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DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (TURIZAM)



The Most Beautiful Villages of *Bosnia and Herzegovina*

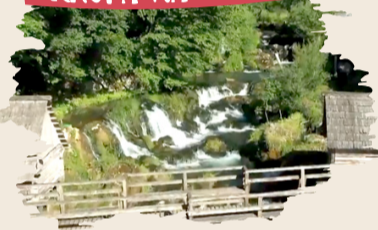
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KRALJEVA SUTJESKA



Nestled in the majestic mountain of Perun, Kraljeva Sutjeska is a charming village boasting a stunning national monument of Bosnia and Herzegovina - a monastery originally built by the Bosnian king Stjepan II Kotromanić. Adorned with a unique vernacular architecture typical of central Bosnia, Kraljeva Sutjeska offers a truly remarkable experience for those looking to explore its historical and cultural heritage.

KRUPA NA VRBASU



Welcome to a timeless oasis tucked away in the vicinity of Banja Luka, where the beauty of nature is on full display. From the winding river of Krupa, hosting rafting competitions, to the historical remains of the medieval town of Greben, this place has something for everyone. Explore the stunning waterfalls and watermills on the river Krupa, still in use today, and experience the beauty and serenity of this magical place.

MARTIN BROD



Nestled in the picturesque northwestern corner of Bosnia and Herzegovina, close to the City of Bihać, lies Martin Brod, a small town with a big reputation. With its gorgeous backdrop of the Una river, this charming destination is best known for its numerous tufa cascades and waterfalls. The most iconic cascades are the Martin Brod, Štrbački buk and Troslap, all of which offer breathtaking views and a unique beauty.

PROKOŠKO JEZERO



Situated at the edge of a glacier lake in the majestic mountains lies the remote and idyllic village of Prokoško jezero. Surrounded by snow-capped peaks and cut off from the outside world for six months of the year, Prokoško is an extraordinary place, boasting both a unique transhumance lifestyle and stunning natural beauty. Every year, local shepherds come with their herds to collect wild fruits and plants, and to keep watch over the lake's endemic type of newts known as tritons.

OSTROŽAC



Ever wondered what it would be like to step into a fairytale or to explore a place that is both steeped in tradition and has a contemporary flair? Well, look no further than Ostrožac! Located between a preserved castle and the River Una, Ostrožac offers a unique combination of medieval and Ottoman architecture and a collection of modern sculptures, all set in the stunning natural surroundings of the Old Town.

PECKA



Are you looking for a place where you can escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and experience the beauty of untouched nature? On the road between Banja Luka and Jajce, near the city of Mrkonjić Grad, you'll find a paradise of unspoiled nature and unlimited adventure - the village Pecka! From the majestic Sana River springs to the captivating Eco Zone of Zelenkovac, this is a place for nature lovers and climbers alike to explore, relax and connect with the great outdoors.

RAVNO



Situated on the edge of stunning Popovo Field between Stolac and Trebinje, Ravno is a small village in the heart of Herzegovina and a perfect destination for travelers looking to experience the beauty and charm of the Adriatic hinterland. From its picturesque stone houses to its unique natural and cultural heritage, Ravno offers something for everyone. Discover the famous Vjetrenica Cave and the Monastery of Zavala, two of the region's most impressive attractions.

STUPE



On your way to Livno, don't miss the opportunity to visit the hidden gem of untamed beauty - Stupe. This special area in Bosnia and Herzegovina has long been renowned for its Livno cheese production and culinary specialties. From rolling hills to mysterious forests, this untouched paradise provides a unique glimpse into the wild and untouched beauty of this corner of the world. Discover a land of unbridled beauty and freedom and delight your senses with its unique culture, cuisine, and breathtaking landscapes.

UMOLJANI



Hidden in the mountains surrounding the capital city of Sarajevo, lies the small and mysterious village of Umoljani. Long known for its folklore and legends, the village is now a popular destination for nature lovers looking to explore its picturesque landscape and ancient history. From its majestic watermills to the stories of dragons, and winding walks along the stream of Studeni Potok, Umoljani is an enchanting place filled with natural beauty and captivating tales.

MIJAKOVIĆI-DRAGOVIĆI-BOBOVAC



Dive into the past and explore one of Bosnia's hidden gems - the picturesque village of Bobovac! Located in the heart of the mountains surrounding Vareš, Bobovac was once the seat of the medieval rulers of the Bosnian Kingdom. With its inspiring natural setting, surrounded by forest-covered mountains and crystal-clear streams, Bobovac is a place that is sure to steal your heart. Take a hike to the nearby villages of Mijakovići and Dragovići and admire the stone and wood architecture of traditional Bosnian houses.

VRANCI



Immersed in the rolling hills of central Bosnia near the town of Kreševo lies the hidden hamlet of VranCI, a place steeped in history and tradition. Here, the ancient arts of blacksmiths and craftsmen persist, their skills and knowledge a testament to the land's mineral wealth, long-held secrets and hard-earned prosperity. Take a journey back in time and explore the past through the eyes of the locals!

The Most Beautiful Villages of Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Global Initiative Revealing the Rural Charm of the Country!

Bosnia and Herzegovina is home to some of the most stunningly beautiful landscapes and villages in Europe. In 2022, USAID's Developing Sustainable Tourism in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Turizam) project launched the *Most Beautiful Villages of Bosnia and Herzegovina* initiative to recognize the country's most picturesque villages, their rich heritage and unique lifestyle. The local champion of this initiative is the Association for Development of Rural Tourism *Alterural*.

The label *Most Beautiful Villages* is a concept first launched by the French association *Les Plus Beaux villages de France* in 1981 with the mission of preserving and enhancing its member villages' heritage, thus increasing their popularity and promoting economic development. This idea has since been adopted by other countries, including Germany, Switzerland, Japan and Lebanon.

Following the first round of application and the evaluation process, *Alterural*, with the support of USAID Turizam, has selected the first fourteen most beautiful villages of Bosnia and Herzegovina. From rustic mountain hamlets to vibrant townlets and villages, each has its own unique charm that will captivate and delight. This initiative is set to have a lasting impact on the development of rural tourism, providing an exciting opportunity for locals to explore and introduce a new generation of visitors to the diverse culture, history and beauty of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Discover Thriving Rural Communities in the Heart of Southeast Europe Where the Past and Present Intertwine - Meet Bosnia and Herzegovina's Fourteen Most Beautiful Villages!



Have you ever visited a place where the beauty and serenity left you feeling spiritually renewed? Blagaj, located at the point where the river Buna emerges from a towering rock, is one such place. This stunning Herzegovinian village, in the vicinity of the world-renowned city of Mostar, is home to one of the most remarkable examples of Ottoman architecture still in existence today, the Blagaj Tekke (Sufi place of worship). Come and explore the pristine natural beauty and architectural marvels that await you in Blagaj!



Hidden away in the plateau of Nevesinje in eastern Herzegovina lies the small village of Bratač, a place of immense historical importance and cultural richness. From its ancient Roman remains to its medieval bridge and the oldest traditional games in the region, known as the Nevesinje Olympics, Bratač's past is just waiting to be discovered. Unearth the secrets of this unique village and explore its fascinating history.



Nestled between the hills of the former Bosnian capital of Travnik lies the charming village of Guča Gora, a hidden gem for outdoor enthusiasts looking for an escape from the hustle and bustle of the city. Here, visitors can explore the stunning landscape and discover the village's main attraction, the Franciscan Monastery. Built in the mid-19th century, the monastery is a stunning example of religious architecture and was frequently visited by Nobel Prize winner Ivo Andrić. Whether you're a hiker, biker, or a history buff, Guča Gora is an ideal destination for all.


The Most Beautiful Villages of
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Access an online map with more details about the *Most Beautiful Villages of Bosnia and Herzegovina* here:

