



Excursion mini guide

Opatija – Volosko – Lovran – Mošćenička Draga

The boat trip

Opatija

Opatija is a trendy Adriatic tourist resort. In the past it was a summer and winter destination for the Austro-Hungarian nobility because of its mild climate. Today it is a place of luxury hotels, congress halls, wellness centres, villas and private summer residences.

Villa Angiolina, one of the oldest and most beautiful buildings, has hosted many famous people. Almost all members of the Austro-Hungarian imperial royal families visited Opatija headed by the emperor, Franz Josef. The Croatian Ban Josip Jelačić, along with the German emperor, Wilhelm II, the Romanian royal couple, Karlo and Elizabeta, the Swedish-Norwegian king, Oskar II, all visited Opatija. Anton Čehov, Gustav Mahler, Isadora Duncan, James Joyce. . . . and many more artists and politicians stayed here and Opatija.

A walk in the well-tended parks and the seaside promenade (Lungomare - that stretches for 12 km), a swim in the town swimming area or in one of the smaller bays offers the rare combination of being able to enjoy the charms of nature and a taste of the high life that reaches back into the spirit of the past.



Opatija

Volosko

Volosko, located only one kilometer from the centre of Opatija, is an authentic fishing village of old narrow houses and lighthouses. It was first mentioned in 1543, but is unquestionably older. Fishing nets hang in the picturesque small port ‘*Mandrac*’ and the beautiful sounds of a *cappella* singing groups are frequently heard in the early evening hours in the exceptional seafood restaurants.



Volosko

Lovran

In the Middle Ages it was known as a town of seamen, fishermen and traders, and at the end of the 19th century Lovran turned into a popular tourist destination. It is named after the laurel (*Laurus nobilitis*), which grows in the village and its surrounding areas. In the hinterland there are the famous Lovran sweet cherry and marun orchards. Thanks to the lush Mediterranean vegetation and the salty air, Lovran has always been famous for being a health resort.

The coastal promenade (*Lungomare*), which is twelve kilometres long, runs between Lovran, Opatija and Volosko, and offers visitors memorable scenes of the coastal landscape. In the hinterland of Lovran, on the slopes of the Učka Nature Park there are well tended hiking and biking trails.



Lovran

Mošćenička Draga

Mošćenička Draga, the jewel of Kvarner at the foot of the Učka Mountain, has carved itself into the rocky ravine. Its autochthonous Mediterranean architecture, history, coastal tradition and fishing capture the hearts of all intentional and chance visitors. On the beach and in the village, many sports and recreational facilities are on offer. Just 15 kilometers from Opatija, this is the sight of beautiful pebble beach. On the nearby hill, the small village of Mošćenica offers beautiful view of the Kvarner bay.



Mošćenička Draga

Trip to Postojna cave



Postojna cave

Postojna is among the biggest and most visited caves in the world. It is located in Slovenia. Only 8 °C inside the cave all year round. For 140 years, the Postojna Cave, offers a unique and adventurous ride with a special train, which will take you into the cave, under spectacular underground arches, which are embellished with chandelier look-alike stalactites, through a beautiful subterranean world full of playful limestone sculptures. 21 km of passages, galleries and magnificent halls offer a unique experience of the underground world. The Postojna cave is definitely one of the most diverse cave systems in the world. 99 species are permanent residents of the cave, but occasionally the number of species rises up to 150. The most interesting of these species is the human fish or olm.

Excursion to the biggest Croatian island Krk

Krk

The island of Krk was known in ancient times, as the “golden island”.

Krk – a town and port on the island with the same name, is the cultural and religious centre of the island.



Krk

This former bishop’s town has an significant architectural monument – a cathedral, whose origins reach back to the 6th century. The old town, which can be entered through four town gates is surrounded by walls, which guard the valuable memorial heritage; there is a roman basilica leaning on the cathedral, there is a Frankopan castle from the 12th century as well as many profane buildings (Kotter house, Kanonička house) with valuable markings from the different periods. In terms of the many towers, the oldest is the four cornered tower of Kamplin built in the 12th century.

The newer, urban part of the town expanded outside the walls a long time ago. There are luxurious villas and summer residences . The pretty pebble beaches, the many cultural entertainment events (the Krk fair that has an attractive maritime battle and others), excellent offer of food, make Krk an attractive tourist destination.

Vrbnik

This ancient stone town on the island of Krk, which rises from the sea overwhelms with its beauty and spirit. It is a town of the Glagolitic script, Frankopan princes, fraternities and priests, a town of artists. The many missals and breviaries, hidden in the interior of the old churches, testify to its great historical, linguistic and cultural significance.

The noble žlahtina grape is grown in the Vrbnik field plain and with love and hard work is transformed into a glass of the famous Vrbnik Žlahtina wine. The narrow, old, cobbled streets will take you to the taverns with authentic, local cuisine, and many famous wineries.



Vrbnik

Rijeka – Trsat- Kastav

Rijeka

Rijeka is the seat of the Primorsko-goranska County, a region which consists of an unusual link between the sea and mountains extending to the Mount Učka across to the Goran mountains as far as the Velebit. It is one of the largest Central European ports.



Rijeka

The most recognisable image of Rijeka is surely Trsat, a medieval fortified town built by the Croatian Frankopan princes and the famous Marian shrine. City provides many sightseeing spots like the Cathedral of sv. Vid, old palaces (Wohinz, Adria...), the State Archives, Korzo and many others. This city has an attractive tourist face. Famous for its many cultural and entertainment events such as the Rijeka Summer Nights, where musical-theatrical events are held throughout the city.

Trsat

Trsat is the green oasis of city Rijeka, in which the luxuriant Trsat Park with its diverse greenery stands out. The park was founded in 1926 according to a project by



Trsat

the architect Prikrić and the horticultural arrangement of the park is the work of the well-known landscape gardener Kulfanek.

In the center of Trsat, on the Frankopan Square, 135 meters above sea-level, stands the Church of Our Lady of Trsat, the oldest Croatian sanctuary dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The sanctuary has a long-standing adoration of the Mother of God. A legend concerning the beginnings of this seven century old sanctuary tells us that the home of Our Lady was brought from Nazareth (May 10, 1291) to Trsat and was then taken to Loretto (Dec. 10, 1294). Because the people of Trsat could not be consoled after the loss of the Holy Home, Pope Urban V sent a miraculous icon of Our Lady to Trsat in 1367.

A Franciscan Monastery is situated alongside the church. For over 500 years, it has been the home of guardians of the Trsat Sanctuary. The monastery treasury holds works of extraordinary esthetic and material value, paintings, reliquaries, lamps, chalices, ecclesiastical robes, while the Chapel of Votive Gifts houses gifts dating from the 19th century up to date.

Kastav

Just like other small coastal towns, and yet again somehow different, Kastav is an attractive place for sightseeing, just a stone's throw away from Opatija. As a town with a rich past and valuable architectural monuments it offers everything – from musical and theatrical events in an antique atmosphere, parties, visits to the museums and other sites of interest to fun in the unspoiled nature.



Kastav

Rovinj

Rovinj is considered to be one of the most beautiful towns on the Croatian coast because of its unique appearance and its wonderful natural surroundings. The 67 kilometre long coast, 2,289 hectares of protected greenery, 14 islands, islets and rocks as well as an ancient town centre, make Rovinj unique. It developed in the tradition of a small fishing town under the watchful eye of its patron saint, St. Euphemia. Its beauty is especially valued by artists who painted the most beautiful motifs of this town and exhibited them in Grisija – the street of artists.

Rovinj offers numerous possibilities – walking in the wonderful natural surroundings, discovering hidden beauties, cultural heritage, archaeological sites, tasting some of the Rovinj delicacies.

The town of experiences, Venetian architecture and harmonious colours, wonderful landscapes and music and songs, was crowned the Champion of Croatian tourism in 2008.

Once you see Rovinj, it will be clear why they call it the most romantic town in Croatia.



Rovinj