

## Tourism Offer in Croatia related to the topic of underwater archaeology



A rich maritime history has left numerous underwater finds in the sea of the Croatian Adriatic. At the moment 183 sites and areas are permanently protected in the Register of Cultural Property of the Republic of Croatia. There are 35 sites or areas in Croatia where diving is permitted to tourists and visitors but diving on these sites is regulated by permissions for the permit holders who are allowed to take visitors to the underwater sites. Permit holders are actually diving centres that have to pay annual fee to the Ministry of Culture and Media and in the five-year term get the permission to take visitors to the accredited sites. Protected sites have become an excellent destination for diving tourism, which is recognized by the local population who take advantage from this fact in various ways.

Most visited sites are the one in Cavtat (south Croatia, the largest protective cage in the Adriatic Sea), shipwreck of SS Baron Gautsch (northern Adriatic, near Rovinj) and Letavica site (ancient Roman shipwreck, Pag island).



The sites are noted in the nautical maps and all diving activities without leadership of the diving centre on site are restricted. Among the sites that are prepared for public presentation are ancient shipwrecks, anchorages, ports, medieval galleys and warships from the First and Second World Wars.

These so-called underwater museums keep valuable cultural heritage in situ, that is, "on site" and enable coexistence between cultural-historic heritage and mass tourism.

Besides the ancient sites, the bottom of the Adriatic Sea has 1500 undiscovered caves as well as ships and planes from the past wars.

In 2020 the Split-Dalmatia County presented the cultural-tourist guide "Underwater Heritage of Split-Dalmatia County" as the first tourist guide to underwater cultural heritage in Croatia.



It is written in English and Croatian and presents 28 underwater sites and 3 museums collections with underwater archaeological finds. The guide promotes the underwater archaeological sites and gives a complete picture of the importance, richness and diversity of the underwater world and further develops diving tourism.

### Adriatic Diving Center

<https://adriaticdivingcenter.com/en/>

Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt  
Wreck Coriolanus

### Rovinj SUB d.o.o.

<https://rovinj-sub.hr/>

Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt  
American bombardier  
“B-24 H Liberator“

### Diving center Indije

<https://www.istradiving.com/>

Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt

### Diving Center Puntičela

<https://www.relaxt-abgetaucht.de/>

Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch



### Diving center Bura Bora

<https://burabora.com/>

#### Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt

### Morski puž

<https://diving-rovinj.com/index.php?lang=CRO>

#### Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt

### Morska zvijezda Diving Center

[www.starfish-diving-center.com](http://www.starfish-diving-center.com)

#### Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt  
Wreck Coriolanus

### Diving center Tramonto

<https://divetramonto.com/>

#### Sites:

Wreck Francesco de Rimini  
Plane Junkers JU 87 Štuka

### Diving center Shark

<https://www.diving-shark.hr/>

#### Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt  
Wreck Flamingo

### Triton Diving

<https://www.tritondivingservices.com/>

#### Sites:

Wreck Baron Gautsch  
Wreck Hans Schmidt  
Wreck Coriolanus

### Diving center FOKA d.o.o

<https://foka.hr/>

#### Sites:

Roman Wreck Letavica

### Subaquatic Diving Center

<https://www.subaquatic.info/index.php/hr/>

#### Sites:

Wreck Coriolanus



### Diving Centar Poreč

<https://www.divingcenter-porec.com/>

Sites:  
Wreck Coriolanus

### Najada Diving

<https://www.najada.com/wordpress/>

Sites:  
Wreck Francesca da Rimini  
Plane „JU 87 Štuka“ Žirje

### Manta Diving

<https://crodive.info/>

Sites:  
Archaeological zones on islands Vis,  
Biševo, Brusnik and Svetac

### Epidaurum Diving

<https://epidaurum.com/>

Sites:  
Cavtat dolium shipwreck  
Cavtat amphorae shipwreck

### Diving Centar Ankora

<https://lastovo-diving-ankora.com/hr/ronilacki-centar-ankora/>

Sites:  
Archaeological zone Island Palagruža and Island Lastovo

### Kron Diving Rab

<https://kron-diving.com/en/>

Sites:  
Wreck Albanien

### Calypso Scuba Diving

<https://www.calypsodiving.hr/>

Sites:  
Archaeological zones on islands Vis,  
Biševo, Brusnik and Svetac

### Diving centar Blue Planet

<https://www.blueplanet-diving.com/en/>

Sites:  
“S - 57“ Pelješac

### Diving Centar Aquatica Mljet

<https://www.aquatica-mljet.hr/>

Sites:  
Archaeological zone Island Mljet