

Interreg - IPA CBC
Romania - Serbia



Explore
NAIVE ART TRAILS
Kovačica - Pađina - Uzđin



Cooperation beyond borders



Attractiveness for
sustainable tourism

www.romania-serbia.net



BANAT GREENWAY CORRIDOR
Connecting People to Nature and Culture.
www.banatgreenway.com

About Banat

The Banat is a geographical and historical region in Central Europe currently divided between three countries:

- **the eastern part** lies in western Romania (the counties of Timiș, Caraș-Severin, Arad south of the Mureș, the western part of Mehedinți),
- **the western part** in northeastern Serbia (the Serbian Banat, mostly included in Vojvodina, except for a small part included in Belgrade Region), and
- **a small northern part** in southeastern Hungary (Csongrád county).



The Banat is a part of the Pannonian Basin bordered by the River Danube to the south, the River Tisa to the west, the River Mureș to the north, and the Southern Carpathian Mountains to the east.

Project BANAT GREENWAY CORRIDOR Connecting People to Nature and Culture

"Banat Greenway Corridor" is a linear green corridor of long-distance with thematic local trails, specific tourism route reserved for non-motorized users, as a new distinct regional tourism product for leisure and cycling tourism, connecting people to nature and culture heritage, with integrated new innovative services and information.



Hidden treasure between the
Banat mountains and the
Banat plain'

The project area is covering the Caras-Severin County and South Banat District of the Romanian-Serbian border area through the linear green corridor that links the Banat Mountains (RO), Danube and Banat -Deliblato Sands (SRB).

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EUROPEAN UNION

This project is financed EU under the INTERREG IPA CBS program Romania-Serbia. Project includes actions to drive public-private collaboration and the integration of all tourism stakeholders through the innovative and complementary services and information, setting of Banat Greenway cycling friendly service network and certifications according to international standards and promote new, authentic experiences through the use of new (IT) technologies in rural areas along the Banat Greenway Corridor.

4 thematic interactive local trails on the **Banat Greenway** Corridor



1. **Explore - Naive Art trail** - connect UNESCO "World editorial center devoted to naive art", galleries, ethno houses and museums and resting place in Kovacica, Uzdin and Padina villages.



2. **Experience - Via Deliblatum with Deliblato Sands Wine trails** - countryside, nature & testing experience in Deliblato Sands region - "the European Sahara", an UNESCO tentative list of Protected Natural Heritage, Dolovo - West gate of „Deliblato Sands“ and historic viticulture regions, vineyards of Deliblato Sands area.



3. **Discover - Danube in Banat trail** - nature and culture along the left side of Danube in Banat, in Serbia and Romania.



4. **Adventure - Banat's Mountains trails** - connects Cornereva villages, National Park Domogled –Cerna Valley and Baile Herculane, historical sites and rural environment of special natural and cultural value.

"Places where fairy tales are painted"



ABOUT NAIVE ART

The main recognizable characteristic of tourist offer in the Municipality of Kovačica is naive art, which became a world-famous brand with its specific signs and curiosities related to Kovačica.

Naive art of Kovačica is an unique feature in the world. This whole style, and especially its renowned representatives have reached a coequal level within professional art circles as the authors of specific works with high artistic values. A love towards beauty, an urge to express the inner unrest and artistic impression by colours, also the need to keep the tradition and folklore, to show the respect for their hometown, its citizens and life in it – all these circumstances led to forming a large group of naive painters, who have reached the high position in the world of art.

Naive painting of Kovačica appeared with several works just before the Second World War and it started its organized public presentation in 1952. Very soon these self-taught painters began to draw their inspiration and artistic motivation out of their own tradition and folklore, their surroundings, customs, field works

and rituals of their plain field. And they have preserved it until today.

The painters from Kovačica have a common style characteristics and because of this fact their work was originally called „a school“. The motives of their paintings are nostalgic, idyllic images, telling about past times, life on streets and in rural yards, about work on fields, village life, showing an ambient of village rooms with old rugs and old things. The portraits and still life are not so often depicted.

An important role in the affirmation of painting art of Slovaks in Vojvodina belongs to the representatives of naive art school of Kovačica: Martin Jonaš, Zuzana Chalupova, Jan Knjazovic, Martin Paluška, Jan Sokol and Jan Venjarski. Thanks to these artists and disciples of their work, the painting art of Slovaks in Vojvodina became world famous.

The beginnings of naive painting of Romanians in southern Banat (Serbia) in Uzdin date back in 1961, with a group of women gathered around Anujka Maran. Their main characteristic was a preoccupation with motives of Romanian folklore.



KOVAČICA

“Metropolis of naive art” - the Municipality of Kovačica cherishes the tradition of naive art for seven decades.

Kovačica is a town and municipality located in the South Banat District of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Serbia), on the area of 419 square kilometres. 15 km of the river Tamiš runs through the north-west part of the Kovačica municipality. East part of the municipality is covered by the Deliblatska peščara (the only European desert) with its specific geographical features.

The town was founded in the 18th century, but there are records of small settlements dating from 1458. Settlement was founded in 1750 and was settled (in 1751-1752) by Serb soldiers from Potisje and Pomorišje, after military frontier in these regions was abolished. In

1767, Kovačica was included into German regiment of Banatian Military Frontier. First Slovaks came here in 1783. From the middle of the 19th century, Kovačica is a center of municipality and cultural and social center of Slovaks in Banat. It is important to say that the origin of one Nobel prize laureate is from the Municipality of Kovačica, more precisely Idvor, a birthplace of Mihajlo Pupin Idvorski.

In the Municipality of Kovačica you can visit several other galleries, museums and resorts, enjoy many events and try various gastronomic specialties out of traditional cuisines of Slovaks, Hungarians, Romanians and other national minorities living in this region.

Kovačica is located 27 km from Pančevo and 43 km from Belgrade. Coordinates: DMS 45° 6' 25.2" N, 20° 37' 10.2" E
Decimal 45.107, 20.6195

“Places where fairy tales are painted”

Naive Art trails - connect UNESCO “World editorial center devoted to naive art”, galleries, ethno houses, museums and resting place in Kovacica, Padina and Uzdin villages.



Locations:

1. Gallery of naive art in Kovačica
2. "Framed memories" Collection
3. Gallery Babka
4. Memorial house of Martin Jonaš
5. Naiva Art Kult
6. Jan Nemček - Violin maker Workshop



GALLERY OF NAIVE ART IN KOVAČICA

Gallery of naive art in Kovačica was founded in 1955. Today, the gallery is placed in the building surrounded by ateliers of naive painters and it has 821 paintings in its fund.

There are 31 paintings of Zuzana Chalupova in the permanent display, all are oil on canvas, as well as her easel, diplomas and a bust, while the permanent display of Martin Jonaš has 28 paintings.

Various cultural events are being organized in this gallery, and the most important is a traditional painting exhibition The Kovačica October.



“FRAMED MEMORIES” collection

In 2016, in Kovačica, a collection of paintings by the progenitors and other naive painters from Kovačica was opened to the public, filling an area of more than 85 m².

The collector, Jano Čeh, also the owner of the collection called “Framed Memories”, was a great friend and collaborator with the most famous painters of naive art from Kovačica and Padina, whose works of art are in the collection.

Gallery BABKA

Gallery Babka in Kovačica was founded in the middle of 1991. The main goal of its founder Pavel Babka was an affirmation of young generation of painters from Kovačica, as well as getting an attention to some other artistic crafts in this town.

Gallery Babka is active by the principle of UNESCO Living Human Treasure, which involves a free transmitting of knowledge and skills in manufacturing artistic items and souvenirs to younger generations. In 2001, this gallery within an Ethno center Babka was acclaimed by UNESCO as the world center of publishing activities about naive painting.



Memorial house of Martin Jonaš



Memorial house of Martin Jonaš



Memorial house of Martin Jonaš

The MEMORIAL HOUSE of the painter Martin Jonaš

The works of naive painter Martin Jonaš from Kovačica are characterized by the motives of hard-working farmers in their fields and in front of their homes, with grotesque big legs and hands and small heads. The paintings of Martin Jonaš are dominated by orange colour of harvest.

Martin Jonaš had 450 exhibitions during his life, his paintings are displayed in many world galleries.

The legacy of Jonaš contains about 150 of his paintings, but also artworks of other authors that he bought and collected. There are various books, a collection of hand-painted plates, furniture, Slovak folk costumes.



Martin Jonaš, Moje bohatstvo, 1988

Naiva ART KULT

Naiva Art Kult is an association of painters and town dwellers, established in 2014, with the goals of Culture preservation and development, art and multiculturalism.

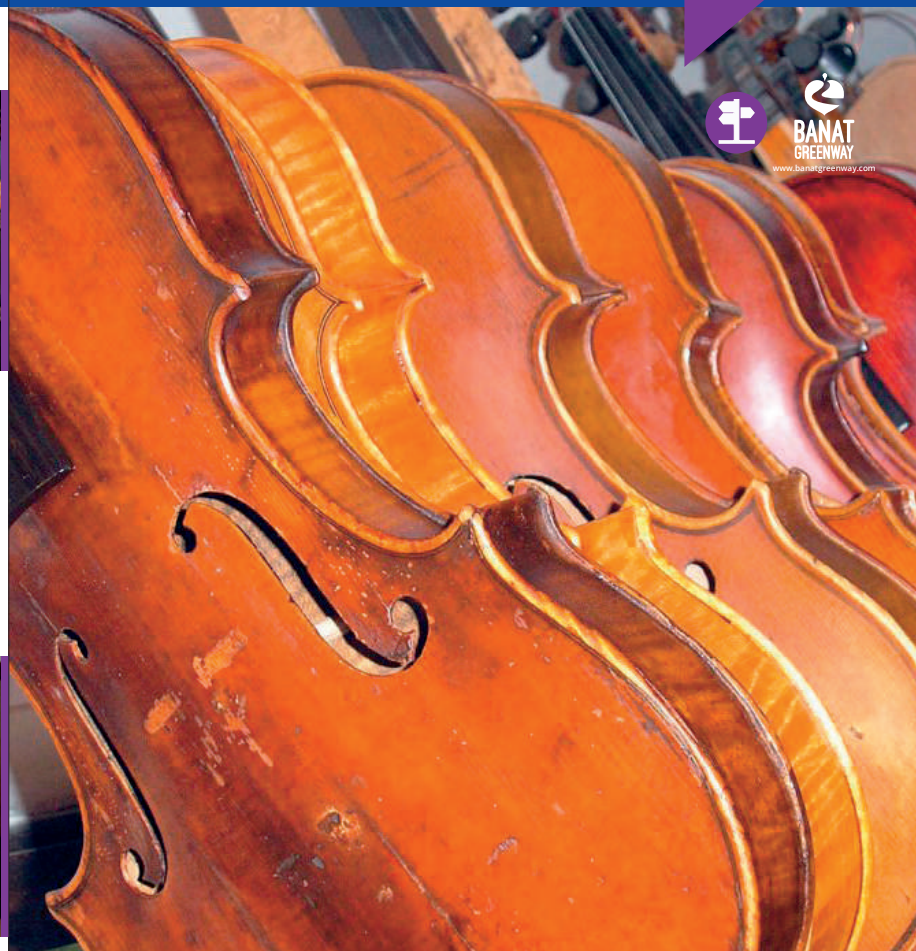
Their very special attention is given to naive fine art. In NAK premises, they organize international fine art colonies, workshops, lectures, classes and exhibitions of both young and established artist. The permanent exhibition hosts the painting of naive and contemporary painters from Kovačica and Padina, Serbia and abroad.



JAN NEMČEK - violin makers workshop

During our visit of the violin maker Jan Nemček he introduced us with the techniques of hand-crafting stringed instruments. **Jan finished secondary music school in Belgrade. He was self-taught and began constructing violins.**

He was on specialization with Rudolf Bartole in the famous Lajpcichschool, oscillation theory mastered in cooperation with Professor Lidija Paržik Tanasijević, daughter of Charles Paržik famous violin makers. This craftsman from Kovačica has managed to open a school for violin makers in the Slovakian town of Zvolen, afterwards the school continued to lead his son Jan Nemček junior.





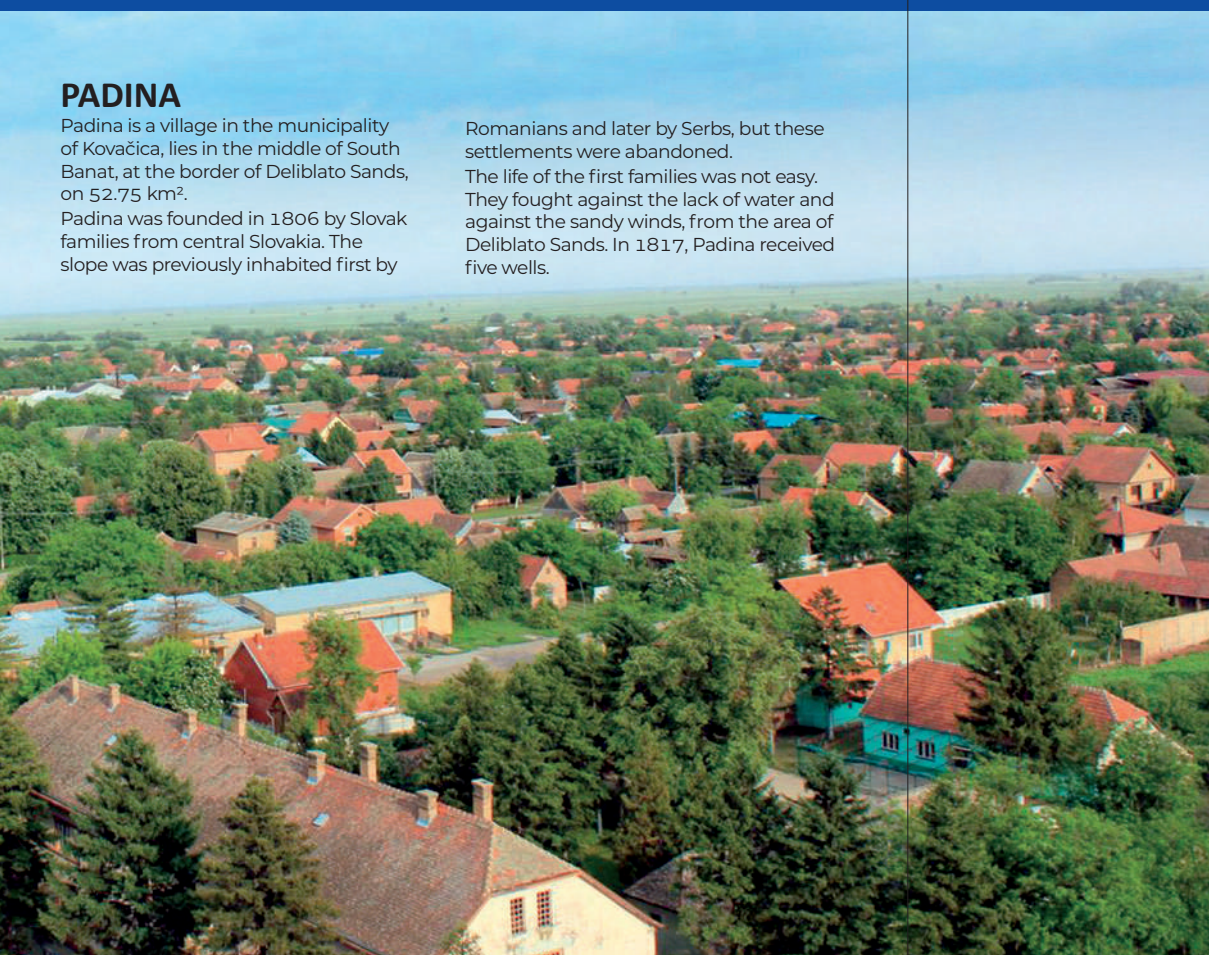
PADINA

Padina is a village in the municipality of Kovačica, lies in the middle of South Banat, at the border of Deliblato Sands, on 52.75 km².

Padina was founded in 1806 by Slovak families from central Slovakia. The slope was previously inhabited first by

Romanians and later by Serbs, but these settlements were abandoned.

The life of the first families was not easy. They fought against the lack of water and against the sandy winds, from the area of Deliblato Sands. In 1817, Padina received five wells.



Locations:

1. Gallery of Naive Art in Padina
2. Ethnographic Museum in Padina
3. Ethno House in Padina

PADINA





Gallery of NAIVE ART in Padina

A gallery space for exhibitions of naive painters from Padina is located in Cultural center "Michal Babinka" and it was open in the middle of 70s.

In 2011, naive artists from Padina founded the association Smäd (thirst). The joint exhibition of these artists is in September, when the Padina Days of Culture are traditionally held.



Ethnographic museum

ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM

Slovak ethnographic museum in Padina - This old house was bought and adapted into the form of ethnographic museum by Pavel Petraš. He collected and restored discarded furniture, various accessories, tools and clothing of the ancestors of today's inhabitants of Padina. **The result of his life passion is an impressive collection with about 7.000 authentic display items from the local community.**

ETHNO HOUSE in Padina

It is a Slovak national house, presenting the life of Slovaks in Padina in 19th Century. A display in this house is authentic. This old house is owned by Evangelical Church. In 2006, in honor of the jubilee 200 years since settlement of Padina, a group of citizens together with the members of Association of Women (who were the initiators of the project) renovated this house and installed the old items (collected in the village) with an aim to present the life of ancestors.



Ethnographic museum



Ethno house



Ethnographic museum



Ethnographic museum



Ethnographic museum



Ethno house



Padina's wells digging started in 1814, and was funded by the state. Today, wells may illustrate the zeal and struggle for survival of peasants from Padina. Šajben's well is accessible for tourists, it has been restored and represents the example of Banat wells.



**BANAT
GREENWAY**

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UZDIN

Uzdin is a village located in the Kovačica municipality, in the South Banat District (Serbia).

The emergence of the new settlement Uzдина is closely linked to the establishment of the military landscape, which defended Banat, keeping the border of the Danube, and which was the dam for the further surge of the Turks.

In 1724, the Austrian marshal Francesco, alongside the Serbs, colonized the Romanians, who were fleeing from the Turkish yoke, descended through the Transylvanian alps into the fertile Banat plain. The colonized Romanian population was first inhabited at the site of today's (then the desert) Padina around 1767.

The transition to the present location of the village of Uzдина followed the unfavorable living conditions (water shortage) in 1776.

Uzдин is located north of Kovačica, at a distance of 10 km. This village belongs to the Potamisk settlements and only 5 km from Tamiš river. Coordinates:

DMS 45° 12' 10" N, 20° 37' 7" E
Decimal 45.202778, 20.618611

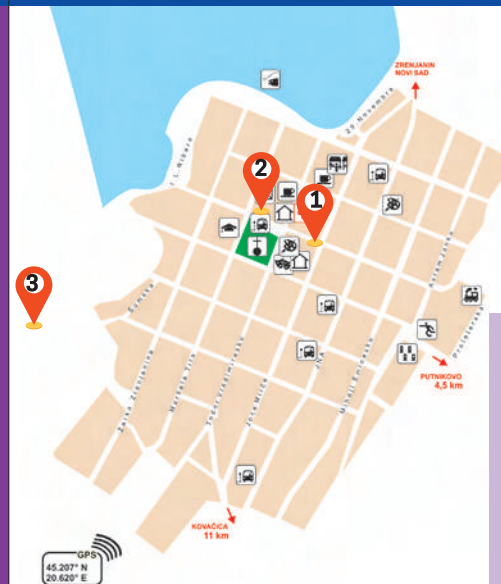




The Church of St George in Uzdin

- is one of the most magnificent Parishes of the Romanian Orthodox Churches in Vojvodina. It was built and consecrated in 1801. The iconostasis in this temple was being painted from 1833 to 1836 by the famous painter Konstantin Danilo.

The naïve painter Anujka Maran painted the wooden church banners - "LITIJA"(Processions) in oil painting technique on canvas in 1940 and 1950. Therefore, the naïve art was acknowledged by the side of the Roman Orthodox Church and it is officially used during divine services.



UZDIN



Locations:

1. Gallery of naïve paintings in Uzdin
2. Ethno House in Uzdin – Romanian House
3. Resting place on Tamis River, Uzdin

Naive painting in Uzdin

The beginnings of naïve painting in Uzdin date back in 1961, when a group of women around Anujka Maran decided to started to transmit the old patterns from hand-woven carpets and aprons onto paper, and later on canvas.

Their main characteristic was a complete preoccupation with motives of Romanian folklore, the way they kept it in their memories and the way they could see it on the streets, in the fields, by the yarns, on celebrations, in the village.

Besides an artistic value, the paintings of these women from Uzdin are important for another reason. They are an important help to the sociologists, ethnologists, folklorists and all those who are interested in reconstruction of our cultural phenomenons and achievements.

Gallery of NAIVE PAINTING in Uzdin

Naive painting in Uzdin is truly an artistic treasury and it should be well preserved, but at the same time available for all the admirers of fine art. A four decades ago, this was also the opinion of Adam Doklean and dr Petru Dimča, when they decided to preserve and display all the valuable works of painters from Uzdin on one place. It was the beginning of Gallery of naive painting in Uzdin, which was opened on November 17th, 1963.

A modern gallery of naive painting was open together with Cultural center in 1990. Today there are about 100 artistic works of painters from Uzdin.

Today, in the gallery of naive paintings in Uzdin can be seen the paintings by Maria Balan, Anuika Maran, Ana Onkuji, Florica Puia, Mariora Motorisesku, Sofia Doklsan, Anuca Dolame, Florica Cet, Viorika Jerorje.



Gallery of naive painting



Gallery of naive painting



Gallery of naive painting

ETHNO HOUSE in Uzdin - Romanian house

„Romanian House“ in Uzdin was founded in 2005 in cooperation with Romanian consul in Belgrade, Radu Bajenaru. This house is the first national object of this type outside Romania. At the same time, it became the real Romanian cultural center, in which the various events are being held.

The house has several rooms and every room is presenting some thematical part. Inside the house are: the Library Petru Mezin with over 4,000 books in its fund, the gallery Torna, Torna Fratre, a poetic terrace Targovistea, museum room Sports in Uzdin through Centuries, a rich collection of old household items, a collection of folk costumes, as well as a room with traditional style of Uzdin.

The exhibition items in this house have great museum and spiritual value.

RESTING PLACE on Tamiš river in Uzdin

The equipment for the rest area on the River Tamiš in Uzdin was financed by the EU through the INTERREG IPA CBS Romania-Serbia program within the project "BANAT GREENWAY CORRIDOR - Connecting people with nature and culture".

The street leading from the village of Uzdin to the rest area is: Šumska street. River Tamiš is a lowland river with total length 359 km, of which 241 km of its flow is in Romania and 118 km in Serbia. It rises in the northern part of the Romanian Carpathians, passes through the entire Banat and flows into the Danube in Pancevo.



Romanian house



Romanian house

Uzdin - "Places where fairy tales are painted"



Resting place on Tamiš river, Uzdin



Municipality of Kovačica

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T: +381 13 661 047

Tourist information:



**Tourist Organization of Kovačica
Municipality**

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BANAT HOUSE

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T: +381 64 6453321

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(N: 4971403 E: 490378)

*Source of information, text and photos
TOOK - Tourist Organization of Kovačica Municipality
Source of photos: Naive Art Kult, Kovačica*



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Lead Beneficiary: Cornereva Hall (RO)
Project Partners: Municipality of Kovačica (SRB)
Assoc."Friends of Pancevo" (SRB)
Total project budget: 528.952,20 EUR
EU funding: 449.609,37 EUR
Implementation period: 22.12.2020 - 20.12.2022

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Romania - Serbia

Cooperation beyond borders

Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Romania-Serbia Programme is financed by the European Union under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) and co-financed by the partner states in the Programme.



Attractiveness for
sustainable tourism

Project title: BANAT GREENWAY CORRIDOR - Connecting People to Nature and Culture (eMS Code: RORS-372)
Material editor: Assoc."Friends of Pancevo"
Publishing date: March 2022

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