





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## When to Travel

Spring (April, May, June) and autumn (September and October) are both excellent periods to travel (April, May, June). This allows you to avoid summer heat and traffic congestions that always occur during the peak season in the Mediterranean part of the county. Plus, spring and autumn in the Lika-Senj County are a feast for all senses, appreciate different scents and colours all around you.

## **Climate**

Lika – continental part: average temperature of 18 °C that drops at higher altitudes. Spring can be rather chilly so motorcyclists are advised to wear appropriate gear to stay warm.

Coastal region: coastal – Mediterranean climate. Average temperature of some 20 °C in spring and autumn, reaching over 30 °C in summer time.

Lika – mountainous part: continental climate with daily temperature up to 20 °C and some 10 °C at night. Cold-weather clothing and gear advisable. Climate in the region very much depends on the winds, sirroco (south/southwest wind) and bora (north/northeast) in particular.

Island of Pag: Mediterranean climate, marked by a constant, pleasant temperature of some 20 °C. Summer temperatures are rather high and often reach over 30 °C.

# **Speed Limits**

130 km/h - highways/motorways

110 km/h - two-lane expressways

90 km/h - other roads

50 km/h - within settled areas, if not marked otherwise by signposts (but only up to 80 km/h).

## **Petrol Stations**

Petrol stations are widely available all across the Lika-Senj County. Generally speaking, you will be able to reach the nearest petrol station even while riding on fuel reserve.

# **Accommodation**

Although the majority of hotels are located along the coast, you will easily find them in the mainland as well. Some of them are 'biker friendly'. Alternatively, you can stay at camps in summer time.



# Perfect Classic for Motorcycle Riders

Coast, rocks and a multitude of curves. These few words nicely sum up the route often listed among the top 10 European motorcycle roads by eminent foreign media that you simply cannot miss.

This portion is truly unique: at certain points the road sits just 3 meters above sea level, a sight rarely found in other Mediterranean countries, only to reach up to 300 meters in other areas. You can enjoy cornering numerous sections with combinations of slow and fast corners, flanked by dramatic stone masses of the Velebit Mountain on the one side and dreamy deep-blue seascapes of the Adriatic dotted with massive white slopes of the island of Pag protruding from the sea on the other side. The road surface on this section of the Adriatic Coastal Road (E65) is extremely good so you can count on reliable grip. The road is new, wide and offers good visibility. Take a break at any of the numerous rest stops located along the road that make a perfect setting for a photograph that you will fondly watch during cold winter months. The only thing that can spoil your otherwise perfect ride is a strong bora wind, common along this part of the coastline. Temporary traffic ban on motorcycles due to bora should be taken seriously. In such a case, seek accommodation for rest. The average monthly temperatures are pleasant for most of the year, especially in May (18 °C) and September (20 °C), but the route may be taken any time from late March to early November.

Every since the A1 motorway was built, most of the tourist traffic has headed off this section of the Adriatic Road, so you can indulge in the placidity and quietude of the scenery. Nonetheless, be ready for rather busy traffic around Jablanac (island of Rab) and Prizna (island of Pag) ferry ports in the peak season (July and August) so pay attention to your speed there. On the other hand, roads to these ports are highly recommendable in other times of the year since curves are abundant and the traffic is almost non-existent.

## Info

Route length	92 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	





Senj

The town of Senj, established over 3000 years ago, boasts turbulent and rich history. The Nehaj Fortress, standing over the town at the foot of the Velebit Mountain, was built in the 16th century to defend Senj against foreign invaders - Venetians and Ottomans. The fortress is a home to a museum hosting a collection of objects titled "Uskoks of Senj and the Coastal Captaincy of Senj". Exhibitions "Churches of Senj through History" and "Civic Heraldry and Coast of Arms of Senj Nobility" are on permanent display. The old city centre, numerous squares, narrow streets and forts and religious architecture testify to the diversity of this town, well-connected with other cities on the Mediterranean by sea and the hinterland cities by roads and the Vratnik mountain pass (700 m).

Senj Tourist Board Stara cesta 2, 53270 Senj tel +385 (0)53 881-068 fax +385 (0)53 881-219 info@tz-senj.hr www.visitsenj.com



## **Nehaj Fortress**

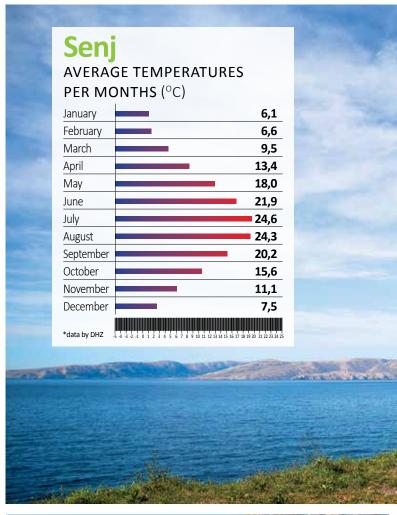
The Nehaj Fortress was built in mid 16th century. It is a symbol of the town of Senj and a specific period in the Croatian and European history.

## **Lamb Meat**

The Lika lamb and Pag lamb are well known for their taste and flavour. They are traditionally prepared in a



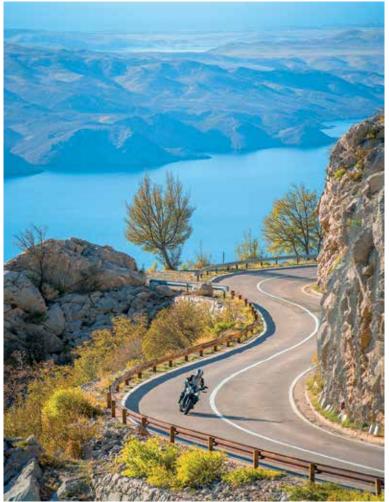
fire pit or pot, with potato or other meat. Traditional dishes include: lamb on the spit, kalja (rich soup usually made with diced lamb and cabbage) and boiled lamb.





The Adriatic Coastal Road connects northern and southern Adriatic. Built in the 1950s and 1960s, it became known as the Adriatic Tourist Route. The total length of the road running through Croatia is 643.8 km







## **Zavratnica Cove**

Although situated in the Mediterranean, it creates a fjord-like atmosphere. The cove, 900 m long and between 50 and 150 m wide, is located along the route to Karlobag, a kilometre away from the town of Jablanac. It is surrounded by steep, 100 meters high canyon cliffs. Due to its significance, it was declared a "protected landscape"as early as 1964. It has been an integral part of the Velebit Nature Park ever since 1981.



# **Karlobag**

Also known as Vegium Bag and Scrissa. A former Roman colony, built as one of important transport ports. Completely burned down and demolished by the Ottomans in 1525. The town was named after the duke Karlo (Cherles) who had rebuilt it. Today, it represents a tourist must-see and a nice place to rest after a long trip. A perfect combination of the Mediterranean climate and mountains gives you a unique opportunity to experience both the summer heat and freshness of the Velebit hinterland in the same day.

Tourist Board Karlobag Dr. Franjo Tuđman square 2, 53288 Karlobag tel./fax +385 (0)53 694-251 www.tz-karlobag.hr

## Calamari

Numerous restaurants along the coast of the Lika-Senj County often offer calamari, cooked and prepared in different ways. Grilled calamari served with cooked potato or Swiss chard are a real delicacy not to be

missed, especially if eaten at a restaurant with a breathtaking sunset view with the sun slowly sinking into the Adriatic.



Richness of Diversity

Very few regions of Europe boast such diversity of landscape within such a small area. The route 2 clearly reflects this distinctive characteristic of the Lika-Senj County that can be explored in two and half hours of relaxed ride. Be prepared to ride through mighty mountains, only to proceed to the coastline, followed by the Karst landscape, dense pine forests and lush green valleys. Proceed towards Senj after stopping at the Vratnik (700 m.a.s.l.) viewpoint to marvel at a spectacular view and contrasting colours of the Adriatic and islands. The road will be wide and expect a good grip. Smile happily as you corner a few tight curves. You will descend 500 meters of altitude in your first 20 kilometres. Follow the Adriatic Coastal Road to Sveti Juraj and proceed to the village of Krasno. Curve after curve, you will slowly climb the road from some seven meters of altitude to reach high village of Oltari at 1033 m above the sea level. The Velebit landscape is indeed magnificent, with fresh, crisp air and smell of forest pine. At this point, the road becomes a bit narrower and grip slightly less stable. The route continues along the pine forests, over the village of Krasno and the Donje Kosinje valley to Kosinje and Krš (575 m.a.s.l.) and ends along a wide D50 state road, across Ličko Lešće and Otočac at its starting point – Žuta Lokva. A beautiful terrace of the "Gacka dolina" restaurant is a perfect place to have a well-deserved cup of coffee at the end of your trip. Since the route stretches across different altitudes, we advise you to wear cold-weather clothing and gear (appropriate for spring and autumn), ideally waterproof.

# KRASNO

## Info

Route length	128 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

## **Trout**

Angling on the Gacka River is a world-famous tradition



due to its brown trout that grows five times faster than in any other Karst rivers. It is a wellknown delicacy for lovers of "light cuisine". Famous dishes: whole roasted trout, trout pâte.







## Northern Velebit National Park

Established in 1999, it stretches along the northern part of the mountain chain and comprises an area of 109 km². Its highest peaks, Veliki Zavižan, Gromovača and Vratarski kuk, are all located above 1600 meters. The Park encompasses two strict nature reserves - Rožanski and Hajdučki kukovi, designated as such due to their particular geomorphological characteristics.

Northern Velebit National Park Krasno 96, 53274 Krasno tel: +385 (0)53 665-380 npsv@np-sjeverni-velebit.hr www.np-sjeverni-velebit.hr



## **Kosinj Bridge**

A stone bridge spanning over the Lika River, 70 meters long, connects the villages of Gornji Kosninj and Donji Kosninj. Originally built in the 19th century by using the old Croatian bridge-constructing technique of stone wedging, the bridge is famous for its openings in piers, reflected as regular arches in the water.



# Underwater Springs of Gacka and Mills at Majerovo vrilo (Spring of Majer)

Some sixty mills were operational on the Gacka River and its tributaries during the 20th century. Only a few of them have remained at the springs of Sinac, serving as a living memory of old and obsolete traditions. The click-clack sounds of old mills and mill stones at the springs of the Gacka River act as a living proof of traditional architecture in the region.

Moonlike
Landscape
The route starts 18 kilometres south of Karlobag,

The route starts 18 kilometres south of Karlobag, below a barren and steep Velebit slope to the coast, at a place called Lukovo Šugarje. This picturesque tourist settlement with several villages surrounding it was named after the cove of the same name, connected with the open see by a strait. The journey starts at a well known section of the Adriatic Coastal Road. You may want to stop your smooth and playful motorcycle ride spiced with numerous perfectly shaped curves only to take a photo or two of a magnificent view of the island of Pag. At a place called Mazurana you will find a perfect viewpoint. Proceed along the route and leave the slopes of Velebit behind you and the road will take you to the coast right next to the sea.

Proceed along the Adriatic Coastal Road northward at Karlobag and turn to the Prizna ferry port. This section of the route is amazing in itself in spring and autumn, but if you happen to travel during the tourist season, be careful – cars waiting to board the ferry might be lurking around any corner. The ride from Žigljen to Novalja and Lun is more of a moonlike experience, with its vast, peculiar white stone surroundings, used by some famous car producers (Mercedes, Porsche) as a perfect background for photographs of their most prestigious models, which illustrates just how special this part of the Lika-Senj County is. After indulging in the quietude of deep blue Adriatic, you will be ready to end this fascinating journey. And the best way to do it is by slowly drinking a cocktail at Novalja and enjoying the sunset.

## Info

Route length	65 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	

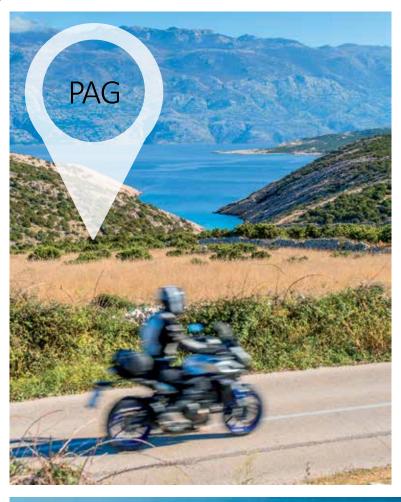
## RECOMMENDATIONS

## Cheese

Sheep, cow and goat milk originating from the grassland of Lika to shrubland of the island of Pag is used to produce



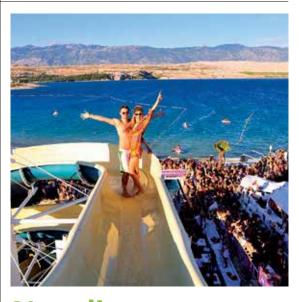
different types of cheese and other delicious dairy products, both salty and sweet. Famous types of cheese: škripavac, lička basa, cheese of Krasno, cheese of Pag...











**Novalja**The main tourist destination on the island of Pag has become a familiar tourist destination famous for its music, nightlife and entertainment. Yet, Novalja offers more than just parties – it is a place rich in exotic landscape and full of opportunities for tourists, well connected to the mainland.





## **Olive Oil** and Olive Orchards of Lun

Olive oil production is becoming more and more popular. Olive oil is an inevitable condiment complementing both fish and seafood dishes and boiled or fresh vegetables. Don't forget to visit the olive orchards of Lun, the most pristine and fascinating location in the county. The oldest olive tree at Lun is, believe it or not, 1600 years old!

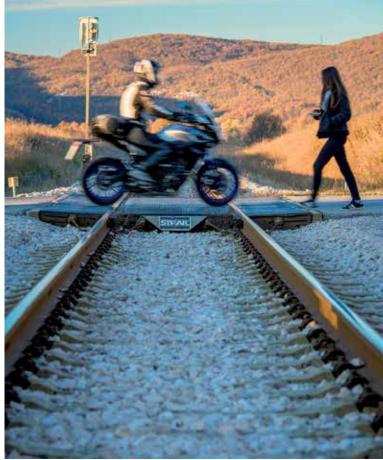
# Riding the Plateau

After getting a breath of fresh air at the Švica Lake, couple of minutes ride from Otočac in the direction of Kutarevo, brace yourself for a spectacular ride towards Korenica. The road starts to climb and the route will take you through enchanting forest ravines and occasional settlements with traditional little houses typical of the Lika region. After a place called Zalužnica expect excellent asphalt surface. This part of the route does not run through settlements so you may pick up your speed a bit. You will be at 765 meters of elevation after reaching Vrhovine, surrounded by the step-like landscape usually found in North America. After Homoljac (880 m.a.s.l.) the grip will deteriorate. Curves and corners will become sharp so be careful. At a place called Vrelo Koreničko you will connect to the D1 state road, but not for long. The route continues west from Korenica, in the direction of Lički Osik and Gospić. The second section of the route (35.9 km) is a real treat for motorcyclists: expect combinations of fast and slow corners on excellent surface.

At the village of Vrpile, the ride along a barren plateau (810 m.a.s.l.) will include rounded left and right radii. Sharp curves abound around Bunić so pay attention to the parts with poor grip. You will reach the highest point of the route at the village of Ljubovo (985 m.a.s.l.), where you can enjoy a wide, smooth road with a splendid view of the slopes nearby. After passing through Široka Kula, you will reach Lički Osik at 570 m.a.s.l.

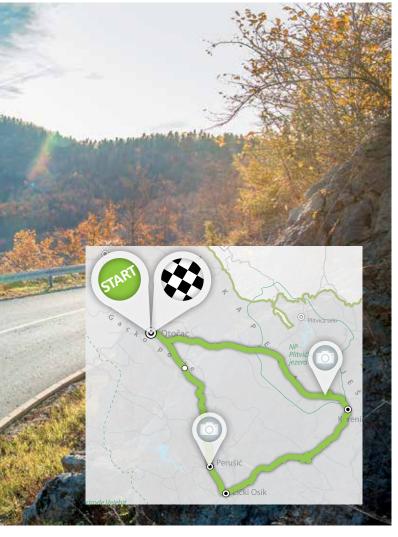
Continue along the D50 state road and you will reach Perušić and Ličko Lešće. The road will be interesting and rather diverse, though not too exciting. You will see slopes and pine forest on your left. The grip will constantly be good or very good. Expect very few patches or potholes on the surface. The 121-km long route will end at its starting point – Otočac.

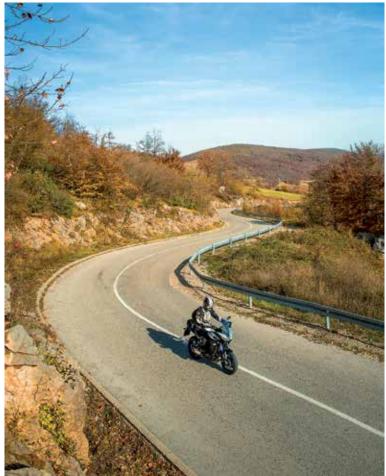




## Info

Route length	121 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	







## **Grabovača Cave Park**

Nine speleological objects are located in a small cave area, most famous of which are: Samograd, Bear's cave and Amidža's cave. 16 plant and 39 animal protected species illustrate just how rich diversity in park is. The Lika River (given the length of its course, 78 km, the second longest subterranean river in Europe) runs along the park borderline.



# Švica Lake

Located at Švica near Otočac. Natural habitat of numerous species of whitefish. Fishing at the lake is a truly memorable experience due to magnificent scenery. Fishing is allowed if special precautionary measures are followed. Under regular weather conditions, the lake if up to 700 m long, some 200 m wide and up to 12 m deep.

## **Potato of Lika**

Potato of Lika has always been staple food in the region, often used in preparation of numerous dishes. It has



become a real, well-known brand. Mostly prepared in the form of the so-called "potato halves".

# **Cabbage and Meat**

Not many regions enchant all of your senses and fill you with tranquillity and strength the way the Lika-Senj County does. The diversity of landscapes has also resulted in diversity of cuisine. As opposed to excellent fish and sea-



food dishes, you can also enjoy a multitude of real continental delicacies, such as cabbage, meat and polenta, prepared in a traditional way.

# From North to South

Visit to the Plitvice Lake National Park is incredible visual and acoustic experience that offers unique and memorable richness of senses, comparable at the global level. Over 1.2 million tourists annually who visit this wonderful gem of nature do not come there in vain. If you want to hop on your motorcycle instead of listening to the sound of waterfall and getting a breath of fresh, crisp air, head for the D1 state road southward. Soon enough, you will pass a romantic place called Jezerce, followed by Korenica and Bjelopolje, where you will turn left for Donji Lapac. The highlight of your route, 27 kilometres long, begins after Donji Lapac. You will pass curve after curve, surrounded by an amazing pine forest and green hills. A relatively wide road has excellent surface in certain parts, but generally speaking, the grip will be rated as good. In other words, be careful, pay attention to the weather conditions and the season – parts of the road going through the forest can be slippery and wet even in summer time. We recommend you to wear textile clothing for motorcyclists (with additional padding), even in summer months. The route at Bjeloplje starts at some 660 meters of elevation, only to reach 830 m in the vicinity of Frkašić. The road winds through a spectacular landscape – this is one of the most beautiful mountain roads in Croatia. Expect slow corners and changes of the direction. The highest point of the route is the mountain pass at 1100 m.a.s.l. (Bijeli potoci - Kamensko). The number of curves will not decrease as the road descends towards Dnopolje and Donji Lapac, first at 800 meters and then to 620 m.a.s.l., the elevation of the starting point. Flat sections are more common from Dnopolje to the end of the route. As the patched potholes become more frequent, the route becomes less dynamic. It ends at Dobroselo where you can take short rest before proceeding to the D1 state road or – go through it all over again! We strongly advise you to do the latter.

## Info

Route length	66 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	

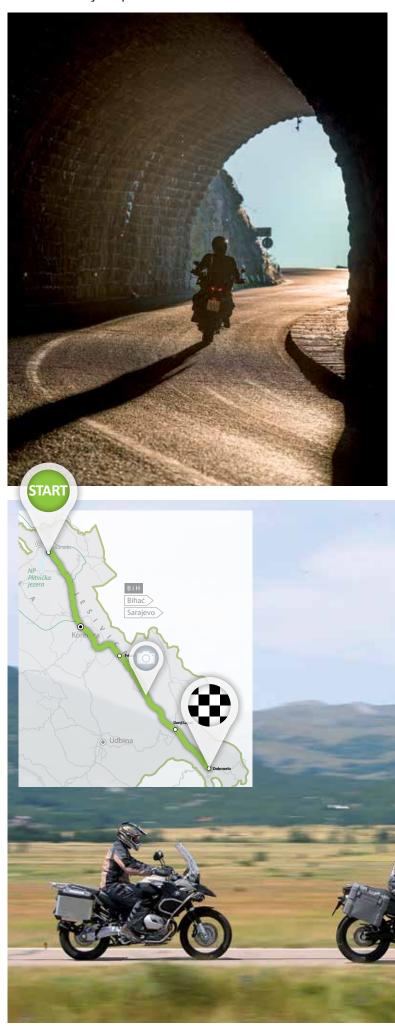
## RECOMMENDATIONS

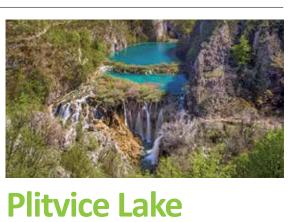
## **Strudel**

A common dessert, made of layered pastry filled with chee-



se, apples, sour cherries...
A perfect bite with an
afternoon cup of coffee at
one of the numerous rest
stops or restaurants along
the route.





A true wonder of nature, some ten kilometres long, located in a hilly area between mountains Mala Kapela and Lička Plješivica. The one-off combination of water and Karts became UNESCO World Heritage Site as early as 1979. The majestic green water, submersed aquatic plants and trees surround sixteen silvery, crystal dark green lakes, resembling real pearls. Waters from the Black River (Crna rijeka), White River (Bijela Rijeka), Rječica and their tributaries irrigate the series of lakes, connected by foamy cascades and waterfalls.

The Plitvice Lakes National Park info@np-plitvicka-jezera.hr www.np-plitvicka-jezera.hr

Plitvice Lakes Tourist Board www.discoverplitvice.com



## Bijeli Potoci - Kamensko and Lička Plješevica

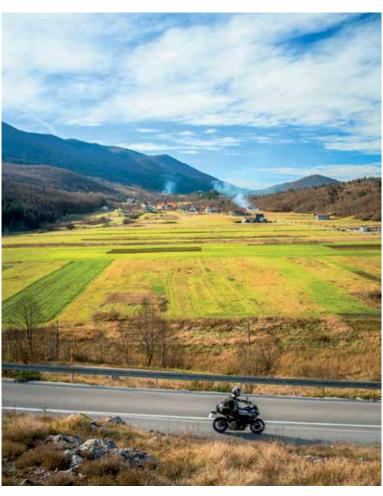
A ride through Lička Plješevica will give you a remarkable feeling of freedom and true adventure. After passing a majestic green plateau overlooking mountain chains (Ozeblin, its highest peak is located at 1657 m.a.s.l.), be prepared for a labyrinth of curves not far from Bijeli potoci - Kamensko.

## Lika's Pot

Traditional dish of the area, made from lamb or mutton with lots of vegetables (carrot, parsley, peppers... Sweet



cabbage, cut in ribbons, is added to the dish at the end of preparation. Usually served with potato. Great choice to recharge your batteries after a long day's ride.





# Spectacle of Rocks and Silence

After starting the route from Gospić, the centre of the Lika-Senj County and after moving southwards, after a 32-kilometre ride through the interior of Lika, you will reach a picturesque little place at the foot of the Velebit Mountain called Sveti Rok. This is a true paradise for all those who love to ride on macadam or off-road. By climbing the 200-year old road called Maistorska cesta (English: Craftsmen's road) that used to connect Dalmatia and the mainland during the Austro-Hungarian Empire, you will be immersed in silence, quietude and adventure. This road has been protected against commercialization and mainstream use by a decision of the Ministry of Culture from 2007 designating it as a historic road and fit for use. The decision has prevented the attempts to apply asphalt materials. As your wheels splurt gravel beneath you and you ride smoothly in the gray clouds of dust, you will feel as a character from one of Karl May's novels – as if you were Winnetou or Old Sutherland. And for a very good reason. The legendary series of movies was filmed precisely in this landscape, surrounded by impressive stone pillars. At the mountain pass Mali Alan (1044 m.a.s.l.), the highest point on the road, greenery will be replaced by gray and white stone blocks. You will feel mesmerized by the scenery. Everything will seem unrealistic, as if you were in Tolkien's Middle-earth. If the weather allows, you will get a view from the Tulove grede (English: Tulo's Rafters) all the way to the Adriatic Sea and you will always remember it. If you are lucky, you might even enjoy it at sunset, as the sun dips in immense blue of the sky – what else can you ask for? This adventure is suitable for those who have some sort of enduro motorcycles, that is to say, if you have an appropriate vehicle. If not, proceed towards Lovinac from Sveti Rok. You will pass Udbina only to finish your journey at Korenica, a perfect place to get some refreshments or taste some of traditional local home-made meals.



Route length	85 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

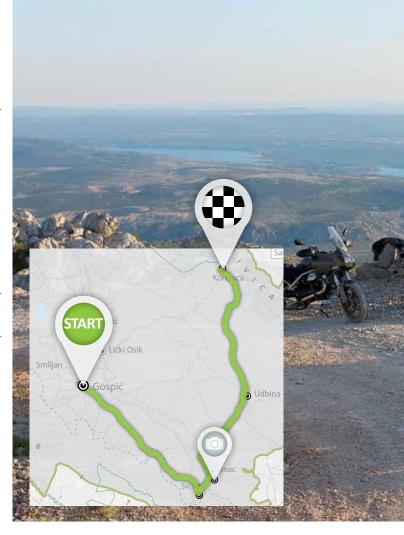


# Beer of Velebit and Home-made "Rakija"

Traditionally, a sip of home-made "rakija", a drink similar to schnapps, (Šljivovica – made from plum, Šmrika - made from juniper shrub and Loza – made from grapes) acts as an excellent apéritif or digestif before meals in Lika.

In these continental areas expect to be served the beer of Velebit, pale ale or stout, produced from malted barley, hops and yeast and pure water of Lika from the source at the foot of the Velebit mountain, at the Ričina source.













## Lovinac

The municipality of Lovinac is located at the very south of Lika, at the edge of the Lika basin. The Velebit Mountain chain represents an extreme geographical border to the sub-Mediterranean area to the south, southeast and west. Lovinac boasts a multitude of well-preserved and protected natural phenomena – dense, intact forests, peculiarities of the Karst formations, crystal clear rivers and streams. This municipality covers the highest peaks of the Paklenica National Park and the large area of the Velebit Nature Park. Informations: www.lovinac.hr



## **Velebit Nature Park**

The whole Velebit was declared a Nature Park in 1981, due to its wealth of Karst formations and diversity of flora and fauna in a relatively small area. The mountain, that "represented "the Wild West, was a perfect setting for filming of the Winnetou movie.

Velebit Nature Park Kaniža bb, 53000 Gospić velebit@pp-velebit.hr www.pp-velebit.hr

## Paklenica National Park

An ultimate climbing adventure. The gorge is 2.5 km long, with the largest vertical rock in the mountain, Anića-kuk. This, 400 meters high rock is the most famous destination for alpinists and climbers. The National Park area



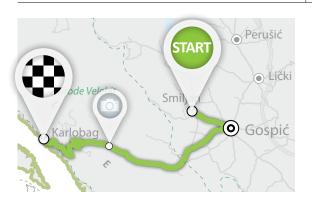
contains some 150 kilometres of trails and paths, the most famous of which leads from the entry to the canyon of Velika Paklenica to the Paklenica Mountain Hut (two hours walking time).

Paklenica National Park
Dr. Franje Tuđmana 14a, Starigrad - Paklenica
np-paklenica@paklenica.hr
www.np-paklenica.hr

# Nikola Tesla's Route

After bowing down to ingenious scientist and innovator Nikola Tesla in front of the Memorial Centre that bears his name and after enjoying a good breakfast and tasty cup of coffee in the heart of Gospić, you're all set to go. Your journey will take you to different elevations and diverse landscapes and vegetation.

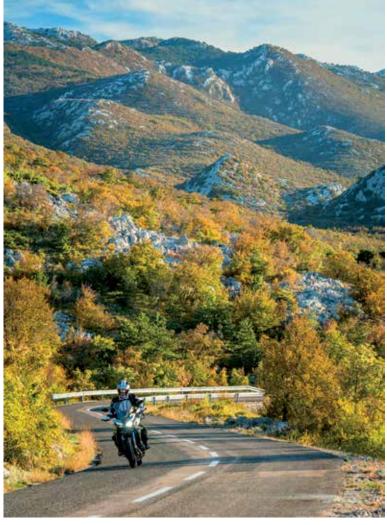
The D25 road leading to the settlement of Brušane, 11 kilometres away, is not conspicuous and you cannot guess the visual, emotional and olfactory experience you will soon have. The imminent passage through the labyrinth of curves on your way to Baške Oštarije (910 m.a.s.l.) slowly reveals what you are about to expect - a truly special journey. The village of Baške Oštarije is located halfway between Gospić and Karlobag. This place, surrounded by beautiful pastures and huge meadows is famous for its magnificent smells and sounds of nature. You will be intrigued at a sight of an unusual form of a pyramid-like Velebno hotel and a view from the hill called Ljubičko brdo (1320 m.a.s.l.). Temperatures can be rather chilly even in summer time, and will only rarely reach 30 degrees. Frequent and very strong bora gusts at mountain pass Oštarijska vrata may be more problematic. Before you get ready for the ride, check the weather conditions and chose appropriate gear. In 19 kilometres from Baške Oštarije you will go through 900-meter difference of elevation. Three sharp corners will be conquered on smile on your face. You will finish your voyage by taking a photo of this amazing scenery at one of three spectacular view points. From the Kubus view point, marvel at islands Pag, Olib, Silba and Premuda. The route ends at Karlobag. After taking a short break, why not repeat it all over again, taking the opposite direction? No doubt, it would be yet another spectacular adventure.

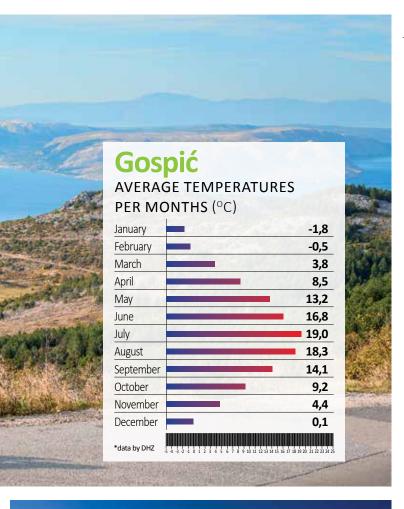


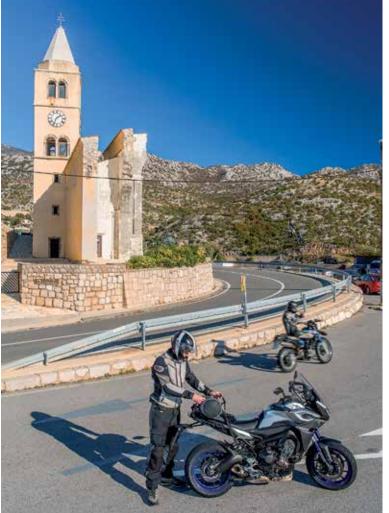
## Info

Route length	45 km
Landscape	
Slow corners	
Fast corners	
Grip	
Fun	











# Smiljan Nikola Tesla Memorial Centre

Ingenious scientist Nikola Tesla - who invented wheel of the modern era and lit the world, was born in 1856 at Smiljan. The Nikola Tesla Memorial Centre was opened in 2006 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of his birth. The Centre is a one-stop-shop that combines science, art and tourism. It allows the tourists to visit the house he was born in, see the reproduction of his 1899 Experimental Station from Colorado Springs, turbine at the Vaganac stream and a prototype of remote-controlled boat that he designed in 1898.

Informations: MC Nikola Tesla

tel.: +385 80)53 746-530; fax: +385 (0)53 746-538

e-mail: mcnikolatesla@mcnikolatesla.hr

www.mcnikolatesla.hr



# Gospić

The City of Gospić has been an important transport and military centre throughout history. Since 19th century onwards, its significance in the Lika region has increased. Today, it is the administrative and cultural centre of the Lika-Senj County, famous for its fascinating natural landmarks.

Gospić Town Tourist Board Budačka 12, 53000 Gospić

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