



Krka National Park

A total area of 109 km² of the Krka River and its basin was proclaimed the Krka National Park in 1985. This confirmed the exceptional value of the beauty of the karst river, the distinctiveness of its natural phenomena and its cultural and historical monuments. With its seven tufa barriers, the Krka River is a natural karst phenomenon. Krka National Park lies within Šibenik-Knin County and includes the Krka River (from two kilometres downstream of the town of Knin to Skradin) and the lower course of the Čikola River.

Tufa, the natural phenomenon of Krka National Park is a common appearance in the surface watercourses of the Dinaric karst, but it rarely builds waterfalls as it has on the Krka River. Tufa, which is limestone that has settled out of the water and accumulated on the tufa-building organisms (mosses, algae, etc.) creates various geomorphological forms.

Due to the distinctive position and various types of habitats along the Krka River, this area stands out for its exceptional wealth of flora and fauna. To date, 1197 plant species and subspecies have been recorded in the Park area. Many amphibians can be found

in the lake sections of the river and wetland areas, reptiles inhabit the thickets and rocky areas, while the river is habitat for many endemic fish species. The Krka River is exceptionally important for the spring and autumn bird migrations. Due to the number of species found here, this is one of Europe's foremost ornithological areas.

The area of the Krka River abounds in cultural and historical monuments, traces of human creation since prehistoric times. These include the remnants of the aqueduct in the Roman settlement Scardona, the remnants of the Roman military camp at Burnum and the ruins of the medieval Croatian fortresses from the 14th century: Trošenj, Nečven, Bogočin, Kamičak and Ključica. In terms of size and the level of preservation, Ključica is one of the most important fortified structures in Croatia. Among the sacral structures, the most valuable are the Franciscan Church of Our Lady of Visovac and the monastery Our Lady of Mercy on Visovac Island, and the Krka monastery (Holy Archangel). The many water mills and washing columns are monuments of rural architecture.





Tourism offer

Boat excursions

- to the Franciscan monastery on Visovac Island, lasts 2 hours (includes 30 minute stop on Visovac Island)
- to Roški slap waterfall, lasts 4 hours (includes 30 minute stop on Visovac Island)
- to the Krka monastery and ruins of the Trošenj and Nečven fortresses, lasts 2.5 hours
- the historical route from Roški slap waterfall to Visovac Island, lasts 2 hours (includes 30 minute stop on Visovac Island)
- from Skradinski buk waterfall through the Čikola River canyon to the lake-like spring Torak, lasts 45 minutes

An expert guide can be arrived for the above tours by prior agreement.
For rides to Skradinski buk, visitors can hire a boat in Skradin with Park guide.

The trails of Krka National Park offer a true experience of nature, the specific landscape of karst and the water of life, contrasts all brought together into a harmonious whole that will encourage visitors to experience the world with all their senses. In addition to the 22 marked walking trails covering 47 kilometres, nature lovers can also enjoy twelwe cycling routes covering 388 kilometres along the Park area.

Distance (km)	Knin	Visovac	Roški slap	Krka monas- tery	Burnum	Puljane	Motor- way, exit Šibenik	Motor- way, exit Skradin	Lozovac
Drniš	24	15	18	28	21	19	25	33	31
Knin		29	42	26	18	22	49	57	54
Lozovac	54	19	30	30	37	41	6	13	-
Skradin	57	10	17	36	39	43	14	4	9
Šibenik	66	31	42	42	49	53		25	12

The hospitality offer of Krka National Park includes restaurants and buffets. Accommodation is available in the Titius Hostel at the Krka Eco Campus in Puljane.

Krka National Park is open to visitors year round, and can be toured by water, road or hiking trails, and cycling routes. Boat transfer from Skradin and boat excursions are not available in winter period.

Skradinski buk

Skradinski buk, the longest and most commonly visited waterfall on the Krka River is one of Croatia's best known natural values. The waterfall was created by tufa barriers, islands and lakes. The waterfall can be viewed year round thanks to the network of trails and bridges that allow for pleasant and safe walking.

The Skradinski buk locality can be reached via the Lozovac entrance. From April to October, individual visitors can enjoy the bus service organized by Krka National Park from the entrance to Skradinski buk. The second entrance is Skradin. From April to October visitors can be transported by boats organized by Krka National Park according to the boat schedule.

Nature lovers and hikers can reach Skradinski buk from the Lozovac entrance in about ten minutes on the 875 m walking trail. A 4 km walking and cycling route connects the Skradin entrance with Skradinski buk.

Ethno presentation

The watermills in the National Park belong to the system of pre-industrial water-powered plants on the Krka River. As a symbol of economic power, they were often a source of conflict. The preserved mills date back to the 19th century. Today, they have high cultural and historical significance, as monuments of rural architecture and the economy of the past, due to their primary activity and traditional appearance. They are also ethnographic monuments. Demonstrations are held in the restored water columns of Krka National Park: see how wheat was milled, cloth washed, bags and carpets woven, horseshoes smithed and learn more about the old fashioned ways of food preparation in the old kitchen, etc.



Educational trail

The Skradinski buk trail (1900 m) is a pleasant one hour walk, passing over tufa barriers and offering visitors the opportunity to become better acquainted with the wealth of flora and fauna of the Krka River, especially the living communities of the tufa barriers and the aquatic habitats.



Krka Hydropower Plant

The remnants of the former Krka Hydropower Plant stand at Skradinski buk. The power plant began operations in 1895, just two days after Tesla's hydroelectric plant at Niagara Falls. Thanks to the builders, Mayor Ante Šupuk and engineer Vjekoslav Meischner, Šibenik received electricity before many European cities. The exhibit on the Krka Hydropower Plant is on display in the restored watermill.

