

WELCOME



Montenegro's Panoramic Roads lead you to the versatile landscape, culture and nature of this small, amiable country. There is a lot to discover on the four different route suggestions ranging between the beautiful Adriatic coast and the wild romantic mountains in the north.

"The Circuit around Korita" - Krug oko Korita - is the first fully signposted panoramic road in Montenegro. It starts in the capital Podgorica and leads 65 kilometers into the mountainous area of Kući and to the edge of the Cijevna Canyon. The tour makes an excellent day trip. A few hours suffice to escape from everyday life and immerse yourself into a different world. The route passes through different landscapes and vegetation and a stretch of land characterized by different cultures and religions. A highlight of the route is the easy hike to the scenic viewpoint "Grlo Sokolovo" (The Falcon's Gorge). You can find a detailed description of the Panoramic Road and the sights along the way on the back page.

Enjoy yourself and have a safe trip!



www.panoramic.roads.montenegro.travel

PLACES OF INTEREST AND TOURIST ATTRACTIONS ALONG THE ROUTE

(detailed descriptions can be found on the back page)

- 1 Podgorica
- 2 The Monument of Novak Milošević
- 3 The Fortress of Medun/The Museum of Marko Miljanov
- 4 Ubli
- 5 Orahovo
- 6 Kučka Korita
- 7 Grlo sokolovo
- 8 Zatrijebač
- 9 Delaj
- 10 Stjepovo
- 11 Rudine
- 12 Fundina
- 13 Rašovići

NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANISATION OF MONTENEGRO

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PRACTICAL ADVICE

The Panoramic Road 'Krug oko Korita' is paved throughout. A great deal of the route leads along narrow, winding roads. Therefore, drive carefully and be aware of the road. In the case of oncoming traffic, it may happen that you have to give way in order to pass oncoming vehicles. The route leads to a height of 1,400 m above sea level. Therefore, the recommended time to undertake such a journey is the summer, between May and October. Outside of this period, you should seek information about the weather conditions beforehand. After the winter months, the roads at higher elevations may be damaged due to snow and ice, and motorcyclists should be particularly careful. The route is not suitable for large camper vans (7 metres or longer, 2.3 m or wider). Drivers of smaller campers should be experienced in driving on narrow mountain roads.

The Panoramic Road 'Krug oko Korita' is signposted in both directions. However, we recommend driving the route clockwise. Pay attention to the brown signposts with the Panoramic Roads logo and the number 4.



Although the Panoramic Road is only 65 kilometers long, you should plan a whole day in order to have sufficient time for all the sights along the way as well as minor detours. You should allow at least 1.5 hours for the light hike to the viewpoint at Grlo Sokolovo.

There are no petrol stations along the Panoramic Road, so make sure to refill your tank at one of the petrol stations in Podgorica. Refreshments are available in Korita at the restaurant Stara kuća (+382 (0) 69 133 300 or +382 (0) 69 030 204).

You can download a detailed route description with directions and additional information, as well as the GPS data for the Panoramic Road for free at www.panoramic.roads.montenegro.travel

WEATHER & CLOTHING

The Panoramic Road 'Krug oko Korita' leads to a height of up to 1,400 m. Please note that especially in spring and autumn, the weather conditions in the mountains may differ a lot from the weather in Podgorica or on the coast. Therefore, make sure to provide for appropriate clothing as well as sunscreen. Sturdy footwear is recommended for the hike to Grlo Sokolovo.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Montenegro Customer Care Centre: | 1300 |
| Emergency call: | 112 |
| Police: | 122 |
| Roadside assistance/Automobile Association of Montenegro: | 19807 |
| Mountain Rescue Service Montenegro: | +382 (0) 40 256 084 |

IMPORTANT TRAFFIC RULES IN MONTENEGRO

- Low beam or daytime driving lights must be activated even during the daytime.
- The following is to be carried along in the vehicle:
 - > A high visibility vest for every passenger
 - > A first aid kit
 - > Depending on weather conditions, snow tires or snow chains
- Do not drink and drive! The alcohol limit in Montenegro is 0.3 ‰.
- The speed limit is:
 - > 50 km/h within settlements
 - > 80 km/h outside settlements

STARTING POINT COORDINATES

N 42° 26' 34.2"
E 019° 16' 38.3"

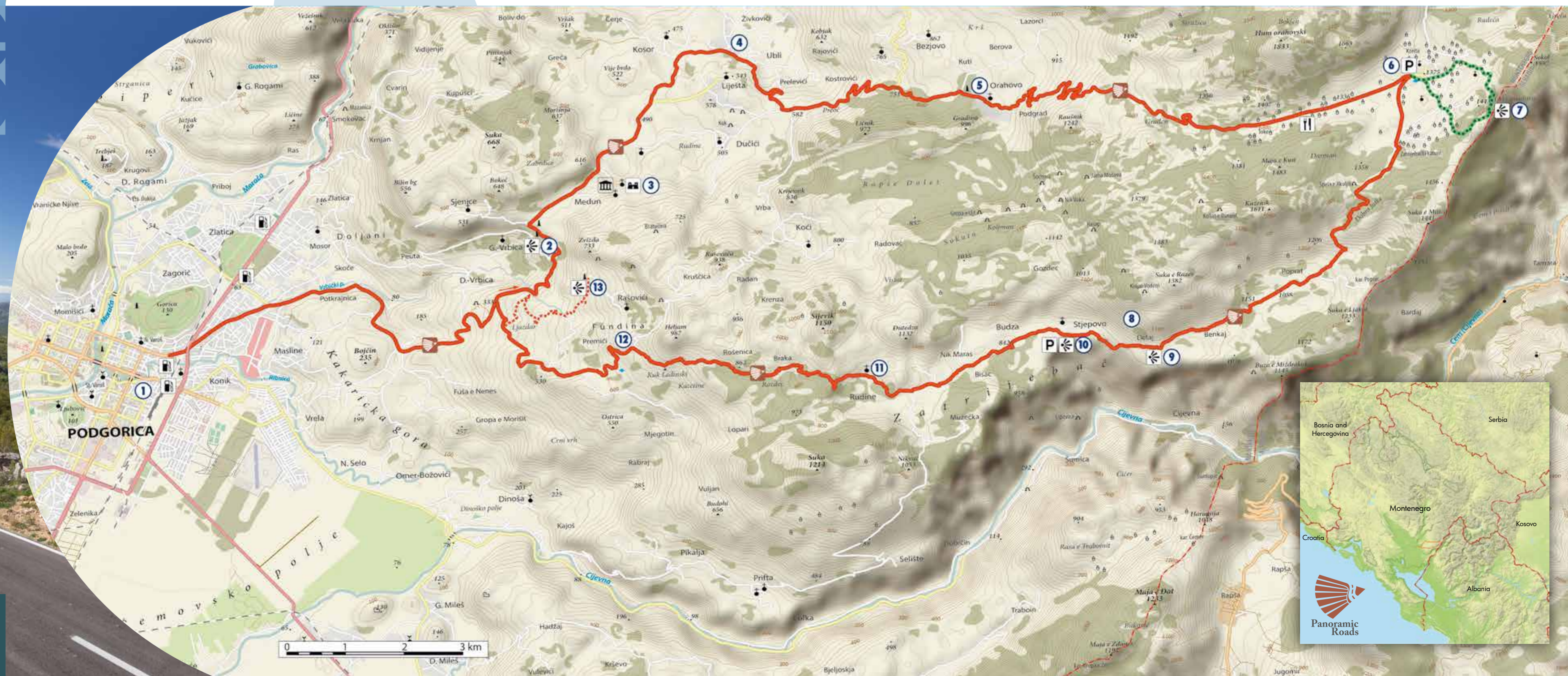


PLEASE NOTE

The Panoramic Roads of Montenegro use the existing road infrastructure. National traffic regulations are applicable. The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism assumes no liability for structural changes, diversions or extraordinary events on the route.

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Copies: 5.000

PANORAMIC ROADS free map



The Circuit around Korita



A JOURNEY THROUGH THE KUČI AREA

The Panoramic Road 'Krug oko Korita' leads into an area that is referred to by the locals as Kuči. Kuči, however, is not only the name of the region, as it also denotes the clan inhabiting this area. The Kuči clan is considered unique in the Balkans, because people of three confessions - Orthodox, Catholics and Muslims - live there together peacefully. Respect for family, neighbourhood and for marital relations has a long tradition here.

The Panoramic Road 'Krug oko Korita' starts from the crossroad next to Hotel Keto (Skopska ulica) in Podgorica.

1) PODGORICA

Podgorica is the capital of Montenegro and the economic and administrative centre of the country. Yet this metropolis of almost 190,000 inhabitants is worth visiting. The name Podgorica means "at the foot of a hill". Sights of interest include the old part of the city 'Stara varoš' with the clock tower 'Sahat kula', the Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ, numerous historical and new bridges, including the Millennium Bridge which is a contemporary symbol of the city, as well as the various museums and archaeological sites.

Of particular importance are the ruins of ancient Doclea (Duklja), located ca. 4 km north of the city centre on a plateau, at the meeting point of the rivers Morača, Zeta and Siralija. After first being settled by the Illyrians, Doclea was first mentioned in records from the 2nd century, as a colony of the Roman Empire.

2) THE MONUMENT OF NOVAK MILOŠEV

The scenic viewpoint at the monument of Novak Milošev provides an excellent view of the capital, Podgorica as well as of Lake Skadar and the coastal mountains on bright days.

Novak Milošev Vujadinović (1835-1892) is considered one of the great Montenegrin heroes. During the Battle of Fundina in 1876, he is said to have beheaded 17 Turkish opponents - at least according to the legend. For his bravery, the Russian Emperor bestowed on him a diamond-studded sabre, which is now exhibited in the National Museum in Cetinje.

A stairway leads up to another monument, which is located above and consists of three pillars. It was built in 2002 and is dedicated to Marko Mirkov Ivanović (1832-1900), who took the so-called Turkish Tower all by himself in 1862.

Following the road for another 250 meters, on the right hand side there is another monument, engraved with the names of the 472 soldiers and war heroes from Kuči, who lost their lives during the People's Liberation War, the People's Revolution and the Second World War.

3) THE FORTRESS OF MEDUN AND THE MUSEUM OF MARKO MILJANOV

For a visit to the Museum of Marko Miljanov and to see the remains of the Fortress of Medun, follow the signposts and turn right, off the Panoramic Road. 400 metres further on you will reach a car park adjacent to the museum underneath the fortress.

Built on an elongated cairn, the Illyrian Castrum Meteon was the predecessor of this medieval fortress between the 4th and 3rd century B.C. Thus it is one of the oldest buildings of this kind in this part of the Balkans. Medun was conquered by the Roman legions in 167 B.C. when the last Illyrian king Genthius was captured. Medun had later expanded to become a city and survived as such and developed for over two millennia. To this day, the history of Medun has still not been fully researched.

The Duke of Kuči, Marko Miljanov (1833 - 1901), was born and buried in Medun. He represents an important figure in Montenegrin history. Marko Miljanov is part of the folk culture and the hero of many stories, a legendary fighter against the Turks, and a writer who described the life and struggle of his clanspeople in his works. The Museum of Marko Miljanov in Medun is dedicated to his life. The site is well worth visiting to learn about those interesting and often tragic times as well as the way of life in this region in the 19th century.

We particularly recommend the audio guide (in Montenegrin and English) which explains the exhibits in more detail and provides a lot of interesting background information. You can use the audio guide at the museum for free. The grave of Marko Miljanov is located within the medieval fortification (Akropolis) of the Upper Town, in front of the Church of St. Stefan above the museum.

4) UBLI

The road towards 'Kučka Korita' leads through the village of Ubli, the traditional centre of the Kuči clan. About 600 residents live in 140 houses, with a school, local administration, a post office, and small shops and restaurants. The village has two churches: the medieval Church of Saint Johanna and the Church of Holy Spasoje from the 19th century. The name Ubli derives from the word Ubao, which means something like a cistern, i.e. a container for collecting and storing water. Excellent grapes, figs, pomegranates, cherries and other fruit grow excellently in Ubli. In addition, some households successfully raise livestock.

The villages of Dučići, Liješta and Kosor, which lie just off the route, belong to Ubli as well. You should take the time for a short detour if you would like to get an impression of local life.

5) ORAHOVO

Orahovo is the last settlement that one passes before reaching the plateau of Kučka Korita. The name derives from the word orah, which means walnut. On the left hand side of the road, in the village cemetery, the Church of St. Dimitri is adorned with icons crafted by Peter Čolanović during the early 20th century. It was built of stone blocks in 1836 and consists of a nave with a semicircular apse.

6) KUČKA KORITA

Along a series of switchbacks, after about 30 km, the road leads through a coniferous forest with occasional weekend cottages and you reach the plateau of Kučka Korita. You will find the restaurant Stara kuća at the end of the forest on the right hand side.

Kučka Korita is located at about 1,300 m above sea level, and enjoys many sunny days and pleasant temperatures in the summer, with plenty of snow during the winter.

Korita lies at the foot of the 1,833-metre-high Hum orahovački and is surrounded by many other impressive peaks.

The name Kučka Korita refers to the Kuči clan, who had used this particular area as pasture and farmland. The toponym Korita derives from the Celtic and means something like "windy plateau".

There is one Catholic and two Orthodox churches in Korita. The Orthodox Church of St. Elijah has an interesting history. The clans' elders used to meet there in order to discuss issues of importance and make decisions. After having already been damaged in the 1950s, it was eventually destroyed in the great earthquake of 1979. It was rebuilt in 1993 thanks to the efforts of local people.

7) A HIKE TO THE "FALCON'S GORGE". GRLO SOKOLOVO

The 4.8-kilometer long hiking trail to the viewpoint at Grlo Sokolovo is an absolute highlight of the Panoramic Road. It will take you past fields and meadows, churches and weekend cottages, through beech woods, as far as the edge of the Cijevna Canyon. In the past this trail was used by border guards. From what once used to be

a shelter of the border guards, you can now enjoy the most stunning view of the 1,000-meter-deep gorge from a viewing platform.

You should allow at least 1.5 hours for the entire tour. Though not too demanding, it is still a hiking tour and sturdy shoes are recommended. The starting point is in Kučka Korita at the junction of the Panoramic Road towards Zatrijebač. We recommend taking the hike clockwise. The second half of the hike from the scenic outpost at Grlo Sokolovo is a little more demanding - beginners should therefore go back the same way. The GPS data for hikers is available for free download on the website of the Panoramic Road.

A LEGEND OF "GRLO SOKOLOVO"

West of Kučka Korita lies the 1,557-metre high mountain Sokol - meaning 'falcon'. There it becomes obvious how the steep cliffs sloping towards the river Cijevna received the name "Falcon's Gorge". But there are also other stories and legends about the origin of the name "Falcon's Gorge". One of them is that once there was a soldier lying injured by the wall of the cliff who was considered lost. But a falcon spotted him, flew with the soldier's handkerchief to a nearby spring, immersed it into the water and flew back to the soldier, to nurse him. The soldier's mother watched for days as the falcon dipped the handkerchief in the spring and followed it in amazement. So she finally found her son again and he was saved.

TIPS FOR "HIKING ROOKIES"

The hiking trails in Montenegro are marked with red or red and white signs. Most frequently it is a red circle with a white dot in the centre. Red or red and white lines indicate the direction. Yellow signposts and green hiking pictograms are located at major intersections, indicating the distance to the next destination.

8) ZATRIJEBAČ

The winding road leads us through the villages of Zatrijebač. Again and again, the view opens up to Lake Skadar. Zatrijebač has a rich and long tradition. Around 30 households are still there - half a century ago there were 300 - where Albanians (Catholics) live. The people live mainly from agriculture and livestock farming - potatoes and cheese from Zatrijebač are widely-known. What is characteristic of the villages in this area are the farms and fields enclosed with low stone walls. Among others, the Zatrijebač region encompasses the villages Deljaj, Stjepovo and Rudine (see below).

9) DELAJ

Located by the road that touches the very edge of the Cijevna Canyon, a large cross (10 meters high) in the village of Delaj draws attention by its impressive presence. The cross was built in 2010, financed by the donations of the faithful. A stunning view of the Canyon and the turquoise waters of the 700-meter deep River Cijevna stretches from the terrace, while on clear days you can see Lake Skadar on the horizon.

Tip: Beneath the cross there is ample parking space and benches, from which you can enjoy the view.

10) STJJEPOVO

We recommend taking a short walk (about 5 minutes) to the scenic viewpoint in Stjepovo. Leave your car in the large car park and take a walk to the left, past a building with the inscription "Besa". The footpath leads between two stone walls along to the viewpoint with a fascinating view of the Cijevna Canyon. Take the same route back to the car park.

Not far away from the car park, you will find the Catholic Church "Mala Gospa", which celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2013.

11) RUDINE

In the village of Rudine you can find the Church of St. Nicholas (Alb. Kisha e Shenkollit), which was recently financed by a local emigrant to the United States. After the church, the long road downhill will be interrupted by a few kilometres of ascent: the pass again offers a marvelous view of the Prokletije massif to the east and Podgorica to the west. Lake Skadar comes into view again. The road leads downhill again to Fundina.

12) FUNDINA

The toponym Fundina derives from Latin and means "source". Within about two square kilometers you will find 76 springs that made the life of the people in Fundina easier than it was in other mountainous and barren stretches of land. Among the best known springs are Rašovića Rad and Ljuharski, where once upon a time more than 30 water mills operated. Thanks to its geographical location with plenty of sunshine, Fundina is called the "Garden of Kuči". Here, at an altitude of up to 700 meters, the Mediterranean and the mountain climates collide. About 50 people still live in Fundina - while during the middle of the last century there were 450 residents. It is the only village in Kuči that is home to Orthodox and Catholics and Muslims - who had always lived in peace and harmony.

13) RAŠOVIĆI

A recommended detour from the Panoramic Route and a nice ending to this tour is a visit to the monument commemorating the Battle of Fundina in 1876 (additional ca. 7 km). The view from there extends over Lake Skadar, along the coastal mountain range and the capital Podgorica, and takes in the surrounding mountains.

On a narrow road that branches off to the right from the Panoramic Road, the route goes 3.4 km uphill to Rašovići. A striking, white obelisk, 20 tons in weight, was erected there in 2008 as a memorial to the victorious Battle of Fundina that took place on August 2, 1876. In one of the most significant battles of the Montenegrin people, the Montenegrin army defeated the strong forces of the Ottoman Empire numbering 20,000 men with only about 5,000 soldiers. Visit the Marko Miljanov Museum in Medun to find out more about the Battle of Fundina.

The same road takes you back to the Panoramic Road. Stop for a minute at the striking switchback to take a look at the waterfall (from October to May) and the remains of a water mill (see Fundina).

Continue to follow the Panoramic Road signs back to Podgorica.

OTHER DETOURS FROM THE PANORAMIC ROAD

- Lake Bukumir (Bukumirsko jezero), 50 km (25 km one way), predominantly paved, partly on very narrow roads, with the last section (about 1 km) unpaved.
- Lake Rikavac (Rikavačko jezero), 32 km (16 km one way), unpaved mountain roads, suitable only for SUVs/4WDs. The route can also be linked with the trip to Lake Bukumir to form a round trip (about 50 km).



The Monument of Novak Milošev



The Museum of Marko Miljanov



Korita



Grlo sokolovo



Stjepovo



Rudine



Rašovići