

SAVE THE DATE -XVII. International Congress on dry stone, October 2nd-4th 2020, Croatia



Dry stone hut 'kućerica' built by volunteers in 2018

Dear colleagues, friends, dry stone enthusiasts,

Civil society organisation DRAGODID and International scientific society for dry stone interdisciplinary study S.D.S - Société Scientifique Internationale pour l'Etude Pluridisciplinaire de la Pierre Sèche S.P.S. wish to announce the **XVII. International Congress on dry stone that will be held on October 2nd-4th 2020 in Croatia**. Southernmost Croatian municipality of Konavle is the host of the Congress. Save the date!

Congress aims to bring together dry stone practitioners, researchers, professionals and enthusiasts in order to spread knowledge and techniques, discuss topicalities and widen the cooperation network between countries. All interested can participate as listeners, speakers and/or poster exhibitors.

It will consist of:

- Sep 27th Arrival of participants
- Sep 28th - Oct 1st International dry stone workshop
- Oct 1st evening Welcome to Congress!
- Oct 2nd-3rd Congress papers + S.P.S. General Assembly
- Oct 4th Thematic visit to dry stone localities in Konavle
- Oct 5th Departure of participants

Theme of this year's Congress is: **"Dry stone perspectives: challenges after the UNESCO inscription"**.

The aim of the Congress is:

- To present and discuss the current state of dry stone walling and examine the legal and economic framework and constraints on a local, national and international level
- To present the local, national and international strategies regarding the safeguarding, enhancement and continuation of the technique in contemporary constructions
- To elaborate on the potential of dry stone walling and the challenges it faces in the related industries
- To explore the possibilities of technologies regarding the research of dry stone heritage, such as the use of GIS software for mapping, SfM for modelling, spatial databases for international collaboration and AI pattern recognition for mapping and categorizing dry stone structures
- To examine the economic impact of the technique on local, national and international level
- To explore the realities and gain insight into the best practices as well as the potential of dry stone walling in contemporary sustainable applications in agriculture, landscaping and infrastructure construction
- To look into dry stone walling as an intangible cultural asset in regards to tourism and cultural management and, specifically, the challenges and opportunities brought by the inscription on the UNESCO intangible heritage list.



Dry stone pond in one of Konavle villages, 17m in diameter

More information to follow this autumn.

In regards of local development, tourism and cultural management - welcome!

DRAGODID <http://www.dragodid.org/>

S.P.S. <http://pierreseche-international.org/>

Konavle dry stone heritage: <http://tiny.cc/Konavle>

