

Krka National Park Tour

Traditional lunch & Primošten village



Itinerary

09:00 h – Pick up at Hotel Amadria Jure and drive to Krka National park

09:30 h – Arrive at the national park, manage the entrance fees and drive to the spot of our walking sightseeing tour

09:45 h – Sightseeing of Krka National park

11:00 h – Free time by the Skradinski buk waterfalls

11:30 h – Walk back to the bus

11:50 h – Drive to Skradin or Pakovo Selo

12:20 h – Arrive in Skradin or Pakovo Selo and free time/lunch

14:30 h – Drive to Primošten

15:15 h – Arrive in Primošten and free time for coffee

17:00 h – Departure for Šibenik

17:30 h – Arrive at Hotel Amadria Jure and end of tour

Krka National Park



Krka National Park is one of 8 Croatia's national parks, named after the river Krka that it encloses. It is located along the middle-lower course of the Krka River in central Dalmatia, in Šibenik-Knin County, just a few kilometers northeast of the city of Šibenik. It was formed to protect the Krka River and is intended primarily for scientific, cultural, educational, recreational, and tourism activities. It is the seventh national park in Croatia and was proclaimed a national park in 1985.

The Krka National Park is located entirely within the territory of Šibenik-Knin County and encompasses an area of 109 square kilometers along the Krka River: two kilometers downriver from Knin to Skradin and the lower part of the river Čikola. The Krka National Park is a spacious, largely unchanged region of exceptional and multifaceted natural value, and includes one or more preserved or insignificantly altered ecosystems.

Flora

The Krka National Park belongs to the Southern European (Mediterranean and sub-Mediterranean) region. Due to its special position and the mosaic distribution of various types of habitats, it is characterized by exceptionally rich and varied flora and fauna.

Eight hundred and sixty species and subspecies of plants have been identified within the territory of the Krka National Park, including several endemic Illyrian-Adriatic species.



Fauna

Eighteen species of fish inhabit the Krka River, among which ten are endemic, making the Krka a natural landmark of the highest category. Brown trout and Dalmatian Barbelgudgeon are a couple of fish that can be found in the ecosystem.

Patches of reeds, lakes formed along part of the river and swamped meadows abound in amphibians and birds, while thickets and stone quarries are home to reptiles.

National Park Krka.

The abundance of various species of birds (222), the structure of the bird communities and the great significance of the Krka for spring and autumn migrations make it among the ornithologically most valuable regions of Europe. There are numerous carnivorous birds in the area, notable ones are: Osprey, Short-toed Eagle, Golden Eagle, Bonelli's Eagle, Lanner Falcon and the Peregrine Falcon. Other birds of interest are Eurasian Eagle-owl, European Bee-eater and Griffon Vulture.

Among mammals, there are 18 species of bats, which are generally endangered or near extinction in the rest of Europe, Long-fingered Bat, the Daubenton's Bat, and the threatened European Otter.

A ria is the mouth of a river that flows into the sea, created by the submergence of the riverbed after the rise of the Adriatic Sea level for 135 metres after the last quaternary glaciation. In the ria of the Krka River, seawater extends to the base of Skradinski buk. The ria of the Krka River is 23.5 kilometers in length.



Skradinski buk



Skradinski buk is the seventh, final, and longest travertine barrier on the Krka River. It is located approx. 13km downstream from Roški slap and a total of 49km downstream from the source. The growth of travertine barriers at Skradinski buk was caused by the unification of the waters of Krka River with the three-kilometer lower current of the Čikola River at Roški slap, creating one of the most

unusual and beautiful landscapes of the Krka National Park.

The combined waters of the Krka and Čikola Rivers flow over the 17 steps at Skradinski buk, distributed along the 800 m in length. The width of the cascades is between 200 and 400 m with a total height difference of 45.7 m. Travertine formations in the upper portion of the river include thresholds, travertine islands, draperies and barriers, while the lower portion has caves and tufts. A walking trail has been constructed over the river. The trail takes you on a 60-minute light walk through the deep shade of lush Mediterranean and sub-Mediterranean vegetation, which offers the exceptional possibility of direct contact with the unique microcosms of mystical sounds, lights, colours, the mysterious world of travertine mosses and numerous plant species of the travertine barriers and aquatic habitats. Lucky visitors will not miss the song of the nightingale, the splashing of the coot, the swimming of the Illyrian ide, fast movements of the European grass and dice snakes, the call of the green frog, the flight of the hawk and the playful ballet of emerald dragonflies and colourful butterflies.

You'll also see several restored mills, valjavica and pillars that have utilized the strength of the water's current for centuries. Respecting the traditional architectural values, individual mills have been renovated into souvenir shops and restaurants, while others have been renovated into exhibit spaces where ethnographic collections are on display. On the left riverbank, there are the remains of the first hydroelectric power plant in Croatia.

You can reach Skradinski buk via the roads Šibenik-Tromilja-Lozovac or Knin-Drniš-Tromilja-Lozovac. The entrance at Lozovac is the main entrance to Krka National Park. From Skradin, you can arrive via the roads Šibenik-Tromilja-Skradin or Knin-Drniš-Tromilja-Skradin or via boat on the route Šibenik channel-Šibenik-Prukljan Lake-Skradin to Skradinski buk. From April to November, boats of the Public Institute of Krka National Park transports visitor to the park.

Jaruga Hydroelectric Power Plant

The Jaruga is one of the oldest power-generating facilities in the world. Its present location dates back to 1903, when it was moved from the nearby original Jaruga power station built in 1895.

The oldest Jaruga power plant was the first alternating current (AC) power system in Croatia, the first commercial hydro power plant in Europe, and second in the world. It was set in operation on 28 August 1895 at 20:00 h, three days after the Adams Power Plant on the Niagara Falls. It was designed to power the street lights in Šibenik, making it the third city in the world with street lights powered by a polyphase system of alternating current (AC).

In 1893, the mayor of Šibenik Ante Šupuk and one Vjekoslav Meichser started a business and obtained a license to use the waters of river Krka, and in 1894 they obtained permission to set up electrical power lines on municipal property in order to start lighting the streets with electric power. The construction of Jaruga started in 1894 and lasted for 16 months.

The two generators (42 Hz, 550 kW each) and the transformers were produced and installed by the Hungarian company Ganz. The transmission line from the power plant to the city of Šibenik was 11 km (6.8 mi) long on wooden towers, and the municipal distribution grid 3000V/110 V included six transformer stations. The original Jaruga system supplied 340 street lights and some electrified houses in Šibenik.

Three years after the first Jaruga was built, the construction of the second Jaruga hydro power plant began, the current location. It was completed in 1903 when its capacity was 6 MW.

Since its construction, the current Jaruga has been refurbished in 1916, 1937, 1970, 1995 and 2008, but the basic concept of the plant had been maintained. In 1936 a second generator was installed that increased the capacity to 5,6 MW.



Traditional lunch

For lunch we'll have the tasty Dalmatian smoked ham – prosciutto, with home-made cheese and home-made bread, and as a main dish, you'll have a chance to try the Dalmatian "Peka" dish, everything followed by exquisite home-made wine.

A "Peka" is a baked dish with meat and vegetables made in a pot or a tray, the pot is put into the embers of a fireplace under "the iron dome". In many houses in Dalmatia is a traditional home-made specialty, especially in the country side. The meat and potatoes get so tender that you can literally eat them without chewing!

Bon Appétit!





Skradin is a small town in the Šibenik-Knin County with a population about 4000. It is located near the Krka river and at the entrance to the Krka National Park, 17 km from Šibenik. It was an Illyrian settlement (Scardona) on the boundary between the Delmati and the Liburnian tribes. It was the capital of the Liburnians. It was better known as a Roman town, as the administrative and military centre of the region. Skradin is a romantic Mediterranean town with narrow paved streets, passages, vaults and many stone steps.

The entire town core represents a protected cultural monument. It contains houses dating from the 18th and 19th century which are stuccoed in the manner typical for Venice and areas under her influence.

When speaking about the 6000-year long existence of the Skradin area, historians endowed with wisdom search for the reasons of that continuity in its location and geo-strategic position. History always looks for great and sensible reasons. However, the truth is often much simpler since people and everyday life are smarter than history.

Skradin is simply magical in its each and every detail.

In the loud morning silence that gets under your skin and the stentorian traditional folk klapa singing that touches your heart. In the peace and quiet of the Visovac monastery and the burst of water drops of the Skradinski Buk waterfall.

Such is Skradin, small, picturesque and filled with flavour, found at a point where the river passionately embraces the sea.... such is Skradin, at the border of reality and fantasy... such is Skradin, perfect, both in past and present...



Primošten



Primošten is a settlement located around 28 kilometers to the south of Šibenik town, located on a islet not far away from the mainland. During the period of Turkish invasions, the islet was protected by defence walls with towers and a movable bridge built in 1542.

Primošten was called Capus Cista (a bare head) in old documents. The name Primošten was for the first time mentioned in 1564, and it was derived from the verb "to overpass" (in Croatian: primostiti).

After the Turks had retreated from Dalmatia, the bridge was replaced by an embankment, so Primošten became a peninsula which, together with the peninsula of Raduča, makes a unique and specific natural whole.

Primošten is also well-known for the famous red-grape sort "Babić", produced from Primošten's world-known red-grape sorts. As a symbol of hard human work throughout centuries, a picture featuring Primošten's vineyards is permanently exhibited in the building of the United Nations in New York.



Full Day Krka National Park Tour

Price:

79,00 EUR per person

Includes:

- **tour guidance in English**
- **round trip bus transportation**
- **national park entrance fees**
- **traditional lunch with drinks**

Minimum: 30 persons

Reservation deadline:

10th October 2018

Payment:

In advance or at the conference*

(* at the conference only by cash in Kunas)