



The Radoboj orchard

The Radoboj orchard is an example of a meadow orchard, the history of which goes back to the time when fruit was a precious commodity for surviving in the countryside. Today, with a significantly decreased number of such orchards and a disrupted natural diversity, meadow orchards are viewed in a different light.

As a special and important part of the living environment, the Radoboj orchard encompasses unique habitats of species whose way of life is connected to the cultural landscape. Ants, cockchafers, and other insects, that are preyed on by great and lesser spotted woodpeckers along with green woodpeckers, inhabit the rotten parts of the trunk. Great tits, common starlings, wood nuthatches, Eurasian wrynecks, black redstarts, and Eurasian tree sparrows build nests in the tree trunks, while bats, dormice, owls, and scops owls inhabit larger hollows.

By preserving and maintaining meadow orchards, we help conserve biological diversity, as well as indigenous plant and animal species.



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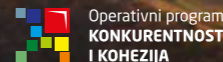
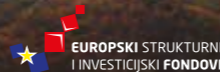
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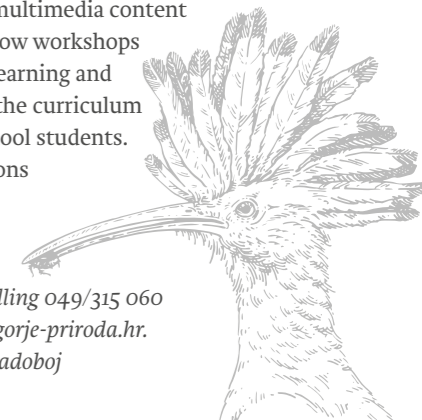
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Nature Center Zagorje

The first facility of such type in the Krapina-Zagorje County, serves to promote natural values and the ecological network *Natura 2000* by conducting educational workshops, lectures, and exhibitions organized by *Zagorje zeleno*, the Public Institution for the Management of Protected Natural Areas of the Krapina-Zagorje County. The Center is equipped with multimedia content and educational aids which allow workshops to be held as part of outdoor learning and field trips in accordance with the curriculum for primary and secondary school students. The Center is adapted to persons with disabilities.

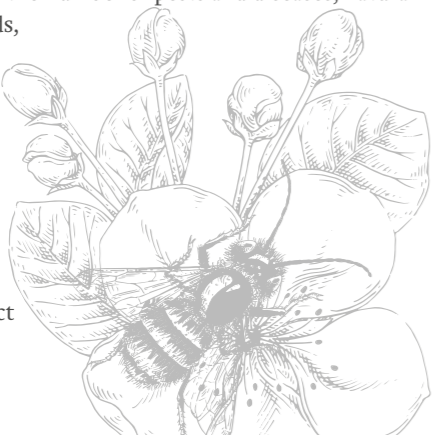
To visit the Center, please make arrangements in advance by calling 049/315 060 or sending an email to info@zagorje-priroda.hr.
Address: Radoboj 34a, 49 232 Radoboj



The Insect Hotel



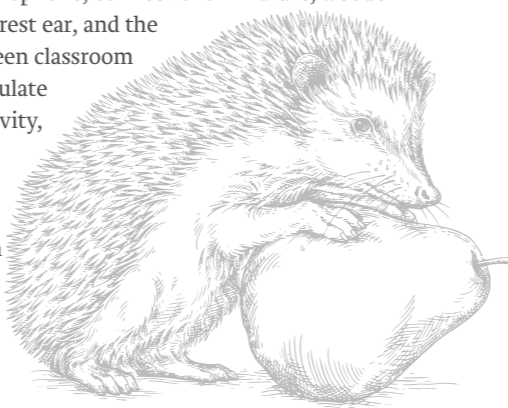
The insect hotel is a dwelling structure, a home to beneficial insects which allows them to survive the cold months more easily and lay eggs during the summer. Hollow materials, bamboo, branches with cavities, hay, straw, and pinecones offer insects a safe shelter to crawl into. Beneficial insects that reduce the number of pests and diseases, natural pollinators that increase yields, and, consequently, restore the balance of nature and preserve biodiversity, are particularly significant. Various insects, such as ladybirds, solitary bees, hoverflies, golden-eyed lacewings, and earwigs, found their home in the insect hotel of the Radoboj orchard.



The Green Classroom



The Green classroom consists of 6 different didactic displays which allow us to learn the most important information about the plant and animal species of our County and familiarize ourselves with the trees of our forests in an active and engaging manner. The displays such as dendrophone, connections in nature, wooden binoculars, tactile trail, forest ear, and the puzzle, constitute the Green classroom which is designed to stimulate children's thinking, creativity, and the ability to connect the existing knowledge with the newly acquired one. The Green classroom calls for the use of all senses and nurtures the need for a greater connection with nature.



Strahinjčica



Since more than 1000 species and subspecies of plants have been recorded on the Strahinjčica mountain so far, its narrower area was selected as one of 94 botanically significant areas in Croatia due to the rich and diverse flora and vegetation. Strahinjčica (HR2001115) is part of the ecological network *Natura 2000* and it is important for the preservation of 6 endangered species along with 6 habitat types. Strahinjčica is also a large orchid garden as 32 species and subspecies of orchids (Orchis) have been recorded in that area. The mountain is predominantly covered by mixed deciduous forests.



Paths of Orchids



The hiking and educational trail *Paths of Orchids*, along its entire length of 13,7 km, portrays the beauties of Strahinjčica and Hrvatsko Zagorje. The trail is circular and consists of three sections:

- hiking and educational trails on Strahinjčica (8,4 km – 2 h and 30 min)
- trails to Dedek and Babica (1,1 km – 1 h)
- orchid trails Mala Gora – Plat – Poljane (4,2 km – 1 h and 30 min)

The trail is designed to attract visitors, nature lovers of different ages and interests, in order to raise the environmental awareness levels, to preserve valuable habitats and species, and also for educational and recreational purposes. 11 educational panels have been placed along the trail with information about vegetation cover, animal world, fossil and mineral, and other attractions located in the wider area of Strahinjčica.

