Geo Travel

your partner for birdwatching in Croatia

Geo Travel, tourist agency, Rijeka, Riva Boduli 1, Croatia
ID kod: HR-AB-51-08010012531 Tel: +385 95 901 9920
E mail: andrej.pogacic@agencija.geotravel.hr
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/GEO-Travel/438757362861131?ref=hl
Web: http://geo-travel.wix.com/geotravel
Birdwatching in Croatia

Croatia .. a country of a thousand islands, surrounded by the beautiful Adriatic Sea, home to one of the last remaining European populations of free wolves, bears, lynx and other endangered wildlife species...also, a country where west and east met in order to create a unique mixture of culture, tradition, architecture and lifestyle... but, what about Croatia as a birdwatching destination? Interested?

Croatia is a small country, that covers the area of only 56 000 km² (which is about 10 times less than the surface of Spain) but still is one of the most interesting countries on the European birdwatching map. Why, you ask?

One of the main reasons is the fact that in such a small area you can find 4 different types of habitats: the lowlands of the green continental Croatia, the mountains that form a barrier between the continental and Mediterranean climate and the coastal area together with it’s beautiful Adriatic archipelago of more than 1000 islands! These habitats can be classified as habitats of four basic zones: Pannonian, Continental, Alpine and Mediterranean.

Within these habitats, you can find 8 national parks, 11 nature parks, many reserves, and as much as 23 IBA-s in Croatia. What is more, each passionate birdwatcher will be pleased to hear that in Croatia there are 20 ornithological reserves and four wetland sites that are on the list of the Ramsar Convention – these sites are NATURE PARK KOPACKI RIT, NATURE PARK LONJSKO POLJE & MOKRO POLJE (INCL. KRAPJE DJOL), CRNA MLAKA and DELTA NERETVE (the delta of river Neretva). What is more, Croatia is home to one of the last remaining natural river beds in Europe – river Drava – also called, “The Croatian Amazonas”!

Many of these areas are covered within our programs of birdwatching in Croatia. Such a variety of different landscapes creates a home to a bird population that covers almost all of the categories – montane, lowland, boreal, wetland and marine birds. Croatia’s rich avifauna consists of 387 bird species, of which 233 species are nesters. What is more, 178 species are classed as threatened on the national level, 69 on the European level and 21 on the global level.

Some of the main reasons for birdwatching in Croatia

- A variety of different types of habitats – thus, a bird population that covers almost all of the categories – montane, lowland, boreal, wetland and marine birds – if you want to cover as much of these different populations in one program, you will want to choose our 8-day program “Birdlife of Croatia – from north to south”
- A high level of nature protection, giving us the opportunity to visit several RAMSAR sites in one program – birdwatchers especially interested in wetland bird populations will enjoy in our program “Secret birdlife of the Green Croatia”
- Croatia is home to many bird species endangered on the European and global level – for example, it is the only eastern European country that has breeding Cory’s and Yelkouan Shearwaters, Audouin’s Gull and Eleonora’s Falcons! Birdwatchers especially interested in “checking” these species on their checklist will enjoy our “Weekend on the islands of Dalmatia”
- In addition to all of this, it is important to say that Croatia has a rich and colorful wildlife in general, that can be found in many protected areas that we visit, so for each birdwatcher interested also in flora and fauna in general, our programs will be a memorable experience
- After a full day spent in the nature, in search of birds you dream of having on your check-list, you will also enjoy the world-wide known traditional Croatian cuisine and wines; Croatia is proud to still be able to offer fresh and healthy home-made food prepared in a traditional style, served together with wines that have won rewards across the world for its eco-production and exquisite taste; so, if apart from being a bird lover, you enjoy good food and wine, our programs will offer you gastro-enological surprises you will definitely remember!
Birdwatching areas in Croatia

1. Nature Park Učka
   Nature Park Risnjak
   Kvarner islands - Cres, Rab and Krk
2. National park Plitvice Lakes
   Island Pag and canyon of river Zrmanja and Krupa
   Nature park Vransko lakes
3. National park Krka – Pokrovnik
   Headwaters of river Cetina
4. Trogir - Zagora – Sinj
   Nature park Lastovo
5. Nature park Biokovo
   Delta of river Neretva
6. Ornithological Reserve Black Mlaka
   Nature park Žumberak
7. Area of Lonjsko field, Moslavačke hills, ponds Lipovljani, Garešnica
8. Nature park Papuk
   Ponds Jelas
9. Area of Kopački rit, Baranja and ponds Donji Miholjac
10. Area of river Drava, Bilogora, Kalničko hills
Nature Park Učka is characterised by an exceptional variety of features in a comparatively small area. The climate in Nature Park Učka is a result of its geographical position, closeness to the sea, and the structure of its relief. According to the Köppen climate classification, higher parts of the park have a moderate warm rain climate with warm summers (the so-called “beech climate”), while the lower parts such as Opatija and the narrow coastal strip have a moderate warm rain climate without dry periods and with hot summers (the “camellia climate”).

Bearing in mind the diversity of the relief, type of bedrock, different microclimates and other circumstances, it is possible to distinguish many habitats arranged in a mosaic layout with various bird communities, which were zoned primarily with regard to plant communities. To date, as many as 167 bird species have been registered in Učka Nature Park and its contact area. In addition to various types of forest habitats, particularly important for birds are rocky habitats, because many birds of prey nest in such areas. Some of these birds are endangered, such as the golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) and the peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus).

Although it used to nest here, the Eurasian griffon vulture (Gyps fulvus) today only flies over the areas of Učka and Ćićarija in search of carcasses. Among other protected bird species, particularly interesting are those living in grassland habitats, such as the ortolan (Emberiza hortulana) and the woodlark (Lullula arborea). For their protection it is necessary to preserve such types of habitats.

Birds include:
- Circetaus gallicus
- Aquila chrysaetos
- Anthus campestris
- Picus canus
- Dryocopus martius
- Tachymarptis melba
- Falco peregrinus
- Alectoris graeca
- Bubo bubo

- Picus viridis
- Lullula arborea
- Lanius collurio
- Monticola saxatilis
- Emberiza hortulana
The area of the Risnjak National Park is divided into two zones – the zone of rigorous and that of directional protection. The total surface area is more than 4600 ha and it is a completely protected area with no activity – it is exclusively left to natural activity. In the vicinity of the Park we can find a large number of extremely beautiful natural sights because of which this area has been included amongst the highest level of protected nature. The Risnjak National Park is a very good example of altitude decomposition within a relief, geological, hydrological and climatic aspect, as well as in plant covering and animal world.

Characteristics:
- strong climate and vegetation barrier between coastal and continental parts of Croatia.
- the most important example of upland vegetation division in Croatia
- the most beautifully expressed phenomenon of karst sinkhole vegetation
- a natural bond between the Alps and the Balkan mountains
- a natural habitat for all three European large animals (bear, wolf and lynx)
- 1148 flora species and sub-species

Within the Risnjak National Park area and its surrounding areas, to date 114 bird species have been registered. In the National Park itself 78 bird species nest and are mostly nesting birds which live in the forest. One third of the nesting birds (26 species) is located on the Red List of threatened plants and animals in Croatia, one species (Capercaillie Tetrao urogallus) has the status of endangered species (EN), two species (the Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrines and the Pygmy-OwlGlaucidium passerinum) have the status of vulnerable (VU), eight species are considered near threatened (NT) and 13 species have the status of least concern (LC) in Croatia. On a European level, four nesting bird species have the status of vulnerable, one species has the status of rare species and ten species have the status of species whose population in Europe is decreasing. Twelve nesting bird species are listed in Appendix I of the EC Birds Directive, and 59 species in Appendix II in The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the Bern Convention).

Birds include:
- Aquila chrysaetos
- Bonasa bonasia
- Strix uralensis
- Aegolius funereus
- Picoides tridactylus
- Picus canus
- Turdus torquatus
- Regulus regulus
- Regulus ignicapillus
- Ficedula albicollis
- Poecile (Parus) montanus
- Emberiza hortulana
- Tetrao urogallus
- Bubo boba
- Glaucidium passerinum
- Dendrocopos leucotos
- Dryocopus martius
- Anthus spinola
Cres, Lošinj and the islands of its archipelago, Krk, Rab …each island is a world unto itself, disclosing a special story about past and present times, tradition as well as modern tourist programmes and facilities. All together, these islands represent an extraordinary tourist value of the Kvarner region and provide an opportunity for a delightful stay, with quality service and a unique world of nature, customs and cultural heritage.

Watch the flight of griffon vultures - almost extinct elsewhere -, adopt a dolphin, set off along the Glagolitic paths or participate in old knights’ games… bathe on marvelous secluded beaches, dive, sail, walk along arranged paths, taste delicious dishes and equally delicious wines... and enjoy the rich cultural and historical heritage.

Classical music concerts in beautiful island churches, manifestations based on past times, accommodation in hotels, apartments and autochthonous houses or campsites … all this has been skillfully integrated in the daily life of the islands. Thanks to its diversity, programmes and facilities, the islands’ tourist product is adapted to all generations: to the young, to families with small children, pensioners... to both those looking for quiet holidays or those enjoying in activities, entertainment...

The numerous cliffs are the nesting area of the last population of Griffon Vultures in Croatia. Many other species are breeding here as well, such as Shags, Peregrine Falcons, Eagle Owls and other birds of pray. For these species, the vast open and mixed habitats (as are, for instance, the rocky meadows) are very important. This area has also spacious forests and shrubs of several Mediterranean types. This is a significant wintering area of Sandwich Tern. There are three ornithological reservations on the Island of Cres, and one on the Island of Krk. Nature Protection Research and Education Center “Eco Center Caput Insulae” operates in Beli on Cres, with protection of Griffon Vultures as one of their main goals.

Birds include:  
Gavia stellata  
Phalacrocorax aristotelis  
Aquila chrysaetos  
Falco peregrinus  
Burhinus oedicnemus  
Bubo bubo  
Caprimulgus europaeus  
Tachymarptis melba  
Anthus campestris  
Monticola solitarius  
Corvus corax

Gavia arctica  
Gyps fulvus  
Falco naumanni
Croatia’s first National park established in 1949 covers 296.85 km² of breathtaking natural splendor becoming with it the largest among the eight national parks of the country. Ranging in altitude from 367 m (Koranski most) to 1279 m (Seliški vrh) above sea level. The park was inscribed on the UNESCO’s World Heritage List in 1979, in recognition of its “outstanding natural beauty and undisturbed production of travertine (tufa) through chemical and biological action”. The park represents a phenomenon of karst hydrography.

The park harbours a grand collection of waterfalls, gallery of lakes, forest and diversity of animal life. The lakes are renowned for their distinctive colors, ranging from azure to green, grey or blue. The colors change constantly depending on the quantity of minerals or organisms in the water and the angle of sunlight. The sixteen lakes which are formed by natural dams of travertine are separated into upper and lower lakes. About eight km of pathways and wooden walking trails around lakes are accessible to visitors. Trails are descending from an altitude of 636m to 503m above sea level.

The Park is situated at 44°51N 15°37E, 44.85°N 15.62°E, in central Croatia, in the eastern part of the mountainous region of Lika-Seni county. The National Park is also home to 4,000 inhabitants.

Plitvice lakes are recognized as an astonishing natural monument for the benefit and enjoyment of the people now and for the generations to come. Today, 60 years after its establishment, Plitvice Park continues to provide inspiration for visitors becoming nowadays one of Croatia’s biggest attractions. Thousands of people from all over the world visit the Park during summer. They come to find peace and relaxation just to experience something different as a getaway from the city.

Hiking is a common activity with organized programs for park visitors, other possible activities include: electric boat and train ride, cycling, skiing and rowing. This is a mountainous area with well preserved fir and birch forests, conspicuously rich in the area of the primeval forest of the Corkova uvala, while meadows and pastures are present in the fields of the southern part of the area (Homoljacko polje, Vrhovinsko polje, Brezovac and Babin Potok). This is a National Park, and a World Natural Heritage Site.

Birds include:
- Tachybaptus ruficollis
- Accipiter gentilis
- Coturnix coturnix
- Strix uralensis
- Dendrocopos leucotos
- Lullula arborea
- Cinculus cinculus
- Saxicola torquata
- Regulus ignicapillus
- Certhia brachydactyla
- Ardea cinerea
- Tetrao urogallus
- Crex crex
- Cuculus canorus
- Glauclidium passerinum
- Picoides tridactylus
- Alauda arvensis
- Prunella modularis
- Turdus viscivorus
- Poecile (Parus) palustris
- Emberiza citrinella
- Pernis apivorus
- Bonasa bonasia
- Boba bubo
- Aegolius funereus
- Dryocopus martius
- Motacilla cinerea
- Saxicola rubetra
- Saxicola torquata
- Turdus viscivorus
- Regulus regulus
- Luscinia megarhynchos
- Loxia curvirostra
This is the most extensive area of low marshy and sandy coastline and shoals, wide shallow bays, lagoons and protected straits in Croatian littoral. The area also includes two large salt pans (one on the Island of Pag and the other by the town of Nin on the coast), wetlands (ornithological reservations on Pag - Vela Blato, Malo Blato and Kolansko Blato), and few river mouths, of which the largest would be the one of the Zrmanja River. Therefore, this is one of the most important Croatian wintering and stopover areas for waders, divers, Sandwich terns, sea ducks and grebes, and at present probably the only Croatian breeding site of Kentish Plover. Vast xeric grasslands of the area are the most important nesting site of Stone Curlew in Croatia.

The area is one of the best for bird watching, especially interesting as Montagu’s Harrier (Circus pygargus), partridge (Alectoris graeca), Stone Curlew (Burhinus oedicnemus), Kentish Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus) and eater (Merops apiaster).

Birds include:

- Gavia stellata
- Phalacrocorax aristotelis
- Tadorna tadorna
- Mergus serrator
- Alectoris graeca
- Pluvialis squatarola
- Numenius arquata
- Calandrella brachydactyla
- Lanius senator
- Hippolais pallida
- Emberiza melanocephala
- Circaetus gallicus
- Columba livia
- Alcedo atthis
- Motacilla alba
- Oenanthe hispanica
- Sitta neumayer
- Pyrrhocorax graculus
- Gavia arctica
- Ardea purpurea
- Anas penelope
- Circus aeruginosus
- Himantopus himantopus
- Charadrius hiaticula
- Larus canus
- Athene noctua
- Galerida cristata
- Oenanthe hispanica
- Sylvia melanocephala
- Passer hispaniolensis
- Falco peregrinus
- Streptopelia turtur
- Hirundo rupestris
- Lanius collurio
- Monticola saxatilis
- Emberiza cia
- Podiceps cristatus
- Plegadis falcinellus
- Anas querquedula
- Circus pygargus
- Burhinus oedicnemus
- Charadrius dubius
- Thalasseus sandvicensis
- Copromulgus europaeus
- Motacilla flava
- Monticola solitaries
- Sylvia cantillans
- Sturnus roseus
- Alectoris graeca
- Otus scops
- Delichon urbica
- Cinclus cinctus
- Monticola solitarius
- Acanthis cannabina
- Podiceps nigricollis
- Platalea leucorodia
- Melanita fusca
- Buteo rufinus
- Pluvialis apricaria
- Charadrius alexandrinus
- Sterna albifrons
- Merops apiaster
- Anthus campestris
- Locustella luscinioides
- Emberiza (Miliaria) calandra
- Tachybaptus ruficollis
- Actitis hypoleucos
- Tachymarptis melba
- Motacilla cinerea
- Phoenicurus ochruros
- Aegithalos caudatus
- Oriolus oriolus
This is the largest lake in Croatia. The lake is shallow, and therefore its entire bottom remains within reach for all waders which feed by diving. Hills to the east from the lake have areas covered with macchia. More then 20,000 waterbirds, mostly Coots. This is a nature park.

Park’s Uniqueness
- The largest lake in Croatia
- Along the Lower Neretva, it is the only large swamp in the Mediterranean part of Croatia
- Special Ornithological Reserve
- Habitat of four Endangered bird species on European level
- Habitat of seven Endangered bird species on national level
- The biggest nesting population of the Pygmy Cormorant (Phalacrocorax pygmeus) in Croatia
- One of the last nesting areas for the Purple Heron (Ardea purpurea), the Great White Egret (Egretta alba), the Little Egret (Egretta garzetta), the Pygmy Cormorant (Phalacrocorax pygmeus)
- Habitat for species included in the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- Hot-spot – diversity of ornithofauna (249 species, 102 nesting species)
- Number of waterbirds spending the winter on the lake exceeds 100,000 individuals
- Habitat for possibly the only population of the Mediterranean species of the Rudd (Scardinius erythrophthalmus)
- Rich history (first finds date from 2000 years BC).

Best area for viewing Pygmy Cormorants (Phalacrocorax pygmeus) in Croatia, and there are interesting also other species related to water, such as the numerous herons - gray (Ardea cinerea), Heron (Ardea purpurea) small white (Egretta garzetta) and Little Bittern (Ixobrychus minutus) and marsh Harrier (Circus aeruginosus).

Birds include:

- Podiceps cristatus
- Phalacrocorax pygmeus
- Ardea purpurea

- Egretta alba
- Egretta garzetta
- Ardea ralloides

- Ixobrychus minutus
- Botaurus stellaris
- Cygnus olor

- Anser anser
- Anas platyrhynchos
- Anas clypeata

- Aythya nyroca
- Circaetus gallicus
- Circus aeruginosus

- Alectoris graeca
- Coturnix coturnix
- Rollus aquaticus

- Porzana porzana
- Porzana parva
- Gallinula chloropus

- Fulica atra
- Vanelus vanellus
- Tringa erythropus

- Tringa totanus
- Tringa stagnatilis
- Tringa nebularia

- Tringa glareola
- Calidris canutus
- Philomachus pugnax

- Larus minutus
- Chlidonias hybridus
- Chlidonias leucophaeus

- Clamator glandarius
- Otus scops
- Tachymarptis melanura

- Coracias garrulus
- Upupa epops
- Hirundo daurica

- Panurus biarmicus
- Cettia cetti
- Locustella luscinioides
Wide diversity of river habitats characterizes this national park's area - rapids with steep banks and some gravel bars, river lakes, brackish mouth. The banks are also very diverse: from gorges with numerous high and sheer cliffs, rocks and scree, to wet and dry meadows intercepted with arable land. Wetland habitats are well developed in shallow bays of Visovacko Lake and at River Gudaca's mouth. Xeric grasslands are prevailing on the plateau above the river - here dwells the largest Croatian population of Calandra Lark. The rest of the plateau is covered with sub-Mediterranean forest.

With its seven travertine waterfalls and a total drop of 242 meters, the Krka River is a natural karst phenomenon. Patches of reeds, lakes formed along part of the river and swamped meadows abound in amphibians and birds. The abundance of various species of birds (222), the structure of the bird communities and the great significance of the Krka for spring and autumn migrations make it among the ornithologically most valuable regions of Europe.

There are many cultural and historical monuments found within Krka National Park. These include archaeological sites, monuments of sacral heritage and monuments of industrial architecture. Visitors can also visit the interesting ethno village that has preserved the old crafts and way of life.

Birds include:
- *Circaetus gallicus*
- *Buteo rufinus*
- *Falco vespertinus*
- *Burhinus oedicnemus*
- *Streptopelia turtur*
- *Cuculus canorus*
- *Caprimulgus europaeus*
- *Upupa epops*
- *Melanocorypha calandra*
- *Calandrella brachydactyla*
- *Galerida cristata*
- *Anthus campestris*
- *Lanius collurio*
- *Lanius minor*
- *Hippolais olivetorum*
- *Sylvia (hortensis) crassirostris*
- *Emberiza (Miliaria) calandra*
- *Emberiza cirlus*
- *Emberiza melanocephala*
- *Acanthis cannabina*
- *Oriolus oriolus*
The area includes the Cetina River from source to sea, as well as several adjacent karst fields: Pasko Polje, Suho Polje, Sinjsko Polje and Hrvatacko Polje. The Pasko Polje is mostly covered with wet pastures, small marshes and flooded meadows; only a small part of it in direction of the slopes of Dinara Mountain is dry. These flooded, swampy habitats are the only Croatian nesting site of Redshank. Suho Polje is covered with dry grassland (its name means exactly that: Suho means dry in Croatian, while Polje means field). Sinjsko Polje is a improved and prevailingly arable field area. Leaving the Sinjsko Polje, the Cetina River flows into a canyon with well developed rocky habitats. Hrvatacko Polje is covered with broad grasslands, both wet and dry, as well as swampy habitats with thick riparian vegetation. The Hrvatacko Polje is the Moustached Warbler’s only nesting site in Croatia. Due to the significantly negative impact of several hydro-power plants in the area, the bird population of the river habitats here is quite poor. But it is not all bad: the water reservoir of the Peruca power plant is the only Croatian nesting site of Goosander.

Spring part with Pag field, water dam and Peruća part at the mouth of the canyon near the town are the only nesting sites of Redshank (Tringa totanus) and large Merganser (Mergus merganser) in Croatia, and the area is also one of the best for watching two interesting species of swallows - Craig Martin (Hirundo rupestris) and daurske (Hirundo daurica) and Shrikes - ruskog (Lanius collurio), gray (Lanius minor) and ridoglavog (Lanius senator).

Birds include:
- Mergus merganser
- Circus pygargus
- Falco columbarius
- Coturnix coturnix
- Burhinus oedicnemus
- Gallinago gallinago
- Tringa totanus
- Tringa glareola
- Streptopelia turtur
- Upupa epops
- Picus viridis
- Alauda arvensis
- Motacilla flava
- Lanius collurio
- Lanius excubitor
- Luscinia (Erithacus) megarhynchos
- Oenanthe oenanthe
- Turdus iliacus
- Circaetus gallicus
- Falco vespertinus
- Falco subbuteo
- Crex crex
- Charadrius dubius
- Tringa erythropus
- Tringa ochropus
- Actitis hypoleucos
- Anthus campestris
- Anthus campestris
- Lanius minor
- Lanius senator
- Luscinia (Erithacus) megarhynchos
- Oenanthe oenanthe
- Oenanthe hispanica
- Turdus viscivorus
Zagora is the hinterland of the coastal area and is separated from the coast by the Kozjak, Mosor and Biokovo mountains. Although this is typical karstic terrain, that means that it is mostly rocky ground with low vegetation; it is hard to count all the beauties that nature has granted this area. It is enriched by the presence of the river Cetina and the fertile soil oases, the beautiful Gubovica waterfall and natural phenomenon such as the Crveno jezero (the Red Lake), the Vranjača Cave...

Visiting Zagora to find the wealth of natural beauties, or following a newly found challenge, every tourist will certainly be aware of his host’s hospitality whilst tasting some of the local gastronomic specialities that are the main reason for the accelerated development of active tourism and rural tourism in this region.

Area with limestone cliffs, sub-Mediterranean bush and cultivated fields and olive groves. Interesting species are toed (Circaetus gallicus), owl (Bubo bubo) and several types of Mediterranean Warbler, of which the most interesting kratkokrili Warbler (Hippolais polyglotte), olive grower Warbler (Hippolais olivetorum), Grey Warbler (Hippolais pallida), a large warbler (Sylvia crassirostris), Sardinian Warbler (Sylvia melanocephala) and Subalpine Warbler (Sylvia cantillans). Addition to the above, the area is interesting because of the significant population of Blue Rock Thrush (Monticola solitarius), brown tit (Parus lugubris) and nuthatch (Sitta neumayer).

Birds include:

Gavia arctica
Phalacrocorax pygmaeus
Netta rufina
Aleactoris graeca
Tringa totanus
Calidris ferruginea
Cuculus canorus
Uupa epops
Cettia cetti
Hippolais olivetorum
Sylvia cantillans
Emberiza cirrus
Pernis apivorus
Aquila chrysaetos
Coturnix coturnix
Columba palumbus
Asio otus
Dendrocopos major
Lanius excubitor
Tachybaptus ruficollis
Egretta garzetta
Pernis apivorus
Rallus aquaticus
Tringa nebularia
Larus melanoccephalus
Bubo bubo
Lanius senator
Acrocephalus scirpaceus
Hippolais palila
Cisticola juncidis
Serinus serinus
Circus pygargus
Falco vespertinus
Grus grus
Streptopelia turtur
Caprimulgus europaeus
Alauda arvensis
Luscinia (Erithacus) megarhynchos
Podiceps nigricollis
Tadorna tadorna
Circaetus gallicus
Gallinula chloropus
Actitis hypoleucos
Thalasseus sandvicensis
Apus pallidus
Oenanthe hispanica
Sylvia (hortensis) crassirostris
Sylvia melanocephala
Sitta neumayer
Phalacrocorax carbo
Anas crecca
Circus cyaneus
Charadrius hiaticula
Calidris alba
Streptopelia turtur
Tachymarptis melba
Monticola solitarius
Hippolais polyglotta
Sylvia cantillans
Cisticola juncidis
Poecile (Parus) lugubris
Sitta neumayer
Pernis apivorus
Circus pygargus
Accipiter gentilis
Aleactoris graeca
Vanelus vanellus
Cuculus canorus
Upupa epops
Hirundo rustica
Oriolus oriolus
Buteo rufinus
Perdix perdix
Actitis hypoleucos
Tity alba
Jynx torquilla
Lanius collurio
Oenanthe oenanthe
The Lastovo Archipelago was declared a nature park by the Croatian Parliament on 29 September 2006. It is the eleventh nature park in Croatia. The Park consists of 44 islands, islets, rocks and reefs (the largest of them are Lastovo and Sušac) covering a total area of 53 square kilometres of land and 143 square kilometres of sea. Its borders are lit by the stone lighthouses of Sušac, Tajan, Glavat and Struga.

The Lastovo Archipelago was declared a nature park due to its mystic beauty, immense landscape value, thick forests and fertile fields rich with ponds, high coastal cliffs, land and sea caves, numerous rare sea and land species and habitats. The Lastovo Archipelago has a rich cultural and historical heritage – numerous stone churches and chapels, picturesque chimneys and the traditional Lastovo Carnival, but one must not forget local inhabitants.

Island Lastovo - Best area in the Adriatic to observe some characteristic of sea birds, of which the most interesting population Kaukala (Calonectris diomedea), gregule (Puffinus yelkouan), marine cormorant (Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii), Eleonora’s falcon (Falco eleonorae) and Mediterranean gull (Larus audouinii).

Birds include:
- Calonectris diomedea
- Phalacrocorax aristotelis
- Milvus migrans
- Falco eleonorae
- Grus grus
- Larus cachinnans michahellis
- Streptopelia turtur
- Otus scops
- Apus pallidus
- Merops apiaster
- Lanius collurio
- Luscinia (Erithacus) megarhynchos
- Oenanthe hispanica
- Monticola solitarius
- Sylvia atricapilla
- Sylvia melanocephala
- Serinus serinus
- Puffinus yelkouan
- Pernis apivorus
- Circus aeruginosus
- Falco peregrinus
- Larus audouinii
- Apus apus
- Tachymarptis melba
Nature park Biokovo

Biokovo is a high mountain, prevalingly a rocky habitat with cliffs, especially on its coastal side. The prevailing forest types here are sub Mediterranean white oak forests and aleppo pine groves. Most of the open habitats are rocky with dry grasslands. This is a nature park.

Biokovo is a mountain with steep cliffs and sinkholes of high-rises almost straight from the sea. The best location for observing some high-mountain species such as alpine Popić (Prunella collaris), Black Redstart (Phoenicurus ochruros), Rock (Monticola saxatilis) and Chough (Pyrrhocorax Pyrrhocorax).

Birds include:

- Accipiter gentilis
- Aquila chrysaetos
- Alectoris graeca
- Cuculus canorus
- Athene noctua
- Apus pallidus
- Dendrocopos major
- Delichon urbica
- Lanius collurio
- Prunella collaris

- Circaetus gallicus
- Buteo buteo
- Falco peregrinus
- Streptopelia turtur
- Otus scops
- Apus apus
- Tachymarptis melba
- Lullula arborea
- Anthus campestris
- Troglodytes troglodytes
- Erithacus rubecula
- Phoenicurus ochruros
- Oenanthe oenanthe
- Oenanthe hispanica
- Monticola saxatilis
- Monticola solitarius
- Turdus torquatus
- Turdus viscivorus
- Sylvia curruca
- Sylvia cantillans
- Phylloscopus collybitus
- Tichodroma muraria
- Emberiza cia
- Emberiza hortulana
- Loxia curvirostra
- Pyrrhocorax graculus
- Corvus monedula
Delta of river Neretva

This is the largest complex of wetland habitats in the Croatian littoral. The vast areas by the banks of the Neretva River and its tributaries are richly developed habitats with copious waterside vegetation (reedbeds, sedge, rush), as well as other riparian plants (both floating and submerged). The very mouth of the Neretva River combines vast lagoons, shallow sand bays, low sandy shores and shoals, and salt marshes. Reclaimed land is covered by broad arable fields with a well developed network of irrigation channels. Here dwells Croatia’s largest breeding populations of Bitterns and Baillon’s Crakes.

Birds include:

- Gavia stellata
- Podiceps cristatus
- Phalacrocorax carbo
- Ardea purpurea
- Egretta garzetta
- Ixobrychus minutus
- Plegadis falcinellus
- Tadorna tadorna
- Anas acuta
- Pandion haliaetus
- Accipiter brevipes
- Rallus aquaticus
- Porzana parva
- Fulica atra
- Himantopus himantopus
- Charadrius alexandrinus
- Tringa totanus
- Calidris tenuirostris
- Thalasseus sandvicensis
- Chlidonias leucopterus
- Clamator glandarius
- Alcedo atthis
- Lanius excubitor
- Panurus biarmicus
- Locustella luscinioides
- Cisticola juncidis
- Emberiza schoeniclus
- Sturnus vulgaris

- Gavia arctica
- Podiceps nigricollis
- Phalacrocorax pygmeus
- Egretta alba
- Ardeola ralloides
- Botaurus stellaris
- Platalea leucorodia
- Anas strepera
- Aythya nyroca
- Circus aeruginosus
- Grus grus
- Porzana porzana
- Gallinula chloropus
- Haematopus ostralegus
- Charadrius hiaticula
- Numenius phaeopus
- Calidris minuta
- Philomachus pugnax
- Chlidonias hybridus
- Chlidonias niger
- Cuculus canorus
- Merops apiaster
- Luscinia megarhynchos
- Cettia cetti
- Sylvia borin
- Remiz pendulinus
- Passer hispaniolensis
Ornithological Reserve Black Mlaka

Crna Mlaka Bird Reserve is situated only 14 km away from the town. With its unique hydrographic and vegetation features, many bird species and oak forests, it is the place you simply must visit. During most of the year protected and rare birds inhabit the reserve: sea eagle, cormorant, black stork, grebe, heron, duck and other. Ornithologists have identified around 230 bird species, and in 1980 Crna Mlaka becomes a special protection reserve. The reserve covers the area of 6,87 square kilometres. A fishpond network used to this day was build in the late 1920s and is situated in the lowest part of the Kupa basin. Scope depression with wet meadows, ponds and riparian forests of oak. Biodiversity is especially prominent in the world of birds. One of the most important areas for ducks, of which the most interesting is a large population of ferruginous duck (Aythya nyroca), both species - black (Ciconia nigra) and white (Ciconia ciconia), and white-tailed (Haliaeetus albicilla).

Birds include:
Ardea purpurea
Egretta alba
Ardeola ralloides
Ciconia nigra
Netta rufina
Aythya nyroca
Pandion haliaetus
Haliaeetus albicilla
Aquila pomarina
Crex crex
Porzana porzana
Porzana parva
Tringa glareola
Philomachus pugnax
Chlidonias hybridus
Columba oenas
Strix uralensis
Dendrocopos medius
Panurus biarmicus
Locustella luscinioides
Locustella fluviatilis
Ficedula albicollis
Remiz pendulinus
Certhia brachydactyla
Emberiza schoeniclus
Corvus corax
The area of Žumberak and the Samoborsko gorje (Samobor's surrounding hills) was designated a nature park as a protected natural resource by the Act of the Croatian parliament on 28th May, 1999. A nature park is a vast wild or partly cultivated area of countryside and/or sea, ecologically valuable on international or national level with important countryside, educational, cultural, historical, tourist and recreational resources. Žumberak - Samoborsko gorje Nature Park covers around 333 km².

Žumberak - a wooded mountain range with intense broad-leaved forests and hilly Hills, with a mosaic rural landscape. The area has a good population of several species of woodpeckers - a small (Dendrocopos minor), crvenoglavog (Dendrocopos medius), Syria (Dendrocopos syriacus), large (Dendrocopos major) and gray tits (Picus canus). It is also interesting and songbird populations, especially Hawfinch (Coccothraustes coccothraustes).

Birds include:
- Pernis apivorus
- Milvus migrans
- Accipiter gentilis
- Falco subbuteo
- Falco peregrinus
- Columba palumbus
- Streptopelia turtur
- Cuculus canorus
- Strix aluco
- Upupa epops
- Picus canus
- Lullula arborea
- Motacilla cinerea
- Motacilla alba
- Anthus trivialis
- Lanius collurio
- Cinclus cinclus
- Prunella modularis
- Phoenicurus phoenicurus
- Saxicola torquata
- Turdus philomelos
- Turdus viscivorus
- Sylvia nisoria
- Phylloscopus collybitus
- Regulus regulus
- Muscicapa striata
- Aegithalos caudatus
- Poecile (Parus) palustris
- Emberiza citrinella
Area of Lonjsko field, Moslavačke hills, ponds Lipovljani, Garešnica

Flood plain area with wet meadows, woods and groves, willow, poplar and oak, permanent and temporary water bodies channel, floodplain meadows, ponds and fish ponds. In this area there is a Nature Park "Lonjsko polje", and the most interesting species are several species of heron - Night Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax), great white egret (Egretta alba), purple heron (Ardea purpurea), black stork (Ciconia nigra), white stork (Ciconia ciconia) and Shoveler (Platlea leucorodia), raptors honey buzzard (Pernis apivorus), black kite (Milvus migrans), white-tailed Eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla) and eagle (Aquila pomarina) and other wetland and forest species such as gray Little Crake (Porzana parva), redhead Little Crake (Porzana porzana), Common Snipe (Gallinago Gallinago), whiskered tern (Chlidonias hybridus) and flycatcher (Ficedula albicollis).

Birds include:
- Podiceps nigricollis
- Phalacrocorax carbo
- Ardea purpurea
- Egretta alba
- Nycticorax nycticorax
- Ciconia nigra
- Ciconia ciconia
- Halaeetus albicilla
- Aquila pomarina
- Coturnix coturnix
- Crex crex
- Porzana parzana
- Porzana porzana
- Gallinago gallinago
- Chlidonias hybridus
- Dendrocopos medius
- Alauda arvensis
- Saxicola rubetra
- Lanius minor
- Sturnus vulgaris
- Acerectopus schoenobaenus
- Sylvia nisoria
- Emberiza (Miliaria) calandra
- Locustella naevia
- Acrocephalus schoenobaenus
The peculiarities of Papuk represent the important part of biological and landscape values in the area of Slavonia. Outstanding relief characteristics spoke of stormy geological history of origination of this area. Variety of geological phenomenon, preserved flora and vegetation, and habitats of the larger number of animal species, represents the treasure that needs to be explored, improved and preserved from the harmful influence of people for new generations of people who will live here.

A bird kingdom of Nature Park Papuk is rather diverse and rich in, primarily forest birds. It is hard to find a place where you can’t hear them singing. Birds, some with their appearance, some with their songs, create special atmosphere to woods of Papuk. The largest representatives among forest birds today are rare birds of prey, out of which with the appearance and behaviour the most prominent is common buzzard. A very beautiful and noticeable forest bird is golden oriole, whose pleasant song revives forests and groves. The king of all singing birds, nightingale, one can find in the valleys covered with forests, and forests, which are on lower altitudes.

Birds include:

- Pernis apivorus
- Accipiter gentilis
- Columba oenas
- Streptopelia turtur
- Upupa epops
- Dendrocopos leucotos
- Dendrocopos syriacus
- Lullula arborea
- Motacilla cinerea
- Lanius collurio
- Lanius minor
- Cinculus cincclus
- Troglodytes troglodytes
- Saxicola torquata
- Turdus viscivorus
- Sylvia nisoria
- Phylloscopus collybitus
- Poecile (Parus) palustris
- Certhia brachydactyla
- Emberiza citrinella
- Acanthis cannabina
- Nucifraga caryocatactes

- Circaetus gallicus
- Falco subbuteo
- Columba palumbus
- Cuculus canorus
Plains in the area between the Sava River and hill Dili. Much of the carp ponds are covered with a thick and rich marsh vegetation and are preserved wetland habitat for a variety of birds, of which the most interesting crnovrati Grebe (Podiceps nigricollis), yellow heron (Ardea rallioide), Shoveler (Platalea leucorodia), duck gogoljica (Netta Rufina), ferruginous duck (Aythya nyroca) and large nesting colony of river gulls (Larus ridibundus). Surrounding arable land, after the autumn harvest, is an important resting on the migratory corridor cranes (Grus grus), and the daily record impressive flocks of hundreds of birds.

Birds include:

- Podiceps cristatus
- Podiceps nigricollis
- Phalacrocorax pygmaeus
- Ardea purpurea
- Egretta alba
- Ardeola ralloides
- Nycticorax nycticorax
- Ixobrychus minutus
- Botaurus stellaris
- Egretta alba
- Nycticorax nycticorax
- Ciconia ciconia
- Ardea purpurea
- Plegadis falcinellus
- Ardeola ralloides
- Platalea leucorodia
- Ixobrychus minutus
- Anser anser
- Nycticorax nycticorax
- Halieetus albicilla
- Grus grus
- Rallus aquaticus
- Gallinula chloropus
- Larus ridibundus
- Chlidonias hybridus
- Motacilla flava
- Acrocephalus arundinaceus
- Emberiza schoeniclus
- Panurus biarmicus
- Acrocephalus scirpaceus
- Remiz pendulinus
- Emberiza schoeniclus
Kopački rit Nature Park is situated in the northeastern part of the Republic of Croatia, i.e. on the wider geographical area of eastern Croatia. Geographically speaking, Kopački rit is the flat part of Baranja, belonging to Osječko-baranja County, mainly lowland situated between the Drava and Danube rivers and the state border with the Republic of Hungary. It stretches from the northern part of the Drava where the mouth of the Drava flows into the Danube and upstream on the left and right banks of the Danube towards the former Kazuk port. The state border towards the Republic of Serbia designated the Nature Park’s eastern border.

Kopački rit is a floodplain that developed due to the activities of two large rivers, the Danube and the Drava. Significant flood areas exist in the northern, southern and western surrounding parts of the Nature park that stretch from Batina up north, to Bijelo Brdo down south and Donji Miholjac towards west. Almost 1700 areas in the world have been designated on the List of Ramsar areas until today covering more than 150 million hectares. Kopački rit is also on the list of Important Bird Areas (IBAs). This program was developed by Birdlife International (a global association for bird protection; their habitat; and global biodiversity that focuses people to the sustainable usage of natural resources) so to determine, supervise and protect the global network areas that are important habitats for birds and for the bio-diversity in general.

Birds include:
- Podiceps nigricollis
- Phalacrocorax pygmaeus
- Ardea purpurea
- Nycticorax nycticorax
- Ciconia nigra
- Anas strepera
- Anas querquedula
- Haliaeetus albicilla
- Aquila pomarina
- Sterna hirundo
- Chlidonias hybridus
- Chlidonias leucopterus
- Chlidonias niger
- Phalacrocorax carbo
- Ardea cinerea
- Egretta alba
- Botaurus stellaris
- Platalea leucorodia
- Anas platyrhynchos
- Pandion haliaetus
- Circus aeruginosus
- Larus ridibundus
This area includes as much as three protected areas - Dravski park of forests, ornithological reservation Veliki Pazut, and significant landscape of Cambina. The stretch of the river Drava from Dubrava Krizovljanska to Donja Dubrava, includes three hydropower plant storage reservoirs built on this part of the river, while the free flow of the river is a constellation of shingle-bars and islands, oxbow lakes, ponds and gravel pits. This area is included in the National Ecological Network as a site important for waterbirds' wintering (more than 20,000 waterbirds such as geese, ducks, Coots, etc. dwell here).

This is also an important breeding area of two species endangered on the national level: Common Sandpiper and Willow Warbler. The upper stretch of the river Drava, to Terezino Polje, is the only larger preserved area with gravel banks, bars and islands in Croatia. The river system includes many small tributaries, oxbow lakes, ponds and gravel pits. The pedunculate oak forest Repas belong to this area as well. This is one of the most important Croatian breeding areas for Common and Little Tern.

The middle stretch of the Drava River (from Terezino polje to Donji Miholjac) is characterized by rich river habitats with sandbanks, sand-bars and islands and vertical, eroded, bare riverbanks, oxbow lakes and ponds. As much as 35 couples of White-tailed Sea Eagles nest in the woods of this area. It is a complex conserved river habitats with thickets, woodlands and sandy islands and sandbanks. Most interesting species are gravelly shores Ringed Plover (Charadrius dubius), small Redshank (Actitis hypoleucos) tern (Sternula hirundo), Little Tern (Sternula albifrons) and Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis), and in the forests and bush-tailed Eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla), modrovoljka (Luscinia sparka) and birch zviždak.

Birds include:
- Ixobrychus minutus
- Ciconia ciconia
- Pandion haliaetus
- Haliaeetus albicilla
- Actitis hypoleucos
- Sterna albifrons
- Alcedo atthis
- Picus canus
- Riparia riparia
- Lanius collurio
- Lanius minor
- Luscinia (Erithacus) megarhynchus
- Luscinia (Erithacus) svecica
- Hippolais icterina
- Sylvia nisoria
- Phylloscopus trochilus