



SLOVENIAN ROUTE 3: VELENJE On the way of socialism

Distance: 17 km
Dificulty: medium

Quality of the ground: asphalt

Type of road: public

Starting point: Vila Bianca

POINTS OF INTEREST DESCRIPTION

The Velenje castle

46.356651, 15.109876



The castle's nucleus was built in 13th century. However, most of what we can see today was built three centuries later when a courtyard was built along with a big part of the picturesque wall, towers, and a majestic renaissance roundel. The castle we see today has been completely renovated. There is a permanent exhibition in the Velenje museum, a gallery exhibition of Lojze Perko's paintings, and a permanent exhibition of the 20th century Slovenian art. The remains of a mastodon found in the vicinity of Velenje are exhibited in the former stables, while in the castle chapel you can admire a collection of baroque sacral art rescued from a demolished church of St. Jurij in Škale. In addition, periodical exhibitions are also held in one of the castle's rooms. Visitors will probably be most impressed by a reconstruction of a shop and an inn dating back into 1930's.

Šalek lakes

46.375487, 15.091321

The Šalek lakes appeared as a result of digging lignite. For one hundred and thirty years it has been dug in this valley. There were no lakes in the past but a few villages, which disappeared either completely or partially. The Škalek lake appeared the first, just after World War II and is the smallest one, while the Velenje lake is the biggest. The youngest one is the Družmirje lake. This area is considered an important value to biotic diversity in water and on land. Therefore many different animal species and plants







have found habitat there. There are 29 endangered bird species among 120 different ones. The area serves mostly educational purposes and preserving nature but there are also numerous and interesting recreation possibilities. There is a beautiful gravel beach by the Velenje lake at the boathouse with wood flooring sunbathing places, showers and toilets. You can rent a deckchair, a sunshade, different vessels, or you can do some other activities on a big lawn by the lake.

Promenade Velenje

46.360613, 15.115502



Velenje is a special and unique town in Slovenia. It was designed on the basis of modernistic ideal of a garden town just after World War II. The central part of a new town promenade is a narrow curved path leading from one point to another. It widens now and then and where it does, you find benches and trees where you can stop and enjoy the pleasant surroundings. You can descend to the river from both river banks as there are stairs leading to the Paka river. The white stairs form a kind of amphitheatre, where performances are held and where young people gather.

End of the trai: Vila Bianca

Accommodation / Restaurants

VILA HERBERSTEIN

http://vilaherberstein.si/en/

RESTAVRACIJA JEZERO VELENJE

http://www.gorenjegostinstvo.si/index.php?stran=restavracija-

jezero&sklop=main&lang=si

PIZZERIA PISCADILLY

https://www.pizzeria-

picadilly.com/novica/podrobno/1574/8595/predstavitev





Velenje





40m La deal



30m



Elevation

