



Uvac Special Nature Reserve

ABOUT UVAC

- The canyon of the Uvac river is considered one of the most beautiful places in Serbia;
- It is located in southwestern Serbia, between the Javor and Zlatar mountains;
- It is known for its meanders. The length of the Uvac river is 120km;
- In 1971, part of the Uvac river gorge was declared the Uvac Special Nature Reserve;
- Uvac is a mountain river and its hydropower potential was used for three dams and the creation of three artificial lakes;
- The special nature reserve Uvac is rich in caves, and there is also the largest cave system discovered so far in Serbia



Uvac Nature Reserve

Location



Serbia

Nearest city

Nova Varoš, Sjenica

Legend has it that once upon a time there was a large lake on the Pešter plateau. The three-headed dragon, which according to the story lived there, was killed by Saint George. Fighting in mortal thrall, the monster cut down the forest in today's Krnja Jela with its tail. The impact rocked Mount Ninaja. Centuries later, the water from Pešter Lake swelled, and three new artificial lakes were created in that area - Uvačko, Radoinjsko and Zlatarsko jezero.



Lakes of the Uvac reserve

Caves of the Uvac Reserve

Until recently, Uvac was hiding a big secret. Locals were only familiar with two caves, Lednička and Ušačka. Numerous researches have established that this is an exceptional natural phenomenon. There is a cave system as long as 6 km. The caves mentioned above are connected by numerous channels and halls with beautiful cave decorations.





Griffon vulture (Gyps fulvus)



- The griffon vulture is the largest bird in Serbia with a wingspan of about 2.80 m and an average weight of 7.5-8.5 kg, and can reach 11 kg.
- His food is dead animals, which prevents the spread of infections and thus carries out "natural recycling".
- Thanks to the Fund for the Protection of Birds of Prey at the "Siniša Stanković" Belgrade Institute of Biology, the griffon vulture was saved from extinction on the territory of Serbia.
- Out of about 130 species of birds in the area of Uvac reserve and its surroundings, the griffon vulture is the most important species. Uvac is home to the largest nesting colony in Serbia and one of the largest in the Balkans. The number of griffon vultures has regularly increased over the last 20 years, so that now there are about 450-500 individuals on Uvac, that is, about 110 breeding pairs.

DOBRILA



* After many ups and downs and thousands of kilometers traveled (some with own wings, some with airplane wings, some with cars), the famous Dobrila, probably the most popular griffon vulture in the world, returned to Uvac, to her home.

* She arrived at Uvac at the end of April of the last year, but she spent the first few weeks in an aviary, a shelter for birds, in order to acclimatize, and after returning from the extreme southeast of Turkey, near the border with Syria.

* After she "adapted", and after the experts of several competent institutions and organizations (ornithologists, veterinarians...) established that Dobrila is "ready for a new beginning", on May 25, Dobrila was released to freedom, to her mother flock on Uvac. Before release, it was "equipped" with a satellite transmitter, so that it could be monitored 24 hours a day.

NEWS ABOUT UVAC 2 WEEKS AGO

* ADVENTURIST Darko, a griffon vulture from the Uvac gorge, returned after fifteen years of wandering in the white world and settled down with the old chosen one of his eagle heart at his old address: the Special Nature Reserve "Uvac".

* He returned from working abroad, built a house, a nest in a cliff and took a girl from his village, with whom he now has four children.



DARKO



Monasteries near the Special Nature Reserve Uvac

- The Sopoćani Monastery is located not far from Novi Pazar, 16 km west along the course of the Raška River, after which the Serbian state was also called Raška in the Middle Ages. King Uroš I (1243-1276) built the temple of the Holy Trinity among the high and barren hills, with serious and dark shapes, with threatening stone cliffs, not far from his capital Rasa, above the very source of the Raška river. The name Sopoćani monastery was derived from the Old Slavic word “sopot”, which means “source”.
- The Đurđevi Stupovi Monastery in Stari Ras, one of the oldest monasteries in the former capital region of medieval Serbia, which was built by Stefan Nemanja in the first years after the accession to the throne of the great prefect, dominates the Raška and Deževa valleys with its silhouette. It is located about 4 km northwest of Novi Pazar. The silhouette of an imposing dome planted on a powerful base of columns, arches and walls looks magnificent - it can be seen from tens of kilometers away. The monastery was built on the very top of a prominent hill, and the peculiar architecture of the church of St. George with two bell towers - the pillar - determined the later name of both the church and the monastery - Đurđevi Stupovi.



In September 2020, we visited Special Nature Reserve Uvac, and this is just a part of the photos we took there



You can only see the purpose at the top





