



## SLOVENIAN ROUTE 2: ŽALEC On the way of green gold

Distance: 20 km **Dificulty: medium** Quality of the ground: asphalt Type of road: public

Starting point: The Eco-Museum of Hop-Growing and Brewing Industry in Slovenia

POINTS OF INTEREST	DESCRIPTION
	The Green Gold Fountain is a tribute to the hop growing heritage of the Lower Savinja Valley and Žalec, which is the hop-growing centre of Slovenia. Slovenia is also the fifth largest producer of hops in the world and hop is the "spice" that gives beer its distinctive flavour. The Green Gold Fountain has eight taps. Five of them will be available for use when the fountain starts operating. The visitor can buy a glass beer mug at various locations in the town and for the price of €6 they can taste 1 dcl of beer five times. The beer mug for the Green Gold Fountain was designed by the renowned industrial designer and an honorary citizen of the Municipality of Žalec, Oskar Kogoj.
<b>Roman Necropolis</b> 46.255331, 15.120952	Almost 2000 years ago, a very important Roman road led through Šempeter: Aquileia – Emona – Celeia – Poetovio. Many wealthy Romans lived nearby and some of them were buried in the tombs of the Roman Necropolis in Šempeter. To this day, the park has been one of the most important and best-preserved monuments from the Roman era in Slovenia and Central Europe. Since the discovery of the Roman Necropolis in Šempeter, more than one hundred family tombs have been excavated. Each tomb tells its own, 2000 year-old story, describes ancient mythology and life of ancient Romans.

## PTION







**The Pekel Cave** 46.289796, 15.133258



The Pekel Cave is a karst cave with a long history. More than 3 million years old, it lies in the middle of the Ponikva karst region, about 4 km north of Šempeter in the Savinja valley. The cave was created by the Ponikvica stream that disappears in front of the cave and reappears in the cave as the Peklenščica stream. The 1159-meterlong path through the cave is easy and well maintained. On two floors, the visitor can see two different caves: the water cave and the dry cave. Through the lower, water part of the cave, runs the Peklenščica stream, leading to the greatest monument in the cave, a 4-meter-high waterfall. It is the highest underground waterfall in Slovenia that can be seen from the immediate vicinity. The upper part of the cave is dry and full of cave structures. Because the water is carrying many substances, the dripstones glitter in various shades of red and brown.

End of the trai: Gastro Kolodvor Pub Žalec

## Accommodation / Restaurants

GOSTILNA PRIVOŠNIK http://www.gostilna-privosnik.si/ GALERIJA OKUSOV http://galerijaokusov.si/ KMETIJA PODPEČAN http://kmetijapodpecan.si/









