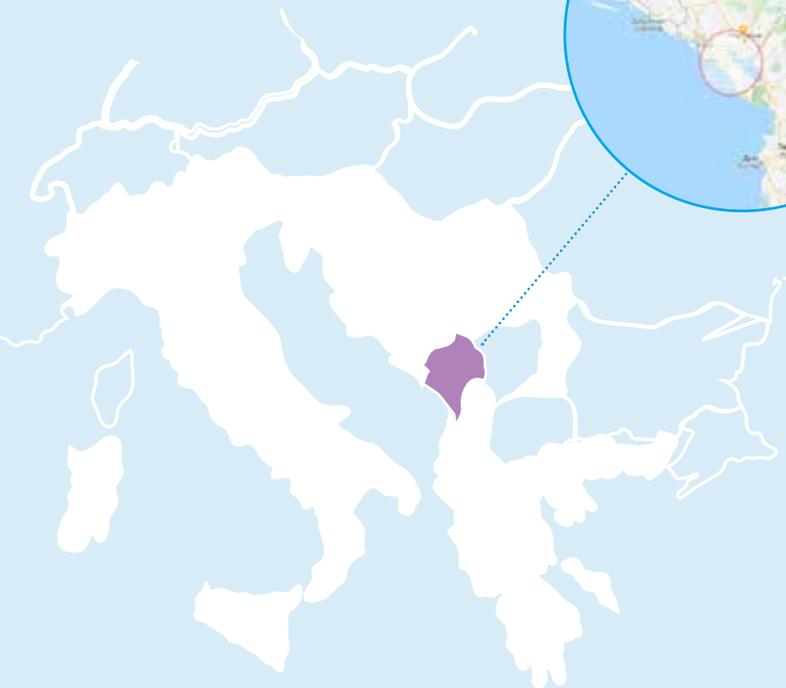
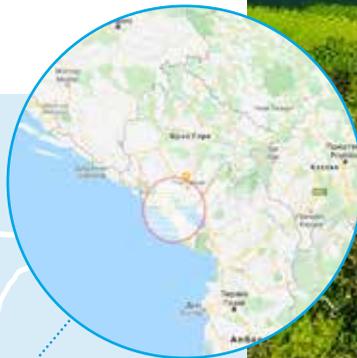




The Skadar lake and the capital Cetinje (Montenegro)

The *National Montenegrin Tourism Development Strategy by 2020* has divided the territory of Montenegro into the six tourist clusters, out of which one cluster consisting of the capital Cetinje and Skadar Lake.

The government committed to make Cetinje - Skadar Lake region best practice example for the sustainable tourism, based on protection and care of nature and preservation of local identity. Skadar Lake is the largest lake in the Balkan Peninsula.



About two thirds of the lake belongs to Montenegro and the rest to the Albania. The lake was declared a national park in 1983.

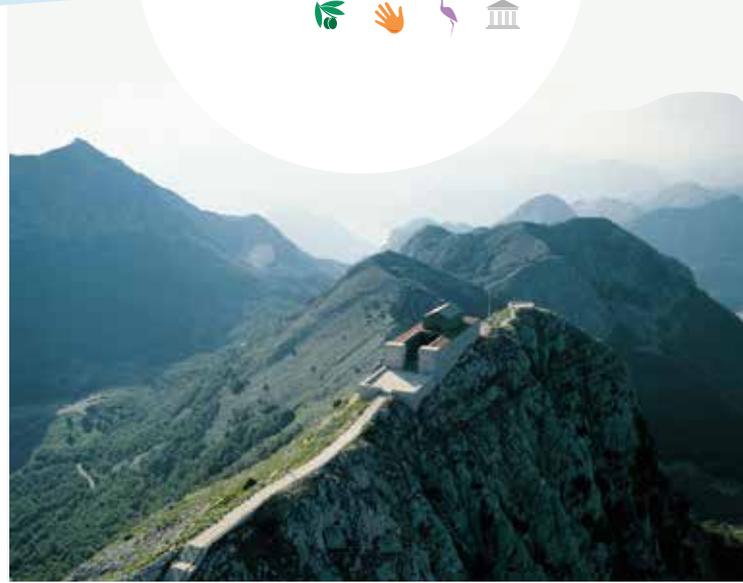
The territory of Skadar lake covers three municipalities: Podgorica, Bar and Cetinje.

The Old Royal Capital Cetinje is situated in the karst field. In 1952 National Park Lovcen was proclaimed at the territory of Cetinje, famous for the village Njeguši and its memorial houses of the Montenegrin dynasty Petrović, and on Jezerski vrh grandiose mausoleum dedicated to the poet and Bishop Petar II Petrović Njegoš.



Cultural heritage and environmental resources

The diverse and rich cultural - historical heritage: archaeological sites, forts, medieval monasteries, churches, traditional rural architecture - indicate that the region of Lake Skadar over time was an important historical, economic and cultural center. The most important and the most representative cultural and historical value of the National Park is characterized by the monasteries from 14th and 15th century, from the time of the rule of dynasties Balšić and Crnojević and fortification complexes from the period of Ottoman domination. Cetinje is old royal capital, historical and cultural centre of the country.



Economic activities and regional strategies

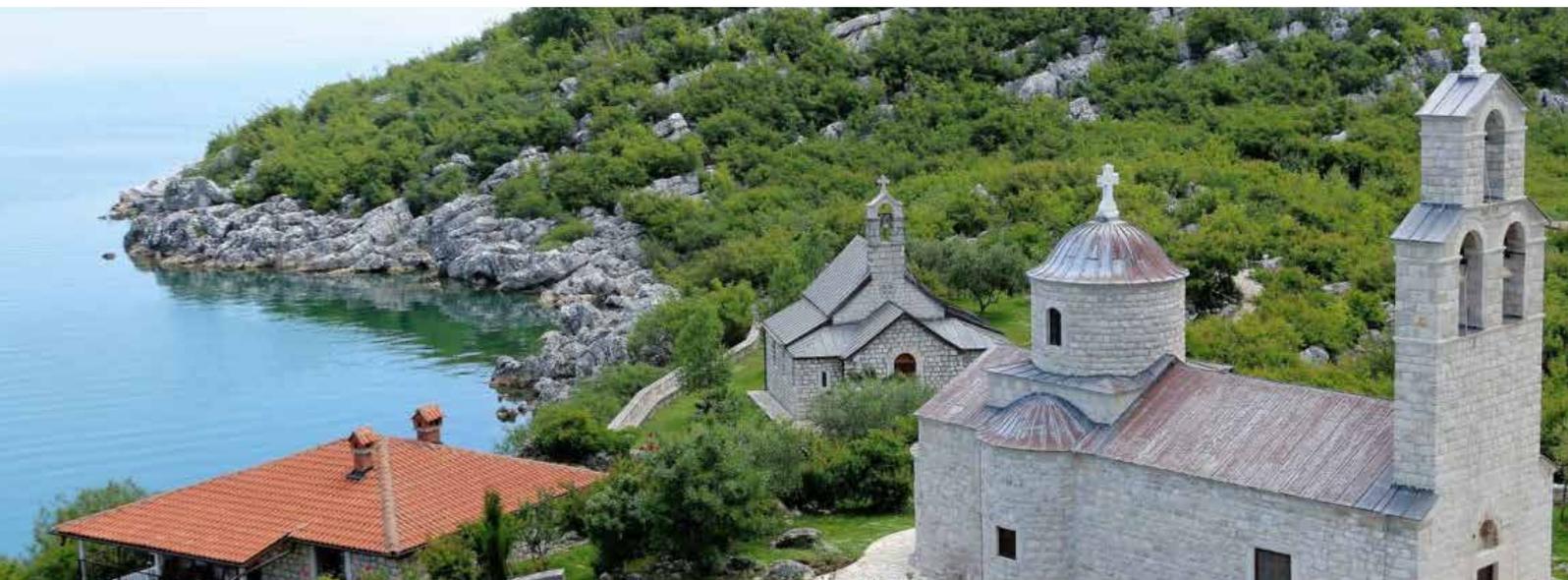
Traditional craft products are not adequately present and transferred to the younger generations due to problem of depopulation. Still, there are small production of traditional carpentry, basketweaving, knitting off peasant costumes, embroidery, facilities for serving food, production of natural soaps etc. At the moment, only one local producers is building traditional boats.

Traditional Montenegrin clothes have remained part of the folklore and are present in different forms in modern art (from fashion to architecture).

Tourist attractions

The presence of tourism is quite intense in the region. The diverse and rich cultural - historical heritage: archaeological sites, forts, medieval monasteries, churches, traditional rural architecture, indicate that the region of Lake Skadar over time was an important historical, economic and cultural center.

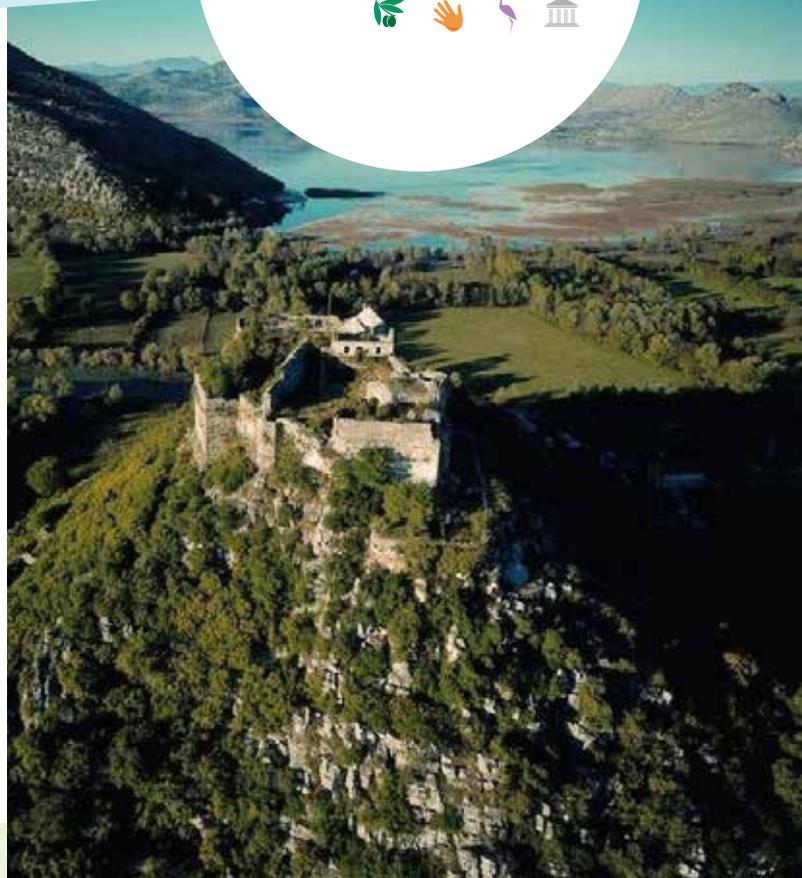
Of many archaeological sites in coastal area of the lake, the current excavations are reduced to a few sites from Illyrian-Hellenistic and Roman periods, and several partial researches on medieval sacred architecture.





Local products linked to the Mediterranean Diet

The local population of the area is active in agriculture (beekeeping, livestock breeding, medicinal herbs collection, wine and brandy production, olive and olive oil, etc.), fishing and tourism. While some households produce only for their own needs, others produce agricultural products as the primary source of income. About 20% of the population is engaged in tourism as an additional activity. Homes, restaurants and small hotels provide accommodation services and traditional cuisine, and they also deal with the organization of various tourist activities in nature. In addition to domestic fish, meat, mushrooms, cheese and olives, the households also offer homemade fruits and vegetables, fresh or processed in sweet, jams and juices. Restaurants in old fishermen's settlements offer, mostly with local wine, fish specialties (from carp, eel, trout, pike).



Cultural routes and itineraries

The region of Skadar Lake is famous for wine routes, bringing tourists to local wine producers, who, along with traditional agricultural products (mostly homemade cheese, ham and olives), offer vineyards visits, wine tasting and shopping opportunities in a cozy atmosphere.

The tourists are especially interested in wines of autochthonous varieties (vranac, krstac, kratošija). Wine roads are marked with tourist information boards and traffic signs, and promotional material is also created in the form of brochures and maps and information about producers distributed through local tourist organizations, web portals and hotels and other providers of tourist services. The Montenegrin part of the Skadar Lake is part of the cross-border Ethno-gastronomic route of Skadar Lake, which connects service providers, restaurants, local producers and workshops from Montenegro and Albania.

