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NATURAL WONDERS OF ISTRIA

1. The Cave of Mramornica (The Marble Cave)

Information

Brtonigla Tourism Board

+ 385 (0)52 774 307

(a) + 385 (0)52 720 860

(C) + 385 (0)52 774 313

Information:

Motoyun Tourist Board

+385 (0)52 617 480

(a) +385 (0)52 617 482

+ 385 (0)52 830 582

(a) + 385 (0)52 840 318

@ info@natura-histrica.hr

www.natura-histrica.hr

Information:

Buzet Tourist Board

Trg Fontana 7/1, 52420 Buzet

(C) (a) + 385 (0)52 662 343

info@istria-buzet.com

www.istria-buzet.com

(a) info@istria-motovun.com

www.istria-motovun.com

Public Institution Natura Histrica

🖾 Obala A. Rismondo 2, 52210 Rovinj

Trg Josefa Ressela 1, 52424 Motovun

(a) ± 385 (0)99 250 29 58

www.agroturizamsterle.hr

(a) info@istria-brtonigla.com

www.istria-brtonigla.com

Stancija Drušković 20, 52474 Brtonigla

@ agroturizam.sterle@pu.t-com.hr

Glavna 3a, 52474 Brtonigla

- the entrance to Mramornica Cave, one of the largest underground caverns in Istria, is located in the vicinity of Brtonigla, near the Stancija Drušković
- the cave is rich in dripstones of various colours and tall stalagmites that give it a special charm
- located away from the summer crowds and heat, Mramornica Cave is an ideal refreshing escape for all lovers of utterly unspoiled

Our recommendations: • the 30-minute guided tour

- gastronomic offer in the agrotourism restaurant
- wine-tasting a visit to the park with domestic
- animals
- Entrance tickets: 25 50 kuna Opening times: April 1st - 30th and October 1st - 31st:
- 10 a.m. 4 p.m. May 1st - June 30th and September 1st - 30th:
- July 1st August 31st: 10 a.m. 6 p.m. November 1st - March 31st: only on weekends and public holidays by arrangement

• indigenous alluvial hardwood forest

(St. Mark's Forest) and tourist

of all truffles - the white truffle

specific local climatic conditions

Motovun, Oprtalj and Sovinjak

• truffle tasting in local restaurants

Entrance tickets: free entrance

Opening times: non-stop

3. Kotli

Our recommendations:

searching for truffles

hiking

cycling

• a very valuable region with respect to natural

science, economics (truffles), cultural history

· Motovun Forest stretches along the valley of

the River Mirna and is the best-known site

for finding truffles, subterranean fungi, which

are claimed to have aphrodisiac qualities. I

is the habitat of the largest and most prized

• the Istrian white truffle is known for its

unique taste and exquisite aroma owing to

• nearby are the thermal springs of Istarske

toplice, a spa rich in healing spring waters.

• attractive positions for taking photographs:

• the rather abandoned village of Kotli is located

halfway between Roč and Hum, at the spot whe-

re the spectacular waterfalls of the River Mirna

• In the past, this village was the economic cen-

tre of the Hum region, known for its tailors and

millers. Today it is a protected rural area and

visitors can admire some wonderful examples

of traditional architecture and a well preserved

old watermill. Relaxation in unspoiled nature

and refreshment in Kotlić Inn - the right com-

• hiking and cycling on the Kotli-Hum or

Kotli-Buzet trail along the River Mirna

have formed potholes over many years

an attractive excursion destination

bination for a perfect break

· bathing beneath the waterfalls

Entrance tickets: free entrance

Opening times: non-stop

Our recommendations:

· gastronomic offer

2. Motovun Forest - Istarske toplice spa

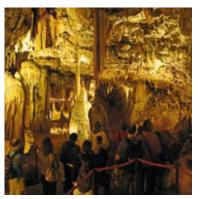
4. Baredine Cave

- discover a mysterious play of nature that has been going on for thousands of years, away from the light of day and the human eye - visit the underground world of the Baredine Cave • the cave is 132 metres deep, includes five halls, a 30-metre-deep subterranean lake and 300 metres of maintained pathways
- stalactites and stalagmites with red crystals appear in various forms, such as a ten-metrelong "curtain" (a very realistic statue of the Madonna, a statue of a shepherdess Milka, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and a Snowman Torchbearer)
- in the subterranean lake flourishes the olm (Proteus anguinus)

Our recommendations:

- organised 40-minute tour with professional guide speleo-climbing and speleo-adventure
- exhibition area: mini agro-museum
- restaurant offering

Entrance tickets: 20-45 kuna Opening times: April 1st-October 31st: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (organised tours start every 30 minutes), November 1st-March 31st: only by arrangement



Information:

- Tar Vabriga Tourist Board Starska 8/A, 52465 Tar (C) + 385 (0)52 443 250 (a) + 385 (0)52 443 570
- (info@istria-tarvabriga.com www.istria-tarvabriga.com Silvio Legovió
- (C) (E) + 385 (0)52 421 333
- (m) + 385 (0)98 224 350, +385 (0)95 910 50 49 jama-baredine@pu.t-com.hr www.baredine.com

5. Pazin Cave

- some hundred metres beneath the largest and best preserved medieval castle in Istria, the largest Istrian karst river Pazinčica disappears into the crater of this most striking example of karst evolution in Istria and the surroun-
- this cave is an attraction that leaves a strong impression on every visitor - from Dante and Jules Verne to everybody else who has had the chance to see this unique work of natural forces. The cave has recently been opened to public

Our recommendations:

· individual tour of the educational hiking trail "Journey to the Centre of the Earth" speleo-adventure with professional guide

Entrance tickets: educational trail 15-30 kuna, speleo-adventure 100 kuna (only by arrangement with the Istria speleological society via the e-mail address info@sdi.hr) Opening times: June 1st-September 30th: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except Monday), October 1st-May 31st: non-stop (free entrance)



Information:

- Central Istria Tourist Board Franine i Jurine 14, 52000 Pazin
- + 385 (0)52 622 460 + 385 (0)52 616 886
- @ info@istria-central.com www.istria-central.com
- Natura Histrica Public Institution
- Obala A. Rismondo 2, 52210 Rovini + 385 (0)52 830 582 (A) + 385 (0)52 840 318
- (a) info@natura-histrica.hr
- www.natura-histrica.hr Istria speleological society
- A J. Dobrile b.b. 52000 Pazin (a) + 385 (0)91 512 15 28

@ info@sdi hr

6. Učka Nature Park - Vela draga

- and the Alps
- vultures or golden eagles
- draga) and the Slap hiking path
- Vela draga is an impressive canyon on the $()_{+385}^{-1}(0)$ 51 293 753 western slopes of Mount Učka where atmospheric processes over millions of years have park.prirode.ucka@inet.hr created this stunning place amidst the Istrian www.pp-ucka.hr karst. Its amazing limestone towers will remain etched in the memory for a long time, reawakening admiration for the greatest architect of all - Mother Nature
- hiking (more than 50 hiking trails)
- free climbing (more than 60 climbing routes)
- alpinism
- bird watching
- Entrance tickets: free entrance Opening times: non-stop

- to experience one of the most stunning panoramas in this part of Europe, climb the highest peak of Učka - Vojak (1401 m). Its stone tower offers a breathtaking 360degree-panorama of the Istrian peninsula, northern Adriatic islands, mountains in the Gorski kotar region, and all the way to Venice
- Učka is the only place in the world where you can take a photograph of the Učka (Tommasini) bellflower, and one of the last European sites where you can watch griffon
- Učka Nature Park includes two educational trails (the Plas that passes over the top ridge of Mount Učka, and the 2-km-kong Vela Učka Nature Park Public Institution

Our recommendations:

- mountain biking (8 marked paths)

- 🖾 Liganj 42, 51415 Lovran



Our recommendations: • 20-minute tour of the cave

- small domestic animals farm tour catering establishment (bar)
- sampling of Istrian specialities in the nearby agritourism farms

Entrance tickets: 25-40 kn (welcome drink included) Opening times: April 1st - May 31st and October 1st - 31st only on weekends and holidays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; June 1st - September 30th every day from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; October 1st - March 31st only by arrangement



Central Istria Tourist Board

+ 385 (0)52 622 460

www.istria-central.com

+ 385 (0)52 687 155

+ 385 (0)52 830 582

+ 385 (0)52 840 318

(a) info@natura-histrica.hr

www.natura-histrica.hr

+ 385 (0)52 687 111

pcina-gracisce@pu.t-com.hr

🕲 Obala A. Rismondo 2, 52210 Rovinj

Public Institution Natura Histrica

nfo@istria-central.com

cipality of Gračišće

Franine i Jurine 14, 52000 Pazin

9. Lim Channel - Romuald's Cave

• some twenty minutes' drive north of Rovinj lays a flooded canyon valley - Lim Channel, also known as Lim Bay

Branko Fučić used to begin his journey through

of the church of St. Vitus (sv. Vid) which offers

a magnificent view of the entire protected

there probably used to be a sanctuary of the

god Perun, the supreme god in Old Slavic mythology. The area around Sopot waterfall was

• the area of the protected landscape includes a

10-kilometre-long walking path of St. Simeon

(sv. Šimun) that passes by Sopot waterfall and

the hill of Škopljak with the church of St. Mary

Magdalene (345 m above sea-level) offering

several marked and countless "free" cycle tracks

• organised tasting of wines and traditional dishes

• the slopes of Plomin Hill are the habitat of

many rare and endangered plants and seve-

ral rare bird species (peregrine falcon, golden

the hill's numerous caves are home to many

• the protected area's northern part is rural

landscape with a patchwork of woods and

pastures characterised by great biodiversity

attractive positions for taking photographs:

wonderful views of the surrounding area

home to the god Veles

of the region

Gračišće, Pićan

guided mushroom gathering

Entrance tickets: free entrance

Opening times: non-stop

8. Plomin hill

eagle), butterflies and orchids

taking photographs: Plomin

Entrance tickets: free entrance

Opening times: non-stop

Our recommendations:

hiking

- Lim Channel is part of the 35-km-long Limska draga hollow that stretches almost to the town of Pazin in the very heart of Istria. The channel itself is over 12 km long and surrounded on both sides by steep hills that can reach up to
- 200 m in height (Sv. Martin 230 m) • gastronomic offering, mussel beds

the right side is bare

Our recommendations:

Entrance tickets: the price of an organised

ssary equipment and a professional guide

tour of Romuald's Cave (unguided tours are not

Opening times: June 15th-September 15th:

10 a.m. - 5 p.m., September 16th-June 14th:

10. Kingdom of Feštini Cave

permitted) is 10-30 kuna, which covers the nece-

organised tours

only by arrangement

• 120 m above the sea is Romuald's Cave where, according to legend, St. Romuald used to live in the 11th century as a hermit, praying and meditating. This 105-metre-long cave consists of several impressive halls that bear evidence of continuous life in this area since prehistoric times (the oldest remains of prehistoric people in Istria). A colony of greater mouse-eared bats, an endangered and protected species, lives in the cave. The entrance to the cave is only 47 centimetres high, but the main hall reaches a height of five to six metres. This cave is considered a unique phenomenon because stalactites and Obala A. Rismondo 2, 52210 Rovinj stalagmites are located only on its left side;

@ info@istria-kanfanar.com www.istria-kanfanar.com

Information

- (C) + 385 (0) 52 830 582
- (a) + 385 (0) 52 840 318 (a) info@natura-histrica.hr

Information:

žminj Tourist Board

(C) + 385 (0)52 846 792

+ 385 (0)52 846 844

(a) info@istria-zminj.hr

www.istria-zminj.com

Mužini 15, 52341 Žminj

Mužini 15, 52341 Žminj

@ sige@pu.t-com.hr

www.sige.hr

+ 385 (0)91 561 63 27

(m) + 385 (0)91 721 28 54

nježana Širol

🖾 Čakavska kuća bb, 52341 Žminj

- +385 (0)52 825 244 (a) +385 (0)52 825 043

Trg Marka Zelka 3, 52352 Kanfanar

- www.natura-histrica.hr

a tourist train)

- cycling or driving electric car

190 kuna, tour of the Mali Brijun 50-160 kuna Opening times: Easter-May 31st: 8 a.m.-7 p.m., June 1st-June 30th: 8 a.m.-8 p.m., July 1st-August 31st: 8 a.m.-9 p.m., September 1st-30th: 8 a.m.-8 p.m., October 1st-31st: 8 a.m.-7 p.m., November 1st-Easter: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (by arrangement prior to arrival)



- inj Tourist Board
- (A) Obala Pino Budicin 12, 52210 Rovini
- C + 385 (0)52 811 566 (a) + 385 (0)52 816 007
- (a) info@istria-rovini.com

- www.istria-rovinj.com
- 15th: 8 a.m. 9 p.m., September 16th-June
 - Natura Histrica Public Ins

 - + 385 (0)52 830 582
 - Obala A. Rismondo 2, 52210 Rovinj

 - (a) + 385 (0)52 840 318

(a) info@natura-histrica.hr www.natura-histrica.hr

12. Labin - Rabac - Prklog picturesque indented coastline with the most appealing coves of Rabac and Prklog. The Labin-Rabac path leads walkers through

interesting canyon forms, past various plants,

11. Palud

ornithological jewel of Istria located only

eight kilometres south of Rovini and

some hundred metres from the sea;

it covers an area of 210 ha • 219 registered bird species

Our recommendations

organised tours

bird watching

cycling

hiking

Many cultural monuments dating

from prehistory to the Middle Ages

Entrance tickets: entrance free for indi-

vidual visitors, price for organised 2-hour

tours 10 - 30 kuna, bird watching 10 - 50

Opening times: June 15th-September

kuna (equipment included)

14th: only by arrangement

- a stream and waterfalls • the medieval town of Labin is a valuable cultural monument; its highest point is called Fortica and offers magnificent views of Rabac, Mount Ućka, and the islands of
- Cres and Lošini • attractive positions for taking photographs:
- walking trail and the medieval town of Labin Our recommendations:

• hiking (see info-boards and path map)

sightseeing in the medieval town of Lahin

Entrance tickets: free entrance

Opening times: non-stop



Information:

bin Tourist Board Aldo Negri 20, 52220 Labin (a) + 385 (0)52 855 560, 385 (0)52 852 399

(a) info@istria-rabac.com www.istria-rabac.com

- the only national park in Istria • one of the most beautiful Mediterranean archipelagos, consisting of 14 islands and repre-
- senting a unique combination of nature and cultural and historical heritage • indigenous vegetation, exceptionally well preserved Mediterranean macchia, meadows where fallow deer, axis deer and mouflons graze freely - these are all parts of the Brijuni landscape and of the excursion programme. A small tourist train brings visitors to more remote archaeologi-

13. Brijuni National Park

zebras. Somali sheep, zebus, dromedaries, la mas and elephants live in harmony archaeological sites, safari park, exhibitions

(Josip Broz Tito on the Brijuni Islands and the Natural Science Collection)

- Our recommendations: · organised visits: sailing around the archipelago, an organised 4-hour tour of the islands of Mali Brijun and Veliki Brijun (professional
- guide, boat transfer, tour of the island with
- hiking
- hotel accommodation on the islands Entrance tickets: tour of the Veliki Brijun: 45-



- (A) Forum 3, 52100 Pula + 385 (0)52 219 197
- + 385 (0)52 211 855 (a) info@istria-pula.com
- www.istria-pula.com **Brijuni National Park Public Ins**
- 🖾 Brijunska 10, 52212 Fažana + 385 (0)52 525 882, 525 883
- (a) + 385 (0)52 521 124 @ izleti@brijuni.hr www.brijuni.hr

14. Cape Kameniak and the Medulin archipelago

- the 3.4-km-long Cape Kameniak is the southernmost part of Istria and boasts a very indented coast stretching along some 30 km and including many picturesque bays, coves, capes and beaches. The Medulin Archipelago includes
- 11 uninhabited islands and islets surrounded • this is one of the last oases on the coastline which has preserved its original appearance - a mosaic of cultivated fields, pastures and green groves that
- seem to disappear straight into the sea. • this is the habitat of more than 560 plant species, many of them rare and endangered (33
- types of orchids) • palaeontological finds on the small island of Fenoliga - remnants of dinosaurs that lived here
- · unique views and vantage points

some 80-90 million years ago

- Our recommendations hiking
- cycling
 - windsurfing photographing orchids
 - Entrance tickets: May 1st September 30th: car 20 kuna - bus 150 kuna, cyclist and hikers pay no entrance fee; October 1st - April 30th: free entrance Opening times: May 1st - September 30th: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.; October 1st - April 30th: non-stop: free



Information: Medulin Tourist Board

(a) info@istria-medulin.com www.istria-medulin.com nenjak Public Institution

+385 (0)52 576 513 +385 (0)52 576 527

www.kameniak.hr

Centar 223, 52203 Medulin

+385 (0)52 577 145 (a) +385 (0)52 577 227

Centar 223, 52203 Medulin





