Gorski kotar
Dear Friends,

Welcome to Gorski Kotar, the mountainous part of Croatia in the hinterland of Kvarner. Waiting for you, at only thirty kilometres from the sea, are lush centuries old forests, clear rivers and lakes, an underworld of caves, rich flora and fauna and a healthy climate where the sea and mountains connect…

It is an ideal spot for a holiday all year round: spring and autumn are transfused with green, green-yellow and brown shades, summer is always pleasant with fresh and beautiful days, and winter with dazzling snow covering the hushed mountains…

Escape from the city’s hustle and bustle and stressful way of life with an active holiday or, simply discover that there still exists a place where you can let yourself go and enjoy the charms of preserved nature – a real discovery…

Here is also located one of Croatia’s eight national parks – the Risnjak National Park which takes its name from the unique ‘large European cat’ – the lynx, and offers undiscovered treasures of forests, meadows, streams, rivers, mountain peaks and rare flora and fauna…

In Gorski Kotar you can find very impressive caves – th “Vrelo” cave in Fužine and “Lokvarka” cave in Lokve. There are also very beautiful nature attractions as The Devil Passage in Skrad, Kamačnik canyon in Vrbosko, Golubinjak forest in Lokve, artificial lakes in Fužine, Lokve and Mrzla Vodica, then the Kupa river spring, the highest village in Croatia – Begovo Razdolje -1.060 meters above the sea level, mountain peaks like Risnjak, Bjelolasica, Viševica, Bijele i Samarske stijene (rocks).

Getting to Gorski Kotar is very easy. It is situated on the Zagreb – Rijeka highway, located at the crossroads of the Adriatic Sea and continental Croatia and is ideal traffic-wise for your holiday in Croatia. It is very easy to get to nearby Opatija, Crikvenica and the Kvarner islands from here as well as to the western coast of Istria and from the other side, to Zagreb, Varaždin, Slavonia or perhaps the Plitvice Lakes.,

It’s well worth experiencing Gorski Kotar – the green heart of Croatia…
Brod Moravice
Brod Moravice district is situated in the Northeastern part of the Primorsko-goranska County, in the western part of Gorski kotar, 560 meters above mean sea level. It is 120 kilometers away from Zagreb, and 70 kilometers away from Rijeka. It is still a relatively undiscovered area, and due to its history and its surrounding hamlets it is of great interest. According to the numbers of its inhabitants it is the smallest district, but it is also the oldest district in Gorski kotar. Some 1000 inhabitants live in 38 towns on quite a large area of 62 square kilometers.

Brod Moravice is also home of the oldest preserved house in Gorski kotar, the Delač house, which was built in 1644, and also the Ožanić house (year 1826). This area has all of the prerequisites of becoming a centre of ethnic tourism. Today it is surely extremely interesting as a holiday destination.

Once it was called Moravice, Gornje Moravice, Turanj, Brodske Moravice, and today it bears the name Brod Moravice. The town was first mentioned in the document of the king Bela IV in the year 1260.

The first settlements in Gorski kotar were founded as early as the 10th and the 11th century because the paths to the sea passed through these parts.

In the 15th and the 16th the Turks penetrated the wider area of Brod Moravice so a part of the population left for Kranjska. Later on, the Dukes Zrinski and Frankopani, who owned the above mentioned area, settled their estates with newcomers from Primorje, Bosnia and other parts. Also, the descendants of the indigenous inhabitants who escaped to Slovenia from the Turks started returning to these parts what subsequently had an impact on the language tradition of this area.

And from these turbulent times, from the end of the 16th century, originates the TURANJ tower that was built in Gornje Moravice by Duke Zrinski as a defense against the Turks. The tower is made of stone blocks, it had three floors with embrasures and removable wooden steps. In the 19th century the TURANJ tower was renovated and given a new use as a bell-tower. It had been badly damaged in 1944 during an air raid of the town, but in the after-war years it was renovated.
Piljdak, a tall stone monument situated on the crossway between Brod Moravice, Moravička Sela and Maklena dates from the 17th century. Some historians claim that it is a sacral mark, and others think that it served as a signal post from which signals of the Turks’ arrival was sent.

The parish of Brod Moravice was founded in the 14th century, and next to the one in Gerovo is the oldest in Gorski kotar. In the Brod Moravice area there are 12 churches and chapels that represent the significant and rich cultural-historical heritage.

St Nicholas’ church is situated on a high ground in the centre of Brod Moravice. On the front facade of the church it has been chiseled: “Me seculo ab erectione quarto devoti populi pietas restauraverat 1834.”, or translated: ‘I (i.e. the church) have been renovated by the devotion of the people four centuries after erection.’

This is a single nave building with a multiple apse. There are graves with 18th century tombstones in the church, and it is guessed that some of the family members from the Zrinski and Frankopani family have been buried here. During World War II, on Easter in 1944 during the bombing of the town the roof caught fire, but the interior was preserved. After the war both the roof and the tower were renovated, and in 2005 the church roof and the facade were fully renovated.

The Scapular (Carmelite) Church of the Holy Mother in Moravička Sela was first mentioned in 1633. The church is under the protection of the Ministry of culture of the Republic of Croatia. During the many years the church has been added on and renovated on
several occasions. The roof of the church collapsed in 1977, the interior was damaged, and it was all renovated in 1989. Other churches placed under the protection of the Ministry of culture of the Republic of Croatia as cultural assets are the following: Saint Michael near the Šimatovo cemetery, The Holy Ghost in Male Drage and Saint Lucia in Goršete.

The parish church of the Holy Cross in Šimatovo was built in 1825, and renovated in the nineties of the 20th century.

Brod Moravice offer surroundings rich with natural beauties. The view of the Kupa River valley from Kavranova stijena (Kavan’s rock) and other belvederes leaves no person indifferent, especially not those who enjoy intact nature. This area is extremely picturesque with its belvederes, Kavranova stijena, Medveja stijena, Špičasti vrh that offer a view of the neighbouring Slovenia and a large part of Gorski kotar. Near the village Kutri rises the Parag hill, from which, on clear days, one can see mountain massifs from Klek to Snježnik. This area is especially positive in energy and is a real challenge for experts in geomancy.

On meadows and lawns nature lovers shall encounter rare mountain species – the Jacobean lily, the daffodil, the periwinkle, the holly… From juniper berries, the local people make a healing homemade brandy – ‘brinjevica’ (juniper brandy). Hunters are welcome in the woods surrounding Brod Moravice. With the assistance of an expert guide it is possible to hunt large game, and there is also a possibility of accommodation in the hunting hut Lazica near Brod Moravice, in the mountaineering club Vršak’s mountain refuge and in private accommodation.

The tourist office has provided the guests of this area with numerous contents: marked mountain paths, possibility to use sports grounds for bowling, basketball, indoor football, bicycle tracks, kayaking and canoeing on the Kupa River, paintball, trekking and the use of ski running tracks during the winter months.
Čabar
The town of Čabar or the Hometown of Petar Klepac, the legendary ‘Croatian giant’, is one of the most beautiful green gardens of Gorski kotar. Its green lushness spreads across 85% of the area. This makes the town of Čabar the greenest part of Croatia, or more accurately, the most beautiful nature park. And it is precisely in these mysterious sylvan parts, situated far away from all of the significant historical paths, that there has been an indication of a spark of life even since the antiquity… The Iapodes, the Romans, the Slavs, they have all left their mark here.

The first traces of life found in these parts are from the time of the Illyrian-Celtic tribes Iapodes, from the time of the Hallstatt culture which lasted from the ninth until the fourth century BC. In the first century AD, the prolonged reach of the Liburnian limes reached all the way to the settlement of Prezid. Ancient documents also mention the year 1260. In one of the accounts of the Vinodol parish, which was the property of the dukes of Krk, there is a mention of Brezidan near Babino polje, which is the today’s Prezid. But it is believed that the town of Prezid has a much richer history. Its name probably came from its position. It was situated in front of the wall of the 1st century AD Roman Liburnian limes. Also, the first evidence of human presence in these hilly parts was found here – remains of pottery from the Hallstatt-Iapodic culture.

The actual town of Čabar was mentioned in the year 1642. It was founded by the most significant Croatian governor, ban Petar Zrinski. In 1651 he opened a foundry and a mint there. He also built a castle which, although slightly renovated, remains here even to this day. Other parts of the town of Čabar were founded later. Today the town of Čabar consists of these parts: Čabar, Gerovo, Prezid, Tršće and Plešce. Other smaller towns are scattered on the adjacent hills and valleys surrounding them. The main towns are situated mainly on the two most important roads. From Delnice towards the Republic of Slovenia (Gerovo, Tršće, Prezid) and along the rivers Čabranka and Kupa towards Brod na Kupi (Čabar, Plešce). And all of these towns, villages or hamlets today count some 4000 inhabitants.

The town of Čabar is situated in the deep fissure of the Čabranka River. Today it is foremost an administrative and cultural centre. As well as its natural beauty, springs and waterfalls of the river Čabranka, Tropetarska stijena (Tropetar cliff) the visitors can also get acquainted
with the local cultural and historical monuments. The
town centre is dominated by Petar Zrinski’s castle. The
oldest part of the castle, which has recently been reno-
vated, is where the donations of academic painter Vilim
Svečnjak and the donation of Mr. Marijan Filipović are
situated. The collection ‘Zavičajna zbirka’ is situated in
the same surroundings. Towering just above the town
centre is the St Anthony of Padua church built in the
baroque style. It is dominated by the altarpiece made
by the famous 18th century Slovenian painter Valentin
Metzinger. Behind the church you will find a boule-
vard and the newly renovated Stations of the Cross
chapels decorated with the pictures of Andrija Zbašnik.
Among the monuments of the past, special attention
should be paid to the tomb of the families Paravić and
Ghyzy, once the owners of the Čabar manorial estate. It
is also worthwhile to mention the Urh forge, which has
continued the blacksmith’s trade tradition. The educa-
tional path ‘Tropetarska stijena’ is also very interesting.
The path is based on the values of nature and the man-
ifoldness of the floral system. From the belvedere you
can witness the dazzling panoramic view of the sur-
rounding towns, the actual centre of the town of Čabar
or the neighboring mountain summits.

The larger town of Plešci is situated on the wide-
spread fan of the Čabranka River. Beautiful scenery, a
variety of natural landscapes, the river Čabranka along
with numerous villages and hamlets scattered all over
the near-by hills provide Plešivica with an extremely
vivid imagery. The village of Zamost shall surely draw
the visitors’ attention. On two spans of land, beneath
the cliff of Sveta gora and on the rivulet of Gerovčica,
people have been organizing their lives for centuries.
They built water saw-mills, mills and forges.

High above Zamost is where Hrib, the hill of ‘a
thousand villages’, is located. Paths lead across it to-
wards the spring and the canyon of the river Kupa. This
is nature at its most beautiful. Here is where a visitor
can sense the depth of Nature in its beauty, serenity and
naturalness. A walk along the river Kupa and its gor-
geous eye, its blue spring lost in the rock’s depth, will
be an unforgettable experience for every person.

Almost vertically above Zamost, in the crevice be-
tween Hrib and Sveta gora, the road leads you into
the wide Georovo valley. The legendary hero Petar
Klepac often stopped at this crevice. Gerovo is the cen-
tral place. It is one of the oldest towns in Gorski kotar
County. It has been mentioned as early as the 11th cen-
tury. In 1404 a parish was founded in it. During the pe-
riod of the Zrinski dukes, Gerovo was for a period of
time the centre of Gorski kotar. Today Gerovo is the
largest industrialized place in the town of Čabar. Its
primary school has a sports facility. There are also the
grounds and courts for handball, basketball and foot-
ball. Gerovo also has an interesting hinterland. From
Gerovo the roads lead to the mountains of Risnjak and
Snježnik, onto the spacious mountain hayfields, hunt-
ing-grounds and the spring of the river Kupa… Mali
Lug is situated on the way to Čabar. It is the birthplace
of the legendary hero Petar Klepac. His home burned
down in 1942. There are numerous legends about Petar Klepac. He possessed an extraordinary physical strength. He could press a rock so hard that it would leak water or he could pull out a tree with his bare hand. His heroic acts while fighting the Turks were what made him a household name. Today Petar Klepac is the symbol of the local people’s strength and because of this the town of Čabar also bears the name of the Hometown of Petar Klepac (Zavičaj Petra Klepca or Damavina Pitra Klepca).

Sveta gora is arched just above Mali Lug. Sveta gora is a famous place of pilgrimage. During the Nativity of the Virgin Mary of Scapular many people from various parts of Croatia (especially the Croatian seaside and Slovenia) visit Sveta gora. And thus it has been for the last 250 years. Via Smreče and Prhici, the most beautiful belvedere, we arrive to Sokolska stijena, a wide and spacious plain of Tršće, by way of a high pass. There is no doubt that this is the most beautiful area in the town of Čabar and that it is one of the most beautiful mountain areas in the whole of Croatia. This spacious hilly plain, surrounded by a green wreath of forests, will set in each visitor a sense of beauty, peace and serenity.

Tršće is the central place. The founding of Tršće is connected to the excavation of iron ore in this area and to the building of the Čabar ironworks. Several mines where iron ore was excavated exist very near Tršće. All of these mines are marked and are accessible to the general public. They are connected via a tourist-educational path. Tršće has all the prerequisites for developing tourism. The mountain of Rudnik is situated above Tršće. It has two skiing tracks with sky lifts. The entire plain is ideal for ski-running. Tršće has four tennis courts, an indoor football hall, and courts for handball, basketball and volleyball. There is a large sports hall and a large natural stadium for all possible types of running and recreational activities.

On our way to Prezid, we come across Parg, the crossroad between Čabar and Prezid, Goraće and Kozji Vrh. Kozji Vrh is a sort of a belvedere from which there is view of the valley of Prezid, a part of Slovenia, the far Alps and many mountains of Gorski kotar.

Prezid is situated on the Croatian-Slovenian border. Prezid is an ancient place. The ancient past has put its mark on it. The most prominent traces of the past are: the archeological site of Iapodic pottery and the Roman defense wall – the Liburnian limes. Old wooden houses, as well as unique examples of architecture of Gorski kotar have been preserved in Prezid. Today these remains are protected as the rural architecture of Croatian heritage. Prezid is also home to a large Homeland collection (Zavičajna zbirka). Its main attractions are the remains of the Iapodic culture, and another attraction: the remains of Prezid’s old wooden waterworks. Prezid has a very convenient border crossing, and guests shall be overwhelmed by ‘Trbušovica’, the recreational-energy building path that goes around Prezid. The path is 7.5 kilometers long and on the actual path there are 6 energy-building points that have been proven to be beneficent for people’s health.

Along many natural values, we offer our guests various activities on our sports grounds for football, handball, basketball, athletics, tennis, bowling, Nordic skiing, a natural ambience for archery, hunting and fishing, rafting, white-water rafting, mountain climbing. All of the places are remarkably well-kept. Also, well-kept are the hunting lodges (Lividraga, Runc, Škodovnik, Smrckova draga, Milanov Vrh, Paravičeva miza, Lisina), the inns, the hotels, the restaurants, the privately held houses and the holiday homes.

The national park Risnjak (15815 acres) is under special protection as a natural object. Since 1997 a part of the territory of the town of Čabar, or more precisely the 7500 acres that spread over the Risnjak and Stježnik mountains massifs, as well as the spring area of the Kupa River, they are all part of the national park.
Delnice
An almost centennial tradition in picnic, health, sports and other types of tourism, as well as a diversity of geographical and climatic features make the area of the Town of Delnice into one of the most distinctive parts of Gorski kotar. Its central town is situated on a road connecting the middle European countries and the area of the upper part of the Adriatic, and it is also on the crossroads of the most important traffic ways going through Gorski kotar which testifies about the accessibility of this most important of the tourist-oriented sites in the Delnice area. During the second half of the 19th century travelers started stopping more often next to the old Lujzinska road (today the major road connecting Zagreb and Rijeka), so at that time the first inns and residences started mushrooming in Delnice, the largest town in Gorski kotar. Today one can travel from Rijeka and the adjacent resorts on the Kvarner Riviera to Delnice in less than half an hour via a modern semi-highway, and traveling from Zagreb, the capital of the Republic of Croatia, takes less than two hours. One of the international state borders with the Republic of Slovenia (Brod na Kupi-Petrina) which is 12 km away from Delnice is also situated in this area. Daytrips, short visits or stays lasting several days in this part of Gorski kotar usually start with an arrival to Delnice. The Tourist office (phone: 812-156) is located at the bus station, and besides information about longer stays or daytrips, it is possible to get promotional materials and local souvenirs. As well as the information about hotel capacities, the office offers the possibility of staying at family houses and holiday homes.

In the immediate vicinity of the office there is the train station, the post office building, and the ‘Risnjak’ hotel (30 beds). Via a promenade that leads from the near King Tomislav’s park to the Forest park Japlenški vrh, one can reach the motel ‘Lovački dom’ (21 beds) in ten minutes or after a shorter drive via the by-street of the Rijeka-Zagreb road. As well as meals a la carte, ‘Lovački dom’ offers its guests hunting and homemade specialties. At the foot of the Japlenški vrh there are the sports facilities accessible to those visiting Delnice: a football field and a basketball court, two ski jumps, a bowling alley, a four-lane automatic bowling alley and several hard and clay tennis courts. Dom sportova (The House of Sports) with its sports hall (a thousand seats and a 12 by 25 m swimming pool) offers special terms for recreation and sports teams’ preparations. Nearby are the ‘Delnice’ hotel (98 beds) and a medical clinic. Two buildings in Supilova Street that runs through the town centre tell us a lot about the history of Delnice. At number 94 there is one of the most valuable monuments of folk building heritage in Gorski kotar. It is the Klobučar-Rački house, built in the middle of the 17th century. In the arrangement of its rooms and the shape of the building it is possible to notice in its interior the features of the way of life of the ancient people of Delnice, as well as the ethnographic characteristics of this area. The parish church of St John the Baptist in Delnice was first mentioned in the 17th century. It is a building with three naves and with a polygonal shrine. Next to the main church altar there are also two side altars with late baroque features. In 2005 in Supilova Street at number
333 the old Delnice cemetery-site Vidm was renovated, as well as the chapel of St Cross at Calvary which, together with the Rački house and the Potok site represents a line of interpretation panels of the ‘Heritage paths’ (Putevima baštine) project. In Delnice there is one of the fifteen management boards of the Hrvatske šume limited liability company that governs one part of the hunting areas of Gorski kotar. A guest wanting to be granted to kill game, submits an application to this body in which he/she lists the species and the trophy value of the desired game. After estimating and calculating the money value of the trophy, the guest is issued the necessary document. Expert hunting guidance and other accompanying offer aspects are included in the price. The managing board of forests Delnice has at its disposal a larger number of hunting lodges with available double and multi-bed rooms, the use of the kitchen, accompanying utilities and firewood. Throughout the year the town of Delnice tourist office organizes various events, among which we would like to draw your attention to the ‘Delnice championship in one- and two-seat sleighing at the Potok sleighing slope’ in February, ‘Polane – in search of the ancient times of Gorski kotar’ in July, ‘The gastro weekend in Gorski kotar’ in October and ‘The best of Gorski kotar – our home’ in December. A recognizable event in our tourist offer are the ski jump under masks which are organized as part of the carnival events, in January or February, depending on the snow. If there is a site that encompasses within most of the basic features of the Town of Delnice and Gorski kotar offer it is surely the ‘Risnjak’ national park. At a relatively small area of the park there are at least ten forest communities developed and it is possible to observe a vast number of natural phenomena, and due to all that the scientists have named this mountain a museum of nature. Climbing from the foot to the top of the Risnjak mountain we can clearly notice the altitudinal layers of plants starting with fir-tree forests in the lowest regions, then the saber-shaped premountain beech (about 1200 m above mean sea level) all the way to the highest forest plant life belt located directly under the 1528 high Risnjak summit where juniper trees reign. It is possible to trace the reversed plant lineage descending down the moun-
tain into the mountainous valleys-sink holes.

At their bottom, because of the cooler air, we encounter a plant life exactly the same as the one next to the slope not far away from the Šloserova livada meadow (about 1400 m above mean sea level) where there is a mountaineer’s home with 40 beds. Risnjak is the only national park in the Republic of Croatia which has a well-kept educational path called Leska on its territory. It begins in Crni lug, just next to the park’s managing building that has a restaurant. The educational path is 3800 m long, it takes 20 minutes to pass it, and during the walk the visitors can look around twelve marked natural phenomena that reflect the natural, climate and living specifics of the Risnjak massif and its surroundings. The path is designed at 690 above mean sea level. The spring of the Kupa River, which flows through a picturesque valley in the Delnice town area, is located on the territory of the national park ‘Risnjak’, not far away from the Razloge village. Brod na Kupi is the largest place following the upper flow of this river. Its centre is dominated by the picturesque 17th century Zrinski family castle - one of the buildings that served as defense against the Turks, as well as for living, which represents the buildings that were built in Gorski kotar during the Turkish invasion. Behind the fort there is the church of St Mary Magdalene whose construction was encouraged in 1670 by the nobleman Petar Zrinski and which has in the past made one whole with the castle surrounded by a defense wall. The original appearance of this sacral building was altered with subsequent reconstruction. Near these historical sites the visitors can inquire about a longer stay at the family hotel ‘Mance’. Beside the acclaimed quality of accommodation, the hotel’s restaurant is listed among the 100 best ones in Croatia thanks to its gastronomic offer of local homemade specialties. The today town of Brod na Kupi was mentioned in historical documents under the significant name of Ribarsko. The long fishing tradition in this part of the Kupa valley has been preserved until today. In Brod na Kupi one can acquire fishing permits and a map with instructions as to the allowed fishing ways and the areas where fishing is allowed. The water streams in this part of Gorski kotar, Kupa, Kupica and Curak have been classified, based on the abundance of their fish life, among the most quality rivers and streams of Europe, because here one can fish for several types of trout, grayling, chub, barbell and many others.

Next to the lower Kupica river there is a beautiful marked promenade 1.2 km long with the interpretation panel ‘Heritage paths’. The Kupica promenade starts next to the bridge of Iševnica and it ends near the mouth of the river Kupica where it joins Kupa, not far away from the church of St Mary Magdalene in Brod na Kupi.
Fužine is a picturesque little town situated at 730 meters above the sea level, in the south-western part of Gorski Kotar region, surrounded by mountains, silence of centennial coniferous forests, and the beauty of its lakes.

It is a true pleasure to spend time at the seaside in the summertime, and to spend a night in pleasant Gorski Kotar air at some of the numerous accommodation establishments. Fužine has always provided shelter for the night to travelers, summer and winter resorts, and popular excursion sites.

Fužine, stretched out along the Karolina road (1737), with its many lodging houses and rest places for the caravans became one of the oldest cradles of tourism on the Kvarner Bay, as well as in Croatia and Central Europe.

People from all over Croatia and foreign guests come here mostly to enjoy preserved nature, mild climate, natural beauty, a broad range of leisure time activities, numerous tourist events, and gastronomic delights.

The town of Fužine was first mentioned in 17th century, as a property of Counts Zrinski and Frankopan. Its name is derived from Italian word “fucina” or German word “fusioniren” which means metal foundry, since the melting of iron ore was recorded in this area. Even
though today Fuzine is the official name of the town, older inhabitants still use the ancient name. It remains unknown when exactly the name Fužine came to be used for the town (maybe at the end of 19th Century when Hungarians built up a railway Zagreb – Rijeka).

The first president of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Franjo Rački was born in Fužine. Writing about him, one of the famous scientists Tadija Simičiklas recorded that Rački was born in “Magical Fužine”.

Fužine has excellent traffic connection with other cities. The area is situated on the border of Kvarner Bay. It is only 30 kilometers away from the sea cost, and some 22 kilometers away from the island of Krk.

The new Zagreb-Rijeka motorway is within easy reach. Fužine is also easily reached by a romantic train
ride. The peaks of the surrounding mountains (Bitoraj, Visevica, Tuhobic and Kobiljak) offer an extraordinary view over the lovely countryside, lakes, the rocky field of Lic and the bay of Kvarner. The mountain paths are clearly marked. The peak of Preradovic is the easiest to conquer.

The town of Fužine abounds in waters. There are three artificial lakes which fit well into the Gorski Kotar landscape. The lakes abound in fish and are true bait for fishermen. Clear waters are rich in trout, chub, marble trout, carp and pike. There are a lot of yachting regattas, diving competitions, surfing, boating, and canoeing activities taking place at the lakes. Game animals in the dense Gorski Kotar forests attract hunters.

One of the most attractive natural phenomena of the region is the cave “Vrelo” (means the spring), only 3-km far from the town. Vrelo cave is one of the most popular tourist attractions. It is well floodlit and visits with a professional guide are available. It is 300 meters long and underground water flows through the cave. There are no stairs inside the cave so it is wheelchair accessible. Due to its accessibility and attractiveness it is visited by people of all ages. The cave comprises specific features of rocky caves and it captures visitor attention.

Fužine offers numerous sporting and recreation programs. Around the town there are nine marked footpaths, cycle tracks, and hiking tracks. Tourist favorite spot is the promenade around the Bajer Lake.

There are many cultural and sacred monuments in the Fužine area. One of the most popular is The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snow where in 1733 Our Lady’s image appeared in the snow. In Fuzine, there is also the St. Anthony of Padua Church (the patron saint) and an ethnographic collection in nearby village Lic.

Cultural societies have a long tradition in Fuzine, and Croatian Red Cross Orchestra, which was established in 1848, holds a special place in the history of the town. The Orchestra is the trademark of Fužine. It successfully performs in the country and abroad.

Fužine is famous for its gastronomic offer. Great restaurants offer a range of authentic domestic dishes, game dishes, and forest fruit prepared according to the original recipes. It offers nice accommodation in private homes, hotels, apartments, and you can also enjoy wellness and spa programs.

There is also an opportunity for entertainment in Fužine. Some of the well known entertaining performances and invents is “Summer in Fuzine”. It includes yachting regattas, bikers gathering, summer carnival, various music concerts, harmony-singing groups. The unique in the World is the Old Year’s Eve Party which is thrown on 31st December at the stroke of noon every year.
TOURISM OFFICE OF BROD MORAVICE

Brod Moravice, Stjepana Radića 1
www.brodmoravice.hr
e-mail: tz@brodmoravice.hr
tel. 817-180
fax. 817-002

ACCOMMODATION:
Private accommodation, tel. 817-180
Apartment Jakovac, Kocijani, tel. 816-114,
www.apartmani-johana.hr
Mountain cottage, mob. 099/741-8303

GASTRO OFFER
Caffe bar “DI&GA”, tel. 817-382

EXCURSIONS AND TRIPS
Old house Delač
12 churches
Gazebos: Kavranova and Orlova stijena
Etno village Šimatovo
Mountain track Kupa river

TOURISM OFFICE OF ČABAR

Tršće, Školska 1
www.tz-cabar.hr
e-mail: info@tz-cabar.hr
tel./fax. 824-110

ACCOMMODATION AND GASTRO OFFER:
Hotel. “Petrus”, Tršće, tel. 824-400,
www.petrus.hr
Lipovac, Gerovo, tel. 823-185
Jurković, Srednja Draga, Tršće,
098/426-915,
www.apartmani-jurkovic.info
Tajči, Kozji Vrh, tel. 822-244,
www.tajci-doo.com
“Lividraga”, tel. 823-174
Hunters cottage “Smrekova draga”,
tel. 824-122

Apartments:
Wolf, Tršće, mob. 098/188-4526,
www.wolf-apartmani-trsce.hr
Turk, Prezid, tel. 822-120
Moravec, Pleše,
091/393-3444,
095/521-4428
Zelena dolina, Pleše,
091/4047181, www.gec.hr
Resman, Tršće, mob. 098/171-5072
David, Srednja Draga, Tršće,
098/916-8910

Guest houses:
Lipovac, Makov Hrib, Tršće,
tel. 821-182
Marjana Hrib, Gerovo,
095/688-5118,
Erika Tršće, mob. 098/267-198,
Malnar Tršće, mob. 098/578-901,
Pantar Gorači, mob. 098/289-892,
098/877-046
Holiday house, Kozji vrh,
092/149-1120
Trost, Tršće, mob. 098/594-960

TOURISM OFFICE OF DELNICE

Delnice, Lujzinska cesta 47
www.tz-delnice.hr
e-mail: tz-grada-delnica@ri.t-com.hr
tel./fax. 812-156, tel. 811-174

ACCOMMODATION:
Hotel. “Mance”, Brod na Kupi,
tel. 837-360, fax. 837-164,
www.hotelmance.com,
e-mail: klaudio.mance@ri.t-com.hr
Hotel. “Risnjak”, Delnice,
tel. 508-160, 508-180,
fax. 508-170,
www.hotel-risnjak.hr,
e-mail: info@hotel-risnjak.hr
Pansion “Lovački”, Delnice,
tel. 812-440, fax. 812-019,
www.lovacki.com, e-mail:
usdel-rj-lovački-dom@hrsume.hr
Pansion “NP Risnjak”, Crni Lug,
tel. 836-133, 836-246,
fax. 836-116, www.risnjak.hr,
e-mail: np-risnjak@ri.t-com.hr
Planinarski dom “Galeria”, Delnice,
tel. 812-423, fax. 811-970,
www.galeriadelnice.hr,
e-mail: info@galeriadelnice.hr
Planinski centar “Petehovac”, Delnice,
tel. 814-901, fax. 620-787,
www.petehovac.hr,
e-mail: petehovac@vip.hr
Caffe bar i sobe “Centar”, Delnice,
tel. 812-972, 812-437,
www.centar-delnice.hr, e-mail:
caffe.bar.centar@ri.t-com.hr
Caffe bar i sobe “Americano”,
Delnice, tel. 811-320,
e-mail: agasparac@gmail.com

GASTRO OFFER:
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 mob. 099/410-0632,
098/168-2675,
e-mail: ela.polane@gmail.com
Bistro “AM”, Delnice, tel. 812-310
Bistro “Start”, Delnice, tel. 811-005
Bistro “Pauše”, Delnice,
tel. 812-126
Buffet “Scorpion”, Delnice,
tel. 812-662
Bistro “Tron”, Delnice, tel. 508-284
Fast food “Pizza cut Tvić”, Delnice,
tel. 811-064
Fast food “Luzijana”, Delnice,
098/501-7273
Fast food “Rasta”, Brod na Kupi,
tel. 837-132

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098/232-875,
www.centar-delnice.hr
Čop, Delnice, mob. 098/931-1202
Merkaš, Guče Selo,
098/922-4583
“Pepica”, Crni Lug, tel. 811-767
Polić, Delnice, mob. 098/185-6034
Rački, Kuželj, tel. 837-564
Raukar, Crni Lug, mob. 098/439-580
Sobol, Delnice, tel. 812-371
Sneler, Brod na Kupi, tel. 837-134

Apartments:
“Amalija”, Crni Lug,
098/813-098,
www.apartman-amalija.com
Balen, Delnice, mob. 098/969-4555

+385 (0)51 ... Gorski kotar info
Sara, Delnice, mob. 091/237-7004
San, Brod na Kupi, Ružić, Delnice, mob. 091/590-5364
Rački, Delnice, tel. 811-966
Piskač, Delnice, mob. 098/983-4137

Park”, Bijela Vodica, “Naša hiša”, Crni Lug, Moguš, Delnice, mob. 091/2169-390
Malnar, Crni Lug, Jerbić, Delnice, mob. 099/2169-390
Mihelčić, Delnice, mob. 091/769-2407, www.apartmani-delnice.com
Mihich, Marija Trošt, tel. 816-215

“Naša hiša”, Crni Lug, mob. 098/1780-770
Piskač, Delnice, mob. 098/983-4137
Rački, Delnice, tel. 811-966
Ružić, Delnice, mob. 091/590-5364
San”, Brod na Kupi, mob. 098/177-9855
“Sara”, Delnice, mob. 091/237-7004

Semeš, Delnice, tel. 812-683
Štimac J., Malo Selo, mob. 098/937-4493
Štimac N., Malo Selo, mob. 099/214-6057
“Tina”, Crni Lug, mob. 095/549-2390
Vrbanac, Dedin, mob. 091/553-1949

20
Čurč, Polane, mob. 098/644-063
Ema”, Crni Lug, mob. 098/915-2226

Guest houses:
Frančišković, Belo, mob. 098/388-4730
Fužine, Sv. Križ 2

TOURISM OFFICE OF FUŽINE

Fužine, Sv. Križ 2
www.tz-fuzine.hr
e-mail: tz-fuzine@ri.t-com.hr,
info@tz-fuzine.hr
tel. 835-163, fax. 830-000

ACCOMMODATION AND GASTRO OFFER:
Konoba/rooms “Volta” tel. 830-030
Hunters cottage “Arniča”, tel. 835-883, 835-187
Hostel. “Fužinarska kuća”: tel. 835-238, 830-012
www.fuzinarskuca.com

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION:
Apartments: Fužine:
“Franković”, mob. 098/326-573, www.apartman-frankovic.hr
“Goranski raj”, mob. 095/914-2140
“Gorski dvor” (Radica), mob. 092/166-4540
“Hadarčić”, mob. 098/813-537, www.gorski-dvor.hr
“Jožica”, mob. 091/500-0126
“Lipa”, mob. 098/576-861
“Majda”, mob. 098/900-7688

“Marija”, mob. 098/576-861
“Pavletić” (Gorski dvor), mob. 091/564-0751, www.apartman-pavletic.com
“Proleće”, mob. 091/924-6440
“Srebrni bor”, mob. 091/751-4228
“Plantić”, mob. 099/232-3243

Vrata:
“Karloina”, mob. 098/161-7297
“Lucija”, Vratatel. 835-831
“Stribor”, mob. 091/767-5258

Lič:
“Irena”, mob. 091/162-2472
“Maja”, mob. 098/320-520
“Mima”, mob. 091/509-8118
“Mušić”, mob. 091/725-5303

Guest houses:
Fužine: “Villa Ada”, mob. 091/579-9856

Vrata:
“Melissa”, mob. 098/267-198

Lič:
“Denis”, mob. 098/326-573
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<td>e-mail: <a href="mailto:tz-lokve@t-com.hr">tz-lokve@t-com.hr</a></td>
<td>tel./fax. 833-225</td>
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<td>Kauzlarić, tel. 831-260,</td>
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<td>“Villa Pinus Mugo”, Ravna Gora,</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**GUEST HOUSES:****

"Čančarević", Stari Laz,
mob. 098/133-4497

"Florijan", Stara Sušica, 818-351

"Marincel", Ravna Gora,
mob. 098/977-7553

"Novinc", Ravna Gora,
mob. 091/563-8032

"Pilepić", Stari Laz, 819-907

"Rendulić", Ravna Gora,
mob. 098/976-3381

"Ulaga", Ravna Gora,
mob. 098/353-435

"Vrh", Ravna Gora,
mob. 095/814-7659

**ROOMS:**

"Duvnjak", Ravna Gora,
mob. 091/737-1565

**GASTRO OFFER:**

Konoba "Montagna", Stari Laz,
tel. 819-713

**TRIPS:**

"Plodovi gorja", mob. 098/260-209,
www.plodovi-gorja.hr

**RECREATION:**

Adrenalin park "Kupjak",
mob. 099/672-2523

Fitness i wellness centar “Breza”,
818-317

Tubby "Gina", 817-545
Lokve
Lokve is situated on the crossroads that connect the land and the sea, only some 30 kilometers away from the Adriatic coast and 723 m above mean sea level. This is an enchanting mountain town abundant in natural beauty.

The first written traces of Lokve date from a long time ago, from 1481 from the book ‘Gorski kotar and Vinodol’, and also from the document of the Royal Court of Matthias Corvinus of Hungary dating February 24, 1481. Thus it can be concluded that the place had existed even then as a built and inhabited part of Gorski kotar. The construction of the Lujzinska road the town started developing into a traffic centre that connected commercial centers from the inland with the coastal region. In 1857 a school was built and the founding in 1906 of a ‘Society for local embellishment’ proves that organized tourism started quite early.

The building of Omladinsko Lake turned Lokve into one of the prize jewels of tourism in Gorski kotar. Although by the 90s its radiance faded away, today great efforts are made in order to restore its previous shine.

Today Lokve district consists of some 1200 inhabitants and encompasses the towns of Lokve, Mrzla Vodica and Zelin Mrzlovodički. It is spread across fields and waters, and it represents quite an attractive image of a place surrounded by woods that invites you to stay at the foot of the magnificent Risnjak Mountain. The local climate is extremely mountainous - the summers are short and mild, and the winters long and harsh with abundant precipitation. Lokvarsko Lake, although an impounded lake, was created after the construction of a dam in 1954 and it fit perfectly into the natural ambiance surrounding it. It is truly pleasing for all of the sports and recreation lovers. The first world championship in underwater orientation and numerous international rowing regattas were held at the lake. Since 1987 the traditional mountaineer’s gathering called ‘POJ’ (On Foot around the Lake) is being held here, as well as the cyclist’s gathering called ‘BOJ’ (By Bicycle around the Lake) since 1998. It is quite interesting for fishing lovers (in 1973 the world record-holder in lake trout weighing 25.40 kilos and 138 cm long was caught here), besides trout it is home to field maple, carp, crucian carp and some smaller species.

The forest park Golubinjak is a remarkable nature gift. The 124 acres of land that make the protected area are treated as a forest park. There you will find tall coniferous trees, among which is a prominent giant fir-tree called the queen of the forest. In 1988 it was measured to be 140 cm in diameter, 37 m tall, and its standing stock was 28.46 m³. It is estimated to be around 200 years old. There are also two very attractive caves in the forest park – the ‘Ledena’ (Ice) and the ‘Golubinja’ (Dove) caves. In the ‘Ledena’ cave there is almost always snow and ice, evening the summer months. This cave has two galleries, and because of the air flow and its position not even during the summer is the temperature over 6-8 °C. The ‘Golubinja’ cave was named after stock doves.
The improvement of the park started in the 60s. It is also the place where the space for forest workers—lumberjacks that has hosted many outstanding state championships is set. Successful works done by the acclaimed sculpting workshop Lokve from Gorski kotar are placed throughout the park.

Forest park Golubinjak has since always been a popular resort for the people of Lokve, but it is also a very rare nature spot gladly visited by guests. It has been mentioned as a resort already since the end of the 19th century. Sokolski susreti, a sports event, has been held here and to remember one of these events held in 1925, marking the coronation of King Tomislav, a memorial was built in a rock. Forest park Golubinjak is a remarkable gift of nature and a place you should definitely see and visit.

Lokvarka cave is about 1 km away from the town or 400 m away from the main Rijeka-Zagreb road. According to the year it was discovered it is quite young, but according to its geological formation it is quite old. It was discovered in 1912 by accident during rock excavation by Jakov Bolf, a merchant from Lokve. After this discovery, the penetration into its depths and an inexpert and uncontrolled exploration of it started. Numerous damages to the dripstones are visible even to this day and they serve as witnesses of the irresponsible behavior towards intact nature. The first steps were made in the 30s of the last century which enabled guided visits to the cave using a torch.

A great step forward was made in 1935 when electricity was introduced and when only the first gallery was illuminated. With the arrival of World War I the cave was forgotten, but it played its role when it served as protection against the enemies and the elements. In 1973 it was renovated and steps with an iron framework were put in. The cave has been explored 1200 m in depth while 900 m are suitable for visiting. The difference in altitude between the entrance and the final point accessible to the visitors is 140 m. The cave is naturally divided into 4 galleries, out of which 3 are suitable for visiting. The fourth gallery has been explored and has been named ‘Djevičanska’ (Virgin) because of the preservation of the original form of a part of nature. The cave temperature ranges between 6.5°C and 8°C throughout the year. It is estimated to be between 20 000 and 25 000 years old. Its flora consists of mildew and algae, while its fauna boasts the cave butterfly, the bat and the spider.

Lokve and its surroundings have always been famous for frogs and frog hunting, thus the name of ‘frog-catchers’ how the people of Lokve are called. Since 1975 the traditional event ‘FROG-CATCHER’S NIGHT’ has been held. It is an unforgettable party filled with song and dance, frog’s legs as the specialty of the evening and a competition in frog leaps.

If you visit Lokve, you can visit the Lokve homeland collection presented at the Lokve elementary school, and it is also worthwhile to visit St Catherine’s church dedicated to this virgin and martyr which was built in 1820. Also, you can visit some of the various chapels (St Ana’s chapel in Mrzle Vodice, the chapel at the cemetery, the chapel of the Holy Virgin) as well as the Calvary in Lokve whose aim is to remind us of the Way of the Cross of Jesus Christ.
The region of Mrkopalj has been mentioned for the first time in 1477 and it is closely connected with the Turks raids and devastation. In the second half of 18th century Mrkopalj became one of the most important places in Gorski kotar. In 1785 it became a kings privileged center, with clearly elaborated legal system.

It is located in a valley, surrounded by many small and picturesque villages. The highest surrounding mountains are in the close vicinity of Mrkopalj (10-15 km). These are: Bijeles stijene (the White Cliffs), Samarske stijene (the Saddle Cliffs) and the highest peak of Gorski kotar Bjelolasica (1534 m).
Lovers of nature, keen alpinists and mountain-eers are invited to enjoy the beauty of the countryside as well the challenge of the numerous mountain tracks. There are trained guides ready to join you either in picking the berries of our forests (raspberries, strawberries) and mushrooms or in sightviewing from the surrounding hills. During the winter, resorts such as Begovo Razdolje, Brestova Draga, Sunger. The Winter Ski Running Championship of Croatia (the only one of that type), so called The Peace Memorial, has been held every year in February. The police and army forces compete in biathlon at the same time.

The hearty households of Mrkopalj, as well as the hotel in Begovo Razdolje offer accommodation to all visitors. The local tamburitza band will make your stay in Mrkopalj even more comfortable.
Ravna Gora is situated in the central part of Gorski kotar only 45 kilometers away from the sea, halfway from Rijeka to Karlovac with a junction on the Zagreb-Rijeka highway.

Even the name of Ravna Gora tells about the lovely interchange between the plain and the mountain. At 700 to 900 meters above mean sea level Ravna Gora is surrounded by regions of intact nature, pure air and potable spring water. Via a short paved connection road (4km) to Kupjak, which is also a part of the Ravna Gora district, one arrives to the Lujzijana road, the main road between Rijeka and Zagreb, and the old railway is also nearby. In the Ravna Gora district one will also find the delightful and tranquil towns of Stari Laz, Stara Sušica, Leskova Draga and Šije. All of its some 3000 inhabitants live in an area where one can encounter the most beautiful Croatian woods, dazzling winters abundant with snow and mild sunny summers with fresh mornings and evenings.

The more recent history of Ravna Gora starts with the construction of the Karolina road at the beginning of the 18th century. As early as 1785 the German-Roman emperor and the Croatian-Hungarian king Joseph II through a special charter categorizes Ravna Gora among the chartered cities in his empire. The people of Ravna Gora, hard-working people endowed with a creative spirit and an exploring mind, have for more than two centuries had a school, a wooden water supply system, glass and potash factories… In 1808 they built their first water saw-mills.

Since 1830 they have lovingly cherished a rich musical tradition: today there is the Brass orchestra of the Sloga cultural club in Ravna Gora and the tamburitza players of Ravna Gora. The people of Ravna Gora proudly present the Chamber Music Festival that traditionally takes place at the beginning of September.

The Volunteer fire department of Ravna Gora has been active since 1888, and since 1933 mountaineering has been organized. The first lumber manufacturing factory was built in 1920, which is also the year when Ravna Gora got electricity and running water in every house. Teaching has been and remains to this day an extremely productive occupation at the local school, built in the warm mountain style, and which proudly bears the name of the renowned scientist and pedagogue professor dr. Branimir Marković, a native of Ravna Gora.
During your stay in Ravna Gora you should visit its cultural sights. The castle Frankopanski Grad in Stara Sušica is today a resort of the City of Rijeka. The little church of Saint Anthony of Padua, a sacral monument, also belongs to the city. The greatest treasures are guarded in the vault of the parish church of Saint Theresa of Avila, for example the gilt monstrance, a gift from Maria Theresa of Austria, dating from 1788. The church acquired its current appearance after the renovation in 1905 according to Herman Bolle’s designs.

In the dazzling forest parts you can discover a life in harmony with nature, by taking a walk or a bike ride around the picturesque scenery of Ravna Gora, or by participating in unforgettable outings in nature, the Ravna Gora fruits of the hills festival, during The Days of lilies of the valley, spruces, birch-trees, lime-trees, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, healing herbs, mushrooms, apples,…

It is also worthwhile visiting the popular resort Javorova kosa with its mountain hut, next to which is, according to an ancient legend, Božji studenac - a spring with healing powers.

We recommend a tour of the mountain path and the green tracks of Ravna Gora (www.ravnagora.hr).

Deep in the forest you can find the brown bear, the wolf, the fox, the rabbit, the lynx, the deer, the roe-deer, the jay and the hooded crow … How appealing for hunters, ecologists, photographers and cameramen! In this area abundant with snow you can find gorgeous grounds for recreational skiing and Ravna Gora is becoming one of the centers for competitions in Nordic disciplines thanks to its ski running club “Ravnogorac”, which is one of the most successful ski clubs in Croatia. Besides a ski school, Ravna Gora also has a chess school. And next to the football field, there is also a bowling alley and a tennis court.

There is a gas station at the town entrance and a bus station in the town centre.

The restaurants in Ravna Gora offer homemade specialties and products as well as a pleasant atmosphere and hospitable hosts, while the mountain huts offer a possibility of a special type of accommodation and nature stay.
Skrad
Skrad (700 m) is a well-known mountainous, climatic and tourist place at the heart of Gorski kotar. It is the centre of a District that has some 1300 inhabitants.

Spreading across the slopes of the Skradski vrh Mountain, surrounded by coniferous and deciduous forests, visible even from far-away mountains, Skrad has an extremely convenient and interesting natural position with the difference in altitude ranging from 300 to 1044 m. It is arching high above the canyon that guards Zeleni vir and Vražji prolaz, natural rarities boasting exquisite shapes and beauty. Thus from Skrad it is possible to see the valley of the Kupa river, the surrounding mountain summits and the Slovene mountains. The mild sub-alpine climate, the fresh air, the preserved environment and the traffic position just next to the main road Zagreb – Rijeka (the so-called ‘Lujzinska’ road) are just some of the predispositions for the development of summer and winter time tourism. Each person can here find their opportunity to relax and work out, since the inhabitants of Skrad are hospitable people who have not just recently found out the meaning of the word tourist: they have been taking care of and entertaining travelers for more than 150 years.

During the 20s of the last century the today hotel of Zeleni vir was built, and it was the first building with such a purpose in Gorski kotar. Next to it, in the town centre there is a transit restaurant, a gas station, a medical clinic, a pharmacy, a post office, a bank and a bus and train station that has several years in a row won the prestigious award ‘Zeleni cvijet’ awarded by the Croatian National Tourist Board. The patron saint of Skrad is St Anthony of Padua and the church in Skrad bears his name. The environment of Skrad is suitable for shorter or longer mountain treks or trips. Skradski vrh (1044 m) is most often the aim of hikers and mountain climbers. The ascent takes about one hour, and a marked path leads the hikers by a moderate steep through high beech forest. At the top there is a view of every possible direction. In the south there are the mountain meadows and fields with scattered birch groves and coniferous wood oases. This is a plain surrounding Kupjak and Leskova Draga which is further down south and southeast enclosed with the spurs of Velika Kapela, among which protrudes the cone of Bjelolasica (1533 m). In the west there is a view towards the deep karst valley of Jasle, overgrown in thick coniferous woods, and towards Kupjački vrh (993 m). Somewhat further is Drgomalj (1153 m) and on the horizon the rocky Risnjak (1528 m) stands out, the central part of the National park.

In northeast the lead-gray conical summit of the Slovenian Snežnik (1791 m) can be noticed. When returning to Skrad one should chose another path, the one going through the village of Hribac. From this path it is possible to see nice views towards the north and the northeast. The scenery is dominated by Rudal with its terrace-shaped rock and its cave Ledena jama. From Hribac one can also take an interesting trip to the hamlet of Hlevce from where, going around the south side of the summit Kicelj, one arrives to Kicljove jampe. Those are the three deep abysses into which runs a small mountain brook. Torn rocks, grooves and caves deeply impress each visitor with their wild romanti-
the inhabitants of this part of Gorski kotar. In this period the Skrad District Day is also celebrated. If you decide to take a trip to Skradski vrh, you should also visit the belvederes above Skrad. These are Karanova stijena and Perič and from there it is possible to see all over Skrad all the way to the canyon where Zeleni vir and Vražji prolaz are situated. Zeleni vir (345 m) is a powerful spring at the bottom of a shallow cave located at the foot of some seventy meters high, colorful layered rock down which, as if it were some kind of a white curtain, a stream pours down illuminating the entrance with thousands of drops. It was named after the greenish color of the lake’s water that originates in the cave. Its waters, covered by a smaller dam, enter into an underground canal which takes them to the hydro-electric power plant that was built in 1921 and which was also the first hydro-electric power plant built in Gorski kotar. In the immediate vicinity of the hydro-electric power plant there is nicely built resort with a restaurant that daily (except during winter months) offers homemade food from Gorski kotar, game dishes and blueberry and other fruit pastries. Besides catering, Zeleni vir resort also offers accommodation (18 beds).

If you undertake a trip to Zeleni vir, you should not miss visiting Vražji prolaz. Among the numerous natural special features nature has given to Skrad, Vražji prolaz holds a special place. Any consider it one of the most beautiful areas of our country. Through a tight gorge, barely two meters wide, among rocks as high as several hundred meters, penetrates murmuring wildly the mountain stream Jasle. Above it, on carriers cut into a living rock, there are galleries and little bridges...
to pass on. All around are steep rocks, and in the deep, the frothing stream roars under ones feet. There is no need to explain in detail how this makes one feel…

The path through this loud elementary power ends at the entrance into the cave Muževa hiža where the people once sought refuge in front of the Turks. Through a spacious hallway one enters the depths of the cave where traces of water working are visible: there are some nice dripstone decorations in several places. Cave explorers found here the rarest example of our fauna – the olm. For a deeper exploration of the cave it is necessary to bring a torch. It is recommendable returning to Skrad by a forest path that mildly climbs towards the railway station. Besides walking and mountaineering you can also go riding a bicycle in Skrad. The 40 km of marked bike tracks shall satisfy even the most demanding cyclists, and you can choose your route alone with the help of a map. Skrad has a bowling alley with four lanes, a small football field, a handball, volleyball or basketball court and there is a large football field in Skradska draga. Just a few kilometers in the direction to Brod na Kupi there are two rivulets – Iševnica and Kupica – where you can do angling, but obeying the ‘catch and let go’ principle. In the forests and mountain meadows there is large and ground game so those interested in hunting can do so with previous agreement with the hunting society ‘Jelen’ from Skrad. During the winter in Skrad it is possible to use the tracks for ski running or sleighing, and alpinists often seek amusement on the frozen waterfalls at Zeleni vir.
Vrbovsko is spreading in the far eastern part of Gorski kotar on an area of 280 km², it has a population of about 6100 inhabitants and there are 60 towns some of which the larger and better known are Vrbovsko, Moravice, Lukovdol, Severin and Gomirje. It is located on an excellent geographic-traffic position halfway between Zagreb and Rijeka.

Vrbovsko was mentioned long ago in 1488 and it is one of the oldest inhabited places in Gorski kotar. By the King Joseph II of Austria’s charter on March 14, 1785, Vrbovsko was granted its own coat of arms, it was declared a free royal market town, it received some other benefits, and after that a ‘commercial manorial estate’ started developing as a basis for the development of culture and commerce. The above mentioned date is today marked as the Day of the Town of Vrbovsko.

Thanks to its rich history, sacral and cultural monuments, natural beauties and a culture representing heritage, Vrbovsko is becoming an oasis of relaxation just around the corner.

The Kamačnik canyon (protected landscape) with its natural beauty is especially prominent. A path 3 km long follows the immaculately clean rivulet, next to a lush vegetation of protected plant and animal species, and in the perfect harmony with nature it invigorates the soul and the body. The bridges of Kamačnik are a special kind of attraction and a never-ending inspiration to painters, and each meter of this beautiful flowing water’s flow is different than the previous one. At the very mouth of Kamačnik in Dobro there is a catering facility with a quality gastronomic offer of home-made food. It is a paradise for fatigued hikers, as well as it is a place of fun and recreation.

The Kupa River, the true beauty of Gorski kotar, will offer you an exciting tourist adventure. It runs through Vrbovsko for 25 km. Due to its attractive and dynamic aspect it is possible to hold many sports events on it. During the summer months the pleasant water temperature attracts numerous swimmers from all parts of Croatia and beyond, thus it represents an extremely important stepping stone in the tourism of the Town of Vrbovsko. Besides swimming, Kupa emits a glow of other activities. Tradition and picturesque architecture of folk construction reflect a spirit of the times long past. Houses popularly known as ‘hiže’ give the area along the river Kupa priceless value. Through the Kupa valley you can go by a marked bicycle track or...
you can simply enjoy the picturesque scenery.

The 15-century Zrinsko-Frankopanski castle is situated in Severin, on the steep slopes of the river Kupa. This one-storey castle with a rectangular basis is surrounded with a beautiful centuries-old park placed under special protection. The Castle is rightfully counted under special historical-cultural buildings of the Primorsko-Goranska district. The Castle got its today’s appearance in 1800. In the inner yard there are hallways with arcades, on the outer corners there are cylindrical towers, and the bars on the windows are cast in the baroque style.

Lukovdol, the cultural heart of the town of Vrbovsko and the birth place of the poet Ivan Goran Kovačić, is in the immediate vicinity of Severin and the Kupa River. Each year admirers of Goran’s work gather on the poet’s birthday on March 21st for Goranovo prošelje (Goran’s spring). His home has been turned into a museum that has a gallery and a library that follows Goran’s life and creative work. During your visit to the memorial museum you can also visit an amphitheatre with the monument sculpted by the academic sculptor Vojin Bakić.

Experience art at the Sculptural art workshop Plemenitaš (Oblikovna likovna radionica Plemenitaš) only 5 km far away from Lukovdol which owns an arts fund made in all of the ceramics techniques, and especially in the RAKU style.

Sacral arts lovers will be filled with enthusiasm with the 17th century St Francis Xavier church in Rtić – Lukovdol which represents a rare monument thanks to its valuable wooden furniture. The parish church of St John of Nepomuk is located in the very centre of Vrbovsko and it was built in 1893 and 1894 in the Gothic Revival style, and since it is of exquisite beauty it is also called ‘The Little Cathedral of Gorski kotar’.

Near Vrbovsko you will also find the most western located Eastern Orthodox monastery of the sort in Europe, part of which is the Roždenij church dedicated to St John the Precursor. The year in which the monastery was built is assumed to be 1600, and the building of the today’s church started in 1719.

Besides the above mentioned sacral assets, you can also visit the mountain resort ‘Litorić’, the belvedere ‘Orlova stijena’, the lake Čogrljevo jezero, the cave Ledena jama, the attractive little promenade in the Town of Vrbovsko and the Altrauna gallery, you can participate in quite an advanced hunting, the dancing of cultural clubs, the majorettes, the performance of the brass orchestra and you can do sports on the sports grounds.