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MUNICIPALITIES DOBROVNIK



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Municipality of Dobrovnik

DOBROVNIK MUNICIPALITY is located on what was once the Pannonian Sea. The municipality stretches across the surface of 31 km² and three towns, the towns of Strehovci, Žitkovci and Dobrovnik. The municipality lies on an ethnically mixed area, with Slovenian, Hungarian and a small Roma community, who live in the mutual spirit of respect and tolerance.

The Dobrovnik – Strehovica gorice hillside, covered in vineyards and orchards stretches across the north-east of the municipality. Large forests rise above the vineyards, sheltering a wonderful accumulation lake, while the typical Pannonian crops and grass field lowlands extend across the south and west corners of the municipality.

The colourful cultural heritage and beautiful nature are the municipality's true treasures. Several thematic (Martin's, Jacob's) trails cross our municipality, and cycling and hiking trails connect the dots of Slovenian villages and towns with neighbouring tourist locations in Slovenia and Hungary.

Municipality's most famous site is the **BUKOVNIŠKO LAKE**, an accumulation lake covering the surface of 8 ha. The lake is surrounded by forests that give the visitor a pleasant shade in the summer: In addition to fishing, the lake is a perfect site for relaxation, strolls, camping, picnics and sports activities and joys of mushroom picking.

For the youngest there is a **FAIRYTALE PARK**, the home of fairy-tale characters, who each have his or her own particular mission: Fairy Rusalka takes care of people's well-being, Orchid the Fairy oversees caring for the plant world of Bukovniško lake, Beneficent the elf is the guardian of the St. Vitus shrine, the source of St. Vitus and of preservation of nature's healing powers. Laker the frog is the guardian of the animal world of Bukovniško Lake. The story of the magic characters and their roles is available on the interactive board.

The lake's water surface is managed by the fishing club. **FISHING** is one of the club's activities organised according to the programme, and can be enjoyed from the shade of surrounding woods, as you relax and fill your lungs with good fresh air.





In the close proximity of the lake, in the shelter of the shades of old, tall trees, hides the **SAINT VITUS SHRINE**. The shrine is situated on the spot of the former wooden church built around 1828. The shrine is dedicated to Saint Vitus and lies in the proximity of the ST. VITUS water source. The water from the source is said to have energising and healing properties for curing vision, hearing, digestive organs, nervous system and skin. According to the legend, eyes are supposed to be washed with the source water in order to improve vision. The site is also a pilgrimage site, particularly visited on 15th June, the name day of St. Vitus (Vidovo »proščenje«)..





There are labelled **ENERGY POINTS** of healing and beneficent earth radiation scattered around the Saint Vitus shrine and source, which can improve people's health and well-being. There are 26 such measured and labelled energy points.

THE FOREST LEARNING TRAIL takes you on a circular trail around the lake. The trail starts by the forest road above the fishing hut and makes a circle around the forest and to the Bukovniško Lake and back to the starting point. The trail is around 1700 m long, and not too demanding with a total of 42 m of difference in altitude. There are 6 information boards on the trail and the trail is suitable for individual visitors as well as groups. It is the perfect outdoor classroom for field trips dedicated to natural sciences.





ADVENTURE PARK Bukovniško Lake is located in the lush lakeside forest and offers a rounded fun, entertainment and relaxation experience and invites you to put your sport and adventure capacities to the test. Climbing trails are adjusted to suit every age and fitness level and can be used by children and adults alike. 58 adventure elements await to be tested in the shelter of unspoiled nature.

Amateur joggers can stretch and build strength on **TRIM ELEMENTS**, which have been installed by the remnants of the former forest railway.



A modern and fully equipped **PARKING AREA FOR CAMPERVANS** is also arranged by the Bukovniško Lake, with available electricity and water plugs and a shower and toilet facility. There is a depository unit for emptying portable toilets and a ground grid for emptying the waste waters from the camper van. Other infrastructure: a playground for children, WI-FI and power charging station.



Temporary and a standing exhibition on the history of the town is on display in the **GYÖRGY DOBRONOKI'S HOUSE**. The house is dedicated to the famous local compatriot György Dobronoki, born in Dobrovník, first dean of the Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia). The extension to the building is the House of handcrafts whose mission is to preserve the local cultural heritage with the accent on education, development of programmes, organising exhibitions and festivals and sales of handcrafts.

CHURCH OF ST. JACOB was first mentioned in 1334 in the documents of the Bánfy dynasty. The church is dedicated to Apostle Jacob. In late 17th century Pál Eszterházy was named the patron of the Dobrovník parish and had a new and spacious church built in 1668, which burnt down in the great fire of 1747. The church of Saint Jacob that stands there now was built between 1794 and 1796





The **DEAK'S ROOM** in the town of Žitkovci is also a witness to our history and the lives of our ancestors. The permanent exhibition is dedicated to the Hungarian academic and statesman Ferenc Deák, to whom Hungarian historians ascribe an important role in the history of their country and who spent his early years in the town of Žitkovci.

The riches of the seemingly endless stretches of Pannonia lowlands are spiced up with the colourful tropical wilderness of the **TROPICAL GARDEN** of the company Ocean Orchids. The tropical garden covers an area of 1,500 m² and invites you to see over 400 types and species of tropical plants from all the tropical regions of our planet.

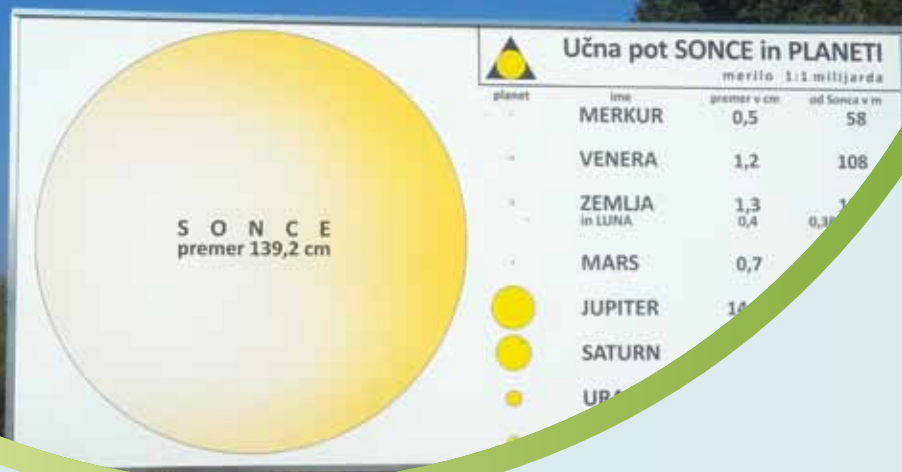




Wine yards of Dobrovnik municipality are rich in various types of wines, as displayed in the **GARDEN OF AMPELOGRAPHY**, growing over 70 types of grapevines. The sample grapevine nursery is located in the most beautiful part of the Popov breg, where noble wine has been grown for centuries. The monument of St. Urban is towering at the edge of the wine yards graced with a descendant of the oldest wine in the world.

Strehovske gorice hills are famous for well-preserved weekend winegrowers' houses, splendid heritage of traditional 18th and 19th century architecture. The preservation efforts are being pursued by the Wine producers' association Strehovci, which built a traditional **CIMPRAČA** house on the foot of the hills, now used as the main socialising area for all lovers of noble wine. It is said that thanks to the exceptional location influenced by the forests and the sunny side exposure, the wine plants in Strehovci are the first wines to be illuminated by the sun in the entire Slovenia.





It is difficult to really imagine the size of the planets of our solar system and how far they are from the sun. The **SUN AND PLANETS** learning trail in Strehovci, with a miniature of the Solar system brings the ratio of planet's sizes and distance from the sun closer to our understanding. The miniature display of our Solar system located on the Prekmurje plain is a wonderful portrayal of this corner of the universe – Sun and the planets – and not from the Earth's perspective, but from –the universe.

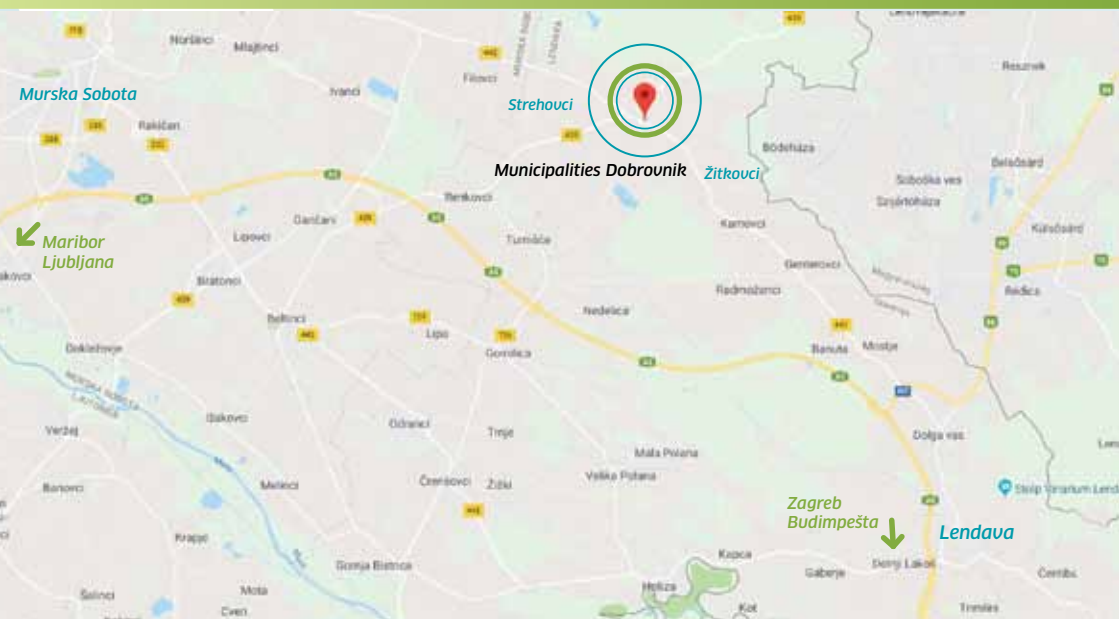
Rigányóca wine yards is where we find the wine plant called black redstart (šmarnica) that organic farming has put back on the list of popular wines. The tower in the area is a reminder of the iron curtain, formerly used by the military, now a tourist tower offering splendid views of the area. It was exactly as a monument to the iron curtain that the **PARK OF FRIENDSHIP** has been opened on the state border between the towns of Bödeháza and Žitkovci, the result of efforts of people from both sides of the border to connect and work together.



Prekmurje is famous for its delicious culinary offer. Several traditional food particularities only appear in smaller areas, while there are other features that dishes all across the region share. Dishes that are typical for the area bordering with Hungary, including the municipality of Dobrovnik, are the bograch stew, dödöli (cooked potato dough dumplings), retaši (rolled, strudel-like cakes with filo pastry and sweet or savoury fillings), pork crackling breads, gibanica traditional layered cake with walnut, poppy seed, apple and cottage cheese fillings, cooked smoked ham, zaseka (lard and meat spread), meat from tünka (smoked pieces of pork cured and preserved in lard), home baked bread and the famous pereci (soft dough pretzels). These traditional dishes are all available from local culinary providers, along with superior wines from Dobrovniške, Strehovske and Žitkovske gorice hillside wine yards.

Tourist accommodation in the municipality of Dobrovnik is available in bed&breakfast rooms as well as pleasant traditional weekend winegrowers' houses to rent. For more info on accommodation, please contact the Environment and tourism Institute of Dobrovnik.





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