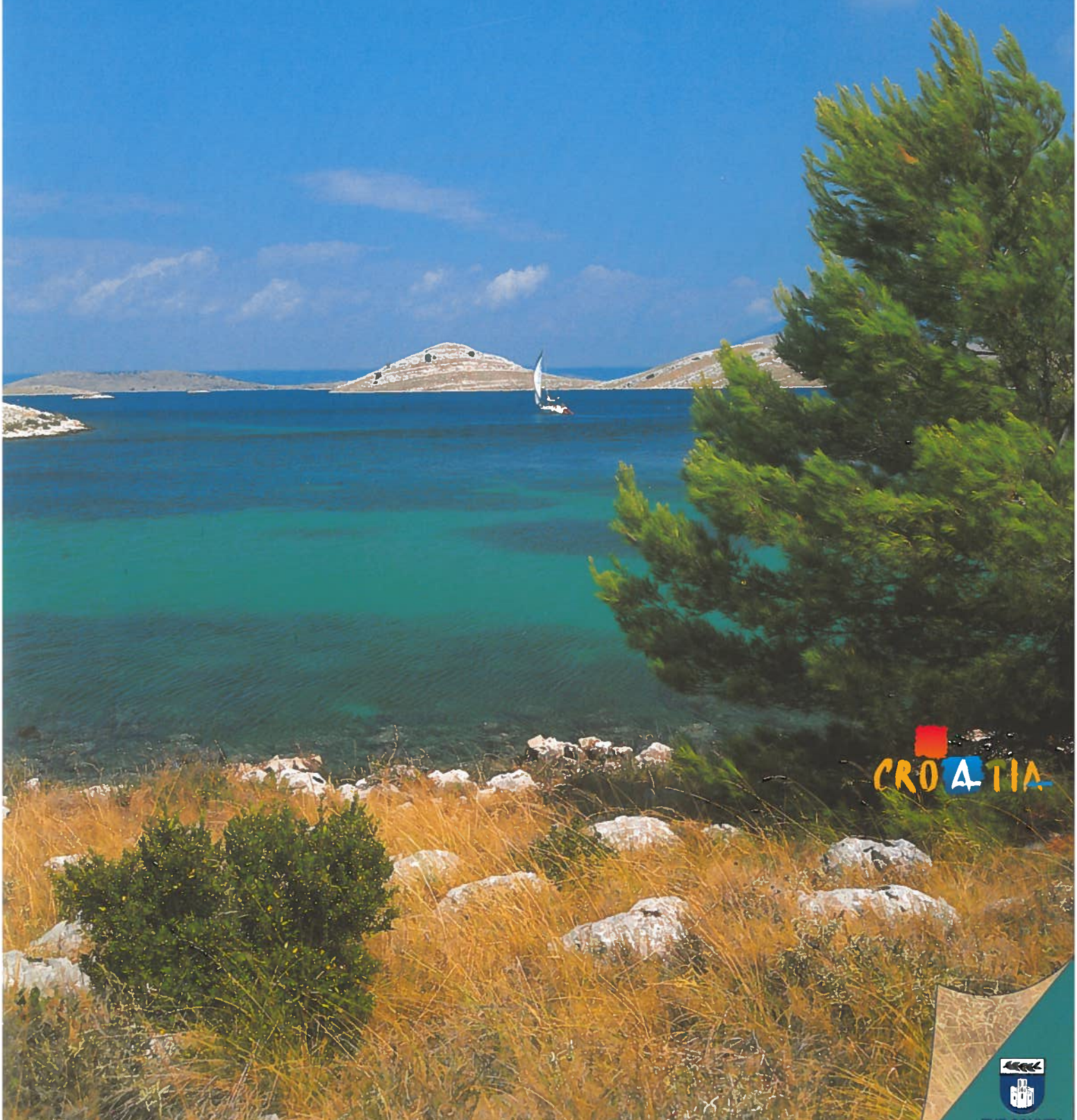


Riviera
ZADAR



**CROATIA**



THE COUNTY



Riviera ZADAR

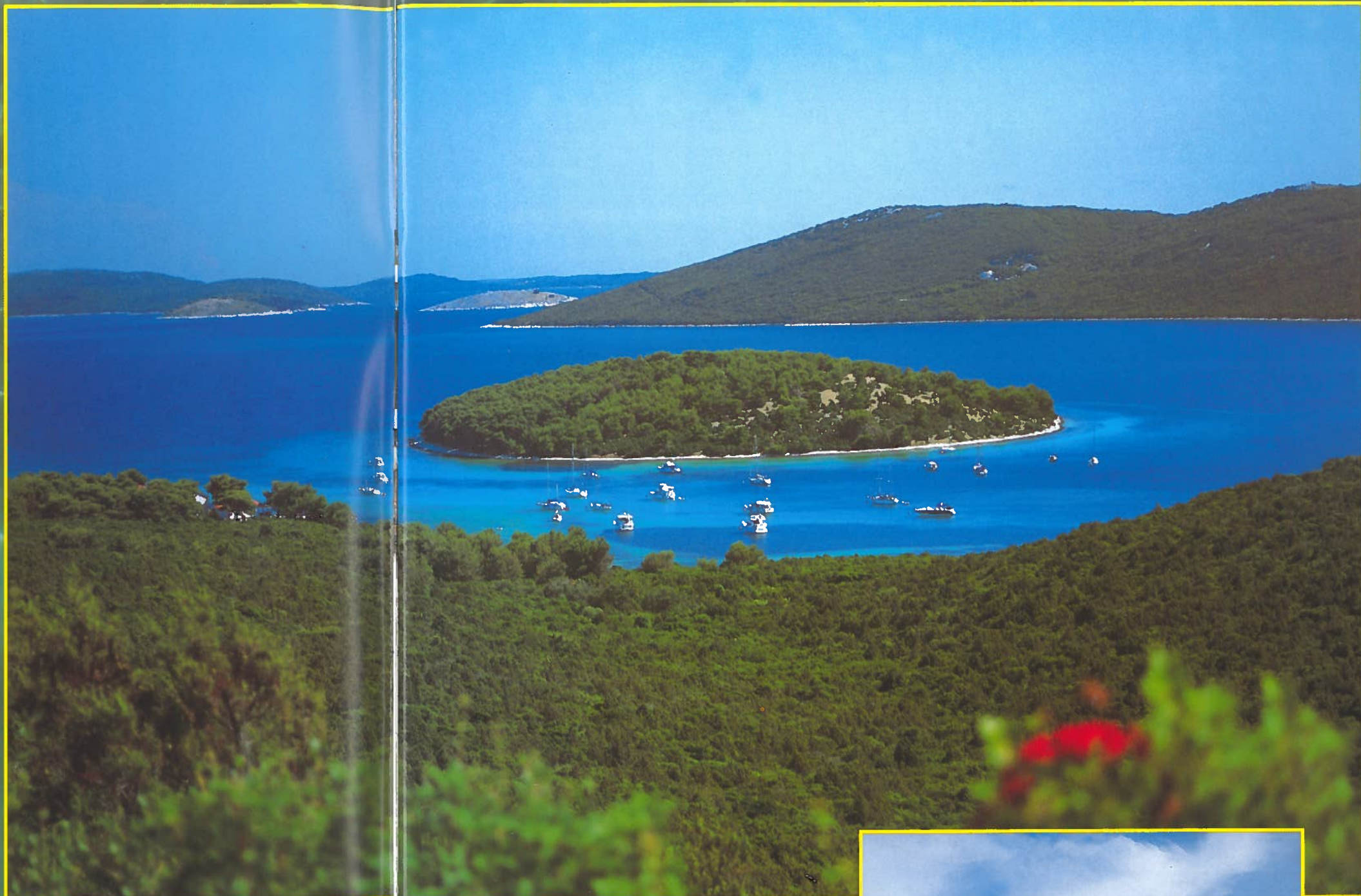


mildest of climates. Even ancient nations esteemed this part of Mediterranean, its coastal and island areas as well as its hinterland-the Riviera of Zadar has been inhabited for thousands of years, from prehistory and ancient times.

The traces and memories of the ancestors, who in the unique harmony of the sea and the land found the balance of their lives, still are well preserved. The town of Zadar bordered by fertile coastal fields, facing the more than one hundred and fifty rugged islands of its archipelago, has developed through its dramatic history as the centre of the region. Nowadays the area of the County of Zadar covers administratively its natural environment from the island of Pag as far as the National Park of

WELCOME TO THE HEART OF ADRIATIC

Welcome to the heart of the Adriatic, a region of Croatia that pulsates with centuries old culture, the magnificence of nature and the



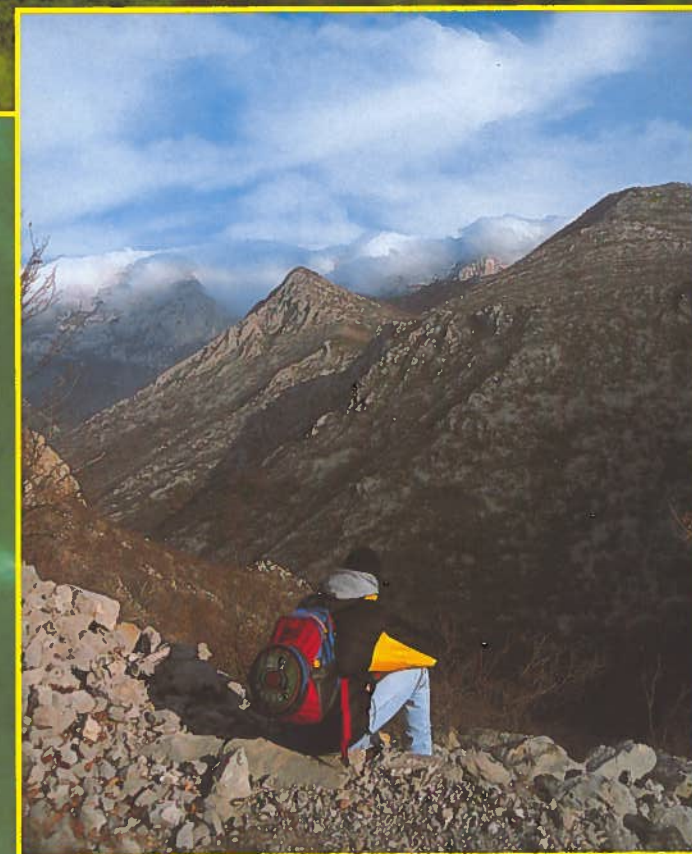
the Kornati. Zadar is a town of medieval monuments and at the same time a modern town with its own vibrant lifestyle.

The Riviera of Zadar can easily be reached by sea, road and air. It is difficult to say which approach is more beautiful: by sea with the grandstand view of the town, by land over the rocky Velebit mountain or by air with the exciting spectacle of the land meeting the Adriatic sea. This is the Riviera of Zadar, the heart of the Adriatic-even from the climatic point of view. Here the mediterranean climate is at its best, with the summer heat tempered by the soothing local Maestral wind and with the flat plains of the low lying hinterland absorbing the vigour of the fierce northerly wind known as the Bura.

The natural beauty of the area with its historical and cultural monument have co-existed in the Zadar Riviera in a lasting harmony for many centuries resulting in a perfect balance of man and nature. The gifts of nature spread abundantly on such a small area have made a perfect base for the development of a rich human culture in Zadar and its surrounding area. Countless relics of times, past to

be found on the Riviera of Zadar are testament today of the continuing relationship between man and his natural environment -throughout history the inhabitants of this region have been farm labourers, skilled fishermen and seamen, as well as writers, diplomats and craftsmen. The environment here is such that it makes people strive to improve themselves, to master as many skills as possible and by understanding nature they come to understand themselves.

These are the reasons that make the Riviera of Zadar the destination of choice for so many modern-day nomads, who during the summer or any other season, seek nature unspoilt by modern civilisation, in order to find peace or to find themselves ... Once you reach this region you will find so many beauties on such a small space, like almost nowhere else in the world. Within one hundred kilometres you can discover magnificent turquoise transparent sea, snow covered mountains, fertile plains and sordid karst, ancient towns and secluded coves ... This small world, the heart of the Adriatic, invites you to explore its treasures.





The island of PAG

THE ISLAND OF SALT AND LACE

The island of Pag is the westernmost part of the Zadar Riviera. If you haven't visited it yet you should come and enjoy the unique landscape of the craggy limestone that seems to be pushed into the sea after being detached from the mountain of Velebit that has been keeping a sullen watch on it for thousands of years. The destiny of the island of Pag is considerably determined by the spectacular meeting of the land and the Adriatic sea. Inhabited since prehistory the island has always lived the unique life abounding in its specific stinginess. The islanders have long been making the most from these difficult circumstances thus transforming them to a gift of nature. The island is like a rugged mediterranean mountain dipped into the sea, with an exceptionally well-indented coast, marvellous pebbly beaches and crystal clean

sea. The mediterranean nature on the island of Pag is particularly sparse, however the inhabitants in harmony with their environment created funds of their life: salt, sheep cheese and lace. The history of the island of Pag is, in a certain way, based on salt gatherings and its prehistoric tradition. The largest settlement on the island, the town of Pag, was established close to the salt-pans. The present-day town was founded according to the complete urban

plan dating from 1443. created by the renaissance architect and sculptor Juraj Dalmatinac. The outstanding cultural-historical monuments in the town are the Cathedral from the 15th century, the church of St. Anthony and the Governor's palace, while ancient salt warehouses still stand on the outskirts of the town.

The lace of Pag represents a most original expression of the human necessity to create beau-



island Pag is sufficient nourishment for numerous sheep and an excellent basis for the high-quality, world renowned cheese. As the vegetation is salted by the strong northern wind "bura" the cheese of Pag is very salted and ideal for consumption with the good local wine. It's interesting to discover the island both from the sea and from the continent. The marina at Šimuni is a nautical paradise, while secluded coves await those who prefer privacy. If you choose to discover the island following local roads you will enjoy the atmosphere of its picturesque villages: Povljana with the small church of St. Nicolas close to the sea, Kolan, Mandre, Košljun. These small villages are the real ornaments of Pag and perfect destinations for escape from the frenetic modern rhythm of life.

tiful things even under the rudest of natural conditions - its symmetrical geometry woven out of knitting - women patience seems to challenge the rugged disorder of the island.

The poor vegetation of the





NIN

THE CRADLE OF CROATIAN HISTORY

The beginnings of the dramatic Croatian history and culture lead us to Nin, a small town in vicinity of Zadar. According to the archeological remains of the Illyrian settlement Aenona, Nin was established in the prehistoric era. The history of Nin is at the same time the history of this mediterranean region constantly exposed to the influences of different cultures and religions. This town famous during the Roman empire, became the seat of Croatian kings in the Middle Ages. Nin was twice completely destroyed during the Turkish wars but it was always rebuilt and restored. The present day's historical remains remind us of those tumultuous times. The famous baptistry of Prince Višeslav was found here. It is a stone font with the oldest inscription mentioning a Croatian high dignitary. In the centre of the town, next to the fragments of the antique temple, there is a well preserved medieval church of the Holy Cross, an exceptional monument of architecture. Together with the



church of St. Nicholas in nearby Prahulje dating from the 12th century, with a trefoil ground-plan and subsequently added construction of a watch-tower, it is an enduring reminder of the dynamic Croatian history.

Nin is situated on an islet in a shallow lagoon at the mouth of the river Ričina, where the mediterranean limestone gives way to the plain and a level layer of land, producing an exceptional effect with the view of the rugged Pag and the mountain of Velebit in the distance. Fragments of ancient Liburnian vessels and medieval boats from the 12th century were found thirty years ago in this lagoon. They were seven meters long and reconstruction of them form part of a permanent exhibition in the archeological museum. The



by village of Privlaka and the island of Vir - connected to the mainlands by a bridge. The modern tourist settlement Zaton with the most popular and largest discotheque in the region named "Saturnus" is also close by to Nin.



lagoon of Nin hides another peculiarity - curative mud, rich in minerals highly prized for its therapeutic qualities, especially in the treatment of rheumatism. The picturesque sandy beaches backed by vineyards border to the town of Nin and spread as far as the near-





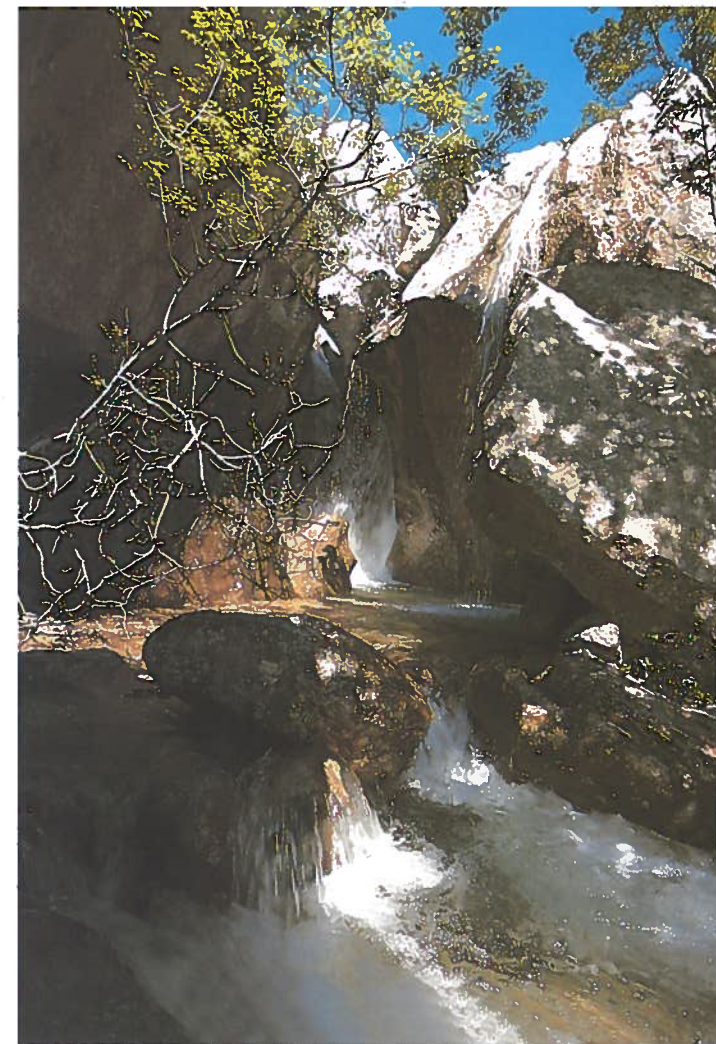
The National park of PAKLENICA



BETWEEN THE SEA AND THE MOUNTAIN

One of the most interesting natural phenomena of the Zadar Riviera is National park of Paklenica - a place of outstanding natural beauty, situated halfway between the sea and the mountain. This most picturesque part of the Riviera of

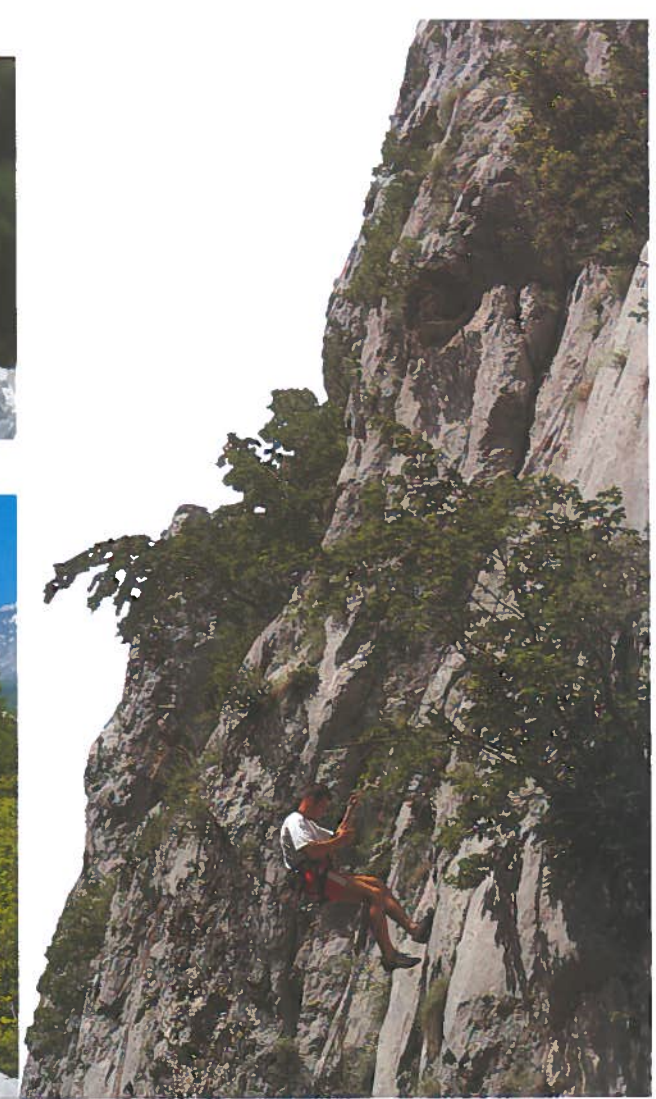
Zadar is the canyon of Velika and Mala Paklenica cut into the massif of Velebit at an altitude of up to 1700 m. The gorge with its natural and cultural qualities is protected as a National park and you can enjoy its beauty even with a



glance from the Adriatic road. This unique combination of the Mediterranean sea, culture and the colossal mountain attracts nature lovers from all over the world. The National park of Paklenica offers exceptional opportunities to enjoy the contrasts of the landscape and the local flora and fauna. The small town of Starigrad, the starting point of the expe-

ditions to Paklenica is a typical summer resort with mild climate, while only a few hours of climbing up the mountain brings us to the canyon where the temperatures dramatically change. The remarkable view of the sea from the Velebit peaks provokes a special feeling - from that mysterious mountain the islands in the sea seem to be just laid out at the

very moment of creation of the world. Some steep cliffs in the National park are up to 400 meters high. This fact explains the great difference in the environment compared to the coast just a few kilometers away. Dramatic gorges, sharp peaks of high rocks, gentle springs and waterfalls, thick forests and unique local plants, are the particular features of Paklenica, the mountain that hides



one cave - Manita peć, 175 meters long. The territory of the National park is an ideal area for lovers of both traditional and modern sports, who can choose any of the following activities: mountaineering, bird watching (an exceptional attraction is the white-headed vulture, a protected species), trekking, mountain climbing and walking

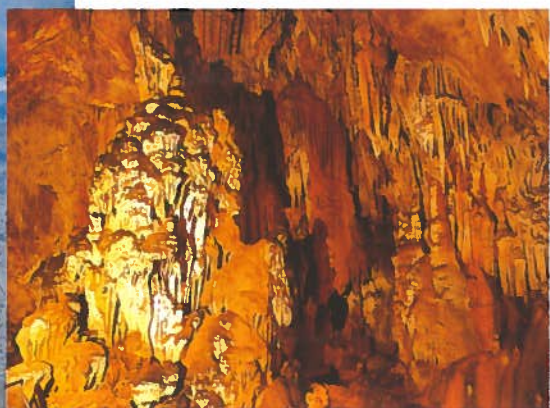
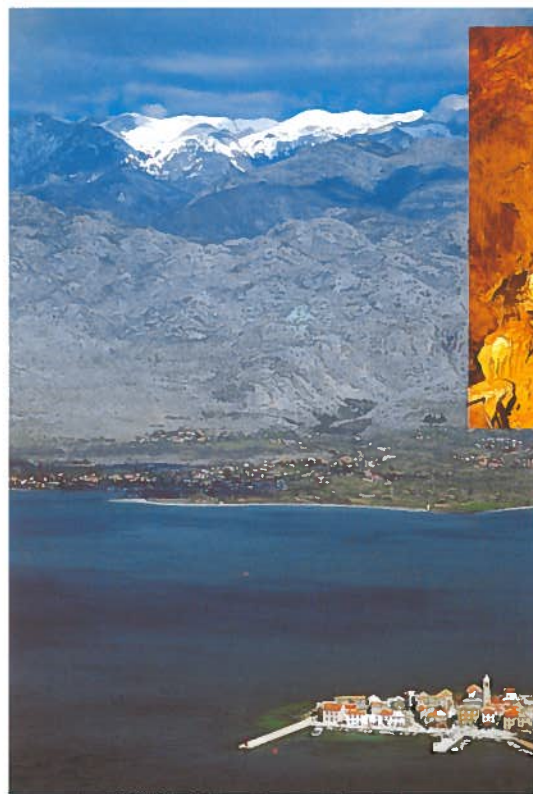
tours around this extraordinary canyon. The National park of Paklenica is an ideal place for modern men looking for total relaxation in a primordial natural environment. In the village of Parići there is a mountaineering hut. The National park of Paklenica covers the area of 100 km² at the altitude of 1700 meters.





THE RIVIERA UNDER VELEBIT

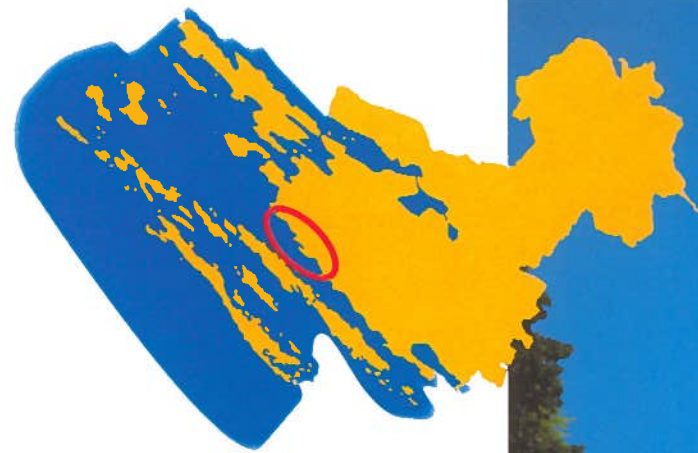
The coast beneath the mountain of Velebit provides an exceptional experience for all those who decide to stop and rest here on their way to Zadar. This place where the sea deeply enters into the land beneath the feet of Velebit finds its beauty in the encounter of the bare



Alan with a large camping site is situated in Starigrad. Ražanac and Vinjerac are picturesque little villages on the opposite side of this small sea, with exceptional views of the slopes of Velebit emerging from the sea. Situated at the spot where the sea enters most deeply into the land behind Ravni kotari, Posedarje, Novigrad and Karin still retain their centuries-old tranquillity. Novigrad is an old peasants' and fishermen's settlement with its authentic ancient ambience well preserved. The private houses in Posedarje offer comfortable accomodation with a view of the islet with the church of St. George.

mountain and the richer vegetation. The summers in this area are long and hot, the winters are mild and characterised by a northern wind and a lot of sun that shines almost all the year long. The cold northern wind seems to shrink the houses. They are squeezed in order to resist the fierce energy of the wind which shapes the crowns of cypresses into incredible unique forms. The seas of Novigrad and Karin represent an extraordinary phenomenon of the Zadar Riviera because of the very sweet water resulting from dilution with fresh water from the river Zrmanja that flows into the sea at that point. Therefore the bays of this small sea abound in fish and shells.

The picturesque coastal settlements under Velebit have been connected with Zadar for centuries and traditionally devoted to agriculture and cattle - breeding. The fertile land of this part of the Zadar Riviera has traditionally made the life of its inhabitants throughout history somewhat easier. Starigrad and Seline with their marvellous pebble beaches under Velebit are famous summer resorts and are starting points for excursions to the National park of Paklenica. The tourist complex of



ZADAR

THE TOWN OF GOLD

Someone once named Zadar as the town of gold. The Permanent Exhibition of Church Art is even better known as "The Gold and Silver of Zadar" (a name given by the famous writer Miroslav Krleža), but in fact the whole town



seems to be made out of gold and silver. This impression inspired numerous conquerors in their attempts to take possession of the town. Zadar is situated on a coastal peninsula with a view of the Zadar archipelago, just in front of the fertile plains of Ravni kotari. The vitality of the town and its inhabitants results from the meeting of the land and the sea.

ZADAR

fact is the church of the Holy Trinity, from the 15th century referred to as the church of St. Donat. It was built directly on the ancient Roman Forum while its foundations are made

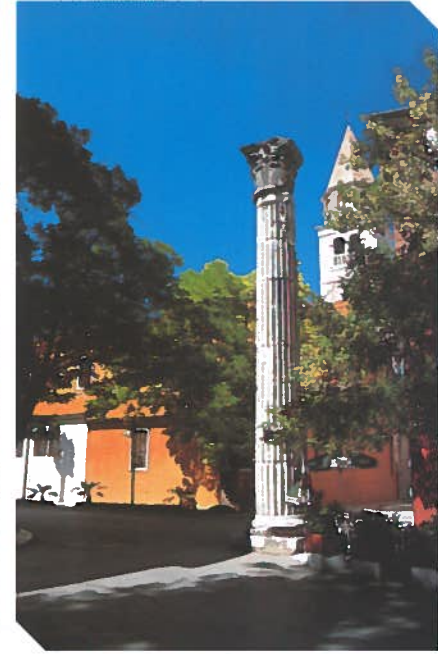
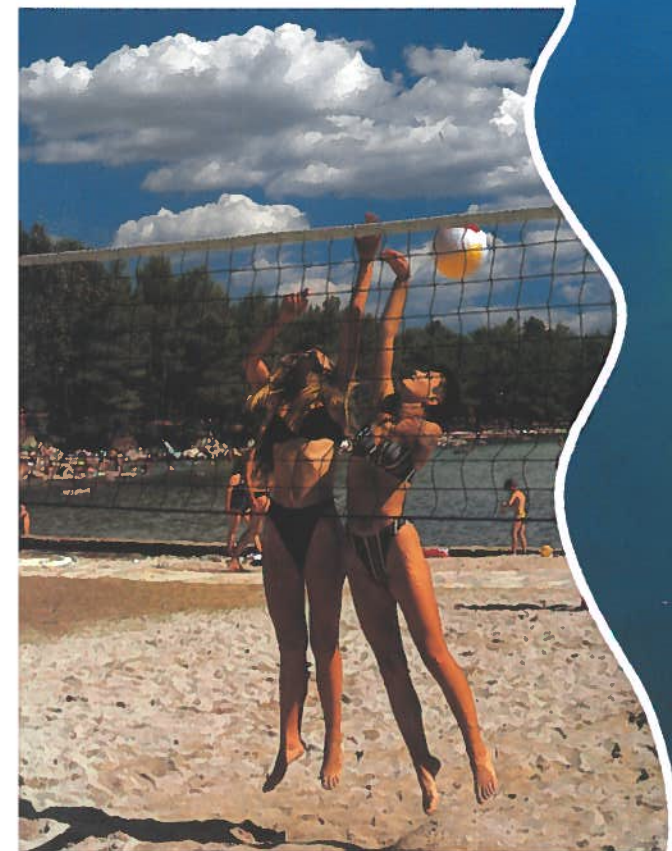
out of fragments of the Roman temple. The medieval and Christian Zadar was the centre of Dalmatia with numerous fortifications, churches and monasteries. During modern

times some new monuments were built, and some of the old ones were modified. The present-day Zadar is a living monument of different historical eras that owing to the combination of circumstances transformed into a modern town. Each step leads you to the evidence of the encounter of different epochs: antique and medieval town walls with the Captain's tower from the 13th century, antique pavement and medieval churches with city palaces from the 19th century, modern buildings stand next to medieval palaces and monasteries. The first University was founded in the 14th century within the Dominican monastery, Petar Zoranić wrote the first Croatian novel "Planine" ("Mountains") in Zadar where the Faculty of Arts was established in 1956. Zadar has always been a town of beauty and culture. The best proof of

Zadar was founded in prehistoric times, while the Roman period was at the time of its greatest prosperity. The city was built according to the principles of the Roman urban network, with the largest Forum and a huge temple on the eastern coast of the Adriatic. The ancient city remained up to early Middle Ages when it was burnt to ashes. But life went on. The best proof of this

this fact is the exceptional Exhibition of Church Art situated within the Benedictine nunnery of St. Mary. Numerous valuable relics, stone ornaments and paintings demon-

strate the riches of religious life. Another collection of high value is kept in the Archeological Museum, while the Scientific Library is one of the richest in Croatia.



ZADAR

Zadar is a town of picturesque ambiences. Its location on a flat peninsula in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea gives the town a certain particularity. The promenade around the peninsula offers an unforgettable impression of the sight of the islands at sunset. Walks around the old town are a real happening for each inhabitant of Zadar as well as for its visitors. Entering the town from the promenade shore you can enjoy the stories of the glorious past told by each historical stone remnant. The antique Forum with the monumental church of St. Donat and the church-tower of the cathedral make the familiar frame of pleasant repose in the mediterranean sun almost all the year around. Along cosy narrow streets you can experience the sweet scent of Dalmatian cuisine, hear the murmur of the people from numerous cafes, as well as the spontaneous sounds of Dalmatian songs. The street of Široka leads to the main town square from the Forum. It is the commercial and social artery of the town. The square, bordered by the Renaissance monuments: the City Loggia and the City Guardhouse, is the most popular meeting place for the



inhabitants of Zadar. Further eastward is situated the medieval church of St. Simeon consecrated to the town protector St. Simeon. According to the legend from the 13th century the tradition of the worship of St. Simeon began after the shipwreck of a vessel carrying the relics of the saint near Zadar. St. Simeon's chest, a precious goldsmith work made by the

sculptor Francis of Milan in the 14th century is still kept in the church. Southward towards the shore you come to the old medieval part of the town with narrow streets and old houses pulsating with the intensity of life. Northward from the main street in direction of the city walls is the green and fish market, one of the richest on the Adriatic. Farther eastward is the Land Gate built

in the 16th century according to the drawings of the Renaissance sculptor Michael Sanmicheli. From the fortifications still surrounding the majority of the town you have an excellent view of the new part of the town, hotels, beaches and the "Maraska" factory well known for its over one hundred years' tradition of the production of the famous liqueur "Maraschino".

THE COUNTY OF ZADAR



Information:

ZADAR COUNTY TOURIST ASSOCIATION

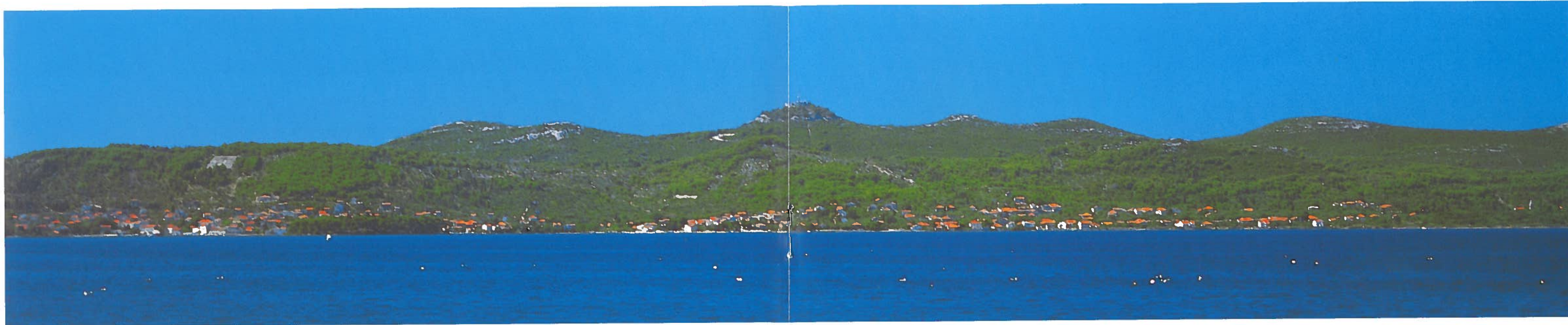
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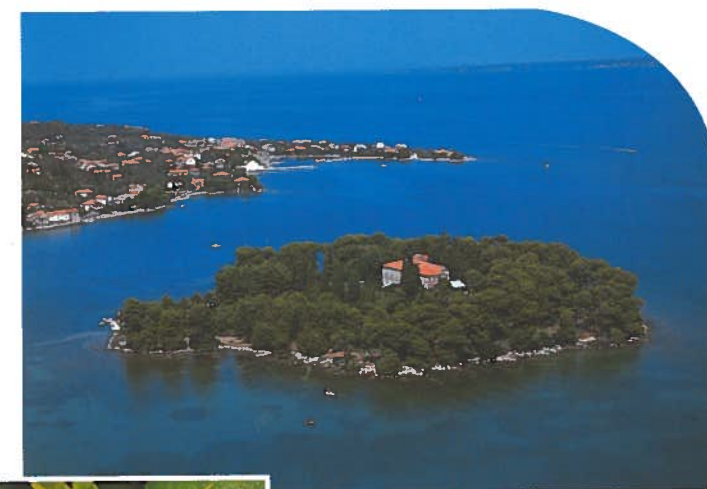
The island of UGLJAN



THE GREEN ISLAND

The island of Ugljan situated opposite to Zadar is one of its modern town districts. Once it was an island of peasants and fishermen, while today it is a part of the town linked with the centre by very frequent ferry connections. Luxuriant mediterranean vegetation surrounds small villages inhabited for centuries by diligent island-

ers whose main activities have been the cultivation of olives and fishing. Above the view of the island from the land dominates, like its guardian, the medieval fortress of St. Michael. This is a place well known for its marvellous panoramic view of Zadar and its archipelago. The masts of fishing boats and the red roofs of family houses characterize the scene in every village on the island of Ugljan. The close relationship of the islanders with nature and religion has resulted in many present-day customs, like, for example, the traditional procession to the church of Our Lady of the Snow in Kukljica.



Medieval friars recognised the true value of the island's isolation, the fertility of the land and the sea of Ugljan. In the 15th century, on the small island of Galevac they founded a Franciscan Glagolitic monastery on the site of the older hermitical friary. Another Franciscan monastery in the village of Ugljan dates from the same period. The rich remains of Roman and early christian architecture in the bay of Muline prove that the authentic island's atmosphere was equal-

ly appreciated by our ancestors in ancient times. Several well known artists found their inspiration in small villages of the island of Ugljan. The famous Croatian writer Petar Preradović wrote his patriotic song "Dawn is breaking" in Mali Lukoran. Modern tourists are fond of the cosy island villages: Preko, Kali (with the church of St. Lawrence, patron saint of fishermen), Kukljica and Ugljan characterized by magnificent beaches and charming narrow streets.

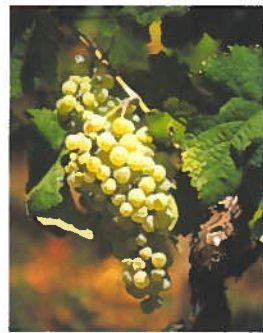




The island of PAŠMAN

AN OASIS OF TRANQUILLITY

Someone said that the island of Pašman is an ideal place to retire to rest. Once you come there, surrounded by nothing but stillness and tranquillity, you get the impression of a primordial place far from modern restless civilization. Pašman has preserved its peace even in modern times, so that each visitor feels that time has a special and different course there. You can reach the island of Pašman by the car-ferry from Biograd or across the bridge over the Ždrelec channel from the island of Ugljan. No matter how you reach it, the experiences of entering Tkon or travelling by car along the island are unique. The road runs along the middle of the island, through hills hiding sacred shrines and the descending bays round which charming villages have been established. The landscape of Pašman always impresses

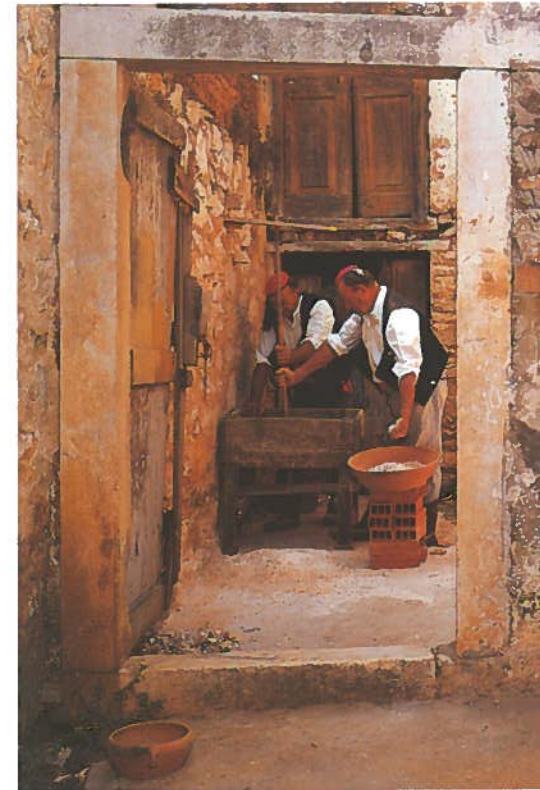


its visitors with its extraordinary tranquillity. With the solitude of the medieval monasteries: the Benedictine on Čokovac from the 12th century and the Franciscan in Kraj from the 16th century, and the splendour of the shore, the present-day Pašman lives its quiet life, the witnesses of which are those who appreciate the real peace of hot summer days and silence of mild nights. Nevertheless Pašman is an island worth visiting throughout the year, even in wintertime the mild climate gives a special dimension to the tranquillity of everyday life. Besides the biggest village on the island, Pašman, there are several smaller places like Nevidane, with an exceptionally beautiful beach and numerous Illyrian and Roman archeological finds, and Banj with pine woods along a magnificent bay.



The island of IŽ NETS AND OLIVE-GROVES

The picturesque island of Iž is situated between the island of Ugljan and Dugi otok close to the island of Sestrunj. Iž is an island of beautiful beaches and luxuriant mediterranean vegetation that makes the outline of the island easily recognizable from a boat approaching its shores. There are two villages on the island, Veli Iž and Mali Iž, whose inhabitants have been living



for centuries from fishing, olives and pottery. The nets drying on the shore and olive-groves are typical sights of the landscape of Iž, whose potters have, for centuries been offering their clay-products on the market of Zadar. Their skills have been preserved in their authentic form from prehistoric period. The old Croatian church from the 11th century is conserved in Mali Iž as the vestry of the parish church, while in Veli Iž the Romanesque summer-residence of the family Fanfogna, was in the 19th century transformed into a church, and is still well preserved. The island of Iž is an ideal destination for family summer holidays and for nature lovers.

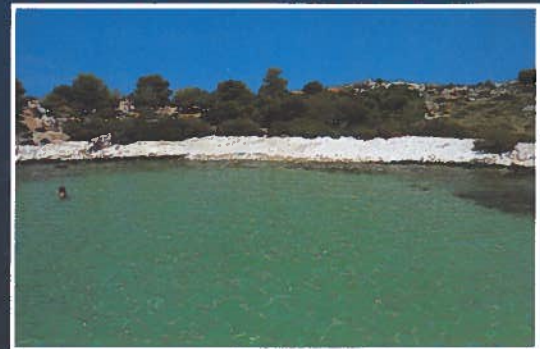
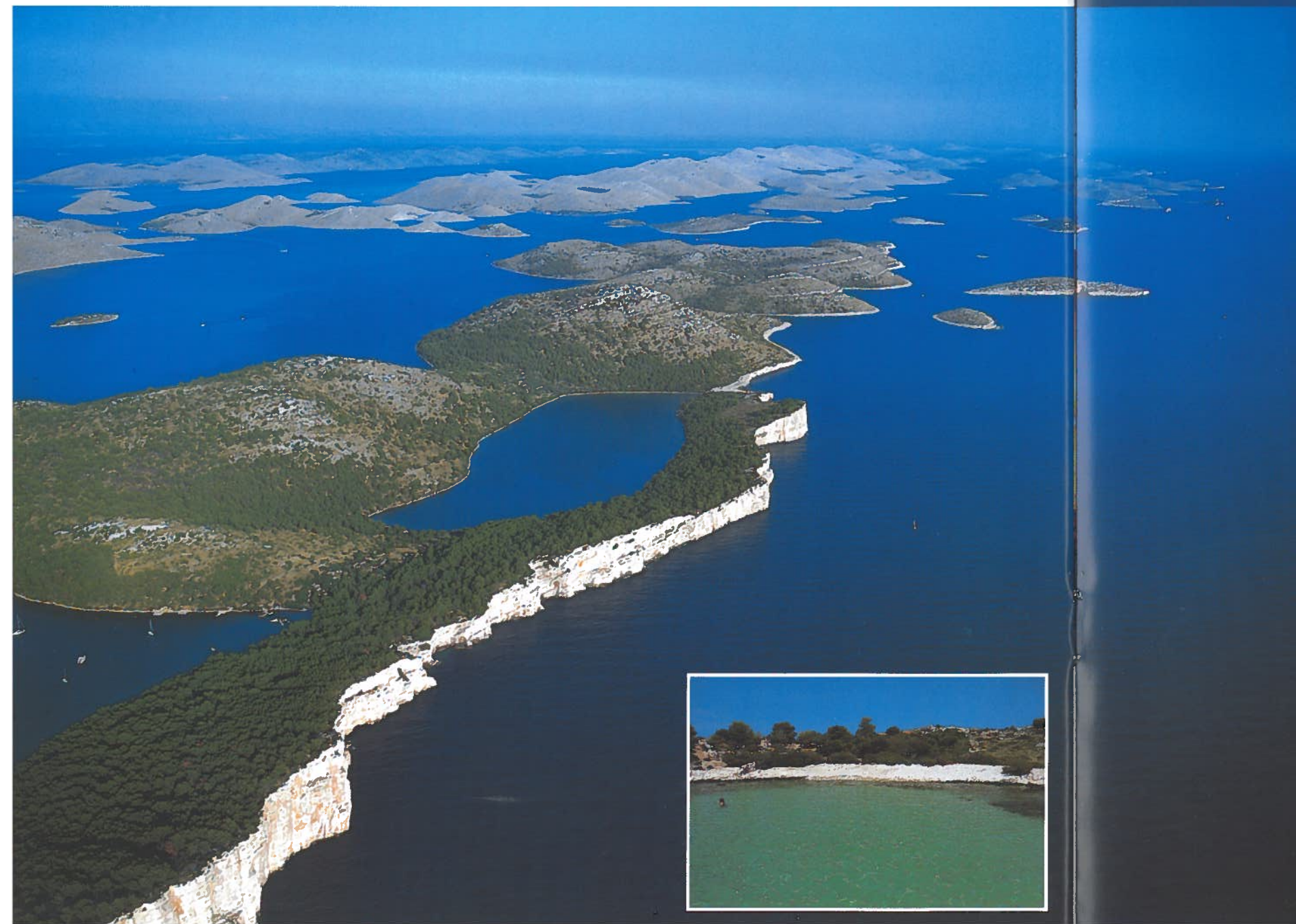




The Park of nature
TELAŠĆICA
The National park
KORNATI

**ON THE MARGINS
OF THE WORLD**

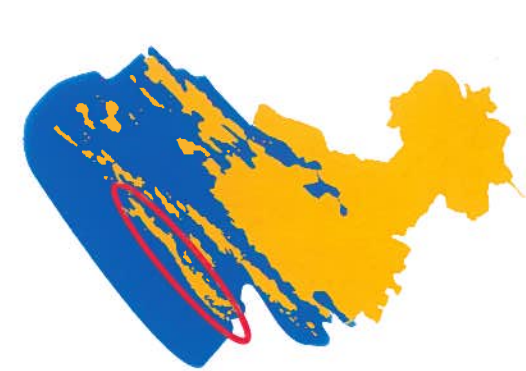
The cove of Telašćica is situated on the south-eastern margin of the Zadar Riviera. Once you reach it you get the impression of coming to the end of the world - the entrance to the magnificent paradise, the National park of the Kornati. Each of its numerous islets scattered in the sea hides the primordial untouched nature. Telašćica is the



easternmost part of Dugi otok and it is protected as the Park of nature. Entering the cove by boat to spend an overnight there is a real pleasure for numerous navigators. Besides being a natural beauty the cove of Telašćica is also a well protected port.

In the bay of Telašćica there is a picturesque cove of Mir with a unique natural phenomenon - the salt lake of Mir situated just above it. The visitors making an obligatory walk around the lake reach the very edge of the island plunging deep into the sea in the form of vertical cliffs. Traces of a very old culture of holidays and tourism - remains of the antique villa rustica can be found in the straits of Mala Proversa. The National park of Kornati is adjacent to the Park of nature Telašćica. Its archipelago consisting of more than one hundred islands and islets of exceptional qualities with small fishing villages and picturesque deserted shores attracts navigators from the whole world.





The island of DUGI OTOK

FISHERMEN'S PARADISE

Dugi otok is the last island in the range of Zadar archipelago and it is the most popular seaside resort of the inhabitants of Zadar, an ideal place for the week-end escape and for welcoming a visitor. The island is linked to the mainland with regular ferry connections, driving along the road from one end of



in memory of one thousand years of fishing permitted by the unique historical document according to which the monastery of St. Grisogonus from Zadar gave the fishing permit to the bay of St. Victor on the island of Dugi otok and to the island of Molat.

The favourite destination of numerous tourists on Dugi otok is Božava, a charming place on the western part of the island. The famous attraction of this part of Dugi otok is the cove of Sakarun facing the open Adriatic sea with its remarkable white-flintstone sandy beach. Its white colour gives a special quality to the impression of the colour of the sea. The lighthouse of Veli rat is situated at the very end of the island. It is one of the highest lighthouses on the Adriatic dating from the mid 19th century. Once you come to Dugi otok it's worth visiting the charming villages of Luka, Žman, Zaglav, Savar, or nearby islets Lavdara, Zverinac and Rava.



the island to the other you can enjoy marvellous panoramic views. Dugi otok is the largest island of the Zadar archipelago and the island of the most rugged coast - its innumerable coves provide many secret places for holiday makers in summertime. There are eleven villages on the island, whereof the largest one is Sali, situated





The western ISLANDS



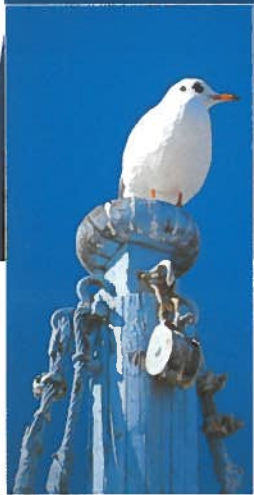
The Zadar archipelago ends to the west with a range of picturesque islands - a real navigators' paradise. Once you decide to make an excursion to these islands from Zadar you will reach them in a few hours. They are not as far as they seem to be. The islands Molat, Premuda,

Ist, Silba and Olib once were inhabited by fishermen and seamen who built their family houses there. Nowadays the westernmost islands of the Zadar archipelago are almost uninhabited except during the summer season when the descendents of the old fishermen and seamen

together with their guests fill the deserted resort houses. On the island of Olib there is only one village sharing its name with the island. Olib has numerous coves, ideal for swimming and underwater fishing. Silba with its pebbly beaches is the best known tourist resort at the western

end of the Zadar Riviera, while Molat, Premuda and Ist are visited by underwater sports fans looking for peace and silence.

BIBINJE • SUKOŠAN



Several small picturesque places are situated between Zadar and Biograd. Their particular qualities much appreciated by their numerous faithful visitors make them very special. The places closest to Zadar are Bibinje and Sukošan. The village of Bibinje is on the outskirts of Zadar



and is a favourite town beach, which provides a pleasant refreshment for the inhabitants of Zadar and for their guests. The remains of a Roman aqueduct have been found in the vicinity of Bibinje. Sukošan is best known for the beautiful view from the Adriatic road and the remains of the famous summer-residences of the archbishops of Zadar. Private rooms and apartments close to marvellous beaches offer high quality accommodation to the numerous tourists coming back every year to enjoy their summer holidays in Sukošan. The largest marina on the Adriatic, "Zlatna luka" ("The Golden port") is situated between Bibinje and Sukošan.



ST. FILIP I JAKOV TURANJ



THE SUMMER RESORT OF OUR ANCESTORS

The Zadar Riviera is not only a modern summer resort. Numerous traces of past times prove that our ancestors enjoyed spending their holidays here throughout history. This was of great importance for



the people living in a big centre like Zadar. Some villages in the vicinity of the town developed as a string of summer residences or around the remains of a larger villa. One of such places on the seaside is Turanj with its beautiful beach skirting a grove. It is named according to the remains of a medieval fortification.

St. Filip and Jakov has also developed from a string of old summer residences and aristocratic parks that prove how our ancestors appreciated natural advantages of the Zadar riviera. St. Filip and Jakov once was a famous summer resort of the Zadar aristocracy. Nowadays it is an attractive tourist resort with marvellous beaches overlooking picturesque islets.



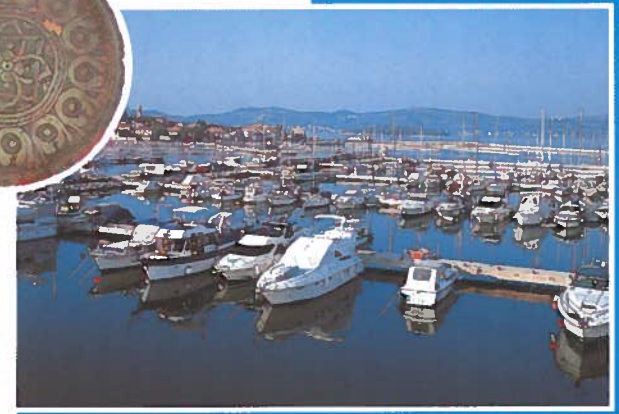
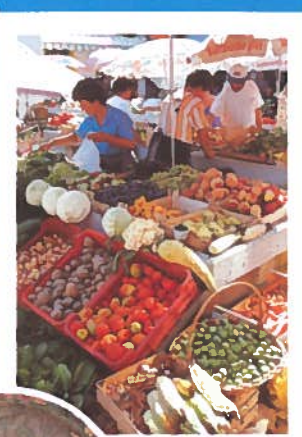
BIOGRAD NA MORU



became the residence of Croatian kings in the 11th century. The core of the old settlement was situated on a smaller peninsula, while a part of the town walls was preserved up to a hundred years ago. The modern Biograd spread from that nucleus along the coast and the pine woods. It has become the po-

THE ROYAL TOWN

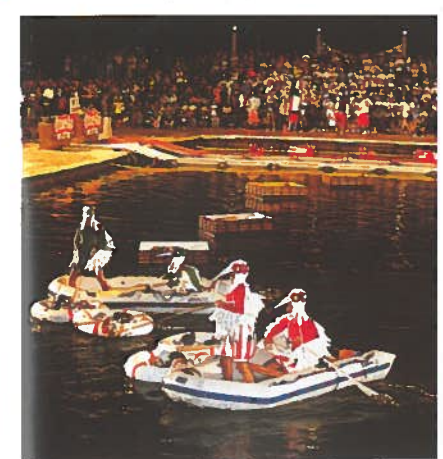
Biograd is second biggest town of the Zadar riviera. It was mentioned for the first time in the 10th century, and it



pular summer resort with comfortable hotels situated close to beautiful beaches. Biograd shared the same historical destiny as Zadar. It was destroyed in the 12th century by the Venetian army, and again, in the 17th century, by its own defenders while retreating from the Turkish army. In Biograd you can visit the parish church from the 18th century and the National museum with its rich collection of local ethnographic objects, as well as objects from archeological sites in Biograd and its surroundings, and with an exceptional undersea collection of remains found at the site of a shipwreck from the end of the 16th century on the nearby cliff of Gnalčić. The well preserved objects provide picturesque evidence of the historical culture of trade. The present-day Biograd is a cosy place at the



seaside, a small town with human dimensions. From the Biograd promenade, there is a romantic view of the islets in the Pašman channel with perfect beaches for those who love solitude. Tourists can choose between hotel and camping accomodation. The attractive marina, the large sports centre with tennis courts, and the regular boat excursions to the nearby National park of Kornati make Biograd an ideal summer resort.



PAKOŠTANE • DRAGE

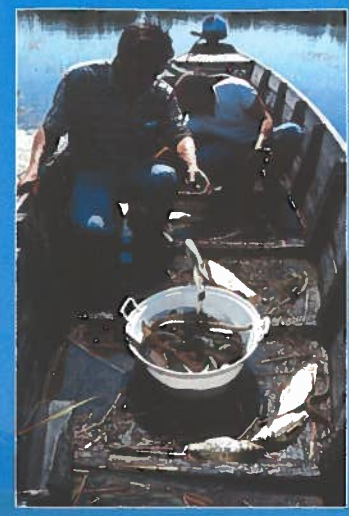


THE PLEASURES OF SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The village of Pakoštane is situated close to the Adriatic road, but it is almost invisible, being hidden from the busy road by thick pine woods. If you decide to turn down from the main road and stop for a while at this small place you will enjoy the charms and attractions of a vivid summer resort, very popular among young people. The coniferous forests keep this place isolated from neighbouring settlements. The summer season is the time of waking up, the time when rhythms of



modern life come back to the numerous restaurants and taverns with the tourists searching for their piece of paradise. Close to Pakoštane there are three popular tourist complexes: Kozarica, Club Mediterranee and Crvena luka. The small island of Vrgada can be easily reached. It offers its visitors the pleasures of a romantic, relaxed typical Mediterranean atmosphere. The small charming place Drage is situated only a few kilometers from Pakoštane. Thanks to its well-indented coast, numerous coves and pebbly beaches Drage became a popular summer resort.



The Park of nature LAKE VRANA

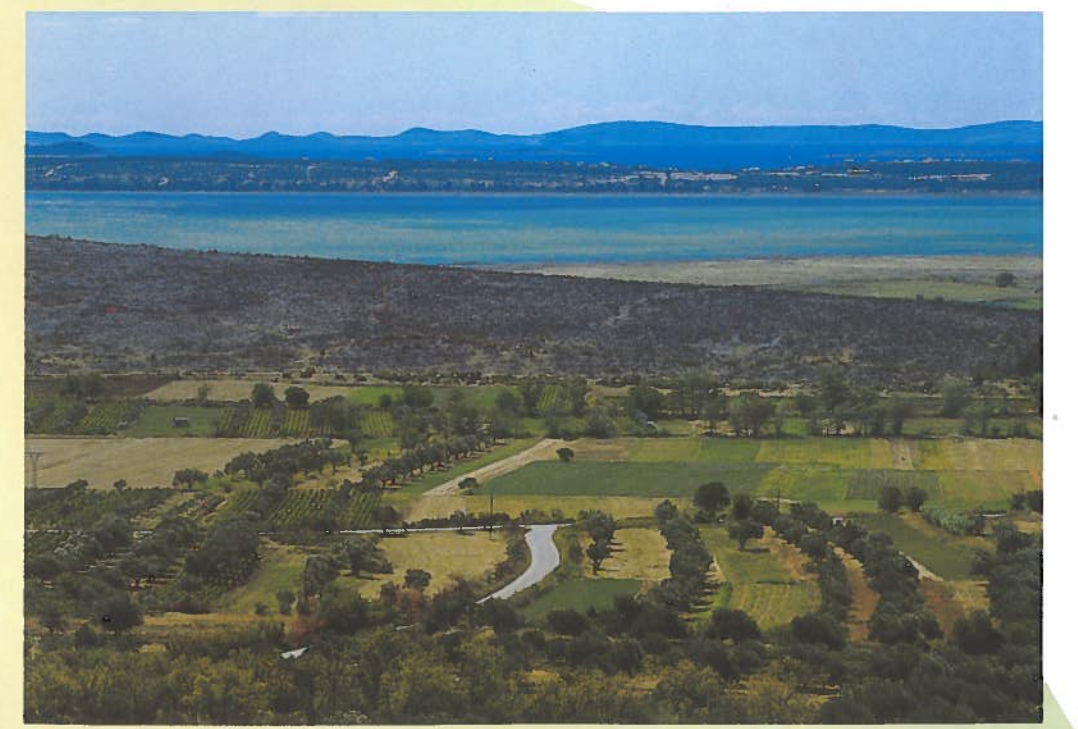


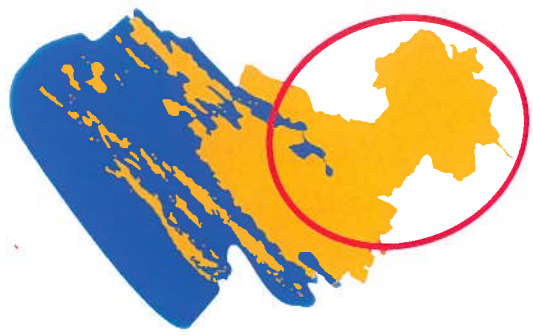
Templars. Nowadays the Vrana lake is an interesting natural phenomenon offering numerous exceptional possibilities. It is an ornithological refuge, with several protected bird species,

such as, for example, heron. The lake offers the pleasures of fresh-water fishing only a few kilometers from the sea. Visitors can enjoy horse riding along the lake and camping next to it.

THE LAKE AND THE SEA

Close to Pakoštane, on the opposite side of the Adriatic road, only 2 kilometers from the coast is situated another natural phenomenon of the Zadar riviera - the fresh-water lake of Vrana. It is 14 kilometers long and 4 kilometers wide. Close to the lake there are the fertile fields of Vrana. Northward from the lake there are the fragments of the old town of Vrana and of the Turkish caravanserai. The town of Vrana was founded in the period of the first Croatian kings, while in the Middle ages it was ruled by the Knights Ivanhoes and

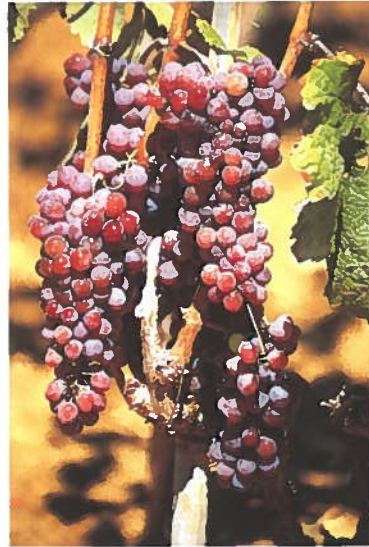




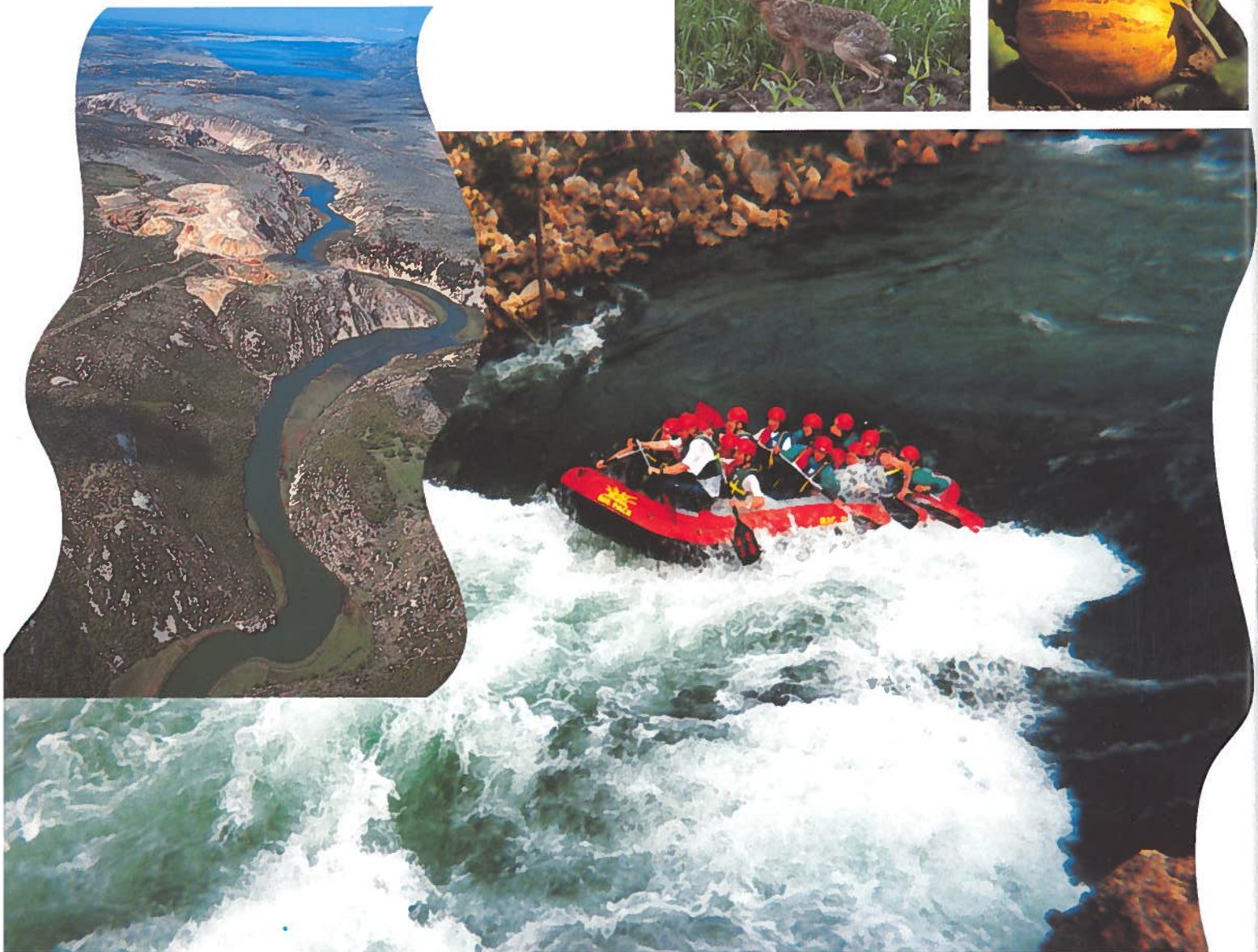
The Zadar COUNTRYSIDE



The deeper countryside of the Zadar riviera is an interesting area. Following the road in the direction of the Velebit mountain you pass along endless orchards of Ravni kotari, particularly orchards of marasca, the sour cherry used in the production of the famous liqueur "Maraschino". Further onward the way leads you along peaceful valleys ideal for mounted sports, recently being developed in Polača. The place was named according to the noblemen's palaces from the Middle ages. Benkovac is a place celebrated in numerous epic bal-



lads. It abounds in archeological relics of its glorious history whereof the outstanding ones are the fragments of the medieval walled towns. Travelling from Zadar more deeply into the countryside you pass the rugged area of Bukovica, going towards the canyon of the river Zrmanja. Its flow is attractive for rowing, rafting, kayaking and canoeing on the wild waters. The small town of Obrovac is situated in the valley of the river Zrmanja. The remains of the fortifications on the hill above the town make a typical sight for this part of Mediterranean. Continuing the way towards the interior, passing over the craggy mountain of Velebit, you come to Gračac, a small town on the post-diluvial plateau, close to Cerovac caves, a unique phenomenon - caves filled with luxurious stalactites and stalagmites. The areas around Gračac offer exceptional possibilities for big game hunting. The thick forests on the opposite side of the Velebit mountain are the home-can of wolves, bears, hares and wild-



boars. In less than one hour's drive from Gračac you reach another pearl of nature - the National park of the Plitvice lakes. Its 16 magnificent cascade waterfalls are under the protection of UNESCO. This deep inland countryside is the edge of the Zadar Riviera - an area of picturesque contrasts, from rugged coast and marvellous islands up to mountains and continental landscapes. All these varieties invite you to visit this unique part of the Adriatic coast.

Welcome to the Zadar Riviera.




HRVATSKA