

LEARNING CENTER Račanska Šljivovica

The old foresters' hut at Račanska Šljivovica is used by the JP „National Park Tara“ and transformed into a modern new learning and information center. This building of 200m² surface is located 5 km from Kaludjerske bare up the road to Mitrovac. It has got a technically completely furnished large multi-purpose room and four apartments with 14 beds altogether. The center is mostly intended for the participants of the „Junior rangers“ camp and the representatives of the media, but also for all other people interested in gaining and completing their knowledge about the NP Tara.



VISITORS' CENTER Mitrovac

Visitors' center to the National Park Tara that was opened at Mitrovac in 2006, is the first facility of its kind in Serbia. Its surface is 220m² including a reception desk, an exhibition gallery and a presentation hall with 40 seats. Except for excursions and tourist visits, the Center is also intended for art exhibitions, literary and poets' meetings and other theme gatherings. Visitors can get direct information, advice from forest rangers, brochures, maps and video presentations and souvenirs.



FORESTERS' HUT Mitrovac

For business partners, colleagues, scientific associates and other visitors, the JP „National Park Tara“ offers accommodation in the Foresters' Hut at Mitrovac. On the first floor of this motel of 220m², there are two three-bed rooms, four double rooms and an apartment with 4-6 beds. Comfortable accommodation in the Foresters' Hut is completed with catering of a privately-owned „Lovac“ motel-restaurant, which also has got 12 beds in 6 double rooms. A large open-air restaurant is a favourite inn for all visitors to Mitrovac.



MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS' HUT - Predov krst

Mountain climbers' Hut at Predov krst is a traditionally built house which was categorized with 4 stars thanks to its comfortable interior. There are 24 plus 6 extra beds with showers and toilets, nice lounge in mountain style, a restaurant and well-equipped kitchen.

JP „NACIONALNI PARK TARA“
Bajina Bašta, M. Topalovića 3
telefon: ++ 381 31/863-644

VISITORS' CENTER
Mitrovac at Mt. Tara
telefon: ++ 38131/859-732

HUNTING CABIN - Predov krst

Hunting cabin with its lovely rooms and three apartments has got 29 and some extra beds. The restaurants has 60 seats, while there are 200 seats in the open-air restaurant furnished with hand made carved wooden benches and tables, barbecues and a fire place.



Bajina Bašta, - htl. „Drina“ *** - tel. 031 / 862-451
Kaluder. Bare, - htl. „Omorika“ **** - tel. 031 / 593-901
- htl. „Beli Bor“ *** - tel. 031 / 593-598

Mitrovac, - CDL „Beograd“ - tel. 031 / 859-720
- Motel „Lovac“ - tel. 031 / 859-722
- „Lovačka kuća“ - tel. 031 / 861-290
Predov krst, - „Planinar. dom“ ***** - tel. 031 / 864-568

Perućac, - htl. „Jezero“ ** - tel. 031 / 859-081
Private: - STC B.Bašta - tel. 031 / 865-370
- T.A. „Taratur“ - tel. 031 / 861-501



Mountainers on Tara

There are 18 marked climbers' trails within the National Park Tara. Its total length is 120km and they are included in a separate map of tourism and mountain climbing of this area. A new quite interesting route is added to this net of trails: Raca Monastery-Ladjevac-Suva pecina-St. George's tombstone-Krstaca rock-Gradina fortress-Crnjeskovo viewpoint -Manastirski stanovi at Kaludjerske bare. Very good guides are available at JP National Park Tara to take you along this little spiritual transversal as well as along the other trails shown in the map recommended for mountain climbing and available at all reception desks and information checkpoints within the Park.

Mountain cycling

For cyclotourists in NP Tara a special project was designed and recorded on a CD called „TAROCIKL“ with all necessary information. 27 cycling trails are traced starting from Kaludjerske bare, Mitrovac or Predov krst. Bikers can use the CD and a special map as long as signs along 420km long trails and crossroads are put. In this map of cycling trails of Tara National Park, directions, physical and technical difficulty of trails and physical fitness necessary to surmount them are presented.

Fishing waters

The most attractive fishing waters of Mt. Tara are lakes Spaici and Beli Rzav in Zaovine with surface of 370 ha, as well as 24km-long Lake Perućac spreading to the very national border. It is a real privilege for visitors to Tara to fish a trout, cat fish, redeye, chub or clump at 900m asl. Fishing permissions can be obtained at all tourist facilities of NP Tara and at its authorized associates. Day trips and picnics in the canyon of the River Drina are not recommended without announcement and consultation with fishing wardens on duty. Sudden change of weather and unpredictable rockslide from nearby cliffs are constant danger for lone fishermen.

Hunting ground „Tara“

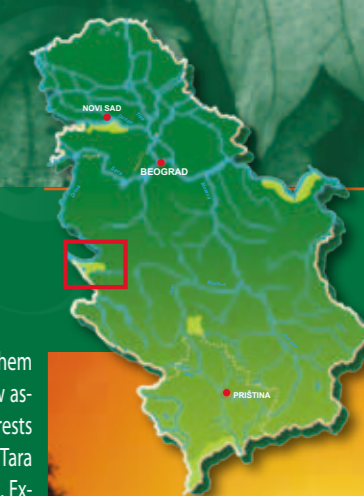
Hunting in NP Tara has always been organized and coordinated in accordance with regulations. Hunting the roe deer and wild goat is allowed at the moment, while hunting the wolf and wild boar is still being considered. Bears are at closed hunting season, but they can be watched and photographed at their feeding sites. In forests of NP Tara there are 40 bears, 300 wild goats and 40 wild boars. The number of wolves and other hunting and non-hunting game vary over the years and seasons. Permissions for hunting and translocation of game to other areas are allowed by the Service for protection and improvement of hunting and fishing of the JP National Park Tara.

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• Serbia •



Not earlier than in 1981 was a national park announced on the massif of Tara, a mountain in central Podrinje in western Serbia. Having in mind that the first initiative came down in 1950, it is not quite clear why it took thirty years for the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia to make such a decision. Mt. Tara has got a global importance regarding its natural riches, which has been a familiar fact since a famous Serbian botanist Dr. Josif Pancic discovered the spruce (lat. picea omorica Pancic) on Tara in 1875.

The largest part of Tara including Kaludjerske bare, Ravna Tara, Crni vrh and Zvijezda with a part of the Drina canyon, belongs to Tara National Park with total surface 19200 hectares. This region stretches to the south-west from Bajina Basta, a small town where the head-office of the Public Enterprise „NP Tara“ which manages the Park is located. Tara National Park is a symbol of a research in progress, expected to give the results of the greatest importance.

It is supposed that the trias limestones on northern slopes of Tara used to be a shore of a spacious lake left behind the Pannonia sea in the Tertiary period. After the Ice Age water alleviated a severe climate, being a shelter to the toughest prehistoric species. As a result the Pancic's spruce and the Pancic's grasshopper have survived till today, as well as some other living fossils carrying genetic messages from the ancient past.

The National Park consists of limestone areas, peaks and plains ideal for mountain climbing, with average height 1000-1200m asl. The highest peak Koziji rid on Crni vrh is 1591m while the lowest point is at 291m asl, being at the same time the highest level of a reservoir lake in Perućac. The canyons of the rivers Solotusa, Raca, Derventa and Rzav cut the relief very rich with springs. There is the River Vrelo, also popularly named „A year-long river“, because it flows into the Drina River after only 365m from its spring in Perućac, which is the most powerful crast spring within the National Park Tara.

Climate on Mt. Tara is mountainous with fresh summers and cold snowy winters. Rains are most common in May, but all through the year as well. Although thunders are occasional, one should bear in mind that they usually struck the fir-tree, spruce and pine, but rarely the beech tree. The driest months are July and August, while autumn is sunny and a warmer season than spring.



Mountain Tara is an area consisting of forest ecosystems, some of them being the most productive in Europe. There are 34 forest and 19 meadow associations. Forests cover 80% of the Park area, of which 75% are mixed forests of spruce, fir-tree and beech. A tertiary relict Pancic spruce is a symbol of Tara which is home to 1100 described species-one third of total flora of Serbia. Except Pancic spruce, an outstanding place have the hazel, yew, the Derventa knapweed, peony, fern and many others.

Among numerous fauna species including 53 mammals, the most attractive are brown bears and native wild goats, which can be met only on Tara at 290m asl, while elsewhere they can be seen above 1000m asl. For scientists very important are the Alps shrew and especially a local endemite Pancic's grasshopper. Among 135 bird species 43 are the migratory ones, while the eagle, falcon and other most endangered and valuable useful birds of prey live on Mt. Tara.

There are more than 251 mushroom species in the forests of Tara, among which, as scientists say, only three are poisonous. One of them is the Green pupavka, the most dangerous mushroom in Europe. One should be very careful while picking them, but also when going hunting, while fishing is a real pleasure. The waterflows, lakes and especially the river Drina are full of fish (about 40 species), such as the trout, cat fish, huchen and grayling.

The name of Mt. Tara is probably connected with the historical period when this region was inhabited by an Illyric tribe called Autariates. Therefore, the Park is rich with archeological sites dating from the Neolithic period up to the late Middle Ages. The Slavic period and the Serbian tradition in this area are still being explored by archeologists. So far some necropolises, old tombstones at Perućac and the remains of a medieval fortress Solotnik and Raca Monastery, a foundation of the Serbian king Dragutin Nemanjic from XIII century have been renoun.

Villages on Mt. Tara are typical for mountainous parts of Serbia. They consist of hamlets-small groups of newly built houses scattered over a large area with an occasional sign of a traditional way of construction. People are occupied with cattle raising and farming, while limekilns and saw-mills which used to be an only occupation long time ago, nowadays appeared again to be the only income of some households. Those who live near Kaludjerske bare and Mitrovac are engaged in tourism.



National park

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TARA



Kaludjerske bare, the south-eastern and most popular part of Tara, is also known as a tourist center of the National Park Tara. On a limestone plateau just above 1000m asl, at the edge of white and black pine forests, country house settlements and hotels "Omorika" and "Beli bor" were built. Above the spring of the Solotusa river, the remains of a medieval fortress Solotnik dating back to the old Serbian state Raska, remind of eventful past of this region. Below the "Manastirski stanovi" a building used for the overnight stay for visitors to the monastery and near a newly built chapel dedicated to the gathering of the Serbian saints, the remains of an unknown castle from the early Middle Ages can be seen. From a nearby viewpoint Crnjeskovo there is a wonderful view on Sokolarica, the river Raca canyon and the Monastery Raca, as well as Bajina Basta in the valley of the river Drina.

Ravna Tara is a central part of National Park Tara with well-known preserves Racanska Sljivovica, Gorusica and Crveni potok. There is also a popular children's resort at Mitrovac. Suitable climate at 1080m asl and lots of sunny days offer the most favorable conditions for an active holiday, recreation and recovery. It takes a few minutes along a marked trail to walk from the tourist center to an amazing rain forest which belongs to Crveni potok preserve. Only 5km ahead you can reach a breathtaking viewpoint Banjska stena overlooking Zaovine Lake. Flyers and leaflets with detailed information, presentations and exhibited collections regarding National Park and its beauty are available at the Visitors' center to the "JP National Park Tara" at Mitrovac.



Regional protection (conservation)

- 1st zone:** surface 2,959.25 ha
Limited visit with no activity
 - Strict preserves and natural monuments
 - Natural values and viewpoints
 - Real estates of cultural value
- 2nd zone:** surface 7,721.82 ha
Limited activities under NP Tara's supervision
 - Protective forests around the first zone and the Park forests
 - Experimental and scientific research fields
 - Hunting - scientific and hunting - raising preserves
- 3rd zone:** surface 8,493.86 ha
Economic activities/Tourism
 - National forests outside 1st and 2nd level of protection
 - Agricultural surfaces 1 300ha
 - Tourist centers and country - house settlements



Forest Ranger Service is in charge of a safe and regular stay of visitors in NP Tara. Summary from the Rule Book regarding the internal conduct code of visitors is available and free of charge. It is interesting to learn about:

- **Conditions of moving and staying for visitors, moving regulations and parking of vehicles,**
- **Ways and conditions of using flora and fauna, side forest products, recreational and public areas,**
- **Ways and conditions for putting advertising and other markings**
- **Touristic and other activities**
- **Regulations for keeping NP Tara clean and tidy**

Summary from the Rule Book and the Instruction for fire protection of forests are available at all reception desks and information check-points within NP Tara.



Crni vrh covers the south-western areas of NP Tara and a part of the land border between Serbia and the Republic of Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is a region of high mountain peaks connected with Ravna Tara via Cemerista and with Zvijezda via Predov krst. Except the highest peak Kozji rid (1591m asl), there are other peaks such as Pivnice (1575m), Mrka kosa (1545m) and Lisnata glavica (1510m). In mixed stands of a fir-tree, spruce, pine, beech, Pancić's spruce, aspen and birch tree, there are preserves Crvena stena, Bilo, Ljuti breg with 24 bush species and 33 species of herbaceous plants. This area is suitable for cycling thanks to a net of marked forest trails and several springs. You can have a wonderful view from Vitmirovac on the biggest stand of Pancić's spruce.

Mt. Zvijezda in the north-west of Tara massif is a crown of the National Park, being an outstanding and specific natural habitat not only in Serbia but Europe, too. In this preserve and Brusnica and Karaula stula preserves there are shelters and one of the rarest stands of tertiary plant species, rare and valuable animals and birds. One of the most beautiful viewpoints Biljeske stene on the cliffs of the Drina Canyon make you shiver looking down on Perucac Lake, Bosnia and the dam of the hydroelectric power plant. Zvijezda is connected with Crni vrh via Predov krst which is now a new tourist information check-point. The canyon of the River Derventa with its natural preserve separates this region of impressive viewpoints from Ravna Tara, taking the whole mountain down to Perucac Lake. Tourists can have a tourist boat ride, or rent a fishing boat or kayak and enjoy a ride all to the border with Bosnia.

Children's resort at Mitrovac is visited by numerous students from different towns for the reasons of recreation and education in natural mountainous environment. Tara National Park is thus an enormous classroom suitable for learning in and about nature, which can be of great use some time in one's life. There are scouts' camps on Kaludjerske bare, and other summer camps such as the Eco-camp "Dzanici" on the shore of Lake Perucac. As an addition to these events, there is a new learning center in the National Park at the village called Racanska Sljivovica with its interesting and exciting programme called "Junior rangers' camp", which is becoming more and more popular. The programme of both summer and winter camps is organized within the whole protected area of the Park where the children aged 7 to 14 years get to know natural beauties of Mt. Tara, then they learn how the rangers' team manage the Park and study on the spot the issues dealing with the protection and conservation of nature.

Among the many adapted walking trails within the National Park Tara with their total length 15km, the two of them stand out, connected by the gorge of the River Raca. The 3.300-meter long "Jarevac" walking trail starts from Kaludjerske bare and goes to Jarevac at Racanska Sljivovica where there is the beginning of the River Raca's gorge. The reconstructed little dam with a wooden bridge over a small lake Jarevac is dedicated to the first tourists and enthusiasts who built it in 1938. The arranged two-kilometer-long walking trail which starts from the Raca Monastery, goes up the small river Raca and ends at the Racanska Sljivovica preserve. In the vicinity of this walking trail there is a thermal spring Ladjevac well known for its curing water. There are also the remains of an old scriptorium dating from the XII century.



- Beograd - Bajina Bašta: 172 km,
- Užice - Bajina Bašta: 38 km
- Bajina Bašta - Manastir Rača: 7 km
- Bajina Bašta - Kaluderske bare: 16 km
- Kaluderske bare - Račanska Sljivovica: 5 km,
- Račanska Sljivovica - Mitrovac: 13 km,

- Mitrovac - Jezero Perućac: 10 km
- Mitrovac - Perućac: 13 km
- Perućac - Bajina Bašta: 12 km
- Bajina Bašta - Kremna: 24 km
- Bajina Bašta - Mokra Gora: 36 km
- Bajina Bašta - Zlatibor: 54 km



Welcome

You can easily get to Mt. Tara thanks to several roads of good quality, which connect Western Serbia with Visegrad in Eastern Bosnia. No matter if you start from Užice and Zlatibor via Kremna, or from Bajina Bašta and Perucac, you can find yourself in the National Park Tara including various areas such as Kaludjerske Bare and Ravna Tara, Crni Vrh and Zvijezda with the breathtaking canyon of the River Drina. There you can see the exceptional natural rarities, natural phenomena and a rich cultural heritage. For the practical reasons it is not recommended to go on your own, because you can by mistake seek the ancient coniferous species Omorika Pancić (Serbian or Pancić spruce) in Kaludjerske Bare or Mitrovac from where it disappeared long time ago. Or you may try to see the famous "Raca by the River Drina" mediaeval monastery on the plateau of Mt. Tara, while it is hidden at its foot. When you get to Tara, first ask for information check-points on Kaludjerske Bare or Perucac. However, don't miss to pay a visit to the Visitors' center at Mitrovac. There are lots of natural stands, ecosystems, group and individual values, which can be seen and experienced with the help

