THE CULTURAL PATH

Museum of Underwater Activities

ous and demanding challenge.

The museum will take you back in time to show you the lives of the early divers and submariners as well as the mysterious underwater world, in which work, exploration and amusement present an equally danger-



💙 Herman Pečarič Gallery

The gallery boasts an interesting collection of paintings, drawings and graphics tha the artist bequeathed to the town of Piran, where he spent a great part of his life. In Slovene graphic arts circles, Pečarič is recognised as a painter devoted to motifs

3 Sergej Mašera Maritime Museum

Explore the historic roots of maritime ac ivities in the region and their ties with the local economy. You will be fascinated by the famous model ships built by Gabriel Gruber ranging from galleons to large sailing boats, or by the various navigational instruments and sailor's uniforms. The museum also manages a collection showcas ing the life of salt pan workers as well as the development of salt making, the most mportant industry in the history of Piran. There is a famous saving »Piran xe fato de sal.« (Piran was founded on salt).



4 Magical World of Shells

Here, you can admire the shell of the world's biggest snail and take a look at the snail shells so rare that only chiefs of faraway islands were allowed to carry them, or shiny shells once used to purchase slaves, clams with amazing patterns and various



5 Tartini Square

The place where Tartini Square is located today was once a small harbour for fishing boats. However, at the beginning of the 19th century, the area was filled in with sand and the new platform was soon surrounded by all of the most important municipal institutions and turned into an open market. The square was named af ter a famous local, the violin virtuoso and composer, Giuseppe Tartini (1692 - 1770). Wondering why the square has the shape of an ellipse? Because between 1912 and 1953, there was a tramline connecting the town with the neighbouring Portorož and Lucija, and the square served as a turnaound point for the tram. The present ov al-shaped platform was designed by architect Boris Podrecca.

o Tartini Monument

In 1892, upon the 200th anniversary of the birth of the composer, the people of Piran wanted to erect a monument to honour his memory, but due to the works being protracted. Piran had to wait until 1896 for the larger-than-life bronze statue of the virtuoso to finally be mounted on a high pedestal. The statue is the work of the Venetian sculptor Antonio dal Zotto.



Tartini's Birth House

A new memorial room has been arranged ir the house in which Tartini was born where valuable exhibits, such as the musician's violin, his death mask and his letters are on display. Make sure you don't miss out on the Vedute Hall which features many interesting wall paintings.

8 Town Hall

At the end of the 13th century, the Venetians built the Town Hall building outside the town walls as they existed at that time It was constructed in the Roman-Gothic style with a façade full of immured coats of arms and inscriptions. At the end of the 19th century, the new Town Hall was built on Tartini Square. Its most distinctive feature is the immured stone statue of a lion holding an open book, a memento of the Venetian Serenissima Republic and the previous town hall building. On the first

floor, there is a hall devoted to Domenico Tintoretto. Here, his large painting named Mary with a child and the dignitaries of Piran« can be found.

Town Gallery Piran

The Town Gallery belongs to the most important exhibition places in Slovenia's oastal region and plays a vital role in pre senting modern art. Among the many im portant cultural events that takes place here, are the Piran Days of Architecture and Ex-Tempore, which focuses on ceramics and painting.



🥑 Venetian House

One of the most famous buildings on Tar tini Square is the breath-taking Venetian louse, the most beautiful example of Vene tian Gothic architecture in Piran. The building, which is known as Benečanka among locals, astonishes with its well-de signed architectural elements, rich stone ornaments and the Gothic corner balcony. Between the second-floor windows facing the square, there is an immured stone relief with the inscription »Lassa pur dir« (let them talk). Legend has it that a Venetian merchant fell in love with a beautiful young Piranese girl. To show to his beloved the strength of his love he decided to build her a palace near the harbor. The envious citizens were gossiping about the passionate couple so to show his true love for her he put the significant inscription on the fa-

1 IX Corps Street

The picturesque IX Corps Street, which winds among the houses and connects Tartini Square with St George's Cathedral, represents a true hub for local artists. boasting the most art studios, galleries and souvenir shops in town

12 Mediadom Pyrhani

Are you interested in the history of Piran do you want to know more about the reason for its distinctive shape? Wonder who influenced the town the most or why an alian name exists alongside the Slovene one? Visit the multimedia museum and cultural centre Mediadom Pyrhani, where cuting-edge technology will help you discove the rich history and cultural development of the town in the most entertaining of ways.

📵 St George's Cathedral

St George's Cathedral, overlooking Piran from the hill above the town centre and offering a view over three countries, is the largest church building in town. It was named after St George, the town's patron saint who is thought to have saved Pira when it was hit by a violent storm. In the 14th century, the church was built to its present size, whereas the Baroque renova tion in the 17th century gave the building its present appearance. The interior of the rch boasts an organ, two sculptures o St George, a richly ornamented suspended wood ceiling and wall paintings influenced by the Venetian school

St George's Church Bell Tower

The bell tower was completed during a period of Venetian influence in Piran (17th century) and is a smaller scale copy of the San Marco Campanile in Venice. 146 steps ead to the top of the 47.2 metre high bell tower that houses four bells and is capped with a pyramidal spire, at the top of which sits a weathervane in the form of the Archangel Michael. Climb the tower and admire the breath-taking view of the town and its

Parish Museum of St George

The ground floor of the sacristy hosts an hibition of various religious objects and dishes belonging to the church. Under the nave, the remains of buildings from Ancient Rome and the Early Middle Ages, and Romanesque and Gothic art were found. mong the exhibits, there is also a wooden model probably representing St George's church in its Gothic era and before the thorough renovation that gave the building its Baroque appearance.

14 The Baptistery of St John the Baptist

The baptistery has an octagonal shape and represents the last addition to the church complex. It boasts a large medieval crucifix from the 14th century and a Roman sar cophagus converted into a baptismal font.

Tartini Theatre

The Tartini Theatre is a beautiful example of a true fin-de-siècle art displaying a mit of Historicist and Secessionist styles from the beginning of the 20th century. In the past, the townspeople used the theatre as a place to screen silent films, but the building was later turned into a venue for cultur al events, from meetings to celebrations.

🤨 Piran Aquarium

Meet the various creatures that inhabit the waters around the Slovene coast. You can observe the large spiny spider crab and various types of fish such as groupers and colourful wrasses as well as other underwate organisms. Perhaps you will even be able to touch some of the fish, who knows...

THE RELIGIOUS PATH

Church of St Rocco

The church is dedicated to St Rocco, who on his way to Rome helped people suffering from plague, fell ill himself and became an invoker against infectious diseases.

Church of St Peter

This church, built in the spirit of Classicism was designed by the Trieste architect Pietro Nobile and finished in 1818. It stands right where a smaller Romanesque church had been built in the 13th century when it was still outside the town walls. Above the entrance, there is a relief depicting the delivery of the Keys to St Peter



St Francis's Church

In front of the church there is a small square, formerly used as a cemetery. The onstruction of the church building reaches back to the 14th century, whereas the Baroque renovation in the 18th and 19th centuries brought the church its present appearance. St. Francis's Church is known for a small Renaissance shrine by Vittore Carpaccio, a beautiful pulpit, several altars and paintings by Venetian artists from the 7th and 18th centuries. Under the church, there are several tombs, one of which also belongs to the Tartini family.



4 Minorite Monastery of

St Francis and the Cloister The Minorite Monastery of St Francis was probably founded before 1301, when the Greyfriars began to build a church. The nonastery keeps a great collection of mu sic literature and some of the books in its library date back to the 15th century. There are still Franciscans living in the monastery to this day. They take care of the monas tery church and offer pastoral care.

As far as acoustics are concerned, the cloister has little competition in Slovenia. Thus, it has been a popular venue for various musical events for many years and regularly hosts Piran Music Evenings and the Tartini Festival. From the cloister, there is an entrance to the Pinacotheca, where paintings



Former Church of

St Catherine of Alexandria Right next to the entrance to the Minorite stery, there once stood the Church of St Catherine of Alexandria, the oldest ouilding in today's monastery complex. Three tombs belonging to important per sonalities from Piran were discovered here, and one of them is believed to belong to the hood of St Cather

🍯 The Church of Our Lady of the Snows

This small church from the 15th century was built as a private chapel for a rich lady from Piran. Above the entrance, there is a painting of Our Lady of the Snows, which depicts the miraculous August snowfall in Rome and thus gives the church its name. In the 17th century, when the object was aiven a Baroque-style renovation, precious oil paintings were preserved together with fretted frames.

Church of Our Lady of Consolation

The Baroque church dedicated to Our Lady of Consolation was built right where the Church of St Michael had stood before. Next to the altar there is a Byzantine pain ing of Mary with a child. The church also boasts paintings depicting different scenes from the legend of St Augustine, wall intarsia and fretted frames.

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Our Lady of Health Church This church was first mentioned in the 13th century as the Church of St Clement, the patron saint of sailors. In the 17th century, after the plague epidemic, the church was enamed the Our Lady of Health Church.

St Stephen's Church and Jewish Square

This church is among the oldest in Pira

and as early as the 13th century, it was a meeting place for Piran's dignitaries. Ac cording to some sources, the church had first been built as a synagogue. The stone staircase behind the main altar leads to the attic formerly belonging to the Brotherhood of a Happy Last Hour. The Jewish Square was built based on the Venetian Ghetto. One of the three atri

ums once had a large underwater fountain which gathered rain water from the nearby roofs. Today a large, eight-sided plate o white stone stands in its place, along with the four smaller, pierced plates through which the water poured into the fountain It was all made by the famous sculptor of Piran, Janez Lenassi.

🙂 Church of St Bernardine

The remains of the former monastery comprise a well-preserved and eminent bell tower, the church presbytery and the retaining wall complete with arches. The monastery and the church date back to the 15th century and are dedicated to St Bernardine of Siena. Activities in the monastery ended in the 19th century and the Austrian military later used the complex as a stronghold, from which soldiers defended the bay. Later, the building was the seat of the tax administration as well as the cus toms office.



¹⁹ Holy Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, Portorož

This parish church was consecrated in 1984 It's a modern building, boasting a cross and a roof profile that are reminiscent of a ship and its mast. Inside you can admire an altar sculpture made of baked clay, vividly coloured stained glass and oil paintings depicting the Way of the Cross.



¹⁴ Church of the Vision of St Mary and the monastery, Strunian

The church and the adjacent monastery watch over the coast from the top of the hill above the sea. In 1512, during the night of the Assumption, two vineyard keepers are said to have seen the Virgin Mary warr ing them of the deteriorating condition of the old 13th century church building. People hereupon rebuilt the church and renamed it the Church of the Vision of St Mary. The story about the sightings turned the path to the church into the most important sa cred path in Istria. Today, Mary's Ascension is commemorated by a procession of boats from Piran and Strunjan. The monaster was built by the Franciscans in 1907 and governed by them until 2014, in order to acmodate and tend to the pilgrims.

THE HISTORY PATH

including several defence towers. Its largest preserved section known as Mogoro olds an incredible historical value

City Gates

the mayor of the city at the time, Dolfin,

had them made. They are easily recognised

T

In front of the church there is a small

square, formerly used as a cemetery. The

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Baroque renovation in the 18th and 19th

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Carpaccio, a beautiful pulpit, several altars

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Minorite Monastery

of St Francis and the

monastery cloister

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Venetian artists are put on display

Pormer Church of

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Mediadom Pyrhani

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fishing boats. However, at the beginning of the 19th century, the area was filled in with sand and the new platform was soon Seven gates that used to be the entrance surrounded by all of the most important to the city remain preserved in Piran: The Milje Gate (9A), the Dolfin Gate (9B), the municipal institutions and turned into an Field Gate (9C), the Baroque Gate of St. open market. The square was named after a famous local, the violin virtuoso and George (9D), the Marčana Gate (9E), the First Rašpor Gate (9F) and the Second composer, Giuseppe Tartini (1692 - 1770). Rašpor Gate (9G). Nondering why the square has the shape The Milje Gate (9A) is among the oldest of an ellipse? Because between 1912 and preserved gates in the city. The Dolfin Gate 1953, there was a tramline connectina the own with the neighbouring Portorož and (9B) is the nicest Gothic gate in the city, and dates back to the 15th century when

Lucija, and the square served as a turnaround point for the tram. The present oval-shaped platform was designed by architect Boris Podrecca.

Tartini Square

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ed today was once a small harbour for



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A new memorial room has been arranged in the house in which Tartini was born where valuable exhibits, such as the musician's violin, his death mask and his letters are on display. Make sure you don't miss out on he Vedute Hall which features many interesting wall paintings

Court Palace

The Court Palace is located right where the so-called Fontik, a former grain and flour warehouse had been built in the 14th century. In the 16th century, a local pawnshop was attached to the complex and later turned into a district court, a function it ulfils to this day.

🕗 Town Hall

At the end of the 13th century, the Vene tians built the Town Hall building outside he town walls as they existed at that time. It was constructed in the Roman-Gothic style with a façade full of immured coats f arms and inscriptions. At the end of the 19th century, the new Town Hall was built on Tartini Square. Its most distinctive feature is the immured stone statue of a lion holding an open book, a memento of the /enetian Serenissima Republic and the previous town hall building. On the first loor, there is a hall devoted to Domenico 'intoretto. Here, his large painting named »Mary with a child and the dignitaries of Piran« can be found.

One of the most famous buildings on Tartini

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Legend has it that a Venetian merchant fell

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To show to his beloved the strength of his

ove he decided to build her a palace near

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Church of St Peter

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City Walls

This church, built in the spirit of Classicism

was designed by the Trieste architect Pi-

etro Nobile and finished in 1818. It stands

ight where a smaller Romanesque church

had been built in the 13th century when it

was still outside the town walls. Above the

entrance, there is a relief depicting the de-

The city walls of Piran were mentioned as

early as the 7th century when they were

built surrounding the old city core in Pun

ta. Since then the city has grown towards

Mandrac, including more and more quar-

ters that were originally formed outside of

the walls. Due to the growth of the city and

in order to protect it from enemy attacks.

two additional parts of the wall were built,

show his true love for her he put the signif-

Venetian House

Cape Madona

The Madona Cape is the most western par of the Piran peninsula. The deepest part of the Slovenian sea is only 300m away and

U Lighthouse

The stone lighthouse building was said to be one of the core parts of the old city walls rom the 17th century. The fortress later became a lighthouse when a red light was mounted on top of it, which is commemorated on a stone plaque indicating the year 1872. In the 19th century, a home for he lighthouse keeper was also built in the

Our Lady of Health Church

This church was first mentioned in the 13th century as the Church of St Clement, the patron saint of sailors. In the 17th century after the plaque epidemic, the church was enamed the Our Lady of Health Church



1st of May Square

1st of May Square was originally called Stari trg (The Old Square) or Piazza Vecchia, as it once was the main square and many of Piran's main streets lead towards t. In the middle of the square there is a stone reservoir for rain water which was built after a severe drought in the 18th century. The gutters of nearby houses were connected to the reservoir. The water seeped through the stone which cleaned t and was then gathered in a large four tain. It was pumped up with a manual water pump which remains preserved to this day. Two statues adorn the entrance to the sauare. Justice and Law.

serve called Lera, people harvest salt using

that were once used by workers in the salt

industry, which contribute to the charm of

the Sečovlje salt pans. The reserve became

a habitat for various animals and plants

The Minorite Monastery of St Francis was probably founded before 1301, when the Greyfriars began to build a church. The nonastery keeps a great collection of music literature and some of the books in its library date back to the 15th century. There are still Franciscans living in the monastery

to this day. They take care of the monas-Sečovlje Salina Nature Park The reserve is the biggest wetland on the As far as acoustics are concerned, the clois coastline. In the northern part of the reter has little competition in Slovenia. Thus,

a 700 year old method – they use wooden sical events for many years and regularly osts Piran Music Evenings and Tartini Fe tools and look after the so-called petola, the base of the salt pans that functions as a tival. From the cloister, there is an entrance bio filter. That ensures that the salt doesn't to the Pinacotheca, where paintings by mix with silt from the sea, and allows it to remain white and clean. The quality of the salt and salt flower, a very thin, topmost layer in the ponds is famous and cherished over the world. Meanwhile, the aban St Catherine of Alexandria doned southern part of the reserve called Right next to the entrance to the Minorite Fontanigge features many unique sights - birds, vast fields of halophytes and over astery, there once stood the Church 100 abandoned and demolished buildings

of St Catherine of Alexandria, the oldest uilding in today's monastery complex. Three tombs belonging to important personalities from Piran were discovered here, and one of them is believed to belong to the



Museum of Salt Making

The museum consists of a salt-making nouse which hosts an exhibition, a sal pond and its associated canal that provides , it with sea water. The house represents the living space of a family in the salt-making industry, a ground floor warehouse where the salt was stored and a restored trad tional wood burning oven.



The bell tower was completed during a period of Venetian influence in Piran (17t century) and is a smaller scale copy of the

3 Thalasso Spa Lepa Vida halasso Spa Lepa Vida is a unique oper field spa in the midst of the saltpans, of fering various treatments using natural products (salt mud, brine and sea water) acquired within the Sečovlje Salina Nature Reserve

Forma viva

- an open air sculpture exhibition The open air sculpture exhibition was started by Slovenian artists Jakob Savinšek and Janez Lenassi in 1961. It has now been oper continuously for 50 years during which nasons from more than 30 different countries have contributed more than 130 stone sculptures. The exhibition is surrounded by the indiaenous olive trees of Piran and fea tures a breath taking view over Portorož Bay and its surroundings.

5 Handbag Museum Portorož

The museum boasts many extraordinary exhibits, with some even dating back to the 8th century. There are also items designed by renowned Slovene designers, a collection of handbags that belonged to famous and influential ladies and the gallery shop.

🤓 St Stephen's Church and Jewish Sauare

This church is amona the oldest in Piran and as early in the 13th century, it was a meeting place for Piran's dignitaries. According to some sources, the church had first been built as a synagogue. The stone staircase behind the main altar leads to the attic

formerly belonging to the Brotherhood of a ippy Last Hour The Jewish Square was built based on the Venetian Ghetto. One of the three atriums once had a large underwater fountai which gathered rain water from the nearby roofs. Today a large, eight-sided plate of white stone stands in its place, along with the four smaller, pierced plates through which the water poured into the fountain It was all made by the famous sculptor of Piran, Janez Lenassi.



21 Fishermen's market and the pillory

One of the few remaining stone pillories i Slovenia remains on the Fishermen's market, next to a dolphin-shaped fountain. The latter is a replica, while the original foun tain is on display in the multimedia centre Mediadom Pyrhani.

22 Stone flag poles

The stone flag poles were made in the 15th century and today mark the entrance to Tartini Sauare. They were originally located in front of the old town hall. One of them depicts the winged lion of St Mark while the other shows St George, the protector of the city, on his horse.

THE SALT PATH

Valeta Tunnel

Parenzana - The path of friendship and aood health follows the old, 123km long narrow gauge train track, which connect ed Trst and Poreč and the inland cities of the Istrian peninsula. The path offers many sports activities and brings together peo ple who enjoy walking, running or cycling The path takes you through cities and vi lages, sometimes following the coastline riaht by the sea, other times leading you through vineyards and olive tree planta tions, short and well-maintained tunne and into valleys and hills. All the tunnels are still well-preserved, the most famous one among them being the Valeta Tunne a 550m long tunnel that connects Strunjan and Portorož



Strunjan Nature Park

The park is a wide expanse of nature which has been protected and ranges over two reserves – Strunjan Nature Reserve and Stjuža Nature Reserve. It also features the Avenue of Pines, which is known as a monument shaped by nature.

⁸ Salt-pan Houses

The first house has been converted into a visitor centre and was once used as a salt warehouse on the ground floor and housing for workers on the first floor. The second house is still used by the workers as a place to live



Stjuža Lagoon

Stjuža is the only sea lagoon in Slovenia that is considered salt wetland. The name is derived from the Italian expression »chiu sa« - closed. These days the bay is separat ed from the sea by a bund, leaving a canal as the only connection between the sea and the lagoon. The area has become home to many varied species of water birds due to the abundance of food, good shelter and

Strunjan salt pans

Strunjan salt pans form a part of the Strunjan-Stjuža Nature Reserve. They are known as the smallest and the most north erly salt pans in the Mediterranean. They used to be the second most important salt pans in Piran, not far behind the Sečovlje salt pans. The shallowness of Strunjan Bay as been used to shape it into salt pans by building bunds, canals and shallow ponds which create an important ecosystem of salty wetlands.

¹¹ Church of the Vision of St Mary and the monastery, Strunian

The church and the adjacent monastery watch over the coast from the top of the hill above the sea. In 1512, during the night of the Assumption, two vineyard keepers are said to have seen the Virgin Mary warn ing them of the deteriorating condition of the old 13th century church building. People hereupon rebuilt the church and renamed it the Church of the Vision of St Mary. The story about the sightings turned the path to the church into the most important sacred path in Istria. Today, Mary's Ascension mmemorated by a procession of boats from Piran and Strunjan. The monastery was built by the Franciscans in 1907 and governed by them until 2014, in order to acmmodate and tend to the pilgrims.



¹² Strunjan cross

From as far back as the 1600 there has been a stone cross on the cape behind the church. The cross is not only a sign tha shows that there is a Marian shrine nearby. but it also warns sailors that the mainland s near. This point offers a lovely view ove the coast below the cliff, and of the Gulf of rieste, and if the weather is nice, you car see all the way to Triglav

THE PATH OF BOSKARIN

Boškarin – the cattle of Istria Boškarin are the indigenous cattle of Istria, boasting a lean, muscular body, white or slightly grey fur and two horns in the shape of a harp. Fully arown animals weigh between 1100 and 1300 kg. They have been a very important aid to the farmers of Istria and adapted to hard work at the farm, as they easily survive in the Istrian area.



Church of St Blaise and the Bell Tower, Padna

This is the only church in Slovenia dedicated to St Blaise, the patron saint of the village This Baroque-style building boasts a mai ble altar with a wooden statue of St Blaise Its stone bell tower is 26.5 meters high and was built by the people of Padna, who are believed to have funded the project by sell ing chard (a leafy green vegetable popular

Božidar Jakac Gallery, Padna

Božidar Jakac is a famous Slovenian paint r and graphic artist who spent a part of his life in Padna. The gallery is situated in a renovated building that used to be an Ita an school. Inside, his paintings and woodcuts are permanently on display.

The House of Kapeluča, Nova vas nad Dragonjo

The House of Kapeluča is a village museum in Nova vas nad Dragonjo, named after the last owner of the house Ančka Kapeloča. The house is narrow and made out of stone and it houses an ethnological collection of objects used in everyday life

Church of Our Lady of the Rosary and the Bell Tower, Nova vas nad Dragonjo

In the 16th century, the church was men tioned under the name »S. Mari(n)a(e) della Villa Morta«, which supports the the ory that the village was deserted after the plague. In the 18th century, the church was iven its modern appearance with an enaraed single nave. At the end of the 19th century, the villagers built a mighty bell tower crowned by a statue of St Joseph. According to oral tradition, the villagers earned the money for the project by selling Istrian garlic.

5 Ethnological collection

Tona's House, Sveti Peter The ethnological collection Tona's House is located in Sveti Peter. It is named after its atest owner Tona Gorela. This old, stone built, Istrian house has been completely ren ovated and has been used as an important ethnological museum since 1979. The museum depicts village lifestyle in the past There is an old oil production business on the ground floor while the first floor represents the living area which Tona's personal possessions.



¹³ Strunjan Cliff

An 80 meters high cliff along 200 meter of the coast has become a natural reserve and is known as the highest flysch cliff in the east part of the Adriatic. The precip tous flysch walls and the shinale beach are shaped completely by natural forces, as the rumblina lavers of rock are constantly be ing altered by the sea, rain and wind.

¹⁴ Moon Bay or the Bay of the Cross

You will be enchanted by the beauty of the sea and intimate hidden corners of the beach. This wild beach is definitely the bes choice for anyone who likes quiet, peaceful and unspoilt beaches. It can only be ac cessed on foot.



¹⁵ Fiesa Bay

The bay is famous for its two lakes whicl formed after the clay had been harvested for the brickworks in Fornače. Fiesa is connected to Piran by a well-tended pedestriar

Church of St Peter,

7 The Krkavče Stone

First mentioned in the 16th century, this is

a church without a bell tower and only has

a two-part »spindle« with the bells. The

St Peter with St Paul and John the Baptis

Above the village you can find the myste

rious stone of Krkavče. It's approximate

ly 2,5m tall (today only 1,6m above the

ground). Some claim it is 3000 years old

some claim it dates back to the 2nd centu

ry BC or the 1st and 2nd centuries AD and

others associate it with a later time when

this place was inhabited by the Slavs. It de

picts the image of a cross-legged man with

arms spread out wide while his head is su

rounded by an aureole or some kind of light

ays, which implies its pagan significance

To negate the power of this stone, the lo

cals built 5 churches in the area, whose ge

ographical locations represent the shape of

church keeps a sculpture in relief depicting

Sveti Peter

on his side.

of Piran and its Surroundings Exploring the Cultural Paths

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NARIA ANIĴA NARIA DI PIRAN

(4)

NAAI9 to Senres Cultural

ALONG THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN COASTLINE

Handbag Museum Portorož The museum boasts many extraordinary exhibits, with some even dating back to the 18th century. There are also items designed by renowned Slovene designers, a collectio

of handbaas that belonged to famous and nfluential ladies and the gallery shop.

Palace Hotel

hotels in Slovenia.

The Palace Hotel, an important mileston in the development of tourism in Portorož. first opened on the 20th of August, 1910. Its 175 rooms, spacious banquet hall called the Crystal Hall, reading rooms, and a vast terrace that opened up towards the park and the sea quickly crowned it the best hotel of the Austro-Hungarian coastline at the time. It was directly linked to the spa where they offered treatments with mud and brine. There was also a sea swimming area in front of the hotel. In 1983 the hot became a cultural monument. It was closed in 1990 but reopened after a major renova tion in 2008 as one of the most prestigiou



³ Holy Church of our Lady of the Rosary

This parish church was consecrated in 1984. It's a modern building, boasting a cross and a roof profile that are reminiscent of a ship and its mast. Inside you can admire an altar sculpture made of baked clay, vividly coloured stained glass and the oil paintings depicting the Way of the Cross.

The remains of the former monastery con prise a well preserved and eminent bel tower, the church presbytery and a retain ing wall complete with arches. The monas tery and the church date back to the 15th century and are dedicated to St Bernardin of Siena. Activities in the monastery ender in the 19th century and the Austrian mili tary later used the complex as a strong hold, from which soldiers defended the bay Later, the building was the seat of the tax administration as well as the customs of fice.



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Ŧ PIRAN PORTOROSE PIRANO





Vrešje House, Krkavče

The Vrešje House is a traditional Istrian

ouse, where you will be greeted by a lo cal lady, wearing traditional Istrian dress he ethnological collection is laid out in a beautifully renovated stone house which is built on a rock. Within the building there is a kitchen with a fireplace and many object from the past. Beneath the house, you can also view the wine cellar.

Church of St Michael the Archangel, Krkavče

The church was constructed on top of bare rock in the 17th century but only acquired ts present shape in the 18th century. Ir side there is a beautiful main altar, a char cel with an organ and a statue of St Anne wearing the traditional Istrian clothing tha is worn for special events and processions every year. Alongside the church stands a bell tower which served as a defence and quard tower during the Ottoman assaults



Valley of the river Dragonja

The Dragonja river has a pluvial regime and often dries up during periods of no or lit tle rain. It flows into the Adriatic Sea near Sečovlje. Along its path, it uncovers lay ers of flysch (a type of sedimentary rock) causes interesting geological processes and creates impressive gorges. Throughout the valley, there are many abandoned mills settlements and farms which feature the authentic and characteristic Istrian architecture. The valley is also a popular destination for hikers and cyclists.

Stena natural monument

This natural monument lies immediately next to the river Dragonja and is considered the most visible natural sight of the valley. The mighty inselberg has been designated a geomorphologic and botanic natural monument.

among which the most impressive and pic turesque can be found in the confluence o the rivers Dragonja and Rokava, in a place

PORTOROŽ





the sailors

ond World War at sea.

5 Villa Maria

Fountain – a memorial to

In the central square of Portorož there i a compass-shaped fountain, a monumen made by an artist from Piran, Janez Lenas si. It's dedicated to the victims of the Sec

Villa Maria was built at the end of the 19th century as a residence for the Austro-Hur agrian general Sir Wilhelm von Reinlande Many officers of the Austrian army built their summer residences in this area. Today the villa is a private property.

Magazen Grando and

Monfort Salt Warehouses The warehouses are marked by a mono lith featuring a heron made by sculpt Vladimir Makuc that stands in front o them. They both date back to the first hal of the 19th century. The buildings are of a simple but robust and imposing design Their main characteristics are 2.5m thic walls and 28m long joists and even longe wooden frames above them (the longes in Slovenia), made out of a single piece o wood. After the salt season ended, work ers moved their yearly harvest from thei nouses into these warehouses. Today Mo fort houses two exhibitions of the Maritime Museum - »Traditional Shipbuilding« and »The Evolution of Water Sports«. It is also a gallery hosting many exhibitions of mod

Church of St Bernardine











