

ISLAND HVAR

JELSA



The village Jelsa is located in the middle of the **island of Hvar** and is mild, clean and open hearted to the guests and travelers. Jelsa is surrounded by the two highest mountains on the island - in the west **St. Nikola**, and in the east **Hum**. From the south side Jelsa is surrounded by mountains **Vrh, Samotorac** and **Gozd** from the north side it is protected from cold north winds by the hill **Biokovo**.

The start of tourism on the island going back deep into the past, to ancient times and the Middle Age. There are finds of the *villae rusticae* throughout the field of Hvar, and also economic buildings and summer cottages. Many adventurers, ethnologists and archaeologists visited the island and researched the herbs, minerals and the antique monuments in the Middle Age. The organized tourism began with the founding of the Hygiene club Hvar under the leadership of the bishop **Jurje Dubokovic**. The hotel Jadran is the oldest hotel in Jelsa and it was opened in 1911. A strong development of tourism and the construction of hotels, pensions, apartments, restaurants, bars, discotheques and other tourist objects happened when the tourism became the most important economic branch on the island around 1970.

The cultural and historical treasury of Jelsa and the island Hvar consists of numerous monuments situated in: churches, parks, caves in the field, on squares etc. The bays and capes are adequate for swimming. There are nice gravel beaches surrounded by pine forests, which offer you the necessary refreshment and shade during the summer heat. In 1991 the island Hvar signed the **declaration of the Middle Dalmatian islands - ecological clean area**. Discover Jelsa and the island Hvar as a sunny garden surrounded by clear sea and covered by a crystal blue sky!



Jelsa is located in a bay on the north central part of the island of Hvar. On both sides of the harbor there are wooded coves ideal for relaxation and swimming.

Jelsa is a welcoming place, pleasing to the eye and ready to receive any guest or traveler. Jelsa borders with the two highest peaks on the Island - St. Nikola on the west and Hum on the east. On the southern side there are three mountains - Vrh, Samotorac and Gozd, while Burkovo hill shields the northern side from the cold, northern winds.

Approaching the place, one will feel the freshness of the woods covering the surrounding slopes. Facing towards Mt. Biokovo on the mainland, Jelsa seems to rise on the shore of one of the large Swiss lakes. At first sight Jelsa seems a new place. The houses on the water front do not present facades of stone covered by century-old patina nor are they typical in design but rather point to the 19th c., the period of the greatest prosperity of the local shipping industry. The municipal park gives the village a modern touch.

Gradually, however, one discovers Jelsa's more distant past. Monuments from the classical period remain hidden.