

Water is the source of life, and the springs were once a source of life for people in Labin. The Šćurak well in Podvinje under the city walls served as the main town well, while its surroundings was a large urban garden to which women wore water in heavy buckets (brente in the local dialect). Rich noble families had their wells for collecting rain water (šterne in the local dialect) built in the courtyards of their palaces. County people used ponds (kalić in the local dialect) and grabbed water using a large dressed stone next to the pond which would help them to take out the bucket. Water supply network was brought to Labin in 1937 when the town fountain was built on the San Marco promenade. A wedding tradition in the near-by village of Kranjci states that the bride comes to the well holding a bucket where the best man helps her fill it, while the gasts throw money into the well for the welfare of the marriage.

Points

Vrućak and Blažičevo wells (Near the large waterfall on the Rabac - Labin trail) - **Negri's cave - Podvinje - the fountain** (San Marco promenade) - **Negri Palace well** (Art&gastro Gallery) - **Giuseppina Martinuzzi Street well** - **Scampicchio Palace courtyard well** - **the well on the terrace of Vinko Šaina's art studio** - **Paolo Sfeci Street plateau well** (behind the Town Hall)



Distance: 3 km
Walking time: 2.5 hours

The path of sacred art will conjure you a story about the importance and impact of women in the everyday life of Labin. During the intensive mining era, Labin women fearing for the lives of their husbands, miners, engaged in housework, worked hard on the barren land and carried water in buckets from the distant wells. Therefore they frequently sought solace and spiritual help of the patron saint.

1. Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary Nativity (Labin) - built in 1336 on the 11th century church foundations. It is decorated with six marble altars, including the altar with the relics of St. Just, which were brought from Rome in 1664.

2. Church of St. Mary of Mount Carmel (Our Lady of Mount Carmel) (Labin) was built in 1615. It was restored in a classicist style in 1867. The church once belonged to the wealthy local family of noblemen Depangher-Manzini, and was the place of worship for the members of the noble family the Negris. It was renovated in the early 1990s through the efforts of the local painter Vinko Šaina, with the help provided by the town government, and is now open as an attractive art gallery 'Alvona', the center of the old town artistic life.

3. Church of St. Mary of Consolation (Our Lady of Health) is located on the road heading to the old part of Labin. It was built in 1420, and after the restoration in the 17th century it got its present form. It houses a valuable collection of religious art - fifteen wooden sculptures and nine oil paintings from the 17th century showing the Virgin.

4. The chapel of Mary Magdalene is situated on the road heading to the cemetery on the outskirts of Labin. Mary Magdalene is the patroness of penitent women, gardeners, hairdressers, and manufacturers of perfumes and pomades. The chapel is mentioned in the 15th century, when it was maintained by the noble family Scampicchio. It is likely that till the 17th century there was a cemetery for nobility of Labin near-by.

5. Trail of Our Lady of Cornelian Cherry (Šumber)

In one of the most visited Istrian shrines the pilgrims come on August 5th, celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Snow. Legend has it that at this place a young shepherdess witnessed the appearance of Mother Mary with Baby Jesus in her lap in the cornelian cherry tree. The people of Šumber have responded to the desire of the Mother of God and built her a church in 1440 next to the tree where she appeared. Many mothers go round the altar of the Mother of God on their knees praying for the health of their children. The cornelian cherry tree is on the left side of the church. There is a church of St. Quirinus near-by, with Glagolitic inscriptions from 1540 and the Šumber castle.

6. St. Anne in the church of Our Lady of Good Health (Sveti Martin)

St. Anne is the patroness of pregnant women, women giving birth and mothers. A statue of St. Anne is kept in the parish church and is carried in procession on her feast celebrated on July 26th.

7. St. Catherine (Sveti Martin)

St. Catherine of Alexandria is celebrated on November 25th. One of the Labin's old town parts is named after her. St. Catherine is the patroness of breast milk, an assistant in diseases of the head and voice, and the patroness of agricultural products, especially worshiped by young mothers with children. They used to pilgrimage to her church holding a candle which they burnt in order to have milk and be able to breastfeed as long as possible. They also got their goat's milk blessed, which they believed protected the children from snake bites.

8. St. Marina (Sveta Marina)

Several fragments of late Roman glass (4th - 5th century) were found near the church. It was built at the turn of the 12th to the 13th century, with a nunnery close to it.

9. St. Barbara (Raša)

Saint Barbara is the patroness of miners and gunners. The modernist church was built in 1937, with the interior resembling an inverted mining wagon, while the bell tower is reminiscent of a miner's lamp. There is a small mining collection within the church.

Labin - Šumber 12 km
Labin - Sv. Martin (Martinski) 10 km
Labin - Sv. Marina 12 km
Labin - Raša 5 km

The **Romanesque church of St. Florentius** is dedicated to the bishop of the same name who in 524 served in the town of Novigrad. It was built in the mid 6th century on the hill under the Kranjci village. In the 13th century the locals dedicated the church to St. Florentius, the patron protecting against hail, thunder and field infertility. The church is on the Croatian List of protected cultural goods with the valuable 6th century altar and braiding-style decorated altar plates.

The Legend of Gold

According to the local legend, the church was built by the Greeks during the Byzantine period. They were extremely wealthy, but the rich period was followed by a seven years drought. Due to the hunger they had to move so they loaded a plenty of gold on a small horse-drawn chariots. Since gold was too heavy, they buried a part of it in a still boiler somewhere around the church with the secret vow. They have never returned looking for gold, and a vow remains a secret to this day.

How to get there

Distance: 3 km from Labin, follow the road from the old town to St. John's cemetery and Koromačno.

May 4th - Feast of St. Florian (if it is a working day, the service is held on the first Saturday after that date)

August 16th - the feast of St. Roch (also known as St. Rocco)

October 27th - the feast of St Florentius. Service is held on the last Saturday in October



Trail length: 20 minutes from the village Kranjci
Walking time: 1 hour

Saint Lucy is the patron of the parish and the church built in 1616 in the village of Skitača, situated on the southernmost peninsula of Labin.

The Legend of St. Lucy's sanatory water

St. Lucy has asked the residents of Skitača to build her up the church. They continued to postpone the construction so the saint climbed upon a nearby hill, sat on a rock, cried, feeling sad and tired, and fell asleep. When she woke up the next morning she saw beside her a hole (školnica in the local dialect) filled with water, so she grabbed some water and washed her face. Since then, the water from školnica has never dried up, and numerous pilgrimages suffering from sight problems or blindness visit the well of St. Lucy, saint patron of vision and eyesight.

The well is located above the village, near Brdo hilltop that offers panoramic views of the islands of Cres and Lošinj, Cape Kamenjak and mouth of the Raša River. On the other side of the village, five minutes walking distance from the mountaineering house you will come on Orlič (470 m) hilltop, offering the best views of Labin, Rabac, Mount Učka the whole of Kvarner bay. You can have a rest in one of the most beautiful mountaineering houses in Croatia, led by the Skitaci Mountaineering Club from Labin.

December 13th - the feast of St. Lucy - service is held in the parish church

May 3rd - service is held in the parish church

Tourist-educational Sage trail leads from the mountaineering house Skitača to the top Orlič (470 m) surrounded by slopes full of "the goddess of Labin's lawns". The healing sage blooms in late April and May, when it spreads its purple-blue jacket. For centuries it has been used to treat cough, throat infection and inflammation of the gums, for the preparation of medicinal spirits and as spice herb in meat dishes for better digestion. It is advised to massage the essential oil of sage onto tired and aching muscles. The smell of sage stimulates clarity of thought and is used against fatigue and depression, for which the local sea and mountain air filled with aerosol are especially helpful.

How to get there

The hilltop Orlič is a 5 minute walk from the mountaineering house. The tour area stretches around the top and on the right and left of the main road that goes down to Cerovica and Ravnji. You can drive back to Drenje and continue to Labin, but the road is steep, twisty and narrow, and the trip lasts longer.



Distance:
Labin - Skitača 20 km.
Follow the road from Labin to Brgod and Brovinje to Skitača.
Distance from village Skitača to the well is 1 km.

Trails and paths

Rabac



Labin



1 SENTONA'S TRAIL LABIN-RABAC

With the fresh scent of laurel and pine, the patron goddess of travelers, Sentona reveals the most beautiful protected landscape of the area. This goddess will take you back to your childhood and the forgotten landscapes from your imagination. Fairy groves intersected by streams and rapids, over crossed with seven bridges. The Pečina stream waterfalls overflow through the winding tuff barriers, and the mysterious Negri's cave hides a well. The spring water was once used to run an old mill whose ruins stand near the largest waterfall that pours into the turquoise lake in the stream valley in the Maslinica bay.

How to get there
The trail starts at the foot of the old town of Labin on the main road to Rabac, close to the Tourist Board office. The starting point in Rabac is at the Maslinica camp in the homonymous bay.



Distance: 2.4 km
Walking time: 1 hour downhill, 2 hours uphill
Altitude: 236 m
Distance from the sea: 5 min walk

2 HIDDEN CHARMS PROMENADE

Prohaska - Prižnja - Girandella (Rabac)
Enjoy Rabac, the pearl of the Kvarner bay, on the sea promenade with the most beautiful Istrian beaches. Enjoy the spectacular view over the divine Kvarner bay from the village of Kosi. Upon returning choose your place of intimacy in one of the bays with white pebbles, cool in the crystal clear turquoise sea surrounded with aromatic scents of pine, rosemary and sage. Finish your walking route by recreating yourself at St. Andrea, Girandella and Lanterna beaches, all marked with ecological Blue flag.

How to get there
Info panels are located on the parking lot above the hotel Sanfior, at the intersection next to St. Andrea, above Prižnja beach and on the track above Prohaska. The tour goes in two directions:
a) circular tour: St. Andrea - Prižnja - Girandella beach - Lanterna beach or
b) St. Andrea - Kosi village - St. Andrea



Distance:
St. Andrea - Prohaska - Kosi: 3 km
St. Andrea - Prohaska - Prižnja - Girandella - Lanterna: 5 km
Walking time: 2-3 hours

SENTONA'S TRAIL
HIDDEN CHARMS PROMENADE
DIVINE SPRINGS TRAIL
TRAIL OF HOLY WOMEN
ST. FLORENTIUS' TRAIL
ST. LUCY'S TRAIL
SAGE TRAIL

Rabac



Labin

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Trails and paths are suitable for all age groups and cyclists. Sports, trekking or hiking shoes are recommended.