

# Outdoor

## BAŠKA

THE ISLAND OF KRK, CROATIA



**KRK**  
OUTDOOR  
EXPERIENCE



**FEEL THE EXCITEMENT,  
THE ENERGY AND THE  
RUSH THAT COME FROM  
DIRECT CONTACT WITH  
BAŠKA!**





## **BAŠKA, THE ISLAND OF KRK, CROATIA**

We all know that special moment when you see a destination for the first time. That first impression has to do with our decision to go back to one destination and experience it in a completely new way. Some places simply impress us so much we want to feel that special rush again. There are destinations that are unique and offer many different experiences. We would like to show you that Baška is one of those places!

Baška is an ideal choice for a summer vacation because of its easy access and many interesting adventure sites. Although it is located at the end of the island, it is exceptionally well connected with the major European cities. To mention only a few: Baška is 829 km from Prague, 587 km from München, 542 km from Budapest, 555 km from Vienna, 370 km from Graz and 184 km from

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People say it is easy to get to Baška, but it's not easy to leave. Those who came down through the green notch of Krk to Baška, surrounded by cliffs and barren land on both sides, know just what we mean!

Baška is a destination that meets all expectations that visitors can have if they want to enjoy the hot summer sun, relax at beautiful beaches and swim in the crystal clear blue sea. The place became popular back in 1904. Since then, a whole range of completely new visitors' expectations came to life and we decided to make them real – true outdoor experience!

Feel the excitement, the energy and the rush that come from direct contact with Baška!

## BAŠKA - THE OUTDOOR DESTINATION

The growing trend of healthy and active living – a life devoted to motion, recreation and challenges is what encouraged the transformation of Baška into a destination that can offer much more than a conventional holiday. The climate of the Baška Valley is ideal for an active vacation because you can enjoy outdoor activities throughout the year. Activities take place in the natural surroundings that fascinate visitors with its unusual features.

Whether you are a fan of hiking, running, biking, climbing, diving or sailing or even if you just love to spend your time outdoors, Baška landscapes will enrich your experience providing a fantastic backdrop for your activities. Baška never stops to amaze and this was proven by experiences of thousands of participants in sporting events hosted in Baška: The Hiking Weekend in Baška, Baška



Bike Sunday, Photo & Hike Weekend and the always popular 4 Islands MTB Stage Race – mountain bike stage race that gathers professionals and passionate amateurs from more than 30 countries. As implied by the name itself, the race connects four islands but it starts in Baška whose beautiful nature secures a spectacular first impression for all participants. All these events invite visitors to explore the offers of active life in Baška from spring to autumn. Their reactions and enthusiasm alone led to the creation of Baška Outdoor Festival, a three day event that brings together different popular sports activities and brings all lovers of active life in one place. The event is taking place in the middle of October when hikers and climbers from all sides close a season together. The impressions we have gathered so far only motivate us to improve this celebration of healthy life in organizing high level of biking and hiking races that start and end exactly in Baška.

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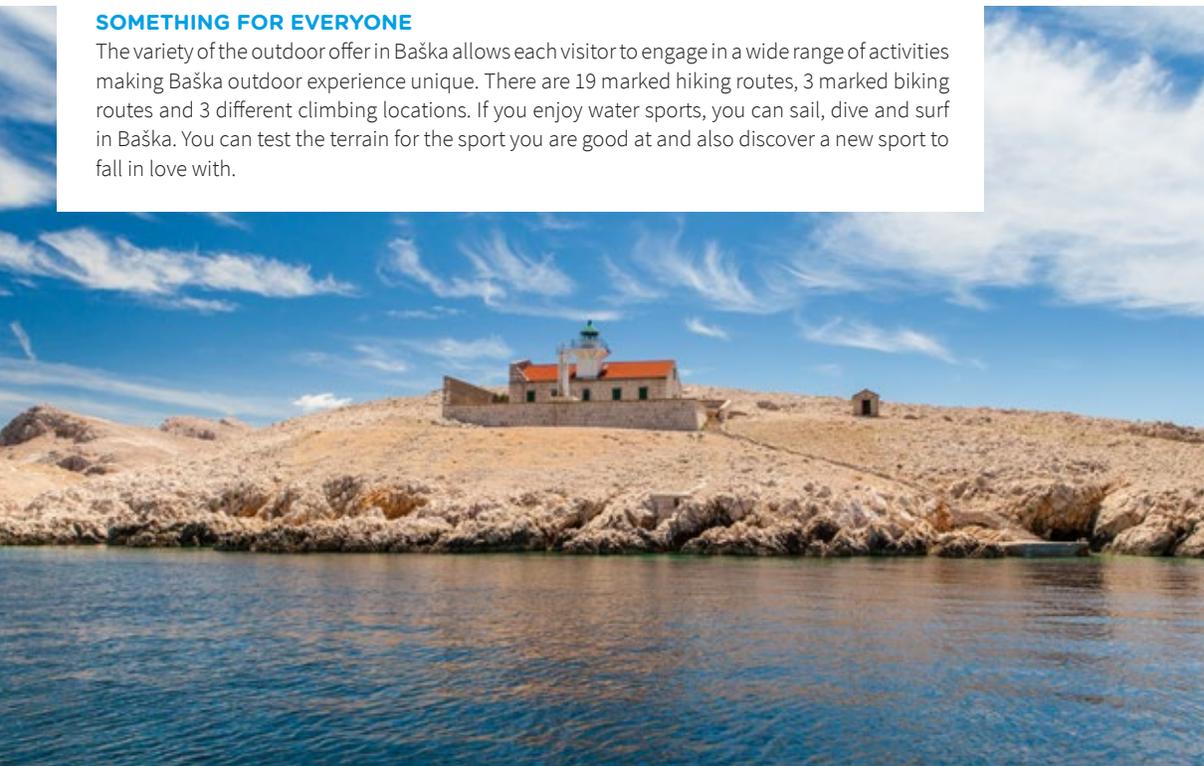


## **BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE**

Baška is, of course, much more than a backdrop for your activities. The essence of the place is reflected in its people and history and the best way to get to know the place is to feel the environment and its surroundings. With this aim we have completed the project of the six kilometers long educational trail: Baška – Zarok– Batomalj – Pod Lipica. For visitors ready to explore deeper, we have also prepared an outdoor map of Baška – Punat – Stara Baška which gives an overview of walking, hiking and biking trails of Baška and its surroundings, providing both an informative and entertaining approach to outdoor activities. Whether you decide to go on a hiking or biking tour, or hike to St. John or the Moon Plateau with its unforgettable view, the outdoor maps will help you take the full advantage of experiences, adventures and locations that Baška can offer.

## **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

The variety of the outdoor offer in Baška allows each visitor to engage in a wide range of activities making Baška outdoor experience unique. There are 19 marked hiking routes, 3 marked biking routes and 3 different climbing locations. If you enjoy water sports, you can sail, dive and surf in Baška. You can test the terrain for the sport you are good at and also discover a new sport to fall in love with.



## **THE EDUCATIONAL TRAIL Baška - Zarok - Batomalj - Pod Lipica**

The educational trail takes the visitors for a walk through the picturesque landscape of the Baška Valley, its history and tradition. During two and a half hours, visitors have an opportunity to become familiar with the historic tales and natural phenomena that made Baška the special place it is today – from sandstone Zaroka and watercourses Vela Rika to the historical heritage of Batomalj and the sanctuary of Our Lady of Gorica.

The educational trail gives you the chance to see the remains of the past that illustrate the habits of everyday life as it once was. Many of these features have survived to this day, such as mrgari – dry stone buildings for collecting and sorting of sheep, used by Baška shepherds to this day.







## HIKING



A cliffy coastal landscape that surrounds Baška is impressive and attracts many visitors. There are about 90 kilometres of groomed and marked trails with peaks that provide irresistible and romantic views of the bay. The trails are quite varied. Depending on individual technical and physical abilities, visitor's wishes and desires, everyone can find something for themselves.

**We recommend you to take a walk to Vela or Mala Luka in the early morning hours. While the sun is low, find secluded coves where you can enjoy the atmosphere of quiet natural beauty.**

One of the trails takes you right in the middle of the Baška phenomenon – the rocky plateau called the Moon Plateau that resembles a stone desert. This is one of the must-see locations. You can also visit the Church of St. Lucy, the site of one of the most valuable monuments of Croatian history – the Baška Tablet. We recommend you take a walk to Vela or Mala Luka in the early morning hours. While the sun is low, find secluded coves where you can enjoy the atmosphere of quiet natural beauty. For easier orientation, we advise you to always have a map with marked trails. Apart from cartographic illustrations, the map contains a number of useful information. And don't forget to bring your camera – you'll want to keep these landscapes forever!

## BIKING



In recent years, the Island of Krk devoted much time to developing the infrastructure for biking tourism. The network of paved bike trails awaits visitors as soon as they cross Krk Bridge while the Mediterranean vegetation and pine forests cover both sides of the bike trails all the way to Baška, on the other side of the island. A number of uphill and downhill rides can motivate even the most demanding bikers and the natural beauty of Baška offers opportunities for a number of idyllic rides through some of the most beautiful landscapes.

Mountain biking on the island is really special because it includes the element of the unexpected. The truth is that nobody can really describe what this island can offer. Visitors are free to explore and indulge in their own biking ventures. However, for those not so keen on exploration we have marked several routes on Baška location that can help visitors fully experience the opportunities that the environment offers.

If you take the gravel and paved route from Zaroke to Draga Baščanska, there is 11 kilometers of groomed trails suitable for beginners, amateurs and families with children.

Better technically equipped bikers are more likely to focus on the 24 km long mountain trail leading to the Moon Plateau. The reason for the popularity of this route becomes clear very quickly. Despite the complexity of the gravel ride and the rocky terrain, there are spectacular views round every bend. At the top, you come to a completely barren area surrounded by lush greenery. This is a small part of the basin that suffered the power of storms and other natural forces. On your

way you pass the Church of St. John where you will again want to stop and admire the magical view.

A real treat for mountain bikers is a multitude of single-trails on the 11 kilometres long route Portafortuna. The track is not really long, but the terrain is demanding and the ride can soon exhaust even the most prepared bikers.

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## CLIMBING



Some locations could not be part of our hiking and biking routes as they present a very different kind of challenge.

Still, Baška can offer three climbing areas with a wide range of difficulty ratings and different climbing challenges. Climbing is interesting both to those who are beginners in climbing and those who look for new challenges in free climbing.

A climbing location in Bunculuka begins on the mere edge of the naturist camp where the hiking trail to Vela and Mala Luka starts. It offers a dozen directions of medium difficulty that you can take during the year.

The other two climbing locations – Portafortuna and Belove Stene – are best to visit in the period from March to December.

Climbing area Portafortuna offers sixty directions, divided into 4 sectors. Portafortuna or the Gates of Fortune got its name after the famous discotheque which was located on the road to Baška. The gates of this long abandoned discotheque still serve as a guide for orientation to the climbing location. The climbs are lower and medium difficulty, including a few routes that require knowledge of the advanced climbing techniques.

The newest discovery in Baška's outdoor experience are Belove Stene, the climbing area of steep plates with sharp grips and a prevalence of lighter difficulty ratings. Still not fully explored, this climbing location has the potential for a whole range of climbing routes of various difficulty ratings.

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## WATER SPORTS

The crystal clear sea is what put Baška on the tourist map and made it one of the most visited destinations in the Adriatic.

The incredible blue sea of Baška and its surroundings make the moments spent in the place unforgettable to all lovers of water sports – especially diving. There are several services that provide equipment rental and diving courses for those who want to try diving for the first time.

If you want to try other water activities, there are services that provide special sea rides on various boats and parasailing. This form of active holidays is particularly interesting to the young population. Favourable wind that blows in the bay invites surfers who believe this place has ideal conditions for their adventure.





# WHY US?

There is a special relationship between Baška and its people, the nature and visitors who come to enjoy it. Those who wake up every day to admire the walls of Baška, walk the charming stone streets, drink their morning coffee and enjoy the beautiful scenery – feel forever enchanted with Baška's beauty. Baška inspires us every day and we feel proud to have the opportunity to make this place and its surroundings a part of your unforgettable experience.

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# WHAT TO EXPLORE IN YOUR OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

There are numerous sights and attractions in and around Baška worth visiting on your outdoor routes:

## 1 CHURCH OF ST. LUCY IN JURANDVOR

The uniqueness of this location relates back to the history of the Croatian sovereignty. The Church of St. Lucy is the site where the Baška Tablet was found – the old Croatian document where Croatian name was first written in the Croatian language for the first time in the Glagolitic script.

## 2 BAŠKA'S GLAGOLITIC TRAIL

Baška's Glagolitic trail was created as a tribute to Glagolitic alphabet. The trail gives you an opportunity to see and learn the letters of the original Croatian inscription. The trail is marked with stone sculptures of Glagolitic letters. It begins in the saddle Treskavac and takes you all the way to Stara Riva waterfront in Baška's port.

## 3 MRGARI

On your hiking and biking routes you will see mrgari – dry stone structures in the shape of stone flowers intended for occasional collection and sorting of sheep

of various owners. Mrgari are unique examples of folk architecture in Baška and the Island of Prvić. The unique form of mrgari can only be found on two other European islands – Great Britain (Wales) and Iceland

## 4 THE ISLAND OF PRVIĆ

The Island of Prvić is the largest uninhabited island in the Adriatic. In addition to mrgari, there are many protected plants and animal species. Since 1972, because of its rich flora and fauna, the entire island has been under protection as a botanical and ornithological reserve.

## 5 BAG PEAK

Bag peak is an unavoidable place to visit while hiking. It's a southernmost point of the Island of Krk, a lookout with a beautiful view of the Island of Prvić, Baška and Vela Plaža.

## 6 CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The first part of the trail takes you to the Moon Plateau and invites you to visit the Church of St. John the Baptist and the Old Man – the oldest bell in this area. It is the view that you see when you turn your back to the church and face the sea and the Island of Prvić that will surely take your breath away and make Baška unforgettable.

## 7 THE SANCTUARY BATOMALJ

You can visit one of the oldest Marian sanctuaries in Croatia as part of the educational trail. You can also take the paved road or accept the challenge of 237 votive steps that will lead to the sanctuary.

## 8 MALA AND VELA LUKA

The endpoints of one of the most popular summer promenades in Baška are Mala

and Vela Luka, the coves where visitors can relax and refresh, swim and enjoy the atmosphere of quiet beaches. Also, there are valuable archaeological sites to visit and capture a number of beautiful images on the way.

## 9 BAG AND DIVIŠKA PEAKS

Your hiking conquests should definitely include Diviška. It belongs to the northeastern part of the plateau. Under that plateau is one of the most photographed pools on the Island of Krk. This area is protected ornithological reserve.

## 10 VELA PLAŽA

End of summer and sports adventures is best marked by a spectacular jump into the sea and there is no better place to do it than the most popular Baška's beach – Vela Plaža. Find your spot along 1800 meters of the beach, renew your energy and get ready for the new adventures.

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Explore Baška trails at your own risk.

A preservation of nature, specially in protected area, is of the outmost importance so please pay attention.

Outdoor activities – hiking, biking and climbing in particular – include a certain risk level. Access them on your own risk.

# 112

In case you witness the damage to the natural resources and in case of accident, please call the emergency number 112 and inform the National Protection and Rescue Directorate – MOUNTAIN RESCUE SERVICE.



 Protected areas

## Recommendations:

- Use appropriate sports clothing and footwear (hiking boots/shoes recommended)
- Have sufficient amounts of refreshing drinks and snacks (water and dry food recommended)
- Hike in groups on demanding terrain and longer trails
- Move only uphill when on Moon plateau trail
- Take available maps with you and follow the signalization
- Beware of the entrance fee for the camp Bunculuka



MUNICIPAL TOURISM OFFICE BAŠKA

**[www.tz-baska.hr](http://www.tz-baska.hr)**

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Diversity is beautiful

