



I L O K

EMBRACED BY NATURE





WHERE THE WORLD MEETS HAPPINESS



The grandeur of historic towns, especially those with a legacy of fortifications, is always shaped by nature and the distinctive features of their surroundings. Throughout history, natural boundaries formed by rivers, mountains or simply by weather conditions have been more powerful than humankind and human *nature*. They were a true force that shaped people's present - the present of their own time, which we now see as the past. Times and historical contexts have changed and continue to change, yet nature has remained true to itself, even when threatened by the harsher side of human nature. Our natural surroundings have remained proud, elevated, magnificent and just as powerful.

Changing times have brought changes in people's habits and ways of life, but the path back to one's authentic self has always been found through journeys in nature. Ilok embodies this union of people and their surroundings, nature and character, change and constancy, in a unique and almost intimate journey along the paths, through the parks and across the slopes of the town and its surroundings. The

ever-changing views lead from centuries-old walls rising high above the landscape, the church and the castle, across the Danube, which both protects and connects, to the slopes where nature's first sweetness comes into bloom.

A journey through Ilok, surrounded by nature, is an intimate encounter with heritage and values - an experience of the past, present and future that unmistakably reveals genuine values, unique beauty and your own personal view of the *town* and the *world*. Let us set off for Ilok, the town where the world meets happiness...

4

ACROSS THE SLOPES OF ILOK

14

THROUGH THE TOWN AND VINEYARDS

20

THE DANUBE FROM EVERY ANGLE





ACROSS THE SLOPES OF ILOK

The Srijem slopes of Fruška Gora roll like the quiet waves of a sea that vanished long ago, washing around Ilok as though it were a small island. In a way, surrounded by vineyards, forests and the Danube, Ilok truly is an island. You can surf these waves of Ilok on foot or by bicycle, following established and marked hiking and cycling trails.



- **LISKA**
300 - 3 metres, the elevation of Liska near Ilok, the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County.
- **SKANDALA**
At **253 metres** above sea level, it may not be distinguished by its height, but it is distinguished by its beauty and its title as the easternmost checkpoint on the Croatian Mountaineering Trail.

Walkers and hikers

Walking the slopes around Ilok unfolds through six different stories – six maintained and marked walking and hiking trails. Each route leads to one of the destination's brightest stars, distinguished by a view, an elevation, a landmark or a piece of history. The routes suit all ages and interests, allowing you to combine the pleasures of wine and heritage as you walk through nature – Ilok's own royal and emotional pairing.



An intertwining of routes and
vists, ascends and descends,
pleasures and moments of rest.



Walking and hiking trails by length and waymarking

LONG SKANDALA TRAIL

The easternmost checkpoint in Croatia

A circular trail from the Vukovo viewpoint, via Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, to the Skandala checkpoint (253 m above sea level) and back to the Vukovo viewpoint.

14,1 km

SHORT SKANDALA TRAIL

The easternmost checkpoint in Croatia

A circular trail from the Vukovo viewpoint, through the vineyards and across Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, to the Skandala checkpoint (253 m above sea level) and back to the Vukovo viewpoint.

9,5 km

BAPSKA – PRINCIPOVAC*

Following the paths of the Odescalchi family

The trail begins in Bapska and passes the Skandala checkpoint (253 m above sea level) and Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, before reaching the Principovac excursion area. Because the first part of the route passes through a hunting area, you should contact the Ilok Hunting Association before setting out.

22 km



EVENTS

Organised walking routes led by mountaineering clubs

* most of the trail is not waymarked ** the trail is not waymarked

IMPORTANT!

Because all trails around the Skandala checkpoint lie close to the state border, it is advisable to notify the officers at the Ilok Border Police Station of your walk by calling 032/343-758.

For information and maps of the walking and hiking routes, visit the HPD Cibalia website:



The Sultan's Trail is an international hiking route that passes through Ilok

Walkers can find more information about Sultan's Trail at:



16,8 km

PRINCIPOVAC – LISKA**

Through vineyards and forests

A gentle climb from the Principovac Country Estate to Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, situated at the edge of the forest on the state border.

6,5 km

LOVKA – RADOŠ**

Discover the beauty of Traminac

The trail begins at the Lovka excursion area on the banks of the Danube and leads across Skandala (253 m above sea level) and Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, to Radoš, the easternmost settlement in Croatia.

11 km

SLOVAČKA KUĆA**

In the silence of Srijem

A circular trail from the Slovak House in Radoš, the easternmost settlement in Croatia, to Liska (297 m above sea level), the highest peak in Vukovar-Srijem County, and the Čukavac checkpoint.

SULTAN'S TRAIL

Sultan's Trail is an international walking route that connects Vienna and Istanbul through four other European countries, symbolically retracing the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent. Ilok is the easternmost point of this route in Croatia. Leading through landscapes from Vienna to Istanbul, Sultan's Trail links active tourism with the long, shared history of the countries of South-East Europe. More than a walking trail, it is also, in a sense, a route through 'history brought to life'.



Cyclists

A VIEW IN MOTION

Everyone has their own view of the world, yet some views are universally beautiful. The Danube, Srijem and the vineyards at sunrise and sunset, with their flowing character and centuries-old constancy, remain symbols of beauty recognized by all. Still, human curiosity seeks other, different and new perspectives - more beautiful ones, of course. In this search for beauty, some people get on a bicycle and discover the world from the saddle. This is Ilok's story for them.

The dynamics of beauty within the dynamics of movement create an unbroken thread of experiencing nature, the city, the river, and the slopes.



EVENTS

*Epic ride,
August*



ACROSS THE SLOPES OF ILOK

Marked cycling routes

THE DANUBE

Exciting - international

From its source to its mouth, the Danube is a powerful, magnetic force of nature. This European river link draws life to its banks, and cyclists have found their place in the colorful world along the Danube. With dedication and courage, they ride the international Danube Cycle Route, designated EuroVelo 6. Ilok lies along the route, with several rest areas at its most attractive points.

SRIJEM ROUTE

Connected - regional

Everything in nature is connected, and the best way to experience this wonderful harmony is by cycling the Srijem Route, from the Sava to the Danube. Connect with nature as you link the Sava and the Danube, the plains and the slopes, Srijem and Slavonia...

VINEYARD TRAIL

Calming - local

If the speed of main roads does not appeal to you and you prefer a gentle breeze in your hair to a strong wind, the Vineyard Trail cycle route is the perfect choice. You are not alone in loving the views over the Danube - winegrowers love them too - so the vineyards will keep you company as you ride. At the end of the trail, the wineries of Šarengrad await.

EVENTS

*Carnival horseback
procession,
February*



ACROSS THE SLOPES OF ILOK

Noble animals of a royal town

Nikola of Ilok was a king, and every king had his own noble animal - the horse. The horses of Ilok affirm the town's noble and royal standing. Traditionally linked with work and production in the Srijem region, horses in modern Srijem now have a new role in riding and sport. The bond between people and horses is an endless source of deeply emotional stories, told in Ilok in its own distinctive way - from carnival horseback processions to modern stud farms.



Experiencing Ilok from
the saddle of a Lipizzaner...
What do you think?

THROUGH THE TOWN AND VINEYARDS



The harmonious interweaving of natural and cultural heritage creates views and experiences that move from excitement and surprise to tranquility and relaxation. From dawn to dusk, the sights of Ilok will envelop all your senses in lasting wonder and delight.

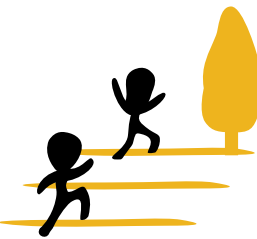
Views of the Srijem slopes and the Danube, the shade of thick medieval walls and a breeze weaving through the trees of Ilok's park invite a full day of walking and time in nature, with attractive places to rest along the way.



Along the town's green paths

Almost hidden from view, Ilok's park lies just a few steps down and to the right of the medieval center. Turn slightly by the hammam and you enter the enchanting world of the park. Protected as a monument of landscape architecture since 1973, it is home to a remarkable *Ginkgo biloba* tree that perfectly complements the unexpected, secluded beauty of the park.

Follow the park to the steps that descend to the lower town and continue towards the Danube, or return to the medieval center of the upper town and enjoy a leisurely walk through Ilok's panoramic views of town and vineyard... We warmly recommend taking the steps mentioned above, especially if you have been looking at Ilok's hills with a little disbelief.



Complete with a handrail, the steps connect the lower and upper town. Surrounded by greenery, they can be a shortcut - the right kind of shortcut, the one life always proves is not necessarily the easiest.

VIEWS OF ILOK FROM THE TOWN

- **From the courtyard of the Franciscan monastery,** the view opens onto the Danube and its backwater channel in shades of green and blue.
- **The view from the medieval walls** evokes a sense of living history: the walls are both a historic and a 'living' witness to Ilok's importance in European history.
- **The view from the courtyard of Odescalchi Castle** offers the royal feeling of being privileged to live on the most beautiful slopes.

EVENTS

St Vincent's Day in Ilok
Ilok Grape Harvest Festival
Traminac Festival
Wine Night



Gentle forests of vines

TRAMINAC ON THE VINE

The vineyards are the crowning glory of Ilok's promise of an experience in nature. A walk along the marked walking and hiking trails offers both panoramic and up-close encounters with the vineyards of Srijem. Gentle and welcoming, Ilok's landscape delivers a rich experience with minimal effort. Of course, if you are looking for a challenge, Liska still rises proudly to its 300 - 3 metres above sea level as a true Srijem hiking challenge. The vineyards, however, are a very different kind of 'forest' story. Discovering grape varieties on a pleasant walk along the wine trails is both rewarding and challenging: find the Traminac! Do not touch it unless it is in a glass - and for that, a genuine and sweet Ilok wine challenge awaits you on the *City Wine Walk*.

Horizons
are both the
image and
the hallmark
of Ilok.



THROUGH THE TOWN AND VINEYARDS

VIEWS OF ILOK FROM THE VINEYARDS

- **Principovac** is the place for your next most beautiful sunset, enjoyed with a glass of sparkling wine. Do not try to resist.
- **Vukovo** is a viewpoint over the vineyards. As the final destination after the climb, it reveals the full breadth, strength and beauty of Ilok's vineyards.
- **Radoš** is an embrace of vineyards. Hide from the world among the vines in Radoš and let just one thing remain in view - row upon row of vines.

Explore
the Ilok
Wine
Route: 

CITY WINE WALK

The *City Wine Walk* is a story of enduring continuity and winemaking. The Ilok Wine Route is unique for its urban concept, leading wine lovers from wineries in the town out into the vineyards. It is both impossible and unnecessary to separate Ilok's stories of wine, history and nature. The only reason to do so would be to allow enough time to enjoy each one with equal attention - and equal honor. Let your wine walk begin in the oldest cellar, continue through modern wine creations and lead to wineries surrounded by vineyards, taking you from dry wines to dessert flavors. Choose your favorite wine 'checkpoints' and enjoy using wine to unite a healthy spirit with a healthy body.

THE DANUBE FROM EVERY ANGLE

Calm in its power, the Danube catches the first glimmer of sunlight you will see in Croatia. Beyond the eastern horizon rises the great golden sphere around which the world and life revolve – and the Danube at Ilok is the first to greet it.

Along the riverbank

It is lovely to walk beside the Danube along the landscaped riverside promenade. It is lovely to take in the river as a panorama from the many viewpoints reached on foot or by bicycle; the Danube is always part of the horizon. And it is lovely to mix warm and cool: from the sandy river beach, take a swim to refresh yourself. Of all the activities along the Danube, perhaps the most powerful is the one in which the body is still and the soul simply observes.





The best way to discover what it is like to spend peaceful hours listening to the Danube is with a fishing rod at one of the river's finest fishing spots. Fishing is a special sport, and tales of fishing on the Danube far surpass hunting stories - have you seen how large the fish are? There is another fishing perspective too, and it follows in the next part of our story...



A sightseeing boat trip accompanied by a glass of Ilok wine and a Srijem-style snack - how does that sound?

On the water

The Danube can be faster than the fastest vessel, but on such days it should be admired from a safe distance. On all other calm days, without wind or waves, set sail. The panorama of Ilok from the Danube is not to be missed. How does a sightseeing boat, a glass of Ilok wine and a Srijem delicacy sound? If you prefer something more active than the pleasures of food and wine, take a boat - or better still, a traditional flat-bottomed čiklja - and set out on an adventure. The people of Ilok are ready to provide both safety and local guidance for this sporting, exploratory adventure. You do not have to keep rowing tirelessly. Find a suitable place, still the boat and your thoughts, and cast a line. If you forget about the shore, do not worry; it is a natural response to such beauty and peace. But once a catfish, carp, pike or sterlet lands in your fishing boat, return to the shore and do what should be done with a good catch - make fiš (fish stew), the local fish stew, for example.



A panorama of Danube journeys

The Danube is the ultimate river-cruise destination, and the appeal of travelling by river continues to grow. Numerous modern ships carrying guests from around the world call at Ilok. Medieval Ilok is an essential sight on international Danube cruises that connect different countries, cities and destinations, continually creating new experiences of historical heritage, natural surroundings and warm hospitality. When they arrive in Ilok, travellers experience sunrise and sunset beside the Danube, touch two worlds - East and West - and feel the calm of the Danube horizon and the mystery of the slopes of Fruška Gora. The Danube is a thrilling source of life. Reach out and touch it.



Ilok will not exhaust you with extreme sports, grueling physical challenges or new peaks to conquer. Ilok is a destination that will fill your body with health, your eyes with beauty and your soul with happiness.



I M P R E S S U M

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Ilok
CITY OF ILOK
TOURIST BOARD



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Slavonia**
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VUKOVAR-SYRMIA COUNTY

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