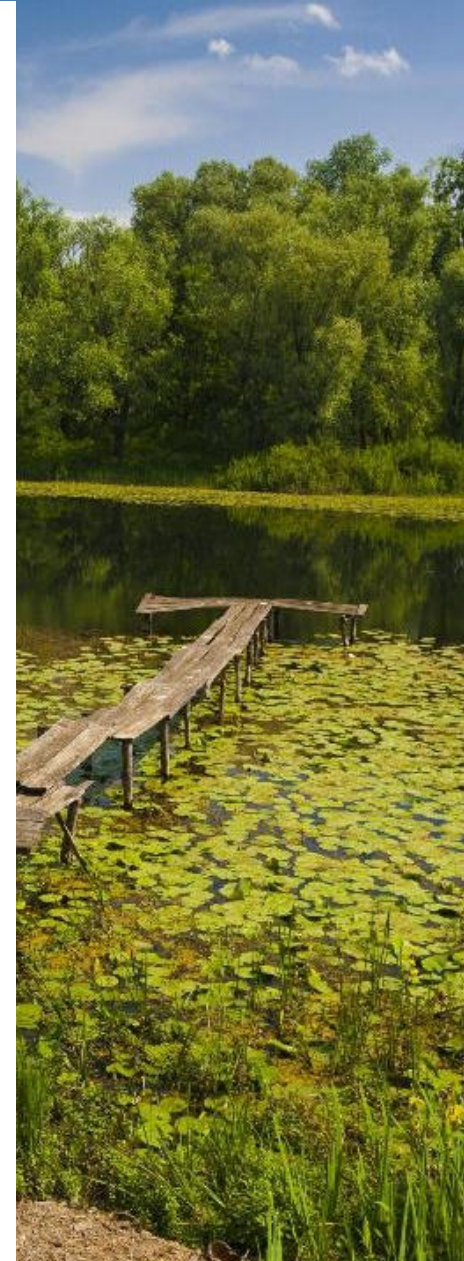


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# Lonjsko Polje - use of natural, cultural and traditional heritage for development

Successful examples in the areas of tourism, agriculture and the environment visited by Portuguese LAG-s

December 12th | Abrantes , Portugal



# NATURE PARK LONJSKO POLJE



One of the biggest and best-preserved natural floodplains in Europe, Lonjsko Polje is the third-largest nature park in Croatia.

The Park's floodplain fields and forests are habitats for more than two-thirds of all birds in Croatia.

This treasure trove of biological diversity only 70 kilometers south-east from Zagreb is perfect for a weekend escape.

# NATURE PARK LONJSKO POLJE

Every year, the Sava River's middle course and its tributaries flow into three fields – Lonjsko, Poganovo, and Mokro. These fields play a key role in the flood control system. They are one of the first examples of flood control based on natural floodplains – globally.

This periodic flooding enriches the Lonjsko Polje area's biodiversity.





## FLOODS

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Lonjsko Polje Nature Park lays along the alluvial plain of the Sava River's middle course, between Sisak and Stara Gradiška.

Its area of 50,650 ha is the largest protected wetland area in Croatia and one of the largest in the entire Danube basin.



# FLOODS

- When floodwaters recede into the Sava riverbed, wet grasslands become one of the last areas in Europe where traditional grazing has been preserved. There the cattle graze freely on large common pastures.



# LIFE BY RIVERS AND WITH RIVERS

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The park area is lightly populated.

The local population has adapted to the conditions in the park and has adjusted their way of life.



# GREAT NATURAL WEALTH – MANY BIRD SPECIES



# MANY WILD AND DOMESTIC ANIMAL SPECIES





# RICHNESS IN FISH SPECIES



# UNTOUCHED NATURE AND WILDLIFE



# SETTLEMENTS BY THE WATER

- Settlements are built on embankments next to rivers or swamps.
- Embankments are the highest points on the ground and houses are the safest there from floods.



## KRAPJE – THE VILLAGE OF CONSTRUCTION HERITAGE

- In 1995. Krapje was declared village of the construction heritage (*European cultural heritage monument of the A-category*).
- Every first saturday in september the inhabitants of Krapje with staff of the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park and other local people celebrate the day.



## ČIGOČ - FIRST EUROPEAN VILLAGE OF STORKS

- In 1994., the German Euronatur Foundation declared Čigoč the First European Village of Storks.

Čigoč bears this title because of the specific coexistence of people and storks.

- It is a village with more than 200 storks and only 100 inhabitants.



# LIFE ON THE EDGE OF THE SWAMP

- The inhabitants are mainly engaged in extensive cattle breeding and traditional fishing.



## TRADITIONAL LIVESTOCK BREEDING ON PASTURES - CATTLE, HORSES, PIGS

- A large area of the Park is inhabited by livestock on common pastures. During the flood, the cattle are returned to the barns in the surrounding villages.



# HERITAGE

The area is protected within NATURA 2000 and the population is encouraged to preserve heritage and practice traditional crafts and extensive agriculture.





## CULTURE AND CUSTOMS

The greatest strength of the area are local people who cherish the beauty of national costume and customs, and especially the dialect.



# DAYS OF ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE IN KRAPJE

An event dedicated to the preservation and presentation of traditional architectural heritage. This is a unique opportunity for all lovers of cultural and natural heritage to enjoy a rich program that includes :

- educational workshops,
- exhibitions,
- gastronomic offers
- cultural and artistic performances.



# STORK DAY IN ČIGOČ – „ŠTROKOVO”

Every year in the summer period, at the end of June, "Štrokovo" is celebrated (Strok is the name of a male stork in this part of Posavina).

Lonjsko polje is an extremely favorable area for the species to live in coexistence with humans.

The living conditions for storks are ideal, so the fertility is extremely high.



# USE OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL HERITAGE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPMENT

The old traditional wooden houses "Arka" are being renovated and adapted to accommodate guests.



The interiors are in a traditional style but with all the necessary contents of the modern tourist.



Gastronomic experience and accommodation are offered on farms.



The restaurants are integrated into the traditional architecture and provide a special experience for the guests.



The restaurants offer local food grown in the Park area.





Lonjsko polje Nature  
Park institution owns  
the certificate Originally  
from Lonjsko polje



Rural farms are turning towards providing more and more services to tourists.



Attractive facilities in 4 reception centers:

Visitor center in Krapje



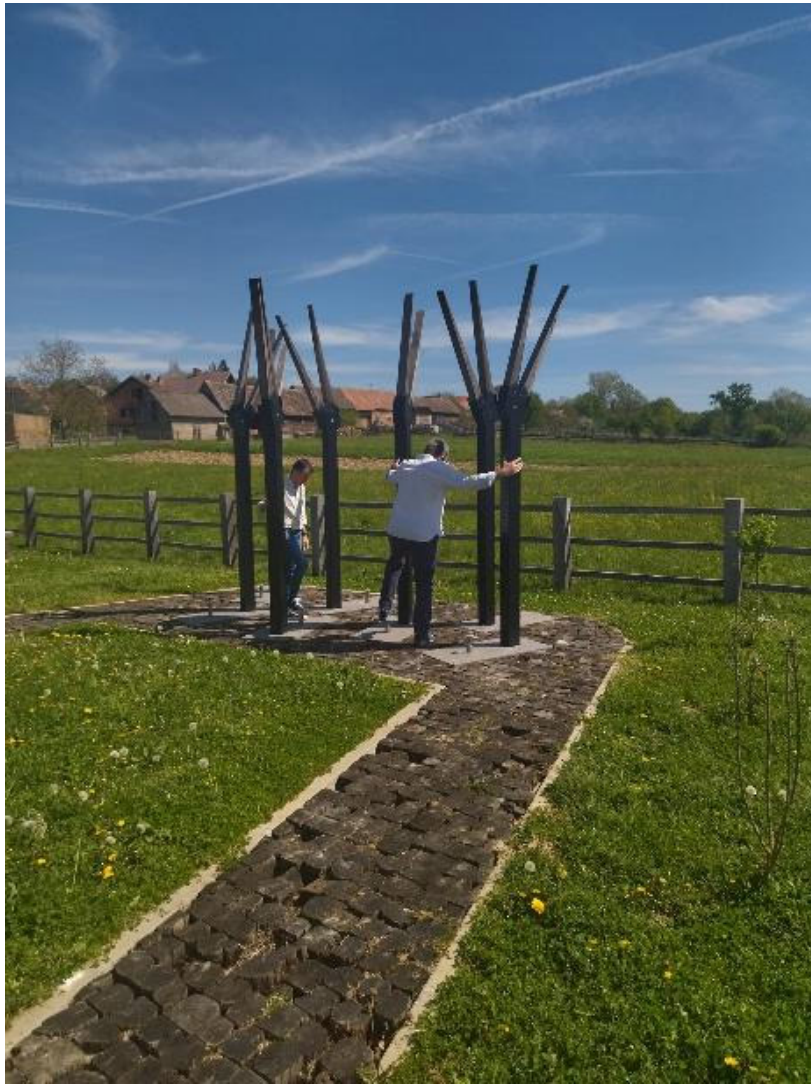
# Visitor center in Čigoč



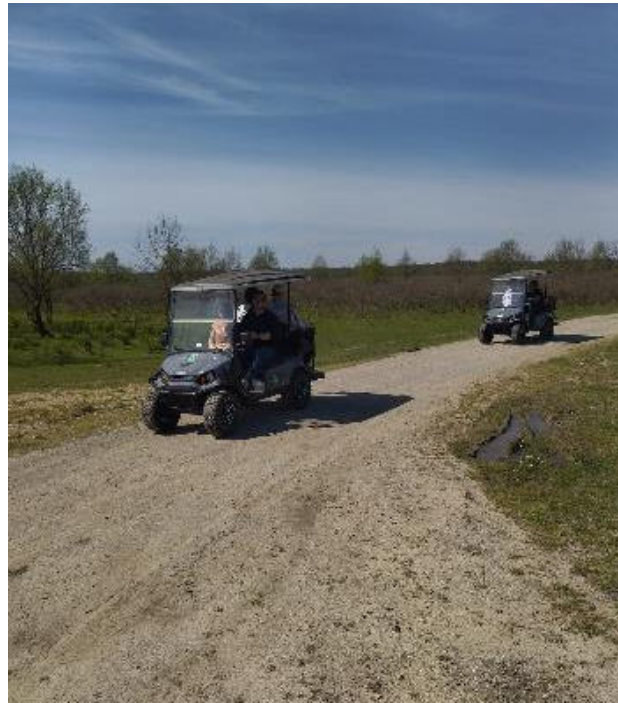


Visitor center in  
Repušnica

# Visitor center in Osekovo



# VEHICLES IN PARK



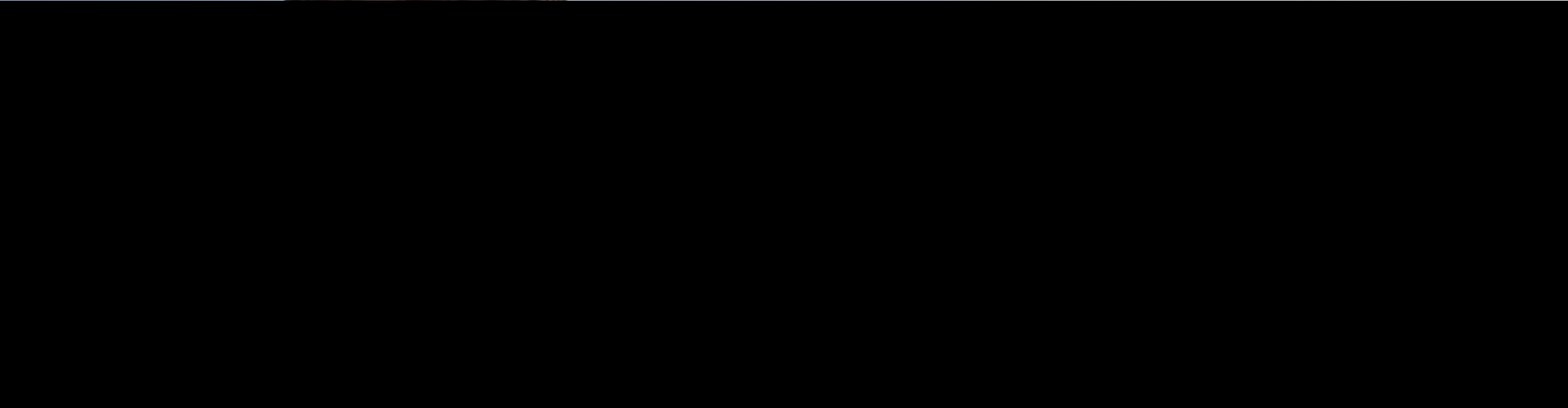




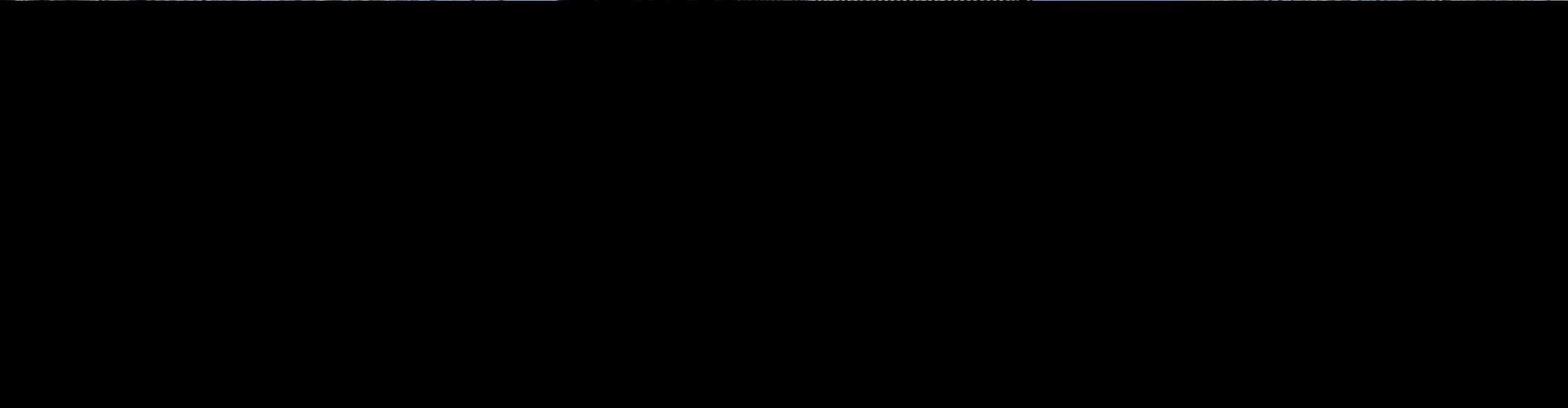
Observatory - a combination of tradition, nature and modern approach

Viewpoint Stork





Viewpoint – Traditional fishing





Čardak

# People





# Obrigado pela sua atenção!

