

ISTRSKI *gradovi* THE CASTLES OF ISTRIA





Srce Istre KULTURA IN DEDIŠČINA ISTRE; RAZVOJ ČEZMEJNIH TURISTIČNIH ITINERARJEV V URBANIH IN RURALNIH OBMOČJIH ISTRE JE ODOBREN V SKLOPU SOSEDSKEGA PROGRAMA SLOVENIJA – MADŽARSKA – HRVAŠKA 2004–2006

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ISTRSKI *gradovi* THE CASTLES OF ISTRIA



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ISTRSKI *gradovi*

Istrski srednji vek je v arhitekturi zaznamovan s kašteli (lat. *castrum*, vojaško naselje rimske vojske, utrjeno s stolpi in obzidjem). Fevdalizem srednjega veka karakterizira množica zemljiških posestnikov, lastnikov fevdov, ki so gradili obrambne utrdbe – kašte, da bi v njih uživali in iz njih nadzirali svoje posesti. Kašteli niso bili neosvojljivi: ni takega, ki ni bil napaden, mnogi so bili osvojeni, požgani, zrušeni, ponovno postavljeni in zopet razdejani. Njihovi vladarji so se menjali skladno z odnosi velikih sil, a so obstajali tudi pogumni, ki so trmasto kljubovali nadrejenim.

Mnoge legende so vezane na istrske kašte: pogosto so bili primeri ugrabitev, prevar in podarjanja kaštelov med fevdalci, tedanjo gospodo. Istrski fevdalci so bili pisan svet: prevaranti, nepridipravi in bivši zaporniki, intelektualci, vojskovodje in zemljiški posestniki, najvišji družbeni sloj, med katerimi je eden postal tudi beneški dož.

Prvi pisni dokument o istrskih kaštelih izhaja iz leta 983, ampak pomembnejši je iz leta 1102, ko je Ulrich II. Weimar – Orlamunde daroval večino svojih

THE CASTLES OF ISTRIA

Castles are the most recognisable architectural traces from the Middle Ages in Istria (Lat. *castrum*, a fortified Roman military settlement with watchtowers and bulwarks). Medieval feudalism was characterised by a great number of landowners: rulers of fiefs who built defensive strongholds – castles – to enjoy the noble life and govern their properties. But these castles were not impregnable: every single castle was attacked, many of them seized, incinerated, ravaged, then rebuilt and very often destroyed again. Whenever the dominant authority changed, the ruler of the castle changed too, but there were also brave landowners that obstinately defied their superiors.

There are many legends about Istrian castles. There were frequent cases of abduction, fraud and castles as gifts among the feudal lords. The Istrian feudal world was varied – one could find a crook, an ex-convict, a criminal, but also an intellectual, a general, and a member of landed gentry, the highest social class. One of these feudal lords even became a doge of Venice.

The first written documents about Istrian castles comes from 983 AD, but a more noteworthy docu-

ment was written in 1102 when Ulrich II Weimar-Orlamünd gave most of his Istrian castles as a gift to the Patriarchate of Acquileia. Castles were most intensively constructed during the Late Middle Ages, when the borders between Venice and the Habsburgs occasionally moved (Venice had always governed the coastal Istria, whereas Austria controlled the Istrian hinterland with the seat in the County of Pazin).

Istrian castles have numerous architectural similarities; each castle was built of stone, consisting of a main tower, walls, a residential building, mercantile space and an open courtyard. However, the size of a castle depended on its owner's financial power. The castles were situated at important strategic locations, often in inaccessible terrain close to a stream, a river or some other source of water. If it were possible, castle access would be across a drawbridge or a well-defended entrance.

The importance of castles began to decrease during the Renaissance – in the 16th century – due to the emergence of firearms. Tall, narrow, square watchtowers made easy targets for cannon balls. Numerous castles were abandoned, and their refugee popula-

istrskih kaštelov oglejskemu patriarhu. V poznem srednjem veku so Benetke in Habsburžani, katerih meje so se neredko premikale (Benetke so posedovale obalo in morje, Avstrija notranjost Istre s središčem v Pazinski kneževini), beležili najintenzivnejšo gradnjo kaštelov.

Kašteli imajo številne arhitekturne podobnosti; vsi so grajeni iz kamna, sestavljeni so iz glavnega stolpa, obzidja, stanovanjskega in gospodarskega poslopja ter zaprtega dvorišča, a njihova velikost je bila odvisna od lastnikove finančne moči. Nahajajo se na strateško pomembnih točkah, dostikrat na precej nedostopnem terenu, v bližini potoka, reke ali izvira vode. Če je bilo mogoče, je bil dostop do kaštela preko dviznega mosta ali skozi dobro varovan vhod.

Upadanje pomembnosti kaštelov se je začelo v renesansi, v 16. stoletju, ko so s pojavom strelnega orožja tudi ozki in visoki kvadratni stolpi postajali lahka tarča za

topovske izstrelke. Takrat so kaštele večinoma zapuščali, a prebivalstvo je v njihovi neposredni bližini ali okoli njih gradilo naselja, ki so kasneje prerasla v mesta. Nekateri kašteli so bili takrat zapuščeni za vedno, a tisti, ki so imeli pomemben strateški položaj, so bili obnovljeni v novem renesančnem slogu (le nekaj v Istri), z nižjimi in bolj zao-kroženimi stolpi, da jih topovske kroglice ne bi poškodovale. Istrski kašteli so oznaka časa, arhitekture, kulture in običajev srednjega veka.

Ko se sprehajamo po zapuščenih obzidjih istrskih kaštelov, se nam zgodovina ponuja na dlani: opazujemo pokrajino in vidimo boje, slišimo konjski galop, vidimo fevdalce v razkošnih oblačilih, občutimo kmetovo bolečino v kamniti utrdbi. V kaštelih-mestih nas prevevajo drugačne misli: zakaj je prav ta kaštel ohranjen in zakaj se je okoli njega zgradilo prav to mesto, zakaj so v neka-terih mestih kašteli popolnoma ohranjeni, medtem ko so v drugih kradli kamenje za izgradnjo hiš?...

SEZNAM ISTRSKIH KAŠTELOV:

Bale, Barban, Belaj, Beligrad, Beram, Boljun, Brioni, Brseč, Buje, Buzet, Čepić, Červar, Črni Kal, Črnigrad, Draguč, Dvigrad, Glem, Gologorica, Gračišče, Gradin, Gradina, Gradinje, Grožnjan, Hrastovlje, Hum, Kaščerga, Kaštel, Kostanjica, Kaštelir, Koštabona, Kožljak, Kršan, Kubed, Labin, Lindar, Loka, Lupoglav, Momjan, Motovun, Movraž, Mutvoran, Novigrad, Oprtalj, Osp, Paz, Pazin, Pietrapelosa, Plomin, Podpeč, Poreč, Pulj, Račice, Rašpor, Roč, Rakalj, Rakitovec, Rovinj, Savičenta (Svetvinčenat), Sipar, Socerb, Sv. Ivan, Sv. Ivan od Šterne, Sv. Juraj, Sv. Lovreč, Sv. Martin, Sovinjak, Šumber, Tinjan, Trviž, Umag, Vižinada, Vrh, Vodnjan, Vrsar, Završje, Zanimigrad, Zelengrad, Žminj.

Nekateri izmed naštetih kaštelov niso bili zgrajeni v srednjem veku, del njih so postali mesta, medtem ko drugi niso ohranjeni, temveč so omenjeni v pisnih dokumentih. No, vsak izmed njih je omembe vreden, in če imate možnost, si jih vsekakor ogledajte.

SEZNAM OBRAVNAVANIH KAŠTELOV:

Črni Kal, Draguč, Dvigrad, Gradin, Hrastovlje, Hum, Kožljak, Kršan, Kubed, Momjan, Osp, Pazin, Pietrapelosa, Podpeč, Roč, Savičenta (Svetvinčenat), Socerb, Sv. Lovreč, Zanimigrad.

Našteti kašteli so obravnavani zaradi svoje reprezentativnosti in zgodovinske pomembnosti. Z relativno majhnim številom smo poskušali podati osnovne značilnosti istrskih kaštelov: zgodovino, vladarje, arhitekturno oblikovanje, mite, legende in zanimivosti.

tions founded settlements in the immediate vicinity or around the castle, subsequently growing into towns. Some castles were completely deserted, while those with a good strategic position were rebuilt in the new Renaissance style (only a few were rebuilt in Istria), with smaller, rounded towers which could repel cannon balls. Nevertheless, Istrian castles characterise the age, architecture, culture and customs of the Middle Ages.

While walking around the desolate walls of Istrian

castles, it is not hard to feel this historical period so vividly: looking at the landscape, we can see battles, hear a horse gallop, observe the feudal lords wearing expensive clothing or feel the sufferings of peasants amidst the massive stone walls. Being amid the castle-town, various questions come to mind: why has this particular castle been preserved and why has this specific town expanded around it, why do some towns have entirely preserved castles, while from others stone blocks were stolen to build houses?

LIST OF SIGNIFICANT ISTRIAN CASTLES:

Bale, Barban, Belaj, Beligrad, Beram, Boljun, Brijuni, Brseč, Buje, Buzet, Čepić, Červar, Črni Kal, Črnigrad, Draguč, Dvigrad, Glem, Gologorica, Gračišće, Gradin, Gradina, Gradinje, Grožnjan, Hrastovlje, Hum, Kašćerga, Kaštel, Kostanjica, Kaštelir, Koštabona, Kožljak, Kršan, Kubed, Labin, Lindar, Loka, Lupoglav, Momjan, Motovun, Movraž, Mutvoran, Novigrad, Oprtalj, Osp, Paz, Pazin, Pietrapelosa, Plomin, Podpeč, Poreč, Pula, Račice, Rašpor, Roč, Rakalj, Rakitovec, Rovinj, Savičenta (Svetvinčenat), Sipar, Socerb, Sv. Ivan, Sv. Ivan od Šterne, Sv. Juraj, Sv. Lovreč, Sv. Martin, Sovinjak, Šumber, Tinjan, Trviž, Umag, Vižinada, Vrh, Vodnjan, Vrsar, Završje, Zanigrad, Zelengrad, Žminj.

Some of the above-mentioned castles were not built during the medieval period. Some became towns, and some were not preserved, so that only written documents testify to their existence. However, they are all worth mentioning, or, if occasion allows, definitely worth visiting.

THE LIST OF NOTABLE CASTLES:

Črni Kal, Draguč, Dvigrad, Gradin, Hrastovlje, Hum, Kožljak, Kršan, Kubed, Momjan, Osp, Pazin, Pietrapelosa, Podpeč, Roč, Savičenta (Svetvinčenat), Socerb, Sv. Lovreč, Zanigrad.

The above castles are notable due to their grandeur and great historical significance. By choosing a small number of Istrian castles, the aim is to exemplify important characteristics, such as history, rulers, architectural design, myths, legends and other fascinating facts.



Črni Kal

Razvaline utrdbe nad Črnim Kalom, ki jo domačini imenujejo Grad ali Stari grad, stojijo na 30 metrov visoki skali, ki je bila dostopna le prek štirih metrov dolgega dvžnega mostu. Vas (omenjena že v listini Ulrika Weimarskega iz 11. stoletja) je leta 1254, po končani vojni s Trstom, tako kot celoten obrambni kompleks vključno s Črnim Kalom pripadla koprskemu komunu. Ležala je ob prometni poti, ki so jo v letu 1361 Koprčani uredili po dolini Rižane proti Klancu, med jadransko obalo in notranjostjo, na obmejnem območju beneške in habsburške interesne sfere. S spodbudami, kot so bile znižane oziroma odpravljene mitnine, je bil Črni Kal počivališče trgovcev in potnikov v gostilnah s sprejemljivimi cenami.

Črnikalska utrdba Benečanom ni bila nikoli tako pomembna kot socerbska in so zaradi tega lažje sprejeli poraz s strani habsburškega vojskovodje Krištofa Frankopana ter njeno osvojitve po napadu nad neposredno okolico beneškega Kopra. Oktobra istega leta 1511, najbrž v istih bojih, so privrženci cesarja utrdbo v Črnem Kalu tudi opustošili. Posebno strateško vlogo je imel kraj tudi sto let kasneje, v uskoški vojni (1615–1617). Poleg Socerba je namreč predstavljal glavno točko, od koder so habsburški vojaki napadali nasprotnika.

Obdobje od začetka 15. stoletja do prve polovice 17. stoletja je bilo zaznamovano tudi s pogostimi plenilskimi pohodi, zato je bil pod črnikalsko utrdbo, tako kot v Podpeči in Gradinu, skrit pred plenilci nedostopen tabor, v katerem je okoliško prebivalstvo shranjevalo svoje premoženje.

zanimivosti

”Človek je izkoristil prednosti, ki mu jih je ponujala narava, in naredil tabor na primerni višini. Med takimi tabori oziroma njihova prava reprezentacija je tabor pri vasi Črni Kal, v gospostvu Socerb, ki pripada grofu Petazziju. To je tam, kjer uspeva svetovno znano in drago vino Marcamin (Marzamin). Ta nenavaden tabor stoji na visokem skalnatemu hribu nad morjem. Na tej mogočni skali, ki spominja na goro, je velika luknja. V njej je bil narejen tabor, ki nima strehe, a je kljub temu izvrstno pokrit. Pokriva ga namreč močna skala ali skalna čepica, tako da strehe sploh ne potrebuje. Človek se čudi, zakaj so tabor naredili na tako težko dostopnem kraju. V tabor se ljudje povzpnejo po precej dolgem in visokem lesenem mostu. Ko se most odstrani, do tabora ni več mogoče priti.” (Valvasor)



The ruined fortress on top of Črni Kal – which the inhabitants call ‘town’ or ‘Old town’ – lies on a thirty-meter high cliff, once accessible only through a four-meter long drawbridge. The village (mentioned in the deed of Ulrich Weimar from the 11th century) and the entire defensive complex, including Črni Kal, belonged to Koper commune after the war with Trieste in 1254. The fortress is located on the main road through Rižana valley towards Klanec, between the Adriatic coast and the interior. Historically, this is on the border between Venetian and Habsburg interests. The road was constructed by the people of Koper in 1361. Črni Kal was freed from the local tax of that time, and served as a resting stop for merchants and travellers, offering inns at reasonable prices. Venetian strategists didn’t see Črni Kal fortress to be as important as Socerb, so it was not hard for them to accept defeat from the Habsburg military commander Krsto Frankopan and his conquests following the attacks on the area around Venetian Koper. In October of the same year, in 1511, probably during the same battle, supporters of the emperor overran Črni Kal fortress. However, the fortress showed special strategic importance in controlling the entire valley one hundred years later, during the *Uskok* war (1615 –1617). Together with Socerb, Črni Kal introduced the main point from which the Habsburg forces invaded the enemy. The period from the beginning of the 15th to the first half of the 17th century was also marked by constant plundering raids, and therefore an impregnable refuge area was constructed in Črni Kal fortress, such as in Podpeč and Gradin, in which the local population stored their possessions.

interesting fact

“Humans use the advantages which nature offers, and construct refuges on suitable heights. Among such refuges, a good example is the refuge Črni Kal on the estate of Socerb, belonging to margrave Petazzi. This is where the world-famous and expensive wine Marcamin (Marzamin) is made. The unusual refuge stands on the high, stony hill above the sea. On this immense, mountainous cliff, there is a great hole. Inside, an unroofed refuge was constructed, which gives excellent protection. The cover provided by the giant stone or rocky crag was such that no roof was necessary. People wonder why the refuge was constructed in such a place of difficult access. In the refuge, people ascended by way of a long, wide wooden bridge. When the bridge was raised, access to the refuge was no longer possible.” (Valvasor)

Draguč



Mesto dolguje ime potoku, ki teče pod obronki naselja proti današnjemu jezeru Butoniga. Toponim je slovanska beseda draga, nespremenjena do danes. Draguč, v obliki Dravuie, se prvič omenja leta 1102 v darilni listini Ulricha II. oglejskemu patriarhu. Zanimiv dogodek se je zgodil leta 1294, ko je grof Albert II. Goriški podaril Draguč Maingualdu iz bližnje Kaščerje kot del poročnega darila. Petdeset let kasneje je bil priključen Pazinski kneževini. Na območju kaštela so v 15. stoletju zgradili župnijsko cerkev sv. Križa, vse naselje je bilo zaokroženo z obrambnim obzidjem z vogalnimi stolpi, katerih gradnjo je nadziral beneški providur F. Basadonna. Obzidje so postavili novi lastniki, ker so ga Benetke v veliki meri porušile v pohodu leta 1421 (vojsko je tedaj vodil Taddeo d'Este). Ponovno je bil razdejan leta 1471, 1482 in 1511 med turškim pustošenjem. Po beneško-avstrijskem miru, podpisanim leta 1523, je bil Draguč pripojen Benetkam in od tedaj je rasla njegova pomembnost obmejnega utrjenega mesta-kaštela. V tem času se je v pisnih virih Draguč pojavljal v dvojni obliki, v nemških pisnih virih kot Dragutsch, a v italijanskih Draguchi. Začetek konca mesta označuje vpad Uskokov, a končni udarec mu je zadala epidemija kuge. Po tem je mesto ponovno zaživel v mirnem ritmu vsakdanjosti, kar se ni dosti spremenilo do danes.



zanimivosti

Na severni strani naselja, ki se napačno imenuje kaštel, je živel Antun Grošič, avtonomist in zdravnik, ki je odkril metodo dezinficiranja ran s pomočjo joda.

obvezno pogledati

Cerkvi sv. Elizeja in sv. Roka sta poslikani s freskami s konca 13. in 16. stoletja (glej *Istrske freske*).

Draguč

The village was named after a brook that flows at the bottom of the slopes of the hill where the village is situated, towards today's lake Butoniga. A toponym is a Slavic word *draga*, unchanged until present day.

Draguč was mentioned for the first time as *Dravuie* in a deed of gift of Ulrich II to the Aquileian patriarch in 1102. An interesting event happened in 1294 when Count Albert II of Gorizia gave Draguč to Maingualda from the nearby Kašćerga as a part of a wedding gift. Fifty years later it was annexed to the County of Pazin. In the 15th century, the parish church of the Holly Cross was built in its place. At the same time, walls and angular towers were built all around the settlement. The job was supervised by the Venetian *providur* F. Basadonn.

The new owners erected the walls due to the Venetian demolition in the attack in 1421 (General Teddeo d'Este led the army). It was demolished again in 1471, 1482, in 1511 by the ravaging Ottomans and after the peace agreement between Venice and Austria in 1523. Draguč came under Venetian administration, becoming an important town-castle at the frontier. It was mentioned bilingually in written documents of that time; as *Dragutsch* in German, and as *Draguchi* in Italian written documents. The *Uskok* war (1612 – 1618) was ruinous for Draguč, but its final end was caused by an outbreak of plague. Later on, a peaceful and calm life was brought back into the village, and it has not changed much until today.

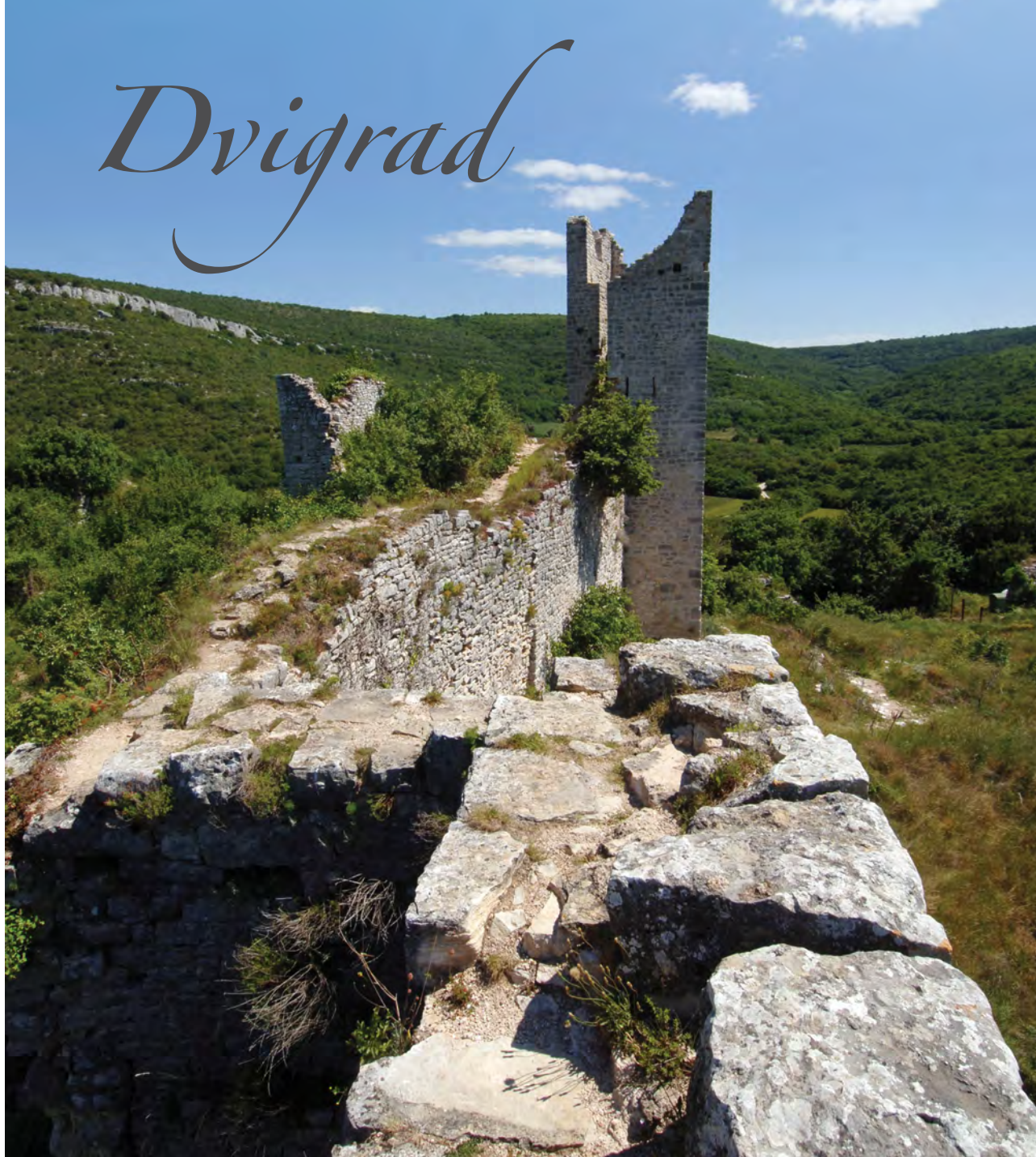
interesting fact

In a house situated on the north side of the village, incorrectly called a castle, lived Antun Grošić (Antonio Grossich 1849 – 1926), an autonomist and doctor who discovered a method of disinfecting wounds using Iodine.

do not miss

The churches of St. Elysium and St. Roch are decorated with frescoes from the end of the 13th century and the 16th century (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).

Dvigrad





Dvigrad se prvič omenja leta 879, ko je oblast nad dvema kašteloma prevzel oglejski patriarh. V 10. stoletju sta bila v lasti poreške škofije, zato je eden izmed njiju dobil ime po lastnikih – Castel Parentino. Ob koncu 13. stoletja so Dvigrad prevzeli Goriški grofje, a leta 1354 so ga razdejali Genovežani, ki so se borili proti novim lastnikom, Benetkam. Mnoga življenja in mesta so bila izgubljena v tej vojni, ki je v večjem delu potekala v Istri med letoma 1377 in 1381. Po tej vojni je bil najverjetneje zapuščen Castel Parentino, a obnavljali so samo Moncastello, ko je bil del arhitekturnega inventarja cerkve sv. Zofije prenesen v bližnji Kanfanar. Benetke so končno zavzele Dvigrad leta 1413. Po več kot stoletju miru je bila druga polovica 16. stoletja zaznamovana z neprekinjenimi spopadi med Benetkami in Avstrijo. V tem času je puštošila epidemija kuge, kasneje tudi malarije, leta 1630 je prebivalstvo zapustilo mesto in se preselilo v bližnji Kanfanar, ostale so le najrevnejše družine. Škof Tomasini je leta 1650 blagoslovil samo tri družine v Dvigradu, leta 1714 pa je bila zapuščena tudi cerkev sv. Zofije, kar je pomenilo, da je mesto prepuščeno zobu časa.

Današnji ostanki predstavljajo dobro ohranjeno tipično srednjeveško mesto – kaštel. Opasan je z dvojnimi obzidjem, ki je povezano z mestnimi vrati. Mesto ima troje vrat in tri obrambne stolpe. Današnjemu Dvigradu dominira cerkev sv. Zofije, ki se nahaja na najvišji točki v mestu, kjer je od zgodnjekrščanskega obdobja (5. stoletje). Stavba s slogovnimi značilnostmi romanike je sedanjio impozantno triladijsko obliko dobila v 13. stoletju. Pred njo je glavni mestni trg z mestno palačo. V zahodnem delu mesta so bili prostori za vojaško posadko, v jugozahodnem delu pa obrtniški. Ostali, precej velik prostor so zavzemale hiše za navadne meščane.

Dvigrad





Dvigrad was mentioned for the first time in 879, when two castles became the property of the Patriarchate of Aquileia. The bishopric of Poreč governed the castles in the 10th century, thus one castle was named after its owner – Castle Parentino. Dvigrad was given to the estate of the Counts of Gorizia at the end of the 13th century. However, the Genoese army, which was in war with Venice, demolished the castles in 1354. Many people died and many towns were abandoned during the war in Istria between 1377 and 1381. It is very likely that the castle Parentino was deserted during that period and only Moncastello was rebuilt, when the architectural inventory from the church of St. Sophia was brought to the nearby Dvigrad. The Venetian Republic finally got hold of Dvigrad in 1413. Frequent clashes between Venice and Austria in the second half of the 16th century disturbed more than a century long peace in Dvigrad. At the same time, the plague epidemic raged and an outbreak of malaria forced the inhabitants to migrate to neighbouring Kanfanar in 1630. Only the poorest families stayed in Dvigrad. The bishop Tommasini sanctified only three families in Dvigrad in 1650 and the church of St. Sophia was completely abandoned in 1714. The ravages of time took their toll.

Today's remnants represent a well-preserved typical medieval town-castle. Two rings of walls connected by the town gate surround the town. The town has three town gates and three watchtowers. The church of St. Sophia, erected on the highest point of the town in the early Christian period (5th century), dominates today's Dvigrad. Even though it has Romanesque features, it got its present magnificent three-nave appearance in the 13th century. The town square adorned with the Municipal loggia is in front of the Church. A military residential area was in the western part, and an artisan area was in the south-western part of the town. The remaining, large part was for the houses of the locals, among whose remnants we can climb up towards the square, the church...



ime kaštela

Ime Dvigrad govori o dveh srednjeveških mestih, ki sta se imenovala Castel Parentino in Moncastello in se nahajata v Limski dragi. Castel Parentino, ki je bil zahodno od Moncastella, je bil zapuščen že v srednjem veku, tako da se današnje ime Dvigrad nanaša na ohranjene ruševine Moncastella.

zanimivosti

Vse do 13. ali celo do 14. stoletja je bila Limska draga plovna, kar je precej prispevalo k strateški pomembnosti Dvigrada. Umik vode in nastanek močvirja je povzročilo pojav kuge in malarije, ki sta opustošili mesto, preživelo prebivalstvo pa se je izselilo.

obvezno pogledati

Cerkvica sv. Marije od Lakuća se nahaja pod Dvigradom. Freske v njej so delo tako imenovanega Pisanega mojstra (glej *Istrske freske*).

the name of the castles

Dvigrad, as its Croatian name implies, speaks about two towns called Parentino and Moncastello. The name stands for the place with two medieval towns in the Lim valley. Nonetheless, Castel Parentino, situated westwards of Montcastello, was already abandoned in the Middle Ages, thus today's name Dvigrad relates to the preserved ruins of Moncastello.

interesting fact

Limfjord was navigable until the 13th, maybe even the 14th century, which provided great importance to Dvigrad. The sinking of the water level and subsequent formation of bogs caused outbreaks of malaria that depopulated the town.

do not miss

The church of St. Mary of Lakuć, situated below Dvigrad. The church is decorated with frescoes painted by the so-called "Colourful Master" (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).





Gradina

Skriti tabor v Gradinu je bil s treh strani nedostopen, s četrte pa so ga zavarovali z zidom in dvema stolpoma. Prvi, nižji stolp je nadziral vhod, drugega pa so domnevno uporabljali kot skladišče. Danes sta ohranjena dva stolpa z delom obzidja, ki je bilo del obrambnega kompleksa na meji med Beneško republiko in habsburško monarhijo. *Skozi zgodovino je Gradina pripadal različnim oblastnikom.* Leta 1028 je cesar Konrad II. podaril gradinski fevd oglejskemu patriarhu, ki ga je priključil novigradski škofiji. V 13. stoletju je fevd pripadal momjanski gospodi, leta 1420 pa mu je zavladala Beneška republika. Zaradi nenehnih vdorov nevarnih turških in uskoških konjenikov so vasico že zelo zgodaj utrdili z višjim zidom, ki je bil leta 1556 obnovljen in dodatno utrjen. Beneški revizor Vid Moysesini, ki je istega leta potoval po Istri, je opisal sicer zaskrbljujoče stanje utrdbe, a je menil, da se da razmere izboljšati.

Zanimivosti

Na turške vpade spominjata ledinsko ime „Pri krvavi bareti“ in tako imenovana „Škukulinova kučina“, najstarejša hiša v vasi, ki je v turškem vpadu ostala nepožgana. Pod „kudinjami“ naj bi pri Škukulinovih ostal skrit domačin, ki je slišal ukaz napadalcev: „Pali kuču!“ Nato pa vzklik drugega: „Nemoj, nemoj, kamo češ se drugi put vratiti?“

Gradin

The hidden castle in Gradin was inaccessible from three sides, whereas a wall and two towers protected the fourth side. The first, lower tower controlled the entrance, while the other was used as a storehouse. Presently, two towers with partly remained wall that once was a part of the defensive complex on the border between Venice and the Habsburg Monarchy have been preserved. Various individuals owned Gradin throughout history. The Emperor Conrad II donated Gradin fief to the Aquileian patriarchs who annexed it to the bishopric of Novigrad. A noble family from Momjan got the fief in the 13th century, and the Venetian Republic took it under control in 1420. The village was surrounded by a high wall, due to constant raids by Turkish and *Uskok* cavaliers. The wall was modified and strengthened in 1556. The Venetian *revisor* Vito Moresini, who travelled throughout Istria in that year, described his concern about the condition of the fortress, but thought that it could be improved with minor repairs.

interesting fact

The local names *Kod krvave barete* (At the bloody barrette's) and *Škukulinova kućina* (The Škukulin's big house), which is the oldest house in the village that stayed untouched after the fire, reminds about the Turkish incursions. At the Škukulins' only the landlord who was hidden under the *kudinjas*, heard the command "Burn the house!"; but he also heard somebody's answer "Do not, where will you come back to next time?"



Hrastovlje

Znamenita cerkev Sv. Trojice na kraški vzpetini nad naseljem je že od pradavnine domačinom neka vrsta zatočišče. Kapela je bila kot najbolj dragocen objekt v vasi in edina zidana stavba, kamor so se vaščani zatekali pred vojaki in plenilci, zaupajoč v Božjo zaščito, zavarovana z obzidjem, ki je bilo včasih zgolj leseno. Kot žitnica-zakladnica je velikokrat služil prav zvonik, ki je bil z lesenimi pregradami preurejen v več etaž. Majhna hrastoveljska cerkev ni bila dovolj utrjena, zato so okoli nje zgradili obzidje in ga sklenili z dvema stražnima stolpoma. Kljub povezovanju obzidja okoli cerkvice zaradi napadov otomanskih Turkov je bilo obzidje dograjeno šele po najhujših vpadih plenilcev, »brezposelnih« vojaških skupin, ki so se po vojni klatile po deželi. Vas je bila v posesti nemških fevdalcev, zato so po prvi avstrijsko-beneški vojni postale ozemlje, o katerem so odločali na mirovnem procesu. Tako je že od leta 1421 desetino pobirala koprška družina Vergerij. V času obnove obzidja v 16. stoletju je bilo Hrastovlje last kranjske plemiške družine Neuhaus.

Obrambni zid je leta 1589 Buona opisal kot poškodovanega in nujnega popravila. Hrastovlje je namreč le osem let pred tem od kranjskega plemiča iz rodbine Neuhaus kupil zdravnik Leandro iz koprške družine Zarotti, ki je opravljal službo sanitetnega nadzornika, o čemer priča kamnit napis na portalu v cerkvi. Naldini, ki je očitno zelo cenil koprške plemiče, je zapisal, da je zdravnik hrastoveljsko posest odkupil z zlatim denarjem.

opomba

Ogled notranjosti obzidja in cerkve je mogoč po predhodnem naročilu pri gospe Rozani Rihter, tel. ++ 386 31 432 231.

obvezno pogledati

Cerkev Sv. Trojice je poslikana s freskami s konca 15. stoletja (glej *Istrske freske*).



Hrastovlje

The famous church of the Holy Trinity is situated above the settlement on a craggy elevated plateau, what served as a natural shelter for the local population from time immemorial. A wooden bulwark surrounded the chapel in the past, as it was the most precious and the only building constructed of stone where the villagers used to hide from armies and plunderers – believing in God's protection. The inside of the belfry that was redecorated with wooden partition-walls frequently served as a granary. The small church in Hrastovlje was not fortified sufficiently, so a stone bulwark with two watchtowers was built round it. Despite the bulwark being started to protect against Turkish attacks, it was finished only after many severe plundering raids, usually performed by unemployed military bands, which roamed throughout the region after the war. The German feudal lords owned the village, and it became a region that was discussed during the peace process after the first Austrian – Venetian war (the family Vergeri collected the taxes



already from 1421). The noble family Neuhaus from Kranj owned the Hrastovlje property in the 16th century, when the castle was renovated. In 1589, Buona described the defensive wall as damaged, in need of repair. Doctor Leonardo from the Koper family Zarotti had bought Hrastovlje from the family Neuhaus eight years earlier. He worked as a sanitary inspector, as testified by a stone inscription on the portal of the church. Naldini, who obviously had a great respect for the noblemen from Koper, noted that the doctor bought the property with golden money.

remark

To visit inside the walls and the church, you may call Mrs. Rosana Rihter, tel. ++ 386 31 432 231.

do not miss

The church of the Holy Trinity, decorated with frescoes from the end of the 15th century (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).



Hum



Dobrodošlico v to srednjeveško mestece na griču, nad izvirom reke Mirne, vsakemu obiskovalcu izkazujejo glavna mestna vrata z napisom: „Temu mestecu pridi na obisk, na kamnu trdem toplota vre“. Prehod skozi dvojna vhodna vrata iz začetka 12. stoletja – ta, ohranjena, pa so iz leta 1562 – nas pelje do najmanjšega mesta na svetu, Huma. Na izjemno majhnem prostoru so vse značilnosti mesta: mestna loža, hiše za zemljiške gospode in navadne meščane ter župnijska cerkev z župniščem. Castelum Cholm se prvič omenja leta 1102 v darilni listini, s katero je istrski mejni grof Ulrich II. dal v fevd Hum (in še vrsto drugih posesti) oglejskem patriarhu. Kaštel se je nahajal na mestu današnje cerkve Vnebovzetja Blažene Device Marije (zgrajena leta 1802), na najvišji vzpetini v mestu, s katere je bilo moč nadzirati okolico. Pravokotne oblike, 30 x 35 metrov (tipične dimenzije tistega časa), je bil z dvema ulicama povezan z dvojnimi mestnimi vrati, kar je omogočalo boljšo komunikacijo in zaščito. Od prazgodovinskih začetkov pa vse do padca Benetk leta 1797 je bil Hum obrambno mesto na meji, poln dinamike, življenja, spopadov, različnih vladarjev, vojne in miru. Od antike do poznega srednjega veka je služil kot kaštel – branilec posesti. Večkrat je bil razdejan in obnovljen, leta 1412 je padel pod beneško oblast, ki ga je temeljito obnavljala zaradi obrambe svoje meje. Konec je najverjetneje doživel v času uskoške vojne (1612 – 1618), ko je bilo celotno mesto požgano in kaštel ni bil več obnovljen. Njegovi kamni so bili razneseni za zidavo hišo, a po izgradnji cerkve se je za njim izgubila vsaka sled.



Hum

"Feel welcome to this town because the very warmth of its stone walls can wrap you up" is the inscription which will welcome you and which you will be reading while going through the main gate of this medieval town situated atop the hill just above the source of the Mirna river.

The passageway through the double preserved gate which you are going through and which dates from 1562, (the previous gate was from the beginning of the 12th century), leads you towards the square of the smallest town in the world: Hum. In a relatively small area there are all needed town functions: the Municipal loggia, the residential houses for the noblemen and the locals, and a parish church with a residency for a prefect. *Castelum Cholm* was mentioned for the first time in the deed of the gift of the Margrave Ulrich II to the Aquileian patriarchs, when it was given to him along with several other fiefs in 1102. The castle was built at the top of the hill dominating the surrounding landscape where the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary is presently standing.



The castle was rectangular; 30 x 35 m (typical dimensions for that time), connected by two streets with the double gate to assure better communication and protection. From prehistoric times until the fall of the Venetian Republic in 1797, Hum was a defensive town situated on the very border, full of dynamic life, various rulers, war and peace. From the Antiquity until the Late Middle Ages it tended to serve as a castle defending someone's estate. It was taken over by the Venetians in 1412 when the stronghold was completely renovated with the aim of defending the Venetian border. Its final end came during the *Uskok* war (1612 – 1618) when the entire town was burned. The castle was never rebuilt later. The remaining stone blocks were used as building material for houses. The last trace of the castle was lost when the church was built.

do not miss

GLAGOLITIC ALLEY The Glagolitic script is the first Slavic alphabet. Hum, along with Roč and Buzet, was one of the most important centres of Medieval literature and literacy.

With its eleven monuments placed along the road from Roč towards Hum, Glagolitic Alley is certainly worth visiting. Its conceptual author was writer Zvane Črnja, whose *homage* to Croatian literacy was realised by academician





obvezno pogledati

ALEJA GLAGOLJAŠEV Glagolica je najstarejša slovanska pisava, a Hum je, poleg Buzeta in Roča, eno od najpomembnejših središč srednjeveške pismenosti in književnosti. Vsekakor je vredna ogleda Aleja glagoljašev (enajst spomenikov), ki se nahaja ob cesti od Roča proti Humu. Ta *hommage* slovanski pismenosti si je zamislil književnik Zvane Črnja, a realizirala sta ga akademik Josip Bratulić in kipar Želimir Janež leta 1977. Steza meri okoli sedem kilometrov in je idealna za vožnjo s kolesom ali za sprehod.

ŽUPANSKA MIZA Del javnega mestnega življenja je potekal okoli kamnite županske mize v mestni loži, medtem ko so del javnih vprašanj reševali za kamnito mizo pod lipo pred mestnim obzidjem. V Humu se je do danes ohranila tradicija volitev župana okoli mize v mestni loži drugo soboto v juniju (dan mesta).



Josip Bratulić and sculptor Želimir Janež in 1977. The alley is seven kilometres long, and it is suitable for cycling and hiking.

THE PREFECT'S TABLE

One part of public life was organised around the stone prefect's table in the Municipal loggia, whereas important public decisions were made around the stone table under a lime-tree in front of the town walls. The tradition to elect the parish prefect has still been kept in Hum. The event takes place every year on the second Saturday in June when the feast celebrating *The Day of the Town* is held.

A large photograph showing the ruins of Kozljak castle. The central focus is a stone bell tower with two arched openings for bells. Below the tower is a large arched doorway. The castle is built into a steep, rocky hillside. The word "Kozljak" is written in a large, elegant, black script across the lower part of the image.

Kozljak

Kozljak stoji na strmi pečini ob stari poti, ki je povezovala antično Histrijo in Liburnijo. Današnji kaštel je zgrajen na mestu prazgodovinskega histrskega gradišča, prvič se omenja v pisnih virih 17. novembra 1102 med mesti, kašteli, ki jih je grof Ulrich II. Weimar-Orlamunde podaril oglejski patriarhiji. Posamezni avtorji menijo, da se Kozljak prvič omenja v darilni listini iz leta 1064. Prvi lastniki kaštela pripadajo pazinski rodbini, ki so ga imeli v oblasti do leta 1323. Vladarji kaštela so imenu dodali naziv *de Cosliaco* ali *de Wachsenstein*. Goriški grofje so si ga lastili le dve leti, med 1323 in 1325, ko je grofica Beatrice kaštel darovala, da bi poravnala dolg Hugu III. Devinskemu. Kmalu zatem ga je zavzela beneška vojska, leta 1332 pa osvobodila vojska oglejskega patriarha. Benetke so vseeno osvojile kaštel leta 1508, ampak le za kratek čas. Z izgovorom, da Kozljak poma-ga Uskokom, so Benečani ponovno razdejali to območje leta 1612 in 1614, ker je pripadal avstrijskemu delu Istre in na sami meji z Beneško republiko. K temu kaštelu, katerega naravni ščit in impresivno ozadje sta masiva Učke in Čićarije, so pristopali po stopnicah, vklesanih v živo skalo. Na njegovem vrhu je reziden-cialni del, ki je bil obzidan z dvema polkrožnima stolpoma, ohranjena je tudi ječa. Pod kaštelom je romanska cerkev sv. Hadrijana.



Kožljak is situated on a sheer cliff, along the road that connected ancient Histria with Liburnia. It was built on the remains of a pre-historic Histrian hill-fort.

It was mentioned for the first time in the deed of gift from the Margrave Ulrich II of Weimar to the Patriarchate of Aquileia, dated the 17th of December 1102. Still, some authors differ on the exact date, alleging that the castle was mentioned for the first time in the deed of gift of 1064.

A noble family from Pazin, who added surname *de Cosliaco* or *de Wachsenstein* to their family name, was the first owner of the castle until 1323. The Counts of Gorizia possessed the castle for only two years, from 1323 to 1325, as the countess Beatrice had to give the castle to Hugo III of Duino to pay off her debt. Afterwards, the castle was under the Venetian siege until the army of the Patriarchate of Aquileia liberated it in 1332. However, Venice took the castle in 1508, but only for a short period. With an excuse that Kožljak was helping the *Uskoks*, Venice ravaged the castle in 1612 and again in 1614, because Kožljak, situated on the very border with Venice, belonged to Austrian territory. The chiselled-out stairs will take you to the castle of Kožljak, whose impressive background of two mountains, Učka and Čićarija, proved to be a perfect natural shelter. There was a residential area at the top of the stairs surrounded by bulwarks and two semicircular towers. The prison remained preserved. The Romanesque church of St. Hadrian is situated down the hill.

the name of the castle

Wachsenstein is a German name for this castle, meaning "An exile shelter on the cliff". In *The Demarcation of the Istrian Land*, the castle was referred to as Kožljak or Kozlak meaning "The goat's peak" in Slavic languages. Clearly, both names describe its rocky and inaccessible position.



Kožljak





ime kaštela

Germsansko ime za ta kaštel je *Wachsenstein*, a slovansko Kožljak oziroma Kožlak, ki se omenja v *Istarskem razvodu*. *Wachsenstein* v slovenščini označuje pečino, pribežališče, v katero se zatečemo, a Kožl(j)ak kozji vrh. Obe imeni nedvomno označujeta njegovo skalnato in nedostopno pozicijo.

Kožljak in protireformacija

Družina Barbo, ki je živela v kaštelu, je pripadala stari beneški patricijski rodbini, ki je bila tesno povezana s katoliško Cerkvijo. Istrski del družine se je v 16. stoletju deloma spreobrn timer protestante, tako da je bil eden izmed najznamenitejših zaščitnikov reformacije v Istri Franjo Barbo-Waxenstein. Le-ta je v Kožljaku sprejemal vidne pridigarje in pisatelje protestante. Seveda Cerkev tega ni dolgo prenašala in je pregnala vse pridigarje in pisatelje iz Kožljaka, med katerimi so bili nekateri prepuščeni na milost in nemilost inkvizicije.

obvezno pogledati

Bližnji kaštel Kršan.



Kožljak and Counter – Reformation

The old Venetian, patrician family Barbo lived in Kožljak. The family had strong connections with the Catholic Church, but the Istrian part of the family changed to Protestantism in the 16th century. The most prominent patron of the Reformation in Istria was Franjo Barbo-Waxenstein. He helped and supported many leading protestant preachers and writers who came to Kožljak. Nevertheless, the Catholic Church expelled anyone who sympathised with the Reformation. These were left at the mercy of the Inquisition.

do not miss

The neighbouring castle of Kršan.



Kršan

Prva omemba Kršana in njegovega kaštela datira v leto 1274, čeprav se ne ve, ne kdo ga je zgradil ne kdaj. Tega leta se mesto-kaštel omenja v mirovni pogodbi, potem ko so ga razdejale sile Goriških grofov. Kmalu zatem je kaštel obnovil z odobritvijo oglejskega patriarha Heinrich III. Pazinski. Ta družina je imela kaštel v oblasti vse do 17. stoletja, od leta 1436 ga je delila z nekaj plemiškimi družinami. Prav v tem času, okoli leta 1440, je Juraj I. Kršanski rekonstruiral kaštel in vanj postavil, tako kot je bil tedaj običaj, privatno kapelico. Kaštel je reprezentativna stavba z notranjim dvoriščem, vodnjakom in okolnim monumentalnim rezidencialnim sklopom. Najvišji del je obrambni stolp, zgrajen na živi skali. Specifičnost tega kaštela je, da so v njem živeli do 20. stoletja, tako da je bil neprestano obnavljan in dograjevan. Razen glavnega stolpa, ki je tudi najbolj impresiven del, so vsi njegovi deli doživeli velike spremembe, ki pričajo o kontinuiteti naseljenosti Kršana. To ni presenetljivo, glede na to, da se je mesto nahajalo na strateški točki, ki je nadzirala pomembno pot proti škofovskemu sedežu Picnu in goriškemu Pazinu.



Kršan

This town-castle was mentioned for the first time in 1274, in the Treaty of Peace, after being devastated by the army of the Counts of Gorizia. However, it is still unknown when and by whom it was built. Soon after, Heinrich III of Pazin rebuilt the castle with permission from the Aquileian patriarch. The family owned the castle until the 17th century, sharing it with a few noble families from 1436 onwards. George I of Kršan reconstructed the castle in 1440, adjoining a private chapel inside the castle, following Medieval practice. The castle is an outstanding edifice, with an inner yard, a water storage tank and a monumental residential complex. The defensive tower is the highest point of the fortress, built on a cliff. The stronghold was inhabited and constantly renovated until the 20th century. Every part of the fortification was in some way rebuilt and reconstructed, except its most impressive part – the main tower, testifying to the continuity of life in Kršan. The castle was situated on a good strategic spot, controlling the road towards the bishop's seat in neighbouring Pićan and Pazin.





Kršanski kaštel in Istarski razvod

Josip de Sussani, plemič italijanskega porekla, je v mladosti potoval po Evropi spoznavajoč različne narode in kulture. Ko se je umiril, je svoj dom našel prav v kršanskem kaštelu, kjer je spomladi leta 1850 med zapuščino našel prepis *Istarskega razvoda* iz leta 1546. Zavedajoč se njegove pomembnosti ga je nemudoma poslal Ljudevitu Gaju v Zagreb, ki ga je predal Anteju Starčeviću, a slednji ga je objavil leta 1852. *Istarski razvod* je glagolski spomenik, ki opisuje meje (*kunfine*) med posameznimi istrskimi občinami (komune), njihove fevdalne gospodarje in Benetke. Besedilo je datirano v leto 1325.

obvezno pogledati

Bližnji kaštel Kožljak se nahaja na strmi pečini.



the castle of Kršan and the Demarcation of Istrian Land

During his youth, the Italian nobleman J. de Sussani travelled throughout Europe, meeting different peoples and cultures. He decided to settle down in the castle of Kršan. In 1850, he discovered a transcript of *The Demarcation of Istrian Land* from 1546 among the castle papers. Realising the importance of this text, he sent it to Ljudevit Gaj in Zagreb, who gave the document to Ante Starčević. It was published in 1852. The document is a Glagolitic monument on setting the boundaries of the Istrian county municipalities, feudal estates and the Venetian Republic. The text is dated 1325.

do not miss

The neighbouring castle of Kožljak, situated on a sheer cliff.



Kuba

Kuba je leta 1067 omenil kraj Henrik IV. v listini freisinškemu škofu. Od drugih utrdb-kaštelov na območju slovenske Istre se je razlikoval v tem, da je še v drugi polovici 18. stoletja utrjeno obzidje varovalo tudi nekaj hiš. V utrdbi je bila nastanjena kmečka vojaška posadka vse do konca uskoške vojne. V vojaškem smislu je bila pomembna, ker je služila kot zaledje za druge utrdbe, ki so ležale v bližini meje. Prve podatke o kaštelu srečamo v času prve avstrijsko-beneške vojne, ko je bil v njem nastanjen tudi poveljnik Civrano s svojimi plačanimi stratioti. V tej vojni je bila utrdba nekoliko porušena, a za njeno obnovo v drugi polovici 15. stoletja se je posebej zavzel Anton Serena, ki je za obnovo obzidja prispeval nekaj denarja. Po tem popravilu so kaštel kot pomembno strateško točko vključili v vsak predlog za črpanje denarja in ga tako postopoma obnovili. Obzidje je bilo lepo ohranjeno še dolgo po koncu uskoške vojne. Danes se je ohranil še velik del obzidja skupaj z obrambnim stolpom, ki so ga preuredili v zvonik. V 17. stoletju so po umiku vojske za obzidjem zgradili tudi cerkev. Ko je s spremembo vojaške tehnike kaštel izgubljal svojo prvotno vojaško funkcijo, so začeli vaščani znotraj obzidja graditi

Kubed



King Heinrich IV mentioned Kubed in the deed to the bishop of Freisin in 1067. Kubed differs from other fortress-castles, because its bulwarks still protected a number of houses in the second half of the 18th century. Village military troops were accommodated in the fort until the end of the *Uskok* war. It was important in the military sense, because it served as backing for fortresses situated on the border. The first information about the castle dates from the first Venetian-Austrian war, when captain Civrano and his mercenaries lived there. The fort was heavily damaged during that war, and thanks to Anton Serena it was refurbished in the second half of the 15th century. Afterwards, it was gradually renewed as an important strategic point. The walls stayed well preserved long after the end of the *Uskok* war. A great part of the walls and a defensive tower that was turned into a belfry have been preserved until the present day. The church was built behind the walls after the army had withdrawn in the 17th century. When the castle started to lose its original military function, the villagers started to build houses within the walls, leaning one house wall against the existing bulwarks.

interesting fact

The bishop Nardini from Koper agreed with his contemporaries about the oral legend or opinion that the first settlers in Istria built the fortress in Kubed in order to stop fierce pirate incursions that ravaged throughout the province. The villagers “according to the law of good government” paid the security guard – who they called *kontestabel* – during the bishop’s visit.

hiše, za eno od hišnih sten pa uporabili kar obstoječe obzidje. Tako niso uničili kaštel, da bi gradbeni material uporabili za gradnjo hiš. Takšna usoda je namreč doletela marsikatero utrdbo in stavbo.

Zanimivosti

Koprski škof Naldini je dobrih sto štirideset let pozneje povzel prepričanje svojih sodobnikov ali mogoče tudi izročilo, da so prvi prebivalci Istre postavili ta kaštel z namenom, da bi zaustavili divjaške vdore piratov, ki so ropali po bližnji deželi. V času škofovega obiska leta 1700 so vaščani po "pravilih dobrega gospodarjenja" plačevali čuvaja, ki so ga imenovali *kontestabel*.



Mamjan





Kaštel v Momjanu se nahaja nad dolino reke Dragonje, ki danes predstavlja mejo med Hrvaško in Slovenijo. Stoji na 280 m nadmorske višine, dominira nad dolino Dragonje, od katere je ločen z usekom potoka Poganja (Argilla). Momjan se prvič omenja leta 1035 kot vas, ki pripada samostanu sv. Mihaela pri Vižinadi. Z darilno listino iz leta 1102 je prešel v roke oglejskega patriarha. Gradnja utrdbe se je začela v prvi polovici 13. stoletja, ko ga je patriarh odstopil devinskim grofom. V naslednjih desetletjih so z njim upravljali namestniki Pietrapelose in Goriških grofov (Momjan se v pisnih virih leta 1307 omenja kot kaštel, *castrum*). Sredi 14. stoletja so utrdbo v veliki meri porušile Benetke, kasneje so jo obnovili Habsburžani. Kaštel je leta 1548 kupil Simone Rota za 5.500 zlatih ducatov. Družina Rota je bila iz Bergama,



a se je tik pred nakupom kaštela preselila v Piran. Rota je kaštel prezidal v trapezoidni obliki s kvadratnim stolpom, kjer je obnavljal stanovaljske prostore, zgradil kapelo sv. Štefana ter nov kamniti most. Vse do njegove zapustitve leta 1835 je bila lastnik kaštela družina Rota, tako da se omenja tudi kot kaštel Rota.

Momjan



Momjan is situated on the hill above the valley of the river Dragonja, which is nowadays a natural borderline between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Slovenia. Situated 280 m above sea level, it dominates the valley from which it is separated by the cutting of the brook *Poganja* (Argilla). Momjan was mentioned as early as 1035 as a village belonging to the monastery of St. Michael, near Vižinada. The town was donated to the Aquileian Patriarchy in 1102. The building of the castle started in the first half of the 13th century, when it was bestowed to the Counts of Duino. The regents from Pi-trapelosa and the Counts of Gorizia governed Momjan throughout that period. (Momjan was mentioned as a castle (*castrum*) in a written document from 1307). The Venetian army demolished the castle in the middle of the 14th century, and the Habsburgs rebuilt it in the 15th century.

Simone Rota bought the castle for 5550 ducats (golden coins) in 1548. The Rota family was originally from Bergamo, but shortly before buying the castle moved to Piran. Not only did they reconstruct the castle by giving it a trapezoidal shape with a rectangular tower, but they also renovated the residential area, erected the chapel of St. Stephen and built a new stone bridge. The family owned the castle as late as 1835, when it was abandoned. Hence the castle is referred to as castle Rota.

Ostria





Prvič je bil kraj omenjen v listini iz leta 1067, s katero je Henrik IV. podelil freisinškemu škofu vasi na ozemlju tržaške in koprške škofije.

Kaštel v Ospu (na poti proti Trstu ni imel nadzora nad dolino) je služil kot prostor, v katerem so imeli v mirnih časih spravljeno orožje, v času vojn in plenilskih vpadov pa so vanj shranili vse premoženje, ki so ga zmogli prinesli v zatočišče po precej strmi poti. Osapska jama kraškega izvora (najdeni so bili arheološki ostanki rimske grobnice, oljenke, novci, fragmenti steklene in keramične posode) oziroma Grad, kakor so ga poimenovali domačini, je bila z debelim zidom utrjen spodmol in je služila kot tabor. V času spopadov in plenilskih pohodov so v tabor, jami „dolgi kakih 100 in široki 80 korakov“ (Francesco Boldù), vaščani po strmi poti prenašali vaško „zlato“, olje in vino, s katerim so trgovali. Kdaj pa kdaj so se vanj zatekli tudi ljudje in se stiskali skupaj z nekaj glavami živine. V prvi avstrijsko-beneški vojni so s pomočjo plačancev Tržačani zavzeli utrdbo, a varstvo le-te prepustili domačinom. Potem pa je več oboroženih kmetov iz različnih vasi, ki so pred izbruhom vojne spadale pod Benečane, zavzelo utrdbo, kar je s posebno ceremonijo obeležil sam koprski podestat. Po miru v Wormsu leta 1521 je postal obmejna postojanka tik pod Socerbom, ki je takrat že pripadel Habsburžanom in s katerim so bila beneška mesta v sporih zaradi vedno bolj donosne trgovine s soljo, žitom in mesom. V času kuge, ki je divjala pri sosedih, so kraji ob meji znova odigrali pomembno vlogo. V Ospu so v času kužne zapore leta 1713 nastanili dva vojaka in uredili rastel (zaporo nedaleč od meje), ki je bila urejena ob cerkvi, v vasi pa so nastanili še štiri vojake iz vrst černid (črna vojska), ki jim je zaradi strateške lege na meji poveljeval častnik najemnikov.

Zanimivosti

Po pričevanju domačinov jamskega obzidja niso zgradili ne Benečani ne Koprčani, ampak Turki. Prav turški vojaki naj bi iz osapskega gradu zlivali vrelo olje na napadalce, kar bi sicer pomenilo, da so grad osvojili, o čemer pa ni dokumentov. Možno bi lahko bilo, da so se Turki v enem od svojih vračanj s plenjenj po Furlaniji in Sloveniji zatekli v osapski grad in ga na hitro osvojili. Izročilo se morebiti nanaša na dogodke iz obdobja uskoške vojne, saj se na Uskoke in njihova plenjenja domačini spominjajo kot na Turke, ponekod celo Francoze.

Osapska plezalna stena velja za eno najlepših in najpomembnejših plezalskih centrov v Evropi, zato je območje urejeno kot naravni rezervat s posebnimi pravili obnašanja. Obiskovalcu priporočamo, da se ustavi pri informacijski tabli v središču vasi, kjer bo dobil vse potrebne informacije.

Osp

The settlement was mentioned for the first time in 1067, when Heinrich IV gave the villages situated in the bishopric of Trieste and the bishopric of Koper to the Bishop of Freisin. The castle in Osp (which did not have control over the valley on the road towards Trieste), primarily served for weapon storage during peacetime, and during times of pillages served as depository for belongings that could be transported over a steep road. The Osp cave with its craggy source (the archaeological remains of the Roman grave, oil-lamps, money, earthenware and glass crockery fragments) or the Town, as it was called by the locals, was fortified with thick wall – *spodmol*, serving as a refuge. The villagers brought over along the steep road “the gold of the village”, oil and wine, what they used for trade, to the castle, the cave “one hundred steps wide and eighty steps long” (Francesco Boldù), where they sometimes took shelter squeezing together with cattle during conflict and plundering raids. The fortress was con-

quered by the Triestians, with help from mercenaries, in the first Venetian-Austrian war, and was given to the local population to govern. A small group of villagers from various neighbouring villages that were controlled by the Venetians before the war, conquered the fortress once again what the Koper *Podestat* himself marked with solemn ceremony. After the peace of Worms in 1521, Osp became the border castle close to Socerbo that already belonged to the Habsburgs and was in constant strife with the Venetian towns due to their increasing profit from salt, grain and meat trading. While the plague raged in the neighbourhood, the borderline villages with castles played an important role. Therefore, two soldiers came to live in rassel, not far from the border, built adjacent to the church, during the plague blockade in Osp in 1713. There were four soldiers from the *černid* rank (black army) in the village that was in command of a hired officer because of its strategic position.

interesting fact

According to legend, the cave walls were not erected by the Venetians or the citizens of Koper, but by the Turks. Allegedly, the Turkish soldiers poured boiling oil on the attackers from the castle, which would mean that they controlled the castle, but there is no proof of

that. It is possible that the Turks briefly occupied Osp on their way back from the plundering raids in Furlania and Slovenia. The legend probably found its origin in the *Uskok* war incidents, when the *Uskoks* (and their plundering) were mentioned as the Turks, sometimes



even as the French. Osp rock is regarded as one of the most important and most beautiful crags for free climbing in Europe, thus the area was turned into a national

resort with a behavior code. We recommend asking about all the necessary information in the village.

Pazin





Pazinski kaštel je največja in najbolj ohranjena srednjeveška utrdba v Istri. V pisnih dokumentih se Pazin in kaštel prvič omenjata leta 983 v darilni listini cesarja Otona II., s katero kaštel podarja poreškemu škofu. Kaštel je leta 996 dobil oglejski patriarh, ki ga je kmalu potem (leta 1060) znova predal poreškemu škofu. Lastnik Črnega grada, Menhard, je leta 1175 dobil kaštel od škofa, a kmalu zatem se je njegova hči poročila s pripadnikom veje Goriških, ki so kaštel obdržali do leta 1374. Istega leta so ga prevzeli Habsburžani in izza mogočnega obzidja upravljali s celotnim območjem centralne Istre, ki se je takrat imenovala Grafschaf Mitterburg, Contea di Pisino ali Pazinska grofija. Mogočnost in moč je kaštel potrdil v vojni leta 1510, ko ga močna beneška vojska ni mogla osvojiti. Leta 1533 ga je kupil Alessio Mosconi. Prebivalci Pazina so imeli za tisti čas in tedanje družbene razmere veliko stopnjo samostojnosti in svobode, po čemer so se razlikovali od večine svojih sosedov, kmetov. V 17. stoletju je za 40.000 florinov kaštel kupil markiz Montecuccoli iz Modene, v čigar lasti je bil fevd vse do ukinitve fevdalnih odnosov oziroma do polovice 19. stoletja, medtem ko je družina posedovala utrdbo do leta 1945. Glede na to, da je bila stavba v uporabi več kot tisoč let, je neprestano spreminjala svoj zunanji videz. Polkrožni stolp je bil dodan kaštelu neposredno po letu 1463, ko je bila v Pazinu prvič zabeležena uporaba strelnega orožja. Kaštel je s časom prerasel v mogočno obzidano utrdbo, ki so jo različni lastniki gradili in dograjevali skozi ves srednji in novi vek. Pod njegovim obzidjem, do katerega je bil dostop preko dvignega mosta, je ustje Pazinske jame.



Pazin

The castle of Pazin is the most beautiful and best-preserved medieval fortress in Istria. The first written evidence of the town was found in the donation of the Emperor Otto II to the bishop of Poreč in 983. The Patriarchate of Aquileia took possession of the castle in 996, but then gave it to the bishop of Poreč in 1060. Count Mainhart, the landlord of Černogradus, received the castle from the bishop in 1175. However, Mainhart's daughter later married a member of the Gorizia family, allowing the Counts of Gorizia inherit the property, which they held until 1374. In this year it was taken over by the Habsburgs, who controlled all of central Istria, called Grafschaf Mitterburg, the County of Pazin or Contea di Pisino, with the seat in the castle. The castle showed its grandeur and power when the Venetian army failed in their attempt to take it in 1510. Allesio Moscioni bought the castle in 1533. The citizens of Pazin enjoyed an unusually high degree of freedom and autonomy during that time in comparison with neighbouring serfs. The Marquise Montecuccoli from Modena bought the castle for 240,000 florins in the 17th century, owning the fief until the abolition of feudalism (technically until the middle of the 19th century, but the family officially owned the castle until 1945). The edifice changed its appearance several times because it has been used for more than one thousand years. A semicircular tower was added in 1463, when firearms were used for the first time in Pazin. Numerous owners reconstructed and enlarged the castle throughout the Middle Ages and Modern times. A wooden drawbridge led to the castle over the abyss of Pazin Gorge.





Etnografski muzej Istre

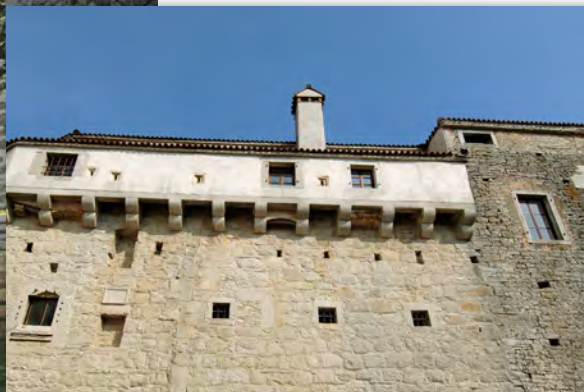
Etnografski muzej Istre sistematično zbira, hrani, obravnava in prezentira gradivo, vezano za življenje prebivalcev istrskega polotoka. Muzej hrani etnografsko gradivo s fondom 4.200 predmetov, v prvi vrsti tekstila, poljedelskega orodja in predmetov iz vsakdanjega življenja istrskega podeželja s konca 19. in začetka 20. stoletja (lončarski, mizarški, kovaški izdelki kot tudi izdelki tradicionalne obrti).

Jules Verne in pazinski kaštel

Jules Verne, oče znanstvene fantastike, je zaplet romana *Mathias Sandorf* umestil prav v pazinski kaštel in Pazinsko jamo, skrivnostno brezno, čigar ustje je od nekdaj vzbujalo človeško domišljijo.

obvezno pogledati

Svetišče župnijske cerkve sv. Nikolaja v Pazinu je poslikano s freskami (glej *Istrske freske*).



Ethnographic museum of Istria

The Ethnographic Museum of Istria systematically collects, preserves, studies and presents material connected with the population of the Istrian peninsula. The ethnographic collection comprises 4200 ethnographic artefacts of textile, agricultural tools, objects of everyday life from the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century (pottery, carpentry, forged objects and traditional handicrafts).

Jules Verne and the castle of Pazin

Jules Verne, the father of science fiction, situated the plot for his novel Mathias Sandorf in the Castle of Pazin and Pazin Gorge, whose abyss has always inspired human imagination.

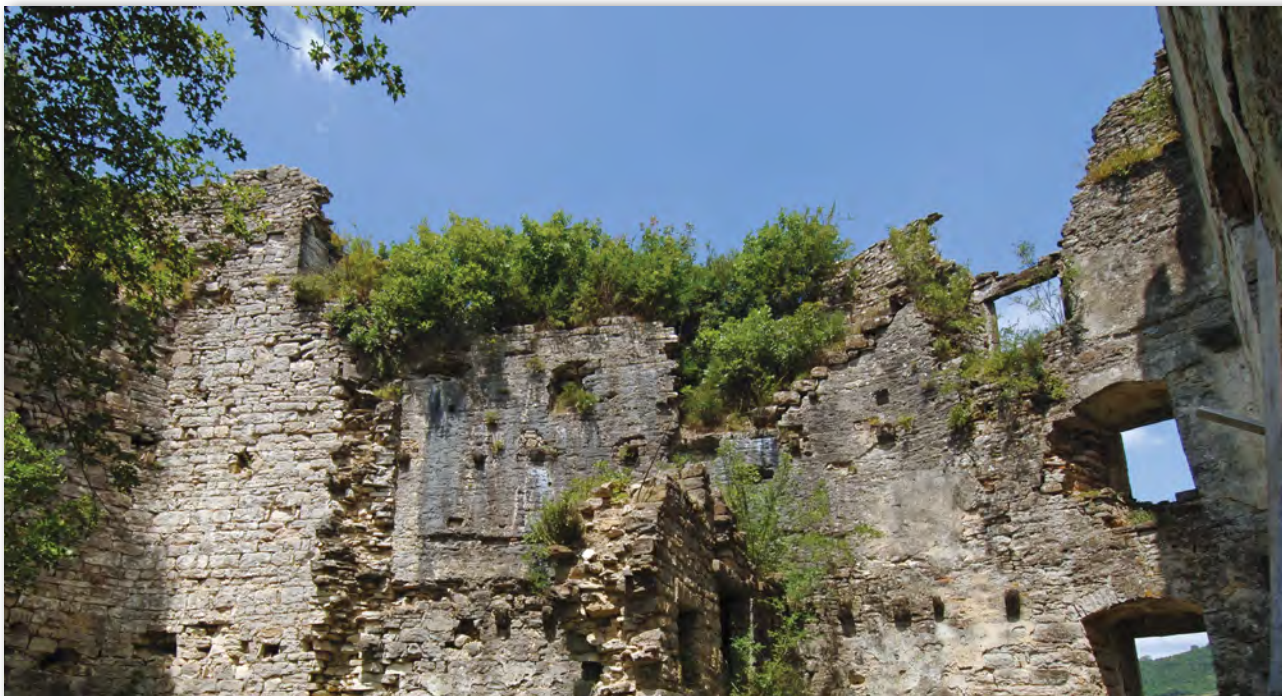
do not miss

The altar in the parish church of St. Nicholas is decorated with frescoes (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).



Pietrabelosa





Kaštel je nekaj kilometrov zahodno oddaljen od Buzeta in se nahaja nad dolino potoka Bračana. Prva pisna sled datira v leto 965, gre pa za darilno listino, s katero je oglejski patriarh Rodoald podaril kaštel poreški škofiji. V 13. stoletju so ga patriarhi dali v fevd nemški viteški družini, ki je iz njegovega imena izpeljala tudi svoj priimek: de Pietrapelosa. Benetke so – da bi osvojile to pomembno strateško oporišče, v katerem je od 14. stoletja prestoloval patriarhov namestnik za Istro – leta 1421 nanj poslale svojega slavnega vojskovodjo Taddea d'Esteja, ki je, ko je zavzel Pietrapeloso, uničil tudi posvetno moč oglejskih patriarhov. Istro je tako ostala razdeljena na beneški del in Pazinsko kneževino, ki je od leta 1374 pripadal Habsburžanom. Beneški svet deseterice je leta 1440 predal utrdbo Nicoli Gravisiju iz družine, ki je dala vojake, pisatelje, zdravnike, filozofe – toda tudi nepridiprave in kriminalce. Gravisijevi so vodili kaštel – čeprav so bili le redko v njem, ker so imeli druge posesti v Istri – do ukinitve fevdalnih odnosov leta 1869. Zanimivo je, da kaštel ni bil nikoli popolnoma razdejan. Krvavi uskoški vdori v Istro med letoma 1615 in 1617 so ga obšli kakor tudi vsi kasnejši osvajalci – uničevalci. Stavba je sestavljena iz stanovanjskega dela, dvorne kapele sv. Marije Magdalene iz 12. stoletja in glavnega stolpa poligonalne oblike. Kaštel je obkrožen z obzidjem, na zahodni strani je zgrajen stanovanjski del na sami pečini, tako da na tem delu ni obzidja. Zidovi so ohranjeni do izvirne višine, tri stanovanjska nadstropja, medtem ko je glavni stolp, v katerem so občasno živeli, ohranjen v izvorni višini štirih nadstropij. Na zahodni steni je kamnita plošča z luknjo v sredi (latrina) – predhodnica današnjega stranišča (v tistem času simbol zavidne ravni udobja in higijene) – ki je postavljena nad pečino.



legenda o kaštelu

Ko so nezadovoljni izkoriščani kmetje v dvajsetih letih 17. stoletja pod utrdbo kopali jarek, se je gospodar znesel nad njimi ter jih začel bičati zaradi počasnosti. Ker ni mogel udariti kmete, ki so bili v jarku, je razjahal s konja in tako naredil usodno napako: ne višji ne močnejši od svojih kmetov – eden izmed njih mu je z lopato odsekal glavo. Združeni in opogumljeni uporniki so se še dodatno maščevali, tako da so požgali kaštel Pietrapelosa.

ime kaštela

V osnovi imena kaštela je naziv za utrdbo, obraslo z rastlinjem, tako da je dobesedni prevod Pietrapelosa *kosmati grad* (*pietra*=kamen, utrdba, grad; *peloso*=kosmato, bujno). Domačini ga pogosto imenujejo samo Kaštel, a v podobni obliki, Kostel, se pojavlja v najstarejšem istrskem pisnem dokumentu, *Istarskom razvodu*.

Pietrapelosa

The Castle is situated a few kilometres west of Buzet, just above the valley of Bračan brook. The castle was mentioned for the first time in the deed of gift of the Aquileian patriarch Rodoald to the bishopric of Poreč in 965. Afterwards, it was given as a fief to the German knight family in the 13th century, who drew their surname from the castle's name – de Pietrapelosa. Venice wanted to take control of this important strategic point, which was a seat of the Aquileian lieutenant governor for Istria. They sent their famous commander in chief Taddeo d'Este to conquer Pietrapelosa, who abolished the secular supremacy of the Aquileian patriarchs in 1421. Thus, Istria became divided between the Venetian Republic and the County of Pazin, which had become Habsburg property in 1374. The Venetian Great Council of Ten donated the fortress to nobleman Nicola Gravis in 1440, whose family members were not only soldiers, writers, doctors and philosophers, but also crooks, thieves and criminals. Even though the Gravis family rarely resided in the castle due to their numerous fiefdoms all over Istria, they officially owned the castle until the fall of the feudal system in 1869. Remarkably, the castle was never completely destroyed. Even the *Uskoks* avoided the fortress during their bloody incursions into Istria from 1615 until 1617. Later, every other conqueror-destroyer did the same. The stronghold included a residential building, a palace chapel of St. Mary Magdalene from the 12th century and a main polygonal watchtower. The bulwarks surrounded the castle and a residential area on the west side was built on a crag with no defensive walls. The walls, with their original three-storey height, and the four-storey main tower have been preserved. The tower occasionally served as a residential premise. There is a stone plate with a hole in the middle (latrine), a prototype for a lavatory, on the western wall placed above the crag (a symbol of highly developed amenity and hygiene of that time).

the legend

While the oppressed and unsatisfied peasants were digging a trench under the stronghold in the 20s of the 17th century, a master started to beat them with a whip just because they worked slowly. Seeing that he could not punish them when sitting on the horse, he got off his horse, which was a fatal mistake. Being equal with the serfs in strength and height, one serf decapitated him with a shovel. The encouraged peasants burned down the castle in order to revenge for their sufferings and anguish.

the name of the castle

The medieval castle was named after vegetation that grew on its walls. Pietrapelosa literary means Hairy stone (*pietra* = stone, fortress, town; *peloso* = hairy, hirsute). The locals usually call it "Kaštel". In the oldest Istrian script, *The Demarcation of Istrian Land*, it was mentioned as *Kostel*.



Podpeč je svojevrstna posebnost, saj gre za povezavo stolpa-zatočišča z jamskim tabo-rom s pitno vodo, kjer je bila obramba orga-nizirana v dveh etažah. Tako kot vsi tabori v Istri je bila tudi ta jama zazidana. Fister trdi, da je stolp v Podpeči delo v kamnoseštvu izurjenega mojstra, ker konzolni renesanč-ni venec, posebne strelne line za topove in drugi arhitekturni elementi dokazujejo mojstrstvo in izkušnost graditeljev. Vhod v stolp je bil nekoliko dvignjen in tako težje dostopen za osvajalce. Tudi beneški revizor Moresini, ki je potoval po Istri leta 1556, je bil navdušen nad urejenim vojaškim gnezdom, saj ga je lahko brez odlašanja vključil v svoj načrt obrambe beneških mest. Kljub strmi poti, ki je vodila do nje, je bil revizor mnenja, da bi lahko vanjo varno shranili tudi svoj pri-delek. V takšnem duhu je v vzdušju bližajoče se vojne v začetku 17. stoletja Podpeč opisal tudi Boldù: jamo naj bi varovala celo žele-zna vrata, v stolpu pa je bil nastanjen stra-žar. Čeprav je konec uskoške vojne pomenil tudi konec neposrednih vojaških groženj, so stolp verjetno ohranili kot skladišče orožja, kar potrjuje tudi koprski škof Naldini.

dobro je vedeti

Do stolpa vodi označena in delno zavarova-na planinska pot; 10 minut hoje. Obisk stol-pa je mogoč po predhodnem dogovoru z ZVKD Piran.

obvezno pogledati

Cerkev sv. Helene je poslikana s freskami s konca 15. stoletja (glej **Istrske freske**).



Podpeč

pri Črnem Kalu

remark

Podpeč is somewhat special, since it is a combination of a tower-shelter and a cave-castle with drinkable water, in which the defence was organised in two levels. The cave was walled in, like every other castle in Istria. Fister attributes the tower in Podpeč to an educated stonemason, since the Renaissance corbel wreath, the unusual loopholes and other architectural elements testify the author's masterful and experienced performance. The entrance of the tower was elevated, therefore less accessible for the conquerors. The Venetian *revisor* Moresini, who travelled through Istria in 1556, was thrilled when he saw this cultivated military nest, so without any doubts, he included it in the plan of the defence system of the Venetians towns. Despite a steep and narrow road that leads to the fortress, *revisor* believed it was a good place to store agricultural products. During the war period at the beginning of the 17th century, he described Podpeč and Bolda similarly: "The iron-gate protects the cave, and there is a guard in the tower". The end of the *Uskok* war also meant the end of the immediate military threats, yet the tower still served as a weapon storehouse, confirmed by the bishop of Koper Naldini.

Marked and partly safe mountain path (10 minutes walking) leads to the fortress. To visit the tower, contact the Piran Institute for Cultural Heritage.

do not miss

The church of St. Helen decorated with frescoes from the end of the 15th century (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).

Roč





Roč ima podobno zgodovino kot Hum, kar ne preseneča glede na medsebojno bližino. Številne arheološke najdbe pričajo o dokaj živahni antiki na tem območju. Svoj razcvet je mesto doživelo v srednjem veku, ko se omenja kot Ruz v dokumentu, s katerim je kralj Henrik IV. daroval Roč mejnemu grofu Odolricusu leta 1064, a leta 1102 se mesto omenja kot Ronz. Med 12. in 15. stoletjem je Roč doživel graditeljski razcvet. Kaštel (ohranjen je le stolp) se je nahajal na severozahodnem delu naselja znotraj današnjega obzidja. Obzidje so leta 1421 postavili Benečani le devet let zatem, ko so ga zrušili, da bi osvojili Roč. Benetke so se odločile za njegovo obnovo zaradi njegovega strateškega položaja in vse večje turške nevarnosti, pred katero se je uspešno ubranil leta 1482. V središču naselja izstopa renesančna hiša iz leta 1475 ter mestna loža iz 18. stoletja.

obvezno pogledati

KOTLI Nekoč gospodarsko mesto znanih mlinarjev in krojačev na poti od Roča do Huma je dobro ohranjeno in dragocen primer izvirne ruralne arhitekture. To idilično pokrajino izpopolnjujeta žuborenje Mirne in stari vodni mlin.



Roč

Predictably, Roč shares a history similar to Hum, because of their immediate proximity to each other. Numerous archaeological finds testify to very vivid life in this region during the Antiquity. Roč reached its peak of development in the Middle Ages, when it was mentioned as *Ruz* in a decree from 1064, when king Henrich IV gave Ruz to Margrave Odolricus. It was mentioned as *Ronz* in 1102 and its primary architectural development happened between the 12th and the 15th centuries. The castle (only the tower remains preserved until the present day) was situated in the northeast side of the settlement within today's city walls. The Venetians built the town walls in 1421, only nine years after they had demolished the defensive walls in order to capture Roč. Venice decided to rebuild Roč mostly because of its good strategic position and because of the approaching Ottoman threat. Roč succeeded in protecting itself from Ottoman attack in 1482. Two outstanding monuments are the Renaissance house from 1475, and the Municipal loggia from the 18th century, situated in the centre of the town.



do not miss

KOTLI Kotli, once an economic settlement with famed millers and tailors, is situated on the road leading from Roč towards Hum. Kotli is a very well preserved and noteworthy example of authentic rural architecture. Murmurs of the Mirna River and an old water mill fulfil this idyllic landscape.



Savičenta (Svetvinčenat)

Kraj se prvič omenja leta 983 v dokumentu Otona II. kot posest poreškega škofa. V lasti družine Castropola je bil od leta 1211, a od leta 1384 ga je vodila družina Morosini, ki je sto let kasneje končala njegovo obnovo in dala temelje renesančnemu načrtovanju mesta. Pietro Morosini se zadnjič omenja kot gospodar Savičente leta 1529, a novi lastniki, družina Grimani, se v pisnih virih omenjajo od leta 1560. Grimanijevi so kaštel obnovili po požaru leta 1568. Ti družini, Morosini in Grimani, sta najpomembnejši v zgodovini kaštela in tudi vsega mesta, tako da se kaštel še danes imenuje po njih: kaštel Morosini-Grimani. Nahaja se na meji, ki se je spreminjala, kakor so se menjavali osvajalci: najprej je to meja antičnega, puljskega agerja, zatem posesti sv. Apolinarja, oglejskih patriarhov, območja, ki jim je vladal poreški škof, fevda Savičente, a od leta 1420 tudi najvažnejša, meja Benetk in Avstrije. Kaštel ima štirikotno obliko, na vogalih severne stene sta dva okrogla, na jugovzhodni steni pa kvadraten stolp. Jugozahodni kot je rezidencialni del, a palača se nahaja znotraj obrambnega obzidja. Glavni vhod v kaštel je na južnem pročelju; danes je dostopen preko čvrstih tal, medtem ko je v preteklosti obstajal dvizni most. Nad vhodom sta plošči, na katerih se omenjata gradnja leta 1485 (družina Morosini) in obnova leta 1589 (družina Grimani). Današnji kaštel Morosini-Grimani predstavlja obliko pozno-srednjeveške gradnje z izrazito poudarjenimi renesančnimi značilnostmi.

Savičenta (Svetvinčenat)



Savičenta was first mentioned by king Otto II in a script dating from 983 as a fief of the bishopric of Poreč. The Castropola family took it in their possession in 1211. From 1384, the Morosini family owned the fief, completing the renovation of the castle and beginning town spatial planning in the Renaissance style one hundred years later. Pietro Morosini was mentioned as ruler of Savičenta for the last time in 1529, and family Grimani, the new owners, were mentioned for the first time in written documents from 1560. The Grimani family renovated the castle after it was badly damaged by fire in 1568. The Grimani family and the Morosini family were the two most important families in the history of the castle and the entire area. Because of this, the present-day name is the Morosin-Grimani castle. Savičenta was historically on the border between two opposing powers – initially as border for the Roman *ager* of Pula, then the estate of St. Apolinar, the Aquileian patriarchs, the bishopric of Poreč, the Savičenta fief, and most importantly, the border between Venice and Austria in 1420.

The castle has a rectangular shape. There are two round watchtowers on the north wall and one rectangular watchtower in the southeast corner. A residential area was in the southwest corner; the palace was within the bulwarks. You can enter the castle through the main south entrance on solid ground, but in the past there was a drawbridge. There are two incised stone plates above the entrance bearing two different years: 1485 – the year when the Morosinis built the castle and 1589 – when the Grimanis renewed it.



kaštel – model renesančnega idealnega mesta

Kaštel, najstarejša stavba na trgu, je izdelan v razmerju 3 : 5 in po tej shemi se je novoprojektirani tloris cerkve moral vklopiti v načrtovano parcelacijo mesta in proporcionalno shemo trga. Proporcionalno razmerje 3 : 5 ustreza tudi odnosu posameznih dimenzij v župnijski cerkvi, tlorisa in preseka ladje, elementov pročelja, kapitelov, a v ta odnos se vklaplja tudi shema končnega tlorisa cerkve. Tudi celotna urbana mreža izhaja iz razmerja 3 : 5 trga, ki sam in kot del celote izhaja iz dimenzij kaštela.

legenda o kaštelu

Zelena trata za kaštelom spominja na že pozabljene konjeniške igre – alke, ki so potekale na dan sv. Janeza Krstnika. Vsi prisotni, od kapitana mesta, veljakov do kmetov, so nestrpno čakali razglasitev zmagovalca alke, ko je tedaj oklepljeni vitez moral razkriti svojo identiteto. Leta 1713 je izmed enaindvajsetih tekmovalcev zmagal neznani konjenik. Vitez je zavrnil nagrado in odjahal iz Savičente. Zahvaljujoč zmagi in tudi skrivnostnosti se je zgodba o vitezu ohranila do danes.



ime grada

Svetvinčenat, kakor se glasi današnje ime mesta, je nastal po nazivu Savičenta. To omenjajo glagoljaši v *Istarskem razvodu*, in sicer mesto, ki je prvotno nastalo okoli cerkve sv. Vincenca in ki je kasneje „sprejemalo“ vrsto znamenitih stavb, združenih v celoto glavnega trga z dominantnim kaštelom.

opomba

Ključ kaštela je v konobi Ferlin, ki je le nekoliko metrov oddaljena.

obvezno pogledati

Notranjost cerkve sv. Vincenca je poslikana s freskami (glej *Istrske freske*).

the castle – a model for an ideal Renaissance town

The castle, the oldest building on the square, has the ratio of width to length three to five (3 : 5), and according to that scheme the ground plan of the newly designed Renaissance church had to fit in the partition of the plot and commensurate scheme of the square. The proportional ratio of three to five suits the correlation between certain dimensions of different parts in the church, such as the correlation between the ground plan and nave sectional view, frontage components and the correlation of capitals. Even the designed ground plan scheme of the Renaissance church fits the pattern. The entire urban system was built according to this specific ratio 3 : 5, thus the town square also fits the proportion scheme of the castle.

the legend

The green meadow behind the town walls still reminds us of a once very popular horse game – *The Race for the Ring* – that used to be held on the feast day of St. John the Baptist. All those in attendance – from captain in chief to the nobles and villagers – waited impatiently for a winner to be declared, because then the armoured knight had to reveal his identity. Among twenty-one competitors, the unknown knight won the prize in 1713, but he refused the prize and he rode from Savičenta. Thanks to his victory – and his mysteriousness – the story of an enigmatic knight has survived to the present day.

the name of the town

The name Sveti vinčenat, as it is called today, came from the name Savičenta. The Glagolists mentioned Savičenta in *The Demarcation of Istrian Land* as a settlement founded around the Church of St. Vincent, which later "got" significant buildings concentrated round the main square with the dominating castle.

do not miss

The church of St. Vincent is decorated with frescoes (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).







Utrdba je nastala na temeljih ilirskega gradišča (okopi so še danes vidni), naselje pa se prvič omenja v listini Ulrika Weimarskega v letu 1040. Grad Socerb je v preteklosti nadziral občutljivo obmejno območje in pomembne prometne smeri ter bil skozi stoletja tarča stalnih napadov in zavojevanj Benečanov in Tržačanov. V zgodnjem srednjem veku se je prvotna utrdba širila (stanovanjski prostori), v srednjem veku je postala vojaški objekt, v katerem je bila nastanjena stalna plačana vojaška posadka. Mestnim plemičem namreč v drugi polovici 14. stoletja ni bil več cilj vojaško življenje vitezov, saj so se jim ponujali bolj mamljivi viri zaslužka. Zadnjič si je beneški Koper prilastil Socerb po vojni s habsburškim sosedom Trstom leta 1463. Beneški bojni plen je bil ogromen: skupaj z utrdbama Mokovo (Muhograd, *Castrum Mocho*) in Novigrad na Krasu (*Castrum Novum*), simboličnima centroma zemljiških gospoств, in predvsem s pravicami do mitnic, ki so jih uživala ta

gospoства, so nadzirali vse trgovske poti in dohodke, ki so iz zaledja vodile v konkurenčni Trst. V latinskem besedilu mirovnega sporazuma, ki so ga takrat Tržačani morali podpisati z Benečani, se v nizu izgubljenih postojank in pripadajočih ozemelj socerbski ne omenja kot *castrum*, temveč kot utrdba z jamo (*Bastita vel Crota Sancti Servuli*, to je „obzidje ali jama sv. Servula“). Bohotna lega Socerba, ves čas pod sovražnikovim nadzorom, je izzvala novi vojaški obračun. Že v prvih bojih so ga zavzeli plačani najemniški vojaki, ki so bili v službi Habsburžanov. S podpisanim mirom v Wormsu leta 1521 je Socerb tudi legalno pripadel Habsburžanom. Posest, za katero sta se celo stoletje »pulili« dve mesti, je prišla v roke tretjega: upravno je bila podrejena Kranjski, a šele po mirovnem sporazumu se je utrdba preobrazila v zemljiško gospoство, ki so mu priključili nekaj ozemlja starega tržaškega agerja in vasi, ki so jih odvzeli rašporskemu kapetanatu. Utrdba s posestjo je pripa-

Socerb

The fortification was built on the remains of the Illirian hill-fort (the ditches are still visible), and the settlement was mentioned for the first time in the deed of Ulrich of Weimar. Socerb controlled the borderline area and an important traffic route, so it was repeatedly attacked due to Venetian and Triestian warfare over centuries. The original hill-fort was expanded (a residential area) in the early Middle Ages and it became military premises with a mercenary army in the Middle Ages. However, the town noblemen finished with the knight military life and passed to a better source of earnings. Venetian Koper conquered Socerb after the war with the Habsburg neighbor, Trieste, for the last time in 1463. The Venetian plunder was enormous: they got the fortifications Mokovo (Muhograd, *Castrum Mocho*) and Novigrad on Kras (*Castrum Novum*), symbolical centers of homesteads, but first and foremost, the right on toll houses benefited by homesteads controlling the trade route towards competitive Trieste. Socerb was not mentioned as a *castrum* but as a fort with a cave (*Bastita vel Crota Sancti Servuli*, the walls or the cave of San Servolo) among other lost fortresses and belonging territories in the peace treaty written in Latin that the Triestians had to sign with the Venetians. A presumptuous position of Socerb, constantly watched by the enemy, caused a new military conflict. It was taken over by the Habsburg mercenary army and hirelings in the Austrian – Venetian war (1508 – 1516) already after several combats, and Socerb legally became the property of the Habsburgs after the signed peace agreement in Worms (1521). The property around which two towns fought over through the entire century fell into the hands of the third one: it came under Kranjska (Carniola) administrative control, and the fortress was turned into an estate



dla tržaškem kapitanu Nikolaju Raubarju do njegove smrti leta 1540, a zatem jo je za krajši čas užival Martin Cusman. Socerb je kot mejna posest pridobival vedno več upravnih dolžnosti, zato je na gradu moral stalno prebivati upravitelj, ki je utrdbo razširil z bivalnimi prostori in ob njej kasneje uredil tudi konjušnico. V habsburško-beneški vojni leta 1615 je območje ubranil tamkajšnji gospod Benvenuto Petazzi. V 18. stoletju so grad pridobili baroni Salvai. Uslužbenci omenjenih baronov kljub v novem veku znanemu vinu, ki je uspeval v bližnjih vinogradih in ki je prestavljal skoraj desetino vseh prihodkov posestva, niso ravno dobro gospodarili s posestvom. Zaradi ogromnih dolgov so ga leta 1768 bili primorani prodati grofu Antonu Montecuccoliju. Po požaru, ki je grad uničil leta 1780, je Montecuccoli zelo slabo skrbel za posest. Leta 1907 ga je od lastnika kupil tržaški baron Demetriusu Economo in ga v letih 1924 – 1925 restavriral. Današnja podoba gradu je precej drugačna od tiste, ki jo je upodobil Valvasor.

ime kaštela

Poimenovan je bil po zavetniku Trsta, mučeniku sv. Socerbu. Po legendi, ki jo je zapisal Valvasor, se je mladi Socerb po prestopu v krščanstvo nekaj časa zadrževal v bližnji jami, okoli leta 283 oziroma 284 pa naj bi ga tržaški guverner dal usmrtiti. Nekateri zgodovinarji zato predvidevajo, da so trdnjavo zgradili Tržačani.



zanimivosti

Polihistor in topograf Janez Vajkard Valvasor je bil navdušen nad lego utrdbe na vrhu skalne pečine z lepim razgledom na zaliv in podzemno jamo, v kateri so shranjevali vino. V bralcu vsečnem slogu pisanja je Valvasor celo zapisal, da se mnoge dežele ne morejo pohvaliti s tako prijetnim razgledom. V sto let mlajšem zapisu Baltazarja Hacqueta stari grad ni navdušil, bralca pa je tudi poučil, da so konec 17. stoletja v jamah opravljali celo „službe božje“.



manor house to which a territory of ancient Trieste *ager* and dispossessed villages were annexed only after a peace treaty. The fortress and the property fell to the Triestian captain Nikolai Raubar until his death in 1540, upon that, Martin Cusman lived there for a short period. Socerb got more administrative duties as a frontier estate, so an administrative manager lived there, who enlarged the fortress by building residential rooms and a horse-stable later on. Master Benvenuto Petazzi defended the area in the Austrian-Venetian war of 1615. The Salvais barons governed the castle in the 18th century. In spite of the production of the famous wine made in the nearby vineyards (one tenth of the total income of the property) they fell into debt, forcing them to sell the property to the margrave Anton Montecuccoli in 1768. After the fire that almost burnt down the town to the ground in 1768, Montecuccoli started to neglect the property. The Triestian Baron Demetrius Economo bought Socerb in 1907, and renovated the castle in 1924 and 1925. Today's appearance of the castle differs from the one illustrated by Valvasor.

the name of the castle

It was named after the patron of Trieste, the martyr St. Socerb (San Servolo). According to the legend noted by Valvasor, young Socerb lived hidden in the nearby cave (in 283 or 284) after he had converted to Christianity, until the Trieste governor put him to death. That is why some historians assume that the Triestians built the castle.

interesting fact

Multi-historian and topographer Johann Weickhard Valvasor was delighted by the position of the hill-fort with the extraordinary view over the bay and the underground cave in which wine was kept. He even wrote in his likeable style that not many properties could boast of such magnificent view. Baltazar Hacquet was not so enchanted by the old town in his writing one hundred years later, but informed readers that a divine service was being held in the cave at the end of the 17th century.

Sv. Lovreč



Od 10. stoletja je bil Sv. Lovreč sedež fevda poreškega škofa, a prvo pisno omembo mesta najdemo v listini papeža Aleksandra III. iz leta 1177, ki potrjuje poreškemu škofu posesti, cerkve in samostane. Sv. Lovreč se je vdal Benetkam leta 1271, a njegovo vodstvo, ki si je od konca 12. stoletja pridobilo samoupravo, je ohranjalo dobre zveze z vsemi pomembnimi fevdalci: oglejskimi, goriškimi in pazinskimi. Benetke so že leta 1304 ustanovile podeželsko poveljstvo za celoten beneški del Istre na čelu s kapitanom in sedežem v neubogljivem Sv. Lovreču. Glavna kapitanova naloga je bila zagotoviti varnost beneških posesti pred Pazinsko kneževino. Utrjeno mesto je imelo elipsasto obzidje, ki s prezidavami in nadgradnjami izvira iz 10. stoletja in ima tri obrambna stolpa. Za sedež kapitanata to ni bilo dovolj, zato se je obzidje skozi 14. stoletje širilo in dobivalo današnji videz. Razširitev je nastala na mestu današnjega stolpa Fontanella, ki je zgrajen na izviru vode in znotraj obzidja. Tu je župnijska cerkev sv. Martina in zvonik, ki so ga dograjevali in je prevzemal pomembno obrambno funkcijo. Zgradili so še elegantna gotska mestna vrata ter nekoliko kvadratno povzdignjenih ojačitev – stolpov. Zaradi upada števila prebivalstva, zdesetkano s kugo in mnogimi spopadi, je beneška oblast v 16. in 17. stoletju pogosto v te kraje dovažala prebivalstvo iz Dalmacije, ki je bežalo pred Turki.



Sv. Lovreč

Sv. Lovreč, a seat fief of the Poreč bishop from the 10th century, was mentioned for the first time in the deed of gift from Pope Alexander III to the Poreč bishop, confirming his ownership of fiefs, churches and monasteries in 1177.

Sv. Lovreč surrendered to Venice in 1271, but gained autonomy by the end of the 12th century and it was in good terms with the leading feudal lords of that time: Aquileian, Gorizian and Pazinian. Nevertheless, Venice acquired sovereignty over the entire Venetian rural area in Istria, appointing a captain whose seat was in rebellious Sv. Lovreč. It was the captain's duty to secure the Venetian border estate against the County of Pazin. Here, the captain found a fortification with ellipsoidal walls and three defensive watchtowers that were built in the 10th century. However, it was not big enough for the Venetian captain; so the castle was widened during the 14th century, when it got its present-day appearance. The enlargement was performed on the place of today's tower Fontanella, which was built over a water-spring within the walls. The parish church of St. Martin and added belfry was given a significant defensive function. The Gothic town gate and several elevated square watchtowers were additionally built. Sv. Lovreč was depopulated as a result of the plague outbreak and numerous conflicts, thus the Venetians re-populated the region with refugees from Dalmatia, who were running from the Ottomans during the 16th and the 17th centuries.

zanimivosti

Petdeset let po beneški ustanovitvi kapitanata v Sv. Lovreču je eden izmed kapitanov postal beneški dož. Veliki svet je za doža leta 1354 izbral Marina Failera. Dož, ki je svoj družbeni vzpon začel v Sv. Lovreču, je le leto zatem neslavno končal, ker se je spopadel z beneškimi oligarhi, najmočnejšimi ljudmi Beneške republike.

obvezno pogledati

Freske v župnijski cerkvi sv. Martina na glavnem mestnem trgu spadajo med najzgodnejše ohranjene freske v Istri (glej *Istrske freske*).

interesting fact

One of the Venetian captains became a doge of Venice, exactly fifty years after Venice had established an administrative center in Sv. Lovreč. The Great Council chose Marin Failer as doge of Venice in 1354. However, the doge who started his social ascent in Sv. Lovreč came into conflict with the Venetian oligarchy, the most powerful men in the Republic, which ingloriously ended his career only one year after his appointment.

do not miss

Well-preserved frescoes in the Church of St. Martin situated on the main town square, belonging to the earliest fresco cycle found in Istria. (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).



Zanigrad

Po miru v Wormsu leta 1521 in izgubi Mokovega, Socerba in Novigrada na Krasu ter vasi Črni Kal so ponovno prišla do veljave zatočišča na težko dostopnih krajih. Med takšnimi kaštelj, ki so bili hkrati skladišča vsega vaškega premičnega premoženja, sta bila v Zanigradu in Črnem Kalu. „Grad“ v Zanigradu se po izgubi vojaškega pomena v poročilih beneških revizorjev v 16. stoletju ni več omenjal, kar pa ne pomeni, da ga vaščani niso več uporabljali. Vas Zanigrad, nekoč zapisana tudi pod imenom *Villae Xuonigradi*, se nahaja na južnem predelu Podgorskega Krasa, leži nedaleč od Zazida in Hrastovelj (do vasi vodi makadamska pot). Danes je vas povsem opuščena.

zanimivosti

Legenda pripoveduje, da je bil v okolici vasi zakopan zaklad. Vendar ga, vsaj do sedaj, ni našel še nihče. Na dan sv. Štefana (26. decembra) ob cerkvi poteka blagoslov konjev.

obvezno pogledati

Cerkev sv. Štefana je poslikana s freskami iz začetka 15. stoletja (glej *Istrske freske*).

Zanigrad

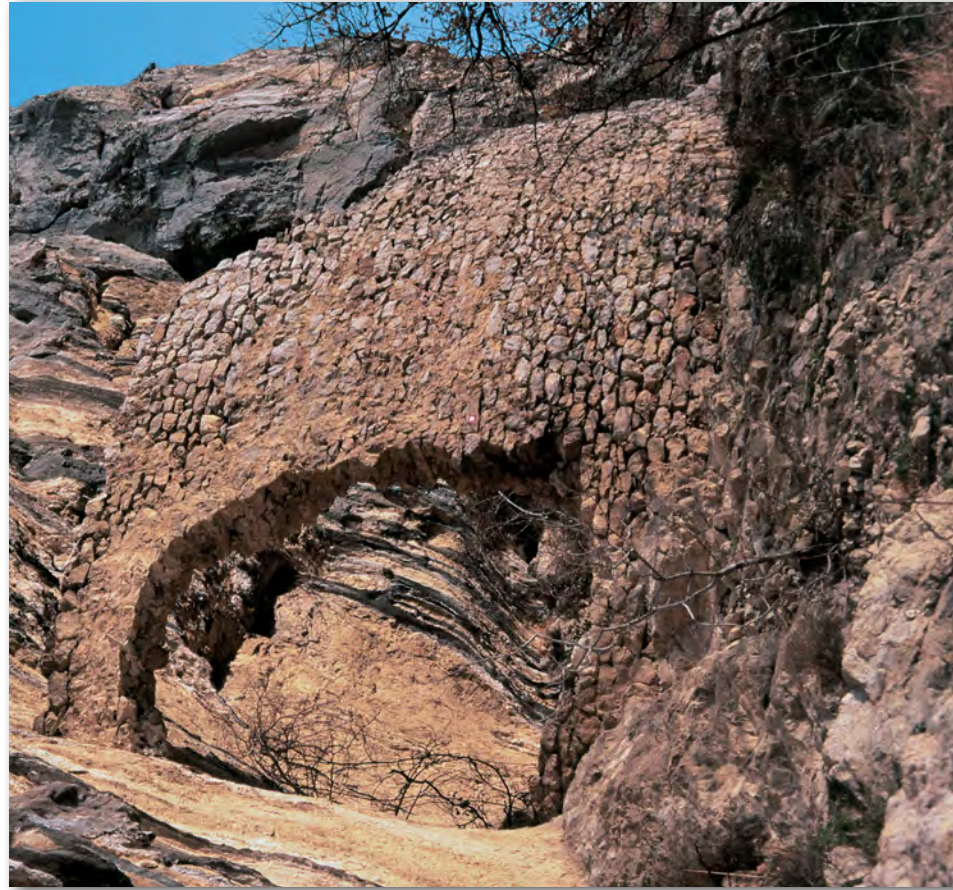
Hidden shelters on the hardly accessible ground were revealed after the peace in Worms and the loss of Mokovo, Socerb, Novigrad on Kras and Črni Kal in 1521. Among those castles, which served as storehouses for the entire movable property of villages, are the ones in Zanigrad and Črni Kal. The fortress in Zanigrad, once lost its military purpose, was not mentioned in the reports of the Venetian revisors in the 16th century, but this does not necessarily mean that the villagers did not use it. The village Zanigrad, once marked under the name *Villae Xuonigradi*, is situated on the south part of the Podgorje crags, in vicinity of Zazid and Hrastovlje (a macadam road leads to the village). Presently, the village is completely abandoned.

interesting fact

According to a legend, there is a hidden treasure in the village surroundings. Nobody has found it so far, though. On St. Stephen's day, the 26th of December, horses are blessed next to the church.

do not miss

The church of St. Stephen is decorated with frescoes from the beginning of the 15th century (see: *The Frescoes of Istria*).



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Glede na to, da se istrski kašteli večinoma nahajajo v mestu, mestecu, naselju ali njihovi neposredni bližini, bo popotnik brez težav, spotoma, v iskanju okrepčila naletel na kakšno istrsko konobo, turistično kmetijo, vinsko cesto, gostilno ali restavracijo, v kateri nudijo pristne izdelke: zdravilne žgane pijače, istrska vina, pršut in sir, ribje specialitete ter tradicionalno pripravljene domače jedi, ki jih je vredno poskusiti.

Most Istrian castles are situated in towns, settlements, villages or in their immediate vicinity. Because of this, each traveller looking for refreshment will surely come across one of the numerous domestic Istrian taverns, agritourism households, Wine Trails or restaurants offering curative herb brandies, excellent Istrian wines, smoked ham and special cheeses as well as special home-made dishes – all of which should be tasted.

ISTRSKI *gradovi* THE CASTLES OF ISTRIA

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