ŠETNJOM OTKRIJTE LJEPOTE SJEVERNOG VELEBITA

Poštovani posjetitelji!

Želite li doista upoznati sjeverni Velebit, doživjeti puninu njegove divljine i ljepote, vidjeti tragove prisutnosti životinja ili osjetiti dašak davno prošlih vremena, kad su ovim istim putovima kročili velebitski pastiri, pozivamo vas da ostavite svoje vozilo na ulazu u Park i zaputite se u avanturu s ruksakom na leđima.

Od ulaza Babić Siča do planinarskog doma Zavižan možete stići na dva načina. Krenete li „Stazom zviri“, put će vam biti kraći, ali strmiji, a na njemu možda ugledate neke od zanimljivih životinja sjevernog Velebita ili, što je vjerojatnije, opazite tragove njihove prisutnosti. Odlučite li pak poći „Tragom čovika“, čeka vas duža šetnja na kojoj ćete se upoznati s načinom života ljudi koji su stoljećima obitavali na ovom prostoru.

Duž obiju staza postavljene su poučne table pomoću kojih vas želimo kratko upoznati s dijelom prirodne i kulturne baštine ovoga kraja. Uz njih će vam, nadamo se, put do velebitskih vrhunaca biti još zanimljiviji i ljepši. Koji god put odabrali, nagrada će vam biti užitak u prekrasnim vidicima na more, otoke i okolne velebitske vrhove.

Važno!

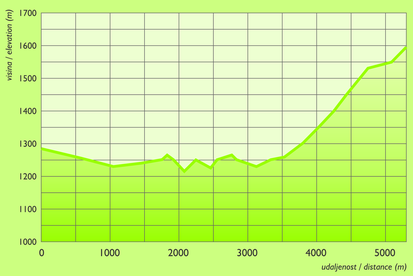
Hodajući duž staza možda ćete sresti divlje ili domaće životinje.

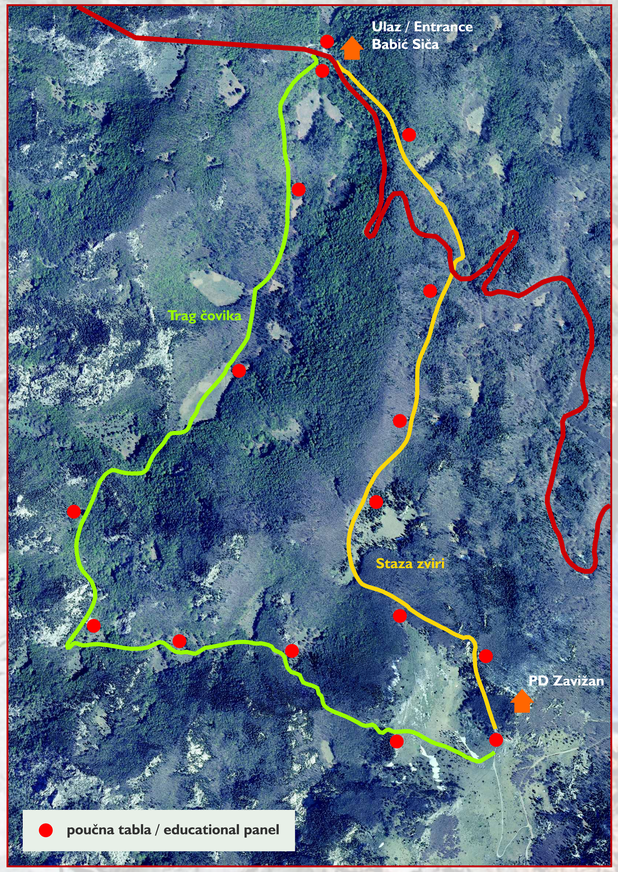
Poštovani posjetitelji, molimo vas da im ne prilazite, ne hranite ih i ne uznemiravate, kako radi vaše tako i njihove sigurnosti.

Hvala!

Trag čovika

- ✓ dužina/length: 5300 m
- ✓ visinski raspon/height difference: 311 m
- ✓ prosječni nagib/average steepness: 5,9%
- ✓ vrijeme obilaska/duration of the walk:
  - * 2,5-3 h (uzbrdo/uphill)
  - * 2 h (nizbrdo/downhill)





TAKE A WALK AND DISCOVER THE BEAUTIES OF THE NORTHERN VELEBIT

Dear visitors!

If you would like to get to know Northern Velebit to the full extent, experience its wilderness and beauty, see the tracks of animals and feel the air of past times long-gone, when these paths were walked by the Velebit shepherds, we invite you to leave your vehicle at the Park entrance, take your backpacks, and start this adventure.

Staza zviri

- ✓ dužina/length: 3600 m
- ✓ visinski raspon/height difference: 311 m
- ✓ prosječni nagib/average steepness: 8,6%
- ✓ vrijeme obilaska/duration of the walk:
  - * 1,5 h (uzbrdo/uphill)
  - * 1 h 10’ (nizbrdo/downhill)

There are two paths from the Babić Siča entrance to the mountain cottage on the Zavižan peak. If you take the *Wildlife path* (Staza zviri), the way will be shorter and steeper, and you might see some of the interesting Northern Velebit animals or, which is more likely, you might find the traces of their presence. On the other hand, if you decide to take the path called *In the footsteps of man* (Trag čovika), you will have a longer walk, during which you will learn about the way of living of people inhabiting this area in the past.

Important!

Along the trails you might come across some animals, wild or domestic.

Dear visitors, please do not approach the animals, do not feed them and do not disturb them for yours, as well as for their own safety.

Thank you!

Along both paths there are educational panels which will give you short information about the natural and cultural heritage of this area. We hope they will make your way to the Velebit peaks even more interesting and beautiful. Whichever way you take, your will be rewarded with beautiful views of the sea, the islands and the surrounding Velebit mountaintops.

Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

VELIK I SNAŽAN

Smeđi medvjed (Ursus arctos) naš je najveći pripadnik reda zvijeri i nalazi se na vrhu prehrambene piramide. Od velikih zvijeri koje nastanjuju područje Nacionalnog parka Sjeverni Velebit najlakše se može vidjeti smeđi medvjed te znakovi njegove prisutnosti.

Medvjed je krupna i snažna životinja izrazito razvijenih osjetila njuha i sluha. Teži oko 100 do 150 kg, a iznimno može dosegnuti težinu od 300 kg. Iako ima probavni sustav tipičan za mesojede, medvjed nije izbirljiv i pojest će sve, od voća, povrća, šumskog bilja i ličinki kukaca, do strvine i ostataka ljudske hrane.

Tijekom „zimskog sna“ medvjedica na svijet donosi mlade koji imaju jedva 350 grama i najmanji su od svih sisavaca u odnosu na majku. Rađaju se slijepi i bez dlake, a hrane se vrlo hranjivim majčinim mlijekom.

Medvjedi provode zimu u brlogu u stanju zimskog mirovanja, pri čemu ne jedu i ne piju. Tjelesna temperatura im se snizi, smanji se broj otkucaja srca, a kao izvor kalorija troše masne zalihe koje su nakupili tijekom ljeta i jeseni.

Bears spend the winter in dens, hibernating. They do not drink or eat during this time. Their body temperature drops, their heart rate lowers, and they use calorie from fat collected during the summer and autumn.

HUGE AND STRONG

The brown bear (Ursus arctos) is our biggest carnivore, located at the top of the food pyramid. Among the big carnivores inhabiting the Northern Velebit National Park, the Brown Bear and the signs of its presence are most easily seen.

Medvjed dodiruje tlo cijelim tabanima, pa trag medvjeda sliči otisku bose noge čovjeka.

The bear touches the ground with its entire feet, so the track is similar to a human footprint.

Bears are huge and strong animals, with well developed sense of smell and hearing. They weigh 100 to 150 kg, and in extreme cases they can weigh up to 300 kg. Although their digestive system is typical for carnivores, bears are not picky and will use every source of food: fruits, vegetables, forest plants, larvae, insects, even carrion and human food leftovers.

During hibernation, the female bear has cubs that weigh only 350 g and are the smallest of all mammals in comparison to their mother. They are born blind and without hair, and they drink extremely nourishing and fattening mik.

Izmet je medvjeda velik i različitih oblika i boja, ovisno o hrani koju je pojeo. Svojim izmetom doprinosi širenju biljnih vrsta čije sjemenke raznosi na velike udaljenosti.

The bear droppings are big and of various shape and colour, depending on the food it ate. Bears contribute to spreading the plant species by distributing the seeds in a large area.

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ Iako izgleda tromo, medvjed je vrlo brz i može doseći brzinu od 55 km/h.
- ✓ Ne boji se vode i dobro pliva, a odlično se penje i na stabla.
- ✓ Dnevni je radijus kretanja medvjeda od 2 do 10 km.
- ✓ Posljednja prebrojavanja pokazala su da na području Hrvatske ima oko 1000 jedinki medvjeda.
- ✓ Iako je zaštićen zakonom, smeđi je medvjed u Hrvatskoj lovna vrsta, dok je na europskoj razini strogo zaštićen.

Did you know?

- ✓ Although they look inert and slow, bears are very fast and can gain the speed of 55 km/h.
- ✓ They are not afraid of water and swim very well, and are excellent tree climbers as well.
- ✓ Their daily movement radius is 2-10 km.
- ✓ The latest count shows that Croatia has around 1,000 bears.
- ✓ Although the brown bear is protected by law, it can still be hunted, while it is strictly protected in most of the other European countries.

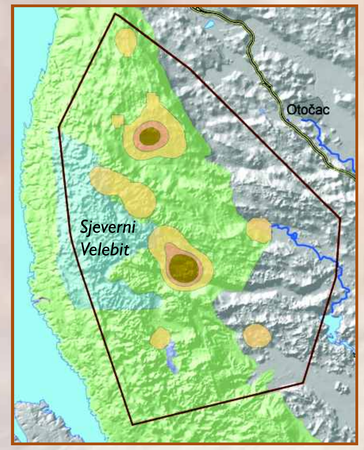
ZAŠTITA PRIRODE • REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA

Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

SIMBOL ISKONSKE DIVLJINE

Prvi su ljudi vuka uvažavali kao sastavni dio prirode, a zbog svoje sličnosti s čovjekom, inteligencije, upornosti i snage u mnogim je kulturama bio štovan kao božanstvo, korišten kao plemenski znak i smatran bratom. Suprotno tome, u srednjem vijeku smatran je simbolom zla i neprijateljem koji ubija korisne životinje.

Vuk je mesojed, a glavni su mu plijen srna, jelen, divlja svinja i manji sisavci. U Hrvatskoj živi sivi vuk (*Canis lupus*), a uglavnom nastanjuje veće šumske komplekse brdskih i planinskih područja. Glavni su razlozi današnje ugroženosti vukova nezakonito ubijanje, stradavanje na prometnicama i nedostatak prirodnog staništa. Vuk je na europskoj i domaćoj razini strogo zaštićena životinjska vrsta.



Na širem području sjevernog Velebita kreće se jedan čopor vukova čiji teritorij obuhvaća i NP Sjeverni Velebit.

In the broader northern Velebit area, which also includes the Northern Velebit National Park, there is a single pack of wolves.

Vukovi obično ne mijenjaju partnere. U pravilu samo jedna vučica u čoporu koti mlade, što je jedan od mehanizama samoregulacije veličine vučje populacije.

Wolves usually do not change partners. Only the dominant female of the pack has cubs, which is one of the self-regulating mechanisms of the wolf population.

Vukovi su teritorijalne životinje, a prostor na kojemu žive obilježavaju urinom, izmetom, grebanjem tla i zavijanjem. Ako u teritorij čopora uđe strani vuk, bit će otjeran ili ubijen.

Wolves are territorial animals. They mark their territory with urine, faeces, scratch marks and howling. If a foreign wolf enters the pack's territory, it will be driven away or killed.

Čopor vukova kreće se u koloni, ne mijenjajući ritam hoda i rijetko skrećući s crte kretanja. Ponekad se i razdvoje i tada je moguće prebrojiti koliko ima jedinki u čoporu. Psi, za razliku od vukova, vole krivudati i trčkarati.

Pack of wolves moves in a line, without changing the pace, and they rarely turn from their path. Sometimes they split, and then it is possible to count the members of the pack. Contrary to this "wolf-like" movement, dogs like to zig-zag and run around.

SYMBOL OF TRUE WILDERNESS

The first humans respected the wolf as a part of nature. Thanks to its similarity to the man, its intelligence, persistence and strength, in many cultures it was adored as a deity, used as a tribal sign, and considered as a brother. Contrary to this, during the Middle Ages, it was considered to be a symbol of evil, and an enemy killing useful animals.

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ Vuk je u prošlosti nastanjivao cijelo područje Hrvatske. Još 1894. godine bilo ga je u svim hrvatskim županijama.
- ✓ Naziv Lika dolazi od grčke riječi *likós*, što znači vuk.
- ✓ Pogrešno je vjerovanje da vukovi zavijaju na mjesec. Zavijanjem drugim vukovima oglašavaju svoju prisutnost i tako brane teritorij ili uhvaćeni plijen.

Did you know?

- ✓ In the past, wolves inhabited whole Croatia. As recently as in 1894, wolves were present in every Croatian county.
- ✓ The name of one of the Croatian regions – Lika – comes from the Greek word *likós* (wolf).
- ✓ It is a misbeleif that wolves howl at the moon. By howling, they inform other wolves that they are present and ready to defend their territory or their prey.

Wolf is a carnivore, and its main prey are Red Deer, Roe Deer, Wild Boar and smaller mammals. In Croatia lives the Grey Wolf (*Canis lupus*), mostly inhabiting larger complexes of forests in mountain areas. The main causes the wolves are today threatened are illegal killing, road accidents, and lack of natural habitat. Wolves are strictly protected by Croatian and European laws.

ZAŠTITA PRIRODE • REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA

Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

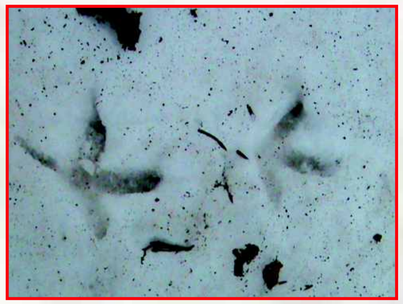
ZALJUBLJENI PIVAC

Veliki tetrijeb (Tetrao urogallus) jedna je od najtajanstvenijih i najzanimljivijih ptica sjevernog Velebita. U tišini proljetne zore čuje se mistična „ljubavna pjesma“ zaljubljenog „pivca“, kojom poziva koke na parenje.

Veliki tetrijeb ili tetrijeb gluhan, naša najveća šumska koka, živi iznad 1000 m n.v., u visokim planinskim šumama bukve, jele i smreke. Zbog narušenog mira u staništu brojno stanje tetrijeba u prošlim se desetljećima znatno smanjilo, pa se nalazi na Crvenom popisu ugroženih ptica Hrvatske. Područje Nacionalnog parka Sjeverni Velebit jedno je od njegovih malobrojnih utočišta u našoj zemlji. Najčešće se može vidjeti na šumskim putovima na kojima skuplja kamenčiće, te uz planinarske staze u vrijeme dozrijevanja šumskih plodova kojima se hrani.

Mjesto na kojemu tetrijeb pjeva svoj svadbeni pjev zove se pjevalište. Približno sat prije svitanja mužjak počinje pjev, najčešće na grani stabla, a kad dođu koke, nastavlja ljubavnu igru na zemlji zavodeći ih šepurenjem. Koka je za trećinu manja od mužjaka i bojom perja izvanredno se prilagođava okolišu, što je osobito važno za vrijeme gniježđenja.

The place where the cock sings its nuptial song is called a lek. Approximately an hour before dawn, the male starts to sing, most often from a tree branch. When the hens arrive, he continues his love play on the ground, seducing them with display. The hen is approximately one third smaller than the cock, and the colour of its plumage blends outstandingly with the surroundings, which is very important at the time of nesting.



Zimi tetrijeb na prstima nogu ima rese koje mu povećavaju površinu prstiju tako da lakše hoda po snijegu.

In winter time Capercaillies have fringed feet that increase their surface and help them walk on snow.

Izmet tetrijeba može se naći svuda gdje se on zadržava. Najviše ga ima ispod stabla na kojemu noći.

Capercaillie droppings can be found in the areas it inhabits. Most often it is found under the tree on which it spends the night.

Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

ZALJUBLJENI PIVAC

The Capercaillie, also known as the Wood Grouse (Tetrao urogallus) is one of the most secretive and interesting birds of northern Velebit. In the silence of spring dawn the mystic „love song“ of the „grouse in love“ is heard, inviting the hens for mating.

Capercaillie is our biggest grouse, living above the altitude of 1,000 m, in the high mountain beech, fir and spruce forest. Since the peace in their habitat has been disturbed, the number of capercaillies has decreased significantly over the last decades. Capercaillie is on the Red list of threatened bird species. The Northern Velebit National Park is one of the few habitats of these rare birds in our country. They can often be seen on forest roads where they gather stones, and along the mountain paths picking fruits and berries.

Did you know?

- ✓ Iako je tetrijeb „mnogoženac“, najčešće ga susrećemo samog, pa i u vrijeme parenja živi na svom teritoriju, a koke na svom.
- ✓ Specifičnost je velikog tetrijeba njegov „svadbeni pjev“ koji se sastoji od četiri dijela. Prvi podsjeća na zvuk udarca drva o drvo, drugi su dio isti, ali ubrzani udarci, a u trećem dijelu čuje se „plunk“, zvuk nalik onome koji se čuje prilikom vađenja čepa iz boce. Završni pjev, tzv. „brušenje“, sliči zvukovima brušenja kose. Mužjak pri brušenju slabije vidi jer su mu oči prekrivene kožom i ne čuje zbog glasnoće zvuka koji proizvodi, pa je tako dobio naziv *gluhan*.
- ✓ Lokalno stanovništvo tetrijebu je dalo ime „pivac“ i po njemu nazvalo neke od vrhova na sjevernom Velebitu – Zavižanski Pivčevac, Pivac…

Did you know?

- ✓ Although the Capercaillie is polygamous, we rarely find it in flocks. Even during the mating period, cocks and hens live separately.
- ✓ Capercaillie is specific for its „nuptial song“, consisting of four parts. It starts with clicking double notes accelerating into "cork-pop" note, immediately followed by a short phrase of grating, whispering notes resembling the sound of sharpening the scythe. In this final stage, the male cannot see well, because his eyes are covered with a membrane, and his hearing is also impaired because of the loud sound he produces, so he got his Croatian name "*gluhan*" meaning „*the deaf one*“.
- ✓ The local name for the Capercaillie is „pivac“. Some peaks in the Northern Velebit were named after it, e.g. Zavižanski Pivčevac, Pivac…

U TIŠINI I MRAKU

Sove su grabežljivci aktivni uglavnom noću. Oštra osjetila, snažne noge i kljun čine ih učinkovitim lovcima. Zahvaljujući posebno građenim perima, lete posve nečujno, što im omogućuje da plijen napadnu iznenada.

Sove uglavnom ne sele te u parovima odabiru područje za lov i gniježđenje. Gnijezda ne grade samostalno već koriste duplje i napuštena gnijezda drugih ptica te izbočine u stijenama. Gnijezda sove srčano brane ako se osjete ugroženima. Sve sove zakonom su strogo zaštićene na hrvatskoj i europskoj razini. Sve vrste koje se gnijezde na području Parka, osim šumske sove, nalaze se na Crvenom popisu ugroženih ptica Hrvatske. Među njima najugroženijim se smatra mali ćuk.

Šumska sova (*Strix aluco*) najčešća je i najrasprostranjenija sova u Europi koja nastanjuje različita šumska staništa. U Parku nije osobito brojna, a nalazimo je uglavnom u bukovim šumama.

Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*) is the most common and widespread owl in Europe, found in various forest habitats. There are not too many Tawny owls in the National Park, and they usually inhabit beech forests.

U mješovitim je šumama bukve i jele jastrebača (*Strix uralensis*) najbrojnija vrsta sove. Nalikuje šumskoj sovi, ali je od nje veća i snažnije građe te ima duži rep. Zbog dugog repa u letu pomalo podsjeća na jastreba, a otuda joj i hrvatsko ime.

In mixed beech-fir woods, the Ural Owl (*Strix uralensis*) is the most common species. It resembles a Tawny Owl, but is bigger and stronger, with a longer tail. Because of it, the silhouette in flight looks similar to a Goshawk's, and that's where its Croatian name came from - "jastrebača", meaning "the Goshawk one".

IN THE SILENCE AND DARKNESS

Owls are predators, active mostly at night. They have sharps senses, strong legs and bills, which makes them superb hunters. Thanks to the special structure of their feathers, they fly soundlessly, which enables them to attack their prey suddenly.

Owls are mostly resident, and they choose their hunting and nesting ground in pairs. They do not build their own nests, but use cavities and abandoned nests of other birds, as well as cliff-ledges. Owls defend their nests bravely if they feel endangered. All owl species are strictly protected in Croatia and Europe. Except for the Tawny Owl, all species living in the National Park are on the Red list of the threatened birds of Croatia. Among them, the Pigmy Owl is considered to be the most endangered.

Sove love s isturenog mjesta (npr. grana, kamenja) ili iz leta oslanjajući se na izvrstan vid i izuzetno osjetljiv sluh. Mogu čuti sitne kretnje plijena ispod lišća, trave ili snijega i vrlo precizno odrediti njihovu udaljenost i smjer.

Owls usually hunt from a perch (e.g. a branch or a stone) or from the air, relying on their excellent sight and hearing. They can hear small movements of prey underneath the leaves, grass or snow, and precisely determine their distance and direction.

Sove se najviše hrane sitnim sisavcima, uglavnom glodavcima i rovkama, ali love i ptice, vodozemce, gmazove, kukce, gujavice i slično.

Owls usually feed on small mammals, mostly rodents or shrews, but also birds, amphibians, reptiles, insects, earthworms, etc.

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ Velike oči koje daju sovama prepoznatljiv izgled čine 1 do 5 posto njihove težine. To je kao kad bi oči čovjeka težile 0,7 do 3,5 kg!
- ✓ Zbog veličine i građe sove ne mogu pokretati oči unutar očnih duplji. No, zahvaljujući dugom i vrlo pokretljivom vratu, glavu mogu okrenuti za 270° lijevo ili desno i nagnuti gotovo naopačke. Tako mogu okrenuti glavu sasvim na leđnu stranu i pogledati ravno iza sebe!
- ✓ Na području Parka zabilježeno je šest od deset hrvatskih vrsta sova. Među njima su najveća i najmanja europska sova – velika ušara, nešto veća od škanjca, i mali ćuk, otprilike veličine vrapca.

Did you know?

- ✓ Big eyes that are one of the main features of owls make 1% do 5% of their weight. That is as if human eyes would weigh 0.7 to 3.5 kg!
- ✓ Due to their size and structure, owls can not move their eyes inside the eye cavities. However, thanks to their long and very flexible neck, they can turn their head 270° to the left or to the right, and tilt it almost upside down. Thus, they can turn their heads to the back of their bodies and look straight behind them!
- ✓ In the National Park, six out of ten Croatian owl species have been recorded. Among these owls are the biggest and the smallest European owl – the Eagle Owl, somewhat bigger than a Common Buzzard and the Pygmy Owl, approximately the size of a sparrow.

ZAŠTITA PRIRODE • REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA

Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

STANARI STABALA

Djetlići danju skakuću po deblima u potrazi za hranom koju nalaze na kori ili ispod nje. Pri tome se služe kratkim i snažnim nogama, a čvrsta i kruta repna pera pružaju im oslonac. Na nogama imaju dva prsta okrenuta naprijed i dva nazad, što im olakšava prihvaćanje za stablo.

Kako bi oglasili svoj teritorij i privukli partnere, djetlići bubnjaju po stablu, za što posebno odabiru ona dobrih zvučnih svojstava, kako bi se udarci što bolje razlijegali šumom. Ritmovi koje pritom stvaraju karakteristični su za svaku vrstu. Svi djetlići strogo su zaštićeni u Hrvatskoj i Europi. Glavni je razlog ugroženosti djetlića pomanjkanje šuma s mrtvim i trulim stablima.

Djetlići se gnijezde i noće u dupljama koje tvrdim kljunom dlijetastog vrha dubu na mjestu gdje je ispod kore stablo zbog truljenja omekšalo. Zahvaljujući toj sposobnosti djetlići imaju ulogu „ključnih vrsta“ – vrsta o čijoj prisutnosti ovisi velik broj drugih koje se gnijezde ili borave u njihovim starim dupljama.

Woodpeckers nest and roost in holes they drill with their hard, chisel-like bills in the spots where the tree is already softened under the bark due to rotting. Thanks to this ability, in the forest woodpeckers play the role of „key species“ – many other species nest in or inhabit their old holes, and so depend on their presence.

TREE INHABITANTS

During the day, woodpeckers hop among the trees, looking for food on the bark or underneath it. They move using their short and strong legs, while the rigid tail feathers give them support. They have two toes pointing to the front, and two pointing to the back, which makes it easier for them to hold on to the tree trunk.

In order to mark their territory and attract potential partners, woodpeckers drum on tree trunks, especially chosen for their good acoustics, so the drumming resonates through the woods. The drumming rhythm is characteristic for each species. All woodpecker species are strictly protected in Croatia and Europe. The main reason for this is the lack of woods with dead and rotting trees.

Među vrstama koje obitavaju u Parku, troprsti djetlić, planinski djetlić i siva žuna nalaze se na Crvenom popisu ugroženih ptica Hrvatske.

Among the species inhabiting the National park, the Three-toed Woodpecker, the White-backed Woodpecker and the Grey-headed Woodpecker are on the Red list of endangered birds in Croatia.

planinski djetlić / White-backed Woodpecker

crna žuna / Black Woodpecker

Za razliku od manjih „crno-bijelih“ djetlića, žune su među rijetkim životinjama koje se mogu hraniti mravima, pa ih se često može vidjeti na tlu.

Unlike the small „black and white“ woodpeckers, the bigger Black, Grey-headed and Green Woodpeckers are among rare animals that can eat ants, and are often seen on the ground.

veliki djetlić / Great Spotted Woodpecker

Djetlići su jedina skupina ptica koja može doći do kukaca ispod kore stabla (npr. ličinki potkornjaka i strizibuba).

Woodpeckers are the only bird group that can pick out insects from under the tree bark (e.g. the bark beetle and longhorn beetle larvae).

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ Za izradu duplje djetlićima je potrebno oko 10 do 25 dana.
- ✓ Jezik im je toliko dugačak da se omata oko lubanje kako bi stao u glavu.
- ✓ Crna žuna, otprilike veličine vrane, jedna je od najvećih vrsta djetlića na svijetu.

Did you know?

- ✓ It takes 10 to 25 days for a woodpecker to make a hole.
- ✓ Woodpecker tongue is so long it wraps around the skull to fit inside the head.
- ✓ The Black Woodpecker, which is approximately the size of a crow, is one of the biggest woodpeckers in the world.

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NEZAMJETNI, NE I NEZNATNI

Glodavci čine više od 40 posto svih sisavaca, te su uz šišmiše najbrojnija i najšire rasprostranjena skupina među njima. Brzo se razmnožavaju i imaju velik broj potomaka, prilagodljivi su na promjene u okolišu, mali su i lako se skrivaju grabežljivcima.

Glodavci su dobili ime zahvaljujući paru dugačkih prednjih zuba koji neprestano rastu i sami se oštre – imaju tvrdu caklinu samo s prednje strane pa se ona troši sporije od ostatka zuba. Zbog svoje brojnosti glodavci su važan izvor hrane mnogim malim i velikim pticama, zvijerima i gmazovima. Isto tako, imaju velik utjecaj na vrste kojima se hrane – drveće, zeljaste biljke, trave, kukce, gujavice i druge beskralješnjake, jaja i ptiće. S obzirom na velik broj vrsta, glodavci su vrlo raznoliki izgledom i načinom života. Skupine glodavaca koje obitavaju u Parku su voluharice, miševi, puhovi i vjeverice.

VOLUHARICE
VOLES

okruglasto tijelo / male uši skrivene u krznu / kratak, često dlakav rep

round body / small ears, hidden in the fur / short, often fury tail

MIŠEVI
MICE

okruglasto tijelo / izražene uši vire iz krzna / dug, uglavnom gol rep

round body / hairless ears protruding from the fur / long, mostly bare tail

PUHOVI
DORMICE

okruglasto tijelo / zaobljene uši / dug čupav rep

round body / round ears / long, hairy tail

VJEVERICE
SQUIRRELS

izduženo tijelo / dug kitnjast rep / šiljaste uši obrasle dlakama imaju čuperak na vrhu

elongated body / long, bushy tail / spiky, furry ears, with a tuft at the end

Dinarski voluhar (*Dinaromys bogdanovi*) balkanski je endem i "živući fosil" – pripada staroj genetskoj liniji i nema bliskih srodnika. Živi na krškom kamenjaru, najčešće na većim nadmorskim visinama. Razmnožava se sporo u odnosu na druge glodavce. Smatra se da ovoj vrsti prijeti visok rizik od izumiranja u prirodi.

Balkan Snow Vole (*Dinaromys bogdanovi*) is an endemic species living in the Balkans, actually a "living fossile" belonging to an old genetic line with no close relatives. It inhabits the karst, and is mostly found at higher altitudes. They reproduce relatively slowly compared to other rodents. This species is considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

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Češeri s otkinutim ljuskama i tragovima zuba na središnjoj osi čest su trag prisutnosti glodavaca.

Cones with torn off scales and traces of teeth on the central axis are a frequent sign of the presence of rodents.

UNNOTICABLE, BUT NOT NEGLIGIBLE

Rodents make more than 40% of all mammals. Together with bats, they are the biggest and the most widespread group. They reproduce very quickly and their offspring is numerous. These small animals adapt to environmental changes very well, and they easily hide from predators.

Rodents were named (from Latin rodere to gnaw) after a pair of long fore teeth that grow continuously and are self-sharpening. Hard enamel develops only on the front of the teeth, so it is worn out slower than the rest of the tooth. Due to their huge number, rodents are an important source of food to many small and big birds, carnivores and reptiles. They also influence the species they feed on – trees, herbaceous plants, grass, insects, earthworms and other invertebrates, eggs and birds. As the group of rodents includes a huge number of species, they vary in appearance and their life-history quite significantly. Major rodent groups that inhabit our Park are voles, mice, dormice and squirrels.

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ Rimljani su tovili puhove za jelo u glinenim posudama koje su nazivali „gliraria“ (lat. glis = puh).
- ✓ Suprotno uvriježenom mišljenju, zečevi i kunići nisu glodavci već dvojezupci jer imaju dvostruke prednje zube okružene caklinom koji se ne oštre sami.
- ✓ Rovke, na prvi pogled nalik miševima, također nisu glodavci i uopće nemaju zube za glodanje. Pripadaju skupini kukcojeda, uz ježeve i krtice.

Did you know?

- ✓ The Romans used to fatten dormice for food in clay pots called „gliraria“ (Lat. glis = dormouse)
- ✓ Contrary to the widespread belief, rabbits and hares are not rodents, but lagomorphs - animals that have double fore teeth, covered with enamel.
- ✓ Although superficially resembling mice, shrews are not rodents, and they do not have rodent teeth. They belong to the group of insectivores, together with hedgehogs and moles.

STAZOM VELEBITSKIH STOČARA

Još do polovice prošloga stoljeća Velebitom i njegovim padinama širio se smijeh, pjesma i žamor brojnih stanovnika. Jeka zvona ovnova predvodnika razlijegala se velebitskim padinama stoljećima, Velebit je bio saveznik i utočište mnogim stočarima.

Način života i običaji njezinih sezonskih stočara, stočarska kretanja, organizacija „izdiga“ (izdizanja na planinu) i stočarska prava ovdje se nisu mijenjali tijekom čitave burne prošlosti planine, sve do novijega vremena kada je depopulacija zahvatila i područje Velebita, a stari su oblici života zamijenjeni novim civilizacijskim tekovinama koje su stanovništvo povele nekim novim putovima. Time se prekinuo milenijski ritam života, stočarski su putovi napušteni, vrtovi i pašnjaci djelomično zarasli, a stočarske naseobine sa stoljetnim ognjištima obrušene.

IN THE STEPS OF THE VELEBIT FARMERS

Until the 1950s, laughter, song and rumble of numerous dwellers flowed across Velebit and its slopes. The echo of the leading rams' bells was spreading on these pastures for centuries. Velebit was an ally and a shelter to many farmers.

The seasonal farmers' way of life and their habits, movement of herds, climbing the mountain and farming rights have not changed through the whole turbulent past of this mountain, until recently, when depopulation stroke and the old habits in this area were substituted by the new civilization which set new goals for the former inhabitants. Centuries-old rhythm of life stopped, farmers' trails, gardens and pastures were abandoned, and their settlements with old fireplaces were ruined.

Jeste li znali?

Zahvaljujući stočarskoj tradiciji, na području Nacionalnog parka Sjeverni Velebit danas na pašnjacima i livadama pronalazimo veliku biološku raznolikost. Ova staništa pružaju dom brojnim vrstama biljaka, životinja i gljiva.

Did you know?

Thanks to the farming tradition in the area of the Northern Velebit National park, we find rich biological diversity on pastures and meadows. These habitats host many plant, fungi and animal species.

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OD MORA DO VRHA PLANINE

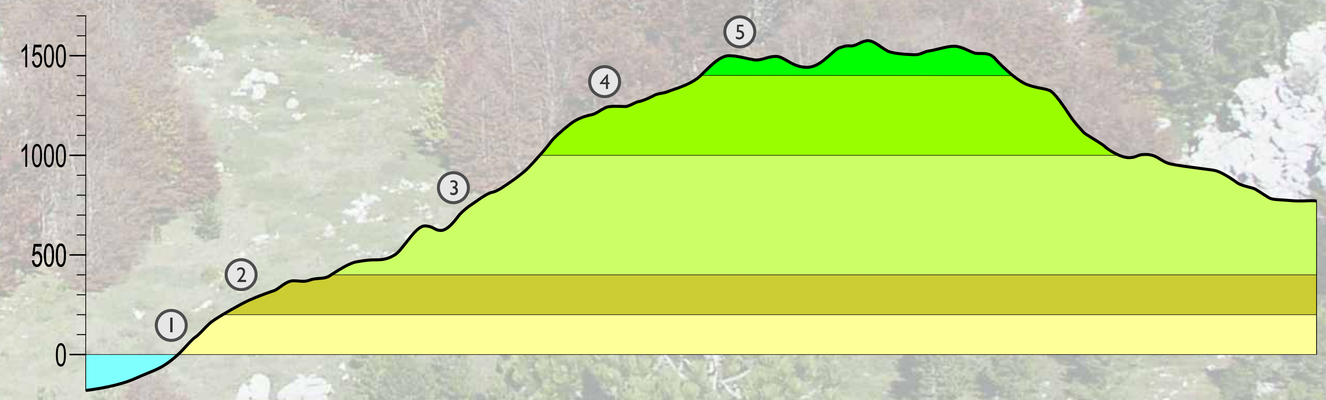
Velebitski stočari svake su godine s početkom toplijih dana dolazili na planinu, na njoj su boravili do kraja ljeta kada nastupaju hladniji dani. Planina im je značila život jer ona im je davala toliko potrebnu hranu.

Razlog sezonske selidbe Primoraca i Podgoraca od mora do vrha planine bile su velike vrućine u ljetnim mjesecima. Suh, spržen krški teren, bez imalo vlage i vode tjerao je stočare i njihove obitelji da napuštaju svoje kuće i sele sa svojom stokom u zonu nadgorja i na sam vrh planine, jer s porastom nadmorske visine temperature su sve niže, a vlažnost zraka i broj kišnih dana u ljetnim mjesecima sve veći. Na planini su stočari gradili jednostavne pastirske stanove i formirali brojna sezonska naselja.

FROM THE SEA TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Year after year, with the arrival of warm days, the Velebit farmers were coming to the mountain and dwelling there until the arrival of colder days at the end of the summer. The mountain was their life for it gave them the food they needed so much.

Very high temperatures during the summer months forced the people from the coastal area to temporarily relocate to the mountain. Dry, parched karst surface, with low humidity and no water, forced the farmers and their families to abandon their houses and move up the mountain with their cattle. The temperatures there were lower, the humidity was higher, and there were more rainly days during the summer. On the mountain top, cattle breeders built simple dwellings and formed numerous seasonal settlements.



1 zona primorja / coastal zone
2 zona podgorja / mountain foot zone
3 zona poda / plain zone
4 zona nadgorja / mountain zone
5 zona vrhgorja / mountaintop zone

Na sjevernom Velebitu su dobro uočljive pašnjačke zone. U nižim je zonama pašnjačka vegetacija oskudna zbog suhe i tople klime, dok je u u zonama nadgorja i vrhgorja obilnija i bujnija zbog hladnije i vlažne klime. U nadgorju su pašnjaci raspoređeni poput malih rasutih enklava po krškim depresijama i uvalama, dok se u vrhgorju pašnjaci i livade nalaze se između mnogih glavica i vrhova grebena planine.

In northern Velebit area pastures zones can be clearly defined. In lower zones pastures are scarce, due to dry and hot climate, while in the higher zones pasture vegetation is richer due to cold and humid climate. In mountain zone pastures are distributed as small enclaves in karst depressions and basins, and on the mountaintops pastures and meadows are located among outcrops and mountain peaks.

Jeste li znali?

Na visini od oko 1000 metara duž planine proteže se niz manjih krških depresija koje se izmjenjuju sa stjenovitim glavicama. Upravo na tim udubljenjima i zaravnima stočari su krčili šumu i vadili kamen iz tla, te formirali zonu nadgorskih pašnjaka, livada i vrtova. U toj zoni oni su pronalazili drvo za ogrjev, vodu za piće i zemlju za proizvodnju hrane.

Did you know?

At the altitude of around 1,000 meters, there are many small karst depressions and rock outcrops. In these depressions and plains, farmers used to cut wood and dig out stone, forming a zone of mountain grasslands, pastures, and gardens. This area provided for their heating wood, their drinking water and their soil.

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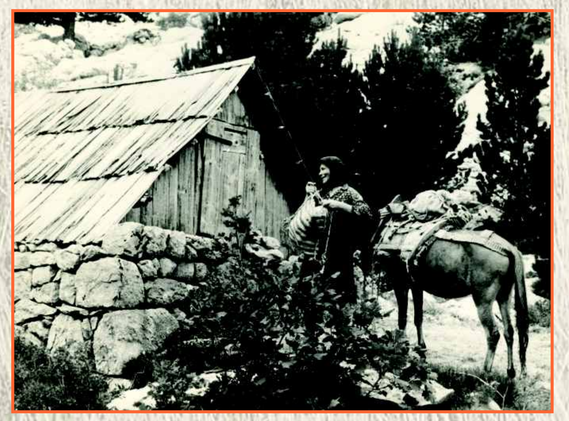
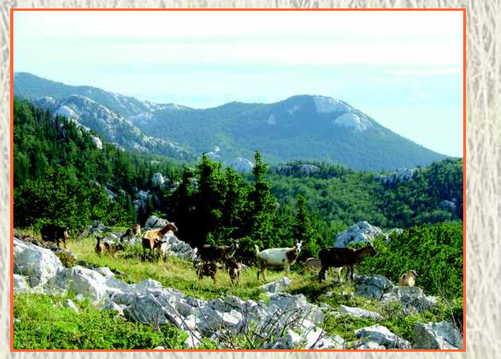
PANDORINA PLAN

Pašnjak ispred vas nalazi se u zoni nadgorja na nadmorskoj visini od 1200 m. Ovamo su stočari svake godine dovodili svoju stoku iz obližnjih stočarskih sezonskih stanova, ali i iz bližih stalnih planinskih naselja poput Babić doca, Markovca, Gurina, Bobovišta, Ažić krča i drugih.

Stoka je za ovaj narod predstavljala najveću vrijednost, bila je „blago“, kako su je i nazivali. Stoka im je im davala mlijeko i sir, vunu od koje su izrađivali odjevne predmete, kožu od koje su pravili obuću, prirodno gnojivo kojim su povećavali urod svojih vrtova. Meso su rijetko jeli - obično su ga prodavali, a od dobivenog su novca plaćali travarinu ili pravo ispaše na planini te kupovali ono što nisu mogli proizvesti.





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PANDORA'S PLAIN

The pasture you are looking at is in the mountain zone, at the altitude of 1,200 m. Farmers drove their cattle to this place from the near-by seasonal settlements, and from the permanent villages like Babić dolac, Markovac, Gurine, Bobovište, Ažić krč and others.

For these people, cattle was the most precious asset, they called it „blago“ (“treasure”). The cattle was the source of milk and cheese, wool for clothing, leather for footwear, manure which increased the productivity of the gardens. The mountain people rarely ate meat. It was usually sold, and the money was used for the grassland charge, or the pasture rights on the mountain, and to buy items they could not produce.

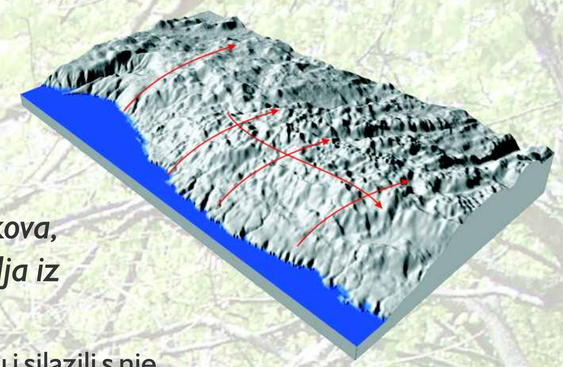
Jeste li znali?

Prema narodnoj predaji, pašnjak je dobio ime po ženi Pandori koja je jedina preživjela kugu u svom selu. Njezina je kuća bila građena od tisovine, dok su sve ostale bile sagrađene od kamena. Prema legendi, spasila ju je upravo ta kućica i po njoj, koja je sa svojom stokom često dolazila ovamo, ova plan ili zaravan, dobiva i ime.

Did you know?

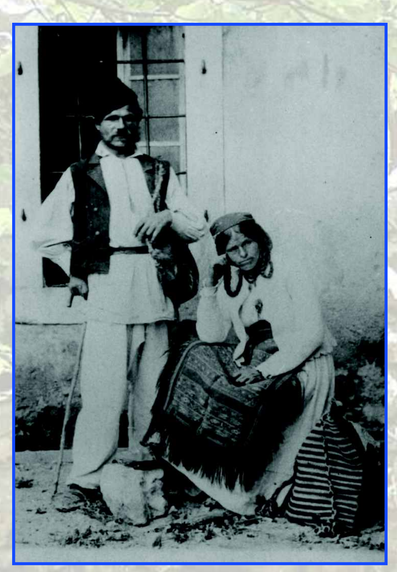
According to the old legend, the pasture was named after Pandora, who was the only one in the village to survive the plague. Her house was built of yew, while all the others were made of stone. The legend says that this house saved her. She used to bring her cattle to this plain, which was later named after her.

CIGANIŠTE



Obližnje raskrižje samo je jedna točka u nizu čvorišta na kojima su se susretali putovi starih stočara iz Lukova, Donje i Gornje Klade, Velikih i Malih Brisnica, Babić doca i drugih primorskih, podgorskih i planinskih naselja iz zone nadgorja.

Sve njih povezivali su ovi putovi, njima su se kretali natovareni teretom, dok su se uspinjali na planinu i silazili s nje. Tim su se putovima u predvečerja šetali velebitski momci i djevojke kad su išli na prelo, pjesmu i ples u susjedna naselja.



CIGANIŠTE

Nearby crossroad was just one of the meeting points of old farmer trails from Lukovo, Donja and Gornja Klada, Velike and Male Brisnice, Babić dolac and other coastal and mountain settlements.

These mountain trails were a meeting point for all of them, when they were moving to the mountain or coming from it, carrying heavy loads. Boys and girls were strolling on them before evening, going to neighbouring villages for wool spinning, song and dance.

Jeste li znali?

Ovo je područje dobilo ime po Romima koji su ovdje živjeli. Među njima živio je i jedan kovač po imenu Ivan sa svojom ženom Rožom. Ivan je popravljao i kovao mnoge alate poput sjekira, pila, motika, plugova, a njegova žena Roža obilazila je sva naselja, prikupljala slomljene alate i vraćala ih popravljene. Za velebitske je stočare ova obitelj imala posebnu važnost jer im je osiguravala neophodna sredstva za rad.

Did you know?

This area was named after the Gipsies that lived here (Cigani). Among them, there was a blacksmith Ivan with his wife Roža. Ivan used to repair and forge tools: axes, saws, hoes, ploughs. His wife Roža used to visit the surrounding settlements, gather broken tools, and return them when after they were repaired. This family was appreciated by the Velebit farmers, because they maintained their everyday tools.

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VODA

Na velebitskom kršu voda je pravi dar s neba koji su stanovnici morali znati iskoristiti i zadržati. Velebitski stočari koristili su različite metode kako bi zadržali vodu na površini – zatvarali su pukotine i razlome u stijenama glinom ili zemljom, klesali korita u kamenu, gradili kamene rezervoare – šterne. Voda koju nisu uspjeli zadržati nestajala je vrlo brzo u podzemlju. Izvori, mjesta na kojima voda iz podzemlja izlazi na površinu, na području sjevernog Velebita prava su rijetkost.

Ovo su mjesto na kojemu se nalazi maleni izvor stočari nazvali Živa vodica, a sam izvor „pišteljak“. Za njih je ovo mjesto imalo posebno značenje jer ono je bilo i izvor života u ovom krškom terenu. U blizini „pišteljaka“ napravljena su i dva bunara, prema narodnoj predaji, po nalogu austrougarske carice Marije Terezije.

Gornji bunar, koji je služio za piće, prihranjuje se vodom iz „pišteljaka“ i vodom iz malog izvora smještenog na dnu bunara. Odvodnim kanalom voda iz Gornjeg bunara ulazi u Donji bunar koji je služio za napajanje stoke. Kako se voda ne bi izgubila u podzemlju, stočari su dno Donjeg bunara zatvorili glinom, a bočne stijenke oba bunara obzidali klesanim kamenim blokovima.

WATER

On the Velebit karst, water was a real gift from the heaven that the mountain people had to know how to use and store. They used various methods to keep the water on the surface – they closed the cracks and openings in the rocks with clay or earth, cut stone beds, built stone water cisterns – “šterne”. The water that they failed to keep, disappeared very quickly in the karst underground. Springs – places where water comes out from the underground – are really scarce in the Northern Velebit area.

This place was named Živa vodica (Live water), and the spring itself was called „pišteljak“. This place was especially significant, because it meant life for this difficult, karst area. Close to „pišteljak“ two stone pools were built, the legend says, upon the order of the Austro-Hungarian empress Maria Theresia.

The upper pool was used for drinking. Its water comes from pišteljak and from a small spring at the bottom of the pool. The lower pool, connected to the upper one with a channel, was used to water the animals. In order to keep the water on the surface, the bottom of the lower pool was closed with clay, and the sides of both pools were clad with stone blocks.

Jeste li znali?

- ✓ U vrijeme dugotrajnih vrućina, kada su mnoge šterne ostajale suhe, stočari su po vodu za sebe i svoju stoku dolazili ovamo i iz naselja udaljenih čak po 15 km. U tim se danima ovdje na red za vodu čekalo i po nekoliko sati.
- ✓ Živa vodica predstavlja pravu malu oazu za mnoge biljne i životinjske vrste koje su životnim ciklusom vezane uz vodu, poput žaba, vodenjaka, vretenaca, vodenih kukaca, račića i drugih.

Did you know?

- ✓ During long hot periods, when many water cisterns dried out, farmers used to come here from their settlements, which were sometimes even 15 km away, to get water for themselves and their animals. During those days they had to wait before the spring for up to several hours.
- ✓ Živa vodica represents a true oasis for many plant and animal species whose life cycle is connected to water: frogs, newts, dragonflies, water insects, crustaceans and others.

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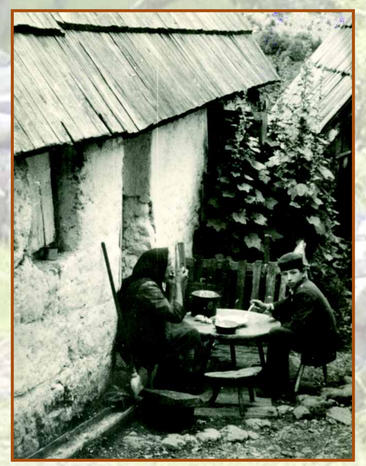
SEZONSKI STANOVI

U naselju koje nosi naziv Potkrivača živjeli su stočari od proljeća pa sve do kasne jeseni. Njihove kuće bile su građene od kamena, metodom suhozida, što znači da je kamen bilo slagan na kamen bez vezivnog materijala. Zidovi tih objekata bili su debeli i do 70-ak centimetara.

Stočari su često koristili živu stijenu za stražnji ili bočni zid stana. Stan se obično sastojao od jedne do najviše dvije prostorije. U njima je boravila cijela obitelj, često i s više od osam članova. Pored stana stočari su gradili i staje koje su obično bile građene od kvalitetnijeg kamena i na kvalitetniji način od stanova, jer stoka je za ovaj narod predstavljala neprocjenjivu vrijednost.

U blizini stanova, ali često i na većim udaljenostima, stočari su uredili vrtove u kojima su sadili povrće. Da bi uredili vrt, svaki pedalj zemlje trebalo je "oteti" kamenu. Vadili su, a često i iskapali kamen s površine terena te od njega gradili podzide i ograđivali vrtove.



SEASONAL SETTLEMENTS

Potkrivača was inhabited from spring to late fall. The houses were built of stone, using dry wall method, which means that the walls were built without any binding materials. The walls were up to 70 cm thick.

The back wall or one of the side walls was often a rock around which the rest of the house was built. The house usually had one or two rooms. The whole family lived there, very often there were eight or more family members living in the same room. Farmers used to build animal sheds close to their own houses. The quality of the sheds was often higher than the quality of their own dwellings, because the cattle was priceless to them.

Farmers usually arranged vegetable gardens near to their homes, but sometimes also further from them. In order to plant these gardens, they needed to „steal“ every inch of the soil from this rocky land. They removed rocks from the surface soil material, using it to build drywall fences around their gardens.

Jeste li znali?

Stočari su u vrtovima uzgajali krumpir, zelje, luk, mrkvu, ciklu, korabu, od žitarica raž, zob i ječam, a na većim zaravnima zasadili su voće poput trešnje i jabuke. Sve je to njima, pored mlijeka i mliječnih proizvoda, bilo jedina hrana. Dio te hrane oni su, dolaskom hladnih dana, spuštali s planine, u svoja stalna obitavališta, kako bi imali što jesti i za hladnih zimskih mjeseci.

Did you know?

Farmers grew potatoes, cabbage, onions, carrots, red beet, kohlrabi, rye, oat and barley. On larger plains, they had orchards with cherries and apples. In addition to milk and milk products, this was their only food. When the cold days arrived, they transported part of the stored food from the mountain to their coastal homes so they had enough to eat during the winter.

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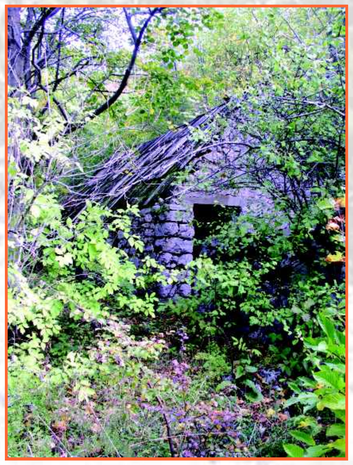
Nacionalni park
Sjeverni Velebit

ŽIVOT VELEBITSKIH STOČARA

Velebitski stočari živjeli su teškim životom, kilometrima su pješačili, vadili su i prenosili tone kamena kako bi dobili komadić plodne zemlje za vrtove i pašnjake. Od tog kamena gradili su podzide kako bi spriječili eroziju tla i kilometrima duge kamene suhozide da zadrže stoku na određenom pašnjaku.

No ipak, usprkos težačkom životu, nije im nedostajalo smijeha, pjesme i plesa. Bili su zadovoljni lijepim vremenom, zahvalni za ono što im priroda daje. Shvaćali su da moraju živjeti u skladu s prirodom i pratiti njezin ritam. Ustajali su zorom, lijegali s prvim sumrakom, selili se u planinu kad im je to ona dopuštala i vraćali prema moru kad je planinu preuzimala zima. Tako je bilo sve do sredine prošlog stoljeća kad je većina stočara napustila sjeverni Velebit.



LIFE OF THE VELEBIT FARMERS

The life of the Velebit farmers was difficult. They had to walk many kilometers every day, they gathered and transported tones of stones in order to get a piece of fertile land for their gardens and pastures. They used the stones to build retaining walls which prevented erosion, and long drywalls to keep the cattle in the pasture.

Although their lives were not easy, they managed to find time for laughter, song and dance. They were happy when the weather was nice, and thankful for what the nature was giving them. They understood that they needed to live in harmony with the nature and follow its rhythm. They woke up early, and they went to sleep at dusk. They moved to the mountain when the mountain allowed them to, and returned to the seaside with the arrival of the winter. It was so up until around the middle of the past century, when most of the farmers left Northern Velebit.

Rogići sa stanova na Pogledalu ispod Visibabe (1341 m). Sjeverni Velebit

Jeste li znali?

Danas se stočarstvom na području Nacionalnog parka Sjeverni Velebit bavi jedino obitelj Vukušić, iz podgorskog sela Gornja Klada. Molimo vas da ne hranite i ne uznemiravate njihove domaće životinje – konje, ovce i koze.

Did you know?

Today, livestock farming within the Northern Velebit area is maintained only by the Vukušić family from the village Gornja Klada, situated at the Velebit foothills. Please do not do not feed or in other way disturb their domestic animals - horses, sheep and goats.

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