



ABOUT LABIN

Today, the medieval city of Labin, whose former name Albona was first mentioned in 285 AD, is the cultural and administrative centre of the Istrian peninsula Labinština. The old town of this picturesque little city is situated on a 300 m high hill, under which sits the other part of the town Podlabin that was built as a mining community in the 1930s. The old town is rich with cultural heritage buildings, with numerous Renaissance and baroque noble palaces standing out in

particular. The most noted of those is the palace Battiala-Lazzarini from the 18th century, which is one of the most preserved and the most representative baroque palaces in Istria, which was transformed into the National Museum. The Museum also houses a replica of Labin mines, which is unique in Croatia. The old town also boasts a few churches and chapels, whereby the little chapel from the 18th century, dedicated to St. Stephen, holds one of the most beautiful and the most luxurious baroque church façades in Istria. Mining holds a special position in the history of Labin, as evidenced by numerous industrial heritage monuments, making now Labin the most important destination of its kind in Croatia.

INFORMATION – INTERPRETATION CENTER

The information and interpretation centre dedicated to the history of mining was opened in 2020 and is located in the Labin National Museum. It consists

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of two rooms, with the first room containing a touch screen with information and photos for all 4 partner towns: Trbovlje, Labin, Rijeka and Slovenska Bistrica. The content will be further complemented with tourist products and selected souvenirs, and the project video will be presented. On the wall is a map and names of participating towns. In this room also begins the timeline of mining, which continues in the second room, which is dedicated to the mining of Labinština: timeline, map of the area with highlighted places with mining shafts, relief of the area with 7 smaller highlighted reliefs of the most important mining locations and mining-related economic activities, display with a slide show of archived photos of miners and a projector for showing mining films. From this room a visitor may descend directly down to the mine model in the foundations of the National Museum, which perfectly rounds up the experience of the interpretation.



ESCAPE ROOM - ESCAPE MINE

A new attraction in Labin aimed at digital interpretation and revival of the mining heritage, Escape Room, is an adventure game that delivers a new form of inventive and interactive fun of solving riddles live in a virtual space of the mine.

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Currently on five locations in the cultural centre Lamparna, with the second phase with another 2-3 outdoor locations around the shaft headgear "Šoht" planned in 2021, visitors compete in an exciting, individual and/or group speed race of the 21st century Hero's exit from the dark depths of the mine to the light of day. To get to the final solution, you must solve five logically connected riddles and tasks, break codes and look for clues. Escape Room is for people who want to have a good time, while testing their logic, observation, deduction skills... The game is adapted to all ages, but given that a certain level of knowledge and skills is required, it is recommended the participants are above the age of 14.



TOWN LOGGIA

The town loggia was built in the mid-16th century, around the year 1550, and paved in 1662. Even though there have been claims that it was built by several families solely for their purposes, it was actually built with contributions of the entire commu-

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nity. The loggia has always been a public facility with multiple purposes and a place of many events. A fresco of a Venetian lion was once painted on the wall of the loggia, but it deteriorated in time. In 1932, the loggia was restored, gaining a new roof, and a lapidarium. The lapidarium was put up under the loggia, exhibiting Roman and Medieval inscriptions and crests of renowned Labin families. Upon the subsequent restoration of the loggia in the 1960s, due to rock bursts, the Roman inscriptions were transferred to the National Museum, and the Medieval ones were moved to the atrium of the Franković palace. Portion of the stone reliefs (crests) was subsequently returned to the old town.



BATTIALA-LAZZARINI PALACE – NATIONAL MUSEUM

One of the most beautiful buildings in the Medieval core is most certainly the Baroque palace Battiala Lazzarini, located alongside the parish Church of Blessed Virgin Mary's Birth. The building immediately attracts attention with its grandeur and lavishly decorated red façade with blue windows. The palace was built by the family Battiala, partly in the 17th century, and partly in the 18th century, actually, the old part was built around 1630, and the façade

was made in 1727. The building underwent a thorough renovation and reconstruction in the period between 1982 to 1994. The palace covers an area of nearly 1000 square meters, the elongated rectangular wing which extends in the east-west direction, with the central body in the north-south direction. The palace was nationalised after World War II. At first, it was a boarding school, later it was turned into apartments, and from 1960 it has been the site of the Labin National Museum. The family crest that can still be seen inside the palace contained symbols of immortality, phoenix and the password "Moriendo renascitur" (With death one is reborn).



MEMORIAL SETTING OF MATTHIAS FLACIUS ILLYRICUS

The memorial setting of the reformer Matthias Flacius Illyricus was opened on 22 December 1975 in the old town core of Labin, in the Francovich palace in the organisation of the Labin National

Battiala-Lazzarini Palace/Labin National Museum

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palace, in the organisation of the Labin National Museum and the council of the Labin municipality. The museum setting includes photos and texts that serve as a timeline of the life of Matthias Flacius Illyricus and his theological, scientific and many other activities. There are also copies of his most important works, such as Clavis scripturae sacrae, Centuriae Magdeburgenses, Catalogus testium veritatis, Catalogue of the Witnesses of the Truth and Gloss. Further valuable items are a copy of the Vlačić's portrait, created

on the basis of the original in Jena by the Labin painter Eugen Kokot, his wall painting – geographical map of Istria from around 1525 based on the template by the cartographer Pietro Coppo, plaster bust of Vlačić, which is work by the academic sculptor Mate Čvrljek, and Flacius's relief portrait in bronze, work of the medal-maker Želimir Janeš.



ALLEY OF THE GREATS (ALEJA VELIKANA LABIN)

Along the very edge of the pine forest, but beneath the old town core, stretches a road that leads from the main square to Fortica, the viewpoint in the old town of Labin. At the very beginning of the road, if you pass Piazza San Marco, you will reach the Alley of the Greats, six bronze memorials – busts on stone pedestals. At first glance, they seem very uniform in style and size, but a closer look will reveal their differences. Their common feature is that they are very personalised portraits, without a shred of heroism which is otherwise attributed to people whose life has been a struggle for ideals and the welfare of everyone. The busts depict, in the order given, Giuseppino Martinuzzi, Ivan Pipan, Vladimir Švalba Vid, Mate Blažina, Marin Licul Falor, Aldo Negri. All six men have links to Labin, either they were born here or their work is intricately connected to Labin.

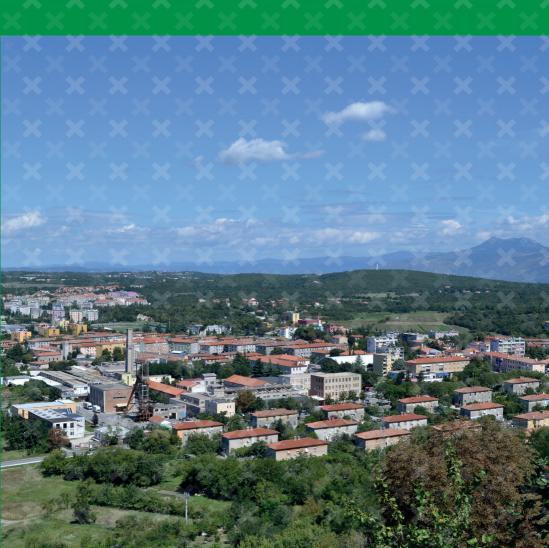


PJACAL

The complete mining-industrial complex is referred to as Pijacal (from italian piazzale, a square, bounded spacios areas). It comprises all facilities needed for maintaining the mining machinery given the range of mechanical, electrical, carpentry and other

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workshops, where all machines and tools used in the mine were repaired. Furthermore, the complex housed spacious storage areas and a chemistry laboratory.



"MERANIA" CERAMICS – ceramic manufacture

Founded in 1993 out of love for pottery, with persistent perfection and dedicated work, Merania has grown from a small pottery workshop into a Merania, Ceramic products manufacture Production/Showrooml: Krapan 1/A Raša, Showroom2: 1.Maj 4, Labin

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full family ceramic manufacture. The pottery studio makes high-end ceramic lighting for rustic and modern environments, cookingware and tableware, autochthonous souvenirs related to the mining heritage of Labin and its area, souvenirs linked to the tradition of the Istrian heritage, designer products created in cooperation with designers and architects, inspired by traditional forms and decorations. In making their products the pottery studio applies traditional clay processing, pottery, manual design and painting techniques, which resulted in the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts awarding them with the Craft with Tradition label.



SOUVENIRS "MINING BADGE" AND "MINING COIN"

Ivona Verbanac, a Labin artist, is the author of the souvenirs Inspiration that won the competition for the best souvenir with her conceptual ideas for mining coin and badge. The mining badge sou-

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venir shows two crossed gold hammers, the international sign for miners and mining. The badge also carries an engraving of the title of the project Inspiration in Croatian and English language. The mining coin souvenir represents the Underground City as the fundamental project of the Labin Art Express XXI association largely thanks to which the former mines in Labin and Raša have been preserved. About 10 years ago a project was launched to revitalise it for cultural and tourist purposes. Given that the reconstruction of the export tower of the Podlabin shaft, popularly dubbed "šoht", has come to an end and an elevator will be installed to enable going underground – horizon VIII of the former mine, this will formally mark the execution of the project of the L.A.E. XXI Association. The author has designed the souvenir in the shape of a silver coin (silver patina) packed in a box, with a transparent cover so you can admire the coin before opening the box.





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