

STORIES, CUSTOMS, AND SPACES THAT SHAPE IDENTITY

An aerial photograph of a vineyard in Zagreb County, Croatia. The vineyard is a large, rectangular field with rows of grapevines, showing a mix of green and yellow leaves. In the background, there are rolling hills with scattered houses and trees. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Living traces –
Cultural and intangible
heritage of Zagreb County**


HERITAGE THAT IS LIVED

Heritage is not something you look at behind glass.
It is lived, remembered, and passed on.

In Zagreb County, cultural and intangible heritage is present in everyday life: in architecture, in customs, in music, language and crafts, in gatherings and celebrations.

Here, the past is not a finished chapter.
It is the foundation of identity and a meeting place for generations.

Traveling through the cultural heritage of Zagreb County is not a tour of landmarks – it is getting to know people, their stories, and values passed down from generation to generation.



PRIGORJE AND PLEŠIVICA - VILLAGES, MANOR HOUSES, AND HILLS

The Prigorje and Plešivica areas are marked by villages scattered across hills, historical manor houses, and a traditionally shaped landscape.

Manor houses were once centers of social and economic life, and today they are important witnesses to the area's layered history and cultural identity.

Here, the landscape is a cultural record – shaped by centuries of work, adaptation, and coexistence.

LANDSCAPE AS CULTURAL HERITAGE



TUROPOLJE - WOODEN ARCHITECTURE AND COMMUNITY

Turopolje is one of the most recognizable areas of traditional wooden architecture in Croatia.

Wooden houses, farm buildings, and chapels were created out of need, knowledge, and communal work. This architecture testifies to a sustainable relationship between man and nature, in which building was part of community life.

A walk through Turopolje villages reveals a space where heritage is not preserved only in museums, but still lives in the landscape.

INTANGIBLE HERITAGE: CUSTOMS AND KNOWLEDGE



The intangible heritage of Zagreb County lives through customs, skills, and communities.

FOLKLORE, SONG, AND DANCE

Songs, dances, and traditional music are integral parts of local festivities and gatherings.

Folklore groups, amateur cultural-artistic societies, and local communities preserve and transmit these expressions, adapting them to contemporary life while maintaining their authenticity.

TRADITIONAL COSTUME AND TEXTILE SKILLS

Making and wearing traditional costume is an important part of identity in many areas of Zagreb County.

Embroidery, weaving, and textile processing are passed on as knowledge, but also as a story – about belonging, family, and community.

HANDICRAFTS AND TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

Woodworking, making utilitarian objects, handicrafts from natural materials, and other traditional skills are part of the intangible heritage that has been preserved through practice.

Today, this knowledge is often presented through workshops and gatherings, where visitors can see, learn, and participate.

CUSTOMS AND FESTIVITIES

Customs and festivities of Zagreb County are part of the annual rhythm of the community.

- **Carnival customs** – a time of masquerading, satire, and communal celebration
- **Church and folk holidays** – gathering, processions, and local rituals
- **Village and town festivities** – connecting tradition and contemporary life



HERITAGE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

The cultural heritage of Zagreb County does not appear only on special occasions.

It is present:

- in local dialects and expressions
- in family customs
- in the way homes and yards are arranged
- in the relationship with place and community

The visitor here does not observe heritage from the outside – they become its temporary participant.



RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY

Cultural and intangible heritage survive only if they are respected.
Observe, participate, support.

www.visitzagrebcounty.hr

See you - in stories that are remembered and passed on.

