

In the area of southern Velebit in 1907, the *Degenia velebitica* was found for the first time. Today, it is an endemic species, which has become one of the symbols of Velebit.



The coastal side and the Lika side of Velebit are completely different in appearance. Apart from the differences in relief, forests are more abundant on the Lika side, with karst much more common on the coastal side.



**Cerovačke  
špilje**  
CEROVAC CAVES

The total value of the project is HRK 68,453,850.00, of which EU funds in the amount of HRK 53,233,632.80 are provided from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Operational Programme "Competitiveness and Cohesion 2014-2020". The implementation of the project began on 4 April 2018 and will last until 31 December 2021. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources, environmental protection, and protection of natural heritage by strengthening the model of sustainable management of protected areas of the Republic of Croatia, as well as those of the European Union. This, in turn, helps develop and diversify the Adriatic region's tourist offer, thus contributing to its sustainable socio-economic development. The specific goal of the project is to develop a new, competitive, and integrated tourist offer by developing a new supported infrastructure for visitors in the area of the Velebit Nature Park, to increase the park's educational, interpretive, and professional and scientific potential, and to establish an efficient and sustainable management and business system of the Velebit Nature Park.



**Cerovačke  
špilje**  
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## NATURAL VALUES OF SOUTHERN VELEBIT

**Publishers:** Zadar County and Velebit Nature Park Public Institution

**Text:** Marija Maras

**Photographs:** Velebit Nature Park Archive, Ana Brkljačić, Ivana Svetić, Josip Tomaić, Marija Maras, Tomislava Maras

**Velebit Nature Park Public Institution**

Kaniža gospićka 4b, 53000 Gospić

Tel. +385 53 560 450

E-mail: [velebit@pp-velebit.hr](mailto:velebit@pp-velebit.hr)

[www.pp-velebit.hr](http://www.pp-velebit.hr)  Park prirode Velebit  [pp.velebit](https://www.instagram.com/pp.velebit)

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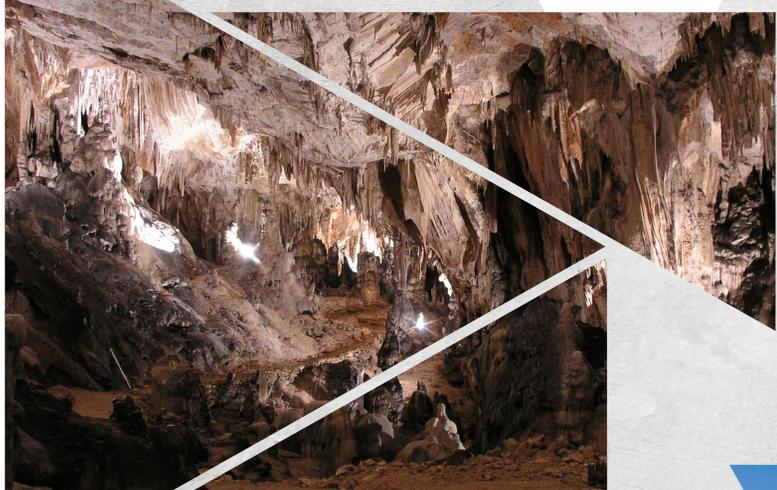
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For more information on EU funds:  
[www.strukturnifondovi.hr](http://www.strukturnifondovi.hr)



## NATURAL VALUES OF SOUTHERN VELEBIT

In the area of southern Velebit, there are many picturesque peaks [Veliki Sadikovac, Konjevača, Visočica, Veliki Crnopac] and numerous karst valleys, of which Ramino Korito and Šugarska Duliba particularly stand out. Some of the attractive karst complexes include the areas of Stap, Tulove Grede, Crnopac and Cerovac Caves, and the rivers Zrmanja, Krupa and Krnjeza are especially important.



## CEROVAC CAVES

Cerovac Caves, located in the southern part of the Velebit Nature Park, are among the most famous and important speleological objects in Croatia. The complex consists of three caves [Lower, Middle and Upper] with over 7 km of explored passages. Apart from a large number of archaeological remains, they are one of the largest cave bear sites in Croatia.



## TULOVE GREDE

### BARE ROCKY PEAKS

Tulove Grede, with the highest peak of 1120 m, is an extremely steep and rocky ridge built of limestone rock, which stretches for about one kilometre. Various folk tales are associated with these rocks. According to them, dragons used to hatch here, and invisible Velebit fairies lived inside the rocks. The Master's Road that passes by this geomorphologically significant site is one of the most beautiful historical roads and is classified as a cultural good of the Republic of Croatia.

## CRNOPAC

Crnopac is located in the very south of Velebit and is one of its most attractive parts. Crnopac peak is one of the most beautiful viewpoints on Velebit, but due to the extremely rocky terrain, steep cliffs, and numerous sinkholes, it is very demanding to reach. Below the surface is the deepest speleological system in Croatia, the Crnopac cave system, with a length of 52 342 m and a depth of 797 m.



## KRUPA

Krupa is a typical karst river which, after 10 km of its course, flows into the Zrmanja as its largest tributary. The most beautiful part of the river Krupa has a number of magnificent waterfalls and travertine cascades, more precisely nine of them, which end in a high waterfall with the Kuda bridge passing over them. The bridge, as the oldest preserved crossing over the Krupa river, has been declared a cultural monument, and the entire area of the river Krupa is protected as a cultural landscape.



## ZRMANJA

The Zrmanja River is the south-eastern border of the Velebit Nature Park. The course of the river is 69 km long and offers views of an enchanting landscape. You can see canyons up to 300 m deep, caves and travertine barriers, as well as a great many waterfalls and cascades. As a tourist attraction, Zrmanja is suitable for countless sports activities, the most popular being rafting.

