



**Presentation to the Mayor of Vis  
December 2025**



## **WHO WE ARE**

Street Cats of Vis is a volunteer-run non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers to help people help street cats on the island of Vis. We've been doing this work since 2018 and formally became an udruga in 2024.

## **OUR MISSION**

We believe that caring for community cats must be a community effort. We educate residents and visitors about simple, effective ways to improve the health and welfare of street cats, and we promote sterilisation as the only humane, sustainable method of stabilising the cat population.

## **HOW THIS HELPS LOCALS AND TOURISTS ALIKE**

A stabilised street cat population means fewer fights, fewer kittens at risk, and a healthier, calmer presence of cats on the island. This improves hygiene, reduces complaints, and creates a better environment for residents.

Visitors frequently contact us to say how much they appreciate the island's cats and the care they receive. Supporting cat welfare strengthens Vis's image as a compassionate and well-managed community — something tourists notice and value.

## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

We regularly receive messages, emails, and requests for help from both locals and tourists. These reflect genuine community concern for cat welfare, and show that people want Vis to continue setting a positive example in humane population management.

## **WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY**

**1. Storage space for equipment and food donations** (page 4)

**2. Space to care for sick and injured cats** (page 5)

**3. Volunteer accommodation** (page 6)

## WE NEED STORAGE SPACE FOR EQUIPMENT AND FOOD DONATIONS

Our equipment — especially expensive traps — must be stored properly so it remains in good condition. We rely on these tools to carry out sterilizations.

Transport boxes used for vet visits, sterilizing, lending to locals, and transporting adopted cats are currently stored outside in poor conditions.

Donations of blankets, towels, and sheets are also being kept outdoors under a plastic cover, putting them at risk of damage.

We occasionally receive large donations (up to 1000 kg of dry food), which currently must be stored outdoors, where it can be damaged by weather, rodents, or insects.



## WE NEED MORE SPACE TO CARE FOR SICK AND INJURED CATS

We need a room that can hold several large cages for isolation when needed, plus open space where cats in recovery can move freely, socialize, and receive enrichment. The space must be warm, dry, and equipped with electricity and running water.

Cats that can be treated and safely returned to where they were found are returned, but it's not always possible. In those cases, we consider keeping the cat in our care and getting it ready for adoption, which means continued treatment as needed, socializing, and passport preparation.

Adoption is reserved only for cats where there is no viable street option, such as the following:

- Sick kittens raised inside because they have no street survival skills
- Kittens from Wellington because of the high risk of disease
- Disabled cats (blind, amputee, with chronic disease...)



## **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS AND A PLACE FOR THEM TO STAY**

Caring for sick and injured cats is time-intensive. Even the 15 cats currently receiving recovery and socializing care require several hours of work every day: feeding, administering medication, cleaning, enrichment, and, occasionally, transportation to and from the vet.

When we take in a cat, we not only treat it, we socialize it until it becomes adoptable. This investment is essential. No one wants to adopt a cat that is terrified of people.

We have not succeeded in attracting enough local volunteers to help us with this work, but foreign volunteers are interested and willing. Unfortunately, we can't host them because we have no accommodation to offer. We can't expect them to volunteer their time and pay for their accommodation as well.

The requirement is minimal: a simple room with a small kitchen and bathroom.



*Many cats on the island contract the herpes virus, which eats away at their eyes. If caught in time, it can be cured, but in these two cases, sadly, enucleation was the only option. Both of these kittens went on to find loving homes.*





*One of the main reasons we advocate so strongly for sterilizing is to prevent the tragedy of dumping, which is still extremely prevalent. This cat who had been abandoned at Wellington needed to stay in our care after she was sterilized due to complications, and she went on to find a loving home.*



**Mon, Feb 3, 9:42 AM**  
**Usvajanje Plavog**  
**pl.marunic@gmail.com**

Poštovani,

Od 15.03. se selim živjeti na Vis, i željela sam udomiti Glušu kojeg sam svako ljeto hranila i čuvala, no saznala sam da ga je uzela gospođa koja tvrdi da je njen.

U tom slučaju ću rado udomiti Plavog. Ja bih macu koja je u kući jer osobno nemam sape brinuti gdje spava i hoće li ga netko povrijediti dok je vani ( ljudi su svakakvi)

Zanima me hoćete li mi dopustiti da ga udomim, koja je procedura i košta li išta da se znam pripremiti. Macu, osim Gluše, nisam nikad imala i svaki savjet će mi dobro doći. Ja ću biti zaposlena ( radit ću kao pedagog u dječjem vrtiću Komiža) i imam sredstva i ljubavi brinuti se o Plavom.

Hvala Vam najljepša

Plamenka Marunić

Moj mobitel: 091 1672264

**Mon, Feb 3, 1:08 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you so much for your email and interest in Plavi!

The most important thing you need to know about him is his FIV status. He does have some health problems because of this but he is very easy to treat.

Plavi doesn't have an adoption fee because of his health. There will be a simple adoption contract. And we will make sure you understand his needs before you decide to adopt him

Currently I'm away from Vis and will return at the end of February. I think it would be great if we could meet each other and you can meet him too when you are here and are ready

In the meantime feel free to ask any questions

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)  
Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

**Thu, Feb 13, 9:37 AM**  
**(no subject)**  
**ana.stiropor@gmail.com**

Dobar dan

Trebala bi pomoć oko tri mace.

Jedna će kotit kroz tjedan dana

Jednu treba sterilizirati

I jedan mačak, tata od maca koje se trebaju okotiti, je ozljedio zadnju nogu. Iz vana se ne vidi ozljeda ali nikad ne staje na nju i kad ga diramo po nozi boli ga

Nakon šta se ova maca okoti i prestane dojit i nju bi trebalo sterilizirati.

Mace nisu moje već susjedove ali su se nekako složili da vidim šta se može napraviti. Pitome su daju se uloviti.

Kontaktirala sam Jasminu koja mi je rekla da ona i Francesca dolaze krajem mjeseca pa evo ovim putem samo da provjerim kada dolaze.

Mace su u komiži i može se doći autom blizu.

Moj broj je

098537081

Ana

**Thu, Feb 13, 7:09 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

hvala vam što brinete o ovim mačkama.

Morat ćete kontaktirati gospođu Rosana posebno u vezi mačaka za sterilizaciju, ali nadamo se da ona može pomoći i ozlijeđenoj mački. poznajete li je ako ne trebaš, moram pronaći njezin broj Ako ne može pomoći, javite mi i ja ću vas kontaktirati kad se vratim u ožujku.

U međuvremenu također možete razgovarati s veterinarom izravno +38598392770

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)

Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR

OIB : HR39604023351

IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

Gmail Search mail

(no subject) Inbox x

**stiropor stiropor** <ana.stiropor@gmail.com>  
to me

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to stiropor

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**Wed, May 21, 10:25 PM**  
**Stray Cats in Komiza**  
**laura.lochschildt@gmail.com**

Hello,

My name is Laura, and I'm from Germany. I have personally been involved in animal welfare for several years, caring for stray cats. At the moment, I'm traveling by sailboat in Croatia.

Yesterday, we visited Komiza on the island of Vis for one night. I noticed many well-cared-for and well-fed cats, which was lovely to see. However, I also saw a few kittens that concerned me, so I gave them some wet food I bought at a supermarket. These kittens were right in front of the Studenac Market, Put Batude 1A, and had several scabbed spots.

There was also a group of very young cats at the corner near the ELEN Charging Station, Ul. Hrvatskih mučenika 14. They were very hungry and some of them were extremely thin.

Unfortunately, we are already back on the move, as I have to follow the schedule of my crew. Still, I would really like to support you in some way and just wanted to ask if the cats I mentioned are known and being cared for. I would also be interested to know whether you prepare cats for adoption abroad, theoretically speaking.

A little over a year ago, I lost my beloved tomcat, and one of the kittens from Komiza hasn't left my mind. She had trouble standing up to the others and was very thin.

I would really appreciate a response.

Warm regards,

Laura

**Thu, May 22, 8:00 AM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi Laura,

Thank you for your email and for caring about these cats. We know the cats that you have taken the photos of. We provide food for two people who feed them daily. I will check in with them as it may be they don't have any more food for the cats. Which cat was having trouble standing up to the other?

We do prepare cats for adoption in Germany. However this is mostly for cats that have come to us in critical condition that can no longer live on the street.

All support is welcome! Sharing our social media post and small monthly donations are some examples of how you can help.

If you are interested we could also add you to our mailing list so you will get our regular newsletter

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)  
Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6



**Laura Lochschmidt** <laura.lochschmidt@gmail.com>  
to me ▾

Wed, May 21, 10:25 PM ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

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However, I also saw a few kittens that concerned me, so I gave them some wet food I bought at a supermarket.

These kittens were right in front of the Studenac Market, Put Batude 1A, and had several scabbed spots.

There was also a group of very young cats at the corner near the ELEN Charging Station, Ul. Hrvatskih mučenika 14.

They were very hungry and some of them were extremely thin.

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She had trouble standing up to the others and was very thin.

I would really appreciate a response.

Warm regards,

Laura



**Street Cats of Vis** <streetcatsofvis@gmail.com>  
to Laura ▾

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[Street Cats of Vis](#)



**Thu, May 29, 11:12 PM**  
**Kittens with eye infection**  
**larissabst1@gmail.com**

Dear team,

I am a Tourist from Germany. Today I saw a few kittens with a bad eye infection next to Stiniva beach. They were next to a house that seemed to be inhabited. But there were many cats and it seemed like no one really cared.

I am relieved to see that you exist and have formed an organisation to help the poor cats on the streets.

Please let me know what you would advise to do in this situation and if we can support somehow.

Thanks a Lot!

Kindly

Larissa

**Fri, May 30, 10:14 AM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you for your email and for caring about these kittens!

Do you have some pictures?

Francesca

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Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

Gmail Search mail

Kittens with eye infection Inbox x

**Larissa Bast** <larissabst1@gmail.com> to me Thu, May 29, 11:12 PM

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Thanks a Lot!

Kindly  
Larissa

---

**Street Cats of Vis** <streetcatsofvis@gmail.com> to Larissa Fri, May 30, 10:14 AM

Hi,

Thank you for your email and for caring about these kittens!  
Do you have some pictures?

...

**Sat, Jun 21, 7:55 PM**  
**Komiža - Potok ulica**  
**chbilly@hotmail.fr**

Dobar dan,

Congratulations for your work and website on the street cats of Vis Island, it's very well done and super informative. I think every tourist should hear/read about this when coming to Vis (tourist agencies?), i will mention it to my landlord and also talked to my croatian friends about it. I myself saw a poster in the streets.

Also, the voluntourism is a wonderful idea, i wish i heard about it at the begining of my short trip to help out. I was in Komiža today and noticed that the cats there look much less healthier than the ones in Vis town. I especially noticed a group of very bad looking cats on Potok ulica, around number 1, photo attached. I put some water as the bowl was empty dry. They probably are identified already but i wanted to make sure? Also, i saw a few bowls around in Komiža but not a lot of water, i tried to pour some when i could.

I am sorry i can't help out as i will be leaving soon but i will make a donation, hoping it can help.

Thank you for your work,

Best,

Charlotte

**Sat, Jun 21, 2025, 8:58 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you for your email and for caring about the cats here!

Yes we know for these cats and we took 20 cats from this area for sterilizing earlier this year.

We also provide food for the cats here and they are monitored but it always difficult in the summer when local people have other priorities.

I will check in with them too see how are the cats and if they need more food.

We have also provided a water station for the cats in this area and instructed it to be place in a well sheltered area to protect from the heat so it isn't clearly visible for this reason

We will also see if perhaps more water stations are necessary because there are a lot of cats there

Thank you for your support!

Shiva and Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)  
Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

Komiža - Potok ulica Inbox x

 **Charlotte Billy** <chbilly@hotmail.fr>  
to me

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Thank you for your work,

Best,

Charlotte

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

2 Attachments • Scanned by Gmail 📄 ⬇️ 📁 Add all to Drive



 **Street Cats of Vis** <streetcatsofvis@gmail.com>  
to Charlotte

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Thank you for your support!

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[Street Cats of Vis](#)



## **Charlotte Billy's survey**

### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

It is very heartbreaking to see that many cats on the island, wherever you go, you turn around and there's at least 3 of them. You can see them begging for food at restaurants, it's very sad, some of them seem in a bad state. Some are in very remote locations and access to food and water seems difficult...

I reached out to the association Street cats of Vis which i discovered on a poster in Vis city and the website is very well done and informative, every tourist should be informed of this.

### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

Yes i would love to come back to Vis as it was beautiful and peaceful.

### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

Yes i would be interested in volunteering to help out.

### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

There are many things local town hall and public policies can do to help out caring of street animals such as promoting and supporting local associations, preventing abandons and bad treatment, publicly address the importance of caring and preserving the environment and animals and also be innovative in helping out feeding street animals; for example distributors of food like in Istanbul.

I noticed that the town hall in Vis was covering the cost of neutering cats which is amazing, I hope it will continue.

**Sun, Jun 22, 11:21 AM**  
**Injured White Cat**  
**michael.herrick20@gmail.com**

Hello,

I saw your sign earlier today. I am staying at house bava and noticed a white cat near the apartment with an injured eye. I thought this would be the best email to alert to. Attached is a picture.

Best,

Michael

Sent from my iPhone

**Mon, Jun 23, 11:19 AM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you for your email and for caring about this cat

It is very concerning to see such an injury on a white cat here as sadly there is a possibility it is cancer.

This cat appears to be well feed and otherwise in good condition which is good to see.

Do you or would be able to find the local person who cares for this cat?

Feel free to have them contact me directly if possible and I can assist with getting the cat to the vet urgently

Thank you for your help

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)

Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR

OIB : HR39604023351

IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

### Injured White Cat Inbox x

**Michael Herrick** <michael.herrick20@gmail.com>  
to me ▾

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One attachment • Scanned by Gmail ⓘ Add to Drive



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to Michael ▾

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[Street Cats of Vis](#)



## **Michael Herrick's survey**

### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

My wife and I love cats so we were happy to see all the cats on the island. All the cats we encountered were generally happy and wanted to receive pets. As we love cats, it's important to us to see that they are cared for and that includes population control. We know how important it is to TNR to make sure the cats in the population are able to be fed and cared for in a sustainable matter. It was definitely sad to see the one cat we saw with an injury. We know the cats are a pleasant surprise for other tourists as well. We think it's unfair that caring for these cats (which includes feeding and vet visits) rely so heavily on volunteer work.

### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

Absolutely. The island was so hospitable to us and we had an amazing time.

### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

Potentially.

### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

No but thank you for thinking of us and thanks for all you do!

**Wed, Jun 25, 7:07 PM**  
**Injured female cat in Komiža**  
**maris1@gmail.com**

Good evening!

On a walk today we saw a very skinny female cat (her nipples are enlarged so we wonder if she is pregnant or has kittens). Her left eye looks like it is doing poorly. Maybe scar tissue covering the eye or the eye has damage/infection? We saw her on the intersection of Ribarska ul. and Stradun ul. She started to walk east down Ribarska ul. when it started getting more crowded.

We'd love to know how we can get help to her!

Thank you for all you do for the cats of Vis!

Maris

Sent from my iPhone

**Thu, Jun 26, 12:31 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you for your email and for caring about this cat

Poor girl, we will do our best to try find her and help her.

If possible it would be great if your could ask any locals in the area if they know anything about her

Francesca

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IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

Gmail Search mail

Injured female cat in Komiža Inbox x

**Maris Castang** <maris1@gmail.com>  
to me

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Thank you for all you do for the cats of Vis!

Maris

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to Maris

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[Street Cats of Vis](#)

## **Kim and Maris' survey**

### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

It reminded my mom and I of home as we have several cats and also rescue street cats. Seeing the healthier street cats made us happy during walks as we got to interact with them and give them pets. With some of the cats struggling with health problems it did make us a bit sad as we wish we could help more. We still enjoyed all of the love and pets the street cats gave us!

### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

Yes, we loved Vis! We stayed in Komiza and it was so peaceful and quiet. We wished we had stayed longer. We hope to go back one day to do our hikes that we had planned. Unfortunately it was during the heat wave so we did not hike but we still loved the beaches, food and welcoming people!

### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

Yes, one day we would consider that! We would love to help out.

### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

Thank you to the Street Cats of Vis team who were so quick to reply to our message regarding a street cat in need of medical attention. We love your story and love the passion you all have for cats!

**Sun, Jul 13, 8:09 PM**  
**Cat ikke bad consition in Komize**  
**kbtjoernelund@gmail.com**

Hello,

First I want to say, that I'm very happy that you exist!

Visiting Vis island for the first time, this place is wonderful. But the cats, they break my heart!

Today I observed a cat that really needs help! It is in a bad skin condition, and in addition, there is something wrong with its mouth.

It's located near the supermarket, see attached photo.

It is also very interested in contact.

Can you help?

Best Regards

Karen

**Mon, Jul 14, 2025, 4:56 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi,

Thank you for caring about this cat!

Yes we know this cat and we have someone closely monitoring him and ensuring he has food and water.

We have plans to take him to the vet this week

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)  
Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
IBAN : HR69 2402 0061 1012 3008 6

**Tue, Jul 15, 9:30 PM**  
**(no subject)**  
**sandra.roeling@icloud.com**

Good evening, we are from Germany and are vacationing in a holiday home in Duboka. We have a pregnant cat at the house that we are feeding. The cat has a festering wound on its neck and unfortunately won't let us treat it. How can we or how can you help the cat? And what do we do if she gives birth in our home? I look forward to your reply. Sincerely,

Best regards

Sandra

**Wed, Jul 16, 2025, 2:17 PM**  
**streetcatsofvis@gmail.com**

Hi Sandra,

Thank you for caring about this cat

Would you be able to take a picture of the cat?

The vet is here today and tomorrow. I will be at the vet tomorrow so maybe you could bring the cat then?

Francesca

Ulične mačke Visa (Street Cats of Vis)  
Ivana Farolfija 28, 21480 Vis, HR  
OIB : HR39604023351  
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## **Sandra's survey**

### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

The street cats I saw in Duboka all looked relatively well-groomed and quite well-fed. However, the cat that had kittens at our holiday home had a festering wound on her neck. Unfortunately, our contact with the vet didn't work out, so we couldn't give her antibiotics.

### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

(no reply)

### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

I don't know exactly when I'll be back on the island, so I can't say for sure whether I'll be able to volunteer with the cats. I'll let you know as soon as I'm coming, as I would enjoy doing something for them.

### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

(no reply)

**Fri, Sep 26, 10:34 PM**  
**no subject - sent via instagram**  
**@malgorzatafajfrowska**

Thank you so much for taking care of the cats, but the problem on Vis is so huge that you really need someone else to help you. Please ask for support. Croatia is part of the European Union, and this is a serious issue — the cats need to be sterilized to reduce the population of these poor animals. We were on Vis this year, and I couldn't bear to watch the tragedy of these cats unfolding among the happy tourists. It was heartbreaking, and it has stayed in my mind ever since. You need to ask others for help, raise your voice, and call out loudly for the sterilization of these cats.

**Sat, Sep 27, 4:36 PM**  
**@streetcatsofvis**

Street cats can be sterilized for free from anywhere on the island, and we repeat this often. The vet is only here on Wednesday evenings and on Thursday mornings, which makes things a bit difficult, but at least we have that: it's better than nothing.

The biggest barrier is in changing people's mentality around spaying and neutering: many people believe that a mother cat needs to have at least one litter of kittens, or don't agree with having male cats castrated. Some people also cite their faith as a reason not to spay or neuter... so the problem is cultural, and very deep.

We would love for locals who agree with spaying and neutering to speak to their neighbors to try and convince them of how important this is to prevent suffering. people tell us that our work is making a difference, but we're also heartbroken to see that the problem of people dumping unwanted kittens continues.

It's very frustrating for us to be here on the ground, day in and day out, and to see these tragedies continue to unfold.

Do you have any specific ideas that could help us, and can you commit some time to taking action on them? We would love some help!

(Shiva)



**Małgorzata F**

Assigned to Little Shiva



Sep 26, 2025, 10:34 PM

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Mentioned you in their story



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### **Malgorzata Fajfrowska's survey**

#### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

The sight of sick, emaciated cats was very upsetting.

#### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

We have mixed feelings. The island is beautiful, but the sight of emaciated, neglected cats is very discouraging.

#### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

We don't have the opportunity (work limits us).

#### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

We feel that cats are treated like vermin in Croatia.

### **Survey response by someone who wanted to remain anonymous**

#### **How did seeing street cats make you feel during your stay on Vis?**

It saddened me to see sick and suffering animals that weren't cared for. I was very thankful that Street Cats of Vis was there, so I could report a case of very sick and suffering kittens I found next to a house on Vis. Otherwise, I wouldn't have been able to sleep peacefully.

#### **Would you like to come back to Vis? We'd love to hear why or why not.**

Besides that discovery, I really enjoyed my time on Vis – the people were very kind, it wasn't overcrowded, and the nature is beautiful. So yes, I can imagine returning.

#### **Would you be interested in coming back to volunteer to help street cats?**

It is great what Shiva and Francesca have created with their project and a great opportunity to live on Vis and at the same time do something good. I can see myself getting involved in animal welfare at some point, when and where is still open.

#### **Is there anything else you'd like to say?**

It affects me personally when I travel somewhere and see that animal wellbeing isn't always given the attention it deserves. Aside from the moral aspect, I believe Vis would become even more attractive for tourism if visitors would see that the animals on the island are well cared for. A sustainable way to achieve this would probably be to invest in neutering street animals and to support the work of Street Cats of Vis financially.