

DISCOVER, ENJOY, ADMIRE, RESPECT
2009 SOLČAVSKO

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**I FEEL
SLOVENIA**

Logarska dolina



EUROPEAN DESTINATION OF EXCELLENCE, 2009

Plenty to admire! Chosen as Slovenia's European Destination of Excellence in 2009 because it combines, in a unique manner, nature conservation, the life of the inhabitants of the valleys and the curiosity of visitors from all over the world.

Three valleys in harmony.

What you feel when you arrive is ADMIRATION.

The stunning Alpine peaks, the idyllic beauty of three glacial valleys, a nature park containing countless natural and cultural sights of interest, the hospitality of the people, the profusion of traditional crafts and dishes: these are just fragments of the big picture of the coexistence of unspoilt nature and human creativity. The Solčava District (Solčavsko) is three valleys in harmony and at the same time the unison of outstanding natural beauty and carefully considered tourism.



A view from the Solčavsko Panoramic Route.

Taste of EDEN.

What inspires you is ENJOYMENT.

Discover natural and cultural features of past and present. **Admire** the beauties of the landscape, Alpine flora, animals in the wild, architectural and ethnological heritage. **Respect** the coexistence of nature and people. And enjoy the homeliness of villages, the hospitality of the inhabitants, the comfort of hotels, guest houses and open farms! **Enjoy** typical local dishes. Try a local speciality with protected designation of origin: SAVINJSKI ŽELODEC (stuffed pig's stomach). Eat your fill of Solčavsko savoury strudel and ravioli with various fillings; MASOVNIK, a flour-based dish made with butter, milk and cream; SIRNEK, a soft cheese aged in a special way to give it a sharp taste, also used to make a special soup called SIRNICA. Home-made sweets from cakes, to PUTRTOHI, to fruit breads accompanied by home-made fruit juices, teas and brandies. Allow yourself to be surprised by the natural quality of all the other dishes: organic farms produce fruit and vegetables that have a really full flavour thanks to the pure and unspoilt environment. Fruits of the forest also enrich Solčava menus. In Solčavsko you can taste the traditional coexistence with nature at every step!



A stuffed apple.



Stuffed pig's stomach, a speciality of the Upper Savinja Valley.

EDEN landscape.

The feeling that fills you when you see the views is **RESPECT**.

The **Kamnik-Savinja Alps** and the **Karavanke** range rise high above the beautiful springs of the river Savinja and three unique valleys. **Logarska Dolina** is one of the most beautiful Alpine glacial valleys in the whole of Europe. **Robanov Kot** is a valley of isolated mountain farms. Both valleys have been designated specially protected areas because of their exceptional character and together they form a nature park. **Matkov Kot**, the least well known of the three valleys, contains the largest snow hollow in the country (Matkov Škaf). **Podolševa** is one of the highest lying settlements in Slovenia, ideal for a break at over a thousand metres above sea level. Just a stone's throw away is **Potočka Zijalka**, a cave containing traces of Ice Age hunters. From **Solčava**, a little Alpine village first mentioned in historical sources in the 13th

century, you can explore many of nature's secret corners, including the thousand-year-old Solčava yew. The **Solčavsko Panoramic Road** at a height of 1,200 metres above sea level offers unique views of the valleys and mountain peaks, and fills everyone with respect for mighty nature. A large part of the area is part of the Natura 2000 network owing to its great biodiversity.

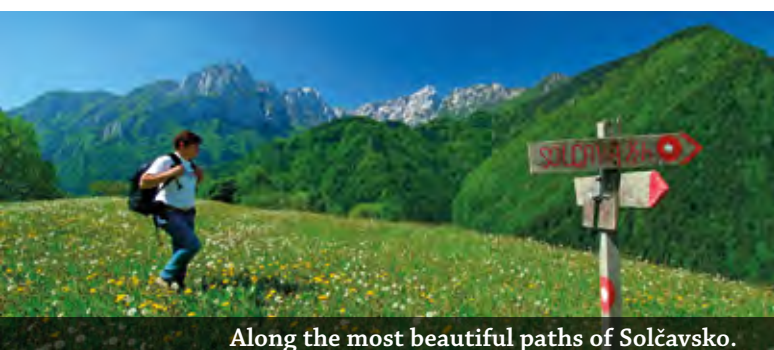
Also worthy of respect are the surviving traditions: the sound of the zither on mountain farms, the touch of felt products made from the wool of the autochthonous Jezersko-Solčava sheep, the ancient churches and chapels, the huts of charcoal burners and woodsmen, and every greeting from the hardy locals.



Work on the farm. Preparations for putting up a fence.



Solčava with the Church of Our Lady of the Snows.



Along the most beautiful paths of Solčavsko.



A felt product.

Experience EDEN.

What tempts you is **DISCOVERY**.

Cycling along picturesque paths, walks through meadows and forests or along the channels of streams, **mountain paths** to huts below the peaks, several-day tours through the high mountains, **mountain climbing** routes, **archery** down in the valley or on a forested slope, **galloping on horseback** through mountain pastures, a tandem **paraglider flight**; and, in winter, **cross-country skiing**, **tobogganing**, **ski touring**, **snow-shoeing**, etc. There is never any shortage of active outdoor experiences in Solčavsko, and this is why many people keep coming back here for new experiences!

The best choice for a first complete experience of Solčavsko is a pleasant **3-day adventure programme taking in natural and cultural sights**. **SOLČAVSKO -THREE VALLEYS IN HARMONY** programme, which beat all the other candidates to the title of European Destination of Excellence in Slovenia, combines sightseeing and experiences, encounters with nature and the local people, past and present, and always with great respect for the natural environment.

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SOLČAVSKO,
European Destination of Excellence, 2009



Discover and experience: a guided walk along the Nature and Ethnography Trail through Logarska Dolina, ethnographic activities and live-action or multimedia presentations of Solčavsko; a walk through Robanov Kot discovering interesting sights along the Solčavsko Panoramic Road, which also leads to the highest-lying farm in Slovenia; experiences from the life of the local people: stories, traditional wares, ancient buildings; a felt-making workshop, where special souvenirs are made from the wool of the autochthonous Jezerko-

Solčava sheep; a visit to Potočka Zijalka and the Ice Age hunters museum; a visit to the Gothic church of Our Lady of the Snows; the hospitality of centuries-old mountain farms; a vision of the development of Solčavsko that will preserve its natural and cultural riches for the generations to come. In the evenings enjoy the flavours of traditional dishes and allow yourself to be charmed by the sound of the zither and stories about farmers, woodmen, charcoal burners, the Counts of Cilli, wizards and the wonders of nature.

Solčavsko – Three Valleys in Harmony

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