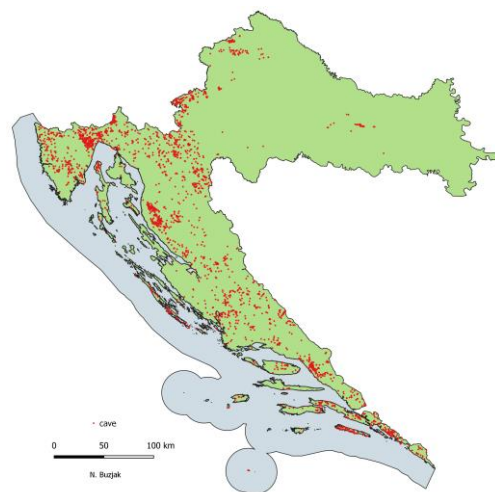




pocket card Croatia

In the total area of Croatia (56.594 km²) karst relief occupies around 44% of the territory (the submerged karst of the Adriatic Sea bottom excluded). Karst area can be divided in two main regions: *classical Dinaric karst belt* and *isolated karst* of low mountains and hilly areas in Pannonian basin and its SW border zone towards Dinarides. Karst is developed in Mesozoic (Triassic to Cretaceous) and Cenozoic (Paleogene and Neogene) carbonate rocks (limestones, dolomites, carbonate breccias and conglomerates). Besides classical karst there is the fluviokarst developed mostly in terrains in dolomites, and in the zones of less permeable limestones. Caves appear both in karst and fluviokarst, but the highest density and greatest diversity is in the areas of the Dinaric karst. In Dinaric karst are located the longest caves and the deepest pits.



The best explored area with the biggest & deepest caves is Velebit Mt. Due to the deep karst on Velebit Mt. pits predominate (four of them deeper than 1 km), but there are also long caves like Cave system Crnopac (53.3 km long), Cerovačke caves (2 caves 4 km each) and Munižaba cave (9.9 km). During the Pleistocene, the higher regions of the Dinaric Mountains were influenced by glacial and periglacial processes that influenced geomorphology, karst formation and speleogenesis. Mountain pits (mostly >1200 m asl) often contain thick layers of permanent snow and ice deposits. The rise of Adriatic Sea level in late Pleistocene and Holocene submerged parts of former mainland with caves found at the present sea bottom and along the coast. Some of them are still hydrologically active as submerged springs (*vrulja*).

Caves total : 3405

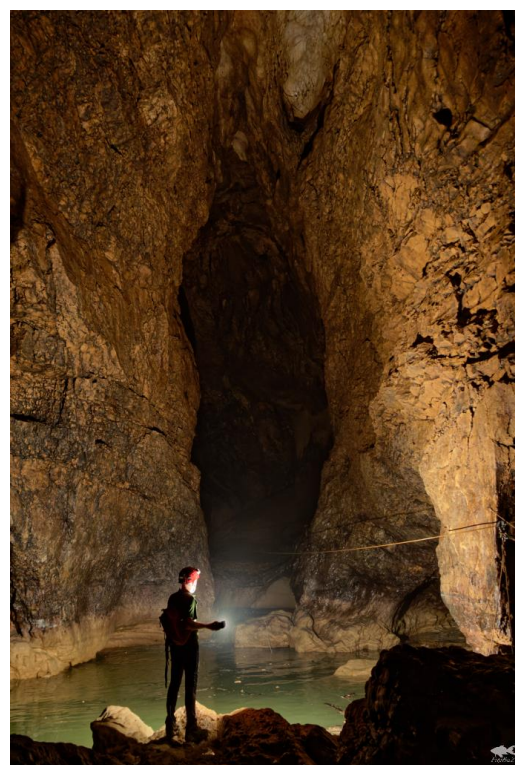
Marine caves total: > 250

Artificial caves total: no data

Number of speleologists: 739

Speleological groups and organizations: 39

Most important caves		
Name	Length	Depth
Cave system Crnopac	53.299 m	797 m
Cave system Đulin ponor-Medvedica	16.396 m	83m
Cave system Panjkov ponor-Muškinja	13.052 m	
Lukina jama-Trojama pit system	3.741 m	1.431 m
Slovačka jama pit	6.416 m	1.324 m
Nedam pit	2.873 m	1.226 m



Info card coordinator :

Nenad Buzjak / nbuzjak@gmail.com