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22nd edition RIVERS IN SPRING

2nd Virtual World Water Day - in Mantova 22 March 2022



Endemic fish species of Croatia

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Croatia has among the highest fish species richness in Europe.

From a total of 140 fish species, there are 49 endemic ones.

The Danube basin is inhabited by 9 endemic fish species, while the remaining 40 species belong to the Adriatic basin.

Among these endemic species, 15 are stenoendemic species that live only in Croatia and nowhere else in the world.



Dalmatian roach (*Rutilus basak*) is endemic to the Adriatic Basin, and lives in lakes and slow-flowing water with dense vegetation.



Huchen (*Hucho hucho*) is the largest species in the trout family and can grow up to 180 cm long and weigh up to 60 kg.



Adriatic barbel (*Barbus plebejus*) is endemic to the Adriatic Basin, and is a very social fish, often living in schools of 5 to 15 individuals.



Neretva spined loach (*Cobitis narentana*) is stenoendemic to the Neretva River catchment. It feeds with its bottom lip to filter water, catching food particles with a sticky substance.



Dalmatian barbelgudgeon (*Aulopyge huegeli*) is endemic to the Adriatic Basin, and it is believed that it has not changed in form for several million years.



Danubian roach (*Rutilus virgo*) is endemic to the Danube Basin. During the spawning period, males grow breeding tubercles on the head and back that serve for stimulation of females during spawning.



Balkan brook trout (*Salmo farioides*) is endemic to the Adriatic Basin, and the adults migrate from the sea into rivers to spawn.



Padanian goby (*Padogobius bonelli*) is endemic to the Adriatic Basin. The males are known for vocalising to attract the females into the nest to spawn.



Turskyi dace (*Telestes turskyi*) is stenoendemic to the Krka River catchment, and was named after General von Tursky, who financed the research on this species.



Zrmanja dace (*Squalius zrmanjiae*) is stenoendemic to the Krka and Zrmanja River catchments, and feeds on algae, plankton and aquatic invertebrates.



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