

**Register number 78**

**Appellation of origin**

**Towels from the Town of Šabac**

**Description:**

Towels from the Town of Šabac are made by hand from the natural raw materials for weaving, cotton, linen, and hemp on the linen weaved on horizontal loom in various weaving techniques. Towels were embellished by embroidery, cotton thread in color and various kinds of stiches; most often, there is the stylization of floral, zoomorphic and anthropomorphic ornaments and messages intended for gifts and oaths. The ornaments in the form of lace or fringes are representing the last phase of the making of towels. The narrow parts of towel are decorated this way. The lace is formed by a technique named crocheting or needlework. The motifs or decorations are replicas of the original towels preserved in the Ethnological Collection of the National Museum of Šabac. Towels from the Town of Šabac got their name according to the ornament and use. The exception is the "Towel of Tekeriš" that got its name from the historic place Tekeriš, where the most violent battles took place during the Battle on the Mountain Cer in 1914 during the First World War. The story about the "Towel of Tekeriš" is a story about the wounded soldier Mileta Milutinović from the village of Sedlar next to the Town of Svilajnac, the soldier of the Second Battalion of the Combined Division which, in the middle of August 1914 during the fearsome battle with the many times superior Austro-Hungarian forces on the mountain of Cer, near the place Tekeriš, was wounded in both legs. Although heavily wounded, he somehow managed to reach the abandoned house and to take two towels as bandages for his legs from the chest with some girls' towels, blankets and pillows prepared for marriage as dowry. With those towels, he succeeded in crossing the Albanian mountains and took place in the breach of the Thessaloniki Front and at the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Cer in 1974 he came back to the place from which he took the towels. Since the girl to whom the dowry belonged and from whom he took the towels was no longer alive, one of the remaining towels was entrusted to the local government office and next year it was included in the funds of the permanent exhibition of the Museum in Šabac.

**Geographical area:**

Products with the appellation of origin "Towels from the Town of Šabac" are produced exclusively on the territory of two towns, Šabac and Loznica and three municipalities: Bogatić, Vladimirci and Koceljevo.