BRESTANICA
Rajhenburg Castle



BREŽICE
The Posavje Museum Brežice



KOSTANJEVICA NA KRKI
Božidar Jakac Art Museum



MOKRICE
Mokrice Castle



PODSREDA
Podsreda Castle



SEVNICA
Sevnica Castle



THE CASTLES OF POSAVJE

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Posavje
Polno priložnosti

KULTURNI DOM KRŠKO
GRAD RAJHENBURG
Posavski muzej Brežice
GALERIJA · BOŽIDAR · JAKAC 1974 KOSTANJEVICA NA KRKI
Kozjanski park
KŠTM
terme čatež



Visit the castles and monasteries of Posavje ...
... and discover their rich heritage, spend a night, have fun and enjoy the centuries of which the walls and people speak

The landscape between the rivers Mirna, Sava, Krka and Sotla is characterized by castles. They have been part of the cultural environment for more than a millennium and bear witness to the life of the local population, which was intertwined with the life of all who travelled through this area. No matter which cardinal direction or path you are entering the region of Posavje, you are welcomed by a castle. You can start your journey in Sevnica from a castle situated on a hill above the Sava. The Sava will guide you past Rajhenburg Castle all the way to Brežice castle. There, at the confluence of two rivers, the Sava and the Krka, you can turn back travelling along the Krka towards Kostanjevica na Krki and to the once powerful monastery. From all directions you can reach Mokrice and Podsreda castle which connects the Posavje to the Kozjansko. In the near future, we hope that the journey will also take you to the locations of the castles Raka, Šrajbarski turn (Leskovec pri Krškem), Bizeljsko and Pišece which have either not been restored yet or are not accessible to general public.

The brochure guide allows the user to obtain basic information while it primarily invites you to visit all the castles described in it as well as the monastery of Kostanjevica. Also, we hope to attract your presence by sweepstakes and the prize awaiting for you when you have finished your journey around the Posavje - a land of castles.

Above all, we all wish that your journey through the centuries will reflect the past intertwoven with the present events; we would like you to come back and visit our castles for museum collections, events, concerts, performances, excellent offer, welfare and awareness that you are always welcome with us.

Alenka Černelič Krošelj, the editor

Brestanica

RAJHENBURG CASTLE







The restored Rajhenburg castle has been a dominant fortress on a rocky promontory above the Sava for centuries. Evidenced by the oldest, Romanesque part, the castle was built by Konrad I., Archbishop of Salzburg, between 1131 and 1147. For centuries, the building and the estate around it were managed by ministerials who were named after the castle - Rajhenburški (the Rajhenburg knights). When the family, who had grown into a very powerful family through centuries and had been awarded a title of knighthood, had died out, the building was added new elements by its many subsequent owners, thus gradually gaining an image we admire today. In 1881, the Trappist monks bought Rajhenburg castle and turned it into a monastery. In April 1941, the German occupying army took control over it and its premises, and arranged a camp for the deportation of the Slovenes. In 1947, the castle was nationalised and served also as prison for several years. However, in 1968, the first exhibition of the exiles was held and since then the castle has been primarily hosting museum exhibitions and performances.
The castle is now managed by Cultural Centre Krško. In addition to a variety of events (concerts, theatre performances, lectures etc.) visitors can also visit permanent and temporary exhibitions which are accompanied by complementary activities:

- Stavbni razvoj in prenova gradu Rajhenburg (Architectural Development and Renovation of Rajhenburg Castle
- Slovenski izgnanci 1941–1945 (Slovene Deportees 1941–1945)
- Trapisti v Rajhenburgu (Trappists in Rajhenburg)
- Primož Kozmus, Odličja (Primož Kozmus, Medals)
- Brestaniške miniature (Brestanica Miniatures)
- Grajsko pohištvo 18. in 19. stoletja iz zbirke Narodnega muzeja Slovenije
  (18th and 19th Century Castle Furniture from the National Museum of Slovenia)
- Jože Ciuha, Podobe časa (Jože Ciuha, Images of Time)
- Kazenske ustanove na gradu Rajhenburg 1948–1966 (Penal Institutions in Rajhenburg caste, 1948–1966

Young visitors are aimed at creative workshops. Our educational programme includes several creative workshops.
By walking through the castle premises visitors get an insight into the castle's architectural development from the Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance periods up to the present time. The castle boasts with a rare feature in the whole Central European region, namely it has two chapels: a Romanesque one from the 12th century and a Gothic one from the 16th, the living quarters of Rajhenburg nobles, with their luxurious Renaissance Hall, are completed by a room the walls of which are painted with frescoes portraying the motifs of the legend of St. Kunigunda and Christian virtues.
Carefully arranged is also the front yard with a herb garden since 2014. The castle cellar provides a wine gallery, a museum shop offering a variety of local products including Brestanica chocolate, while the scent of coffee and delicious pastry will be too tempting not to visit the castle cafe and patisserie.

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KULTURNI DOM KRŠKO

GRAD RAJHENBURG

Brežice

THE POSAVJE MUSEUM BREŽICE







It is likely that the Habsburgs built a castle in the 12th century for serving administrative and defensive pruposes on a slope rising on the left bank of the Sava which demarcates the regions of Styria and Carniola. Next to it grew a city that obtained town privileges by means of a charter in 1353. A two-storey castle, built in the middle of the 16th century, is the most magnificent building in Brežice; it was built in the place where once stood a castle that had been destroyed during the all-Slovenian peasant uprising in 1515.
In peaceful times, the Attems, a noble aristocratic family, turned the castle into a residence. A large imperial staircase, a chapel and a Knights' hall are painted; the latter was restored in 2011 and stands for a unique example of the baroque secular wall painting in Slovenia. Now it hosts concerts and other performances; while attending these events your mind travels between the scenes from the Roman and Greek mythology.
Since 1949, the Posavje Museum Brežice has been representing the heritage of the Posavje from its oldest days up to the present time.
The period from prehistoric times to the arrival of the Slavs is reflected in an archaeological collection. How the people of the Posavje lived, worked, prayed and expressed themselves through painting in the 19th and 20th centuries is revealed in more than a hundred exhibits included in an ethnological collection. The collection Kmečki upori in reformacija (Peasant revolts and the Reformation) contains the first printed words in the Slovene language “Le vkup, le vkup, uboga gmajna” (Unite, unite oppressed peasants) which are written on the wall.
The exhibition Bürger- mestjan – meščan (Bürger – burgher – bourgeois) welcomes us in a 1900 salon overlooking the city street and showing an insight into the intimacy of the bourgeois bedroom. The exhibition Pod devetimi zastavami: Posavje 1900 – 1990 (Under nine flags: the Posavje 1900 – 1990) is the right place to familiarize yourselves with the history of the 20th century. In a section covering art history there is a display of the secular and ecclesiastical heritage of the Posavje as well as a gallery of works by Alenka Gerlovič. The last part of the museum is dedicated to the memory of the founder, a caring collector, a longtime director of the museum (1949-1963) and a painter Franjo Stiplovšek. In this last exhibition room you have the opportunity to leave your impressions for us who create the life of the castle and the museum.
In addition, Brežice castle also has a special room for weddings in one of the most beautiful baroque halls, as well as it hosts different concerts, various cultural events and celebrations, events, performances, workshops etc.

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Posavski muzej Brežice

Kostanjevica na Krki

BOŽIDAR JAKAC ART MUSEUM







Where the lowland forest Krakovski gozd slowly climbs the hilly green Gorjanci, there lies the only town build on an island in Slovenia - Kostanjevica na Krki, attracting numerous visitors with its cultural offering, rich history, natural monuments, cuisine, traditional events and various opportunities for leisure activities.

A former Cistercian monastery (Fons Beatae Mariae) is an exceptional landmark of the town. Established in 1234, it represented the centre of religious life, education and economy until its abolition in 1785. The present appearance of the monastery is the result of numerous interventions in its architectural structure. The monastery church is considered to be one of the finest examples of Early Gothic and later in baroque style remodelled architecture in Slovenia.

The Božidar Jakac Art Museum is located in the building of the former monastery since 1974. The art museum is named after the artist Božidar Jakac and holds his permanent collection as well as permanent collections of France Kralj, Tone Kralj, Zoran Didek, France Gorše, Jože Gorjup, Janez Boljka, Bogdan Borčić and The Pleterje Collection of European Painters. With its vast art collections in the core of which are the works by Slovenian expressionists and with temporary exhibitions the art museum revives this exceptional cultural monument as well as the region itself.
The Forma Viva International Symposium of Sculptors was established in 1961 and since then the ever-growing collection of wood sculptures is gathered in a sculpture park in front of and around the building of Božidar Jakac Art Museum and in its surrounding area. This symposium is believed to be the oldest still ongoing sculpture symposium in the world. The Božidar Jakac Art Museum manages two dislocated gallery spaces. The Lamut's Art Salon located in the former ministerial manor on the island, which hosts temporary exhibitions of contemporary artists from Slovenia and abroad, and the Gorjup Gallery displayed on the premises of the Jože Gorjup Primary School, which offers an exceptional possibility to directly interweave gallery activities with educational work.

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Mokrice

MOKRICE CASTLE







Over centennial Gorjanci forests overlooking the wine growing Bizeljsko hills there protrudes the mighty medieval Mokrice castle. The castle legends and stories tell of agitated historical events and important travelling routes from East to West – already in the old Roman times. Not of a lesser importance were the medieval peasant riots, which also affected the castle essentially. Yet in the peaceful times, the castle was famous after an ostentatious life of its gentry.

Mokrice castle is situated SE from Čatež. The first written documents about the castle originate from 1444, although in the Roman empire there there was already a fortress named Romula, depicted in Tabula Peutingeriana- a map collection from 4th century. Below the fortress there was situated the roman village of the same name of which quite some archeological excavations have been preserved. Mokrice castle is positioned on a hill on the right to Sava river. Etymologically, the name is related to the swampy area below the castle.
The castle coat of arms depicts a raven with speared neck. According to the legend, in the times of turkish intrusions, a raven with speared neck flew above the castle and succumbing the injury fell to the castle yard warning of the approaching danger. As a sign of the count's gratitude, the raven was granted immortality on the coat of arms of the castle.
*****
Today the medieval castle is a four-star Golf Castle Hotel, which astonishes with its noble interior (period furniture) and exterior (200 year old medieval English park and 18-hole golf course). Behind the mighty walls the castle hides two treasures: an exquisite restaurant and in the castle cellar – a wine collection. A wonderful view of the castle and nature grants the sunny patio of the Golf Club House.
The accomodation in the period furnished parlours, rooms and apartments in the castle towers is complemented with the accomodation in golf suites and extension amenities in the middle of the golf course.
The solemn atmosphere provides also an ideal background for wedding ceremonies; wedding wows can be said in one of the beautiful court halls, in the courtyard, park or even in the middle of the golf course.
Business, social and protocolary events are being arranged and are the matter of a long tradition and experience of Terme Čatež Conference Centre, which organized numerous successful events, meetings and congresses
The image and offer of Mokrice has been completed with the offer of the nearby Terme Čatež Spa, the leading tourist thermal resort in Slovenia. Opening season: from spring to autumn.

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terme čatež

Podsreda

PODSREDA CASTLE







In the heart of Orlica and the Kozjansko park, 5 km off the square in Podsreda, stands a "castle par excellence in Slovenia". Hörberg or Herberch, as it was once called, was built in the first half of the 12th century while its first reference dates back not earlier than in 1213. Around 1150, they built the northern palatium, in 1180 a defensive tower, in 1220 the southern palatium and in 1260 a tower with a chapel. The elements of Romanesque architecture can still be seen today, one of them being the beautiful mullioned window.
The castle is located in the territory which belonged to the estate of the Breže-Seliški counts and countess Emma of Krka (Gurk) around 1000, and later to her monastery Krka and the Krka diocese. In the first half of the 13th century, the castle was bought by Friderik Žovneški and remained in the possession of the Counts of Celje until their extinction. Afterwards, it was a princely property. Castle tenants and caretakers often changed until Count Sigmund Tattenbach acquired permanent and hereditary possession of it in 1617. Before 1848, the estate had been bought by Duke Weriand Windischgrätz who had given the castle its present look. It remained in the Windischgrätz family until the end of the World War II. After the Second World War, the castle became state property. It is owned by the Kozje municipality, and has been managed by the Kozjansko Park since 1983.
In the former castle cellars we find a presentation of the protected area of Kozjansko Regional Park.
Masterpieces of the traditional glass foundries in the Kozjansko are exhibited in the collection Ujeta prosojnost (Captured transparency).

The oldest part of the castle hosts a permanent exhibition of France Slana illustrating works from various periods of the artist's career. A memorial room is set up to pay tribute to St. Emma, as the castle is one of the points on Emma's pilgrimage route linking places associated with the life and work of Emma of Krka.
The former castle granaries and the attic are locations of repeated presentations of Slovene as well as foreign artists and photographers. The castle courtyard is pervaded by the sounds of the performers at Summer Musical Festival which takes place every year and offers concerts by professors and performances by young musicians.
Not only cultural events, the castles also hosts promotional and commercial events, weddings and social gatherings.

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Kozjanski park

Sevnica

SEVNICA CASTLE







Sevnica Castle perches on a sweeping hill top above the old town center of Sevnica. On the site of the current castle once stood a castle which was probably built in the first half of the 12th century. The first written reference to the castle was recorded in 1309 as "castellum Liechtenwalde." Unlike many other castles, Sevnica Castle escaped the destruction caused during the Croatian-Slovenian peasant uprising in 1573. Moreover, it was probably during this period that the Lutheran Cellar was built on the castle slope and was occasionally visited by Jurij Dalmatin (approx. 1547-1589), who was the first to translate the whole Bible into Slovene. Later, the cellar was turned into a tomb intended for some lords of the castle in Sevnica. Today, various musical concerts and other events take place in its acoustic venues.

In recent years, the castle and its surroundings has gone through substantial renovation works resulting in a magnificent medieval panorama presented by the castle and the old town centre underneath. Particularly rich is the contents of the castle:

- Short films about Sevnica, about the history of the castle and the famous archaeological park Ajdovski gradec;
- Various exhibition rooms (a baroque salon, hallways and a tower rich in frescoes, a wedding hall and a conference hall, a school collection, a firefighting collection, a collection of the exiles from the municipality of Sevnica, a castle chapel, a collection of Ivan Razboršek's decorative art, a collection "Ogled" by the author Rudi Stopar, a collection "Kamni govorijo" (Stones speak), temporary exhibitions of artists etc.); The Sevnica Castle puppet theater with their workshops and puppet shows for children; The Castle vineyard with 500 Blaufränkisch vines (you can become the "Godfather" to them); The Castle villa with an apartment; The Castle wine cellar offering a wide selection of local wines (wine tasting and wine sale, gatherings, banquets etc.), The Castle café; The renovated castle park with marked energy points and mighty trees; It is possible to perform a marriage ceremony in Sevnica castle; warmer months are ideal for beautiful weddings in the castle park; The Lutheran cellar with its famous frescoes and extraordinary acoustics; Programmes for children and youth (see the animated "Meet Baron Moscon", creative and puppet workshops, castle games, Primož Trubar's lesson, wandering through the history of the castle with the guitar); Blaufränkisch Festival, culinary evenings, castle feasts, concerts, performances, exhibitions etc. Renting out rooms for business and private meetings, conference tourism, catering, banquets, celebrations ...

In summertime, the castle hosts a traditional cultural festival called Sevniško grajsko poletje (Summer in Sevnica Castle), which is a series of cultural and entertainment events.

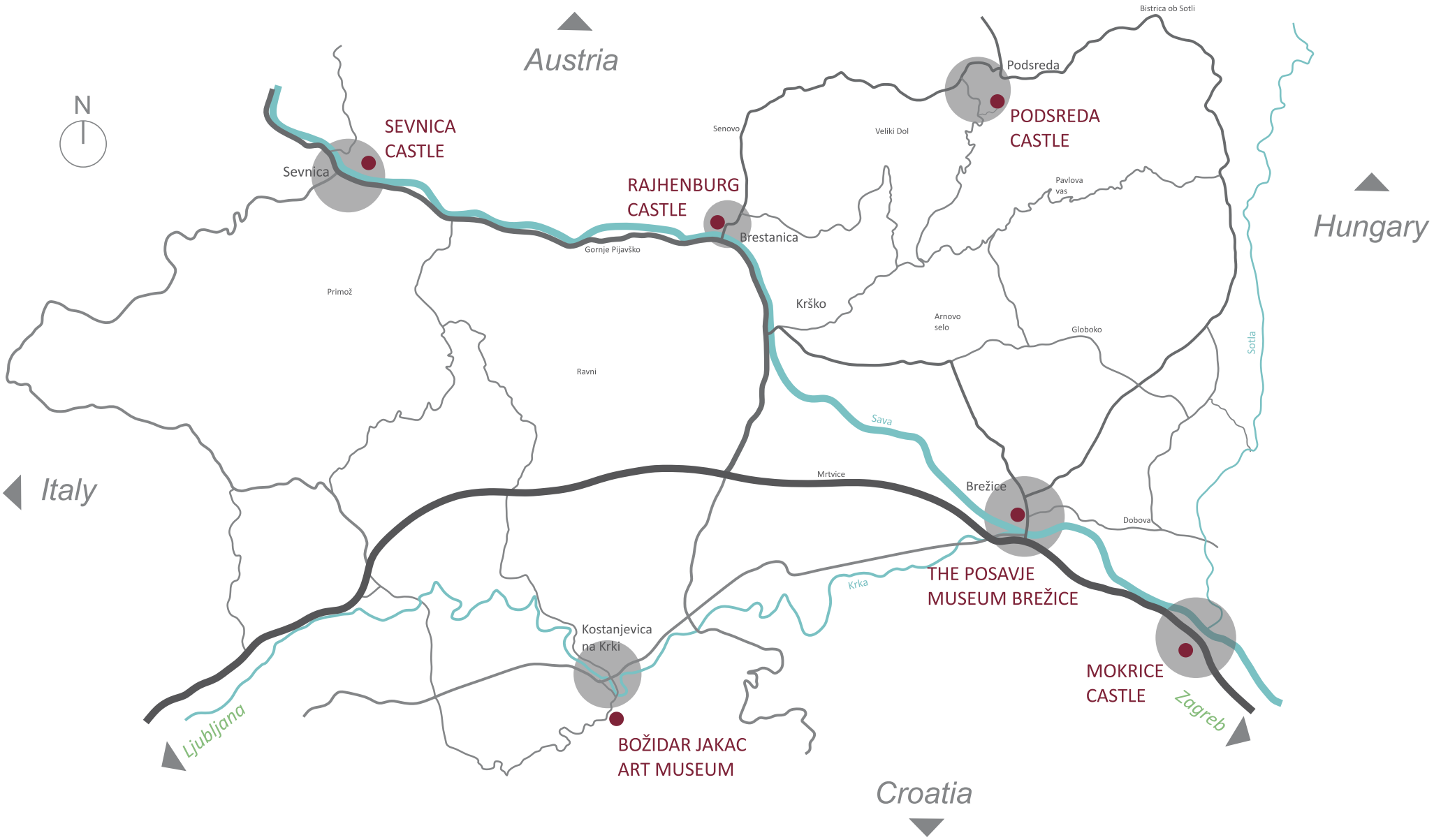
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Step by step, castle by castle - award!

Collect stamps. Having received the last one, there is a prize for you. Thank you for visiting and learning about the castles in Posavje.

Brestanica RAJHENBURG CASTLE	KULTURNI DOM KRŠKO GRAD RAJHENBURG	
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Globoko
Mrtvice
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