

Nin (HR)

THE PUBLIC LOOP

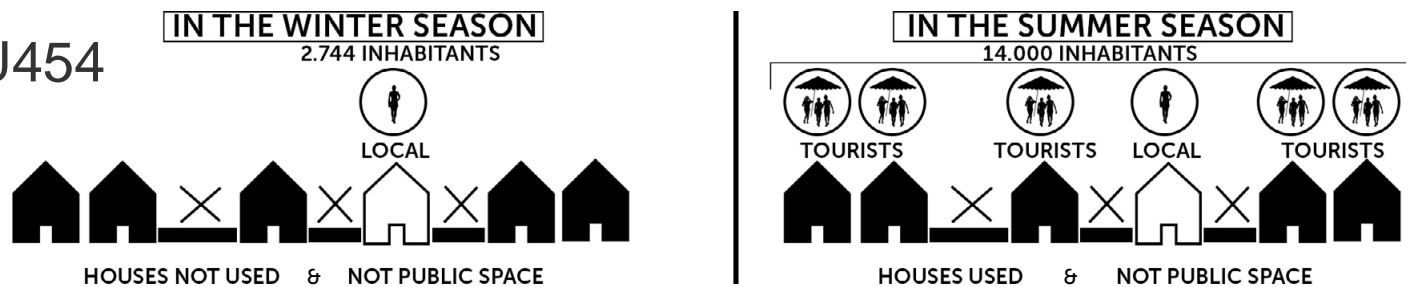
ANALYSIS

NIN: THE "SEASONAL TOWN"

The City of Nin is situated in an enchanting naturalistic environment, characterized by beautiful beaches and salt dunes, full of history dating back to the Pre - Roman Age, that made it a very popular holiday destination.

It would be possible to describe it as a **"SEASONAL TOWN"** that frequently expands and narrows over the year (the stable local population counts 2.744 people including the surrounding areas, while they expand in the summer time reaching a total of more 14.000 people), and that is characterized by a **ZONED AND DISCONTINUOUS TERRITORIAL SETTING**. In this case, the idea of "productivity" is deeply related to the identity of the place itself, which touristic behaviour clearly emerges, but that at the same time **NEEDS TO RE-ESTABLISH A "EVERYDAY LIFE" DIMENSION**.

EU454



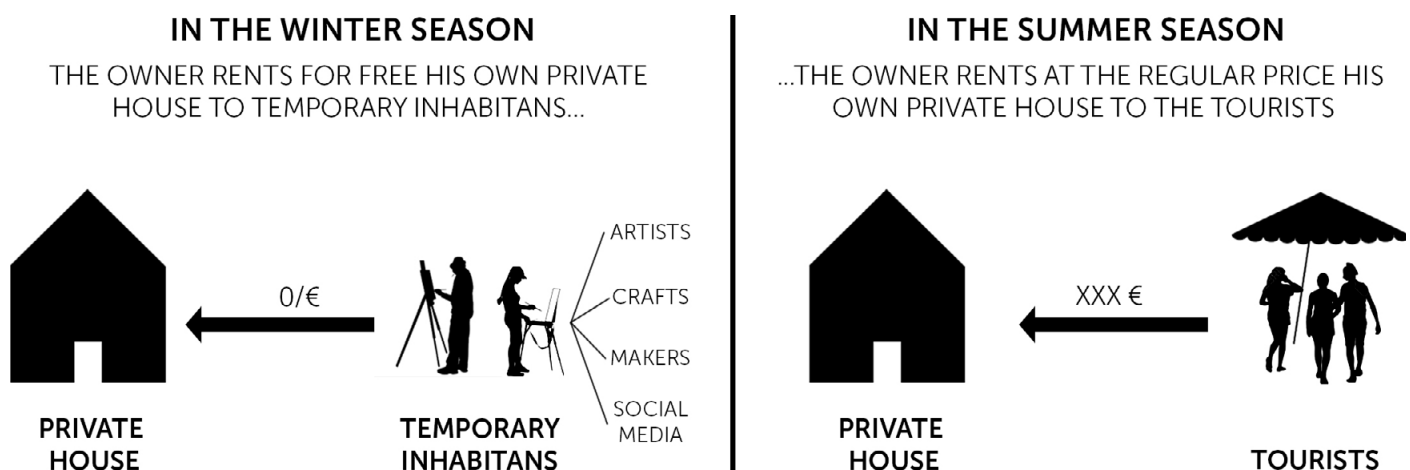
BUT, HOW IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RESTORE A BALANCE WITHIN THE SUMMER AND WINTER GROWTH OF THE CITY OF NIN?

AND, HOW TO TRIGGER A CHANGE OF THE URBAN AND ECONOMICAL METABOLISM OF THE CITY, PROMOTING A FAR-REACHING PARADIGM SHIFT ?

The answer does not consist into a strict architectural project, but it proposes a **STRATEGIC ADAPTIVE PROCESS**, organized in multiple consecutive phases, able to adopt short-term solutions generating a far-reaching economical and territorial shift, using "the winter use of summer strategy".

The City's Metabolism change is going to be reached adopting two main actions: to **MAXIMIZE THE ATTRACTIVITY** of Nin for long-term inhabitants and to **IMPLEMENT** the public and private **ACCOMODATION AND FACILITIES**.

The **ART** has been proposed as a **NEW ATTRACTIVE FUNCTION** for the City, able to lure foreign people to come not only during the summer time, but especially during the winter season (new winter tourism), and promoting a progressive process of a **NEW COMMUNITY STABILIZATION**. The "Winter use of summer strategy", instead, promotes a progressive implementation of the public spaces system, while new typologies of dwellings are going to ensure adequate private accommodations.



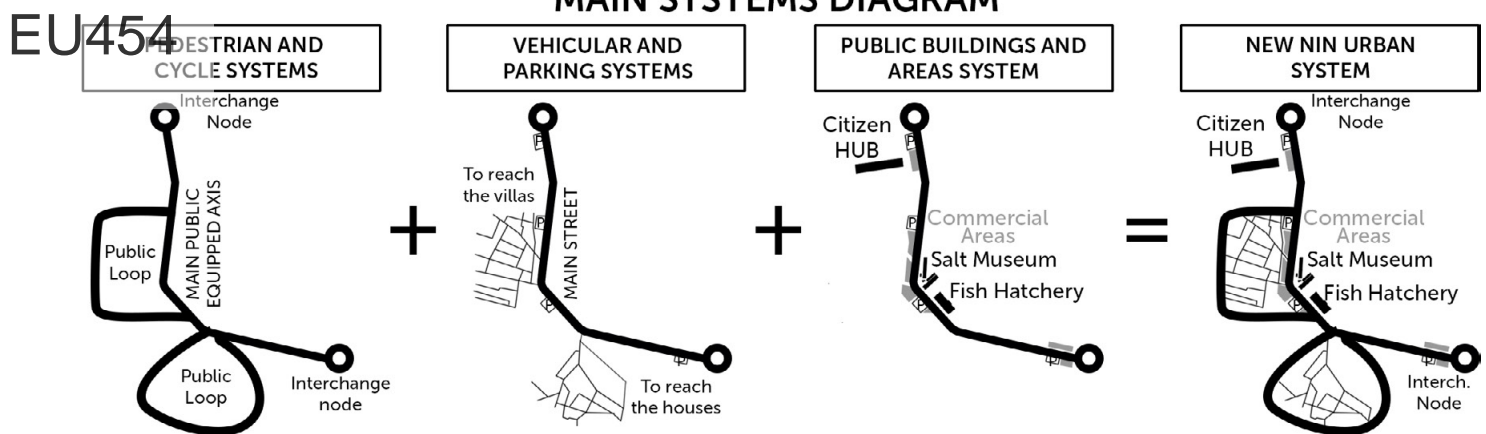
Today, the **COMPLETE INVOLVEMENT OF THE LOCAL POPULATION** is strongly needed, as the key factor for a successful strategy of intervention. Different workshops and open public debates would be organized, aimed to delineate a **COMMON VISION FOR THE FUTURE URBAN DEVELOPMENT** of the City of Nin and the Ždrijac neighborhood. The 1 step of the "winter use of summer strategy" aims to progressively reach a paradigm shift, offering to the owners of the existing private houses to rent them for free to temporary inhabitants during the winter period (artists, craftsmen, sculptors, writers, social media managers etc), that will be asked to contribute to the growth of the City with exhibitions, pieces of art, events, sponsorships, while continuing to regularly rent them to the tourists in the summer.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

A NEW URBAN SYSTEM

The strategy of the project proposes a new **MAIN PUBLIC EQUIPPED AXIS** (Salt Line) linking two interchange nodes, where to park your car and grab a different public means of transport (bus, bike, electric scooters, etc.), placed in the western and eastern parts of the City. This is going to be a vehicular boulevard, with cycle paths and wide sidewalks, with an active role of refurbishment and requalification of the entire area. **TWO PUBLIC LOOPS** will move from the main Axis, consisting in cycle and pedestrian paths surrounding the main residential areas. The first Public Loop defines the boundaries of the Ždrijac neighborhood, composed by four main "Lines"; the second one draws the edges of the Old Town, ensuring a walkable enjoyment of the City most relevant spots. The **VEHICULAR ROADS** serving both the residential areas will move from the Main Public Equipped Axis, leading to the existing houses and villas Zone 30), while many **PARKING LOTS** will be placed along the main street. The Salt Line will act as a urban strip linking all the main commercial buildings and public areas, starting from the existing Brick Factory area, and collecting the Salt Museum, the Fish Hatchery, the Old Town and the Bird watching spots.

MAIN SYSTEMS DIAGRAM



THE FOUR LINES OF THE PUBLIC LOOP

The **PUBLIC LOOP** is composed by **FOUR MAIN "LINES"**, that as said, defines the borders of the Ždrijac neighborhood, all conceived as completely flexible areas able to adapt to the winter and summer seasons, and to the changing needs of the inhabitants and tourists.

The first one that is going to be completed is the **STONE LINE**, located in the "West Wing". It consists in a mineral surfaced pedestrian promenade, placed in a very strategic area, connecting the Salt Line to the Beach area and overseeing the Old Town. It is characterized by many pedestrian axis, public squares, seating and resting areas, in addition to green grasses, sport fields and many kiosks. During the cold months, the sport areas will be dedicated



to winter activities as ice-rinks, while during the summertime they will host beach volley matches and basketball fields. In the summertime, different kind of artistic exhibitions will take place in the common squares and public walkways, with many shops and cafes that will have the chance to have outdoor equipped and dedicated areas.

The **SAND LINE**, set in the "Beach life" area, is directly connected to the sea, offering pedestrian paths and equipped relaxing areas. This is one of the most attractive areas of the city, and at the same time, the most vulnerable ecosystem. The main aim of the proposed intervention was to preserve this fragile area, while offering new

features able to empower the relationship between people and the area itself. Little wooden kiosks are set, able to host different kind of functions during the different seasons. In the summertime, it would be possible to organize there massages, gatherings, heterogeneous entertainment event, while they may turn also into storages during the winter.

The **WOOD LINE**, or the "River (be / in) side", re-defines the river banks as new equipped areas, creating a connective area between the Ždrijac neighborhood and the possible future expansion residential area. Small structures can house different laboratories during the winter, becoming market shops in the summertime, and where it would be possible to fish and mooring the boats and kayaks.

The **SALT LINE**, or the "Fish salt and greenery", is going to be the last completed strip of the proposed Public Loop infrastructure. Set in the southern perimeter of the project site, this area is now characterized by the presence of very different zones coexisting, as for the natural saltworks environment, the Fish Hatchery, near residential areas, and abandoned green lots.

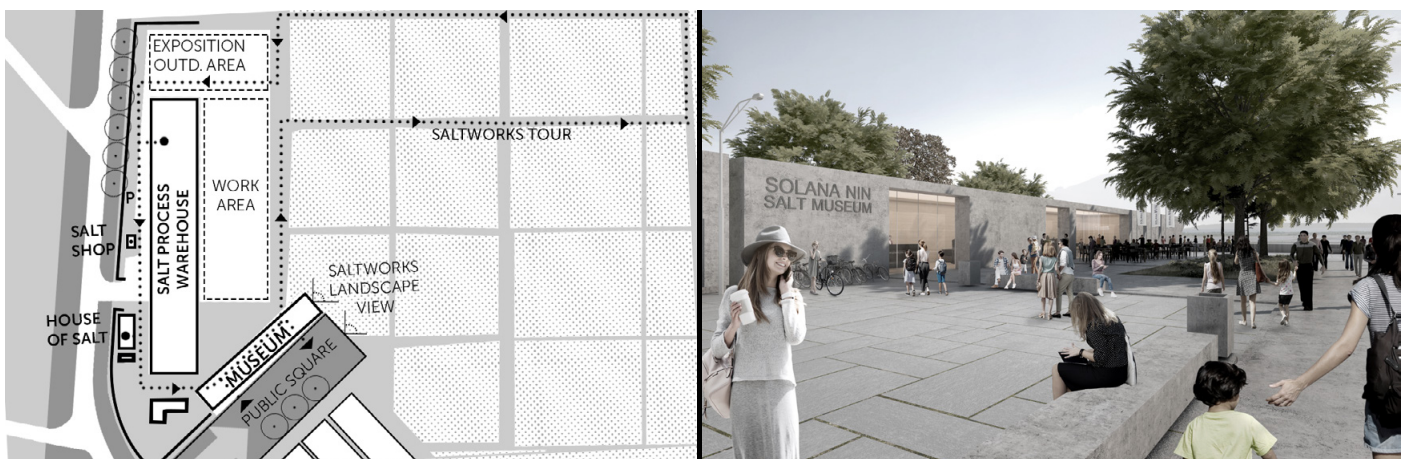
The project proposes a profound re-functionalization of the area, that rises to become the mending urban strip of the City. The Salt Line will become the main vehicular boulevard, with wide sidewalks serving many public commercial activities. Cycle paths will link two interchange nodes, placed in the western part of the City, close to the new public square set near the Kraljičin put, and near to the existing Brick Factory area, in the eastern side. The new equipped axis will connect all the main existing activities, re-functionalizing and re-furbishing at the same time all the abandoned public areas. Different common spaces, public squares and parking lots will take place along the Salt Line, also with commercial shops and kiosks.

The project also aims to re-functionalize the existing Brick Factory area, located in the eastern part of the City, thanks to a **CITIZENS HUB**, collecting different social and collective activities. A small Museum for the new artists living in the City during the winter, offices and infopoints will take place there, that will aware about the "winter use of summer strategy" going on, keeping the inhabitants updated about the urban development of the City.

THE EXPANSION OF THE SALT MUSEUM

The project for the expansion of the existing Salt Museum "Solana Nin", proposes the addition of a new building dedicated to new exhibition rooms, services and a cafeteria.

The new extension is set in front of the new public square facing the saltworks area, acting as an **ACCESS POINT TO THE ENTIRE SALT MUSEUM COMPLEX**. The external facades are going to be characterized by natural materials and simple geometric lines, in order to be well connected to the surrounding natural context. The linear building is characterized by a central core, where all the services and storages take place, and two exhibition rooms placed at the head.



The **MAIN ENTRANCE** from the public square led to the infopoint/ticket office and the first exhibition area; from here, it would be possible to walk a corridor set up with different kind of installations, linking the second and biggest **EXHIBITION ROOM**, with a large window overseeing the enchanting saltworks landscape. A **COFFEE SHOP** is placed at the center of the Museum, with a dedicated outdoor area.

Moving from the new linear extension of the Museum, it would be possible to join the **SALTWORKS TOUR**, that will offer a tremendous **WALK** inside this enchanting environment with the chance to see also the native animals of the area, a **SNEAK PEEK INSIDE THE EXISTING WAREHOUSE**, and a quick stop at the dedicated **SALT SHOP** and the **HOUSE OF SALT**.

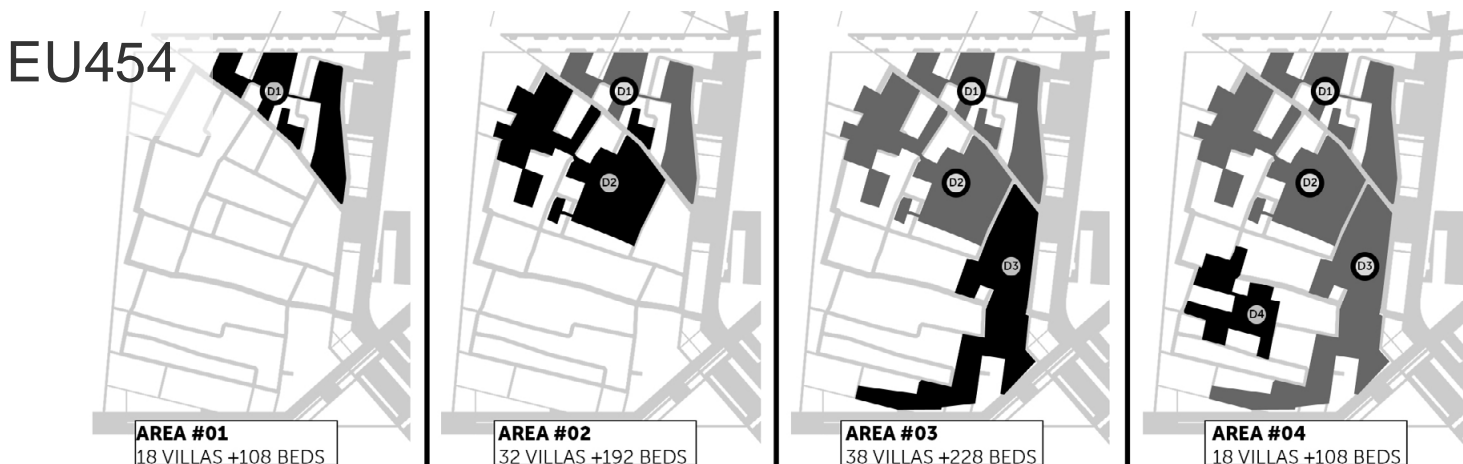
ŽDRIJAC NEIGHBORHOOD

A NEW PRODUCTIVE STRATEGY

The Public Loop will enclose the Ždrijac neighborhood, offering not only pedestrian walkways and cycle paths moving through the area, but also enhancing the deep relationship between **HUMAN BEINGS** and the **SURROUNDING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**. The main goal of the proposed strategic adaptive process provides a progressive **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIVATE ACCOMODATIONS** (both existing and newly constructed), organized in multiple phases, after the completion of the Public Loop and all the services provided with the Salt Line in particular.

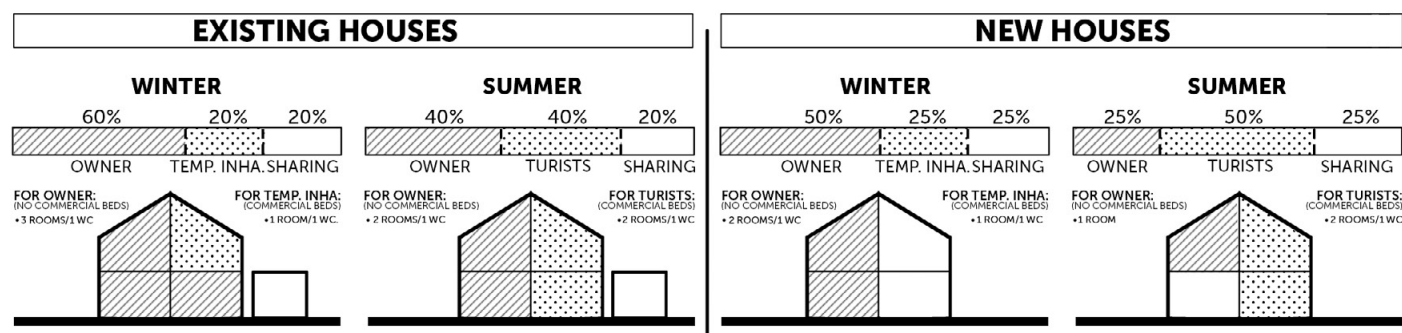
The construction of the new "Nin dwellings" will include the privately owned lands within the neighborhood, with new two-floors accommodations in the central area, and three-floor accommodations along the Salt Line.

The realization will be organized in different phases (I Phase will provide the construction of +18 villas for a total of +108 beds; the II Phase will add +32 villas and +192 beds; the III Phase will add +38 villas for a total of +228 beds; IV Phase +18 villas and +108 beds), to ensure a completely controlled process.



NIN DWELLINGS

"**TOTALLY RETHINKING THE WAY TO EXPERIENCE A HOLIDAY**". This has been the main focus of the design of NIN dwellings. Starting from the **INTIMANTE DESIRE FOR KNOWLEDGE** that drives each of us to make a journey learning new cultures and people, the main idea of the project proposes **SHARED HOMES** that will offer spaces where **TOURISTS AND TEMPORARY INHABITANTS** can get in touch giving the way to new **SYNERGIES WITH LOCAL CITIZENS**. So, each house will consist of at least **ONE SHARING SPACE** dedicated to the most of daily activities, where the locals will be able to share thoughts, traditional recipes, characteristic places and personal stories with tourists/ temporary inhabitants, collecting, at the same time, different experiences of the latter, in a **RECIPROCAL ENRICHING CONTAMINATION**.



CONCLUSIONS

A NEW CITY METABOLISM

Responding to the needs and expectations of the population through the **CHANGEABILITY AND ADAPTIVITY OF SPACES** has always been one of the main tasks of architecture. For this reason, the proposed strategy and the design approach aim to balance all the different factors acting on the City of Nin. First of all, the **MASSIVE TOURISTIC FLOW COMING DURING THE SUMMER SEASON**, filling up the entire territory, which unfortunately today, devoid of suitable services, public spaces and activities, is definitely unbalanced. Through the structural interventions proposed by the project, the goal is to ensure a well-balanced growth of the City over the next few years, turning into a place where the mutual exchange of social relationships, experiences and cultures among people, rise to **BECOME A DRIVING FORCE FOR A PARADIGM SHIFT. NOT JUST URBAN, BUT ALSO HUMAN.**