

R7

BABADAG – ENISALA – JURILOVCA – GURA PORTIȚEI / 1 – 4 days

The proposed tourist route is complex, which combines the knowledge of historical and archeological objectives, of the picturesque landscapes offered by the natural environment with the culinary delights offered by the local cuisine. In addition, the route offers the possibility of a few-day stay at the seaside, at the Gura Portiței tourist complex, for a well-deserved heliomarine cure. The route takes place by road and water. After visiting the tourist attractions of Babadag, it goes to Enisala, on DJ 223A, where you can visit the in situ Peasant Farm and Enisala Medieval Citadel (on DJ 229N). The route then continues to Jurilovca, on DN 222. Serving a traditional meal and/or accommodation can be done at one of the guesthouses in the village. From Jurilovca you can take a trip to the Capul Doloșman promontory, where you can visit the ruins of the Argamum/Orgame Fortress, the Capul Doloșman and Călugăru - Iancina natural reserves, or boat trips on Lake Razim. The stay in the area continues with a trip by water to Gura Portiței. From here you can also visit Bisericuța Island. You can also practice fishing, where local fishermen can take tourists in their boats and show them how to fish on Razim.

JURILOVCA

Regarding the natural heritage, on the territory of the Jurilovca UAT there are **four natural reserves of national interest, of avifaunistic, floristic and faunistic type**, included in the Danube Delta site of community importance, which increases the touristic value of the area.

BISERICUȚA ISLAND / ISLAND OF THE SMALL CHURCH

Bisericuța Island is located, on the territory of Jurilovca, about 2.4 km southeast of Doloșman Cape, in the southern part of Razim lake. It is 360 m long and 58 m wide, half stony and covered with reeds, half occupied by a 9 m high limestone hill with very steep, almost vertical edges. It is considered a small Romanian tombolo (tongue of sand that joins a coastal island to the shore), from the top of which you can see the reeds and the play of the vast waters far away.

The island is included in the ornithological reserve Periteașca-Insula Popina-Gura Portiței, from which it is separated by a 9 m wide channel.

Traces of habitation from prehistoric times have been discovered on its surface, the remains brought to light dating from the Greek, Roman and early medieval eras. The rich archaeological background (polished stone weapons, Greek amphorae, traces of residential walls, a Roman furnace, etc.) indicates a greater importance of this place than a simple fishing stop or monastic building from which it derives its name. In the middle of this island, the ruins of a Byzantine basilica were identified, among which a bronze reliquary with relief decoration, dating from the beginning of the century, was discovered. XI. Gura Portiței is listed on maps from 1710 and represents the connection point in the past between the waters of the Razim-Golovița Lagoon Complex and those of the Black Sea. It can be reached from Jurilovca by boat or by the pleasure boats of the locals, being a special place for recreation, heliomarine cure and sport fishing. Periteașca-Bisericuța-Gura Portiței Reserve - is a reserve of avifaunistic importance, located between the

Razim-Sinoe lagoon complex and the sands of the Black Sea coast, being a favorable habitat for saltwater shorebirds and those in passage.

GURA PORTIȚEI

Gura Portiței is located between the Black Sea and Lake Golovița, in the Danube Delta. A fishing village, Gura Portiței (Portița) is known as one of the most secluded (and quiet) tourist destinations on the Romanian coast.



Access is usually by ferry from Jurilovca. With special vehicles you can also reach the coastal road, either from Vadu, Constanța, via Periboina, or from Sfântu Gheorghe, Tulcea. The name Gura Portiței was related to the originally existing communication between Lake Golovița and the Black Sea, closed in the 70s, which turned Golovița into a closed lake, with the water being desalinated. The lake communicates to the north with Lake Razim (free) and to the south with Lake Sinoe, through a system of locks. The area is part of the R.B.D.D. At Portița, the main activities are included in the sphere of relaxation (beach), boating or kayaking, sport or recreational fishing and avi-faunal observations for research or leisure (photography). Within the tourist complex, there is also the possibility of relaxing on the tennis or volleyball courts, at the pool or ping-pong tables, at the swimming pools or specially designed children's playgrounds. Also, the accommodation units organize, on request, specific activities for those who are passionate about fishing and hunting.

In addition to other tourist attractions in the Jurilovca area (Capul Doloșman, Argamum Citadel, Lipovans churches) or in the Babadag area, not far from Gura Portiței are some of the most popular attractions of the place: **Popina Island**. Since 1994, the island has become a protected area as part of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve. It has 98 calcareous hectares and is located in the north of Lake Razim, with a maximum height of no more than 47 meters. This is the stopping place for tourists on water expeditions.

Located between two nature reserves, which can be visited by tourists: Grindul Lupilor Reserve and Periteasca-Leahova Natural Reserve, the landscapes impress. Bike or car rides can also be organized in the Babadag Forest Nature Reserve, Lake Zmeica, Lake Ceamurlia and to other attractions in the area.

Popina Island (98 ha) Located in the north of Lake Razelm, near the lazurile and Sarinasuf fishing facilities and the lazurile locality. Of calcareous nature, it has an area of about 98 ha and a maximum height of 47 m. During the period 1948-1994, Popina Island was a nature reserve, after 1994 it became a strictly protected area of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve.

The island, being isolated from the mainland, was able to preserve numerous species of herbaceous plants specific to the Dobrogen steppe, characteristic of steppe areas, constituting the nesting place of some birds but also the habitat of some reptiles and insects, some of them quite dangerous. Here you can find the endemic plant *Ornithogalum oreoides* as well as one of the most poisonous species of spider, also called the black widow.

Popina Island is the only place in the country where we find *Isophya dobrogensis*.

In the rocky areas of the shore, you can find specimens of water snakes, and in the clayey areas, a few pairs of white snakes. It represents an important stopping place for migratory birds and a nesting place for the white falcon. In the spring, you can meet marsh birds, forest birds: the red nightingale, etc.

