

# Iron Age Danube Route Magazine, Vol. 1

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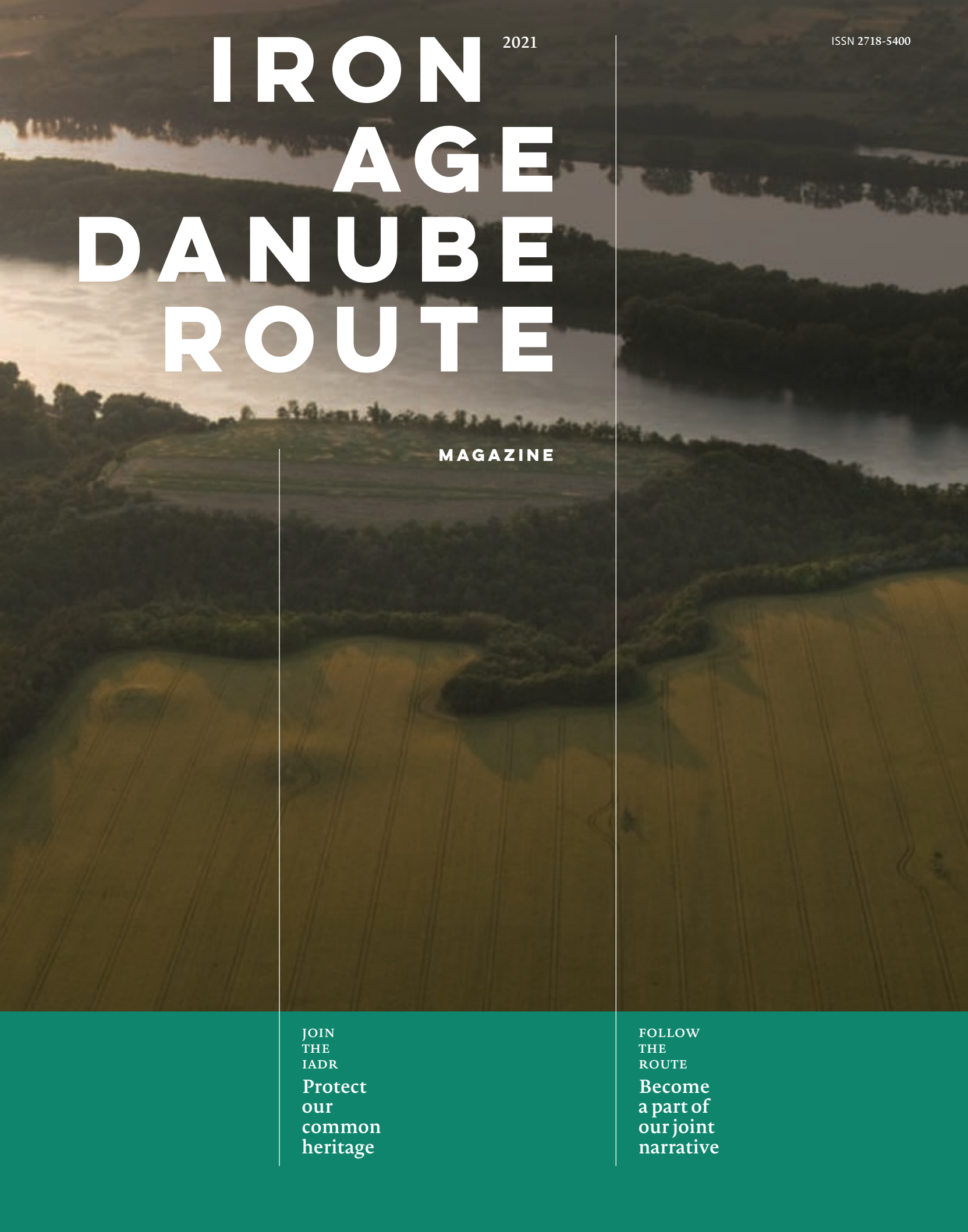
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# IRON AGE DANUBE ROUTE

2021

MAGAZINE

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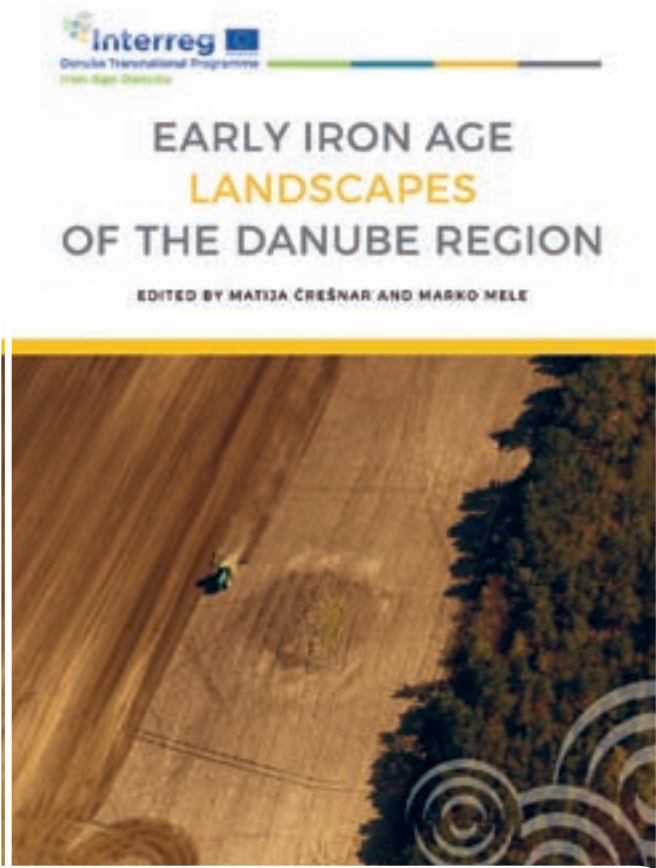
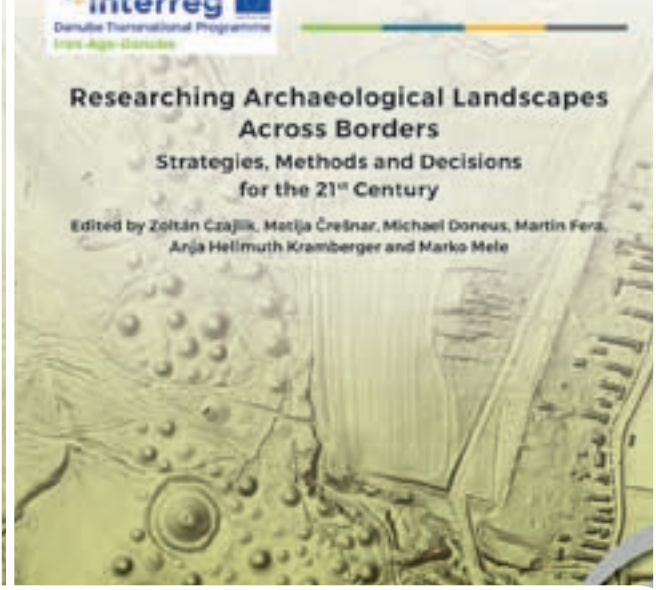
FOLLOW  
THE  
ROUTE  
Become  
a part of  
our joint  
narrative



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We are committed to bringing archaeology and cultural heritage closer to the general public and raise awareness for their protection; therefore, our bilingual (English and Hungarian) online journal, **Hungarian Archaeology**, has been open access for 10 years now, and will always remain available to everyone with an interest in our common heritage.



Danube's  
Archaeological eLandscapes

# Virtual archaeological landscapes of the Danube region



The project Danube's Archaeological eLandscapes is implemented under the Danube Transnational Programme, funded by the European Regional Development and IPA fund.

ERDF: 2,118,635.56 EUR  
IPA: 21,335.00 EUR



Programme co-funded by the European Union

## ***Pohorsko Podravje pred tremi tisočletji***

### ***Pohorsko Podravje three millenia ago***

#### ***Tradition & Innovation in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages***

Biba Teržan  
Matija Črešnar



#### **ABOUT THE MONOGRAPH**

The monograph contains a series of presentations of significant sites from the Pohorsko Podravje region of NE Slovenia, dating to the Late Bronze and the Early Iron Ages, some of which were excavated quite recently, while others were known only through preliminary publications.

It was published jointly by the National Museum of Slovenia and the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana, with financial support of the Slovenian Research Agency and the municipalities of Zreče and Hoče-Slivnica.

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#### **ABOUT THE SERIES**

*Catalogi et Monographiae of the National Museum of Slovenia.* The series, published since 1955, comprises catalogues with summarised presentations of important archaeological sites, excavations and findings from various periods in Slovenia. All volumes are published bilingually with a translation into one of the world languages.

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2021

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of the Council of Europe  
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Bone figure of a horseman  
on a horse — a part of fibula  
from tumulus 12 in Kaptol-Gradca.  
© CPI/H. Potrebica

← COVER PHOTO:

Tumuli at Süttő at the Danube  
by Zoltán Czajlik  
Eötvös Loránd University  
Institute of Archaeological Sciences  
Budapest

**Carlo Marchesetti's  
*The Prehistoric  
Hillforts of Trieste  
and the Giulia Region*  
gets a translation  
to Slovenian**

Dejan Vončina  
Zavod Krasen Kras



On 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Zavod Krasen Kras (The Institute Beautiful Karst) published a Slovenian translation of Carlo Marchesetti's *I castellieri preistorici di Trieste e della regione Giulia* (*The Prehistoric Hillforts of Trieste and the Giulia Region, Slovenian: Prazgodovinska gradišča Trsta in Julijske krajine*) from 1903.

Despite its significant age, the book remains an indispensable source on the Karst, Posočje and Istria hillforts. Its outdated language, on the other hand, proved to be a considerable challenge for the book's two translators, the archaeologist Radovan Cunja and his father Leander who revised and completed the translation after Radovan's untimely death. Archaeologist Miha Mlinar reviewed and co-edited the manuscript and made numerous useful suggestions. The book was further enhanced by several supplemental texts by Goran Živec, Peter Turk, Jošt Hobič and Josip Korošec.

The monograph contains 248 pages and includes numerous appendices; whilst slightly modernized with supplemental texts and LIDAR images, the Slovenian translation and the map closely follow the Italian original. The fetching overall appearance of the hard-cover book, its front cover and the map were designed by Ana Hawlina.

**Price:** 48 €

**Order:** [www.krasenkras.com](http://www.krasenkras.com)

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## EDITOR'S LETTER



Dear reader,

whether it is love of the past or sheer curiosity that has traced your path to this magazine, allow me now to wish you a warm welcome! And once you have granted me that, well, why not ask for a little more of your attention? But have no fear, it is for a good cause: we are planning to take you on a cruise, of the likes you have certainly not taken before.

All right, you may now think, but what is so special with this one? Nothing much, except that it is unique. Our journey unfolds in unfamiliar places and in even more unusual times. Our sceneries are normally well hidden and carefully kept from view, not to mention that the time barrier obstructing you the entry is set at between two to three millennia — what an unpromising fate in an era in which the humanity is still struggling with the initial work on the time machine!

I guess I may as well drop the aura of secrecy now — I mean, the title of our magazine was a bit of a spoiler, right? — and reveal that this famous realm we are advertising on these pages also has a name — the Iron Age. And while it is a rather general phenomenon, covering the whole of the European continent, our focus here is directed to a geographically discrete area covering the territories connected by the great (pre)historic superhighway of Europe, the Danube. The *Iron Age Danube Route* is a result of our desire to help bridge the chronological divide separating us from the world of old and to facilitate understanding and appreciation of these remote times and spaces.

That there is a reason and logic as well as quality to what the Route is doing was made abundantly clear earlier this year. In May 2021, the Iron Age Danube Route was certified as a new Cultural Route of the Council of Europe, bringing the number of certified cultural routes in this globally most prestigious programme to forty-five. With this, our Route has joined the ranks of long-established routes such as the Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes, the Viking Route or the Via Francigena, to name but a few. And it is now both our hope and expectation, but also our firm determination, to prove our Route worthy of the certification and indeed fully deserving of this high-status marker of excellence.

The magazine you are now browsing is a means to introduce you to the Iron Age Danube Route; to let you into its secrets and to narrate you its stories; in short, to invite you to learn about the Iron Age by visiting archaeological sites, by hiking through prehistoric landscapes, experiencing long-forgotten activities or tasting millennia-old dishes.

We start with the basics: by explaining in brief what the Iron Age is all about, and then also about the Route itself. After that, we invite you to *Follow the Route*, by getting to know the institutions and people behind this whole endeavour. You may then use the *Calendar* to check our activities throughout this year — a word of advice: it works even better when you double check on our website for fresh information — whereupon you will be treated to some *Iron Age News* and be told a series of *Iron Age Stories*. By then we hope we will have already whetted your appetite quite enough, which is just as well, as in the next chapter we will extol the benefits of the *Iron Age Cuisine*, surely, something that you just can't afford to miss, right? The remaining sections of the magazine are dedicated to *Iron Age Youth* — hasn't everyone at one point or another in their life wanted to be an archaeologist? — and to *Iron Age Events and Exhibitions*: please take a look yourself and check if there are some happening close to you. At the very end of the magazine we will always be presenting some of the most iconic objects from this last period of prehistory, and this time we singled out a true Iron Age masterpiece: make sure not to miss the cult wagon from Strettweg!

This magazine — and indeed the Route itself — not only wishes to demonstrate that the Iron Age Danube had an extremely interesting past, but also seeks to ensure that it also has a future — a future you are all invited to share. Join us as readers or join us as tourists, if you wish. And who knows, one day you might even think of joining us as partners. But whatever role you do reserve for yourself, two things are certain: first, you will be most welcome, and second, there is no better way to start your journey than by continuing reading this magazine. We hope you will enjoy it!

Sincerely,

**Sanjin Mihelić**  
President  
Iron Age Danube Route Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jh' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



# THE

## — A SHORT HISTORY

Princely tumulus in Jalžabet.  
© IARH Zagreb / S. Kovačević

A landscape photograph featuring a grassy hill in the foreground and a cloudy sky in the background. The text 'IRON' is overlaid in large white letters across the upper portion of the image.

**IRON**

**OF**

**AGE**

**ALMOST  
EVERYTHING**



IN THIS FIRST ISSUE of the Iron Age Danube Route Magazine, we would like to introduce you, our readers, to the stunning heritage to be explored along the route. However, this is not an easy task, as the period called the Iron Age has not only left an abundant variety of traces across the different regions of Europe but is also understood differently amongst scholars.

Most of the last millennium BC (approx. 9<sup>th</sup> century BC to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC) in Central Europe has been classified as the Iron Age. The emergence of this phenomenon, however, can chronologically vary across Europe. Although the inhabitants of Central Europe at that time left only very limited written sources, their lives are documented through archaeology. The Iron Age is a period of important technological and social changes, which influenced the landscape in an unprecedented way—above all the introduction of iron. Despite a complex smelting process, the widespread availability of iron ore offered new possibilities especially for tools and weapons. During the Iron Age regional groups with different resources formed new networks and soon a cultural phenomenon spanning over large parts of Central Europe emerged: the Hallstatt culture, named after the site in Austria, with a core region divided into a western and eastern group.

Only a few centuries later, during the Late Iron Age (5<sup>th</sup> to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC), the La Tène culture became predominant in Central Europe. Traditionally connected with the so-called “Celts”, this name was handed down to us by the Greeks, who called these groups “Κελτοί”, and Roman historians, who knew them as “Celtae” or “Galli”. By the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC, a new social order emerged alongside the disappearance of burial mounds. A century later, ancient authors wrote about Celtic groups advancing to Greece and plundering Delphi in 279/278 BC. Either due to such migrations or the exchange of goods and knowledge, the La Tène culture, named after a site in Switzerland, spread to the Balkans, the south-eastern Alps and into Transcarpathia. By the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC, Roman expansionism began to dominate Europe and the “old” Iron Age fortified centres were abandoned and substituted by other forms of (urban) settlements.

A variety of archaeological discoveries distinguish the Early from the Late Iron Age. Hilltop settlements, positioned on strategic high-ground and often protected by ramparts constructed from earth, stone and wood, were typical for the Early Iron Age. Inside these hillforts, we often find wooden buildings with ovens and fireplaces, surrounded by workshops, grain stores, wells and waste pits, and by the end of the Early Iron Age, these settlements became proto-urban regional centres. In addition, traces of settlements have also been discovered in the lowlands. Farmsteads positioned on fertile land provided the centres with sufficient food supplies.

However, by the end of the Early Iron Age, during the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, many of these hilltop settlements were abandoned. In some parts of Europe, individual groups of farmsteads and small villages represented the main form of living, and by the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC, large settlements, so-called “oppida”, emerged along important routes. As focal points for trade and craft, they also had administrative responsibilities and often minted their own coinage.

Some of the most famous Iron Age discoveries, however, have been made in burials, and many of these finds can be explored in museums along the Iron Age Danube Route. →



Bronze vessels from the princely tumulus Kröllkogel in Kleinklein (Großklein).  
© UMJ/N. Lackner



During the 9<sup>th</sup> century BC, at the transition between the Late Bronze and the Early Iron Age, a change in society becomes visible in settlements and cemeteries. Regional groups with a distinct social stratification emerged and adopted new influences for their burials. Soon, the first supra-regional elites evolved, as evidenced in the appearance of “princely” burial mounds, especially at the peak of the Early Iron Age between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries BC. Control over resources and far-reaching networks bringing luxury goods from the Mediterranean even to remote areas, provided the elites with immense power.

Some of the Early Iron Age burial mounds are still very dominant monuments in the landscape; others have become almost invisible due to centuries of agricultural use. A burial chamber made of wood and stone, covered with a wooden ceiling, was often constructed in the centre of the bigger tumuli. In this chamber, the deceased or their remains were laid to rest together with rich grave goods, which included ceramic vessels, iron weapons, bronze, amber, or gold jewellery, and probably a variety of wood, leather and food items that have not survived time. The chamber was then covered with soil taken from the enclosing ditch.

Burials can be understood, then and now, as a practice of social interaction, which is particularly evident in the construction of monumental tumuli with stone chambers. The strenuous endeavour, which called for the collaboration of many people, may have also strengthened the social hierarchy, and often built along important traffic routes, these mounds did not only serve as final resting place for the deceased, but also represented landmarks that signified the cultural appropriation of a landscape. By the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, the practise of building burial mounds for the deceased had been abandoned in most parts of Central Europe and were replaced by flat cemeteries, for which there may have been many different religious and/or social reasons.

The following Late Iron Age La Tène communities did not display the same social structure in their graves. In flat cemeteries near their settlements, they typically buried their warriors with an iron sword, spear and shield. Contact with the Roman Empire and the subsequent occupation changed the social structure once again.

A plethora of finds tells us about economic developments. The Early Iron Age subsistence economy was mostly based on agriculture, as demonstrated by the numerous plant remains found in settlements, graves and the salt mines of Hallstatt. Nutrition was based primarily on peas, beans and cereals prepared with or without meat in cauldrons over an open fire. The mining and smelting of iron ores, as well as the trade in semi-finished and finished iron products was an important source of wealth for the Iron Age people in Central Europe. Even before the Early Iron Age, the elites had established a wide trade and exchange network amongst their communities, often controlled by hilltop settlements located at strategical locations. Thus trade evolved into an important pillar of the Iron Age economy with connections reaching far beyond the communities, which can be seen in the richness and diversity of imported objects from as far as the northern Black Sea region, Greece, Etruria, or the wider Mediterranean, which have been found in graves and settlements, and are now to be admired in museum collections. ■

**INTERESTED IN EARLY IRON AGE  
CLOTHING ACCESSORIES**

*after the original finds from Strettweg (Austria, Styria)?*

**PURCHASE FROM**

**Andreas Proksch**

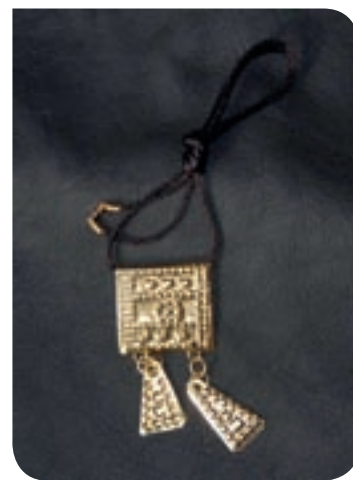
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**INTERESTED IN A SET  
OF THREE MINIATURE VESSELS**

*after the original finds from Großklein  
(Austria, Styria)?*



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**WHAT  
IS**



**THE  
IRON  
AGE  
DANUBE  
ROUTE ?**



by Marko Mele  
Marta Rakvin

#### **How did it start?**

The foundation of the Iron Age Danube Route was laid in the project “Monumentalised Early Iron Age Landscapes in the Danube River Basin”, abbreviated as Iron-Age-Danube, which was co-financed by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme (DTP) of the European Union. The project focused on monumental archaeological landscapes of the Early Iron Age, characterised, for example, by fortified hilltop settlements and large tumulus cemeteries roughly spanning the 9<sup>th</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC. The partners shared a vision of joint approaches to researching, managing and protecting complex (pre)historic landscapes and their integration into sustainable tourism.

#### **What happened after the first step?**

After the end of the Iron-Age-Danube project, the partner institutions were encouraged to develop a new transnational cultural route with the support of the Routes4u project of the European Council. The Iron Age Danube Route aims to connect and jointly promote regions, sites and museums, which represent the Iron Age heritage across the Danube region. In order to do so, high standards for the protection, research and presentation of this heritage have been established and the trust for the upkeep of the route was given to the Iron Age Danube Route Association with its seat in the Croatian capital of Zagreb.

#### **Where will we go?**

Along with the efforts of the Iron Age Danube Route Association, the Iron Age Danube Route is going to be advanced through the Interreg Danube Transnational project “Virtual archaeological landscapes of the Danube region” (July 2020–December 2022). This project centres around making the archaeological landscapes of the Danube region more visible and attractive through modern technologies and thus facilitate their successful integration into sustainable cultural tourism on regional, national and international levels.

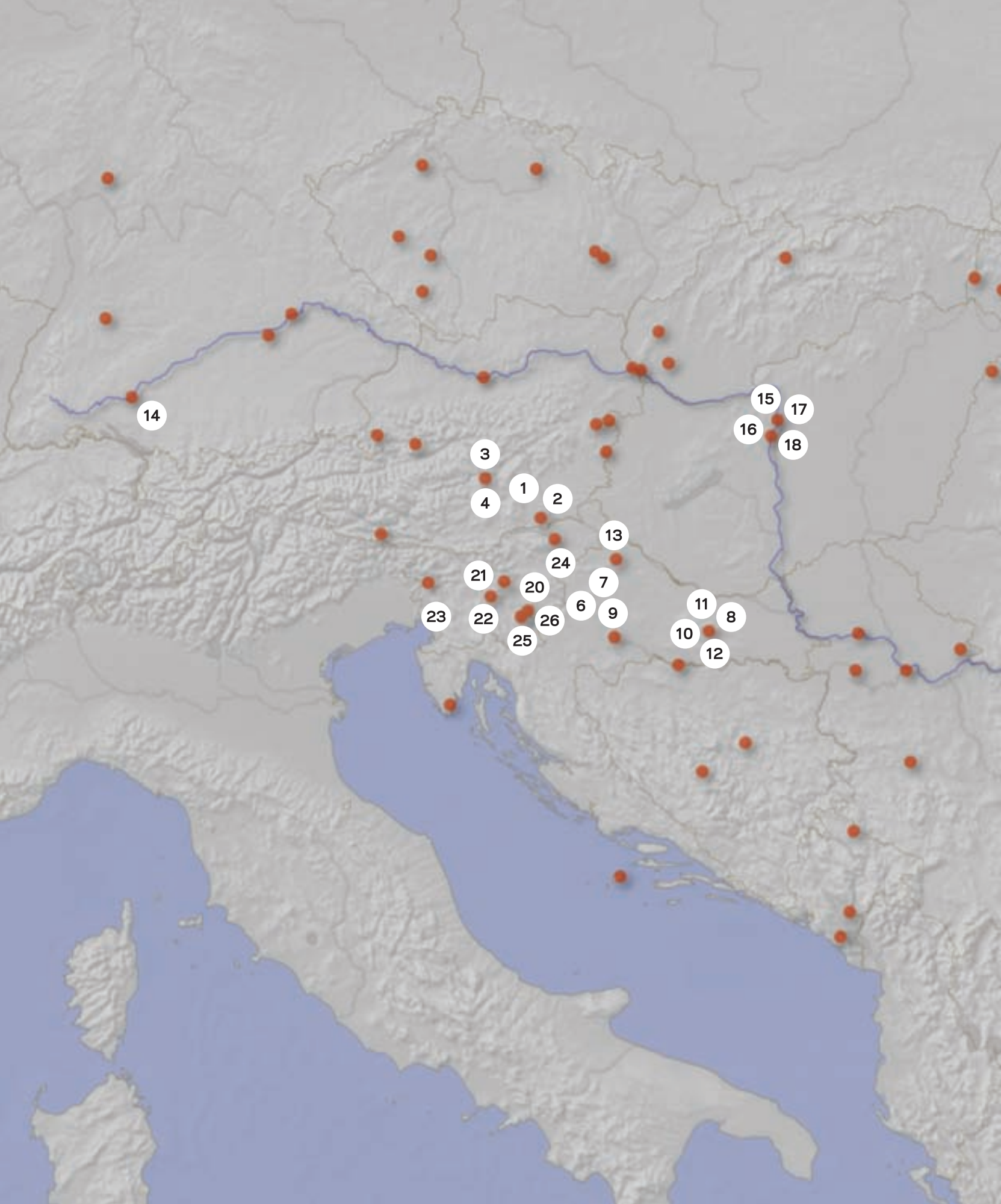
#### **How to engage?**

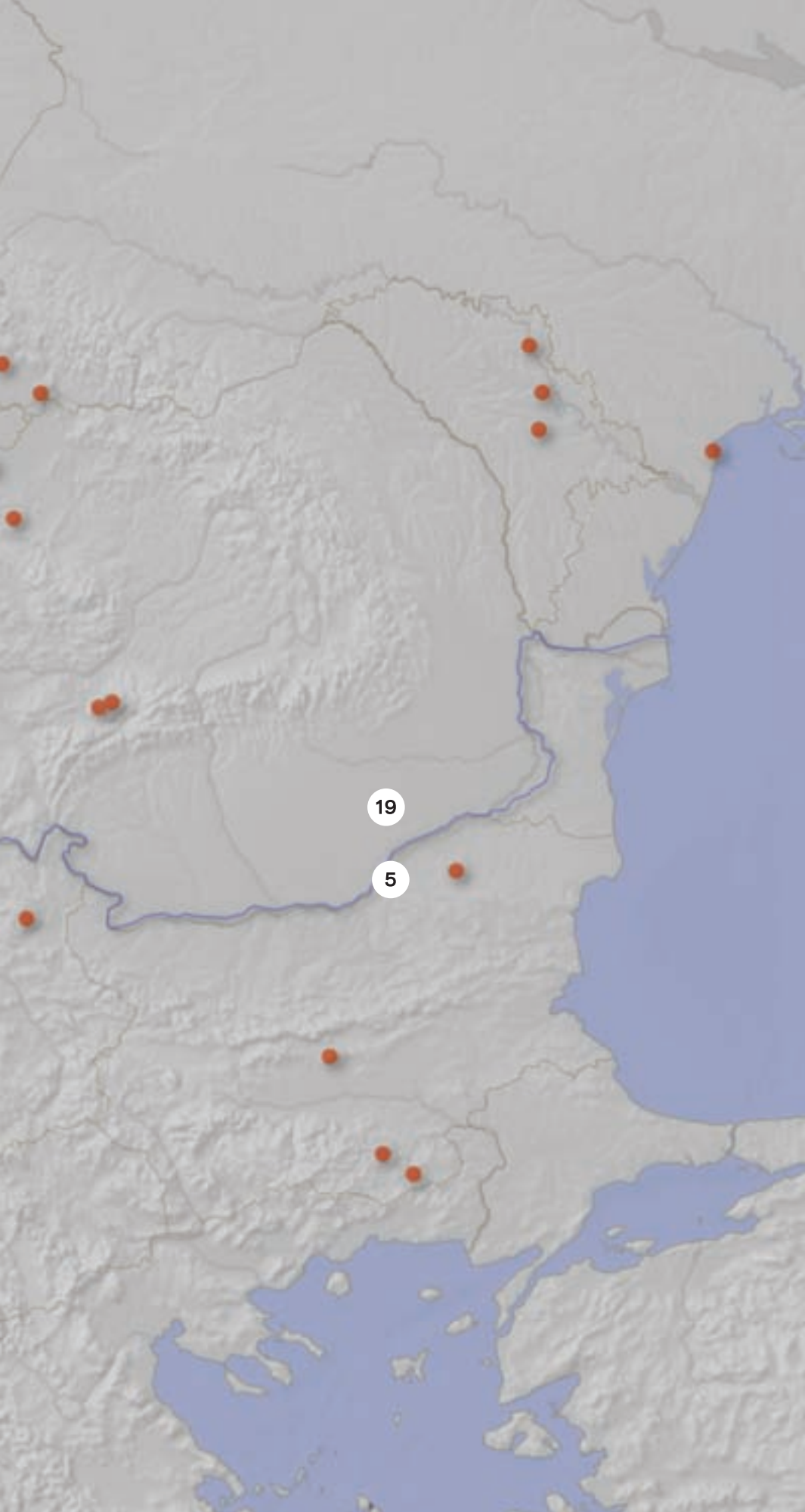
When telling the story about the Iron Age the focus is usually on material objects kept and displayed in museums, while the immaterial heritage and, especially, the majestic remains located in the landscapes across Europe remain unrecognised, as they quietly continue to bear witness to a mighty society made of princes, heroes, priestesses and artisans. Forever connected with the environment and the people living alongside it, Iron Age heritage is part of communities across Europe and an untapped potential for their sustainable economic growth. By becoming a member of IADR Association, you will be joining a strong partnership dedicated to promotion, protection, research and sustainable development of the Iron Age heritage. Connect with a wide range of experts specialized in heritage management, research and education, sustainable tourism and heritage presentation to help you find the best way to promote and care for the Iron Age heritage in your region.

Find out more on [www.ironagedanuberoute.com](http://www.ironagedanuberoute.com)!

Join us and let us jointly make the Iron Age heritage visible, tangible and alive! You can find the IADR Application Form on page 81.







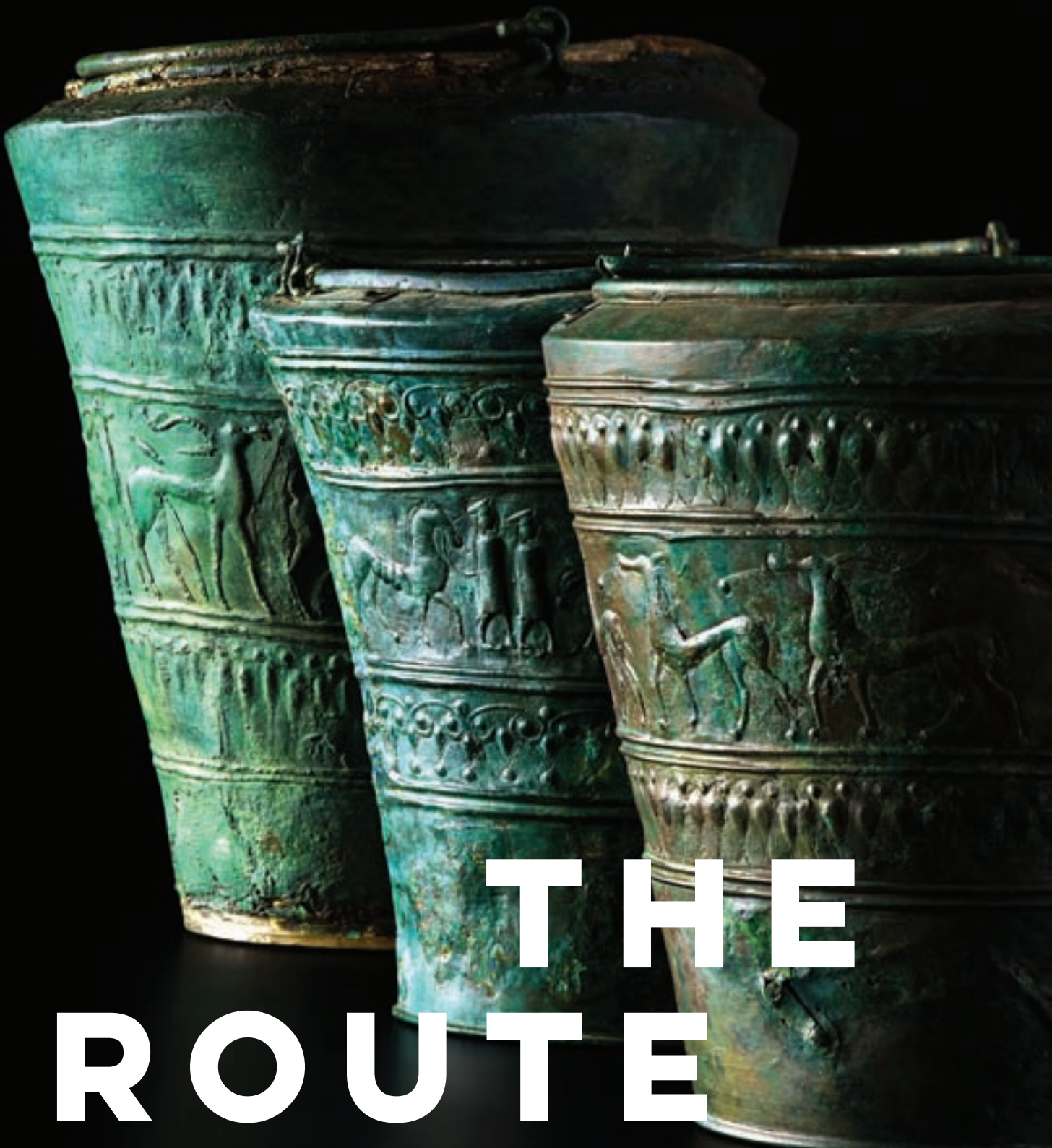
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 Potential Destinations  
of the Iron Age Danube Route

# FOLLOW

Bronze figurally decorated situlae,  
Novo Mesto, Kandija, various graves.  
© DM Novo mesto



# THE ROUTE



## Universalmuseum Joanneum Archaeology Museum at Castle Eggenberg

Mariahilferstraße 2–4,  
8020 Graz, Austria  
[www.museum-joanneum.at/  
archaeologiemuseum-schloss-eggenberg](http://www.museum-joanneum.at/archaeologiemuseum-schloss-eggenberg)

The Universalmuseum Joanneum is considered the biggest of its kind in Central Europe. About 4.9 million items across the collections form the basis of a richly faceted “universal” exhibition and events schedule. A programme of exhibitions and events at 13 locations throughout Styria offers a unique panorama of science, art and culture.

The Archaeology Museum at Castle Eggenberg presents 1,221 objects within a contemporary space of 600 m<sup>2</sup>. The museum’s open architecture with its light walls is particularly suitable for activities aimed at children and teenagers. In addition, museum staff are also able to demonstrate work in progress through the presentation of specially selected objects while archaeological processing is under way. At Castle Eggenberg, curators have created a museum that allows all visitors to immerse themselves in the past, the daily lives of our ancestors, their means of expression, religious practices and social conditions. Though the exhibits represent many different periods and places, the exhibition approaches specific themes diachronically, providing visitors with the space and leisure to ponder the objects as timeless archetypes of basic human needs.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Amongst the highlights of the exhibition are the world-famous objects of the Hallstatt period, in particular the Cult Wagon of Strettweg, the Mask of Kleinklein and ostentatious vessels from the princely burials of Großklein and Strettweg. For the new museum we were able to acquire the most precious Roman find made in the province of Styria, a silver relief goblet (“Silberbecher”) discovered at Grünau.

### VISIT US IN 2021

31<sup>st</sup> July    Iron Age Danube Route  
                  at the open day  
                  at Castle Eggenberg (Graz)





**Municipality of Großklein  
with hamuG  
(Hallstattzeitliches  
Museum Großklein)**

8452 Großklein 112, Austria  
[www.hamug.at/museum](http://www.hamug.at/museum)  
[www.grossklein.gv.at](http://www.grossklein.gv.at)  
—

The municipality of Großklein with about 2,300 inhabitants is situated amongst vineyards and fields in the south of the Austrian federal state of Styria. South Styria offers culinary enjoyment at every turn. Visitors are welcomed with open arms and spoilt for culinary choice. Whatever your taste, you can be sure to find something that hits the spot: from the finest wines to wine tavern specialities and award-winning restaurants, South Styria offers variety like no other. The countryside provides the most beautiful backdrop imaginable for walks and hikes, from leisurely ambles to ambitious sporting challenges and everything in-between. A wealth of historical and cultural attractions await visitors of the region: excavation sites to marvel at, palaces and castles such as Schloss Seggau to visit, museums that tell a host of stories, and architectural masterpieces that are already shaping the future. Since its creation in 1990, the hamuG (Hallstatt period museum in Großklein) has set itself the task of preserving and conveying the rich archaeological heritage of Großklein and the surrounding area. Special emphasis is placed on scientific archaeological knowledge and high-quality educational media installations. In combination with the reconstructed Hallstatt period village on the Burgstallkogel, connected to the princely tumuli via a hiking trail, the new museum offers locals and visitors a unique and holistic experience of the historic cultural landscape of Großklein. Promoting the products from the Heriterra brand, the new museum has become a unique meeting place of past and future, archaeology and tourism.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Visitors can now experience regional archaeological finds and sites discovered during the latest excavations from almost five and a half millennia — from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages, with a distinct focus on the Hallstatt period.

**VISIT US IN 2021**

23<sup>rd</sup> May “Celtic walk”  
on the Burgstallkogel  
(Großklein)



## Museum Murtal

Herrengasse 12  
8750 Judenburg, Austria  
www.museum-murtal.at

Visitors at Museum Murtal explore the Hallstatt period almost 3000 years ago and get to see treasures from Strettweg, home of the famous “Kultwagen”. The excavations of four hill graves in 2012 revealed artful Pottery, iron weapons and Jewellery made of bronze, amber and gold. The visitors are taken on a time travel to this mysterious period and learn about the fascinating methods of modern archaeology.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Grave of the Cult Wagon with new found pieces of the Wagon and impressive jewellery in amber, bronze and gold
- Helmet-grave: princely grave with artful pottery and weapons in bronze and iron
- Interactive journey into the Hallstatt period and to other archaeological highlights from the Murau-Murtal region

### VISIT US IN 2021

Saturdays

10<sup>th</sup> April, 17<sup>th</sup> April, 24<sup>th</sup> April, 29<sup>th</sup> May, 5<sup>th</sup> June  
ArchaeoBotschafter Murau-Murtal

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Special exhibition

“The Cult Wagon of Strettweg” —  
restauration and reception of  
an archaeological icon

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June

10 years Arbeitskreis Falkenberg:  
a region on the search for its history

Sundays

4<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 29<sup>th</sup> August

Search, dig, find! Museum Murtal for Kids

## Historischer Arbeitskreis Neumarkter Hochtal

office@histak.at  
8820 Neumarkt in der Steiermark, Austria  
www.facebook.com/HistAKNeumarkt1

The nature park Zirbitzkogel-Grebenzen, nestled between mount Zirbitzkogel (2,296 m) and mount Grebenzen (1,892 m), is a natural Styrian jewel and a holiday destination fit for nature lovers. The NaturLesen (Reading Nature) scheme is unique in the world and can be found across the NaturLese-Park, on the Via Natura, on the NaturLese hiking trail, in the NaturLese gardens and on the NaturLese islands, encouraging Neumarkt’s visitors to discover and “read” nature, art and philosophy. The surroundings of Neumarkt are rich in historical testimonies and archaeological finds — from the Neolithic to the Early Middle Ages — which deserve scientific analysis and broader interest. HistAK Neumarkt offers a platform for knowledge exchange between an interested public and science. Founded in 2015, the association has set itself the task of comprehensively reviewing the settlement history of the Neumarkt high valley and providing the results for the benefit of the region. The three pillars of the association’s work are:

- Collection and archiving of research results
- Finds documentation and preservation of the results
- To enable scientific processing

The aim of our work is to preserve and communicate the knowledge of our past to the people and visitors of Neumarkt — today and in the future.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Castle Lind on the Lindfeld near Neumarkt offers a combination of contemporary art and archaeological exhibitions. It is also the starting point to visit the Iron Age tumuli on the Lindfeld and the settlement in Kolmerwald.

### VISIT US IN 2021

12<sup>th</sup> June Archaeological finds  
determination day  
on the farmers market  
in Neumarkt in der Steiermark





## Rouse Regional Museum of History, Roman Fort of Sexaginta Prista

Al. Battenberg Square 3  
7000 Rouse, Bulgaria  
[www.museumruse.com](http://www.museumruse.com)

The Rouse Regional Museum of History operates in all fields of archaeology, history, ethnography and natural history in the region of Northeastern Bulgaria. The institution manages 9 museum sites, including a World Heritage Site, and possesses over 180,000 artefacts in its patrimony.

The permanent exhibition of the Museum of History is located within one of the fine examples of Neoclassical architecture in the country. The artefacts on display present the archeological heritage of the area from Prehistory to the Late Middle Ages. The site is venue for large number of public events through the year, addressing various groups of visitors.

The Roman fort of Sexaginta Prista is an open-air archaeological museum in the centre of the town of Ruse. Along with the archaeological remains of fortifications and military buildings, the site also has a small museum hall, where the story for the past of our town is narrated through artefacts. The Roman fort is also a site for an annual re-enactment festival where the heritage of the Iron Age and the Roman period in our area is brought to live.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Among the items that attract most attention to the visitors of the Museum of History in Rouse is the Thracian Treasure of Borovo. It consists of five silver-gilt vessels, crafted during the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC and belonged to the Thracian King Cotys I. The iconography of the ritual wine set illustrates scenes and motifs from the mythology of Ancient Greece.

### VISIT US IN 2021

18<sup>th</sup> September “Roman Market  
at Sexaginta Prista”  
Re-enactment Festival







## Archaeological Museum in Zagreb

Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinskog 19  
10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
[www.amz.hr](http://www.amz.hr)

The Archaeological Museum in Zagreb is a direct successor of the National Museum, the oldest museum institution in the capital. This first national museum institution started its public and organized — although non-institutional — work in 1846. Since 1940, when the National Museum was formally abolished, the Archaeological Museum has been working independently. Since 1945, the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb has been located in the Vranyczany-Hafner Palace in Zrinski Square.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Today, the Museum's holdings number over 450,000 different artefacts that were collected from different sources. Among them are some artefacts whose significance goes far beyond the limits of local or regional heritage, such as: the Eneolithic Dove of Vučedol, the Psephisma of Lumbarda commemorating the creation of a Greek colony on the island of Korčula, the Roman portrait of a Young Girl from Salona (presumably the princess Plautilla), the first dated inscription of a Slavic ruler — the Branimir inscription from 888 AD. The Archaeological Museum in Zagreb also includes rich collections and monuments from abroad. Along with the Egyptian collection, and a significant portion of the Numismatic collection, the Museum also keeps several significant collections of Greek and Roman origin. The rich collection of painted Greek vases of south Italian and Greek origin, the precious collection of stone monuments of Italian provenance, and the famous Zagreb Mummy and the Linen Book of Zagreb (*Liber linteus Zagrabiensis*) are particularly noteworthy.

### VISIT US IN 2021

18<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> June European Archaeology Days



## Centre for Prehistoric Research

A. Stipančića 19  
10000 Zagreb, Croatia

The Centre for Prehistoric Research is an association of experts in different fields related to research, protection, presentation and management of archaeological heritage, predominantly related to prehistory. Members of CPR are primarily scientists but there is a significant number of members who work in local government, tourist boards, heritage management, and heritage related IT. CPR was established in 2007, and since then it managed over 30 important excavation projects and was partner in several international and Croatian scientific projects as well as heritage-oriented projects. It has also formalized cooperation with five museums and several international and Croatian scientific institutions. The research and activity of CPR were presented on more than 20 international scientific congresses.

### HIGHLIGHT

CPR manages the excavations of the Iron Age site of Kaptol, which has been ongoing for the past 20 years and includes two mound necropolises and a fortified settlement. This work resulted in the discovery of the richest princely Iron Age grave in Croatia, as well as the proto-urban structure of a fortified settlement, rare in Central Europe. Work in another research area, in the southern Adriatic, resulted in discovery of a crucial fragment of the famous Lumbarda Psephysma and the monumental Hellenistic cistern on the island of Korčula, as well as two extraordinary prehistoric landscapes on the peninsula of Pelješac — Zakotorac and Nakovana.

### VISIT US IN 2021

early June    Open Day at Kaptol hillfort —  
opportunity to visit  
excavation in progress



## Municipality of Kaptol

Školska 3  
34334 Kaptol, Croatia  
www.opcina-kaptol.com

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The Municipality of Kaptol is located under the southern slopes of the Papuk Mountain, which provide enchanting view of entire Požega Valley and beyond. Fertile land rolls from vineyards and orchards on Papuk slopes to rich fields in the Valley. No wonder that it is also part of the wine road following the ancient route along the Papuk Mountain, which connects several historical municipal centres in the Požega Valley — from Čaglin in the east, over Kutjevo and Kaptol, to Velika in the west.

The municipality covers an area of about 90 km<sup>2</sup>. The village of Kaptol is located in the centre of that area surrounded by nine smaller picturesque settlements. The archaeological finds document successful settlements in this area from Neolithic culminating in the Iron Age when important role that this area played on European level was reflected in princely graves under burial mounds and large fortified settlement. Documented history of current settlement also stretches all the way to the medieval times and this year it will celebrate its 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Historical importance and continuity of Kaptol as administrative centre is reflected in its almost urban characteristics, atypical for the villages in Slavonia.

### HIGHLIGHT

The highlight of Kaptol is the fort Stari Grad. Fort is a hexagonal Late Gothic/Renaissance castle with circular semi-towers, and a square entry tower. It was surrounded by a moat filled with water. The remains of the fort are only remaining parts of otherwise large seat of Collegiate Chapter of St Peter. It was established by the Diocese of Pécs the early 13<sup>th</sup> century and run by it until the Ottoman conquest. After the Ottoman left, castle changed 15 different owners. Today, this monumental ruin is owned by the Diocese of Požega.

### VISIT US IN 2021

19 <sup>th</sup> –20 <sup>th</sup> June	the Hallstatt Days
19 <sup>th</sup> –29 <sup>th</sup> June	Celebration of the 800 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Municipality of Kaptol



## University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Archaeology

I. Lučića 3  
10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
www.web2020.ffzg.unizg.hr

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The Art History department established at University of Zagreb in 1878 also included themes related to Classical Archaeology. Even the first lecture on the occasion of establishment was titled Research in History and Archaeology of Art. Completely independent Department of Archaeology was established 15 years later, in 1893, which makes it the oldest archaeological department in Croatia. The department was established by the same law, which also prescribed that Head of the Archaeological Department is at the same time director of the Archaeological Department of the National Museum in Zagreb (today Archaeological Museum). This “personal union” lasted until 1951. Today, the Department of Archaeology consists of five Chairs (Chair of Prehistoric Archaeology, Chair of Classical Archaeology, Chair of Roman Provincial and Early Christian Archaeology, Chair of Medieval and National Archaeology, and Chair of Archaeometry and Methodology. It employs around 20 teachers, valuable technical team, and a number of research assistants on different scientific projects. It strives to be modern institution open to development in fields of heritage protection and management and interdisciplinary research.

Teachers and students at the Department are involved in numerous archaeological excavations and scientific projects, but there is also strong activity in projects related to presentation and management of archaeological heritage, which is especially visible on Iron Age sites in the Požega Valley and more recently in the area of Žumberak.

### VISIT US IN 2021

early June	Workshop Little School of Archaeology (Municipal Library Ante Kovačića in Marija Gorica)
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## Papuk Nature Park Unesco Geopark Papuk

Trg Gospe Voćinske 11  
33522 Voćin, Croatia  
[www.pp-papuk.hr](http://www.pp-papuk.hr)  
—

Papuk Nature Park was established in 1999 due to its exceptional geological, biological and cultural diversity, which is contained in a relatively small area of 336 km<sup>2</sup>. It is huge natural and partly cultivated area with emphasized aesthetic, ecological, educational, cultural-historical and tourist-recreational values. Also, the Papuk Nature Park is the most geologically diverse area in this part of the Republic of Croatia and according to that geological wealth, in 2007, Papuk Nature Park became a member of the World Geoparks Network and the first UNESCO-protected geopark in Croatia.

### HIGHLIGHTS

For all those who want to learn something about the Nature Park, we offer a tour of about 200 kilometers long educational and hiking trails accompanied by hiking guides.

It is important to point out the possibilities of visiting the Adrenaline Park in the Kamp site Duboka, which has 2 levels — for adults but also for children. Also interesting is a tour of the Visitor Centre House of the Pannonian Sea. Furthermore, an unavoidable destination of Papuk Nature Park is the Forest Park Jankovac.

Finally, the construction of the Geo Info visitor centre in Voćin is in progress, where visitors will be able to get acquainted with the geological, biological and archaeological wealth of Papuk through an interesting exhibition, animations, sculptures, multimedia educational screens and panels... In this visitor centre the visitors will get interesting information about Kaptol and its life during the Early Iron Age.

### VISIT US IN 2021

September	Opening of Geo info centre
Autumn	Medieval Tournament
11 <sup>th</sup> December	International Mountain Day





### Požega-Slavonia County Tourist Board

Županijska 7  
34000 Požega, Croatia  
[www.tzzps.hr](http://www.tzzps.hr)  
—

Spectacular nature, active vacation, quality food, great fun, good company and the famous Slavonian hospitality — there are many good reasons to visit Požega-Slavonia County. A destination where autumn and winter are, in the colors of gold, and such is the hospitality of the hosts.

Požega-Slavonia County is characterized by geographical diversity, so you can explore destinations interesting for its tourist offer.

You can see our Top 10 attraction at <https://tzzps.hr/top-10-atrakcija/>

### Zlatni Papuk Tourist Board

N. Tesle 98  
34330 Velika, Croatia  
[www.zlatni-papuk.hr](http://www.zlatni-papuk.hr)  
—

The “Golden Papuk” Tourist Board was founded in 2020. It is the legal successor of the “Velika” Tourist Board. It was established by an agreement between the municipalities of Velika, Kaptol, Brestovac and Jakšić, on whose territory it operates. Partially, it covers the protected area of the Papuk Nature Park, more precisely its southwestern part. The area, it manages, is recognizable for its precious cultural and historical heritage and top wines of the Kutjevo vineyards.





### **The Varaždin County Tourist Board**

Franjevački trg 7  
42000 Varaždin, Croatia  
[www.turizam-vzz.hr](http://www.turizam-vzz.hr)  
—

The region of breathtakingly beautiful scenery, valuable culture monuments and rich gastronomic heritage is only a step away from you.

This north-western region of Croatia, where the last slopes of the Alps meet the great Pannonian basin, will enchant you with its diversity and offer you a memorable experience.

Here you will find clean nature and unique natural beauties and interesting sights — fossil volcanoes, caves that tell the secrets of our ancestors, semi-precious stone finding sites, river banks where gold is washed, nature parks, hunting grounds and parks that tell the story of the grandeur of the past times. You will experience the unique atmosphere of old castles and manor houses, the Baroque churches and monasteries, hear mystical legends and historic stories of dragons, Templars, nymphs or the miraculous turning of wine into the Blood of Christ.

You will enjoy the best cultural manifestations, international festivals and attractive historic re-enactments.

You will taste some of the delicious homemade delicacies and desserts, healthy food grown by the local producers, top quality wines and natural juices, pumpkin seed oil of the highest quality.





## Heuneburg – Stadt Pyrene

Heuneburg 1–2  
88518 Herbertingen-Hundersingen, Germany  
[www.heuneburg-pyrene.de](http://www.heuneburg-pyrene.de)

Residing on a three-hectare mountain spur overlooking the Danube the Heuneburg rises — the oldest city north of the Alps. The settlement, probably already mentioned by Herodotus as “Pyrene”, is one of the best-researched archaeological sites of the European Iron Age.

Thanks to its location, it became an important and powerful centre for trade in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. The Plateau was covered by a tight network of living and working quarters and surrounded by a mudbrick fortification wall. Nearby an outer bailey including the mighty stone gate was built and a 100-hectare outer settlement formed. The inhabitants of the city had extensive trade contacts as far as southern Italy and Marseille.

### HIGHLIGHTS

The replica of the surrounding wall, which was built based on Mediterranean examples, is still impressive today. The completely white plastered mud brick wall must have been visible from afar. The ensemble of gatehouse, wall and ditch, which formed the entrance to the outer bailey, was unique in the entire northern Alpine region at the time. The surroundings of the Heuneburg form a Celtic natural and cultural landscape that can be explored on a hike or by bike. Ongoing archaeological excavations always provide new and exciting insights.

The site is managed by  
the Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten  
Baden-Württemberg,  
Schlossraum 22a,  
76646 Bruchsal, Germany  
and Gemeindeförderung Herbertingen,  
Holzgasse 6,  
88518 Herbertingen, Germany





Reconstructed  
burial mound from  
the Hallstatt cemetery  
Sopron-Várhely.  
© ELTEFHAS/Z. Czajlik



## **Banner János Archaeological Foundation**

Sárköz utca 3/c.  
1142 Budapest, Hungary  
[www.matricamuzeum.hu/en/  
banner-janos-regeszeti-alapitvany](http://www.matricamuzeum.hu/en/banner-janos-regeszeti-alapitvany)

The Banner János Archaeological Foundation is an NGO with the primary aim to provide professional support to the propagation of the archaeological sites at Százhalombatta. It participates both in excavations and research. It encourages and sponsors interdisciplinary cooperation. The Foundation possesses unique specialist knowledge that helps to reach a deeper understanding of archaeological features. Through this the daily life and practices of the people of the past become more understandable and visible. This helps to raise public awareness towards the cultural and natural heritage of the area. The Foundation considers the touristic dissemination of this communal wealth among its priorities.



## Archaeolingua Foundation

Teréz krt. 13  
1067 Budapest, Hungary  
[www.archaeolingua.hu](http://www.archaeolingua.hu)

Archaeolingua is a Budapest-based, public interest organization, a foundation, publishing house and research centre, dedicated to putting forward works of high-quality scholarship in the fields of archaeology, history, historical linguistics, and related academic disciplines. The publication of books has remained the principal activity of Archaeolingua Foundation, however, the international community can also rely on us as an organiser of scholarly forums and as an initiator of academic partnerships. Themes such as landscape history and reconstruction, the use of aerial photos in archaeological research, and integrating archaeological heritage into modern cultural tourism and awareness, have been in the centre of Archaeolingua's activities.

Throughout its history, the Foundation has cooperated with a number of universities and research institutions, including the Europae Archaeologiae Consilium, the European Network of Excellence on ICT Applications to Cultural Heritage, the Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology, the Department of Linguistics of the University of Innsbruck, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, the British Archaeological Reports, the Universalmuseum Joanneum (Graz), or the Hungarian National Museum, just to name a few. More recently, Archaeolingua spearheaded the creation of an educational heritage trail in Sopron, within the framework of the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube Project.

### HIGHLIGHTS

We participated in the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube Project from beginning to end, as a research partner and as a publishing house that put out various material in multiple languages related to the project. Among these, there were booklets to be used in museum education programmes, brochures, as well as the scholarly volume that summarized the project's main research results. Archaeolingua stays committed to assisting its partners in the IADR Association with further publications and distributing them in Hungary and abroad. We manage and supervise the whole process from the submission of the first ideas to the printing of the final product, and actively participate in shaping the publication.

Our bilingual, open-access online journal *Magyar Régészet/Hungarian Archaeology*, published quarterly, is one of Archaeolingua's success stories. This journal played a pivotal role in communicating the results of the Iron-Age-Danube Project to the general public, with a separate column dedicated to this topic.

Visit our website at [www.archaeolingua.hu](http://www.archaeolingua.hu)!

## Hungarian National Museum

Múzeum krt. 14–16  
1088 Budapest, Hungary  
[www.mnm.hu](http://www.mnm.hu)



The Hungarian National Museum, founded in 1802, has a broad experience in exhibiting, promoting and managing cultural heritage. The task of the Hungarian National Museum is to collect, preserve and present the historical relics of the people living in the Carpathian Basin and Hungary using scientific methods. As the central national historical museum, it collects all types of objects connected to the history of Hungary from the Neolithic Age to present days. Most of the 3.3 million objects are kept in storage in the museum building or outside depots and only approximately 12,000 objects are on display. The HNM has a significant archaeological collection; musical instruments, photographs, posters, coins and medals, arms and armory, goldsmith objects and modern materials, and manuscripts, archives, etc. In addition to its public role, the museum takes part in conservation degree courses of the University of Fine Arts and has independent licensed postgraduate programmes for conservation and digitization. Furthermore, the HNM offers a full range of heritage and archaeological services. The HNM, which also has developed significant social relations and participative programmes with its public, analyses and displays these issues with sensitive approach while remains the guardian of hundreds of centuries of historical heritage of the Carpathian Basin and its cultures.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Our archaeological permanent exhibition presents to the visitor the history of the peoples of the Carpathian Basin from earliest times up to the arrival of the Magyars. As a result of intermingled relationship of local communities and different groups from East and West, stratified communities arose in the heart of this region in the period stretching from the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC to the time of the Roman conquest. The lands to the east of the River Danube became part of the Scythian world. Emblematic relics of these centuries are the Scythian golden stags. It was at this time that Transdanubia became home to people belonging to the Central European Hallstatt culture. The finest examples of their handicrafts work are urns with painted decoration that have been found in burial mounds. In the fourth century BC, the entire territory of present-day Hungary was conquered by the Celts, who erected flourishing urban centres.

#### VISIT US IN 2021

For more information visit our website where you can find the newest online and onsite events, museum pedagogical programs and exhibitions!

### Budapest University of Technology and Economics Faculty of Architecture Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

Műegyetem rakpart 3. K. II. 82.  
1111 Budapest, Hungary  
[www.eptort.bme.hu](http://www.eptort.bme.hu)

The Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation dates back its history to 1870, therefore the institution is almost in the same age as the university-level, organized education of architecture in Hungary and celebrates its 150's anniversary this year.

The most important task of the Department is to teach the complete spectre of architectural history through theoretical lectures and practical seminars, to transfer knowledge on theory of architecture and monument preservation, and validate the approach of preserving the historical values within complex architectural design and diploma design courses. The Department also offers postgraduate education with the degree of Specialised Engineer in Preservation of Built Heritage and supports PhD students in their research.

The Department has a library of nearly 20,000 volumes, archive books and the service of information by a professional librarian as well as a unique Archive of Drawings and Plans. Our Colleagues are involved in the edition of scientific journals called *Architectura Hungaricae*, *Architectonics and Architecture*, *Monument Preservation* and *Periodica Polytechnica Architecture*. The Department considers as an important task to involve the next generations in research, therefore our students are key participants of Scientific Student Conferences, organises workshops and on-site survey programmes in Hungary or abroad.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Since 2020 July, the Department is one of the project partners of the Interreg DTP Living Danube Limes project among 19 universities, state and private enterprises and 27 associated strategic partners from 10 countries of the Danube region, who support the project with capacities and competences in the fields of archaeology, ancient history, technology, architecture, virtual reality, museum structures, tourism, cultural heritage protection and living history.

The main aim of the Department is to provide an opportunity for students of architecture as next generations to gain practical, interdisciplinary and international experience with various aspects of history of architecture. For this reason, it is an outstanding opportunity for the Department to be a member of the Iron Age Danube Route Association.





## National History Museum of Romania

Calea Victoriei 12 Sector 3  
030026 București, România  
[www.mnir.ro](http://www.mnir.ro)

Established about five decades ago, the National History Museum of Romania (MNIR) is the most important public museum with archaeology and history profile in the country, with major and significant archaeological collections, ranging from early prehistory to late antiquity and the Middle Ages. The museum is directly subordinated to the Ministry of Culture and National Identity. The museum's primary mission is to preserve, manage and valorise the cultural artefacts of its collection, constantly enlarged by acquisitions, donations and archaeological excavations, as well as to undertake historic and archaeological scientific researches. As a result, the MNIR collects, preserves, researches and displays artefacts regarding the history of nowadays Romania's territory. While in 1972, the date of its inauguration, the museum collection consisted of little more than 30,000 items, today the museum owns a heritage of over 650,000 items, grouped in several collections: lapidarium, tegularium, pottery, treasure, metals, arms and military equipment, textiles, furniture, numismatics, medals and seals, manuscripts, prints, graphic art, decorative art, historic photos archive. Being in the top 10 most visited museums in Romania, MNIR is one of the public's favourite destination, open and receptive in providing an attractive cultural experience, based on new data, but also by using new technologies.

### HIGHLIGHTS

In the hall of the Historical Treasures over 3000 valuable objects belonging to past cultures or historical personalities from the current territory of Romania are displayed. The permanent exhibition presents also a copy of Trajan's Column in Rome, which shows pictures from Roman conquest of the territory. The column is part of the Lapidarium exhibiting 165 stone monuments from the Greco-Roman period, the late Roman era and the Romanian Middle Ages.

# SLOVENIA



Prehistoric cemetery  
Kapiteljska njiva  
in Novo mesto.  
© DMNM

## Dolenjski muzej Novo mesto

Muzejska ulica 7  
8000 Novo mesto, Slovenia  
[www.dolenjskimuzej.si](http://www.dolenjskimuzej.si)

Dolenjski muzej Novo mesto was founded on 1<sup>st</sup> June in 1950. It is a general regional museum. Initially one building, the museum complex now comprises four buildings, not counting the remote facilities of Jakac House and Kočevski rog. Today, the museum comprises seven permanent exhibitions, five curatorial departments, an education department, and a restoration workshop for archaeological artefacts. The museum's gallery and the central exhibition area house large temporary exhibitions. With its rich and diverse exhibition programme, research and publishing activities, as well as the diverse and systematic educational work, the museum is a valuable cultural and artistic centre of Novo mesto.

The rich archaeological material displayed in the permanent exhibition illuminates our knowledge about life in the wider Dolenjska region from the prehistoric times to the Early Middle Ages. The archaeological material from the Early Iron Age can be counted among the most important specimens of cultural heritage on the European scale.

### HIGHLIGHTS

The Archaeological Image of Dolenjska exhibition features many well-made, significant and attractive archaeological artefacts. Among the most outstanding are bronze figural decorated situlae, which were discovered at the Kandija and Kapiteljska njiva sites in Novo mesto. In addition to amber and bronze jewellery, numerous multi-coloured glass beads were also discovered.

### VISIT US IN 2021

26<sup>th</sup> June Situlae Festival



## National Museum of Slovenia

Prešernova cesta 20  
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
www.nms.si

The National Museum of Slovenia, which was founded by the Carniolan State Parliament on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 1821, is the oldest of all Slovenian museum institutions. Its six departments collect, document, preserve, and investigate the movable cultural heritage of Slovenia and present it to the public. Thanks to the exceptional educational level of its staff members, the museum also has the status of a research institution and is involved in several scientific research projects focused on a more detailed study of the Slovenian cultural heritage. The quality of the museum activities in the central national museum depends on the staff and its consultants, with their excellent professional command of their fields and specific areas of specialization. Only through such an approach is it possible to present the cultural heritage of Slovenia to the public in a modern, attractive, and popular manner. The museum wishes to illuminate in detail through the presentation of material (in the form of exhibitions and scientific and popular publications) individual segments of the history of present-day Slovenia and make this available to the widest possible public. With the digitalization of material and the construction of an electronic database about the cultural heritage that it preserves, the National Museum of Slovenia has joined similar European institutions that are attempting to enable the broadest possible access to items of the cultural heritage through the use of modern information technology.

### HIGHLIGHTS

The oldest musical instrument in the world, a 60,000-year-old Neanderthal flute is a treasure of global significance. It was discovered in Divje babe cave near Cerklje ob noči and has been declared by experts to have been made by Neanderthals.

A situla is a decorated bucket-shaped vessel. The most famous in Slovenia is Vače Situla, from Vače near Litija. Its quality design and craftsmanship in figurative representations make the situla one of the finest artefacts of the Iron Age situla art. It is even more important that it was crafted by a skilled local artisan in the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC.

### VISIT US IN 2021

- 21<sup>st</sup> June Gold Trail (Zlata sled),  
opening of the jubilee Exhibition —  
the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the  
Regional Museum for Carniola and the beginning  
of museum work in Slovenia.
- October Gabrovčev dan. The Hallstatt cultural groups  
in Slovenia. Gorenjska Hallstatt group.  
Scientific symposium dedicated to the memory  
of Prof. Stane Gabrovec.

## Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia

Poljanska cesta 40  
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
www.zvkds.si



The Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Slovenia (IPCHS) is a state-funded interdisciplinary research institute with an over 130 years long tradition of organized protection and preservation of immovable cultural heritage on the territory of Slovenia. From the very beginning, one of the Institute's main priorities has also been the successful cooperation with other public institutions and authorities, as well as all the relevant public and private stakeholders. Today, the IPCHS is concerned with the protection, preservation, management and promotion of cultural heritage in a number of fields, including architecture, landscape, history, art history, ethnology and archaeology. The main objective of the IPCHS is to develop, coordinate and implement projects and procedures related to the direct conservation of cultural heritage and to prevent any damage to it. In addition, the Institute seeks to promote and present cultural heritage, and to ultimately integrate it with modern lifeways. The IPCHS also seeks to raise public awareness of preventive archaeology and cultural heritage in general through various activities, including exhibitions, publications, conferences and workshops for different audiences.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

The IPCHS has been involved in a number of international projects concerned with the heritage of the Early Iron Age. They range from international purely scientific schemes, such as the HERA funded ENTRANS project aimed at a better understanding of prehistoric landscapes, burial rites and art, to transnational and regional schemes, most of which combine scientific research with heritage protection and its promotion. The BorderArch-Steiermark, PalaeoDiversiStyria and Iron-Age-Danube projects, for instance, not only deepened our scientific expertise and knowledge on the select Early Iron Age research topics, but also allowed us to develop new innovative ways to protect and promote archaeological heritage.

#### VISIT US IN 2021

18<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> June European Archaeology Days  
25<sup>th</sup> Sep–9<sup>th</sup> Oct European Heritage Days

#### Institute Beautiful Karst

Gorjansko 32  
6223 Komen, Slovenia  
[www.krasenkras.com](http://www.krasenkras.com)

With its mighty semicircular defensive dry walls, the archaeological site Debela Griža near the village Volčji Grad in the Karst is one of the most photogenic and preserved Iron Age hillforts between the Pannonian Basin and the Adriatic Sea. The goals of the nonprofit Zavod Krasen Kras (Institute Beautiful Karst), established in 2014, is to raise awareness of the general public regarding the importance and protection of prehistoric hillforts in the Karst. The institute has prepared several thematic exhibitions about the hillforts. In 2018, it published an anthology *Hillforts in Western and Central Slovenia* and in 2020 the translation of the still essential work on prehistoric settlements *The Prehistoric Hillforts Of Trieste And The Giulia Region* by Carlo Marchesetti. It also filmed two short promotional documentaries about Debela Griža ([www.krasenkras.com](http://www.krasenkras.com)).

#### HIGHLIGHTS

The institute carried out several complex non-destructive studies in collaboration with preservation agencies to identify the age of the hillfort and investigate the lifestyles of its inhabitants. The collected data enables creation of stories to attract visitors. A pre-condition for the research was the systematic removal of harmful vegetation. The cleaned areas allow the following activities:

- organising various cultural events within the hillfort in collaboration with other establishments or societies;
- organising guided tours of Debela Griža, adapted to the visitors. On request, the tours are supplemented with a culinary experience.

#### VISIT US IN 2021

19<sup>th</sup> June Summer Museum Night —  
Presentation of the translation of the book *The Prehistoric Hillforts of Trieste and the Giulia Region* by Carlo Marchesetti  
Koper Regional Museum

September European Heritage Days  
Guided tour of the hillfort  
Debela griža





### Municipality of Hoče-Slivnica

Pohorska cesta 15  
2311 Hoče, Slovenia  
[www.hoce-slivnica.si](http://www.hoce-slivnica.si)

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The municipality of Hoče-Slivnica is located in the north-east of Slovenia, between Pohorje and Drava Plain, next to the second largest Slovenian city — Maribor. The municipality has an excellent strategic location and transport accessibility, as the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> European transport corridors cross its territory. The municipality has the Maribor International Airport and two railway stations, which provide good access to tourist and commercial sites, as well as cultural and natural attractions. The tourist infrastructure is composed by both individual accommodation providers, well-known hotels with a long tradition, and rural tourism in Mariborsko Pohorje, as well as smaller service providers and craftsmen throughout the municipality. Many inns uphold the heritage of hospitality and good culinary offer. The municipality has practical experience in the promotion of historical and cultural heritage with projects for the preservation of the old Roman crypt, the Slivnica Manor House and the Hompoš Castle, as well as the exotic plant garden and the Ipavec family avenue connected with the Maribor University Botanic Garden. In addition to the archaeological exhibition at the Maribor University Botanic Garden, there are also several archaeological trails in the municipality, such as the Iron Age archaeological trails at the Poštela, Pivola and Čreta sites, and most of the municipality participates in the Archaeological Trail around Maribor and its surroundings.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

In 2018 and 2019, the Pivola Archaeological Trail and the exhibition “How they lived” were created at the most visited archaeological site in the municipality — the Early Iron Age Cemetery in the Maribor University Botanic Garden, as part of the international project PalaeoDiversiStyria. You can discover more details about other historical remains at the Regional Museum Maribor ([museum-mb.si](http://museum-mb.si)).

### Municipality of Novo mesto

Seidlova cesta 1  
8000 Novo mesto, Slovenia  
[www.novomesto.si](http://www.novomesto.si)

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The municipality of Novo mesto, as the focal point of the Dolenjska Region, lies in the south-eastern part of Slovenia, near the border with Croatia, between two capitals: Ljubljana and Zagreb. There are approximately 37,300 people living in the municipality, with over 22,300 living in the town of Novo mesto. Novo mesto is the administrative, cultural, economic, educational, ecclesiastical, health and sports centre of the Dolenjska Region. The town is characterised by its exceptionally successful pharmaceutical, automotive, construction, textile, and other industries. That is why Novo mesto is called “the export capital of Slovenia”. Novo mesto was awarded its town rights on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1365 by Duke Rudolf IV of Hapsburg. This date is also the municipal holiday. The geostrategic advantages and natural endowments of the area around the bend of the Krka River were already known to the Illyrians and Celts. The rich archaeological sites in Novo mesto have also made it known as the Town of Situlae. The superb archaeological heritage is one of the crucial elements of the town's identity, placing Novo mesto on the world map of central Iron Age archaeological sites, especially the period from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC. Besides the precious archaeological sites, the town's noteworthy gems include the Cathedral of St. Nicholas with Tintoretto's painting of St. Nicholas, the Main Square with the Town Hall and the Kette Fountain, the Monastery with its rich library dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the picturesque Breg riverbank with a condensed set of residential buildings built on the demolished medieval town walls. In addition to the many attractions that Novo mesto holds, a visitor is always welcomed by friendly and kind citizens. Come and see for yourselves!



**Zavod Situla  
Institute for Cultural Heritage,  
Tourism and Culture**

Dilančeva ulica 1  
8000 Novo mesto, Slovenia  
[www.situla.si](http://www.situla.si)  
—

Established in 2006, Zavod Situla is this year celebrating 15 years of being one of the key stakeholders in town of Novo mesto in the field of cultural heritage protection, youth tourism and event management. Hostel under its management can welcome over 70 guests in 18 units.

The slogan “Meet the Stories of a Distant past” is also a guideline for activities and a fundament on which youth tourism is promoted and developed. The inner design of a hostel is strictly related to the motives of Hallstatt period and can be sensed throughout the whole experience of a guest. A vision of the institute is to continue promoting youth tourism by emphasising cultural and heritage note.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Main projects in cooperation with Municipality of Novo mesto and Dolenjski muzej Novo mesto are focused on promoting the revival of a town centre. In that manner, Zavod Situla successfully organised a 4-day film festival called “Cinema on the Square” and revived local market on the Main Square, where vendors like local farmers, artisans and crafters offered their products once a week.

**VISIT US IN 2021**

- March–November every Saturday  
on the Main Square —  
Local Market
- 4<sup>th</sup> June Urban Festival Novo mesto
- 12<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> August Cinema on the Square —  
Open Air Film Festival





**T**he **TRANS RIVERS** project will cover the area of the lower course of the Sutla River and the middle course of the Sava River, as well as the eastern slopes of Medvednica. This is a key area assumed to have been heavily involved in the flow and exchange of ideas and goods in prehistory, and especially during the Bronze and Iron Ages. The main objectives of this project are the identification of new sites, the interpretation of the material heritage from the site of Sveti Križ and the newly-discovered sites, and the interpretation of the role of the transfer area from the Sutla River and across the middle course of the Sava River in the network of communication and exchange of goods during the Bronze and Iron Ages. Lidar scanning and intensive field surveys will enable us to fulfill the first objective. New Bronze- and Iron-Age sites, of which there are none at present, would try to be identified. When the locations of the new sites are affirmed and when, according to the collected material, it is determined whether they belong to the Bronze or the Iron Age, trial excavations would take place on potentially interesting sites. Besides the trial excavations, regular excavations would also be carried out on the site of Sveti Križ. Trial excavations will provide new data on settlements and/or necropolises, while the excavations on Sveti Križ will provide insight into particular segments of the Late-Hallstatt settlement and attempt to identify an older settlement, as well.

The analyses that will be conducted will also influence the scientific contribution, and will enable us to complete the collected data. Radiocarbon dating will confirm the typochronological settings, the residue analyses will complete the settlement data, while the metallographic analyses will provide data on raw materials. Residue analyses will, with the closed contexts of finds from individual settlements, provide insight into the way of life of the communities of the time. Metallographic analyses attempt to determine the provenience of raw materials, whether it changed throughout the Bronze and Iron Ages, and whether the imported material indicates a different provenience of raw materials than the material assumed to be of local production. The importance of the research is evident in the fact that a very small number of sites has been identified in the project area from the aforementioned period, of which only two (Sveti Križ and Kuzelin) are being excavated to a lesser extent. Since this is a strategically extremely important area, valuable data would be obtained through new research on the mode and dynamics of communication with a much wider area of the Danube basin, southeastern Alps, and the Posavina Canton in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH GROUP

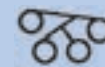
Morena Želle, Director of Prigorje Museum  
Mateja Hulina, Ph.D. and Mislav Fileš

#### HEAD OF RESEARCH

Janja Mavrović Mokos, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities  
and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb

#### THE PROJECT IS FUNDED BY

The Croatian Science Foundation and will be ongoing  
from 01/02/2021 to 31/01/2026



Adventure agency *Thrillseeker Croatia* was founded in 2018 with the main goal of promoting the natural, gastro and ethno beauty of Papuk and Velebit, but outdoor through recreation & enjoyment!

We are a small team but are aiming for big things. Our beautiful country is full of beautiful hidden corners and the best way to explore it is in small groups. Either you want to explore and experience the hidden beauty of Velebit or Nature Park Papuk by bike, hiking, try rock climbing or quad tours, we will take you on a full of “you can do it” adventure...but we are also here for the extreme thrill.

Recently, we have added the promotion of cultural heritage to our offer, including the cultural trail “In the Footsteps of Warriors” above Kaptol, Croatia! It was not difficult to attract people to this trail since hiking through an environment that was full of life during the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC is definitely something that you cannot experience every day. Thanks to information boards, tourists can get an idea about the whole Hallstatt culture and everyday life of that time, something both very tempting and interesting! The first hiking tour took place on 1<sup>st</sup> May this year when 10 hiking and archaeology enthusiasts went to this trail. The complete tour of the route, with the expert guidance of an archaeologist, lasted 2.5 hours and ended with a craft gin tasting!!!

Can it get any better?!  
Certainly not!

Tourists were thrilled with the whole trail and not tired from the hike since the route is not difficult! All in all, thanks to science and archaeological research, today we have this awesome route with an incredible story that is promoting our region worldwide and most importantly - local people and agencies are involved in it!

**READ MORE**

<https://thrillseekercroatia.com>

**VISIT US**

Požeška 7  
Kaptol, Croatia

**OR JUST CALL**

+385 (0) 99 69 33 076



# Thrillseeker Croatia

## Matrica Museum and Archaeological Park

### Season start

MUSEUM VISIT AND GUIDED TOURS

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Hungary, Százhalombatta, Poroszlai Ildikó u. 2.  
[matricamuzeum.hu/en/](http://matricamuzeum.hu/en/)

## Iron Age Danube Route Association

### IADR Association Assembly

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Online

[www.ironagedanuberoute.com](http://www.ironagedanuberoute.com)

## Municipality Großklein “Celtic walk” in Großklein

HIKE AND CUISINE

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

Austria, Styria, Großklein  
[hamug.at](http://hamug.at)

## Histak Neumarkt

### Archaeological finds determination day on the farmers market in Neumarkt in der Steiermark

EVENT

12<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Neumarkt in der Steiermark  
[www.historischer-arbeitskreis-neumarkt.at/](http://www.historischer-arbeitskreis-neumarkt.at/)

## University Bordeaux-Montaigne

### Excavations in the LBA/EIA hillfort of Malvieu (Saint-Pons-de-Thomières, Hérault, France)

FIELD TRIP

14<sup>th</sup> June – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Saint-Pons-de-Thomières, Hérault, France  
[alexis.gorgues@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr](mailto:alexis.gorgues@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr)

## Dolenjski muzej and Municipality of Novo mesto Situlae Festival — Festival of Iron Age Life and Cuisine

FESTIVAL

26<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Slovenia, Novo mesto Main square,  
 Dolenjski muzej, Hill Marof  
[www.dolenjskimuzej.si](http://www.dolenjskimuzej.si)  
[www.novomesto.si](http://www.novomesto.si)

## Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten Baden-Württemberg Craftsman Day

EVENT

4<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Germany, Baden-Württemberg, Heuneburg  
[www.heuneburg-pyrene.de](http://www.heuneburg-pyrene.de)

## Histak Neumarkt

### historical hike in the Neumarkt high valley

EVENT

19<sup>th</sup> Juli, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 16<sup>th</sup> August, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Neumarkt in der Steiermark

[www.facebook.com/HistAKNeumarkt1](http://www.facebook.com/HistAKNeumarkt1)

## Rousse Regional Museum of History Roman Market at Sexaginta Prista

REENACTMENT FESTIVAL

18<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 10 AM–11 PM

Bulgaria, Rousse

[www.museumruse.com/en/](http://www.museumruse.com/en/)

## Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia European Heritage Days and Cultural Heritage Week

EVENT

25<sup>th</sup> September – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Ljubljana

[www.zvkds.si/sl/dekd/dekd-tkd](http://www.zvkds.si/sl/dekd/dekd-tkd)

## Slovenian Archaeological Society

### Gabrovčev dan. The Hallstatt cultural groups in Slovenia. Gorenjska Hallstatt group

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM DEDICATED  
 TO THE MEMORY OF PROF. STANE GABROVEC

October 2021

National museum of Slovenia, Metelkova 1,  
 Ljubljana, Slovenia / Online

[www.nms.si](http://www.nms.si)

## Hungarian National Museum Researcher’s Night

EVENT

Autumn 2021

HNM, Budapest, Hungary

[kutatokejszakaja.hu/](http://kutatokejszakaja.hu/)

## Tolmin Museum National Museum of Slovenia Gradca under the mount Krn (Gradca pod Krnom)

OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

December 2021

Tolmin museum, Tolmin

[www.tol-muzej.si](http://www.tol-muzej.si)

**University Bordeaux-Montaigne**

**Annual congress of  
the Association Française  
pour l'Âge du Fer (AFEAF)**

CONFERENCE

13<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Gijon, Spain

[afeaf.hypotheses.org/2822](http://afeaf.hypotheses.org/2822)

**National Museum of Slovenia**

**Gold (Zlato), Jubilee exhibition —  
the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding  
of the Regional Museum for Carniola and  
the beginning of museum work in Slovenia**

OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

National Museum of Slovenia

[www.nms.si](http://www.nms.si)

**Museum Murtal Judenburg**

**The Cult Wagon from Strettweg —  
restoration and reception  
of an archaeological icon**

EXHIBITION

21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

Austria, Styria, Judenburg

[museum-murtal.at](http://museum-murtal.at)

**Many partners**

**European Archaeology Days**

EVENT

18<sup>th</sup>– 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Europe-wide

[journees-archeologie.fr/c-2021/lg-en/accueil](http://journees-archeologie.fr/c-2021/lg-en/accueil)

**Hungarian National Museum**

**European Archaeology Days**

EVENT

18<sup>th</sup>– 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

HNM, Budapest, Hungary

[regesznetnapja.hu/hungary/Home](http://regesznetnapja.hu/hungary/Home)

**Archaeological Museum in Zagreb,  
the Centre for Prehistoric Research,  
Municipality of Kaptol,  
Zlatni Papuk Tourist Board**

**Hallstatt Days 2021**

EVENT

19<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Croatia, Požega-Slavonia County,  
Požega and Kaptol

[www.visit-pozega.com/en](http://www.visit-pozega.com/en)

**Universalmuseum Joanneum**

**Open haus Schloss Eggenberg**

EVENT

31<sup>st</sup> July 2021

Austria, Styria, Graz

[www.museum-joanneum.at/en/  
palace-and-gardens-schloss-eggenberg](http://www.museum-joanneum.at/en/palace-and-gardens-schloss-eggenberg)

**Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten  
Baden-Württemberg**

**Heuneburg Celtic Festival**

FESTIVAL

4<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Germany, Baden-Württemberg, Heuneburg

[www.heuneburg-pyrene.de](http://www.heuneburg-pyrene.de)

**University Bordeaux-Montaigne**

**European Association  
of Archaeologists  
annual meeting**

CONFERENCE

6<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Kiel, Germany

[www.e-a-a.org/EAA2021](http://www.e-a-a.org/EAA2021)

**Maribor Regional Museum and ICOM**

**Museoeurope 2021**

CONFERENCE

14<sup>th</sup>– 16<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Maribor

[museum-mb.si/museo-europe/](http://museum-mb.si/museo-europe/)

**Iron Age Danube Route Association**

**Flow of the Heritage**

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP

27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Online

[www.ironageanuberoute.com/event-calendar](http://www.ironageanuberoute.com/event-calendar)

**Hungarian National Museum**

**Museum@Digit 2021**

SUMMIT

24<sup>th</sup>– 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021

HNM, Budapest, Hungary

[museumdigit.hu/en/](http://museumdigit.hu/en/)

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- Free admission to city attractions

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Card24  
98 kn

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Zagreb  
Card72  
135 kn



Photo: J. Dural

# Zagreb Card 72

Free admission to the Zagreb City Museum, the Museum of Arts and Crafts, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Broken Relationships, Zagreb 360° – observation deck, and the Zagreb ZOO. For more information, visit our website at [www.zagrebcard.com](http://www.zagrebcard.com)



# VISIT THE SOPRON-VÁRHELY ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE TRAIL

## The Iron Age archaeological landscapes of the Sopron Mountains



Favourable geographic location and topography were decisive factors in the prehistory of Sopron and its immediate surroundings. The proximity of Lake Fertő and the crossing of north-south and east-west roads created conditions conducive to human settlement. The Early Iron Age is a particularly important period of this historical process, since the landscape-forming impact of hilltop settlements, fortifications and tumulus cemeteries can still be felt today. In the 9<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century BC, archaeologically named the Hallstatt Period, the Danube region belonged to a common cultural zone whose monu-

ments and relics, similar to those of Sopron, today are found in Austria, Slovenia, Croatia and Slovakia. This archaeological heritage trail, which was implemented by the Archaeolingua Foundation in the framework of the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube project co-financed by the European Union and Hungary and in cooperation with the Sopron Educational Forestry LLC., draws attention to this monumental and spectacular yet extremely vulnerable prehistoric landscape. On the information boards set up along the trail results of traditional excavation methods and cutting-edge technologies are presented.

E. J.



## Signposting of the Archaeological Trail “In the Footsteps of the Warriors – Iron Age in the Golden Valley”

In 2019, the archaeological trail “In the Footsteps of the Warriors: Iron Age in the Golden Valley” has been created by the Archaeology Museum Zagreb at the Early Iron Age archaeological site of Kaptol in Požega Valley (Eastern Croatia) during the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube project.

Kaptol is considered to be one of the most prominent Early Iron Age sites in continental Croatia. Along the trail, 11 different thematic boards are posted presenting and explaining various topics of life during the Early Iron Age. They range from the history of research of the site, Kaptol’s networks during the Iron Age and its place within these, to the status of the warrior elites and women during the Iron Age as well as information about the environment during the period.

As one of the trails that form the IADR, the archaeological trail at Kaptol benefits from constant improvements for a better visitor experience. Together with IADR members Papuk Nature Park ([www.pp-papuk.hr](http://www.pp-papuk.hr)), the municipality of Kaptol ([www.opcina-kaptol.com](http://www.opcina-kaptol.com)), the Centre for Prehistoric Research and in cooperation with Croatian Forests ([www.hrsume.hr](http://www.hrsume.hr)), the trail has been signposted with IADR labels and its infrastructure has been further developed and enhanced over the course of the last few months.

M. R.

## Emerging cooperation with the Hungarian Tourism Agency

The Hungarian Tourism Agency invited the Hungarian representatives of the Iron-Age-Danube project to an online meeting. The experts of the Hungarian National Museum and the Archaeolingua Foundation presented the key results and outputs of the project, and they also introduced the initiative of the international Iron Age Danube Cultural Route (IADR). After presenting the relevant Iron Age sites in Hungary, opportunities for the promotion and advertisement were discussed, e.g. how to include these spectacular landscape features as elements of the existing (Sopron) and planned (Süttő) heritage trails into the regional tourism offer. Particular interest was given to the mobile app (Guide@Hand Iron-Age-Danube) and the promotional films, which, through planned VR and AR content, will offer a novel, experience-based way of on-site and museum presentation and visualisation, as well as the promotion of slow tourism through heritage trails. As a result of the discussions, the Hungarian Tourism Agency suggested to connect the Iron Age sites to already established hiking routes and offered to support the project with online and print publications and maps. They also proposed to embed the Iron Age Danube Routes within the projects to be supported by the Danube Macro-Region Strategy.

K. W.



## Iron Age Danube Route at the Annual meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Kiel



Members of the Iron Age Danube Route, the Universalmuseum Joanneum, the Hungarian National Museum and the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, proposed a session called “Routed Archaeology II — Archaeological Routes and New Technologies” for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Kiel. The session, with a strong impact of the Iron Age Danube Route, was accepted and will be organised online between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The focus of the session will be on archaeological routes, paths, information boards and monument interpretation tools, which are considered a great way to present and promote archaeological heritage. The accepted contributions present new digital tools for the interpretation of archaeological monuments along trails, routes, sites or open air facilities. A special focus is set on new fresh approaches in digital or virtual archaeology and the combination of digital and analogue interpretation tools.

[www.e-a-a.org/ea2021](http://www.e-a-a.org/ea2021)

SZ. F., M. M., S. M.

## Hungarian and Slovenian Archaeologists Launch a Joint Research Project on the Early Iron Age Landscapes

The project “Early Iron Age Land Use between the Alps and the Danube; comparative landscape archaeological analyses of Süttő and Poštela site-complexes” examines archaeologically rich cultural landscapes in the area between the south-eastern Alps and the Danube in the Early Iron Age, i.e. the Hallstatt period (8<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> c. BC) by surveying some of the most spectacular sites in the region. Building on the Iron-Age-Danube project (DTP Interreg), during which the University of Ljubljana and ELTE researchers explored a number of archaeological sites, we selected two settlements, namely Poštela (Slovenia) and Süttő (Hungary), for further investigations. The two sites share many similarities and offer key data for understanding the formation of the Early Iron Age cultural landscapes in the region. Whilst at the time, fortified hilltop settlements acted as the focal points in the cultural landscapes, the latter also included extensive burial mounds and flat grave cemeteries. During the previous multi-method research project which included geophysical and Airborne Laser Scanning surveys, we uncovered traces of numerous barrows, ancient communication routes and open lowland settlements in the surveyed areas. With these foundations in place, we now seek to further examine these landscapes by using non-/semi-invasive methods, in order to better understand the chronological and spatial structuring of the two sites. Our research will include extensive fieldwalking, geomorphological drilling, small-scale excavations, and the use of archaeological and radiocarbon dating methods. In addition, we seek to investigate and potentially reconstruct the paleoenvironmental changes suspected to have occurred during the period under study by analysing sediment cores from the Lake Balaton and comparing them to the regional palaeoecological and archaeological data. We have high expectations for the project and look forward to presenting important new results in the near future.

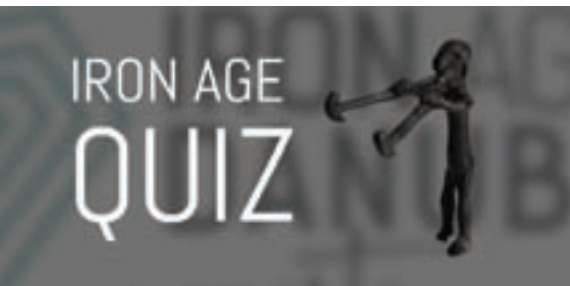
The research is funded by the National Research Development and Innovation Office (Hungary), grant number SNN 134635, and the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), grant number N6-0168).

Z. C., M. Č.





## Test your knowledge about the Iron Age!



Our colleagues at the Hungarian National Museum have created various online contents and events for these days when museums have to keep their doors closed. Gamification is a very important part of the museum's didactical outreach programmes and represents an example for an online solution to the closure of museums. In addition, gamification has been raising attention in the context of education as it offers a variety of benefits linked to learning outcomes, e.g. the great combination of knowledge transfer and enjoyment. The Hungarian National Museum offers a game, which guides visitors through four different tasks about the Iron Age. For the first and the last task, the user will have to rely on previous knowledge, but the second and third test provide further help in the form of amazing artefacts and findings which can be found in the exhibitions. An additional video with breath-taking pictures of the Iron Age landscapes in the Danube region concludes the game, which is available in English and Hungarian, made by Dániel Ligeti. It is recommended for all ages. The development of Hallstatt, Scythian and Celtic versions is in currently in progress. Our colleagues at the Hungarian National Museum hope to see you soon in museum, where you can discover the treasures of the Iron Age.

A. P.

## Iron Age Danube Route and the EU project Danube's Archaeological eLandscapes

On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020, the EU project "Danube's Archaeological eLandscapes" was launched by more than 20 partners and associated partners from the Danube region. For a total of 30 months, the partners have set themselves the goal of making the archaeological heritage and, in particular, the archaeological landscapes of the Danube region more visible and thus more attractive at regional, national and international level with the help of state-of-the-art technologies. By incorporating Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) technologies, museum visitors are encouraged to explore the rich archaeological heritage not only in museums, their collections and exhibitions, but also in the context of the wider landscapes these finds have come from. The project, which is co-financed by the EU-programme Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, gives new impetus to the digitisation of Europe's archaeological heritage. The project will not only be present in the virtual space, but through the integration of the Iron Age Danube Route and the development of new archaeological cultural routes also in the archaeologically particularly interesting regions of the Danube basin. Stay tuned for more!

Visit the project Homepage <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/danube-s-archaeological-elandscapes> and follow us on social media!

M. M.



## Cvinger near Dolenjske Toplice gets its own website



The Early Iron Age complex of Cvinger near Dolenjske Toplice is one of the most important sites of its kind in the south-eastern Alpine region. Located at its centre is the fortified hilltop settlement surrounded by three burial mound cemeteries. The iron-smelting area, however, represents the most important part of the complex, given that it extends over 0.6 ha and is the largest and best researched in the region.

Cvinger has witnessed a long history of archaeological research: while the earliest campaigns date back into the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the site has been a subject of several recent research projects. Significantly, Cvinger was the first Iron Age site in Slovenia to be equipped with an archaeological trail. The latter runs across all the site's main sections and includes a number of information boards, which described the whole site in great detail. As part of the Iron-Age-Danube Project (Interreg DTP), the archaeological trail was renewed and further extended in 2019. In addition, it was also made accessible via a mobile phone guide (search: GUIDE@HAND, Cvinger). Due to a strong local initiative, Cvinger became even more easily accessible — namely as one of the first Early Iron Age sites in Slovenia with its own website since 2020. The website contains a wide range of information on the Cvinger complex and a number of accompanying figures and illustrations, as well as the entire bibliography on the site which is available for a download (cvinger.net). Whilst currently available in Slovenian only, the website will be translated to English in the near future.

M. Č., M. P.

## New publication on the Cult Wagon from Strettweg from Strettweg

170 years ago, in a field north of Strettweg near Judenburg (Austria, Styria), the farmer Ferdinand Pfeffer came across a massive accumulation of stones where he collected a large number of fragmented bronze and iron objects. It took scholars a few months to fully comprehend the importance of the find. It is astonishing that the find spot of the “Cult Wagon of Strettweg”, one of Austria's most famous prehistoric finds, had been forgotten for more than 150 years, while the international prestige of the object had grown beyond all expectations. A new publication by Robert Fürhacker and Daniel Modl titled “The Cult Wagon from Strettweg — an object biography” gathers and analyses all historic documents and pictorial sources on the discovery, restoration and presentation of this absolute highlight of European archaeology. Beyond the review of historic documents, the publication offers a unique insight on the impact and perception of the object in the modern era. The book, available in museum stores in Graz und Judenburg as well as via the Phoibos Verlag, accompanies the new exhibition presented at the Museum Murtal titled “The Cult Wagon from Strettweg — restoration and reception of an archaeological icon”.

M. M., D. M.



# IRON AGE

An aerial photograph of an archaeological site. The ground is dark brown soil, and several rectangular stone foundations are visible. The stones are light-colored and arranged in a grid-like pattern, indicating the remains of early Iron Age buildings. The perspective is from a high angle, looking down on the site.

Site Pungrt Hill,  
Early Iron Age buildings  
running parallel to  
the rampart and  
the hallway beside it.  
© Arhej d. o. o. / N. Ciglar



# STORIES

by Petra Vojaković  
Matija Črešnar

RECENT EXCAVATIONS  
ON THE PUNGRT HILL  
NEAR IG (SLOVENIA)  
REVEAL AN ASTONISHING  
NEW DISCOVERY —  
AN EARLY IRON AGE  
PROTO-URBAN HILLFORT  
ON THE OUTSKIRTS  
OF LJUBLJANA

# PUNGRT HILL



## — ASTONISHING NEW DISCOVERY

Early Iron Age rampart  
during the excavation and  
documentation thereof.  
© Arhej d.o.o./N. Ciglar

THE PUNGRT HILL (366 m) rises above the small town of Ig, hardly 10 km to the southwest of the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana. As part of the north-eastern edge of the Krimsko-Mokrško range, it overlooks the southern edges of the extensive Ljubljansko barje (the Ljubljana marshes). In 2020, one of the most important discoveries of the recent years was made atop the hill: during development-led archaeological excavations, which will continue on the site in 2021, a proto-urban hillfort was discovered.

There are numerous archaeological sites with a long research history at Ig and in its surroundings, the most significant of which are the UNESCO World heritage pile dwelling sites. However, prior to the recent discovery, the existence of an Early Iron Age hillfort at Pungrt was only presumed on the basis of the topographical features of the hill. Meanwhile, Roman literary sources indicated that a port for shifting cargo developed in the marshy area at the north-eastern foot of the hill, during the Late Iron Age. Little is also known to date about the Roman Period settlement so far, however, it has been given great historical importance. In contrast to the tombstones from the Roman colony of Emona (Ljubljana) more than one hundred Roman Period tombstones from Ig reveal the presence of a local population without Roman citizenship.

Until now, only the Roman tombstones and a few Roman literary sources provided limited information about the lifeways and cultural affiliation of this local population. The Roman historian Strabo mentions, for example, that nearby Nauportus, located on the western edge of the Ljubljansko barje, less than 20 km from Ig, was founded as a village of the Celtic Taurisci, who came into this area relatively late, i.e. not before the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC (during the Late Iron Age). In contrast to Nauportus, the personal names on the tombstones from Ig reveal that the Celtic newcomers had no significant impact on the local communi-

ty, which retained their “pre-Celtic” names well into the Roman period. The origin of these names can most likely be traced back to at least the Early Iron Age when the Pungrt hillfort would have held an important position within the wider cultural landscape. At the time, the proto-urban settlement was located at the crossroads of the three distinct Hallstatt period cultural groups, namely the Dolenjska, Gorenjska and Notranjska groups, each of which had their distinct characteristics and burial rites.

During the recent excavations, an extensive area of 5500 m<sup>2</sup> of the hillfort interior was unearthed, representing the largest contiguously excavated area of any hillfort site in Slovenia. Considering the scale of the excavation campaign and excellent preservation of the unearthed archaeological remains, it comes as no surprise that Pungrt has attracted the attention of both experts and the wider public since the of fieldwork started.

The preliminary results have shown this was a multi-period settlement, first settled at the beginning of the Early Iron Age (late 9<sup>th</sup>/early 8<sup>th</sup> century BC) and finally abandoned in the Roman Period (2<sup>nd</sup> century AD).

The remains of the Early Iron Age occupation at Pungrt are arguably the most striking. At the time, the site was surrounded by a monumental rampart, which can be clearly seen in the hill’s relief. The current excavations have revealed that it was designed as a multiphase stone rampart with corresponding outer embankments. Along its inner side ran a wide path, the so-called “hallway”. In the Early Hallstatt period (9<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> century BC) the area next to it was utilised for various economic activities. The residential buildings were probably located somewhat upslope.

At the beginning of the Late Hallstatt period (6<sup>th</sup> century BC), the settlement underwent several changes. A new, mightier rampart was built over the old one and a series of regularly arranged wooden buildings with



Figural fibula with horse head, dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC.  
© Arhej d.o.o./P.Vojaković

stone foundations (ca. 6×10 m) were built next to it. Narrow streets were perpendicular to the hallway and ran upslope between the buildings, while the hillslope was reshaped into smaller terraces on which various buildings would have stood. Further up the slope, near the top of the hill, an embankment of stone and earth ran across the slope, with a paved path parallel to it. The occupation of the lower and upper terraces continued into the Late Iron Age and the Roman Period (1<sup>st</sup> century BC–2<sup>nd</sup> century AD).

The orthogonal layout of buildings, streets and roads make Pungrt the first fortified Early Iron Age hilltop settlement with a documented proto-urban design in Slovenia. Significantly, the site is one of the most important archaeological discoveries in Slovenia in recent years, and we aim to continue our research within a scientific project that will reveal the wealth of information, which this extraordinary site holds.

Stone mould confirming bronze casting activity at Pungart.  
© Arhej d.o.o./P.Vojaković

# VALLEY OF THE IRON AGE PRINCES



Graeco-Illyrian helmet from the princely tumulus IV from the Kaptol-Čemernica cemetery. © AMZ/I. Krajcár

The large Iron Age complex near the village of Kaptol in Slavonia (Croatia) is one of the most prominent centres of the Eastern Hallstatt circle between the 8<sup>th</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC. It consists of a large fortified settlement and two tumuli cemeteries.

The princes from Kaptol were primarily warriors. Their power and glory were also reflected in their weaponry. The complete warrior equipment consisted of 2–3 iron spears, battle axes, a knife and horse equipment, which is characteristic for the classical Hallstatt period (8<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> century BC). The grave goods of the Kaptol princes also included prestigious weaponry and other exotic artefacts imported from distant places such as whetstones/sceptres with decorated bronze handles from the Balkans or horse equipment made according to the prototypes from the Pontic-Caucasian area. However, the most important finds are pieces of Greek defensive weaponry: the Greek-Illyrian helmet, the Corinthian helmet, and a pair of greaves. The fact that these objects are by far the northernmost finds of their kind in Europe highlights the unique position of this site in the communication network of the European Early Iron Age.

Most of the graves also contain a wide variety of ceramic vessels, some of which were used as urns. Unique shapes and exquisite

decoration of the pottery discovered at Kaptol make it one of the most original groups of this period in Central Europe. The askos with a bull-shaped handle and a pair of pottery tripods reflect the distant world of Mediterranean concepts embodied in a strong autochthonous form, making them exceptional works of art. The urns with bull-head decoration are by all means the most famous and beautiful type of pottery in Kaptol. Most of the fine pottery is coated with graphite, which gives them a special metallic sheen. One of the important sources of wealth and power for the princes of Kaptol must have been graphite mining.

Tumulus 6 was the largest burial mound on the northern necropolis, called Gradca. It contained the richest Iron Age grave discovered in Croatia so far. Numerous finds were discovered in the central grave. The most important among them are two pairs of iron axes, five iron spearheads, two sets of horse gear with iron bits and bronze strap separators, a bronze and an iron sword, a belt with iron and bronze elements, a whetstone, and a bronze situla. The situla contained a large number of metal objects, as well as bronze phalerae, that most probably belonged to two bowl-shaped helmets. In addition to the metal objects, the grave chamber also contained nearly thirty different ceramic vessels. The most interesting among them are pots decorated with tin and bronze foil. It could be that this is a double princely grave, which would be a unique case in the Hallstatt area.

The second largest tumulus 12 contained a woman's grave with extremely rich finds, including a miniature ivory figure of a horse and horseman, probably ornament on a fibula imported from Italy, and 16 loom weights. This woman of high social status played an important role in the Kaptol community, perhaps related to religion and cult practises.

Preliminary investigations of the Kaptol hillfort which is located north of Gradca necropolis suggest that the hillfort may have been continuously settled through the Late Hall-



# IN

# NORTHERN CROATIA

statt and the Early La Tène periods. Geophysical surveys revealed an astonishing regular raster of buildings and streets that resembles an urban layout, which is extremely rare in Central Europe around 500 BC!

Numerous finds illustrate the great importance of the Hallstatt centre at Kaptol in the communication network that connected highly developed cultural and production centres in Greece and Italy with the wealthy seats of Hallstatt princes in Central Europe. Large and prosperous settlement with long continuity and rich grave goods in elite burials, including exclusive and prestigious goods from distant areas, indicate an immense scientific and cultural potential of this site, which could become one of the most important sites in the overall picture of the cultural and historical development of this region of Europe in the Early Iron Age!

The finds from the Čemernica necropolis are exhibited and kept in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, while the finds from the Gradca site are a part of the permanent exhibition in the Municipal Museum in Požega.

ABOVE  
Documentation of the large stone built central burial chamber with an access corridor, i.e. dromos, of the tumulus XI from the Kaptol-Čemernica cemetery.  
© M. Vuković

LEFT  
Kernos, a possible ritual vessel, from the tumulus 2 from the Kaptol-Gradca cemetery.  
© GMP/I. Krajcar







# THE MAKING OF

THE MUNICIPALITY OF GROSSKLEIN in South Styria, Austria, is home to one of the most remarkable Iron Age landscapes in Europe. With around 600 Hallstatt period tumuli still visible, which can be discovered in the forests around the hilltop settlement on top of the so-called Burgstallkogel, the region represents a unique historical treasure of Austria. 150 years of scientific research provided data from over 100 tumuli and the settlement, which have resulted in a series of high calibre publications, making the site a magnet for archaeologists. The four princely tumuli in the village of Kleinklein preserved some of the most prominent finds — e.g. the bronze mask and bronze hands, bronze armour and various weapons, as well as decorated bronze vessels — over millennia and are now highlights of the archaeological collection of the Universalmuseum Joanneum at Castle Eggenberg in Graz.

The bronze armour and helmet were equipment exclusive to the Iron Age elite.  
© UMJ/N. Lackner

Most intriguing amongst these objects, are the bronze mask and hands from the so-called Kröllkogel tumulus. The Kröllkogel had been an enormous tumulus, covering a stone chamber of 8x8 m with a dromos (stone paved entrance) of ca. 10 m length, and has been dated to the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. The mask was made from a single sheet of bronze in repoussé (paddle-and-anvil) technique; the ears were attached with rivets. Eyes, nose and mouth are depicted schematically; a “crown” or a “head band” is depicted on the forehead. Nails at the rim suggest that the mask was likely to have been attached to a wooden support such as a small statue. The hands, also made from sheet bronze, show rich decorations in punched and engraved techniques. The depiction of the finger nails implies that these are two left hands.

The Municipality of Großklein has just round 2,300 inhabitants. Nevertheless, they are investing remarkable resources into the protection and presentation of this unique heritage. In addition to the phenomenal landscape, visitors of Großklein can visit a small museum, which was opened in 1990 and consisted of two rooms. Between 1999 and early 2003, the building, formerly a stable, was enlarged, and since then the museum had three exhibition rooms with the converted attic used for special exhibitions. In 2003, the permanent exhibition was redesigned, and in cooperation with VIAS Vienna the Hallstatt period village on the Burgstallkogel was built.

The new roofing of the forecourt announces the most recent changes in the museum in Großklein from afar. Not only the building itself, but also exhibition provides new surprises. In cooperation with the Universalmuseum Joanneum, the permanent exhibition was completely redesigned in 2019 as part of the EU project PalaeoDiversiStyria (“The paleolandscape of Styria and its biodiversity from prehistory to the discovery of the New World”) and the information centre for the HERITERRA brand was established. This created a unique meeting place of past and future, archaeology and tourism.

In the foyer of the museum, the new cross-border brand HERITERRA is presented. The name consists of the English word “heritage” and the Latin word for earth — “terra”. The slogan of the brand is “Nature to human and back”. It represents products developed on the basis of archaeological and archaeobotanical research, with a strong link to the local archaeological heritage. The process of developing the pilot products was not easy, since local producers had to partly develop new production processes in coopera-



The entrance area of the hamuG.  
© UMJ/M. Mele

tion with experts, who provided the archaeological knowledge — “Beer without hops just ain’t beer!” With the opening of the information room, the museum can now offer support also to Styrian companies that are interested in helping to develop products under the new brand.

Großklein’s history is presented in three newly designed rooms on the ground floor of the museum. The archaeological finds, on loan from the Universalmuseum Joanneum, tell more than just stories about the world-famous Hallstatt period settlement on the Burgstallkogel with the surrounding tumuli, but also convey the latest archaeological finds from the Neolithic and Roman periods as well as the Early Middle Ages. In an adjacent multimedia room, the changes of the landscape over the millennia are brought to the fore. The unique finds complement the multimedia range of the museum.

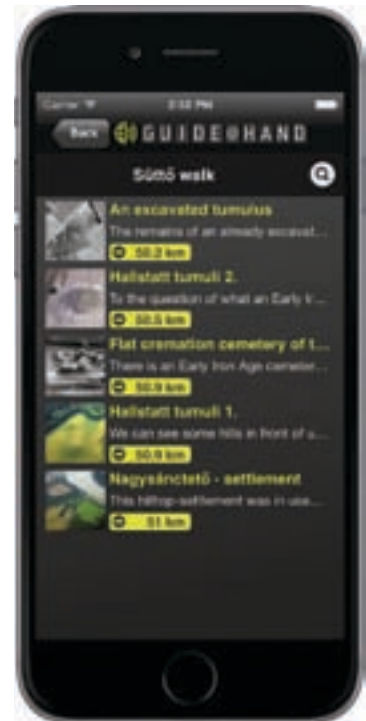
However, the museum does not only present itself with new highlights but also a new name. The municipality of Großklein opened a public call for new name prior to the reopening of the museum — the result is hamuG (Hallstattzeitliches Museum Großklein), short, unique and modern (hamug.at).

# HAMUG



World famous bronze mask and hands found in Kleinlein (municipality Großklein) are national archaeological treasures, symbol of the unique Iron Age heritage of the region and part of the hamuG logo.  
© UMJ/N. Lackner

# IRON AGE



# OUR HAND

by Szabolcs Czifra  
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Zsolt László Márkus  
Zsolt Weisz Miklós Veres  
Tibor Szkaliczki  
György Szántó

## THE IRON-AGE-DANUBE GUIDE@HAND SMARTPHONE APP

# IN



HUMAN CURIOSITY has long been attracted by ancient cultures. But for academic researchers, it is not easy to interpret and visualize the past for the wider public. The appearance of digital devices not only powered archaeological investigations but quickly became popular and primary instruments to portray cultural heritage remains. The smartphone application is a straightforward solution to link the digital generation to local inhabitants and cultural offers, as the tool is already at the disposal of the visitors. Also, this is the easiest and fastest up-to-date source of information. Unlike traditional exhibitions, publications or information boards, such an application can be upgraded at any time in case new information, data, documents, or any other visual content is produced on the subject. Last but not least, there is no need for technical experts to upload the contents, as customers are given access to manage the database.

GUIDE@HAND is a multiplatform (smartphone, web) application family, which is based on RTD work carried out at the Institute for Computer Science and Control of Hungary (SZTAKI) in the early 2000s. As a new member of the family, the Iron-Age-Danube GUIDE@HAND smartphone application operates with a wide variety of interactive multimedia items on smartphones to bring the ancient times closer to the users. At the moment, it covers four countries and transfers knowledge about the past in an attractive, adventurous and entertaining way. The great advantage of the application is that it can also provide information about archaeological landscapes on-site. In addition, users can access information through their own devices (smartphones or tablets), therefore there is no need to invest in equipment nor to learn the usage of an extra device. Furthermore, as contents can be downloaded in advance, the visitors do not need on-site internet access. We aimed to create a multilingual application to present the Iron Age heritage on smartphones and tablets for national, regional and international visitors. Accordingly, the application provides all content in English, but information is also available in Croatian, German, Hungarian and Slovenian. The application is available on iOS and Android platforms and facilitates both offline and online interactive maps. It aims at enabling the visitors to change their perception of new or familiar locations, objects and motives and explore the past and present of an area in an entertaining and profitable way.

The main menu of the application contains the following items:

- The “Map” function provides interactive maps on the regions selected for the application.
- The “Routes” function presents content packages called “walks” including places of interest in an area.
- The “Regions” function enlists the regions presented in the application. After selecting an item, the description and the places of interest of a certain region can be viewed.
- The “Best of IADR” function contains some highlighted contents and services from the application.
- The “Playground” function contains games related to the project content.
- The “Projects” function provides general information on the current projects.

The application also contains further special multimedia contents, including 3D images, videos and panorama pictures. The panorama pictures provide an attractive and informative way to familiarize cultural heritage sites with a wider public. Visitors can look around virtually in the presented environment and explore details without actually visiting the site. The eLearning Department of SZTAKI has created a new service to present, to virtually walk around and to interactively explore real spaces and special environments. High-resolution 360° panorama pictures are taken of the target spaces. The panorama pictures can be nested together to accommodate the virtual walk whereas an interactive map can facilitate the orientation. The movement between the locations and the interaction within a target is determined by the control facilities of the applied device. Highly elaborated panorama pictures taken in the Archaeological Park in Százhalombatta (Hungary) can also be found in the application. The content for the panorama pictures was created and published by using the Multiplatform-based Content Development System for Content Management and Presentation.

This smart device solution offers easy and wide access to the Iron Age heritage and is best suited to the present-day experience-oriented tourism approach.

For further information and help to download the application visit the website: [www.guideathand.com](http://www.guideathand.com)

by Anja Vintar  
Matija Črešnar  
Marko Mele

# HERITERRA

— NATURE

TO  
HUMAN



ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE can be an inexhaustible source of knowledge and inspiration, as demonstrated by the transnational PalaeoDiversiStyria project (Interreg SI-AT) which examined archaeological traces of agriculture and cultural landscapes in north-eastern Slovenia and Austrian Styria, from the Neolithic Period to the Middle Ages. Within the project, we combined the results of state-of-the-art archaeological research with the knowledge of botanists and food experts whilst taking into the account needs and capacities of local farmers and other regional tourism providers, in order to develop new, fresh tourism products that were brought together under the auspices of Heriterra tourism brand.

## **Archaeological research as a firm foundation**

A mention of archaeology catches people's attention and gets their eyes to sparkle. While most people are intrigued by mummies in mysterious Egyptian pyramids, much-loved movie heroes or the gold riches of ancient Americas, many also actively follow regular archaeological excavations and/or visit various archaeological exhibitions in different museums. Archaeological excavations and curation of cultural heritage are, in fact, two archaeological activities with the longest tradition: generations of researchers and curators have systematically pursued them since the birth of archaeology more than 150 years ago. Over the course of that period, archaeology has become, due to the technological advances and the development of new research methods, one of the most exciting modern scientific disciplines. Indeed, today's archaeological science has opened a new chapter, as methods and techniques from natural sciences are employed to uncover numerous fascinating details from the distant past.

An important direction in the development of archaeological research can be seen in the introduction of the so-called remote sensing methods, such as airborne laser scanning, and archaeological geophysics. By including these methods, archaeological research is no longer focused solely on individual archaeological sites such as settlements or cemeteries. Rather,



## TRADITIONS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM THE VERY DISTANT PAST, USED TODAY AND TOMORROW

they suffered from deficiencies, and so forth. Given that usually no recipes and operational sequences for vessels, metal, stone or wooden tools and various dishes etc., have been preserved, experimental archaeology has undertaken a task of recovering this long-forgotten knowledge.

### Things from the past becoming things of the future: the Heriterra brand

Oftentimes, archaeological data and archaeological knowledge, even if derived from multi-disciplinary analysis, cannot constitute an attractive and marketable tourist product. However, when brought back to life with the help of a traditional craftsmanship, the two have the potential to become an important part of sustainable tourism strategy: when archaeological heritage unfolds its true flavour, when it gains taste and is served on a wooden board or in a traditionally designed “historic” ceramic dish, it comes back to life. One might even argue that not only is the way to a person’s heart through their stomach, but also their way to cultural heritage.

it operates across and examines the entire cultural landscapes, across which people in the past gathered foods, farmed, utilised various natural resources, travelled, and so on.

Another direction in which archaeology is developing in a “fast forward mode” is made possible by the variety of analytical methods applied to the discovered objects and known under the umbrella term “archaeometry”. By examining charred archaeological remains from hearths or preserved building remains, for example, we are now able to determine what raw materials were used in building construction or tool production. Similarly, we are able to reconstruct various foods from the past. By analysing pottery, for instance, we are able to determine what type of clay the vessels were made of, and even what was stored, cooked, and served in them. Human bone remains also provide information about what dietary habits people had in the distant past, what diseases plagued them or whether

The enchantment with cultural heritage becomes possible through a multi-sensorial engagement — when visitor learns, for example, that people were already cultivating einkorn in the Neolithic Period, and then participates in making and tasting such einkorn bread. Within the PalaeoDiversiStyria project, we devised a number of such multi-sensorial engagements based on a number of select prehistoric and Roman period artefacts and foods from the region, including wonderful metal knives and spits for roasting meat of wild and domesticated animals from the later prehistory and elaborate Roman-period jewellery, as well as pine nuts, dates and pomegranates which reached these lands over two thousand years ago.

The story of the Heriterra brand which merges sustainable agriculture with traditional craftsmanship and archaeological knowledge with the aim to preserve and revive these distinct forms of cultural heritage has only just begun. Increasing numbers of new providers are joining in, with their products ranging from various foods and beverages to a number of traditional craft objects. In this way, the brand intertwines archaeological and wider cultural heritage with a high quality sustainable products — a requirement for a conscientious tourism that will only grow in the future. Although created at a regional level, Heriterra aims to be a pan-European brand that will link past, present and future and help archaeological heritage to anchor itself even deeper in the very heart of European cultural tourism.

# AND BACK

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING PART OF HERITERRA BRAND?

Do you practise traditional crafts, are you a provider of local, organically raised animals or crops, etc.? Or do you just want to give yourself and your family a sense (or taste) of the past? Then visit our website <http://www.heriterra.eu>

Consult the brand guidelines in the Heriterra Brandbook [http://www.heriterra.eu/download/brandbook\\_HERITERRA.pdf](http://www.heriterra.eu/download/brandbook_HERITERRA.pdf) and contact us [heriterra@museum-joanneum.at](mailto:heriterra@museum-joanneum.at)





# IRON

TIRED OF THE  
EVER-CHANGING  
FOOD TRENDS, RULES,  
AND HACKS?  
IT'S TIME FOR  
SOMETHING  
DIFFERENT!  
TRAVEL BACK  
IN TIME AND  
TRY IRON AGE  
CUISINE!  
IT IS SIMPLE,  
NATURAL,  
AND ADAPTABLE  
TO EVERY DIET.

# AGE

by Ana Đukić

AS SUMMER APPROACHES, we are being bombarded with innumerable new food trends, health crazes and weight loss ideas, all of them promising to get us into our new and improved (no-Photoshop-needed) bodies. As you sit there struggling through your third celery-juice-only day, or as you walk around, averting your gaze from the ice-cream shop to prevent the “bad” calories from somehow magically entering your system, why not stop worrying about the future and look back to how our ancestors did it? In the following, we will explore what was eaten in Iron Age Europe and how you can, for a change, bring something old, rather than new, to your table.

During the Early Iron Age (800–400 BC), the Požega Valley in Croatia, with its complex system of hillfort settlements and accompanying graveyards, was one of the most developed regions in southeastern Europe. In addition to ongoing systematic archaeological research that is being conducted there, the site of Kaptol was also included into the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube project financed by the European Union, which included institutions from Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Croatia. In addition to scientific research, the project heavily focused on the popularization of archaeology, which was achieved through the realization of open archaeological camps with numerous workshops, lectures and other activities that could be attended by virtually anyone. →

# COOKING



## WHEAT FLAT CAKES

### Ingredients:

- 0.25 kg of wheat flour
- 0.25 kg of integral flour
- 1 egg
- 2 dl of water
- a teaspoon of salt

Prep time: about 30 min

Serves: 6–8 people

Mix all of the ingredients and knead them into dough that is not sticky, but soft and pliable. Cover the mixture with a damp cloth and let it rest for about half an hour. Divide the dough into balls of equal size and stretch each one into a “flat cake”. Bake the cakes for about 15 minutes on each side on the surface of a heated stone slab (a regular pizza stone is a great substitute), until they become slightly puffy and crispy.

In the workshop, the cakes were served with baked pork liver and apples as an entrée, but also as a dessert, combined with honey and crushed hazelnuts.

Let your imagination run wild and serve these with anything your family and friends might enjoy — guacamole and mixed veggies for your vegan, fried eggs for your vegetarian, smoked fish for your pescaterian, or any kind of meat for your carnivore friends. For a quick, healthy snack, simply top them with maple syrup and nuts.

For more delicious Iron Age recipes:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/iron-age-danube/outputs?page=1>



One such workshop was held at the “Stari fenjeri” restaurant, not far from the aforementioned archaeological sites, where a group of archaeologists and local enthusiasts tried to reconstruct Early Iron Age diet based on data obtained by zooarchaeological and archaeobotanical analyses of finds discovered in Iron Age graves from one of the most significant Early Iron Age sites on the territory of Croatia: Kaptol near Požega. Through the workshop, the participants tried to create an Early Iron Age menu in a fun experimental way.

The preparations included the study of the paleobotanical and paleozoological remains collected from 17 graves, which revealed a multitude of plant and animal species that were buried alongside the deceased. Plant species were preserved in the form of carbonized seeds, while animal remains include bones. The most commonly recovered plant remains include cereals such as wheat, barley, rye, millet and foxtail millet, followed by the fruit of wild plants — hazelnuts, wild apples, black elder, Cornelian cherry, blackberry, and the like. The deceased were also given animal meat, such as beef, pork, mutton, goat, and venison.

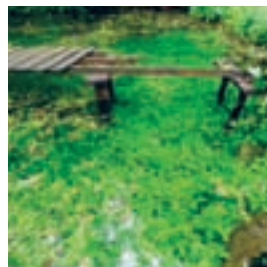
After weeks of preparation, our grocery list was ready: wheat flour, integral flour, flaxseeds, yeast, chives, basil, nettles, wild apples, hazelnuts, eggs, honey, broad beans, barley, millet, oats, oat bran, meadow mushrooms, black pig bacon, pork liver, pork neck, pork belly, and trout.

Apart from the ingredients, the participants also studied various cooking techniques used during the Early Iron Age in order to reconstruct the menu as authentically as possible. Chicken eggs were used because it was impossible to obtain quail or eggs of other wild species. To add natural sweetness, downy oak honey, obtained in the vicinity of the workshop location, was used. It was decided that the food would be cooked in metal kettles, baked on heated stones, under a baking lid, roasted over an open fire, and smoked. The menu was created by all of the participants whose suggestions and ideas encouraged the “cooks” to try out some really interesting dishes and cooking techniques, such as:

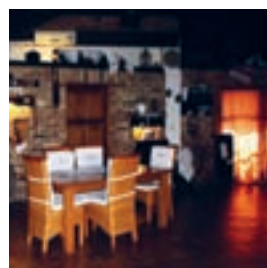
- Barley porridge with wild nettles (in a kettle),
- Broad bean, millet and wild nettle porridge with bacon (in a kettle),
- Wheat bread with flaxseed and spices (under a baking lid),
- Meadow mushrooms with bacon and eggs (under a baking lid),
- Smoked trout,
- Pork liver with wild apples and herbs, served with flatbread (baked on a stone slab),
- Pork belly coated in honey (baked on a stone slab),
- Pork neck (roasted over an open fire).

If any of these dishes sparked your interest or made your mouth water, try something new and fun that you can share with your family and friends. We encourage you to experiment in your kitchen and prepare the following simple recipe that everyone can enjoy and combine with whatever they like. ■





Old lanterns restaurant  
**Krčma Stari fenjeri**  
 Turnić 2a, HR-34000 Požega, Croatia  
[www.stari-fenjeri.com](http://www.stari-fenjeri.com)  
[info@stari-fenjeri.com](mailto:info@stari-fenjeri.com)  
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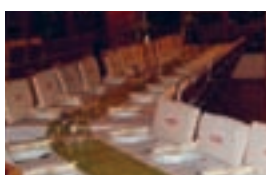
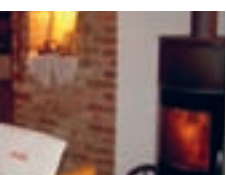


Among many specialties from the local cuisine, guests can pre-order an authentic Early Iron Age menu.



The dishes served are prepared outdoors and made from the ingredients that were used during the Early Iron Age on the site Kaptol, as archaeological excavations have confirmed.

Be sure to contact us and see for yourself the unique experience provided by the restaurant Old Lanterns / Stari fenjeri.



TOURISTIC CENTRE AND ECOLOGICAL FARM

## **PRI BARONU**

and the Uranjek family

As a partner of the Heriterra brand, the eco-farm organizes, among other events, a **popular archaeological and culinary program**, available both for an evening or for a whole day.

A day/evening program for a group includes a welcome elixir for long life and a short tour at the farm. This is followed by a presentation of the Heriterra brand, accompanied by a musical program (by ethno vocal group *ZALE*). A **bread baking workshop** is also part of the program, during which authentic **Stone Age or Iron Age bread** is baked on a hot stone and various spreads are prepared from wild plants. Finally, participants enjoy a **historical tasting menu** with orange wines from the Valentan organic farm.

If you would like to visit us, please let us know in advance, because all food is **homemade and freshly prepared** daily.



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[www.pribaronu.si](http://www.pribaronu.si)

### WORKING HOURS

Mon – Fri: (groups only)  
Sat-Sun: 12.00 – 22.00



# IRON





AGE

YOUTH



by Ana Đukić

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENCOUNTERS

— A FUN WAY TO GET YOUR KIDS



MODERN TECHNOLOGY influences most of us on a daily basis, whether we are talking about computers, phones or just sitting down in front of the TV after a hard day at work. Studies have shown that most parents are worried about how much “screen time” their kids get, especially since most lectures and schooling these days are being carried out online due to the pandemic. Luckily, the Archaeological museum in Zagreb has been working on one possible solution since 2014 through the “Archaeological encounters” programme — developed especially for school children, regardless of location.

The basic idea is to get your kid’s mind away from influencers and fads, and to get them interested in their heritage through a series of events organized at their school. They get to learn all about archaeology, become excavators, curators, exhibition authors, as well as, perhaps most importantly, learn about their local heritage and how they can help preserve it for the future and why such things are important. Our teams help lead the kids from the new to the old in a few simple steps.

Each Encounter starts with an introductory lecture about archaeology as a science — what it is, what is the difference between archaeology and history, what are archaeological sites, how you find one and what do you do once you’ve made the discovery. Besides the obvious allure of fantastic scientific discoveries from all around the world, this is where we get them to see themselves as the next Indiana Jones or Lara Croft, and get them thinking about all the wonders of their region that they could explore.

The Encounters then move up a level and spark the kid’s imagination through a series of workshops based on a hands-on approach. The kids get to learn as they play and create something they can take home to show off to their friends and family. Designing and painting your own textile shopping bag or equipping an Iron Age warrior for battle sure sounds like something fun (and not only for the kids). For those with more scientific minds, we offer a hand-held scanner they can use to make 3D models of archaeological finds (or, quite often, their classmates). This is also where the whole thing starts looking like regular school again — they get homework. — What? — Yes! They get to make a poster or a sculpture that represents a heritage site in their region or a local tradition that they like. Their creations then get digitalized and printed so they could become a part of an actual exhibition displayed at the Museum.

The Encounters are accompanied by a small temporary exhibition (11 informative posters) about archaeology that gets displayed at their school (their classroom or a common area used by other students as well). As the kids go through the programme, they learn quite a lot about methodology, technology used by archaeologists and the value of heritage and archaeological finds. The best part is that they get to present their knowledge to fellow students, friends and families as exhibition curators (let’s face it — what kid doesn’t enjoy teaching their parents something?).

Seeing as one of the aims of the programme is to get the kids up and about, they get to be archaeologists for a day, usually with the help of our portable archaeological “trench”. This is where they get to apply their knowledge through excavating and actually documenting whatever they find (no worries there either, the finds are replicas made of plaster). After excavating the trench, the kids get to describe the entire process, the “archaeological” context and the finds. The finds are then photographed and drawn by the kids, just like they would be at the Museum. What especially gets them moving is when they realize that the finds are actually fragments of the same “ceramic” vessels, and that they get to piece together the puzzle and prepare it for an exhibition. When possible, depending on where Museum teams are excavating at the time, the kids get to go to an actual archaeological site and participate in real excavations. We’ve had quite a few memorable teams of “little archaeologists” across the country — from Đakovo, Beli Manstir, Kaptol and Požega in eastern Croatia, to Sisak in central Croatia. In cases where there are no ongoing excavations, the kids are taken to the nearest heritage site — we’ve visited numerous medieval castles, monasteries, as well as local museums and galleries.

At this point you might be thinking: “OK, you gave my kid a fun experience over the last few days, but how do I keep their attention away from the screen?”. Well, other than giving the kids a few lectures and moving on to a different school in a different region, the main goal of the Archaeological Encounters project is to, essentially, become a part of the national educational programme. The first step in this process is described above. The second step is the creation of Archaeological sections — groups of kids that would, with the help of their teachers and Museum employees, continue to execute the programme both

at their schools, and at heritage sites in the vicinity, possibly even beyond. These extra-curricular groups and their activities are a way great way to pave the road for heritage-related education to become a larger part of the country’s education system.

The programme is very flexible, in the sense that only the introductory lecture and the poster exhibition are the same everywhere, while all other components can be adapted to the region’s conventions, local traditions and heritage-related institutions, thereby creating a network of new heritage-related, inspired, and inspiring, groups of young people. One of our most successful examples of executing the programme was part of the Interreg Iron-Age-Danube Project — an archaeological camp was held in the vicinity of Kaptol in September and October, 2017. Pupils from the local primary school got to experience our lectures, participate in workshops, make their own “souvenirs”, visit the nearby medieval site of Rudine, practice archaeological methodology in their school yard, and even take part in actual excavations conducted at Kaptol.

## AWAY

## FROM GADGETS

If you care about increasing public awareness about heritage and putting trust back into science and technology, as well as encouraging active forms of learning through explorative activities, or if you just want to help kids develop a critical point of view through Archaeological Encounters, consider checking us out at: <https://www.amz.hr/hr/edukacija/arheoloski-susreti-za-skole/>



**WHEN  
I AM  
GROWN UP,**

**I WANT  
TO BE**

**AN**

**ARCHAEOLOGIST**

MOST KIDS AROUND THE WORLD love to play in a sandbox or the garden swinging their small shovels and cans. So did I, and so does my son. But what happens once they get a bit older? They often just forget this feeling of dirty hands, shoes full of sand, a huge pile of soil where it should not be and small discoveries from funny stones to long worms. But, some of them never forget and they might become archaeologists!

The reality of archaeological work is far different from the imagination of a kid with a shovel. Therefore, the Iron Age Danube eLearning App was developed. Within the framework of the Interreg Danube Transnational project MONUMENTALIZED EARLY IRON AGE LANDSCAPES IN THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN (Iron-Age-Danube), we decided to offer a way for kids (and adults) to experience the work of an archaeologist in a playful way and to get involved with archaeological heritage. The App guides the user through different stages of archaeological work from research in archives, via prospections, excavations and restoration work to museum display. Both the learning and the play setting are available in 5 languages (Croatian, English, German, Hungarian, Slovenian). A digital experience worth trying!

Find it on Google Play and Apple Store.



AT THE BEGINNING there was a discussion among colleagues that the Iron-Age-Danube Project could use a mascot for its social media activities and events. It could, especially to younger visitors, mediate the contents of the project and the Early Iron Age (early Hallstatt period) of the 8<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> century BC in the Danube region or the so-called East-Hallstatt-circle/region. What initially sounded as a simple idea could not be so easily implemented. On the one hand, it had to be something that was equally characteristic of the Early Iron Age in all of the regions involved in the project. On the other hand, something had to be found that would visually appeal to a younger audience and be as gender-neutral as possible, as a figurative character or “living object”. The options for a figurative character were limited since the Early Iron Age in the Danube region as an epoch had only a few pictorial or figurative representations in its material culture. Some characteristic representations, such as those on the so-called situlae (vessels made of hammered bronze sheet with embossed or punched decorations), occur only regionally to a limited extent. However, the so-called bull’s head vessels or vessels with bull’s head protomes belong to the figural representations that can be found in most parts of the East-Hallstatt region. These are striking vessels that were discovered as grave goods in chambers under Early Iron Age burial mounds. They have a characteristic red color and graphite painting with geometric patterns in the form of rhombuses, concentric and hatched triangles as well as false and real meanders. In addition, single, double or triple protomes (rarely more) in the form of bulls’ heads were attached to them, which could have the function of a spout. It can no longer be determined today whether the vessels were of importance as a mixing vessel in the context of certain celebrations or drinking customs or whether they were used as ritual vessels for libation. Moreover, their occurrence in the graves and the unusual shape may suggest that they were not everyday objects. In addition, they usually come from particularly rich graves, which is a further indication that they were special vessels with a particular function and were not accessible to everyone. However, without written sources, one can only speculate about the presumably symbolic meaning of the bull in the East-Hallstatt region. Nonetheless it can be said with certainty that the Hallstatt period vessels with bull protomes are based on models from the Middle East, Greece and Italy. Bronze vessels, cauldrons, with protomes

in the form of griffins, big cats and bulls are known here from the 9<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> centuries BC in particular. We also know that the bull was a symbol of the weather god in the Middle East, while in Greek mythology the father of gods Zeus appeared to Europe, a mortal woman, in the form of a bull.

Having decided that a bull’s head protome vessel will be used as the basis for the Iron Age Danube mascot, the task was to find a suitable graphical representation. Different variants were drafted and discussed in the group, until a representation favored by the majority was finally selected. The name “Tomi” was given — a short form of the word protome. The mascot “Tomi” was initially introduced as a recurring and explanatory character in the children’s magazine “Iron Age Kids” published by the Iron-Age-Danube project. It was later used on other printed (promotional) materials such as posters, coloring pictures, information boards and T-shirts as well. In addition, “Tomi” was created as a 3D model in the ZBrush graphics programme and then printed and colored in two different sizes. The printed 3D models were also used at various promotional events of the project. Finally, “Tomi” also found its way into the e-learning app “Archaeology — History uncovered!” produced by the Iron-Age-Danube project, which can be downloaded from the Google Apps Store.

by Anja Hellmuth Kramberger

# TOMI

## THE IRON AGE DANUBE MASCOT



## Situlae Festival – the Festival of Iron Age Life and Culinary Arts

In the Early Iron Age (8<sup>th</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> century BC), when European civilization and culture emerged in the Mediterranean, Novo mesto was one of the largest centres in Central Europe. Among the most important finds from this period are situlae, the bronze vessels for storing and serving drinks, sometimes richly decorated with figures.

No less than 16 situlae come from Novo mesto and after these exceptional artistic creations, the town of Novo mesto is called the city of the Situlae. The Situlae Festival, a festival of Iron Age life and culinary arts organized since 2016 in cooperation with the Municipality of Novo mesto and Dolenjski muzej Novo mesto, is dedicated to these remarkable monuments, which undoubtedly testify to the life of the Hallstatt people in this region. With various activities, it offers visitors an all-day experience and understanding of the rich archaeological heritage of Dolenjska. At the Situlae Festival you can observe the elements of everyday life during the Early Iron Age in Dolenjska, learn about customs and watch local and foreign craftsmen performing handicrafts. You can take part in culinary workshops or watch animations of various martial arts and dances. You can also see reconstructions of attire. The central event highlights the prince and the princely family with their entourage. Everything you can see and taste is based on the results of experimental archaeology and numerous archaeological investigations at home and abroad. The celebration is enriched by a guided tour of the Museum's rich archaeological heritage and an evening concert with music with a touch of Iron Age.

Visit us on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in Novo mesto!

P.S.



## The Hallstatt Days

The Hallstatt Days is festival established to popularize Iron Age site of Kaptol and archaeology in general. It is organized in cooperation with the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, the Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, the Centre for Prehistoric Research, the Municipality of Kaptol, the Golden Papuk Tourist Board, and the Iron Age Danube Route Association. It is held as part of the European Archaeology Days (EAD) as event coorganized by the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA). It is also part of the Kaptol Municipality Day Programme which this year celebrates its 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



### PROGRAMME:

Day 1 (Municipal Hall, Kaptol)

19<sup>th</sup> June 2021

- 8 PM opening of the exhibition  
“Archaeology of Kaptol”
- 8.30 PM lectures by Hrvoje Potrebića  
(Department of Archaeology,  
Faculty of Humanities and Social  
Sciences, University of Zagreb)  
and Borut Križ (Dolenjski muzej,  
Novo mesto) —  
The Significance of the Iron Age  
Kaptol in the European Context

Day 2 (Vilim Korajac Square, Kaptol)

20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

- 6 PM visit of horsemen from  
the Equestrian Club  
Hrvatski Sokol Vukovje
- 6–8 PM guided tour along archaeological  
trail “In the Footsteps of Warriors:  
Iron Age in the Golden Valley”
- 6–6.30 PM Workshops “Kids of the Iron Age”  
(1<sup>st</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> grade of Primary School)
- 6.30–7.45 PM Archaeological Research Workshop  
(5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade of Primary School)
- 6.30–7.30 PM Iron Age Weaving Workshop  
(general public)
- 7–8 PM Hallstatt Food Workshop  
(general public)

J. B.

## Programs for children by the Hungarian National Museum

The museum pedagogists of the Hungarian National Museum create games based on real knowledge transfer and the museum’s collection to facilitate the time which schoolchildren spend studying in school and at home as well as to help teachers convey the Iron Age to pupils better.

Participate in the Iron Age group programmes for students!

For the youngest pupils (1<sup>st</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> class) we recommend the “In the Footsteps of Legends” programme where young researchers can learn about a dangerous and wonderful world through a two and a half thousand-year-old story. What did the Iron Age period look like on a weekday? What conquerors were here before us? How did they make their weapons? What can we find from the Iron Age?

For older schoolchildren (5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> class) we suggest the “In the Skin of Salt Lords, Scythians, and Celts” programme where they can slip into the skin of ancient peoples and experience the Iron Age themselves! Diligent salt lords, dangerous Scythians, and wise Celts: students can become explorers or historians, they can find out about Iron Age people based on the objects in the exhibition as well as through legends! Try the “The Sons of Iron — Iron Age Board Game!” with high school students (9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> class) where we present Iron Age people as part of an interactive strategy game. They can become warlords, religious leaders, or tribal chiefs, and occupy the Carpathian Basin with their personalized characters!

More information about our most popular online and onsite Iron Age museum pedagogical programmes powered by the Iron Age Danube Route can be found on the website.

A. P., SZ. C.

## European Heritage Days Dnevi evropske kulturne dediščine – DEKD



As early as 1991, Slovenia, together with several other European countries, was one of the founders of the European Heritage Days, a week-long joint action, taking place in September under the auspices of the Council of Europe and the European Commission. The attractive web portal ([www.europeanheritagedays.com](http://www.europeanheritagedays.com)) presents the richness and diversity of European cultural heritage.

Each year, the organizers choose a variety of themes to showcase European cultural heritage to the local public, Europeans and the world. In 2021, the theme in Slovenia is Bon Appetit! as Slovenia holds the title European Gastronomic Region. The richness of culinary heritage can be found in decades- or centuries-old recipes, traditions related to agriculture, production, purchase, sale, preparation and consumption of everyday and festive food, whether as immovable, movable or intangible heritage.

Knowledge and skills, customs and traditions are included; from the cultural landscape to markets, granaries, black kitchens and inns; from the earliest archaeological finds of stone knives to ethnological agricultural tools; from painted, archaeologically proven food ingredients in prehistory to Roman, medieval and 1800s cookbooks and placemats.

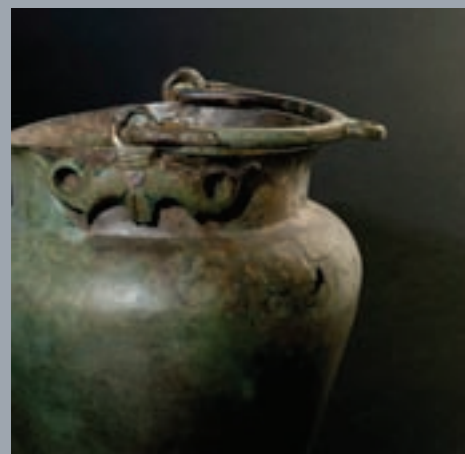
From 25<sup>th</sup> September to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021 you are cordially invited to discover the wide spectrum of culinary heritage in Slovenia!

A. V., M. Č., N. G.

EXHIBITIONS



© Simon Bogojević Narath



### **Segestica and Siscia – a settlement from the beginning of history**

“The Segestica and Siscia — a settlement from the beginning of history” exhibition is the result of almost a decade-long museum, field and scientific work. Planned as the central exhibition project of the Archaeological museum in Zagreb in 2020, it was set up during March. However, the opening was postponed due to the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, this was soon followed by a new, even more devastating blow. On the morning of March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the City of Zagreb was hit by a destructive earthquake that caused significant damage to the City centre, including the building of the Archaeological museum in Zagreb. The Museum’s permanent exhibitions had to be evacuated, as did the exhibition that was, despite being completely set up, never displayed to the Zagreb audience. The exhibition was set up at the Sisak City Museum at the beginning of October 2020, but was once again, in an almost unbelievable series of events, destroyed in an even more destructive earthquake that hit the regions of Banija and Pokuplje on December 29.

“The Segestica and Siscia — a settlement from the beginning of history” exhibition shows the establishment and development of the prehistoric and protohistoric settlement, situated at the Kupa and Sava river interfluve, on the territory of today’s city of Sisak, that was recorded in ancient sources under the names of Segestica and Siscia. The settlement was founded at the end of the Late Bronze Age (10<sup>th</sup> century BC), and, during the Iron Age, became the key regional centre that would hold its important status until the Roman conquest in 35 BC. Through nine topics, the exhibition displays the lavish archaeological material and contextual information spanning from the very beginnings of archaeological activities in Croatia to the latest, modernly-conducted, systematic field research.

I. D.



## **The Iron Lady – A Princess from Kapiteljska njiva, Novo mesto**

The archaeological exhibition “Iron Lady” presents a remarkable Early Iron Age grave — Grave 34 from Tumulus XVI — which was investigated at the archaeological site Kapiteljska njiva in Novo mesto in 2004. It contained extremely rich and numerous grave goods, which define it as a princely grave. The grave has been dated to the second half of the seventh century BC and contains “inherited” artefacts dating to the late eighth century BC. Grave inventories with grave goods from two different periods indicate continuity in the community.

The exhibits were undergoing restoration and conservation in Römisch- Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz (Germany).

The central position of the grave within the distribution of graves in the tumulus also indicates the special status of the deceased, a factor that confirms our assumption about the social structure of this Early Iron Age society, in which the deceased with such rich grave goods is the first member and initiator of a family that then continued to bury its dead in the tumulus for the next 300 years.

Analysis revealed that there are a total of 30 teeth, from a person who died between the ages of 20 and 30. From the location of the grave goods, we conclude that the deceased was between 160 and 165 cm tall.

P. S.



## **Iron Age Stories from the Crossroads**

The Iron Age part of the permanent archaeological exhibition “Stories From the Crossroads” in the National Museum of Slovenia unveils a time of fundamental change sweeping across the territory of the present-day Slovenia and also wide stretches of Europe in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC. At the onset of this period, phenomena such as state-based societies with admirable technological and artistic achievements were limited to the eastern edges of the Mediterranean. The general overview and the detailed insight into select topics related to the exhibits shed light on the circumstances that enabled these achievements — from the advanced metallurgical technologies and sophisticated figural art (e. g. the famous Vače situla), the beginnings of monetary economy and the development of local scripts — to take root and independently develop on the territory of Slovenia long before the arrival of the Romans, which stands as the official end of prehistory. The colourful exhibition catalogue is based on the vast body of knowledge on the Iron Age that has gradually advanced during the last century and a half. It is the culmination of a long series of investigations, comprehensive studies and guidebooks published by the most renowned researchers into the Iron Age in Slovenia.

B. L.

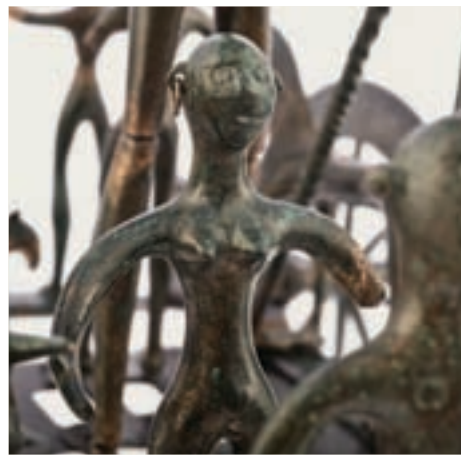


## Brothers in Arms

The exhibition “Brothers in Arms” displays two warrior graves belonging to the Iron Age Kaptol and Dolenjska groups. Although communities in Kaptol and Novo mesto differ in many ways, primarily in the burial ritual, their material culture reflect intensive communication and exchange between these geographically distant and culturally diverse areas. It seems that it was primarily enabled by tight links between their elites. Ideology of these elites, reflected on their attire and weapons, was present in broad area of Central Europe, which made it possible to create far-reaching communication networks in which these two centres occupy extremely important positions. Therefore, our warriors are an excellent example of those ties that made up the cultural fabric of continental Europe during Homer’s 8<sup>th</sup> century BC.

The grave I/16 comes from the cemetery of Kapiteljska njiva which is one of the largest Iron Age Cemeteries in Europe with continuity throughout the first millennium BC. The grave from tumulus 10 comes from the cemetery Gradca near Kaptol in the Požega Valley which is one of the most important Iron Age centres in this part of Europe. Beside large importance in the European Iron Age communication network both areas had valuable local resources — iron in Dolenjska and graphite in the Požega Valley. The exhibition was created by Hrvoje Potrebica, Ph.D. from the University of Zagreb, and Borut Križ, Ph.D. from the Dolenjski muzej Novo mesto, while exhibition coordinator was Jacqueline Balen, Ph.D. from the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb. Beside above mentioned museums exhibition also visited the Požega Municipal Museum where it was closed due to COVID19 outbreak. Local curators created virtual tour <https://youtu.be/RXztRKSK2j8> but after the pandemics, it should visit several other places in Croatia and some other countries.

H. P.



## Museum Murtal – new exhibition on the Cult Wagon from Strettweg

The Museum Murtal in Judenburg (Austria, Styria) takes visitors on an exciting journey to the Iron Age and back again. The exhibition shows treasures from the rediscovered cult wagon grave and the sensational helmet grave, masterpieces of Hallstatt ceramic art and magnificent weapons made of bronze and iron. The finds from the barrows in Strettweg, tell of culture and trade connections, of the elaborate funeral customs and the innovations of the Hallstatt period.

On May 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 the Museum Murtal Judenburg in cooperation with the Department of Archaeology & Coin Cabinet at the Universalmuseum Joanneum, is presenting its first special exhibition “The Cult Wagon from Strettweg — restoration and reception of an archaeological icon”. The focus of the exhibition is the long and exciting history of the research and restoration of the Cult Wagon from Strettweg. Another topic of the special exhibition will be the public impact and reception of the cult wagon, which was not only depicted a thousand times in scientific publications, but can also be found in school books, advertising brochures and on postage stamps and which inspired numerous artistic works. This makes it clear for the first time how this archaeological find became an international advertising medium and symbol of Styrian identity and ultimately one of the “icons” of the Hallstatt period.

M. M., D. M.



## Between East And West – Permanent archaeological exhibition in the Hungarian National Museum

The exhibition shows the story of the people who lived in the Carpathian Basin from 400.000 BC – 1000 AD. One of the most stunning parts of this exhibition is the Iron Age room. During that period the Carpathian Basin was a real melting pot that created a diverse and unique mixture of different cultures which was specific only to this area. Based on archaeological evidence and historic sources stratified communities arose in the Carpathian Basin in the 1<sup>st</sup> Millennium BC. The cultural development of the eastern parts was even more complex than those of the western regions, as they witnessed the arrival of different groups of eastern origin (generally referred to as Scythians) from the 9<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Particularities of the material legacy were created as the result of the newcomers’ encounters with different local communities. In the Late Iron Age, the Celtic expansion reached the Carpathian Basin. Whilst the first contacts led to a gradual “Latèneization”, the mass migration rapidly transformed the region and resulted in the emergence of a new shared identity having strong affiliation to the Celtic oecumene. Nevertheless, the mixed/hybrid assemblages vary by (sub)regions and refer to the legacy of the indigenous population. In the Iron Age room, you can find the remains of this interesting period in a form of spectacular archaeological findings, for instance, urns, pots, jewellery, and coins and weapons, made by the most precious materials in that period, just like iron, amber and gold.

Experience the Iron Age and visit our archaeological exhibition! For more information and online contents browse our website!

A. P., SZ. C.



# CULT



# WAGON

by Marko Mele



Cult wagon from Strettweg  
(Austria, Styria, Judenburg).  
© UMJ/N. Lackner

## IRON AGE HIGHLIGHTS FROM MUSEUMS IN THE DANUBE REGION

IN 1851, WHILE OUT IN HIS FIELD north of Strettweg, the farmer Ferdinand Pfeffer came across a massive accumulation of stones, which revealed the remains of a burial chamber set in the centre of a burial mound that had been built for a chieftain of the Hallstatt period. Amongst the stones Pfeffer found a large number of fragmented bronze and iron objects belonging to grave goods in the form of weapons, jewellery, banquet utensils and drinking vessels, as well as fragments of a wagon with a cauldron, which was presented to the Landesmuseum Joanneum in 1853 and became one of Austria's most famous prehistoric finds, known as the "Cult Wagon from Strettweg".

The bottom of the wagon consists of a square-shaped, open-worked base plate with four spoked wheels. A female figure, approx. 32 cm high and holding a flat bowl-shaped object in her upraised hands, stands in the centre of the wagon. Presumably, the actual cauldron attachment once sat on top of the flat bowl. The cauldron bearer is surrounded by men, women, mounted warriors and people leading a deer by its antlers.

The depicted scene has been interpreted as a sacrificial procession, whereby the wagon has always been associated with ritual acts and may have held a liquid for libation or the burning of incense. The unusually ornate, figurative accoutrements of the Strettweg Wagon make it stand out from the mass of the rather plain cauldron wagons of the Urnfield and Hallstatt cultures. Thus, it is probably the most precious object amongst the collection of the Universalmuseum Joanneum.

# FROM STRETTWEG

# Spices & Herbs from Dorka's House of Spices



Plants that were consumed in the Iron Age and are now present as ingredients in the spice and tea blends produced by Dorka's House of Spices, include elderberry flower, nettle, fennel, anise, rosehip, and yarrow.

Ingredients are based on archaeological finds and research.

Dorottya Kékegyi & Sándor Kovács  
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**FOLLOW THE IRON AGE DANUBE ROUTE**  
**PROTECT OUR COMMON HERITAGE**  
All IADR Association's regular membership fees  
are available at the discounted rate of 20%  
until the end of 2021.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM FOR THE IRON AGE DANUBE ROUTE ASSOCIATION

Name of the organization

Address

e-mail

Type of the organization

Membership Type

Date

Signature



Please fill, cut out, and send to:  
**Iron Age Danube Route Association**  
Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinskog 19  
HR-10000 Zagreb

ORGANISATION TYPE	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES			
	REGULAR MEMBERS		ASSOCIATED MEMBERS <sup>1</sup>	
	A countries <sup>2</sup>	B countries <sup>3</sup>	A countries	B countries
Monument protection institutions and museums	500 eur	350 eur	250 eur	175 eur
Municipalities	500 eur	350 eur	250 eur	175 eur
Non-governmental local initiatives (NGOs)	200 eur	100 eur	100 eur	50 eur
National and Nature parks	500 eur	350 eur	250 eur	175eur
Research organisations	500 eur	350 eur	250 eur	175 eur
Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	200 eur	100 eur	100 eur	50 eur
Tourism stakeholders	200 eur	100 eur	100 eur	50 eur
State and regional administration	500 eur	350 eur	250 eur	175 eur

<sup>1</sup> All members have the right to participate in all activities of the Association, in all areas of its work, in order to achieve the goals of the Association. All members have the right to express their opinions, proposals and criticisms, have access to all documents and decisions of the Association, propose new programs, projects and activities of the Association and be informed about the activities of the Association. Members may terminate their membership at any time. Regular members have the right to elect and be elected into bodies of the Association (Art. 12 of the IADR Association Satute).

<sup>2</sup> A countries - Andorra, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR (China), Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea Rep., Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macao SAR (China), Monaco, Netherlands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Norway, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Singapore, Saint-Maarten (Dutch part), Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Vatican City.

<sup>3</sup> B countries - any other country not listed in A category.



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