



Karavanke/Karawanken Products

April 2019

Karavanke/Karawanken Products

hiking, biking, soft winter

Slovenia, Austria

April 2019

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About biking product of the Alpe Adria Karavanke/ Karawanken

The main biking product that came out of the project Alpe Adria Karavanke/ Karawanken is the MTB trail named Trans Karavanke. It goes from **Jezerško** to **Tromeja**. Most of it leads on forest roads on sun-facing slopes of Karavanke/Karawanken mountain range, it only climbs to the ridge and to the border with Austria on its most western point- on Peč/Tromeja. On its 145 km, cut in five stages, it visits **Slovenia Mountain Museum** in Mojstrana and some popular mountain stops like **Valvasor hut under Stol**, or **mountain huts Zelenica and Kofce**, but the biggest reward will be **magnificent views** and enjoying in unspoiled nature.

Index of the packages included in this document:

1. Slovenia - Tržič MTB: "Endless views from mountain pastures below Košuta/Koschuta"	4
2. Slovenia - Žirovnica, Jesenice, Tržič MTB: "Gravity Cycling Adventure"	6
3. Slovenia - TRANS KARAVANKE MTB TRAIL / Turno kolesarska pot TRANS KARAVANKE.....	9
4. Slovenia & Austria - KARAVANKE BIKE CIRCLE/ KARAVANŠKI KOLESARSKI KROG.....	13
5. Slovenia & Austria – Cestno kolesarjenje čez Karavanke: Iz Tržiča čez Jezerško v Železno Kaplo / Road cycling over Karavanke: From Tržič over Jezerško to Bad Eisenkappel.....	20

1. Slovenia => Tržič, mtb

Endless views from the mountain pastures below Košuta

1 Day Cycling Tour

One of the most beautiful and scenic cycling routes in the Gorenjska region runs through the shady forests and open grassy terrain at the foot of the south slopes of Košuta/Koschuta, Slovenia's longest mountain.



Photo: Uroš Švigelj, Ciril Jazbec (lunch time)

TRAIL INFORMATION

Tržič - Jelendol - Medvodje - Košutnik - Pungrat - Šija - Kofce - Jelendol - Tržič

Starting point: Tržič bus station, by the Tržič's Dragon

Length: 40 km

Duration: 4 h

Elevation change: 1.250 m

Description

The tour starts at Tržič's Dragon monument near the main bus station. First part of the way leads you towards Dovžan Gorge, picturesque natural attraction. Paved road after 6.5 kilometres turns into gravel road that you follow by the river for another 3 kilometres. At the end of the valley, turn left and start to climb uphill. At the small hydropower plant, you go left and continue on a nice forest road. In the summer time, you can enjoy a lunch break at the mountain dairies or mountain huts (Pungrat, Šija Kofce). Enjoy the endless views before you leave Kofce mountain pasture and start a downhill descent towards Tržič.

Good To Know

Obligatory safety equipment and experienced bikers only! In the summer months, the pastures are grazed by livestock, so be sure, to close gates behind you and try not to disturb the animals by going too fast.

GPX track

www.visit-trzic.com/en/paths/cycling-routes/k11-mountain-pastures-below-kosuta.html

Attraction / Must see / Sightseeing along the way

Visit attractions in Tržič

Dirt Park Divjina: If you're the type of person for whom a bike is a tool for flying through the air with a triple spin or double somersault, then Divjina Dirt Park is the place for you. Even hardened BMX competitors will tear up in happiness over this site. This spectacular wooded park has even been selected by Red Bull for their competitions. Gravity doesn't exist here and if you haven't yet come to believe in miracles, you'll see them here with your own eyes.

Linden tree in Žiganja Vas. Step inside and stare at the sky.

The more than 500-year-old village linden tree in the middle of Žiganja Vas is a natural value of national significance.

Dovžan Gorge – through the Born Tunnel into a colourful sea and onto the shores of sand and gravel. There is good reason for the Dovžan Gorge's status as a protected natural monument for more than 25 years. It is geologically one of the most fascinating areas of Slovenia. The picturesque valley, which is located 3.2 kilometres northeast of Tržič, was carved out by the Tržič Bistrica River deep into the heart of the Karavanke Mountain, laying bare the most complete sequence of rocks from the younger Paleozoic period, ranging in age from 300 to 260 million years. The layers of rock are like the pages of a thick book, recording a fantastic story about unusual living creatures and a changing environment in the distant geological past.

The picturesque town centre and market street of Tržič - The picturesque old town with its own Dragon: "It all began with the dragon. He came to life deep inside the mountain of Košuta. When he grew into a huge beast it split the mountain in two. This triggered a roaring rockslide that buried the settlement below the mountain. To save themselves the inhabitants ran into the valley. After a time they ran out of breath and stopped. This is where the present-day town of Tržič grew and developed. This is a town famous for its tradition of craftsmanship. Since this area has been a busy transportation route since the time of ancient Rome, the residents of Tržič developed into outstanding and very enterprising ironworkers, cartwrights, clothmakers, tanners, and especially shoemakers."

The Tržič Museum presents the once extremely highly developed trades and crafts that were the livelihood for many Tržič residents. The museum premises are in the former Pollak dyehouse and tannery in the old forging and crafts part of Tržič along the still preserved water chutes. Of particular interest is the display of shoemaking and footwear and the display of the tradition of skiing.

Optional – cyclist-friendly accommodation

- **Tržič, Kofce Mountain Hostel** - www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/kofce-mountain-hostel.html
- **Tržič, Apartments Sonce Balkonce** - www.soncebalkonce.si/en-gb
- **Other accommodation in Tržič:** <https://www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/>

2. Slovenia => Žirovnica, Tržič, Jesenice, MTB

Gravity Cycling Adventure

2 Days Cycling Adventure

This tour is special and suggests the best that the Karavanke/Karawanken mountains have to offer, when it comes to gravity assisted biking. We selected gravity riding spots, with organised shuttles (check if they are operational when planning your visit) in Tržič, Jesenice and Žirovnica.



Photo: Andy Lloyd

ŽIROVNICA

Adrenaline MTB Downhill trail **“Foreplay”** from hut Valvasorjeva koča pod Stolom to Završnica Valley.

Length: 2 km

Height difference: 400 m

The **“Foreplay”** mountain bike descent is a 2 km long and 400 vertical meters high trail, rated double black diamond, and therefore only suitable for experienced mountain bike riders with suitable equipment.

The trail is marked with yellow trail signs, that show the route of the trail and the general directions and obstacles on it. It has built berms, a couple of rollers, wooden bridges and rocky sections. Please keep in mind that sometimes hikers venture on the trail and use it for the ascent or descent to the mountain pastures above

the Završnica Valley. The descent also crosses the road that leads towards the Valvasorjev dom pod Stolom mountain hut, therefore extreme caution is required.

GPX track

<https://visitzirovnica.si/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/foreplay-by-smallfriday-183651.gpx>

TRŽIČ

The descent with endless views from Kofce to Tržič

Shuttle transfer: Tržič-Ravne

Short ascent (10min): Ravne-Kofce

Descent: Kofce-Kal-Tržič

Length of the descent: 15 km

Height difference: 973 m

The descent begins under the mountain lodge at Kofce straight down to Ravne, turn left in the forest road, after which you go pass the turn for Kal, until you reach the intersection with the forest road leading to Šija. Turn right and descend to Jelendol - end with a descent through the Dovžan gorge towards Tržič.

JESENICE

Mountain Bike Learning Centre Pristava in Javorniški Rovt . Is located right on the Trans Karavanke MTB trail. It also features a pump track, a circuit of rollers, banked turns and features designed to be ridden completely by riders. From here you can ride to Valvasorjev dom pod Stolom hut, to MTB trail "Foreplay" or numerous other forest and pasture trails.

Optional – cyclist-friendly accommodation

- **Žirovnica, Valvasor Mountain Hut** - The joyous atmosphere, kind-hearted people, excellent homemade food and its position in the middle of unspoilt nature have placed the Valvasorjev dom pod Stolom hut at the top of the list of the most popular huts among hikers. The hut is situated below the mighty Mt. Stol, on the terrace of the southern slope of Belščica mountain pasture.
GPX track - https://visitzirovnica.si/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Zavrsnica_Valvazor_Zavrsnica.gpx
- **Tržič, Kofce Mountain Hostel** - www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/kofce-mountain-hostel.html
- **Tržič, Apartments Sonce Balkonce** - www.soncebalkonce.si/en-gb
- **Other accommodation in Žirovnica:** <https://visitzirovnica.si/en/where-to-sleep/>
- **Mountain hut Pristava:** <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/accommodation/item/13645-house-pristava-975-m>
- **Mountain Bike center Pristava-** by appointment only
- **Other accommodation in Jesenice:** <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/accommodation>
- **Other accommodation in Tržič:** <https://www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/>

Attraction / Must see / Sightseeing along the way

Visit attraction in Tržič

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Sightseeing along the way in Žirovnica

Ajdna is one of the most prominent archeological findings of Late Antiquity in Slovenia. In the 5th and 6th centuries, during attacks by the northern tribes, locals took refuge on the rocky slopes of Mt. Stol/Hochstuhl, from where there are expansive views of the Julian Alps and Lake Bled.

The **linden tree** in the village of Vrba is more than 200 years old. Under its canopy, **16 stones have been arranged**.

Prešeren's birth house in Vrba, "O, Vrba, happy village, my old home". The greatest Slovenian poet spent his childhood in Vrba, a small village in Upper Carniola region in a typical farm house, originating from the 16th century.

Anton Janša memorial apiary Anton Janša was born in a simple, peasant family, on the 20th May 1734 in the village of Breznica in Upper Carniola region (part of the Austro-Hungarian empire, today Slovenia). His birth house, positioned next to the apiary, was preserved until 1907. Anton's father Matija Janša, locally known as Matija Kuhar, erected a wooden apiary beside their new cottage and barn in Breznica. They filled it with traditional Carniolan beehives, the speciality of which were the unique hand-painted front panels which were painted by the Kuhar children in the family barn. The Kuhar's old apiary stood until 1877 when they constructed a new one. Anton Janša is considered the greatest Slovenian beekeeper. His birthday was on 20th May, and in 2017 this date was officially announced as World Bee Day.

The Završnica Recreational Park is situated in the Završnica valley, surrounded by the mighty Karavanke mountain range, green meadows and lush forested slopes – inviting you to have a fun and active adventure! The park is easily accessible and yet remote enough to allow you an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Sightseeing along the way of Jesenice

Daffodils and views on Austria and Slovenia are the main attraction of this stage. Some of the best views on Julian Alps and Triglav are to be found here. Daffodils main season is in May, when they blossom in full colours.

Natura 2000 is a European ecological network of protected areas, defined by the Member States of the European Union. This parts of Karavanke are included in the this network.

Zois Park named after well known botanic specialist Žiga Zois, that arranged a botanic garden with all the special flowers and plants of the region near the hut Dom Pristava. The hut was build in 1641 for supervisors of mining operations, and is now under cultural heritage protection.

Ironmaking settlement Stara Sava- It is characterised by extremely rich ironmaking tradition. It has all the essential elements of a former iron foundry settlement: Ruard Manor from the 16th century, Church of St. Mary's Assumption from the beginning of the 17th century, Kasarna with workers' flats from the end of the 18th century, a blast furnace with a puddling mill, storage for charcoal and a mill from the 19th century. Today the area serves as an Iron making museum with permanent exhibition on the owners of iron foundries and the history of ironmaking in Jesenice: <https://www.gmj.si/en/zelezarski-muzej/>

Murova is the oldest part of Jesenice and includes St. Lenart church.

Kos Mansion dates back to 1521, and is now part of ironmaking museum. It hosts different exhibitions, (also showcases an authentic prison cell) but has a wedding hall as well.

Julian Alps Trail is the 270km hiking trail around Julian Alps, that crosses Jesenice. You can find more info her: <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/activities/summer/hiking>)

Vintgar is a spectacular, wild and magnificent gorge of the Radovna stream. From the bridge you have a nice view on Šum waterfall, that drops 16m deep. Few minutes of descend, and you will reach a spot under the waterfall, where many amazing photos have been taken.

3. Slovenia => TRANS KARAVANKE MTB TRAIL / Turnokolesarska pot TRANS KARAVANKE

5 Days Cycling Tour



Photo: Ciril Jazbec, Mateja Dolžan, Uroš Švigelj

TRAIL INFORMATION

Distance: 132 km

Difficulty: Demanding

Altitude difference of the trail:

- 5700m in direction Jezersko – Tromeja
- 5500m in direction Tromeja/ Dreiländereck – Jezersko

Description

The Trans Karavanke cycling route extends from Jezersko to Tromeja/ Dreiländereck. Mostly it runs along the forest roads on the sunny slopes of the Karavanke, to the ridge and the border with Austria, it climbs only at its western point on Peč / Three Borders. At its 132 km, divided into 5 stages, the Slovenian Mountain Museum is located in Mojstrana, as well as some popular mountain huts (Valvasorjev dom pod Stolom, Planinski dom na Zelenici, Dom na Kofcah), and the biggest prize will be wonderful views and enjoyment of untouched nature. The route is suitable for well-prepared mountain bikers, as the daily stages are generally 25 to 35 km long, and in most cases, they exceed 1.650 meters in one day.

Checkpoints along the route where the stamps are available

1. Zgornje Jezersko
2. Dom na Kofcah (Kofce Mountain Hut)
3. Tržič (TIC)
4. Planšarija Prevala (Prevala pasture)
5. Planinskim dom na Zelenici (Zelenica Mountain Hut)
6. Dom pri izviru Završnice (Hut at Završnica spring)
7. Valvasorjev dom pod Stolom (Valvasor Mountain Hut under Stol)
8. Dom Pristava v Javorniškem Rovtu (Dom Pristava hut in Javorniški Rovt)
9. Slovenski planinski muzej Mojstrana (Slovenian Alpine Museum Mojstrana)
10. Kranjska Gora
11. Tromeja (Peč) (Tripple Border)
12. Korensko sedlo (Koren pass)

DAY-BY-DAY STAGES

Day 1

Zg. Jezersko - Pečovnik - Medvodje - Šija - Kofce

Day 2

Kofce - Tržič - Podljubelj - Zelenica

Day 3

Zelenica - Završnica - Zatreška planina - Valvasorjev dom

Day 4

Valvasorjev dom - dom Pristava - Planina pod Golico - Mojstrana

Day 5

Mojstrana - Kranjska Gora - Rateče - Tromeja - Korensko sedlo

Attraction / Must see / Sightseeing along the way

Sightseeing along the way in Zgornje Jezersko.

Lake Planšarsko jezero. The little heart-shaped lake was made by local inhabitants in memory of a larger glacial lake that had drained away, and after which Jezersko got its name.

The mineral water spring (Jezerska slatina). There is a mineral water spring above Ank's homestead called "Jezerska slatina".

Šenk's homestead (Šenkova domačija) is considered the only homestead in the area where original buildings and architectural style have been preserved; typical rural settlement can be seen here.

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Must see in Radovljica.

The **confluence of the Sava River**, the main water artery of Slovenia starts from the confluence of the Sava Bohinjka and Sava Dolinka at Lancovo.

The Avsenik Museum in the village of Begunje na Gorenjskem will take you to the world of Slovene popular folk music.

Beekeeping in Slovenia boasts several centuries of world-renowned tradition. The most comprehensive presentation of this tradition takes place in the Museum of Apiculture, which is located on the first floor of Radovljica Mansion.

Sightseeing along the way in Žirovnica.

Ajdna is one of the most prominent archeological findings of Late Antiquity in Slovenia. The artefacts and objects found during archaeological excavations, stir one's imagination.

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Sightseeing along the way from Jesenice, Kranjska Gora to Rateče

Daffodils and views on Austria and Slovenia are the main attraction of this stage. Some of the best views on Julian Alps and Triglav are to be found here. Daffodils main season is in May, when they blossom in full colours.

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Jakob Aljaž's Monument, "Our Triglav King Matjaž – priest of Dovje – Aljaž".

The monument stands on the right side of the main road towards Kranjska Gora at the crossroads Mojstrana – Dovje.

The village of Mojstrana where you can visit the Alpine Museum and Peričnik waterfall, one of the most beautiful waterfall in Slovenia. The Slovenian Alpine Museum in Mojstrana is a unique Alpine and mountaineering centre in Slovenia.

Visiting alpine resort Kranjska Gora with a stunning alpine **Lake Jasna** and **Zelenci**, the emerald green natural reserve.

On the cycling route in the direction Rateče you can stop and visit the **Planica Nordic Centre**. It offers you fun ways to spend time in hot summer days as well as in the chilliest winters. Check our activities that you can carry out in Planica, and spend some quality time in a wonderful valley under the Ponce!

Optional – cyclist-friendly accommodation

- Kranjska Gora, Hotel Kompas, Hit Alpinea - <https://www.hit-alpinea.si/en>
- Kranjska Gora, Hotel Špik - <https://hotelspik.com>
- Kranjska Gora, Apartment House Berghi I., II. - <https://www.berghi.si/en>
- Kranjska Gora, Pr' Gavedarjo Design Rooms - <http://prgavedarjo.si/en/>
- Tržič, Kofce Mountain Hostel - www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/kofce-mountain-hostel.html
- Tržič, Apartments Sonce Balkonce - www.soncebalkonce.si/en-gb
- Other accommodation in Tržič: <https://www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/>
- Other accommodation in Žirovnica: <https://visitzirovnica.si/en/where-to-sleep/>
- Zgornje Jezersko, Tourist farm Šenk's homestead - <http://www.senkovadomacija.si/en/>
- Mountain hut Pristava: <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/accommodation/item/13645-house-pristava-975-m>
- Mountain Bike center Pristava- by appointment only
- Other accommodation in Jesenice: <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/accommodation>

4. Slovenia & Austria => KARAVANKE BIKE CIRCLE/ KARAVANŠKI KOLESARSKI KROG

5 Days Cycling Tour

A unique opportunity to experience the Karavanke/ Karawanken at first hand: here you can circle the mountain chain linking Austria and Slovenia with a tour totaling 244 kilometers and a difference in altitude of almost 2,000 meters. Various cycle trails and side roads with little traffic in the border region of Austria, Slovenia and Italy form the basis of the "Karavanke/ Karawanken Bike Circle."

Cycle along the Sava Bike Route, the Ciclovía Alpe Adria, the Gailtal Cycle Path and sections of the 5-star Drau Cycle Path.

DAY-BY-DAY STAGES

Day 1

Jesenice – Mojstrana – Kranjska Gora – Rateče – Tarvisio – Arnoldstein

One of the more beautiful cycling routes is at the Upper Sava River, the route which leads on the former railway line from Mojstrana through Kranjska Gora to Italy. It is officially known as the Jure Robič Cycling Path and is well known as the best, the most famous and at the same time the longest route in Gorenjska. It is marked with the official code D-2.

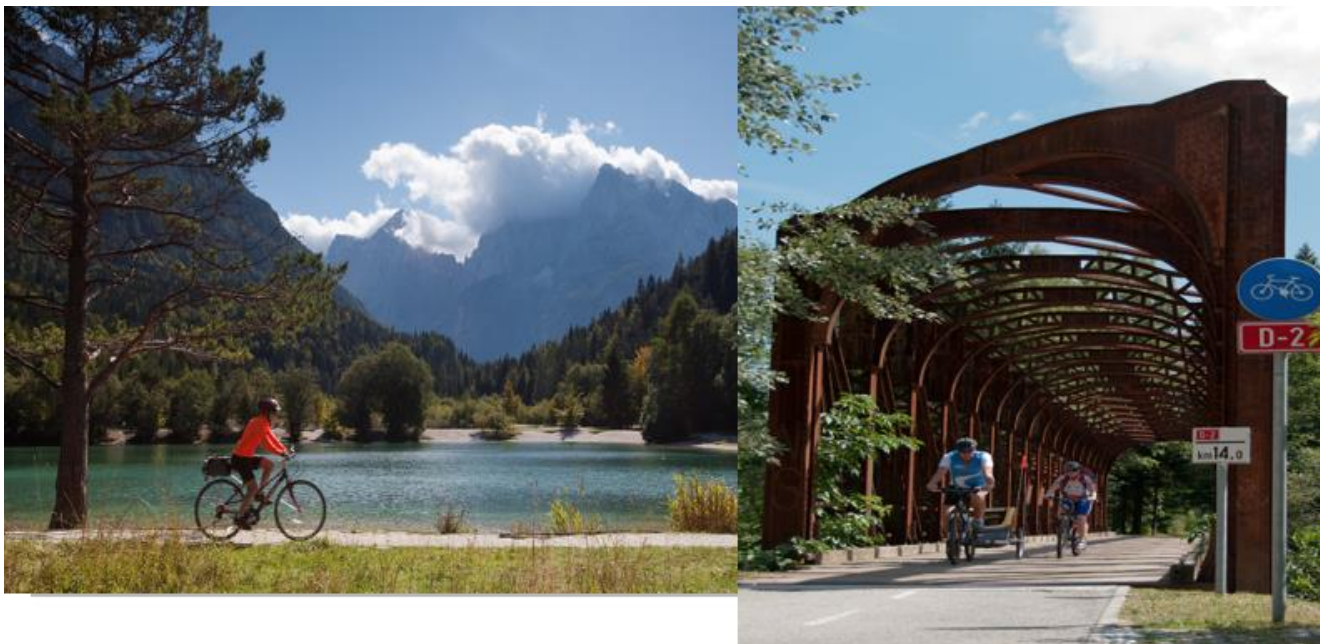


Photo: Boris Pretnar, Matjaž Vidmar

It runs from Jesenice to the border crossing at Rateče with a total length of about 28 km. From here you can continue to Italy towards Tarvisio past Žabnica to Pontebè.

We follow an abandoned railway line, then we cross at Thörl-Maglern and cycle through small villages alongside the Gail, on the southern side of the Villacher Alpe, and in parts also near the Dobratsch Nature Park.

Day 2

Arnoldstein – Villach (Maria Gail) – Rosegg – St. Jakob – Feistritz i.R. (ca. 54 km)

Enjoy a leisurely ride on the Ciclovía Alpe Adria cycle path from the state border towards Arnoldstein. At the foot of the corner of three countries, there are some nice places to stop for refreshments, as well as the remains of the abbey Arnoldstein and

the old shot-tower for a cultural stopover. Cycling along the species-rich landslide area at the foot of the Dobratsch Nature Park, you will ride by Villach-Warmbad, which is well-known for its thermal baths and its lovely surrounding area, without any major differences in altitude. A bit further along the river Gail, this cycle path joins the awarded with five stars Drau Cycle Path. Make a small detour and visit the old town of Villach and discover the small lake Silbersee before continuing on your way to the imposing monastery Wernberg, towering above a river area that is the home for a great number of birds. From there you can follow the Drau through many small villages until you get to the charming small town of Rosegg.

At Rosegg you will follow the river Drau downstream to the east. Mostly along well drivable causeways the way leads through the enchanting Rosental/Področca. Beautiful views to the Karavanke/ Karawanken mountain range and cultivated landscape along the route provide a beautiful scenic variety. Your stage destination is the rose municipality Feistritz im Rosental.



Photo: Franz Gerdl

Day 3

Feistritz – Ferlach – Gallizien – Miklautzhof – Bad Eisenkappel/Železna Kapla (ca. 50 km)

From the rose municipality Feistritz, we will follow the Drauradweg/Dravska kolesarska pot further east. Castles and lakes line the route and the Karavanke/ Karawanken are always in sight. In front of the village of Gallizien we leave the Drauradweg/Dravska kolesarska pot and drive on less frequented roads to the village of Miklautzhof. There we meet the bike path R1E, the Seeberg cycle path. We follow this paved bike route till Železna Kapla/ Bad Eisenkappel.

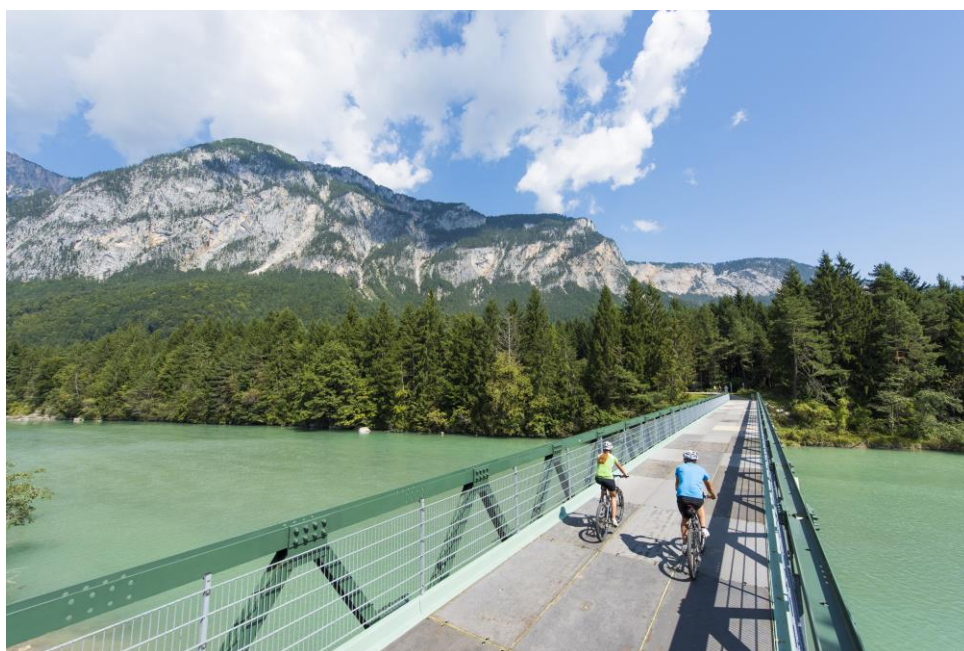


Photo: Franz Gerdl

Day 4**Železna Kapla/ Bad Eisenkappel - Zgornje Jezersko – Preddvor**

From Železna Kapla/ Bad Eisenkappel to Zgornje Jezersko there's a little bit of an ascent by bike and then a lot of fun of downhill, first to Zgornje Jezersko and then to Preddvor.

Day 5**Preddvor – Tržič - Begunje na Gorenjskem - Žirovnica – Jesenice**

From Preddvor continue to cycle through picturesque scenery and villages until the town of the dragon Tržič and then through the countryside, fields and pastures towards Begunje na Gorenjskem (where you can visit Avsenik Museum, remember the song Na Golico) before continuing to Žirovnica, the village of culture with the birth houses of some of Slovenian biggest poets. From Žirovnica you can then cycle through the village of Moste and Blejska Dobrava to Jesenice, the ironmaking center of Slovenia...

Attraction / Must see / Sightseeing along the way**Sightseeing along the way from Jesenice, Kranjska Gora to Rateče**

Daffodils and views on Austria and Slovenia are the main attraction of this stage. Some of the best views on Julian Alps and Triglav are to be found here. Daffodils main season is in May, when they blossom in full colours.

Natura 2000 is a European ecological network of protected areas, defined by the Member States of the European Union. This parts of Karavanke are included in the this network.

Zois Park named after well known botanic specialist Žiga Zois, that arranged a botanic garden with all the special flowers and plants of the region near Hut Pristava. The hut was build in 1641 for the supervisor of the mine operations, and is now under cultural heritage protection.

Ironmaking settlement Stara Sava- It is characterised by extremely rich ironmaking tradition. It has all the essential elements of a former iron foundry settlement: Ruard Manor from the 16th century, Church of St. Mary's Assumption from the beginning of the 17th century, Kasarna with workers' flats from the end of the 18th century, a blast furnace with a puddling mill, storage for charcoal and a mill from the 19th century. Today the area serves as an Iron making museum with permanent exhibition on the owners of iron foundries and the history of ironmaking in Jesenice: <https://www.gmj.si/en/zelezarski-muzej/>

Murova is the oldest part of Jesenice and includes St. Lenart church.

Kos Mansion dates back to 1521, and is now part of ironmaking museum. It hosts different exhibitions, (also showcases an authentic prison cell) but has a wedding hall as well.

Julian Alps Trail is the 270km hiking trail around Julian Alps, that crosses Jesenice. You can find more info her: <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/activities/summer/hiking>)

Vintgar is a spectacular, wild and magnificent gorge of the Radovna stream. From the bridge you have a nice view on Šum waterfall, that drops 16m deep. Few minutes of descend, and you will reach a spot under the waterfall, where many amazing photos have been taken.

Jakob Aljaž's Monument, "Our Triglav King Matjaž – priest of Dovje – Aljaž".

The monument stands on the right side of the main road towards Kranjska Gora at the crossroads Mojstrana – Dovje.

The village of Mojstrana where you can visit the Alpine Museum and Peričnik waterfall, one of the most beautiful waterfall in Slovenia. **The Slovenian Alpine Museum** in Mojstrana is a unique Alpine and mountaineering centre in Slovenia.

Visiting alpine resort Kranjska Gora with a stunning alpine **Lake Jasna** and **Zelenci**, the emerald green natural reserve.

On the cycling route in the direction Rateče you can stop and visit the **Planica Nordic Centre**. It offers you fun ways to spend time in hot summer days as well as in the chilliest winters. Check our activities that you can carry out in Planica, and spend some quality time in a wonderful valley under the Ponce!

Sightseeing along the way Arnoldstein, Villach, Rosegg, St. Jakob, Feistritz

The **KärntenTherme** and the historically interesting recreational area Villach-Warmbad

The KärntenTherme in Warmbad-Villach is a well-designed adventure world, but also with a paradise for spa lovers with a wonderful wellness area on two floors.

Greißlermuseum Thörl-Maglern

With much love and effort, an old grocery store has been revitalized and been made accessible to the public again as a museum.

Shot-tower Arnoldstein

The shot-tower in the market town of Arnoldstein was built in 1886 and used to produce lead shot by pouring down lead from above.

Abbey ruins Arnoldstein

In 1993, the monastery castle was renovated and has become the cultural center of Arnoldstein due to the numerous events in recent years.

Landslide area at the foot of the **Dobratsch Nature Park** (Natura2000)

The Dobratsch Nature Park is Carinthia's first nature park and consists of the nature and landscape conservation areas Dobratsch, Schütt and Warmbad-Villach. It is surrounded by the communities Arnoldstein, Bad Bleiberg, Nötsch and the city of Villach.

Recreational area lake Silbersee

The Silbersee is located on the outskirts of Villach, near the village St. Ulrich. Due to its immediate vicinity to the river Drau it has become a popular swimming lake.

Bird Watching

Along the Drau River Cycle Trail you can discover quiet spots to observe the various birds in their natural habitat.

Monastery Wernberg

The monastery combines history, culture and simplicity in an old castle with the liveliness of women who have dedicated themselves to serving Jesus in our contemporary society.

Villach's old town

Make a small detour and discover the charming old town of Villach while your bike is guarded by the bike butler for free.

Erlebnis Card

With the Erlebnis CARD, you as a guest receive a colourful bouquet of possibilities in your hand, so you can enjoy fabulous moments at the heart of Carinthia. In total there are over 600 offers that have been put together by our guides and storytellers. From May until the beginning of November there is a weekly programme, offering free bike buses, hiking tours and even free entry to the thermal spa.

Rosegg Animal Zoo, castle and Labyrinth: In Carinthia's largest animal park you can marvel at over 35 different species of animal and a total of about 400 animals.

Kelt Museum: In the village of Rosegg, you can gain an insight into the way of life, the social structure and the religious rituals from the mysterious times of the Iron-Age Hallstatt culture.

Sightseeing along the way Feistritz, Ferlach, Gallizien, Miklauthof, Bad Eisenkappel

Have a look to the tiny **village Suetschach** with the art projects "Metallkunstmeile", "Krampushaus" und Galerie Gorše.

Tscheppaschlucht, Tschaukofall and "devils bridge": Fun and excitement for the whole family. The roaring water is your constant companion, creating a pleasant coolness.

Swimming pleasures can be found near to the town of Ferlach, in the **swimming area Ressnig** with lot of green meadows around. It is easy to reach, both by car and by bicycle via the Drau Cycle Path.

A visit at the **castle Ferlach** with Gunsmith & Hunting Museum will introduce you to the refined art of the Ferlach gunsmiths.

A ride from Weizelsdorf to Ferlach can be a journey into the past, when you set off on the **Rosental steam train**. In summer and autumn, historical train coaches run on the local railway line.

On a roofed-over exhibition area of over 400 m², you can have a hands-on encounter with interesting, surprising and educational physical phenomena at about 40 experimentation stations. It is called "**EXPI hands on science center**".

Sightseeing along the way in Zgornje Jezersko

Lake Planšarsko jezero. The little heart-shaped lake was made by local inhabitants in memory of a larger glacial lake that had drained away, and after which Jezersko got its name.

The mineral water spring (Jezerska slatina). There is a mineral water spring above Ank's homestead called "Jezerska slatina".

Šenk's homestead (Šenkova domačija) is considered the only homestead in the area where original buildings and architectural style have been preserved; typical rural settlement can be seen here.

Visit attractions in Tržič.

Dirt Park Divjina: If you're the type of person for whom a bike is a tool for flying through the air with a triple spin or double somersault, then Divjina Dirt Park is the place for you. Even hardened BMX competitors will tear up in happiness over this site. This spectacular wooded park has even been selected by Red Bull for their competitions. Gravity doesn't exist here and if you haven't yet come to believe in miracles, you'll see them here with your own eyes.

Linden tree in Žiganja Vas. Step inside and stare at the sky.

The more than 500-year-old village linden tree in the middle of Žiganja Vas is a natural value of national significance.

Dovžan Gorge – through the Born Tunnel into a colourful sea and onto the shores of sand and gravel. There is good reason for the Dovžan Gorge's status as a protected natural monument for more than 25 years. It is geologically one of the most fascinating areas of Slovenia. The picturesque valley, which is located 3.2 kilometres northeast of Tržič, was carved out by the Tržič Bistrica River deep into the heart of the Karavanke Mountain, laying bare the most complete sequence of rocks from the younger Paleozoic period, ranging in age from 300 to 260 million years. The layers of rock are like the pages of a thick book, recording a fantastic story about unusual living creatures and a changing environment in the distant geological past.

The picturesque town centre and market street of Tržič - The picturesque old town with its own Dragon: "It all began with the dragon. He came to life deep inside the mountain of Košuta. When he grew into a huge beast it split the mountain in two. This triggered a roaring rockslide that buried the settlement below the mountain. To save themselves the inhabitants ran into the valley. After a time they ran out of breath and stopped. This is where the present-day town of Tržič grew and developed. This is a town famous for its tradition of craftsmanship. Since this area has been a busy transportation route since the time of ancient Rome, the residents of Tržič developed into outstanding and very enterprising ironworkers, cartwrights, clothmakers, tanners, and especially shoemakers."

The Tržič Museum presents the once extremely highly developed trades and crafts that were the livelihood for many Tržič residents. The museum premises are in the former Pollak dyehouse and tannery in the old forging and crafts part of Tržič along the still preserved water chutes. Of particular interest is the display of shoemaking and footwear and the display of the tradition of skiing.

Must see in Radovljica

The **confluence of the Sava River**, the main water artery of Slovenia starts from the confluence of the Sava Bohinjka and Sava Dolinka at Lancovo.

The Avsenik Museum in the village of Begunje na Gorenjskem will take you to the world of Slovene popular folk music.

Beekeeping in Slovenia boasts several centuries of world-renowned tradition. The most comprehensive presentation of this tradition takes place in the Museum of Apiculture, which is located on the first floor of Radovljica Mansion.

Sightseeing along the way in Žirovnica

Ajdna is one of the most prominent archaeological findings of Late Antiquity in Slovenia. The artefacts and objects found during archaeological excavations, stir one's imagination.

The linden tree in the village of Vrba is more than 200 years old. Under its canopy, 16 stones have been arranged.

Prešeren's birth house in Vrba, "O, Vrba, happy village, my old home". The greatest Slovenian poet spent his childhood in Vrba, a small village in Upper Carniola region in a typical farm house, originating from the 16th century.

Anton Janša memorial apiary Anton Janša was born in a simple, peasant family, on the 20th May 1734 in the village of Breznica in Upper Carniola region (part of the Austro- Hungarian empire, today Slovenia). His birth house, positioned next to the apiary, was preserved until 1907. Anton's father Matija Janša, locally known as Matija Kuhar, erected a wooden apiary beside their new cottage and barn in Breznica. They filled it with traditional Carniolan beehives, the speciality of which were the unique hand-painted front panels which were painted by the Kuhar children in the family barn. The Kuhar's old apiary stood until 1877 when they constructed a new one. Anton Janša is considered the greatest Slovenian beekeeper. His birthday was on 20th May, and in 2017 this date was officially announced as World Bee Day.

The Završnica Recreational Park is situated in the Završnica valley, surrounded by the mighty Karavanke mountain range, green meadows and lush forested slopes – inviting you to have a fun and active adventure! The park is easily accessible and yet remote enough to allow you an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Optional – cyclist-friendly accommodation

- **Kranjska Gora, Hotel Kompas, Hit Alpinea** – <https://www.hit-alpinea.si/en>
- **Kranjska Gora, Hotel Špik** - <https://hotelspik.com>
- **Kranjska Gora, Apartment House Berghi I., II.** - <https://www.berghi.si/en>
- **Kranjska Gora, Pr' Gavedarjo Design Rooms** - <http://prgavedarjo.si/en/>
- **Mountain hut Pristava:** <http://turizem.jesenice.si/en/accommodation/item/13645-house-pristava-975-m>
- **Mountain Bike center Pristava-** by appointment only
- **Tržič, Kofce Mountain Hostel** - www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/kofce-mountain-hostel.html
- **Tržič, Apartments Sonce Balkonce** - www.soncebalkonce.si/en-gb
- **Other accommodation in Tržič:** <https://www.visit-trzic.com/en/accommodation/>
- **Other accommodation in Žirovnica:** <https://visitzirovnica.si/en/where-to-sleep/>
- **Zgornje Jezersko, Tourist farm Šenk's homestead** - <http://www.senkovadomacija.si/en/>
- **Landhotel Rosentaler Hof, St. Jakob/Šentjakob** - www.rosentaler-hof.at
- **Wallnerwirt Arnoldstein** - www.wallnerwirt.at/index.php/de
- **Leonhard7 Siebenbrunn** - <http://leonhard7.at/>
- **Hotel City Villach** - <https://hotelcity.at/>
- **Drauradwegwirte Villach** - www.drauradwegwirte.at

- **St. Jakob/Šentjakob, Gasthof Pension Thomashof**, - www.thomashof.at
- **St. Jakob/Šentjakob, Gasthof Pension Lindenhof**, - www.lindenhof.at
- **Feistritz i.R., Wahaha Paradise** - www.wahaha-paradise.com
- **Feistritz i.R., Gasthaus Stefaner** - www.gasthausstefaner.at
- **Ferlach, Gasthof Plasch** - www.gasthof-plasch.at
- www.visitvillach.at
- www.touren.kaernten.at
- www.carnica-roental.at

5. Slovenia & Austria => Cestno kolesarjenje čez Karavanke: Iz Tržiča čez Jezersko v Železno Kaplo / Road cycling over Karavanke: From Tržič over Jezersko to Bad Eisenkappel

Ride a bike to the wonders created by nature

1 Day Cycling Tour

Tržič – Križe – Golnik - Jezersko - Jezerski vrh - Železna Kapla / Bad Eisenkappel

Starting point: Tržič bus station, transfer from Železna Kapla / Bad Eisenkappel to Tržič

Length: 65 km

Duration: 4 hours

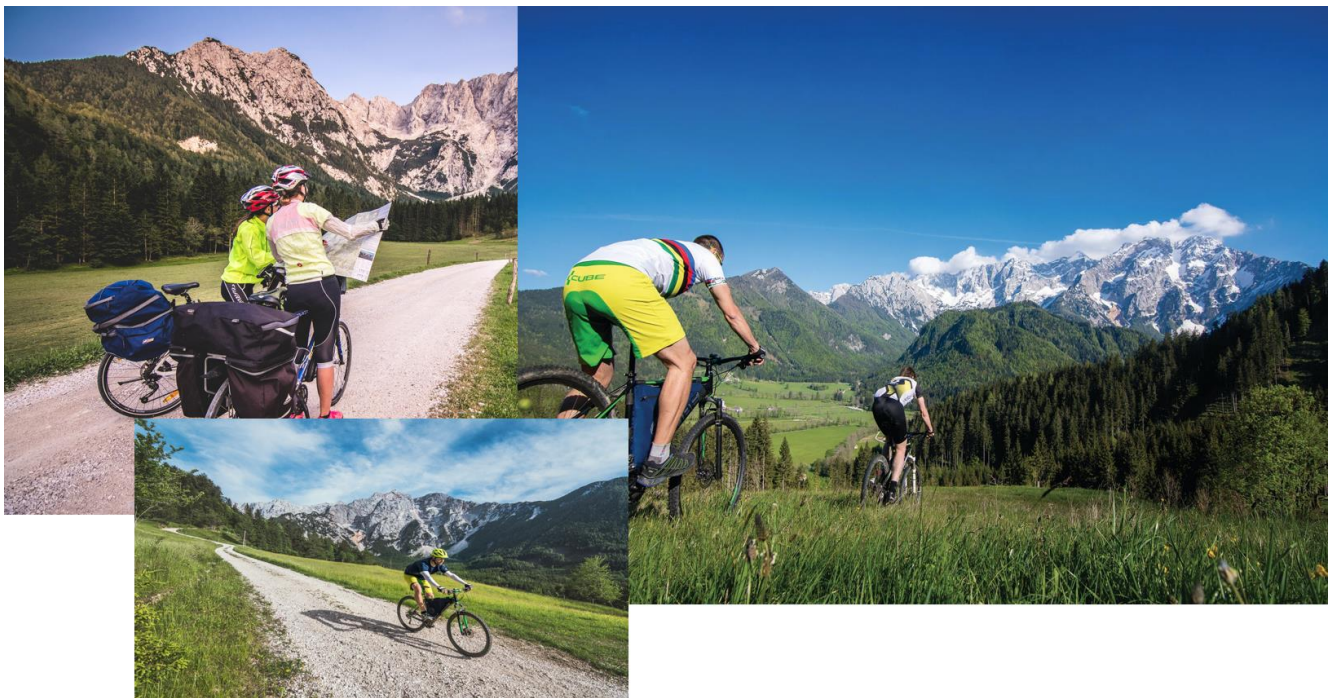


Photo: Primož Šenk

Description

The starting point for cycling tours is in the city center, opposite the Tržič bus station. Parking for cars is possible in public parking places.

Through Tržič we ride a bike to the village Križe, continue through Golnik and then continue on the trail to Jezersko. The ascent along the green and the fresh valley is not demanding - it is just right for heating. When we conquer Jezersko, a beautiful view of 2000 m high peaks opens in front of us. Lake Jezersko boasts a healing mineral water "Lake Slatina" (Jezerska slatina) right next to the road, there is the lake Planšarsko jezero, museum Jenkova kasarna, and for a short break there are 4 bicycle stays. In spring, summer and in autumn, Jezersko is very popular among cyclists, who most frequently cycle to the top of the Jezerski vrh pass. If you are the adventure type then we suggest you to try out the maintained and well-marked mountain bike route. In Jezersko you can rent a mountain bike, that will make visits of the local sights and remote places easier.

At the Jezersko vrh, the pass, the region opens north to the Austrian Carinthia/Koroška. The descent follows the beautiful tourist road towards the Iron Gate. We can go back on the same route or arrange for a transfer.

Attraction / Must see / Sightseeing along the way

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