

THE MUSEUMS AND ART COLLECTIONS  
OF VARAŽDIN COUNTY

**A LUXURIOUS TOUCH OF HISTORY**



## VARAŽDIN COUNTY TOURIST BOARD

Franjevački trg 7, 42 000 Varaždin  
Tel: +385 (0)42 210 096  
Fax +385 (0)42 210 073  
E-mail: info@turizam-vzz.hr  
www.turizam-vzz.hr

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Ivana Padovca 3, 42000 Varaždin  
Tel: +385 (0)42 210 987  
E-mail: info@tourism-varazdin.hr  
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Hrvatskih pavlina 7, 42250 Lepoglava  
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Trg Svete Marije 26, 42253, Bednja  
Tel: +385 (0)42 796 309  
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www.turizam-trakoscan.hr

### Centre of the World Tourist Board

Trg Svetog Trojstva 14, 42230 Ludbreg  
Tel: +385 (0)42 810 690  
E-mail: info@tz-ludbreg.hr  
www.visitludbreg.hr

### Gornji Knežinec Municipality Tourist Board

Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana 2c, G.Knežinec, 42204 Turčin  
Tel: + 385 (0) 42 242 150  
E-mail: info@tz-knezinec.hr  
www.tz-knezinec.hr

### Ivanec Tourist Board

Trg hrvatskih ivanovaca 9b, 42240 Ivanec  
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www.ivanec-turizam.hr

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E-mail: info@toplice-vz.hr  
www.toplice-vz.hr

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Antuna Mihanovića 3, 42220 Novi Marof  
Tel: 042 205 212  
E-mail: info@tz-novi-marof.hr  
www.tz-novi-marof.hr

### Northern Zagorje Tourist Board

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Tel: +385 (0)42 724-824  
E-mail: opcina@cestica.hr

# A county full of Baroque grandeur

Varaždin County is a part of Central Europe full of Baroque magnificence, culture, art, music, culinary idiosyncrasies, and pristine nature. The rich historical and cultural heritage of the Croatian people can be found here, as witnessed by the area's remarkable cultural monuments, numerous churches and chapels, Mediaeval forts and castles, parks and gardens. One such monument is Trakošćan, one of the most beautiful castles in all of Croatia, whose interior is home to a museum display that tells a noteworthy historical story.

Numerous settlements are located here, where the slopes of the Alps and the great Pannonian plain meet. From the largest, the City of Varaždin – the former Croatian capital and seat of Croatian Parliament, a city that boasts a history spanning eight centuries carefully preserved in the museums of its old town, one of the best-preserved in Europe – to Lepoglava, a town adorned with a magnificent Baroque church from the

Pauline era and home to the unique, hand-made Lepoglava lace. This area is also home to Varaždinske Toplice, the oldest Croatian thermal spa with various health and recreational facilities, and the delightful former mining town of Ivanec, located at the foot of the largest mountain in Zagorje, Ivanščica, which greets visitors with stories of knights and the local mining tradition. One of the few shrines in the Christian world founded by a written Papal decree can also be found in the town of Ludbreg, which is also popularly known as the centre of the world.

This part of Croatia has even more to offer its visitors. From a tour of the Opeka Arboretum, a horticultural delight where specimens of exotic trees from all around the world grow, the Varaždin cemetery, a landscaping monument of the highest category, to mountain slopes inhabited by thirty species of orchids, as well as numerous events, exhibitions, performances and festivals. Welcome!





## The true values of the past

In three historic buildings in the old town centre, the VARAŽDIN CITY MUSEUM presents its permanent collection, which represents a selection of the best and most valuable works from the museum's fonds. The Gothic Renaissance Stari Grad fortress is the setting chosen to depict Varaždin's past and its way of life in past centuries. If your travels have brought you to Varaždin, this is a destination you simply mustn't miss. The fortress previously served as the seat of feudal and military power. The city municipality purchased the fortress in 1925 and donated it to the newly-established Varaždin City Museum.

The fascinating life of insects is presented in classicist Herzer Palace, as are the even more fascinating biographical notes on the life of Prof. Franjo Košćec, who collected and analysed them.

Works by both old European masters and the biggest names in 20th and 21st century Croatian fine arts from the Art Gallery's fonds are presented at baroque Sermage Palace. Exhibitions alternate and are sometimes replaced with larger exhibitions; when you are in Varaždin, make sure to check what is on the programme.

# VARAŽDIN CITY MUSEUM

## CULTURE AND HISTORY DEPARTMENT



The department is located in Stari Grad fortress, surrounded by the partially preserved fortification elements of this fortress on the water, the most important Gothic Renaissance complex in the city of Varaždin, built between the 14th and 19th century.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Šetaliste J. J. Strossmayera 1, 42000 Varaždin

Tel: +385 42 658 773, +385 42 658 754

e-mail: muzej@gmv.hr

www.gmv.hr

www.facebook.com/GMVarazdin

### VISITING HOURS

Tuesday–Friday: 9AM–5PM

Saturday and Sunday: 9AM–1PM

Closed on Mondays and state holidays.

### TICKET PRICES

Individual:

Adults: HRK 35

Students, retirees: HRK 20

Family ticket (two adults and children): HRK 90

DISCOUNTS for groups (10 or more people):

Adults: HRK 30

Students, retirees: HRK 15

Pre-school children: HRK 10

Free: Teachers with school groups and other group leaders.

### ADDITIONAL OFFERS

Guides (for groups of up to 50 people)

In Croatian: HRK 120

In foreign languages (English): HRK 250

Guides in other foreign languages (German, French, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish) must be reserved at least 14 days in advance.



## Charming architecture and historic exhibits

The architectural attributes of the Stari Grad castle itself make it a museum of architecture, which is enriched with roughly 1,100 exhibits. They include works of applied and fine arts, unified within an environment that illustrates various stylistic periods: the Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo, classicism, Empire, Biedermeier, historicism, and Art Nouveau. The rich social, economic, and cultural life of the area's residents is evidenced by exhibits of the art collections of guilds, glass, ceramics, clocks, historical portraits, shooting targets, weapons, furniture, stone monuments, jewellery, and historical fashion and clothing exhibits. These everyday items and works of art present artistic production and material culture in Croatia and the surrounding European countries from the 14th to the mid-20th century. The fortress also features the Chapel of St. Lawrence with sacristy.

### A Beautiful Sign

The wooden sign of *K divljem čovjeku* (en. 'Wild Man') pub, one of the best known, oldest, and best pubs in Varaždin, a town rich in craft tradition.



## VARAŽDIN CITY MUSEUM

### NATURAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT

GMY

*Gradski muzej Varaždin*

Located in classicist Herzer Palace, the Natural History Department's permanent *World of Insects* exhibition is founded on the legacy of Varaždin naturalist and secondary school teacher Franjo Košćec. The building is accessible to people with mobility impairments.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Franjevački trg 10, 42000 Varaždin

Tel: +385 42 658 760

e-mail: muzej@gmv.hr

www.gmv.hr

www.facebook.com/GMVarazdin

#### VISITING HOURS

Tuesday–Friday from 9AM–5PM

Saturday and Sunday from 9AM–1PM

Closed on Mondays and state holidays.

#### TICKET PRICES

##### Individual:

Adults: HRK 35

Students, retirees: HRK 20

Family ticket (two adults and children): HRK 90

DISCOUNTS for groups (10 or more people):

Adults: HRK 30

Students, retirees: HRK 15

Pre-school children: HRK 10

**Free:** Teachers with school groups and other group leaders.

#### ADDITIONAL OFFERS

Guides (for groups of up to 30 people)

In Croatian: HRK 120

In foreign languages (English): HRK 250

Guides in other foreign languages (German, French, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish) must be reserved at least 14 days in advance.



## The enchanting world of nature and insects

*The World of Insects* is the only specialised museum exhibit in Croatia dedicated to presenting the hidden, secret life of the numerous species of insects that inhabit continental Croatia and Central Europe. The depiction of various life forms and phenomena is vividly portrayed through examples of Europe's most beautiful butterflies, diverse beetles, grasshoppers, praying mantis, dragonflies, mayflies, and others. The life cycle and development of several hundred different species are vividly portrayed from egg to adulthood (including metamorphosis) through entomological displays, enlarged models, and photographs. A special exhibit space is dedicated to natural sciences research and researchers, with an emphasis on the work and legacy of Franjo Košćec, founder of the Entomology Department. The World of Insects exhibition has been described as unique and one of the best of its kind in Europe by both experts and the lay public alike.

## VARAŽDIN CITY MUSEUM GALLERY OF OLD AND NEW MASTERS



Sermage Palace, one of Varaždin's most beautiful palaces, is home to the permanent exhibition of the Art Gallery - Old Masters / Croatian Masters of the 20th and 21st century - as well as the museum funds of more than 7,000 works of art.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Trg Miljenka Staničića 3, 42000 Varaždin  
Tel: +385 42 659 173  
e-mail: muzej@gmv.hr  
www.gmv.hr  
www.facebook.com/GMVarazdin

### VRIJEME POSJETA

Tuesday–Friday from 9AM–5PM  
Saturday and Sunday from 9AM–1PM  
Closed on Mondays and state holidays.

### CIJENE ULAZNICA

**Individual:**  
Adults: **HRK 35**  
Students, retirees: **HRK 20**  
Family ticket (two adults and children): **HRK 90**  
**DISCOUNTS** for groups (10 or more people):  
Adults: **HRK 30**  
Students, retirees: **HRK 15**  
Pre-school children: **HRK 10**  
**Free:** Teachers with school groups and other group leaders.

### ADDITIONAL OFFERS

Guides (for groups of up to 30 people)  
In Croatian: **HRK 120**  
In foreign languages (English): **HRK 250**  
Guides in other foreign languages (German, French, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish) must be reserved at least 14 days in advance.



### Madonna of the Wheat

One of the most beautiful and oldest paintings in the gallery, this Madonna of the Wheat, attributed to a 15th-century Czech artist, is the only known painting of its kind in Croatia.

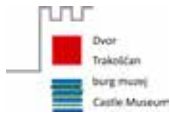


## Immerse yourself in the beauty of the art of the masters

The first floor of Sermage Palace hosts two permanent exhibitions from the Varaždin City Museum's funds as alternating exhibitions. The Old Masters permanent exhibition presents more than 80 works by Croatian and European painters from the 15th to the late-19th century, including 16th-century works of the Altdorfer school, 18th-century works of the Canaletto school, paintings by Dutch Baroque masters, and Biedermeier portraits. The real gems of the collection are a 15th-century Madonna of the Wheat and a portrait from Rubens' workshop.

The most important Croatian artists are presented in the Croatian Masters of the 20th and 21st Century collection, the majority of whom have been exhibited at guest exhibitions of the Varaždin City Museum in Vienna, Budapest, Bratislava, and Sofia. The permanent exhibitions are occasionally closed due to maintenance.

# TRAKOŠČAN CASTLE



The Trakošćan Castle Museum is located in the castle of the same name. First a small Mediaeval fortress, today the castle is one of the best known and most beautiful of Croatia's castles. For nearly 400 consecutive years, the castle was owned by the noble Croatian Drašković family; in the 19th century, they undertook a Romanticist renovation of the castle to save it from disrepair and turned it into their residence.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Trakošćan 4, 42250 Lepoglava

Tel: +385 42 796 281

e-mail: [dvor@trakoscan.hr](mailto:dvor@trakoscan.hr)

[www.trakoscan.hr](http://www.trakoscan.hr)

## VISITING HOURS

Summer (from 1 April to 31 October): 10AM-6PM

Winter (from 1 November to 31 March): 9AM-4PM

Open daily, including weekends and holidays

## TICKET PRICES

Adults: **HRK 40**

Students up to 18 years of age: **HRK 20**

Free: children 7 and under

## ADDITIONAL OFFERS

Audio guides are available in Croatian and English – **free**

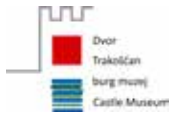


## Experience the life of nobles in days of old

According to legend, Trakošćan was named after a Thracian fortress that allegedly existed in the same location in ancient times. Another oral legend claims it received its name in honour of the Knights of Drachenstein, who reigned the area in the early Middle Ages. It changed owners frequently until 1569, when it passed into the hands of the noble Croatian Drašković family.

It is one of the rare structures in Croatia whose original inventory has been preserved, closely tied to the architectural framework and the life of its owners; the museum and its permanent exhibition are open to the public in their original function. It contains significant museum holdings ranging from the Renaissance to historicism, consisting of a valuable collection of paintings, furniture, weapons, and other items that are permanently displayed in the original spaces of the castle, presenting the life of nobles throughout the history of Trakošćan and the Drašković family.





The castle has four levels: the low and high ground floor, and the first and second floor. The low ground floor holds the castle kitchen and the dungeon. The castle interiors on the high ground floor and the first floor have an elegant, residential ambience in the historicist style; they are almost completely preserved in their original state. The high ground floor consists of working, social, and ceremonial spaces, while the first floor—comprising the bulk of the structure—hold spaces intended for the everyday lives of the castle’s owners. The rooms on the second floor are outfitted with items belonging to the Counts Drašković between the 16th and 19th centuries; the museum material there is presented chronologically according to stylistic period, from Baroque to Renaissance. Trakošćan Castle also features a noteworthy collection of weapons with valuable bladed weapons, firearms, and armour, providing a good historical portrayal of the development of arms and armour from the 15th to the late-19th century.



A recent renovation introduced a new circular path through the castle that opened new rooms to visitors; once rooms for servants, these have now become part of the permanent exhibition. The topics of the exhibitions here are presented in a more modern fashion and stand out from the ambience of the rest of the museum. They describe the history of the Drašković family, Trakošćan before the Drašković family, and the architectural development of the castle and its land. A separate room presents the Drašković family as pioneers of photography in Croatia. This room allows visitors to walk out onto a terrace offering a beautiful view of the surroundings.

Trakošćan is not only a museum and a monument of architecture—it is also a natural and horticultural monument. The immediate surroundings of the castle have been designed as a landscaped park—a large walking area with trails, paths, small bridges, and other horticultural elements all tied together into a harmonious whole.



## VARAŽDINSKE TOPLICE REGIONAL MUSEUM



The museum is located in the Stari Grad fortress, a 14th century building that was later converted into a Baroque castle. The castle's Baroque portico has been renovated into a sculpture garden with ancient stone monuments. The building also served as a hotel for a time. Near modern-day Varaždin, the Roman settlement Aquae lasae was located alongside a thermal spring from the 1st to the 4th century CE.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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e-mail: zavicajni.muzej@vz.t-com.hr

www.zmvt.hr

### VISITING HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9AM-230PM

Saturday-Sunday: by arrangement only.

Holidays: closed

Group visits are also possible outside working hours with mandatory advance notice of at least 3 days.

### TICKET PRICES

Adults: HRK 20

Students, retirees: HRK 15

Pre-school children: HRK 10

### ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

Tour of the archaeological site with professional guide, in Croatian HRK 100, in English or German HRK 120 (groups of up to 50)

Roman Games workshop - participants learn and participate in a few original ancient Roman games



### A marble Minerva

The museum's most valuable piece is a well-known marble statue of Roman goddess Minerva with a pedestal. It was made in the 2nd century CE as an offering for health.



## A trip back to Roman times

The museum holds some of the most valuable Roman monuments from the Aquae lasae archaeological site, alongside remnants of the geological history that created the thermal spring and exhibits that bear witness to the continuity of life and the medicinal use of the sulphuric spring water in the region. At the 6,000m<sup>2</sup> Aquae lasae archaeological park, located in the centre of modern day Varaždin, visitors can see the most important archaeological remnants of ancient architecture related to Roman public buildings in various building phases from the 1st to the 4th century CE. The site presents the remnants of an ancient forum with the original pool and temples to the Capitoline Triad—Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva. The site also features a preserved ancient bath complex with pool and bath houses, as well as a basilica. The museum's ethnographic collection is housed in the town park in a renovated traditional house dating from 1801.



## MUSEUM OF CROATIAN FIREFIGHTING



The Museum of Croatian Firefighting found its home in Varaždin, the cradle of Croatian firefighting. The museum is located in the First Croatian Volunteer Fire Brigade building in Varaždin, just a few minutes' walk from the city centre.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Ulica baruna Trenka 44, 42000 Varaždin  
Tel: +385 1 3689 164, +385 91 112 0013  
e-mail: muzej@hvz.hr  
www.mhv.hr

### VISITING HOURS

Wednesdays: 9AM-3PM

Visits at other times are possible with advance arrangement only.

Pets are allowed in the museum.

### TICKET PRICES

Museum entrance is **free** of charge.

### ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

Participation in workshops and use of additional museum facilities is free of charge.



### A steam-powered pump

The collection of fire pumps also features a special steam-powered pump from the Cvetković Volunteer Fire Brigade, built in 1905 by Czech firm R.A. Smékal.



## A firefighting time machine

The Museum of Croatian Firefighting offers visitors insight into the fascinating, rich tradition of Croatian firefighting, all the way back to its founding in 1864, when the very first volunteer fire brigade in southeastern Europe was founded in Varaždin. The museum's holdings are presented in two large exhibitions. The first, dedicated to the First Croatian Volunteer Fire Brigade in Varaždin, the Croatian Fire Brigade, and other firefighting organisations, provides a picturesque portrayal of the development of firefighting on Croatian soil through numerous documents, photographs, firefighting flags and helmets. The second exhibition shows the technological development of firefighting equipment since the 1850s through its exhibited fire engines, hoses, motor pumps, personal protective equipment, fire fittings, and other equipment. In addition to its permanent exhibition, the museum occasionally organises themed exhibitions related to firefighting.



## LUDBREG TOWN MUSEUM

MUZEJ  
GRADA LUDBREG

The Ludbreg Town Museum was founded in 2021 as part of the *Dragutin Novak* Centre for Culture and Information. The museum's departments and collections are located in three locations in the town centre.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Trg Svetog Trojstva 19, HR-42230 Ludbreg

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Mob: +385 91 306 1144

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www.mgl.com.hr

### VISITING HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 7AM-3PM

Thursday: 3PM-7PM

Saturday: by advance arrangement only

### TICKET PRICES

Iovia Archaeological Park

Adults - individual HRK 20, groups HRK 15

Students, retirees HRK 15

Family ticket HRK 40

Chapel of the Holy Cross at Batthyany Castle

Adults - individual HRK 20, groups HRK 15

Students, retirees HRK 15

Family ticket HRK 40

Entry tickets for both locations

Adults - individual HRK 40, groups HRK 30

Students, retirees HRK 20

Family ticket HRK 50

Note: Family tickets include two adults and up to three children; group tickets are valid for 20-50 people.

### PRICE OF ADDITIONAL OFFERS AND AMENITIES:

Professional tour guide in Croatian - HRK 100



## A 4th-century Roman soldier

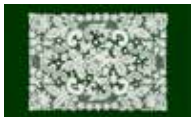
The Archaeological Park exhibition has one of the best-known archaeological findings from the area—the skeleton of a 4th-century Roman soldier whose skull shows signs of a neurosurgical operation. This is the oldest evidence of such an operation, showing the scope of Roman medicine at the time.



## A trip through the centuries

The museum has three separate exhibitions. The most important exhibit is in the historic space of the Chapel of the Holy Cross at Batthyany Castle; it includes wood and stone ornaments, paintings, liturgical vestments, and books dating from the 17th to the 19th century. Iovia Archaeological Park in the very heart of Ludbreg features remains of an ancient Roman villa and bath, as well as a permanent exhibition of items showing that Ludbreg was a place of luxury and leisure in Roman times. In the centre of town, you will also find the Granny's House and Grandpa's Yard exhibition, located in what appears to be an ordinary house, displaying the rich 19th and early 20th century heritage of the Ludbreg region. The house contains furniture, paintings, mirrors, tools, dishes, a loom, and the lovely, spacious courtyard features workshops where you can learn how to use antique tools to cultivate the land.

## LEPOGLAVA LACE GALLERY



The Lepoglava Lace Gallery and gift shop is located in the Lepoglava Tourist Cultural Information Centre.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Hrvatskih pavlina 7, 42250 Lepoglava  
Tel: +385 98 355 813  
e-mail: zadruga.cipke@lepoglava.hr  
www.lepoglavska-cipka.hr

### VISITING HOURS

**Monday–Friday:** 9AM–3PM  
Visits at other times are possible with advance arrangement only.

### TICKET PRICES

For groups – **HRK 15** (includes a tour of the gallery, the story of the history of lacemaking in Lepoglava, and a lacemaking presentation)

### ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

Workshops of ca. 5h include an introduction to lacemaking equipment, use of equipment, and the creation of a small sample—a detail of Lepoglava lace which attendants can take home. One lacemaker works with a group of five. Price **HRK 50** per person.



## The beauty and charm of lace

The centuries-old tradition of lacemaking in Lepoglava has resulted in a special kind of lace that is still made today—Lepoglava lace. This beauty and charm, which some claim was brought to Croatia by the Order of St. Paul, can be experienced through an exhibition of the best examples of this unique art form, as well as forty lace works by Danica Brossler, one of the best-known makers of Lepoglava lace. The items of clothing and jewellery with elements of Lepoglava lace are especially interesting.



## MUSEUM OF OLDTIMERS AND OLD MACHINERY

## An impressive collection of old machinery

This private museum owned by academy-trained painter, collector, and restorer Živko Skuhalo is located in the courtyard of his private home in Varaždin; it is the result of 30 years of careful collecting and restoring of numerous exhibits.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Otona Župančiča 4, 42000 Varaždin  
Tel: +385 42 331 513  
e-mail: oldtimermuzej@gmail.com

### VISITING HOURS

November–April: 10AM–3PM  
May–October: 9AM–12PM, 4PM–8PM  
The museum is **closed** on Mondays

### TICKET PRICES

Adults: **HRK 25**  
Adult groups (more than 10 people): **HRK 20**  
Children aged 7–15: **HRK 20**  
Child groups (more than 10 people): **HRK 15**  
Family ticket: **HRK 50**

**BESPLATNO:** Children under 7, group leaders with groups of 20 or more

The Museum of Oldtimers and Old Machinery presents an impressive, wide collection across two floors. There are more than 1,000 exhibits: fifty motorcycles, just as many bicycles, and numerous machines, devices, and documents. One of the museum's proudest holdings is the unique collection of the Zagreb Motor Company, which existed until 1963. Nearly everything tied to the factory's existence and work is located here—brochures, documents, pictures, and nearly all of the motors it produced, as well as some prototypes that never went into production.





#### **Impressum**

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