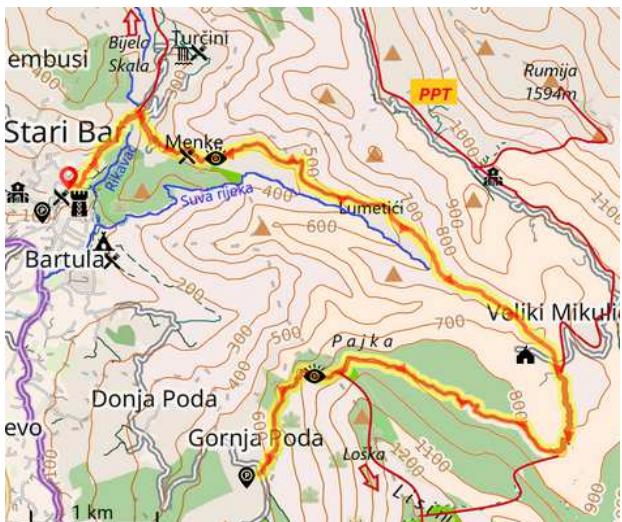
Kod propale fabrike na prevoju Sutorman (tu se nekada sušilo ljekovito bilje) na starom putu od Virpazara prema Baru, Primorsko-planinska transverzala (PPT) skreće na makadamski put u pravcu sjevera. Nakon otprilike tri kilometra prelazi u usku stazu. Kroz šumu visokih stabala bukve dolazimo do napuštenog pašnjaka Čukuljeri, visoke zaravni okružene šumom i kraškim brdima. Ubrzo napuštamo PPT stazu i dolazimo do malog prevoja. Odavde se kamenita staza strmo spušta na staru cestu (Virpazar-Bar) i nakon još nekoliko prečica kroz šumu dolazimo do sela Zupci iznad grada Bara.

Zahtjevnost staze: normalna kondicija i siguran korak za spust po krševitom terenu.

8 Hiking to the Mountain Villages Above Bar

Stari Bar – V.Mikulići – G.Podı

12km → 5 h ↑ 950m ↓ 500m



We follow the path from the town of Stari Bar towards Bijela Skala on the left side of the Rikavac canyon, cross the river over the first bridge and follow the macadam road uphill in the direction of the village of Menke. We continue along the old horse trail above the Suva Rijeka gorge to the village of Mikulići, which can be recognised by some old stone houses. In the surroundings there are beautiful streams with pools and small waterfalls. Near the mosque, a narrow path leads southwest through the forest to Pajka.

We follow a narrow path along the steep slope of Lisinj with a beautiful view of the sea and the town of Bar and reach the mountain village of Gornji Podi.

Difficulty of the path: Fitness and steady footing on a partially uneven ground.



varied panoramic tour: gorges, mountain, watercourses, sea view during descent. The mountain village of Mikulići.

- Near the mosque in Mikulići, a steep path leads through the mountain forest to the peak of Lisinje (see Tour 9).
- From Gornji Podi along a narrow road to Bartula and through an olive grove back to Stari Bar on foot (see Tour 1).

Pješačenje do planinskih sela iznad Bara

Stari Bar-V.Mikulići-G.Podi

Pratimo stazu od Starog Bara prema Bijeloj Skali paralelno sa kanjonom Rikavca. Preko prvog mosta prelazimo rijeku i idemo makadamskom cestom užbrdo u smjeru sela Menke. Nastavljamo starom konjskom stazom iznad klanca Suve Rijeke do sela Mikulići kojeg karakterišu stare kamene kuće. U okolini se nalaze prekrasni potoci s bazenima i malim slapovima. Kod džamije vodi uski put prema jugozapadu kroz šumu do Pajke. Pratimo usku stazu uz strmu padinu Lisinja sa prelijepim pogledom na more i grad Bar i dolazimo do planinskog sela Gornji Podi.

Zahtjevnost staze: dobra kondicija i siguran korak na djelimično neravnom terenu.

9 Lisinj (1353m) A Mountain Ridge with beautiful viewpoints

11.5km → 4,5h ↑ 780m ↓ 920m



Transfer to Gornji Podi below Lisinj. At the topmost house, the path leads through broom bushes at the foot of the steep mountain. The view opens up to the impressive rocks and gorges under the Rumjia massif.

On WP 1, the markings lead along the edge of the mountain without a visible path, steeply upwards in the direction of the Lisinj ridge. After a strenuous climb, we were rewarded with a beautiful view of the coast and the sea. It continues with a gentle ascent along the wide ridge to the highest point of Loška (1353m). Descending down the bare mountain slope offers a wonderful view of the Ulcinj Salina and the coast towards Albania. Near the mountain village of Lunje, we follow the macadam road to the southwest, which later turns into a footpath and we reach the road near the nicely enclosed Škurta spring above the village of Boškovići.



Difficulty of the path: Good physical fitness. Sure-footedness in stony and sometimes pathless terrain.

Tipps

Ridge-tour with a beautiful panorama.

- At the spring of Škurta, the macadam road leads in a northern direction to a mountain pass after several sharp bends. Behind the fenced land in the forest, a path leads back to Gornja Poda up the slope.

Lisinj (1353m) - planina sa prekrasnim vidikovcima

Transfer do Gornjih Poda podno Lisinja. Kod najgornje kuće, put vodi kroz grmlje žukve podno strme planine. Pogled se otvara na impresivne stijene i klisure podnožja masiva Rumije.

Na WP 1 markacija vodi uz rub planine bez vidljive staze strmo na gore u smjeru grebena Lisinja. Nakon napornog uspona, nagrađeni smo prekrasnim pogledom na obalu i more. Nastavlja se blagim usponom širokim grebenom do najviše tačke Loške (1353m). Pri spuštanju niz golu planinsku padinu pruža se prekrasan pogled na Ulcinjsku solanu i obalu prema Albaniji. Kod planinskog sela Lunje pratimo makadamski put prema jugozapadu, koji kasnije prelazi u pješačku stazu i dolazimo do puta kod lijepo ograđenog izvora Škurta iznad sela Boškovići.

Zahtjevnost staze: dobra fizička kondicija. Siguran korak na kamenitom terenu.

10

Bijela Skala: Hiking From the Sea to the Lake along the Trade Routes

Stari Bar - Bijela Skala - Donji Murići

16km → 6h ↑ 800m ↓ 940m

Above Stari Bar, a narrow macadam road leads towards the mountains and turns into a path near the village of Turčini. After a picturesque passage through a rocky canyon-like landscape, there is a steep climb through a scree slope. At Baltina, the macadam road is crossed and after a further ascent over stone serpentines, we arrive at the Bijela Skala passage ("The White Step" 919 m). It is worth taking a short detour to the stone plateau on the left above the passage here, and there is a wonderful view of the coast, the surrounding mountains and Lake Skadar from this point. The descent leads gently through an oak forest, and then passes into an open rocky terrain. The view of the lake and the mountains of northern Albania on the horizon opens up more and more. Soon we reach the village of Pinčići and follow the narrow asphalt road to the village of Gornji Murići. After the chestnut forest with impressive old trees, the path leads steeply towards the lake, to the Donji Murići beach, accompanied by an overwhelming view.

Difficulty of the path: Due to its length and altitude, the tour requires good fitness and, especially in the last part, steady footing due to the uneven terrain.

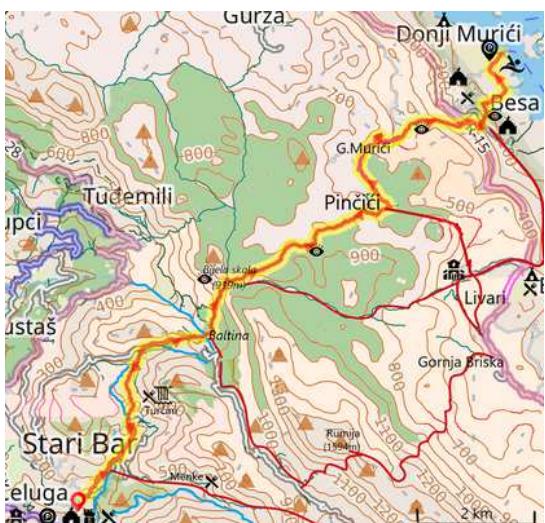


- A beautiful view; - Many orchids bloom in May/June. In addition, the endemic plant Serbian ramonda (Ramonda Serbica) can be found in rock crevices (this plant is highly interesting to botanists).

- At Turčini, you can reach a waterfall with a natural pool in a few minutes. Suitable as a day trip for families.
- The tour can be shortened by approximately 2 hours by taking a transfer to Baltina on a bad macadam road, or by be picked up in Pinčići or Gornji Murići.
- Combination with path 13 and 14.

Bijela Skala: pješačenje od mora do jezera po trgovačkim stazama

Stari Bar-Bijela Skala-Donji Murići



Iznad Starog Bara uska makadamska cesta vodi prema planinama i kod sela Turčini prelazi u stazu. Nakon slikovitog prolaza kroz stjenovit pejzaž nalik kanjonu, slijedi strmi uspon pored korita rijeke. Na Baltini se prelazi makadamska cesta i nakon daljnog uspona preko kamenih serpentina dolazimo na prevoj Bijela Skala (919m). Ovdje vrijedi skrenuti nakratko do kamenog platoa lijevo iznad prevoja, odakle se pruža prekrasan pogled na obalu, okolne planine i Skadarsko jezero. Spust vodi blago strmo kroz hrastovu šumu, a potom prelazi u otvoren kamenit teren.

Pogled na jezero i planine sjeverne Albanije na horizontu se sve više otvara. Uskoro dolazimo do sela Pinčići i uskom asfaltnom cestom do sela Gornji Murići. Nakon šume kestena sa impresivnim starim stablima, staza uz prekrasan pogled vodi strmo prema jezeru do plaže Donji Murići.

Zahtjevnost staze: zbog dužine i nadmorske visine, tura zahtijeva dobru kondiciju i posebno u zadnjem dijelu i sigurnost na neravnom terenu

11 Rumija (1594m) - A Mountain Top between the Lake and the Sea

17km → 7h ↑ 1300m ↓ 1630m



Coming from Livari, at the end of the beautiful chestnut forest, a narrow asphalt road leads right to Gornja Briska. The path leads past old stone

houses into the desolate and barren mountain landscape of Rumija. The trail goes steeply uphill through a mountain forest affected by a forest fire. When you look back, an increasingly magnificent panorama of Lake Skadar opens up. We reach the pass, from where the descent towards the town of Bar later begins. It goes steeply up the mountainside from here. The view of the lake, the sea and the mountains from the top is amazing. A small Orthodox church, albeit a tin one, makes a picturesque contrast. The descent to the passage is on the same path, and then it descends steeply to the narrow road in the village of Dobri Do. We go left for approximately three kilometres to the village of Mikulići and descend above the Suva Rijeka gorge to Menke and Stari Bar (see path no. 8).

The old connection would have led from Dobro Do to Lumetić above the gorge, but it is overgrown. The planned mending of this path would shorten the tour by at least one hour. Difficulty of the path: Good physical fitness considering the length of the tour and the height difference. A steady footing on uneven ground and on loose gravel.

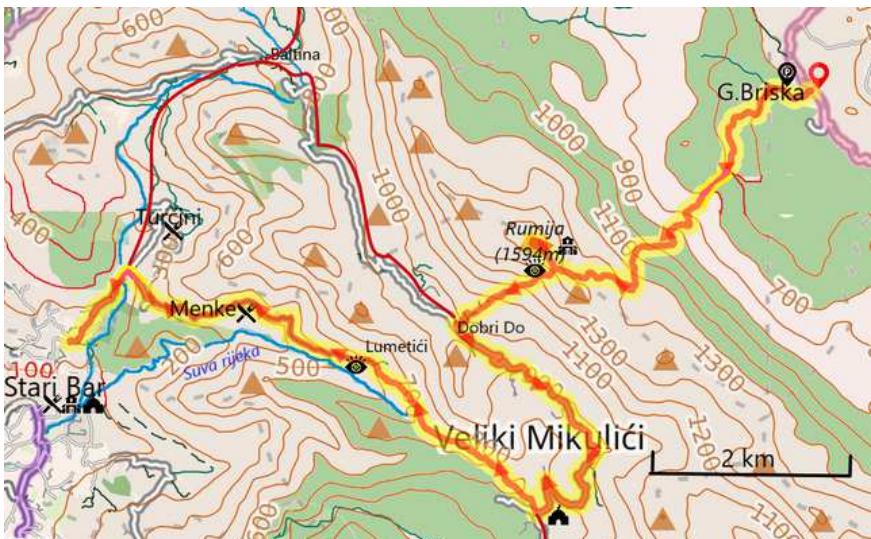


The amazing panoramic view



From Dobri Do, take the macadam road to the right to Baltina, and then follow the path next to Turčini to Stari Bar (see Tour 10).

- The walking time can be shortened by approximately 2 hours with the help of a transfer from Dobri Do (uneven macadam road).



Rumija (1594m) - planinski vrh između jezera i mora

Dolazeći iz Livara, na kraju prekrasne kestenove šume, uska asfaltna cesta vodi desno u Gornju Brisku. Staza vodi pored starih kamenih kuća u usamljeni i neplodni planinski krajolik Rumije. Zatim staza ide strmo užbrdo kroz dio planine pogoden šumskim požarom. Kada se pogleda unazad, otvara se sve veličanstvenija panorama Skadarskog jezera. Dolazimo do prevoja, odakle kasnije počinje spust prema Baru. Odavde ide strmo uz planinski obronak. Sveobuhvatni pogled na jezero, more i planine s vrha je neodoljiv. Mala pravoslavna crkva, doduše limena - čini slikoviti kontrast. Silazak do prevoja je istom stazom, a potom se strmo spušta do uske ceste u mjestu Dobri Do. Idemo lijevo dobra tri kilometra do Mikulića i spuštamo se iznad klanca Suve Rijeke u Menke i Stari Bar. (vidi stazu br. 8). Stara veza vodila bi od Dobrog Dola do Lumetića, ali je zarasla. Planiranim popravkom ove staze obilazak bi se skratio za najmanje jedan sat.

Zahтjevnost staze: dobra fizička kondicija s obzirom na dužinu ture i visinsku razliku. Siguran korak na neravnom terenu i na labavom siparu.

The South side of Lake Skadar - Introduction

This picturesque area is characterized by steep and desolate mountain slopes on Lake Skadar and once fertile plains around remote mountain villages. However, since the 20th century onwards, the area has been heavily affected by emigration. Many people originally from this region now reside in the fertile area of Bar on the coast or have emigrated to the USA. The remaining inhabitants live from agriculture to sustain themselves. The climate along the lake is mild, and olives, figs, and pomegranates thrive in the region.

Impressive old chestnut forests surround the higher mountain villages in the area. There are very few natural springs. Cisterns (Bunari) contain groundwater and rainwater which are collected in cisterns with the help of concrete slabs. Visitors can access this remote area via a narrow and winding road from Virpazar or through the village of Vladimir near the Albanian border. In the past, the mule track over the Bijela Skala pass (Path no. 10) served as an essential trade link between the lake and the sea. This area was under the influence of the Ottoman Empire for centuries and was administered from Skadar. The local population primarily speaks Albanian and belongs in the present to either the Muslim or Catholic religion, depending on the village.

Livari: Located at the foot of the Mountain of Rumija, on a plateau 600 meters above sea level, the mountain village of Livari sits amidst bare conical karst mountains. Unfortunately, this village has been particularly significantly impacted by migration, and many of the fields are now unused and overgrown with ferns and brambles. The village once held great importance. In fact, in the 18th century, it served as the seat of the Archdiocese when the bishop of Bar went into exile in Livari due to increasing oppression by the Ottomans. In the mid-20th century, Livari still had over 500 inhabitants, but by around 1980, this number had dropped to approximately 180. Until that time, there was a daily bus connection to the town of Bar. In 2020, the small village school closed its doors for good after only one student still attended for two years. Today only a few people live in Livari. The population primarily speaks Albanian and Montenegrin, and they identify with either the Muslim or Catholic religion.

In Livari, visitors can witness particularly impressive examples of how the locals have overcome the challenge of deficient in water resources: in a beautiful meadow, there are 12 age-old wells that were restored in 2016. Each well has a name and belongs to a different family. Additionally, there are impressive slabs of stone and concrete used to collect rainwater in the region.

Murići is divided into two parts: the mountain village of Gornji Murići (Upper Murići) located at 500 meters above sea level and is surrounded by barren mountains and a forest with ancient chestnut trees.

Some houses in the area are still occasionally inhabited.

The village of Donji Murići (Lower Murići) is situated on the lake and benefits from a mild climate. The area is home to many olive trees and some citrus fruits. Mostly elderly individuals reside in Donji Murići and cultivate a few fields, raise goats and sheep, and pick olives and figs. The population in this area practices the Muslim religion. Visitors can also explore active Orthodox monasteries on the opposite island of Beška, as well as on the more distant Starčevo and Moračnik islands. Murići is renowned for its beautiful and naturally formed pebble beach.

Južni dio Skadarskog jezera - uvod

Strme i puste planinske padine na Skadarskom jezeru i neke plodne ravnice (polja) oko udaljenih planinskih sela karakterišu ovo slikovito područje. Oblast je, počevši od XX vijeka, jako pogodena iseljavanjem. Mnogi ljudi porijeklom iz ovog kraja žive danas u plodnom području Bara na obali, ili su emigrirali u SAD. Preostali stanovnici žive od poljoprivrede. Klima uz jezero je blaga, uspjevaju masline, smokve i šipak. Oko viših planinskih sela nalaze se impresivne, stare šume kestena. Izvora gotovo da i nema. Bunari skupljaju podzemnu vodu i kišnicu. Ona se takođe prikuplja uz pomoć betonskih sabirnih ploča i zidanih vodotoka.

Od Virpazara ili preko sela Valdimir blizu granice sa Albanijom, uska i vijugava cesta vodi visoko iznad jezera do ovog udaljenog područja. Nekada je konjska staza preko prevoja Bijela Skala (staza br.10) bila važna trgovačka veza između jezera i mora. Ovo područje je vjekovima bilo pod uticajem Osmanskog Carstva i njime se upravljalo iz Skadra. Stanovništvo priča uglavnom albanski jezik i pripada, zavisno od sela, muslimanskoj ili katoličkoj vjeroispovjesti.

Planinsko selo Livari smješteno je u podnožju planine Rumije, usred goleti kupastih kraških planina, na visoravni od 600 metara nadmorske visine. Ovo selo je posebno pogodeno migracijama. Većina polja stoji neiskorišćeno i zarasta u paprat i drače. Selo je nekada imalo važno značenje. U XVII vijeku selo je bilo čak i sjedište Biskupije, kada je barski biskup otišao u progonstvo u Livarima zbog sve većeg zuluma od strane Osmanlija. Sredinom XX vijeka još je živjelo preko 500 stanovnika, a oko 1980. godine još oko 180 stanovnika. Do tada je postojala i svakodnevna autobuska veza za Bar, a 2020.godine mala seoska škola vjerovatno je konačno zatvorila svoja vrata nakon dvije godine boravka samo jednog učenika. Danas u Livarima živi još nekoliko osoba. Stanovništvo govori albanskim i crnogorskim jezikom, a imaju muslimansku ili katoličku vjersku pripadnost.

Južni dio Skadralskog jezera - uvod

Oblast je veoma siromašna vodom. Posebno upečatljivi primjeri borbe za skupljanje vode nalaze se u selu Livari: na lijepoj livadi stoje vjekovni bunari koji su obnovljeni 2016. godine. Pojedinačni bunari imaju imena i pripadaju različitim porodicama. Tu su i impresivne ploče od kamena i betona, uz pomoć kojih se skuplja kišnica.

Murići se sastoje od dva dijela sela: planinsko selo Gornji Murići nalazi se na 500 metara nadmorske visine. Osim neplodnih planinskih pašnjaka, tu su i lijepi bregovi obrasli stoljetnjim stablima kestena. Poneka kuća je još povremeno naseljena.

Selo Donji Murići se nalazi na jezeru i ima blagu klimu. Mnogo je stabala maslina, a ima i nešto agruma. U Donjim Murićima žive uglavnom starije osobe, koje obraduju nešto polja, drže nekoliko koza i ovaca i beru masline i smokve. Stanovnici su muslimanske vjere. Na suprotnom ostrvu Beška i na nešto udaljenijim ostrvima Starčevo i Moračnik aktivni su pravoslavni manastiri.

Murići su poznati po svojoj dugoj, lijepoj i prirodnoj šljunkovitoj plaži.

View of the lake and Skadar (Albania)



12

Circular Route of Livari

through the Characteristic Village
and Beautiful Chestnut Forests



3,5km → 1.5h ↑↓ 50m

After the abandoned school building in Livari, the road passes through a chestnut forest. A natural path soon leads to the right through mighty, ancient chestnut trees. We continue along the macadam path at the foot of the hill. In the distance we can see Lake Skadar, the once cultivated fields of Livari are today mostly overgrown with ferns. In the village of Livari, we pass several still inhabited and many abandoned old stone houses and reach a meadow with beautifully restored wells.

After the small, inconspicuous village church, a path goes off to the right and leads through dry stone walls, rocks and beautiful forest areas back to the starting point.

Difficulty of the path: Easy circular tour, also suitable for families with smaller children.

- Impressive chestnut trees 
- The village of Livari gives impressive insights into the former way of life and forms of culture: the bishop's former residence can be recognized by the ornaments on the stone door frame and crosses at the door. A graveyard under large trees shows old tombstones with interesting inscriptions. The restored cisterns and concrete collection points for rainwater bear witness to the struggle for water.

 Combination with the tour 14.

**Livari - kružna staza kroz karakteristično selo i prekrasne šume kestena**

Nakon napuštene školske zgrade u Livarima, cesta prolazi kroz šumu kestena. Prirodni put ubrzo vodi desno kroz moćna, stoljetna stabla kestena. Nastavljamo makadamskom stazom u podnožju brda. U daljini se vidi Skadarsko jezero, ispod nas se prostiru nekada kultivisane polja Livara, danas uglavnom obrasla papraču. U selu Livari prolazimo pored nekoliko još uvijek naseljenih i mnogih napuštenih starih kamenih kuća i dolazimo do livade s lijepo obnovljenim bunarima. Prolazeći pored male, skoro neprimjetne seoske crkve, stazom ovičenom kamenim međama i stijenama kroz šumarke kestena, vraćate se na početnu tačku.

Zahtjevnost staze: lagana kružna tura, pogodna i za porodice sa manjom djecom.

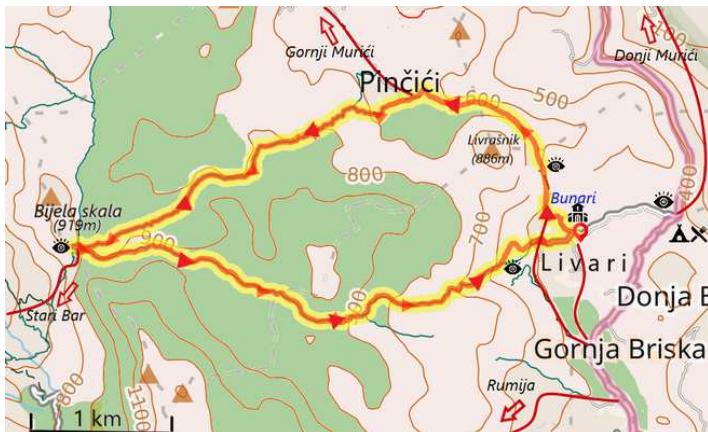
13 Livari – Pinčići – Bijela Skala - Livari

Hiking through the Desolate Mountains to the Bijela Skala Pass



11,5km → 4,5h ↑↓ 570m

Tipps



- View of the lake and the sea, the mystical and desolate karst landscape, traces of culture such as stone walls and wells.

- In May/June, many orchids bloom, while one can find the Serbian ramonda flower (*Ramonda Serbica*) in the crevices of the rocks above Pinčić and near the pass.

Combination with the tour 10.

At the small church in the village of Livari, we follow the path towards Bijela Skala for a short distance until the marking will point towards Pinčići. The path goes along the mountainside with a beautiful view of the lake, then over a small passage and further through the forest to the mountain village of Pinčići, where only a few elderly residents live. A well-marked path leads gently uphill through rocky fields, barren mountain pastures and an oak forest to the bottom of the Bijela Skala pass. In any case, it is worth stopping by the small rock above the pass, from where one can enjoy a wonderful view of the coast and the port of Bar. The trail continues on the seaside of the pass through forest and a mystical, lonely valley with the view of Rumija Mountain in front of us. The view of Lake Skadar, the karst islands and the city of Skadar gradually opens up.

Difficulty of the path: Good physical fitness due to the length of the tour, steady footing on a rocky terrain.

Livari – Pinčići – Bijela Skala - Livari

pješačenje kroz usamljene planine do prevoja Bijela Skala

Početak staze prema Bijeloj Skali u selu Livari je kod male crkve. Nakon kratkog vremena markacija će pokazati prema Pinčićima. Staza ide obronkom planine sa prekrasnim pogledom na jezero, zatim preko malog prevoja i dalje kroz šumu do planinskog sela Pinčići u kojem živi tek pokoj stariji žitelj. Dobro utvrđena staza vodi blago uzbrdo kroz kamenjar, puste planinske pašnjake i hrastovu šumu do ispod prevoja Bijela Skala.

U svakom slučaju, vrijedi svratići do male stijene iznad prevoja, odakle se pruža prekrasan pogled na morsku obalu i luku Bar.

Staza nastavlja od prevoja jezerskom stranom kroz šumu i mističnu, usamljenu kamenu visoravan sa pogledom na planinu Rumiju ispred nas. Postepeno se otvara pogled na Skadarsko jezero, kraška ostrva i grad Skadar. Kroz usku dolinu sa prekrasnim pogledom na selo Livari ispod nas, stižemo do početne tačke planinarenja. Zahtjevnost staze: dobra fizička kondicija s obzirom na dužinu ture, siguran korak po kamenitom terenu.



14

From the Mountain Village of Livari to the Natural Beach of Donji Murići

(Livari - Besa - Donji Murići)



5km → 2h ↑ 100m ↓ 500m

Behind the viewpoint in Livari, a sometimes barely visible, yet well-marked, path leads down a steep slope into a small valley and on to the village of Besa. The view is amazing and extends across the karst islands on the steep southern shore of the lake to the northern Albanian town of Skadar, towards the Prokletije Mountains to Podgorica. In the village of Besa, with the support of expatriates, it was invested a lot in the construction of houses and a mosque.

We continue along the old path to the first houses in the village of Donji Murići. The descent leads past olive groves to the lake. Through a part of the forest (partially flooded when the water level is high) we reach the beautiful natural beach of Murići. The island of Beška with the Orthodox monastery of the same name is in the opposite. Difficulty of the path: Steady footing on stony and less visible paths.



A beautiful view of the lake, the natural beach of Donji Murići, the monastery island of Beška.

- In the small high valley before Besa, turn right without a visible path to Docina hill, from where you can enjoy a wonderful view of almost the entire lake.
- - Start of the hike in Besa or on the asphalt road just after the turnoff towards Murići beach to avoid the steep descent from Livari to Besa. When the water level is high, continue along the small road to the lake at the first houses in Murići.

Od planinskog sela Livari do prirodne plaže Donji Murići

Livari - Besa - Donji Murići

Iza vidikovca u Livarima, ponegdje jedva vidljiva, ali dobro markirana staza vodi niz strmu padinu u malu dolinu i dalje do sela Besa. Pogled je neodoljiv, i pruža se preko kraških ostrva na strmoj južnoj obali jezera do sjevernoalbanskog grada Skadra, kao i prema planinama Prokletija do Podgorice. U selu Besa, uz podršku iseljenika, mnogo je uloženo u izgradnju kuća i džamije. Nastavljamo starom stazom do prvih kuća u selu Donji Murići. Spust vodi pokraj maslinjaka do jezera. Kroz dio šume (djelimično plavljen kada je visok vodostaj) dolazimo do prekrasne prirodne plaže Murići. Nasuprot je ostrvo Beška sa istoimenim pravoslavnim manastiriom.

Zahtjevnost staze: Sigurnost koraka na neravnim i malo vidljivim stazama.

Village Besa



The "Upper Part" of the Skadar Lake and Crmnica- Introduction

For some years now, the small town of Virpazar has become the starting point for boat trips on the beautiful Skadar Lake. The beauty and potential of the Crmnica region in the hinterland of the lake, characterized by the karstic mountains and hills, often remain undiscovered by visitors.

In the past, people lived in the scattered villages in the mountains. Virpazar on the lake primarily served as a market and trans-shipment station for goods and livestock.

Orahovštica valley



Numerous paths connected villages with each other, led to fields, over mountains to markets like Cetinje, to the mills (it is especially impressive to see the mill village of Poseljani by the lake) or to the sea. Until the 1970s, most people lived from agriculture. Due to the increasing industrialization under the socialist regime of the former Yugoslavia, and especially after the great earthquake of 1979, more and more people moved to the cities.

The villages were left to fend for themselves, and the arable land was abandoned. During the last years, some people in the villages, who still (or again) live from agriculture, have developed attractive offers for tourists. Crmnica is recognised for its wine and honey.

The Orahovštica Valley is a microregion, which is formed by the river of the same name. There are five villages on the mountain slopes of the valley. Traditionally, people made their living from work in the countryside, livestock, such as goats and cows were kept, and corn, wheat and potatoes were planted on numerous terraced fields. In the summer, cattle were taken to the river every day for watering, laundry was washed on the banks of the river, and vegetables were grown in the fertile fields along the river.

The Orahovštica Trail Project connects the villages in the valley, the old paths are again passable and have been marked, information boards provide an insight into the nature, culture and history of the region. One path continues through the mill village of Poseljani to Rijeka Crnojevića at the beginning of the lake and offers unique viewpoints on the floodplain and the fjord-like landscape of the upper part of the lake. More information :

www.balkantour.ch/projekte/orahovstica-trail-1/



BalkanTour



www.outdooractive.com/de/list/orahovstica-trail/231938463/

"Gornji dio" Skadarskog jezera i Crmnica - uvod

Varošica Virpazar je već puno godina unazad postala polazna tačka za izlete čamcima po prekrasnom Skadarskom jezeru. Ljepota i potencijal crnogorskog kraja u zaleđu jezera, kojeg karakterišu kraške planine i brda, posjetiocima često ostaju neotkriveni.

U prošlosti, ljudi su živjeli u raštrkanim selima u planinama. Virpazar na jezeru je prvenstveno služio kao tržnica i pretovarna stanica robe i stoke. Brojne staze povezivale su sela međusobno, vodile do polja, preko planina do na pijace kao poput Cetinja, do mlinova (posebno je impresivno vidjeti mlinarsko selo Poseljani uz jezero) ili do mora. Do 70-ih godina prošlog vijeka većina ljudi je živjela od poljoprivrede.



Zbog sve veće industrijske eksploatacije pod socijalističkim režimom bivše Jugoslavije, a posebno nakon velikog potresa 1979. godine, sve više i više ljudi se selilo u gradove. Sela su prepuštena sama sebi, a obradivo zemljište opustošeno. Tokom posljednjih godina neki ljudi u selima, koji još uvijek (ili ponovno) žive od poljoprivrede, razvili su atraktivne ponude za turiste. Crmnica je poznata i po vinu i medu.

Mikroregija u Crmničkoj dolini je Orahovštica, koju čini istoimena rijeka. Na planinskim padinama doline nalazi se šest sela. Tradicionalno se živjelo od samostalnog rada na selu, držalo se nešto stoke poput koza i krava, a na brojnim terasama sadio se kukuruz, žito i krompir. Stoka se ljeti svaki dan vodila na rijeku na napajanje, na obali rijeke se pralo rublje i uzbudljivo povrće na plodnim poljima.

Projekt "Orahovštica Trail" povezuje sela u dolini. Stare staze koje povezuju sela ponovno su prohodne i označene, informativne table pružaju uvid u prirodu, kulturu i istoriju regije. Jedna staza nastavlja preko mlinarskog sela Poseljani do Rijeke Crnojevića na početku jezera i nudi jedinstvene vidikovce na plavno područje i krajolik gornjeg dijela jezera nalik fjordu.

Više informacija ("Orahovštica Trail")

www.balkantour.ch/projekte/orahovstica-trail-1/



www.outdooractive.com/de/list/orahovstica-trail/231938463/



15 Mijela Trail

A Diverse Circular Tour with a View of the Lake

4,2km → 1.5h ↑↓ 200m



We follow the narrow asphalt road from Virpazar in the direction of Godinje to the intersection of the old road to town of Bar, called Mijela. A narrow path leads from here steeply to the left down close to the shore of the lake. In gentle ups and downs, it passes through interesting rock formations, maquis vegetation, and pine and cypress groves going towards a small meadow. There are very nice viewpoints on the lake along the way. We move further through the forest and steeply up to the Mijela pass. A leisurely walk overlooking the lake leads on the narrow asphalt road back to Virpazar. Difficulty of the path: Steady footing on uneven terrain

Tipps

- Viewpoints on the lake, interesting rocks.
- There are numerous traces such as the remains of dry stone walls, terraces and ruins that point to an earlier settlement on Mijela. Byzantine tombs from the early Middle Ages and various pieces of jewellery were also discovered here.
- Suitable for families: beautiful resting points and natural adventure playgrounds with small streams, meadows, forest and rocks.

At WP 1, the tour can be shortened, and a steep ascent leads directly to the asphalt road.



«Staza Mijela» - raznolika kružna tura s pogledom na jezero

Od Virpazara pratimo uski asfaltni put u pravcu Godinja do raskrsnice starog puta za Bar, zvanog Mijela. Ovdje uska staza vodi strmo lijevo na dolje prema obali jezera. U blagim usponima i padovima prolazi kroz zanimljive kamenjare, makiju, šumarke bora i čempresa do male livade. Putem se pružaju vrlo lijepi vidikovci na jezero. Dalje kroz šumu pa uz strmiju uzbrdu do prevoja Mijela. Lagana šetnja uz pogled na jezero uskim asfaltnim putem nazad do Virpazara.

Zahtjevnost staze: lagano hodanje, siguran korak

16 Hiking over the Pass to the Historic Village of Godinje

4,2km → 1h45min ↑ 170m ↓ 220m

(Zabes - Godinje)



After the village of Zabes on the old road from Virpazar to the town of Bar, near a lonely church with a cemetery, a marked hiking path begins. It goes uphill through an oak forest to a small pass from which a beautiful panoramic view of the field of Crmnica, the coastal mountains and the lake opens up to. The descent has a slightly steeper passage in the first part, and then leads through the forest and along the hillside to the hamlet of Nikači in Godinje. Behind the church at the top of the hamlet, we go through the forest to the historic part of the village of Godinje.

Difficulty of the path: The descent from the passage is short on loose gravel, which is slippery in some places.

Tipps

The old part of the village of Godinje is compactly built, with fortified houses and underground passageways, which connected the house with the village spring. It reminisces of the Ottoman era.

From the historic part of the village, one can follow a narrow asphalt road in the direction of Seoca. After about two kilometres, a steep road on the left leads to the idyllic beach of Pješačac.



Pješačenje preko prevoja do istorijskog sela Godinje

(Zabes - Godinje)

Nakon sela Zabes na starom putu od Virpazara prema Baru, kod usamljene crkve sa grobljem, počinje markirana planinarska staza. Ide uzbrdo kroz hrastovu šumu do malog prevoja sa kojeg se pruža prekrasan panoramski pogled na Crnicičko polje, primorske planine i jezero. Spust ima nešto strmiji prolaz u prvom dijelu, a zatim vodi kroz šumu i uz obronak brda do zaseoka Nikači u Godinju. Iza Crkve na vrhu zaseoka idemo kroz šumu do istorijskog dijela sela Godinje.

Zahtjevnost staze: laka staza. Silazak sa prevoja ide kratko po rastresitim šljunku koji je mjestimično klizav.

17 Circular Hike through the Valley of Orahovštica

9,4km → 4 h ↓ ↑ 450 m



- Partially abandoned agricultural terraced landscape, mountain villages.

- A diverse landscape of rocky terrain and forests overgrown with moss.
- The stone bridge and emerald-green river basin near Opačac.

► Other hiking trails and possible combinations at:
www.balkantour.ch/projekte/orahovstica-trail-1/

In the hamlet of Šuplja Stijena at the end of the mountain village of Dupilo, a beautiful path leads over the southern mountain slope to the Orahovštica River. At the picturesque stone bridge of Opačac, we cross the river and go downstream. Following the path that turns right through the forest, we reach the village of Brijeg with its beautiful and compact core, cross a steep forest gorge and reach the well-kept monastery complex of Donji Brčeli. We descend to Opačac, where we return to the starting point in Dupilo via a nice upstream path over the spring of Vrelaza.

Difficulty of the path: Steady footing on stony hiking trails

Kružni pohod dolinom Orahovštice

U zaseoku Šuplja Stijena na kraju planinskog sela Dupilo, lijepa staza vodi preko južne planinske padine do rijeke Orahovštice. Kod slikovitog kamenog mosta Opačac prelazimo rijeku i idemo nizvodno. Stazom koja skreće desno, kroz šumu dolazimo do sela Brijeg sa svojom lijepim i zbijenim jezgrom, prelazimo strmi šumski klanac i dolazimo do uređenog manastirskog kompleksa Donji Brčeli. Spuštamo se do Opačca gdje se uzvodno lijepom stazom preko izvora Vrelaza vraćamo do polazišta u Dupilu.

Zahtjevnost staze: siguran korak po kamenitim stazama

Through the desolate Karst Mountains to the most beautiful Viewpoint of Lake Skadar



Virpazar-Braćeni-Popratnice-Komarno-Viewpoint Zaboj-Komarno

14km → 5,5h ↑ 660m ↓ 440m



Tipps

- Partially abandoned villages with former agriculture plains, lonely karst mountains.
- The viewpoint of Zaboj: karst plates with a beautiful view of the lake.



- Combination with tour 18 and 19
- See also :

www.balkantour.ch/projekte/orahovstica-trail-1/

In the hamlet of Braćeni, above Virpazar, the picturesque and impressively underpinned path leads through wooded and lonely karst hills to the highest part of Dupilo, Popratnica.

We continue through an overgrown field (once a cultivated plain) to the village of Komarno, high above the lake. From this point, a scenic circular hike leads to Zaboj, one of the most beautiful viewpoints in the upper part of the lake: the view reaches across the lake's fjord landscape to the northern Albanian town of Skadar and far into the mountainous region of the north.

Difficulty of the path: Steady footing in the first part (after the village of Braćeni) due to rough and loose stones on the path!

Kroz usamljene kraške planine do najljepšeg vidikovca Skadarskog jezera

(Virpazar-Braćeni-Popratnice-Komarno- vidikovac Zaboj-Komarno)

U zaseoku Braćeni, iznad Virpazara, staza vodi slikovitim i impresivno podzidanim putem kroz šumovita i usamljena kraška brda do najvišeg dijela Dupila, Popratnice. Nastavljamo kroz obrasio polje (nekada obrađena žitница) do sela Komarno, visoko iznad jezera.

The "Upper Part" of the Skadar Lake and Crmnica

Odatle, slikovito kružno pješačenje vodi do Zaboju, jednog od najljepših vidikovaca u gornjem dijelu jezera: pogled seže preko pejzaža fjorda jezera do sjevernoalbanskog grada Skadra i daleko u planinsko područje sjevera.

Zahтjevnost staze: siguran korak u prvom dijelu (poslije sela Braćeni) zbog grubih i labavih kamena na stazi!

19

Along Old Trade Routes to Rijeka Crnojevića at the Beginning of the Lake

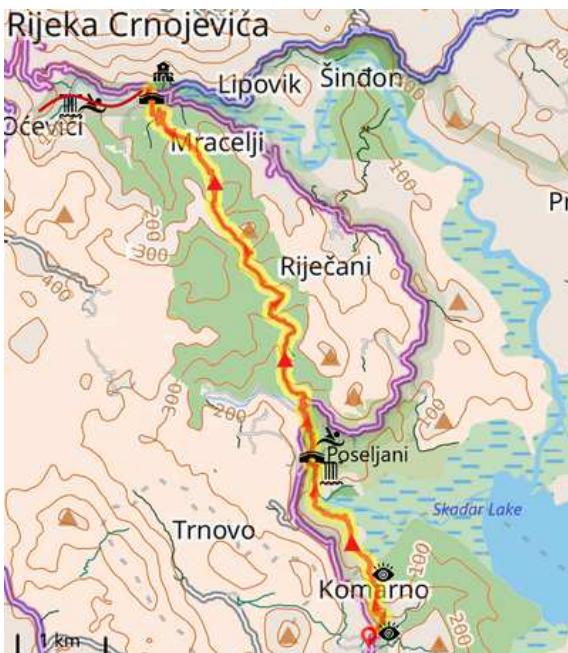
Komarno-Poseljani-R.Crnojevića



10,5 km → 4h ↑ 370m ↓ 600m

From the village of Komarno, the path goes through a forest to the almost abandoned former mill village of Poseljani. The village lies at the end of the fjord and with its 14 mills was an important centre of the region until the middle of the 20th century. We continue along a beautiful stream with cascades. Through the abandoned hilly landscape with forest and abandoned arable land we reach the idyllic village of Rijeka Crnojevića at the beginning of the lake.

Difficulty of the path: Normal fitness and steady footing on uneven hiking trails.



- The village of Poseljani with ruins of the mills.
- The river cascades with pools.
- The village of Rijeka Crnojevića with a stone arched bridge and a promenade by the river.

The tour can be shortened by starting in Poseljani;

- For families with children: hiking along the stream in Poseljani with swimming in the pools under the waterfalls.
- Watching crayfish in the idyllic forest stream.
- In Rijeka Crnojevića, a marked path along the river leads to several natural pools (with cold water) and to a large cave; return to Virpazar by boat from Rijeka Crnojevića through the fjords of Lake Skadar (about 2 hours).

Tipps



Starim trgovačkim stazama do Rijeke Crnojevića

Komarno - Poseljani - Rijeka Crnojevića

Od sela Komarno, staza ide kroz šumu, i vodi uz pogled na jezero, do gotovo napuštenog nekadašnjeg mlinarskog sela Poseljani. Selo leži na kraju fjorda i sa svojih 14 mlinova bilo je važno središte regije sve do sredine XX vijeka. Nastavljamo uz prekrasan potok s kaskadama. Kroz napušteni brežuljkasti krajolik sa šumom i napuštenim obradivim površinama stižemo do idiličnog sela Rijeka Crnojevića na početku jezera.

Zahtjevnost staze: Normalna kondicija i pouzdanost na pomalo neravnim planinarskim stazama

20 Viewpoint of Vranjina

3,7km → 3h ↑↓ 440m

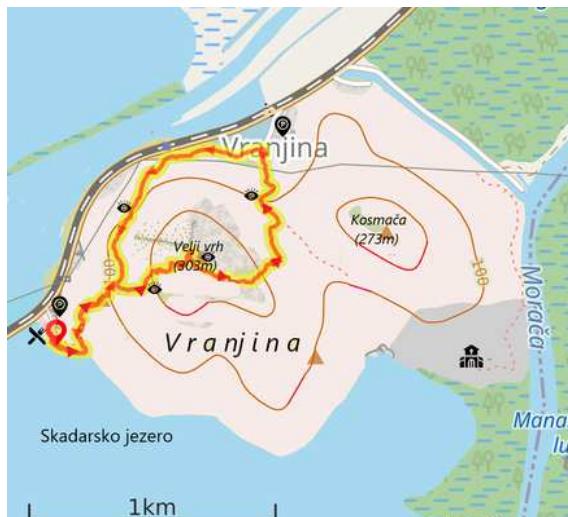


Tipps Spectacular view

The island of Vranjina is connected to the mainland by an embankment and can be recognized from afar by its two characteristic conical peaks. At their foot is a small fishermans village of the same name.

Behind the headquarter of the National Park, cross the rocks along the lake for a short time, and then a barely visible, but freshly marked path trough grass, stones and rocks, leads up the steep slope. The amazing view compensates us for the rather tiring ascent: Lake Skadar lies far below, the view extends to the city of Skadar, the wild mountains of Prokletije and northern Montenegro, over the fjords and karst islands of the upper part of the lake and the coastal mountains. When descending to the saddle between the two peaks, several benches invite everyone to enjoy the view. The path descends to the village, and from there again a slightly uphill, until we reach the path that led us from the headquarters of the National Park to the top.

Difficulty of the path: Sure-footedness on a stony and mostly pathless terrain.



Vidikovac Vranjina

Ostrvo Vranjina je nasipom povezano sa kopnom i izdaleka se prepozna po dva karakteristična konusna vrha. U njihovom podnožju nalazi se istoimeno malo ribarsko mjesto. Iza sjedišta Nacionalnog parka kratko se prelazi preko kamenja uz jezero, a zatim tek mjestimično vidljiva, ali svježe markirana staza prošarana busenima trave, kamenima i stijenama vodi uz strmu padinu brda. Prilično naporan uspon nadoknađuje nam prekrasan pogled. Na vrhu leži Skadarsko jezero pod našim nogama, pogled se proteže do grada Skadra, zatim preko divljih planina Prokletija i sjeverne Crne Gore, preko fjordova i kraških ostrva gornjeg dijela jezera do primorskih planina. Pri spustu na sedlo između dva vrha, nekoliko klupa poziva na uživanje u pogledu. Staza se spušta do sela, a odatle blago uzbrdo, dok se ne susretnemo sa stazom koja nas je od sjedišta Nacionalnog parka vodila prema vrhu.

Zahtjevnost staze: sigurnost u bespuću i po kamenitom terenu

Vranjina mountain on the horizon



Food, drink and accommodation

Stari Bar and surroundings

Stari Bar

- Traditional dishes based on local products: **Restaurant Kaldrma and Tavern Bedem**
- Tasting olive oil and olive wood products: **Filip Jovović**, +382 69 479 401 (near the catholic church in Gretva).
- Bartula, "**My Olive Garden Camp**", Đjole, +382 69 962 662, +382 68 023 174
www.olivegardencamp.com ; info@olivegardencamp.com

Turčini

- "**Vrteljak Waterfall**", drinks and accommodation, Aldijan Mustafić, +382 69 841 777
- Ethno Village '**White Scale**', food and accommodation, Eldin Mujić +382 67 341 304
Menke: **Metović family**, food and accomodation (booking.com/hotel/me/menke.de)

The South side of Lake Skadar

Donji Murići, sale of excellent goat cheese, olives, olive oil, dried figs. Drinks and home made food can be ordered in advance, **Hodžić Suljo and Ajša**, +382 69 251 392
Livari

- '- "**Livari Viewpoint**", a great view of the lake, open in good weather.
Drinks, food to preorder, accomodation, Janković Dragan, +382 69 486 329,
www.booking.com/hotel/me/livari-viewpoint
- Home made food on a well-kept terrace opposite the little village church.
By reservation, **Markolović Ante and Kristina**, +382 69 607 588, +382 69 791 421
- **Old house Nilović**: Accommodation and meals, by reservation, +382 69 030 091

The "Upper Part" of the Skadar Lake and Crmnica

Dupilo

- "**Country House Dajković**", homemade food and accomodation (only by reservation),
Tanja Dajković, +382 69 048 440
- **Purlja Andrija**, homemade food, honey and liqueurs, +382 66 132 979 (open daily during the season)

Braćeni

- "**Hoopoe Glamping**", Daria and Matthieu, +382 68 394 893,
www.hoopoeglamping.com, team@hoopoeglamping.com
- "**Camp Radoman**", Mila & Nikola Radoman, +382 69 081 77, vasilijenikolar@gmail.com

Food, drink and accommodation

Donji Brčeli, Winery : "**Vinarija Kopitović**", Žarko Kopitović, +382 69 060 222, www.vinarijakopitovic.com ; kopitovicbrceli@gmail.com (by reservation)

Godinje

- "**Paradise**" organic food and wine, +382 68 552 223
- "**Konoba Godinje**", home made food (fresh fish from the lake), Miodrag and Filip Leković, +382 67 575 275
- "**Winery Garnet**", tasting wines and locally produced snacks, Miško Leković +382 67 355 535, winerygarnet@gmail.com, winerygarnet.com

Čukovići (near Poseljanj village): - "**Marcelov Brijeg**", beautiful lake view, drinks and food: Goran Vujović, +383 67 875 959

- "**Bellavista**", Bungalows with beautiful lake view and home made food, +382 69 753 798

Active tourism offers close to nature

Canyoning and Climbing "**Black Stone Canyons**", Stari Bar and surroundings (blackstonemem@gmail.com) :

- Canyoning Rikavac und Međureč, Darko Pepđonović, +382 69 979 090.
- Climbing Bojan Rukavina, +382 68 123 498.

Kayaking Skadar Lake : "**Boat Milica Lake Skadar**", www.boatmilica.com, Milica Dabanovic: +382 67 755 355

Guided hiking tours (on request): "**BalkanTour**", Radovan & Judith Pobor, www.balkantour.ch, info@balkantour.ch, +382 69 223 307, +382 69 206 733

Transfers

Taxi

Virpazar, Crmnica: Mitar Radoman, +382 69 070 822 / Savo Pečurica: 069 531 034
Bar (surrounding) : 19744 / 19701

Bus/Trainstations in Virpazar, Sutomore, Bar
timetables on : rome2rio, balkanviator, getbybus
www.zcg-prevoz.me (train)

Epilogue of the authors

BalkanTour is a Montenegrin-Swiss family business and offers hiking and trekking tours for small groups in various countries in South-East Europe. In spring and autumn time we organize most of the tours in southern Montenegro around Lake Skadar and in the Coastal Mountains.

The complete collapse of our business due to the coronavirus crisis in 2020/21 was an opportunity for us to implement long-cherished visions and ideas: to make the beautiful nature, culture and hospitality of little-known regions accessible to nature-loving guests. This requires infrastructure, walkable and marked hiking trails as well as information about the trails. Background information provides deeper insights into the regions. In this respect, it is an opportunity and a pleasure for us, on behalf of SST, by means of this guidebook to present the wonderful landscape between Adriatic Sea and Lake Skadar. We hope that this guide will inspire you, the reader, to have enriching experiences and encounters.

Liability: The descriptions and data collection for this guidebook were done to the best of the authors' knowledge and beliefs. Use of this guide is at the user's own risk and the authors in no way accept any liability resulting from its use.

Cartography: OpenStreetMap

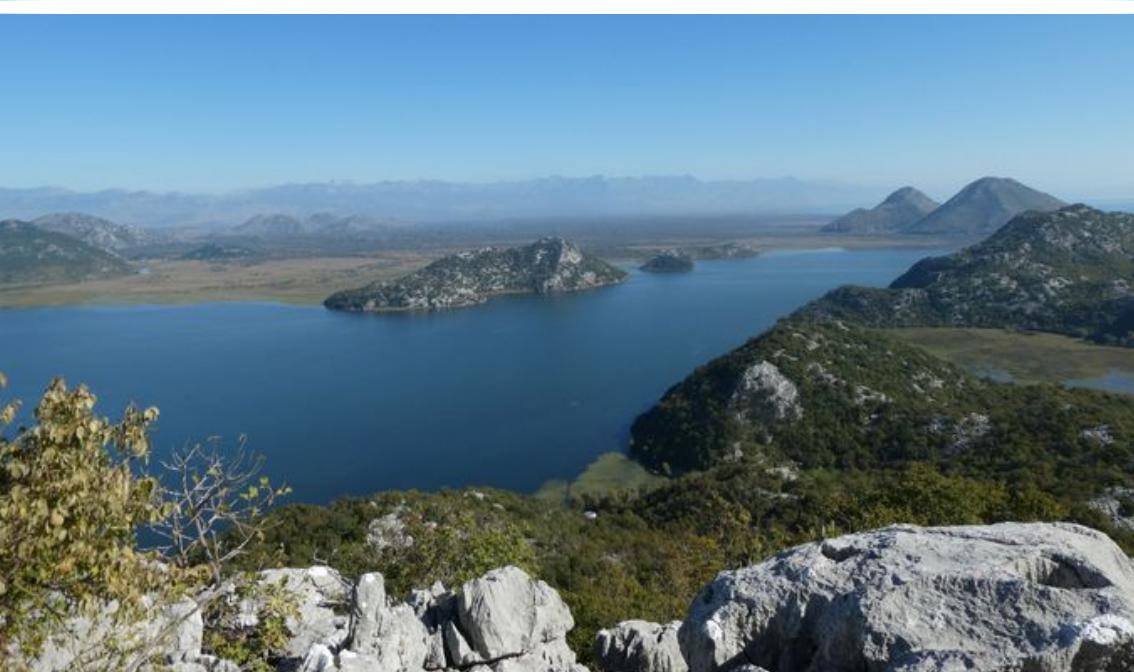
BalkanTour je crnogorsko-švajcarsko porodično preduzetništvo koje nudi planinarske i treking programe za male grupe u raznim zemljama jugoistočne Europe. U proljeće i jesen realizujemo većinu programa u južnoj Crnoj Gori (oko Skadarskog jezera i na primorskim planinama).

Potpuni kolaps našeg poslovanja izazvan korona krizom 2020/21 god. bila nam je prilika za realizaciju dugogodišnjih vizija i ideja: prekrasnu prirodu, kulturu i gostoljubivost malo poznatih krajeva učiniti dostupnim gostima zaljubljenicima u prirodu. Za to je potrebna infrastruktura, prohodne i označene planinarske staze te informacije o stazama. U tom smislu, nama je prilika i zadovoljstvo da u ime SST-a ovim vodičem predstavimo prekrasan krajolik između Jadranskog mora i Skadarskog jezera. Nadamo se da će vas, dragi čitaoci, ovaj vodič podstaknuti na obogaćivanje planinarskih iskustava i susreta.

Odgovornost: Opisi i prikupljanje podataka za ovaj vodič urađeni su prema najboljem znanju i uvjerenju autora. Korištenje ovog vodiča je na vlastitu odgovornost korisnika i autori ni na koji način ne prihvataju odgovornost koja proizlazi iz njegove upotrebe.

Kartografija: OpenStreetMap

20 Hikingtrails between the Adriatic Sea and the Skadar Lake



Text, pictures and layout:

Judith Schürmann Pobor and Radovan Pobor

www.balkantour.ch / info@balkantour.ch

+382 69 223 307 / +41 32 511 06 07



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