



# MUZEJ U DUBOKOM PLAVETNILU

## A MUSEUM IN THE DEEP BLUE

PIŠE | TEXT BY:  
TOMISLAV RUKAVINA

FOTOGRAFIJA | PHOTO BY:  
IGOR MIHOLJEK  
MLADEN MUSTAČEK  
DANIJEL FRKA

*Vrijeme je za obilazak muzeja. Kupujem ulaznicu i krećem prema ulazu. Boce za ronjenje i ostalu opremu stavljam na rame te uskačem u brodicu. Još samo pola sata plovidbe i razgledavat ću modru galeriju. Ovakvu viziju podvodnoga obilaska arheološkoga i povijesnoga naslijeđa već desetljećima promovira Kraljevičanin Danijel Frka, zaljubljenik u ronjenje i podvodnu fotografiju. Nedavno u Zadru osnovani Međunarodni centar za podvodnu arheologiju korak je bliže ostvarenju njegova sna.*

„A sve je počelo s Apoksiomenom, 2100 godina starom brončanom statuom atlete, pronađenim 1996. u moru jugoistočno od Lošinja, pokraj otočića Vele Orjule, na dubini od 45 metara”, kaže nam Luka Bekić, ravnatelj zadarskoga Međunarodnog centra za podvodnu arheologiju. „Stručna javnost, nadležno Ministarstvo kulture i svi ljubitelji kulture i umjetnosti bili su jako uzbuđeni vrijednim pronalaskom i začela se ideja o učinkovitijoj zaštiti i istraživanju hrvatskoga blaga ispod vodene površine”, govori Bekić.

### Dom podvodne arheologije

Od zamisli do realizacije prošlo je ipak dosta vremena, no u kolovozu 2007. konačno je i službeno osnovan Međunarodni centar za podvodnu arheologiju, a njegovu vrijednost prepoznao je i UNESCO proglašivši ga ustanovom 2. kategorije. Konzervatorsko-restauratorska radionica, laboratorij, dormitorij, uči-

*It is time to take a tour around the museum. I am buying a ticket and going towards the entrance. I am placing oxygen bottles and other equipment on my shoulder and jumping into the boat. Only half an hour more of sailing and I shall be examining the blue gallery. For decades Danijel Frka from Kraljevica, a fan of diving and underwater photography has been promoting such a vision of underwater sightseeing of archaeological and historical heritage. The recently founded International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar is one step closer to the realisation of his dream.*

„It all began with Apoxiomen, a 2100 year-old bronze statue of an athlete found in 1996, in the sea southeast of the island of Lošinj, near the small islet of Vele Orjule at the depth of 45 metres” - says Luka Bekić, the director of the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar. „The public experts, the competent Ministry of Culture and all lovers of culture and the arts were extremely excited by this valuable discovery. An idea of a more efficient protection and research of Croatian treasures under the water surface, came to light” - continues Bekić.

### The Home of Underwater Archaeology

It took a long time to turn the idea into reality, but, finally, in August 2007 the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology was founded and its value





Međunarodni centar za podvodnu arheologiju u Zadru, čiju je vrijednost prepoznao i UNESCO proglašivši ga ustanovom 2. kategorije / International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar was recognised by UNESCO that pronounced it a category 2 centre

onica za predavanja, uredi i drugi prateći sadržaji u sklopu centra omogućavaju znanstvenicima kvalitetan rad na zaštiti povijesne podvodne baštine. Kažemo podvodne, a ne podmorske, jer u Centru se brinu i o nalazištima u hrvatskim rijekama i jezerima.

Ronjenje je odavno postalo dostupno gotovo svima, a već na malim dubinama se pronalaze ostatci sidrišta, pristaništa i luka, ladanijskih vila ili čak tragovi nekadašnjih naselja. Većina poznatih priobalnih nalazišta potječe iz antičkoga ili rimskoga doba.

„Gotovo 80 posto ronilaca koje susrećem žele obići podmorska nalazišta povijesne i arheološke baštine”, pojašnjava nam Danijel Frka važnost upravljanja naslijeđenim blagom.

### Bezbroj nalazišta

Vrijednih podvodnih arheoloških nalazišta ima doslovce posvuda na Jadranu. U Kaštelanskom zaljevu u plitkom moru otkrivene su antičke konstrukcije izrađene od drveta, katkad u kombinaciji s recikliranim amforama ili čak namjerno potopljenim brodom. Uvala Sv. Jurja, poznatija kao luka Vis, još je jedan primjer dobro očuvane, ali turistički neiskorištene baštine. U uvali Stonca očuvali su se dijelovi velikih keramičkih posuda. Riječ je o posudama kapaciteta oko 1.000 litara, kojima su se u antičko vrijeme koristili za skladištenje poljoprivrednih proizvoda i proizvoda morskoga gospodarstva. Riječ je i o

jedinstvenom slučaju gdje su se te rupičaste keramičke posude očuvala na originalnom mjestu (*in situ*). Nerijetko, nađu se i ostatci namjerno potopljenih brodova koji su na ulazima u luke neprijateljima priječili pristup s morske strane. Dva takva broda izvađena su iz mora 1974. godine pred Ninom, a kasnije je dokazano kako su brodovi iz 11. stoljeća te da su potopljeni tijekom obrane od napada Normana na hrvatsku obalu 1074. godine.

### Muzeji u kavezu

Nažalost, turizam te razvikan sportskoga ronjenja uz spužvarstvo i koraljarstvo prouzročili su nenadoknadive štete. Teret mnogobrojnih potopljenih brodova je zauvijek nestao ili je oštećen, a poznato je da su mnogi nalazi našli svoje mjesto u privatnim zbirka-ma. Amfore su postale simbol podmorske arheološke baštine, ali i njezine devastacije. Ipak hrvatski znanstvenici su tom haraču našli lijek.

Od 1990. godine važna arheološka nalazišta zaštićena su kavezima, što je jedinstven način zaštite u svijetu. Pristup je moguć jedino kroz poseban otvor. Takvih kavezom za-

of Stonac, parts of large ceramic pots were preserved. These pots could hold 1,000 litres and in ancient times they were used for storing agricultural and sea products. This is a unique case, because these perforated ceramic pots were preserved in their original location (*in situ*). Often, remains of deliberately sunk ships can be found. Such ships were used to prevent enemies, approaching from the sea, to enter ports. Two such ships were extracted from the sea in 1974 in front of Nin, and later on it was proved that the ships originated from the 11th century and that they were sunk during the Norman attack of the Croatian coastline in 1074.

### Museum In a Cage

Unfortunately, tourism and the development of sport diving with sponge and coral diving have caused irrecoverable damages. The cargo of numerous sunken ships has gone forever or has been damaged and it is known that many ended up in private collections. Amphoras have become a symbol of undersea archaeological heritage, but also of its devastation. Still, Croatian scientists have found a solution for this plundering.

*Međunarodni centar za podvodnu arheologiju tijekom rujna bit će domaćin eminentnoga skupa svjetskih znanstvenika koji se bave proučavanjem i zaštitom arheološke i povijesne podvodne baštine. Taj skup bit će još jedan doprinos promociji podvodne arheologije i hrvatskoga ronilačkog turizma te hrvatskom načinu zaštite podvodnih arheoloških nalazišta – in situ.*

*During September, the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology will host an eminent meeting of world scientists who are engaged in research and the protection of archaeological and historical underwater heritage. This meeting will be one more contribution to the promotion of underwater archaeology, the Croatian diving tourism and the Croatian way of protecting underwater archaeological sites – in situ.*

was recognised by UNESCO that pronounced it a Category 2 Centre. Conservation-restoration workshop, laboratory, dormitory, lecture classrooms, offices and other accompanying facilities within the Centre enable the scientists to conduct high-quality work on the protection of the historical underwater heritage. We say underwater and not undersea, because in the Centre they take care also of sites in Croatian rivers and lakes.

Since long, diving has become accessible to almost everyone and one can find remains of anchorages, quays and ports, summer villas or even traces of past settlements at shallow depths. Most of the coastal finding places originate from the ancient or Roman period.

„Almost 80 percent of divers that I meet wish to tour the undersea sites of historical and archaeological heritage”– Danijel Frka explains the importance of managing the inherited treasure.

### Numerous Finding Places

There are valuable underwater archaeological sites all over the Adriatic. In the Bay of Kaštel in shallow waters ancient constructions were found. They were made of wood, sometimes in combination with recycled amphoras or even with a deliberately sunk ship. The cove of Sv. Juraj, known as the port of Vis is another example of a well preserved, but in terms of tourism, unexploited heritage. In the cove



U Hrvatsku svako ljeto dolazi oko 30.000 stranih ronilaca / Around 30,000 foreign divers come to Croatia every summer





*Amfore su postale simbol podmorske arheološke baštine, a važna nalazišta zaštićena su kavezima, što je jedinstven način zaštite u svijetu  
Amphoras have become a symbol of undersea archaeological heritage, and important sites have been protected with cages which is a unique way of protection in the world*

štićenih nalazišta u Hrvatskoj ima osam, a nose naziv „podmorski muzeji”. Ronilački klubovi koji su od Ministarstva kulture dobili koncesiju, sada imaju ekskluzivno pravo voditi turiste u te „muzeje”. Jedno takvo nalazište je u blizini otočića Supetar pokraj Cavtata. Tu je brod s teretom amfora iz 3. / 4. stoljeća poslije Krista. Njegova dužina je oko 30 metara, a nosio je nekoliko tisuća amfora. U cavtatskom području nađeno je još ostataka potopljenih brodova, pa bi se moglo reći da je to područje prvi podmorski arheološki park u Hrvatskoj. Preostali kavezi nalaze se na području otoka Mljeta (Klačina), otoka Žirja (uvala Koromašna), otoka Paga (uvala Vlaška mala), otoka Raba (rt Sorinj) i pokraj Umaga. Rješenje s kavezima, koji podvodno nalazište pretvaraju u muzej, a ujedno i osiguravaju od pljačke, naišlo je na veliko zanimanje i odobravanje u svijetu. Takvo rješenje daje izvrstan potencijal za razvoj ronilačkoga i kulturnoga turizma.

### I rijeke kriju svoje tajne

Podvodna arheološka baština ne nalazi se samo u podmorju već i u rijekama i jezerima kojih je u Hrvatskoj mnogo. Rijeke skrivaju mnoge vrijedne predmete koji su tisućljećima padali u vodu na važnim pri-

Since 1990, important archaeological sites have been protected with cages which is a unique way of protection in the world. One can access them only through a special opening. In Croatia there are eight sites that are protected in this manner and they carry the name of „underwater museums”. The diving clubs that were given a concession by the Ministry of Culture now have the exclusive right to take tourists to these „museums”. One such site is located in the vicinity of the small islet Supetar near Cavtat. Here is a ship with a cargo of amphoras from the 3rd - 4th century AD. Her length is about 30 metres, and she carried several thousand amphoras. In the Cavtat region several other remains of ships were found, so one could say that this region is the first undersea archaeological park in Croatia. The remaining cages are located in the areas around the island of Mljet (Klačina), island Žirje (cove Koromašna), island Pag (cove Vlaška mala and cape Sorinj) and near Umag. The solution with the cages that turn an underwater site into a museum, but also ensure it against plundering, aroused great interest and approval in the world. Such a solution represents an excellent potential for the development of diving and cultural tourism.



*Olupina putničkog broda Baron Gautch u podmorju rovinjskog arhipelaga, koji je 1914. naletio na minu, omiljena je ronilačka atrakcija  
The wreck of the passenger ship Baron Gautch, in the underwaters of Rovinj archipelago, which was hit by a mine in 1914, is one of the most popular diving attractions*

jelazima ili su žrtvovani vodenim božanstvima. Korita rijeka skrivaju ostatke naselja, pristaništa, brodolome i stare mostove. Uz jake riječne struje, u toj mutnoj vodi nemoguća je prezentacija ispod površine. Ipak, možemo povjerovati da će dobro ispričana priča i rekonstrukcija brodova koji su nekada plovili našim rijekama turistima u posebnim muzejskim postavima dočarati kako se nekada živjelo uz vodu te obogatiti turističku ponudu kontinentalne Hrvatske.

U Hrvatsku ljeti dolazi oko 30.000 stranih ronilaca. Razloga za njihovu ljubav prema Jadranu ima mnogo. U hrvatskom podmorju čekaju ih mnogobrojni otkriveni i zaštićeni arheološki lokaliteti, ali i oko 1500 neistraženih špilja i jama, kao i brodovi i avioni iz prošlih ratova čija je pozicija otprilike poznata, no olupine još nisu pronađene. Izazova, za atraktivan i aktivan odmor na Jadranu, na pretek. ■

### Rivers Also Hide Their Secrets

Underwater archaeological heritage is not only found in the undersea areas, but also in rivers and lakes which are in abundance in Croatia. Rivers hide many valuable items that have been falling into the water on significant crossings or were sacrificed to water divinities. The river basins hide remains of settlements, quays, shipwrecks and old bridges. A presentation below the surface is impossible due to the strong river currents and the turbid water. Still, it is possible to believe that a well told story and a reconstruction of ships that once used to sail in our rivers will, in special museum exhibitions conjure up for the tourists how people lived along the water and enrich the tourist offer of continental Croatia.

Around 30,000 foreign divers come to Croatia every summer. There are many reasons for their love of the Adriatic. In the Croatian undersea, numerous discovered and protected archaeological sites are waiting for them, but there are also about 1,500 unexplored caves and pits, as well as ships and planes from previous wars, whose position is only vaguely known, but the wreckages have not been discovered yet. Challenges for an attractive and active vacation on the Adriatic are plentiful. ■



*Seeing is tasting*



**le mandrač.**

Restaurant Le Mandrač  
Obala F. Supila 10  
51410 Opatija - Volosko  
Tel: 00385 51 701 357  
restaurant@lemandrac.com  
www.lemandrac.com

## Marina Punat

45 Years of Tradition and Experience  
Safety that you deserve

Yacht service, spare parts shop, restaurants, hotel, tennis court,  
800 berths, 500 dry berths, dry-docks, lifting up to 600 tones,  
car parking, trailer parking

[www.marina-punat.hr](http://www.marina-punat.hr)

