

THE ESSENCE OF KONAVLE – CULTURAL ITINERARY

DAY 1. CAVTAT

First day is entirely designed for Cavtat.

1. House Bukovac - The birth house of Vlaho Bukovac, one of the most famous Croatian painters and the forefather of the Croatian modern painting, has been made available for public in May 2004, after a ten-year break and a thorough three-year reconstruction.

The monumental features of the Bukovac House are not only its architecture, garden space and the location in the very heart of the town, but above all, it is the legacy of the name of the great artist, his artistic heritage and the heritage of his family's history.

www.kuca-bukovac.hr

E-mail: muzeji-i-galerije-konavala@du.t-com.hr

2. Mausoleum of Račić family – The mausoleum of the well-known ship-owners family Račić from Cavtat was built on St. Rock's cemetery by well-known Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962). Its construction took place in 1921, on the place of St. Rock's church from 15th century, following the will of the testatrix Marija Račić. It was built from the white stone from Brač island in the form of cupola. In the whole building no other material but stone was used, except bronze for the door, bell and angel. On the bell founded by Meštrović's design we find his beautiful reflection: "Comprehend the secret of love, you will solve the secret of death and believe that the life is eternal.

www.migk.hr/hr/

E-mail: muzeji-i-galerije-konavala@du.t-com.hr

3. Baltazar Bogišić Collection - Baltazar Bogišić Collection was founded in 1909 - 1912, and from 1955 is a part of Croatian Academy of Science and Art. Baltazar Bogišić (Cavtat 1834 - Rijeka 1908) was a jurist and a scientist of a European fame. Since 1875 he lived in Paris. He was the full member of Croatian Academy of Science and Art since its foundation in 1867, a member of many other Academies and Scientific societies, and a holder of several European decorations.

E-mail: hazu.bogisic@du.htnet.hr

4. Picture gallery of St. Nicola's parish church in Cavtat – The gallery was founded in 1952 by the merit of academy member Cvito Fisković. This valuable collection of paintings, sculptures and church liturgical pottery is situated in the room next to the Parish house, and from 2001 is again open to tourists and visitors of Cavtat. Among many valuable artistic works, of a special interest is the icon of St. Nicolas from 15th century, the alabaster relief of St. Sebastian made by baroque artist from Benedetto Genarri's school from Bologna, the

paintings painted by Sicilian painter Carmelo Reggio, and the works of great Croatian painter Vlaho Bukovac.

5. Monastery of Our Lady of the Snows – The Monastery is founded in 1484. and built during the 15th and 16th century. Significant modification within the monastery was done from 18th to 20th century. In the church are exhibited several valuable paintings: altar painting of Dubrovnik painter Božidar Vlatković (end of 15th c.), polyptych of Dubrovnik master Vicko Lovrin (1509/10), and the lunette of lady of Cavtat painted in 1909 by Cavtat painter Vlaho Bukovac.

After lunch you can try several programs of active holidays:

6. Diving - Underwater world of Cavtat is very attractive for diving activities. Nearby, next to Cavtat islands Mrkan, Bobara and Supetar, there are several ancient sites, the largest and most attractive in the Adriatic, including ones in the Mediterranean. They are extremely valuable sites with over 1800 amphorae and pithos, which originate from the first century BC and the first and 2 century AD. In addition Cavtat seabed abounds in beautiful underwater walls that reach up to 100 feet deep, underwater caves and sunken ships from the ancient times and recent past.

www.epidaurum-diving-cavtat.hr

E-mail: epidaurum@du.t-com.hr

www.diving-cavtat.com

E-mail: info@diving-cavtat.com

7. Kayaking - An original and exciting way to learn about the wider coast of Cavtat is definitely organized kayaking excursion where you can try fishing, but also to observe the birds on the islands in front of Cavtat.

www.sea-kayaking-cavtat.com

E-mail: info@sea-kayaking-cavtat.com

www.adventuredubrovnik.com

E-mail: info@adventuredubrovnik.com

8. Romantic dinner in one of Cavtat restaurants at Cavtat promenade

<http://visit.cavtat-konavle.com/hr/gastronomy>

DAY 2. KONAVLE – DONJA BANDA

Second day is designed for visiting of historical and cultural heritage in Donja Banda (South part of Konavle).

1. Konavle County Museum, Čilipi– Konavle County Museum was founded in 1974, thanks to the selfless efforts and enthusiasm of prominent education and tourism workers in Čilipi and people of Konavle in general. A building that used to be the village treasury, located in the central square, now treasures the ethnological fortune of Konavle, displayed in the ambience of a typical Konavle house. In 1991, the House was burned and a significant portion of the inventory was irreparably lost. The collection now holds about 500 items such as male and female folk costumes of the highest quality, embroidery and other textile handcrafts, jewellery, arms, musical instruments and items used in the everyday life. The permanent display includes a selection of the traditional needlework made by the Cavtat folklore society Jelka Miš.

<http://www.migk.hr/hr/>

E-mail: info@migk.hr

2. St. Nicholas church, Čilipi – The church was built in 1853, at the site of a minor renaissance church and consecrated in 1858. Proper orientation, three-aisled, basilica type, with a semicircular apse to which is attached a rectangular sacristy by the main axis. In the 1991, the church was heavily damaged – it was burned with the entire sacristy, Mass attire and relics– today's reminders to that times are the desecrated statues of Holly Family.

3. Folklore show, Čilipi - Folklore events in Čilipi occur every Sunday morning from Easter till the end of October. At the local square in front of the St. Nicholas' Church, after the Sunday Mass, the local folklore ensemble introduces its guests with the customs and traditions of Konavle region.

www.cilipifolklor.hr

E-mail: cilipifolklor@cilipifolklor.hr

4. Illyrian piles, Mikulići – This prehistoric tumulus, located in the village Mikulići, has a 45 m and height of 6,6m. The stone pile consists of larger and smaller pieces of breakable, untreated limestone. Within 2 km there is a large number of these piles, as well as elevation Gradac that is supposed to be a prehistoric settlement to which these stone piles belonged.

<http://www.migk.hr/hr/lokaliteti/ilirska-gomila-mikulici>

E-mail: info@migk.hr

5. AR atelier, Gruda - AR Atelier is an art shop lead by academic painter Antonia Rusković Radonić. We produce various applied and decorative items created by several techniques like hand painted silk, pottery, and traditional Konavle embroidery. All products are original and authentic.

www.antoniaruskovic.com

E-mail: antonia.ruskovic@gmail.com

In the afternoon and evening hours several programs of active holiday in adrenalin parks:

6. Cadmos Village, Komaji

<http://www.cadmosvillage.com/>

E-mail: info@cadmosvillage.com

7. Sv. Ana, Poljice

<http://adrenalin-park-dubrovnik.com>

E-mail: info@adrenalin-park-dubrovnik.com

8. or walking our pathways:

<https://visit.cavtat-konavle.com/downloads/pathways.pdf>

9. Dinner at one of the rural households of Donja banda

www.agroturizam-konavle.hr

DAY 3. KONAVLE– GORNJA BANDA

Third day is foreseen for Gornja Banda (northern part of Konavle).

- 1. Franciscan monastery of St. Blaise, Pridvorje** – Franciscan monastery of St. Blaise is situated below the former Rector's Palace in the village Pridvorje, Dubrovnik Republic administrative center in Konavle. Founded in 1429 after Konavle region became part of Dubrovnik Republic and built during the 15th c. whilst its final form gets in 16th c. Several times throughout the history the monastery was destroyed and in Croatian War of Independence was burned to the ground. In 1999 was rebuilt and today is listed as protected cultural heritage of Republic of Croatia.
- 2. The Department of Archeology and Monumental Heritage of Konavle, Pridvorje** - was established in 2016 in the west wing of the Franciscan monastery with the aim of exploring, protecting and presenting the monumental heritage of Konavle.

<http://www.migk.hr/hr/>

E-mail: info@migk.hr

- 3. Sokol grad – Fort Sokol , Dunave** - Sokol Grad is the biggest and for its location on the mountain pass towards Bosnian hinterland, exceptionally important fort from the period of Dubrovnik Republic. It was built on the site of an Illyrian and roman fortification, the proofs for which are the roman details and roman bricks in its walls. With its form it is adjusted to the natural cliff on which it was build. From the fort and from the churchyard of Our Lady of Sokol one has a unique view of the whole Konavle.

www.citywallsdubrovnik.hr

E-mail: info@citywallsdubrovnik.hr

4. Watermills at the river Ljuta, Ljuta - There is a system of watermills and stamp mills built on river Ljuta which consisted of eight watermills for flour, two watermills for oil and three stamp mills. When the Dubrovnik Republic bought Konavle, there were four mills on the upper stream of the river. After 1550, the system called "lower mills" was built and has been preserved until today. The river source and the upper stream are under protection of the Government as a park of nature, while the watermill is protected as a cultural monument.

5. OPG Malvasija Dubrovačka Karaman, Pridvorje- Dubrovnik Malvasia Karaman wine is the winner of the world competition "The World of Malvasia" and the best sweet Malvasia in the world. The wine tasting in Pridvorje offers this championship wine and other wines of Karaman family. After visiting wine cellar, you can absorb the region by tourist train ride through the vineyards.

<http://www.agroturizam-konavle.hr/hr/smjestaj/karaman-malvasija-dubrovacka>

In the afternoon you can experience several activities:

6. Horse back riding on beautiful Konavle cliffs with gorgeous views and sunsets

7. ATV safari

www.kojankoral.hr

E-mail: info@kojankoral.hr

8. Dinner in one of two typical restaurants in the village Ljuta.

<http://www.esculaprestaurants.com/?konavoskidvori=konavle&dubrovnik=restoran>

www.konobavinica.com