

Describing the Country of Hercegovinačko - Neretvanska

Country of Hercegovina-Neretva has 14 municipalities: Čapljina, Čitluk, Jablanica, Konjic, Mostar (Old Town, Southwest, Southeast, West, North, South), Neum, Prozor, Ravno, Stolac. Mostar is an urban-historical center and second largest city in Bosnia. As its name suggests, it is situated in Herzegovina, by the river Neretva. It is situated in the Neretva valley, which rises above the surrounding mountains, creating a unique climate-vegetation environment, which ranges from mild to mountainous Mediterranean climate. The mountainous areas in the vicinity of Mostar, with many forests and clear mountain streams, are ideal for hunting and fishing.



North County area, the country of Prozor-Rama, Konjic and Jablanica, spreads on 1948 square kilometers with altitude 200-1500 meters. This area is rich in agricultural land (73 791 ha) of which 81% of the meadows and pastures. This area also has two hydroelectric reservoirs - Rama and Jablanica Lake, and flows through Rama Doljanka, Krupic and other small river, which is a huge water capacity that is currently only partially used for the cultivation of fish consumption.

South County includes the municipalities of Čapljina, Čitluk, Stolac, Ravno and Neum, and covers an area of 1648 square kilometers. This is part of the county particularly suitable for growing healthy food, because of its natural

resources and enables the development of such activities, now highly sought after in the world. Particularly, the well-known wine produced on poor fields of Mediterranean karst. First mention of Herzegovinian wines in the Middle Ages, had been found in the Bosnian king Tvrtko's charter of Čitluk, issued 1354th year. French and Venetian travelers 16th and 17 Century had also written about expensive, but good wines from the Neretva River. Today there are over 40 wineries registered in the area that generally appear with three products on the market: white wine - žilavka, red wine - Blatina, and rakija - loza.

Country of Hercegovina - Neretva has two nature park famous for its beauty: Hutovo Blato and Blidinje. The Hutovo Blato is composed of four lakes: Deransko, Hellenic, and Svitavsko Škrkino which are connected with by the river Krupa. It is the only river in the world that flows in two directions. There are about 240 species of birds along with other large and small game living in the unspoiled nature of Hutovo Blato.

In the northern area of the County there is park Blidinje whose area spreads in 600 square kilometers. It stretches over parts of three counties: The County of Hercegovina - Neretva, Country of West Hercegovina and The country of Herceg bosnan-ska. Park Blidinje is well-known by endemic species of forest trees and flowers.

Neum is the only Bosnian-Herzegovinian exit to the sea with 24 km of beautiful coastline. Neum is touristic town with great facilities at the hotel and private accommodation.



Rujište (1050 m), a famous resort with a mountain home, around which grows bark pine, pine species, which is a natural rarity is in the north, 30 km from

Mostar. Beautiful Boračko lake is situated in the company of mountains Prenj, Visočica and Bjelašnica above Konjic, which has partly glacier origin and it is pleasant for swimming, relaxation and recreation. Jablanica lake which is artificial lake spreads over Jablanica City and Konjic, appealing to swimmers and fishermen, and perfect for all kinds of water sports. Park Hutovo Blato, unique complex and richest reserves of wading birds in Europe can be found in the north area of Country Herezegovina- Neretva. Medjugorje is in the neighbour of Mostar, it is a world famous pilgrimage center, which annually attracts many tourists.

Međugorje, until 1981. unknown village, has become the most visited Marian shrine in the world. Six young people from the parish claimed to have daily apparitions of Virgin Mary.

Since then millions of pilgrims have visited this small town from around the world. The parish of Međugorje, which consists of the village of Međugorje, Bi-jakovići, Vionica, Miletina Šurmanci, located southwest of Mostar. There prevails a Mediterranean climate, characterized by relatively mild winters and long, hot summers. There prevails a Mediterranean climate, characterized by relatively mild winters and long, hot summers. It is highly a limestone area with karst oasis field karst valleies and karst sinkholes. The main source of water supply is the river Neretva.



The parish was founded in year of 1892. and placed under the protection of St. James the Apostle, the patron of pilgrims. The village is in the historical sources first mentioned in year of 1599. Until the June 24th 1981, Međugorje had lived the life of other villages in this region. People had worked the land, planted tobacco and vineyards. They had produced wine and vegetables to acquire just enough for a modest life and the lives of their children. Since the 1981. the majority of inhabitants have lived off tourism providing various services to pilgrims from around the world. Major tourist facilities that meet the needs of modern man had been built.

This area is full of monuments from different periods of human civilization. Tombstones, funerary monuments of the medieval inhabitants of Bosnia, were scattered everywhere. The whole city of Mostar is a treasury of cultural and historical treasures. Počitelj, a medieval castle is the most attractive place, it can be found on the road between Mostar and Dubrovnik. Not far from Čapljina, there

is a monument of antiquity - Mogorjelo villa, whose well-preserved remains lie in the alley of cypresses and Mediterranean vegetation. On the right cost of the Buna is Tekija, built in the 17th century, the finest example of residential architecture in the Ottoman era in Blagaj. The walls of a fortified city Stephen from the 15th century still guard above Blagaj, which had been ruled by Herceg Stjepan Kosača. Orthodox monastery of Žitomislići, on the road between Buna and Počitelj, it is famous because of its schools of copying which date back from the 17th century, but the greatest value are works of art that are placed in it.

Neretva

The Emerald River Neretva (Narenta, the Latin name), the cradle of civilization and Herzegovinian population, in its 225 km long, flows through the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina (203 km) and Croatian (approximately 22 km). This is the most important rivers of Herzegovina one of the coldest in the world: its source is located in the Dinaric Alps, a mountain chain that represents the skeleton of the state, at approximately 1300 m above sea level, on the Jabuka site, about 30 km from Sarajevo. The unique colors of this river, extremely clean and sparkling, make it especially attractive and distinctive symbol of this region, except that it has a rich and endemic biosystem. River begins its flow passing through the cliffs scarce in northwest about 100 km, touching a place called Glavatićevo, then a town of Konjic, to be followed down to the south over the Jablanica, It passed through Mostar and Počitelj and Čapljina and "breaks" in the Adriatic Sea the town under the name of Ploče, Croatia, through whose ports transportation of goods in the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina is made. The river is a great attraction, not only because of the purity of water but also because in certain parts where an adventure rafting is held and other activities which attract tourists. Neretva River is known for its trout fishing which attracts fishermen from the whole country.



The city of Mostar

The city of Mostar is found in part of the county which covers 1227 square kilometers, representing the political, economic, scientific and cultural center of the whole region. Located at the foot of the slopes of the mountains Velez,



Hum and Cabulja in the valley of the Neretva River at an altitude of 6080 meters.

Mostar is at the crossroads of different civilizations in centuries, each of which gave the city a part of its uniqueness. Its architecture is perhaps more than elsewhere has caught oriental and western influences, and more recently under the influence of the modern architecture. A special feature gives the old bridge over the Neretva River, which is a protected monument by UNESCO, together with the old town. Mostar is unique city thanks to the River Neretva. It separates it with its unusual color and connects through bridges. Mostar is 60 km away from the sea coast. In it and its immediate neighborhood there are known cultural and historical monuments of which the Old Bridge is the most well known. There is also Partisan Memorial Cemetery. It is interesting that Mostar is the city which along with Athens is the most sunnier city in the world.



Economy in Mostar

The City has a complete infrastructure, road and rail traffic moving from north to south, and a modern airport. It is also the economic center of the entire Herzegovina. The Aluminij Mostar (the aluminum company) the most important economic subject in the Mostar region in recent history, the company has made steady progress in its production and is now the strongest B&H company and the largest exporter. Company breaks records in the number of produced aluminum and aluminum alloys each year, and operates and collaborates with leading global corporations such as Daimler Chrysler and PSA.

The headquarters of the Croatian Telecommunications "HT Eronet Mostar" the operator of fixed and mobile telephony in Bosnia and Herzegovina is in Mostar too, as well as the Croatian post office Mostar "Hrvatska pošta Mostar", one of three public postal administration in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Electric com-

pany "Elektroprivreda HZ- HB" one of three national power companies in Bosnia and Herzegovina is also situated in Mostar.

University of Mostar

University of Mostar (Latin Universitas Studiorum Mostariensis), the only university outside of the Croatian in which teaching takes place in the Croatian language.

Founded in 1977. Today it consists of eleven faculties, art academies, eight institutes, Student Center, the University Library and the Student Union. All schools are located in Mostar, with the exception of the Academy of Fine Arts which is located at Široki Brijeg.

The largest number of university facilities is located in one campus in the city center, part of the facilities located in two campus in the suburb Rodoč, while building the School of Medicine and Faculty of Health Studies found within the University Clinical Hospital in Mostar. Constant development and growth of the University is provided through numerous activities, such as continuously updating the curriculum, initiating scientific research, establishing and developing a network of inter-university cooperation, both within BiH and the wider region and Europe, as well as collaboration with industry. Today, the University full member of all major European and regional university associations and academic networks, with a very successful and intensive international cooperation.



University Clinical Hospital Mostar is a public-health facility in which are planned, organized and conducted medical, educational and scientific researches. It is a modern health facility in where modern methods of treatment and diagnostic procedures are applied. At the same time hospital staff





is educated continuously and followed by the scientific achievements. Clinical Hospital Mostar was founded by the Ministry of Health of the Croatian Republic of Herceg- Bosnia in August 2th 1994, and was entered in the register of the Higher Court in Mostar in 14th September of the same year. The activity of SKB's Mostar consists of specialist consultative health care and hospital health care. In early year of 2009. the new hospital facility located in Bijeli Brijeg began to operate at full capacity. The Governing Council session in KB Mostar on 20th January 2009 at the Medical University of Mostar has decided unanimously to designate the Clinical Hospital Mostar a "University Clinical Hospital Mostar». SKB Mostar is educational and scientific research foundation of the Medical Faculty of the University of Mostar. It is a central health facility of the Country of Her- zegovina-Neretva which gravitates and overall population and users of health services in the area: Country of West Herzegovina, Country of Herzeg- Bosnian and Country of Central Bosnian Region.