General Information

Učka Nature Park (160km2) spreads over the mountain Učka and part of the mountainous plateau of Čićarija. It runs along the western part of the Rijeka Bay and spreads inland into the northeast of Istria in the Republic of Croatia. It was founded in 1999 because of its specific relief and geological structures, distinctive climate, rich wildlife with endemic and endangered species, as well as cultural heritage with archaeological findings, making it one of the distinguished points of biodiversity in Europe.

Main Characteristics

The limestone rocks of the Dinaric mountain chain and the porous karstic relief with over 200 speleological objects are the main geological features of the Park. The abundance of underground drinking water, along with numerous springs and torrential mountain streams make for an impressive water reserve. A plethora of 1300 plant species with the stenoendemic Učka bellflower, 40 types of orchids, rare and medicinal herbs are crowned in higher altitudes with a lush beech-tree forest, while on lower slopes oak and sweet chestnut predominate.

One can even spot a brown bear, wolf or boar in the Park and enjoy the sight of Eurasian Eagle-owl, Golden Eagle or Griffon Vulture. The rare alpine salamander, indigenous sheep pramenka, chamois and many other animals of diverse habitats call Učka their home.

Charming chapels, shepherd dwellings, drystone walls and other structures of cultural heritage embellish the picturesque settlements in the Park.
Poučne staze

S kule-vidikovca na Učkinu najvišem vrhu, Vojaku (1401 m), pruža se veličanstveni pogled od 360° na Riječki zaljev i sjeverne Jadranske otoke, Velebit, Gorski kotar i cijeli istarski poluotok, a za vedrini dana seže do Alpa i Italije. Vršnim grebenom prolazi staza Plas s pogledom na brežuljkastu središnju Istru i Čićariju.

Prijevoj Poklon (922 m), odvajec Učku od Čićarije i svojevrsno je središte parka.

Kanjon Vela Draga hrvatski je geomorfološki spomenik prirode s okomitim liticama, fosilnim ostacima i vapnenačkim stupovima visokima do i preko 100 m. Na čićarijskim Kotirima, podno Brajkove stijene (1092 m), izvire pitka voda i protječe kroz skladnii niz od deset drvenih kornja čija se pruža prelijepi pogled na Učkin masiv. Uz mitsku stazu Trebišća-Perun (880 m) i kreativnu stazu Umjetnosti na tlu (Land Art) u parku postoji i ljupka Šetnica Slap.

Educational Trails

A tower-viewpoint on Učka’s highest peak, Vojak (1401 m), offers a magnificent 360° view of the Bay of Rijeka and the northern Adriatic islands, mountain Velebit, the Gorski Kotar region and Istrian peninsula, in clear weather stretching all the way up to Italy and the Alps. The Plas trail traverses the peak ridge with attractive panoramic views of the rolling hills of central Istria withČićarija.

The overpass Poklon (922 m) separates Učka from Čićarija serving as the informal center of the park.

The canyon of Vela Draga is a Croatian geomorphological monument of nature, with vertical cliffs, fossil remains and solitary limestone columns up to 100 m high. On Čićarija’s Koritna plain, under Brajkov peak (1092 m), the clear drinking water cascades down ten wooden basins next to which the breathtaking view of Učka’s massif extends. Beside it, on the historic Trebišća-Perun (880 m) trail and the creative Land Art trail, one can also take a walk up on the lovely Waterfall walking trail.