

**I FEEL
SLOVENIA**

FLY FISHING IN SLOVENIA

www.slovenia.info
#ifeelsLOVEnia



Ljubljana beloved



The Alps protected by Goldhorn



Embraced by **forests**



Karst stone with a soft heart

a Love Story

Feel Slovenia! Welcome to the only country in the world that bears love in its name. An old folk tale says love has a special power here. In Slovenia, beautiful things are right next to each other and you can experience them in a single day.



Slovenians, conquerors of the world



Slovenian Istria, salty love



Waters and their healing touch



Cheers, love



Love water, love diversity!



One is lively and rhythmic, the other is strong and decisive on its way to the destination, while the third is dreamy and mysterious. The rivers of Slovenia are together with its tributaries as diverse and colorful as the regions where they flow. Slovenia is the only country in Europe which joins on small and easily accessible distances the Alps, the Mediterranean, The Carst and the Pannonia plains.

Folk heritage says that Slovene rivers are sisters competing among themselves in finding their way to the sea. Some rush down the Alps to the Adriatic Sea, others flow every so magnificently to the Danube Region and Black Sea. Third group carves the underground beauty of Carstic caves filling up mysterious intermittent lake on the way while fourth take all their time flowing ever so slowly across the plains. They differ greatly in their character but their essence is the same, wherever they are headed Slovene rivers burst with life!

Cristal clear Slovene waters surrounded by surprising green vegetation are home to almost hundred fish species. Among them autochthonous species deserve special attention. While fishing has long tradition, flyfishing is its crown and long respected way of fishing in Slovenia. The land of waters with 28 000 km of water-courses and 1300 lakes larger then 1ha, on 20 273 km², offers flyfishing among the Alpine mountain tops or surrounded by Carstic phenomena. You will always be both close to the sea and wine hills not far away from the towns or hospitable villages, but feeling that the rhythm of everyday city frenzy is far away.

Those who practice catch release fishing, enable the fish which is returned to the water unharmed to swim twice. Of course you can take the fish with you and enjoy its taste as well. If this is the case we recommend following the culinary tradition of Slovenia which goes: the fish need to swim three times, first in the water, then in oil and lastly in the wine. When you return from a perfect flyfishing day on one of surprising Slovene water courses, enjoy some of the tasteful fish dishes and other specialties of Slovene cuisine and toast to life with excellent Slovene wines.

SLOVENIA.
Green. Active. Healthy.

Get to know Slovenia. Discover its particularities. Wherever you head, the water will be surrounding you, full of life. The life that can be hooked to the right fly!

RIVERS AND LAKES OF SLOVENIA





The watercourses in Slovenia are divided into the **Adriatic** and the **Danube** (Black Sea) river basins. The ichthyofaunas of both river basins include many common and some distinct fish species. The principal river of the former is the Soča with its tributaries, and that of the latter is the Sava with its tributaries. The most prominent distinctive species of the Adriatic Basin is the marble or **Soča trout** (*Salmo marmoratus*), and recently also the **Soča grayling** (*Thymallus thymallus*). Among the most typical fish species found in the rivers of the Danube Basin are the **Danube huchen** (*Hucho hucho*), **brown trout** (*Salmo trutta fario*) and **grayling** (*Thymallus thymallus*).

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FISH POPULATIONS IN SLOVENIA

Slovenian waters cover a surface area of 12,000 hectares. Around 4,000 ha are salmonid waters, the rest are mixed and cyprinid. The majority belong to the **Danube** Basin and one-quarter to the **Adriatic** Basin. The latter has several native and indigenous fish species, which naturally adds to the diversity of fish populations. So let us first focus on these species, which are less known or even completely unknown to the usual fly fishing guest.

A special place among the indigenous fish species of the **Adriatic Basin** is held by the **marble** or **Soča trout**, also called the **Adriatic** trout, the largest salmonid species. It is called *soška postrv* in Slovenian and *Salmo marmoratus* in Latin. The Soča river is one of the few rivers where the population of marble trout has significantly increased in recent years. As little as 70 years ago, this trout species was abundant in the rivers flowing into the Adriatic Sea: from Italy's Po river, the rivers of the Venezia and Friuli regions, the Soča and its tributaries, the Rižana, the Reka, the Dalmatian rivers, the Neretva, Morača, Zeta and Bojana. It was even found in Lake Skadar and several waters in Albania. However, it disappeared from most of these habitats on account of anthropogenic causes, and also faced imminent extinction in the Soča river. To respond to this threat, the fishermen of Slovenia launched in 1982 a joint campaign for the preservation of the Soča trout. As a result, the upper course of the Soča is again inhabited by a fully natural population of this highly prized fish species. A similar process is underway in the middle course of the river, where the population of this species is prevalent and growing each year. The Soča trout today grows to around 35 and 40 centimetres in length on average in the upper and the middle course of the river, respectively. Several specimens weighing 5–15 kilograms are caught each year. The largest specimen to date was caught in 1997, measuring 121 centimetres in length and weighing 25 kilograms. Stuffed, it is on display in the Hotel Hvala lobby in Kobarid.

Soča trout can also be found in other rivers of the Adriatic Basin, such as the Idrijca, Bača, Vipava, Reka and Rižana, but with much smaller populations. The re-population process is underway in these rivers as well, but the populations are currently below the self-preservation limits.

Hybrid trout (marble x brown trout) are frequently encountered in the Idrijca, Bača, Vipava, Reka and Rižana rivers. This species is present in waters inhabited by both species and is the result of a natural crossbreeding process between the two. Hybrid trout are relatively rare in the Soča river due to the many years of intensive stocking with marble trout and the systematic removal of brown trout over the last 20 years. Having shared features, the hybrid trout's distinctive characteristic is the more or less intensive marble pattern along the back and on the head, and red spots on the flanks. The spots have white borders, just as with the brown trout. They can grow to trophy sizes, weighing over 10 kilograms.

Slovenia has 93 freshwater fish species, of which 33 are protected. There are 25 fish species particularly favoured by anglers. Most of these can also be fished and caught with artificial flies.



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The **Soča** or **Adriatic grayling** has not (yet) been classified as a species in its own right, but it seems that this is merely a matter of scientific debate. As little as 40 years ago, its populations in the Soča, Idrijca and Vipava rivers were relatively strong and self-sustaining. Much as with the marble trout, the grayling population dwindled or was even wiped out (as in the Vipava) due to human intervention and changes to the natural environment. The distinguishing features between the Soča and the Sava grayling, which is native to the Danube Basin and was also introduced into the Adriatic Basin, are colour and behaviour. The characteristic features of the Soča grayling are a greyish-blue back and yellow or white underside. The paired fins are yellow and the caudal fin is grey with a yellowish nuance on the lower half. Unlike the Sava grayling, the Soča grayling is not a particularly strong fighter. Once hooked, they normally pull back into the splash of water and fiercely shake their head downwards. They rarely leap into the air, despite this being the grayling's most highly prized quality. They spawn from the end of March to the end of April. They breed at the same time as the Sava grayling, and their offspring are fertile. Normally measuring 30–45 centimetres in length, adult fish have also been known to grow more than 50 centimetres long.

The **brown trout** and the **grayling** are the most favoured fly fishing species among the salmonids of the **Danube Basin**. Well known to most fly fishermen, these two fish species need no special introduction. Brown trout are very colourful, with numerous red spots, which normally have white halos. The grayling is recognisable by the red or orange caudal fin, the crimson transversal stripe along the flanks and the big fan-shaped dorsal fin with a purple and reddish-blue chequered pattern. It should also be noted that the grayling is an exceptional fighter. Its struggles to break free and, above all, its leaps out of the water are quite simply amazing.

Apart from the two species described above, there is also the **rainbow trout**, which has been inhabiting European waters for so long that it can safely be called our own. Constantly on the move, this species very often saves the day when the rest of the salmonids pay no attention whatsoever to the artificial flies cast into the water. Besides being prone to snapping at artificial flies, the rainbow trout is also a very good fighter. And, not least, it can grow to astonishing sizes, more than 80 centimetres in length and weighing 6 or 7 kilograms, or even more.

The **brook trout** is also known to inhabit several waters in Slovenia, but it is seldom caught. This Canadian trout was brought to Europe together with the rainbow trout. Also a very active species, putting up a good fight when hooked, it is often downplayed. On the other hand, however, it does not grow as big as its southern relative, the rainbow trout.

- Grayling, photo: A. Mezek 1
- Soča Grayling, photo: T. Šalej – Faletič 2
- Grayling, photo: B. Konc 3
- Brown trout, photo: K. Istinič 4
- Soča trout, photo: L. Rejec 5

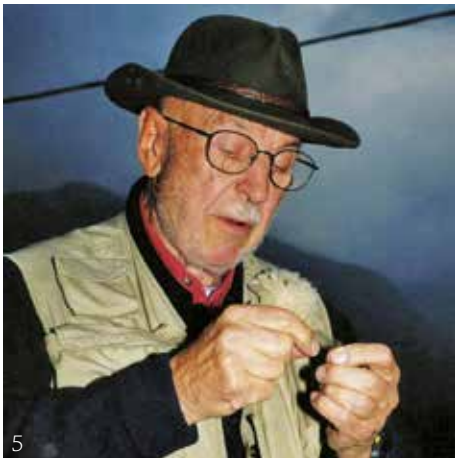
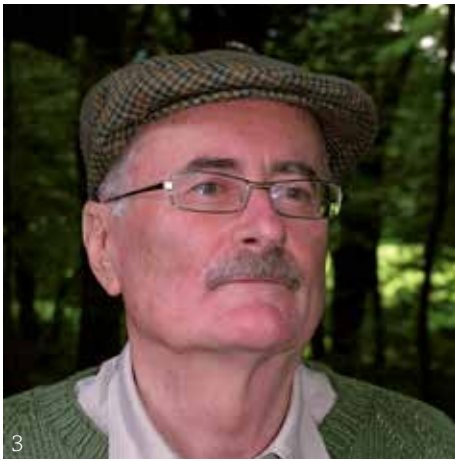


THE SLOVENIAN SCHOOL OF FLY FISHING

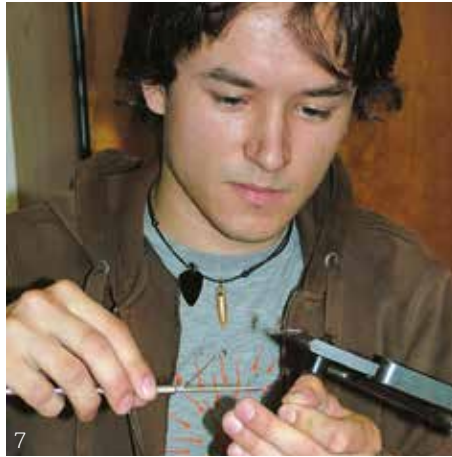
The first documented references to fly fishing in the area of present-day Slovenia date back to the beginning of the 20th century. In 1910, one of the most noted fly fishermen of the time, German Alexander Behm, came to fly fish in the Tolminka river. There he met a local fly-tier by the name of Josip Bravničar, who was successfully fishing using a dry fly that was, though big and simple in form, very firm and tied in a unique way. Having made some modifications to Bravničar's model, Behm presented it in the German magazine *Die Anglersport* in 1928. Despite his respect for Bravničar, he scored great success with the fly, which should have been credited to the Slovenian fly fisherman.

Alojz Šulgaj published two articles, "Fishing with Artificial Flies" and "Description of Artificial Flies", in the first editions of the Fishing and Hunting Journal (*Ribiško-lovski vestnik*), which first coming out in 1943. Šulgaj should be noted above all for his views on angling ethics and the angler code, which he incorporated into the articles titled Love of Fishing and Learning About Angling. His contributions can be regarded as the foundation of the Slovenian tradition of fly fishing, which embraced the idea that fly fishing is not the preferred, but the most demanding and the most valued form of angling.

Inspired by the English *specimen groups*, a group of fishing enthusiasts was formed in Slovenia in the 1970s. It was made up of Tomo Korošec, PhD, Jože Ocvirk, PhD, Lucijan Urbančič and Božidar Voljč, PhD. On the basis of their fly-fishing expertise and experience, they began the Slovenian school of fly fishing, which they later strengthened by publishing the book titled Fly Fishing (*Muharjenje*). The book spurred rapid growth of fly fishing in Slovenia; the second, revised edition came out in 2000. The book contains an authoritative classification of hook types with corresponding terminology, a review of knot tying with corresponding terminology, descriptions of different fly-fishing techniques, and, among the most important topics, a separate chapter on angling ethics. Alongside this, it includes a detailed examination of 75 fly samples, from classical models to modern flies made by fly-tiers from home and abroad. The original Slovenian fly rod, the Soča 180, was born at that time. It was partly inspired by the Austrian Gebetsroither fishing style of employing a stiff wrist, where the rod becomes an extension of a fly fisherman's arm. It was a rod with a stiff action, which made it possible to cast the line far out.



- 1 F-fly, bat fly; tied by M. Fratnik, photo: I. Holy
- 2 Scud, tied by Ivo Kajžnik, photo: I. Holy
- 3 Božidar Voljč, PhD, photo: I. Holy
- 4 Ivo Kajžnik, photo: I. Holy
- 5 Marjan Fratnik, photo: I. Holy
- 6 Slovenian sedge from the Slovenica series, tied by Božidar Voljč, PhD, photo: I. Holy
- 7 Simon Urbas, photo: I. Holy



The book also featured a description of the original caddis fly imitation tied by Božidar Voljč, PhD, called the Slovenian sedge (*slovenski šaš*). Due to its high success rate, the fly quickly won widespread popularity across Europe and was featured in numerous international publications. *The Slovenica series*, which

includes all the important caddis fly types, along with the original local fly fishing nomenclature, was created on the basis of this fly-tying technique.

The classic arsenal of artificial flies also included Marjan Fratnik's feather fly, which is known around the globe as the F-fly. Feather flies have been around for quite some time, but it was Marjan Fratnik who devised his own tying technique in order to simplify as much as humanly possible the making of this popular fly, bringing it closer to a wide circle of fly-tiers. There are many fly fishermen out there who see duck feathers (CDC) as the most practical and the most popular material for tying flies, thanks to Fratnik.

The complete opposite of the pragmatic Fratnik was the late Ivo Kajžnik, promoter of lifelike fly lure tying in Slovenia and deviser of the famous *Gammarus pulex* imitation, known as the gammy. Despite the fact that today there are a number of fly-tiers who make faithful imitations of this fly, the original technique remains a secret. One of the leading fly-tiers in Slovenia, Ivo Kajžnik received numerous awards in recognition of his work both at home and abroad.

The Fishing Association of Slovenia has been organising the annual Slovenia Open Best Fly competition for over 20 years now. The championship enjoys great popularity and renown among local and international fly-tiers, who compete in the following categories: dry flies, larvae and wet flies, streamers and realistic patterns. A good many fly-tiers began their professional careers at the Slovenia Open (for example, Nadica and Igor Stančev from Macedonia). Despite fierce competition, local fly-tiers have always been at the forefront: Ivo Kajžnik, Danilo Bižal, Radivoj Šavli, Dušan Štih, Igor Holy, Vladimir Mikec, Simon Urbas and others. All renowned experts in flyfishing, they know the fly fishing waters of Slovenia inside out.

The top three flies from each category are carefully stored and showcased on various occasions associated with fly fishing.



SOČA

Despite fierce competition for the most beautiful and best fishing area in Slovenia, the Soča river easily takes the lead. Boasting a distinctive emerald colour, white gravel and a meandering course through a verdant valley dominated by snow-capped peaks, the beauty of the Soča takes your breath away, no matter whether you are a first-time or returning visitor to the Soča valley. Fishing in this bluish-green Alpine beauty is a great privilege. And a magnet drawing back to this untamed river's crystalline pools all who have ever waded in the white gravel riverbed.

The best fly fishing stretch of the river begins in the village of Soča, in the Trenta valley, and continues to the town of Tolmin, covering a distance of some 50km. The river can be easily accessed from the road almost everywhere along the way. Its upper course is fast, with many rapids, cascades and pools. At several places, it works its way through short **ravines**. After flowing through a canyon for several kilometres, offering memorable fishing in the wild, in peace and quiet, the Soča again widens at Napoleon's Bridge in Kobarid. From there and all the way to Tolmin, fly fishermen will again find the river's cascades and pools easily accessible.

The fishing season is open from April to the end of October, and the only fishing method allowed is **fly fishing**. The first days of the fishing season in the valley, in places where traces of winter are still present, demand a great deal of patience on the fly fisherman's part. But when the sun floods the valley for an hour or two, bringing to life the rich world of waterside insects, this patience is rewarded with a good catch. Fly fishermen with a skilled hand at casting nymphs or streamers will be able to enjoy productive fishing all day long. Fish activity is slightly reduced in May and the beginning of June, when mountain snow begins to melt.





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However, the tributaries of the Soča offer prime fishing during this period. The snow-melt draining into them long gone, the Lepenjica, Koritnica, Tolminka and Idrijca with the Bača all have the right water levels for excellent fishing. Using dry flies, fly fishermen will enjoy the evening rise, which extends far into the night and renders a good catch. Normally, the best time for fishing on the Soča is at the end of June and during the whole of July. Trout rise to the surface mostly after sunset. Grayling, however, are active all day long. The Soča is populated by the Soča grayling, which strongly differs from grayling species found in other Slovenian waters not only in genetic terms, but also in behavioural and phenotypic terms. Its average length is around 40 centimetres, but there have been reports of grayling caught during the fishing season measuring 50 centimetres and more.

LAKE AT MOST NA SOČI


The area where the Soča and the Tolminka converge is where the last whitewater stretch in the middle course of the Soča is located. When the water level is at its high-

est, this is where the 7km-long man-made lake at Most na Soči ends. The Soča flows in the narrow riverbed of the reservoir all the way to the Podselo dam. Fishing is possible from the banks, but the true charm of and greatest success in the local fishing can only be achieved when fishing from a boat. Larvae attached to a sinking line are most commonly used. The most suitable time for streamer fishing is early in the morning and late in the evening. The days, or more accurately minutes, when dry-fly fishing is possible are rare. The upper part of the lake, situated above the town of Most na Soči, is quite shallow, and its many secluded spots can be explored using larvae. This is where fish often swim to the surface for caddis emergers, but also for airborne food such as mayflies, grasshoppers and ants. The lake is populated by all the fish species of the Soča drainage area, including grayling, which often reach trophy sizes in lakes. The same applies to marble trout. It is likely that the green depths of the lake are home to other trophy-size specimens like the one caught in 1995, which weighed 25 kilograms, or that from as far back as 1938, weighing 22 kilograms.

The Soča river is managed by three organisations:

- From its source to the bridge in Čezsoča: **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**


 www.zzrs.si

 www.fishing-slovenia.si

- From the bridge in Čezsoča to where it is joined by the Vogršček stream: **Ribiška družina (RD) Tolmin-Tolmin Fishing Club**

  www.ribiska-druzina-tolmin.si

- From the inflow of the Vogršček stream to the national border: **RD Soča – Soča Fishing Club**

 www.ribiska-druzina-soca.si

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-soca

1 The Soča, photo: M. Müller

2 The Soča, photo: J. Borišek


3 Soča trout, photo: M. Müller

4 Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy

5 Most na Soči, photo: I. Holy

6 The Soča, photo: Jože Borišek

 Web page of the manager.

 Web site where fishing permits can be bought on-line.



LEPENA, KORITNICA, NADIŽA, TOLMINKA



The **Lepenjica** and **Koritnica** are managed in their entirety by **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS)** – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia

www.zzrs.si

www.fishing-slovenia.si

The **Nadiža** is managed throughout its length in Slovenia by **RD Tolmin – Tolmin Fishing Club**

www.ribiska-druzina-tolmin.si

The **Tolminka** is managed in its entirety by **RD Tolmin – Tolmin Fishing Club**

www.ribiska-druzina-tolmin.si

The **Lepenjica**, flowing in the Trenta valley, is a left tributary of the Soča. Mostly shallow, this small river has several large pools with underwater ledges, a hiding place for trout. Nevertheless, there is also good fishing during the day, even with a dry fly, which is best cast upstream; there are marble trout on a lookout for airborne food in the river's small pools. In the Lepenjica, marble trout can be caught at any time of day. Not trophy-size specimens, let's be clear, but fish big enough to satisfy even the most discerning fly fishing enthusiast.

A few kilometres further downstream, the Soča is joined by the **Koritnica**, flowing in from the right. If slightly more difficult to reach than the Lepenjica, its lower course is fishable. Besides marble trout, there are also Soča grayling which hunt for larvae and airborne food. This is where many fly

fishermen have hooked the grayling of a lifetime.

To fish in the **Nadiža** river, in Kobarid, head west towards Italy. Small and warm in summer, this river has a perfectly acceptable water level in the other seasons. It is populated by all the main fish species of the Soča drainage area, including trout and grayling.

Besides the marble trout, the Tolmin Gorges are the most famous landmark of the **Tolminka** river, which flows into the Soča near the town of Tolmin. Its crystal-clear green pools are home to the marble trout and in the lower course also the Soča grayling. Fishing in the upper course of the river entails a good deal of climbing ability, while its lower course is very easily accessible.





IDRIJCA



The source of the **Idrijca** river is in the Idrija Hills. Soon joined by the Belca, it quickly turns into a river suitable for fly fishing. The light green pools in its upper course provide shelter to numerous brown and wild rainbow trout. Recently, the number of marble trout has increased as well. Its course to the town of Idrija includes two noteworthy points of interest.

Idrijske klavže is a unique Slovenian technical monument known around the world. It is a water barrier which was used for floating large amounts of timber all the way to Idrija.

Divje Jezero, or Wild Lake, on the right bank of the **Idrijca**, is a karst sinkhole lake fed by a deep, not yet fully explored tunnel. The water from the lake drains into the Jezernica, which in turn flows into the Idrijca. At 55m in length, the Jezernica is the shortest river in Slovenia.

The Idrijca is easily accessible from the road that runs parallel to it throughout its entire length. Abounding with fish, the river offers enjoyable fishing throughout the fishing season. Warm in summer, the river is also a popular swimming spot, particularly in its lower course. Trout are present in the largest numbers by far. Brown trout predominate, though rainbow trout are also quite common. Downstream from Idrija and all the way to where it flows into the dammed Soča at Most na Soči, the river also has grayling, which predominate in numerous areas. Pure marble trout are rare, but generally in astonishing sizes. The percentage of hybrid trout (marble x brown trout) is quite high, and they too reach trophy sizes. Ten or more marble and hybrid trout weighing up to 10 kilograms are caught each year, as well as an occasional king-sized specimen.

Fly fishing in its light green pools has won widespread popularity. All in all, the Idrijca is a fishing-friendly water as it seldom leaves a fisherman empty-handed. The snowmelt drains fairly soon in spring, and while the Soča is still white and cold, the Idrijca is already in full bloom. When the water level is low and notably in summer, the fish are capricious and picky, but not as much as in most of the other waters. The evening rise is remarkable and very common in hot July and August evenings. Even in autumn, when some parts of the river are completely out of the fading

sun's reach, the river affords enough opportunities for keen fly fishermen to satisfy their passion for fishing.

The 60km-long Idrijca offers enjoyable fishing with dry flies, larvae, even streamers, which are typically used for catching trophy-size specimens. It is a blessing for both beginners and experienced fly fishermen who have fished in the most prominent locations around the globe.

The Idrijca is managed by two organisations:

- From its source to the concrete bridge in Stopnik: **RD Idrija – Idrija Fishing Club**

 www.rd-idrija.si

- From the concrete bridge in Stopnik to where it flows into the Soča: **RD Tolmin – Tolmin Fishing Club**

 www.ribiska-druzina-tolmin.si

1 *The Lepena, photo: I. Modic*

2 *The Lepena, photo: M. Ivanc*

3 *Soča trout, photo: M. Müller*

4 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*

5 *The Idrijca, photo: I. Holy*

6 *Soča trout, photo: M. Roggo*

7 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*



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BAČA, TREBUŠČICA

On its 20-plus-km course, before eventually discharging into the Idrijca, the **Bača** river pushes its way through the narrow Baška Grapa (Bača ravine). For a short time in spring, the snowmelt gives the river's characteristic bluish-green colour a milky blue tone. The snowmelt, however, is quickly transported downstream. Its pools are home to all the trout species of the Adriatic Basin – from brown and marble trout, and their hybrids, to all sorts of crossbreeds, which notably predominate. Grayling are relatively common as well, their numbers growing further downstream. Rainbow trout, which complete the rich fish life in the Baška Grapa waters, should not be overlooked.

A small river, the Bača is beautiful, easily accessible and fly-fishing-friendly. Even a less experienced caster can successfully explore all the promising corners of this friendly small river. Especially in spring, when snowmelt gives the Soča a characteristic milky blue tone, the Bača is the right spot for some excellent fishing.

The **Trebuščica** is a left tributary of the Idrijca, flowing in the lower part of the Idrijca valley. This charming small river with numerous pools is ideal for fishermen who truly appreciate peace and quiet. Marble trout predominate, and there are also hybrids.



The Bača and the Trebuščica are managed in their entirety by **RD Tolmin – Tolmin Fishing Club**

 www.ribiska-druzina-tolmin.si

1 The Bača, photo: L. Hojnik

2 The Trebuščica, photo: S. Radej

3 Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy

4 The Bača, photo: L. Hojnik

Šterk



PHOTO: NICOLAS MULLER

Family run Hotel Šterk lies on the terrace above the confluence of the Soca and Idrijca river. In idyllic surroundings and breathtaking views you can let yourself go and enjoy quality wines and get spoiled with our locally based culinary delights.



PHOTO: HOVERVIEW.FR



Before or after taking on new challenges, take advantage of our accommodations and rest in our apartment or in one of the rooms we offer. They are all equipped with cable TV, refrigerator, hair dryer, internet access ...

For our fly-fishing guests, we provide all the information they need for memorable days on the Soča, Idrijca river and all of their side rivers (Učja, Tolminka, Bela, Nadiža, Trebuščica, Bača, Koritnica, Kneža). We also sell fishing licences and assist in hiring a local guide. On their return from the day spent on the Emerald River, there will be a guaranteed parking space, a warm dry room for waders and a warm welcome with unforgettable service. In addition to a hearty breakfast, Penzion Šterk offers a "bag lunch" and dinner.
Wellcome and tight lines!



PHOTO: MICHEL ROGGO





HOTEL ZLATA RIBICA

Idrija pri Bači 86, SI-5216 Most na Soči
 t +386 (0)5 381 56 50
 f +386 (0)5 381 56 51
 e prima.ribica@siol.net
 www.ribica.si

**Welcome to the Gorjan family hotel.
 Idillic and quiet, only metres from the river.
 Relaxation at its finest.**

Hotel Zlata ribica is a family hotel near Tolmin. It is located in the valley of the Idrijca river. Its central location enables quick access to all the rivers in its surroundings.

Fly fishing is a family tradition, Matej Gorjan, the hotel's owner, is fourth generation of fly fishermen. They will be happy to help you with any advice and information necessary which will make your stay a memorable fishing experience.

Fishing permits are sold at the hotel, while also professional fishing guide can be organised by the hotel owners. Any necessary equipment can be bought at the hotel's shop with fishing equipment, where also best seasonal flies are sold.

The half-board stay includes breakfast and dinner, while lunch or »lunch pack« are available on request.





TOURIST FARM »PRI KAFOLU« 🍏🍏🍏

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✉ info@prikafolu.com

🌐 www.prikafolu.com



Our tourist farm is located at the margins of the Triglav national park, above the emerald green Soča river. Situated in an idyllic location between Tolmin and Most na Soči we will welcome you in apartments or rooms with two beds. We offer the guest fruits and vegetables grown in the home garden and meat, cured food products, mountain cheese and cottage cheese from our own farm. Close to the river Soča there are rivers Tolminka, Idrijca, Bača and Trebuščica, which are all a true fly fishing paradise. We sell fishing permits for the rivers of the Fishing club Tolmin and we also organise guided trips with a fishing guide. We are certain that you will recharge your batteries at the farm and want to come back again.

Kindly welcome!

The Kafols



VILA NOBLESA

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Nestled among meadows and forests, Vila Noblesa affords a magnificent view of the confluence of the Idrijca and Soča rivers. There is only a 5-minute drive to the town of Most na Soči.

It includes four detached houses, each covering 80 sq m, with 4–5 beds, three bathrooms, a kitchenette and satellite TV. The central building houses the reception desk, two dining rooms, a self-catering kitchen and a wine cellar.

Vila Noblesa sells fishing licences valid for the waters managed by the Tolmin Fishing Club (RD Tolmin) and the most popular salmonid waters in Slovenia. Fishing guides are also available for hire. Our fly shop includes the necessary equipment and materials for fly tying, as well as a wide selection of special tried and tested flies for fly fishing in the local waters.



REKA, RIŽANA

Throughout its length from the source, in Gorski Kotar, to the world-famous Škocjan Caves, where it vanishes into the depths of the Karst region, the **Reka** river is home to the indigenous marble trout, hybrids and the predominant brown trout. Quite unremarkable up until Ilirska Bistrica, in the flatlands the Reka is fed by waters from its tributaries, turning into a respectable watercourse, which used to power numerous sawmills and water mills. Its trout population stable, the river is a delightful fly fishing spot, whether in spring, when it gushes over dams, or summer, when it swarms with aquatic insects in the evening twilight. There are good stretches for fly fishing all the way from Ilirska Bistrica, past Ribnica, to Škocjan Caves.

In the middle of the summer, when there is hardly a small stream bubbling in the riverbed of the **Rižana**, it is hard to imagine this would ever be a good spot to go fly fishing, let alone actually catch fish, perhaps even a marble trout. But all this is indeed possible a month or two earlier, as this is where spring in Slovenia starts. The valley of the Rižana greens as early as March, tinged by the wealth of water bursting up from a karst spring below Hrastovlje. In the past, the river powered many water mills and sawmills in its 14km run to the sea. And some of the dams endure to the present day. In spring, when the powerful body of water spills over the entire width of the dam into

greenish-blue depths, the Rižana has a particularly spirited character. Thanks to the mild Mediterranean climate, trout are in good shape as early as the start of the season. The right time for fishing is from spring to June, when the channel of the Rižana is full of water, which is generously supplied from beneath the ground. It is a karst river, and the predominating brown trout can be astonishingly picky. But come evening, they make ample amends for their fickleness, violently biting on a caddis fly or a tiny imitation of a mayfly. Apart from brown and rainbow trout, the Rižana treats its fans to an occasional hybrid between the marble and brown trout; however, marble trout are growing in numbers as well.

The best fishing areas are in the upper and the middle course of the river. Even though the lush Mediterranean vegetation on the riverbanks blocks access to the river in many places, a fly fisherman will have plenty of space to navigate in the riverbed itself, provided that the water level is not too high. The numerous cascades in the upper course provide shelter to fish and arouse curiosity in anglers, who feel compelled to explore them inside out. Fishing in the slow sections of the river above the dams is best done in the afternoon and in the evening, when the water bursts with life. The swarming of numerous insect species in the warm spring months sends fish into a frenzy, which in turn makes fly fishermen ecstatic.



The **Reka** is managed in its entirety by **RD Bistrica – Bistrica Fishing Club** based in Ilirska Bistrica

www.rd-bistrica.si

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-ilirska-bistrica

The **Rižana** is managed in its entirety by **RD Koper – Koper Fishing Club:**

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-koper





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SAVA DOLINKA



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The distinctively transparent green waters of the Sava rise to the surface at the Zelenci spring, in the northwestern corner of the country, very close to the Italian border. This colour, if slightly less intense, stays the same throughout the river's course. Despite the presence of trout, fishing in the area around the spring, which is a nature reserve, is not allowed. The young Sava flows eastward through a gently sloping valley to Jesenice, where its smooth flow is interrupted by the dam at the head of the Moste reservoir.

Downstream from the dam, it flows through the Brje valley, a natural monument. The area around the Sava between Vrba and Bled is dotted with numerous tufa-forming springs, whose waters, spilling over waterfalls 10+ metres high, feed the watercourse below. A little farther down the stream, at Lancovo, the Sava Dolinka and Sava Bohinjka converge into the Sava river.

The **Sava Dolinka** is a fine trout water, inhabited by brown and rainbow trout. As with any such lake, the Moste reservoir holds in its depths trout of great proportions. Wild rainbow trout are famed for their fighting qualities. The biggest individuals always get away; however, fly fishermen nonetheless boast catches of rainbow trout weighing four or five kilograms each year. From the dam to the confluence with the Sava Bohinjka, the river still forms part of the salmonid zone, with trout as the predominant fish species. Grayling are also present.



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The Sava Dolinka is managed in its entirety by **RD Jesenice – Jesenice Fishing Club**:
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-jesenice

- 1 The Reka, photo: I. Holy
- 2 Soča trout, photo: I. Holy
- 3 Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy
- 4 Zelenci, spring of river Sava Dolinka, photo: M. Vranič, archives: Slovenian Tourist Board
- 5 Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy
- 6 Brown trout, photo: K. Istinič
- 7 The Sava, photo: D. Babič



SAVA BOHINJKA

The Sava Bohinjka emerges at the bridge leading to St John's Church in Ribčev Laz. In reality, its white waters see the light of day below Mt Komna, as they thunder down into the green pool at the foot of the Savica waterfall. After flowing on the surface for only a short time, the Savica waters discharge into the blue depths of Lake Bohinj; at the other end of the lake, this lake stream spills over the glacial moraine into the channel of what later becomes the Sava Bohinjka. The Sava Bohinjka is born when the lake waters are joined by the Mostnica stream only a short distance downstream.

All the fish species of the Sava can be observed from the bridge at St John's Church. In the splashing water, it is easy to notice the telltale caudal fin of the grayling, which is not red but orange in the Sava. At a river-side bush, right beneath the surface, there are near-motionless brown trout. There is an occasional huchen, as if on patrol, in a pool a little farther down the stream. The pool is normally occupied by constantly active rainbow trout, which, clearly out of respect, have made room for the patrolling huchen. And then there is a chub every now and again, a drifter carried from the lake down the stream.

From the lake and to the confluence with its sister Sava, the Sava Bohinjka pushes its way through several narrow passages, where it demonstrates its powerful character. Most of the way, it is easily accessible from the road running parallel to it. Pools, cascades and sandbanks alternate. There are few dams in its course, but behind them deeper pools have formed, which are known to harbour trophy-sized individuals. Naturally there are certain reaches with more fish, but in the course of a day's fishing even average fly fishermen will hook enough fish to satisfy their passion for fishing, regardless of the season.



All in all, there are fish throughout the entire course of the Sava Bohinjka. However, several areas in its upper course deserve special attention, that is, Kamnje and Brod, Log and Soteska, particularly behind and at the base of the dam. Further downstream, the most easily accessible places for anglers are at bridges spanning the river. There are trout hiding under the branches hovering directly above the water, grayling in the splashing sections, and huchen, whose numbers are growing, in the pools. Fishing is good throughout the season, which normally starts in the Holy Week,



in March. At that time, the conditions are near-winter. Still, around noon, with sunshine warming up the air more and more each day, ushering in spring, both anglers and fish come into their own. Trout and grayling never miss the swarming of the first spring midges, and fly fishermen are more than happy to offer them corresponding imitations.

Snowmelt drains into the river in April and May, so the river is not so good for fishing during this time. The weather conditions become quite stable by the end of May, when the fish are fully active. This is where the fish typically rise to the surface in the evening twilight. Normally, this happens before sunset and lasts late into the night. During this time, the best way is to use the Slovenian sedge of various colours and sizes. The picky grayling is often tempted only by an imitation on an 18 hook, and trout by a big sedge on a 10 or a 12, with which we lightly ruffle the water surface in front of the fish.

Summers on the Sava Bohinjka are hot, but much more productive in fishing terms than other waters. Despite low water levels, the fishing is usually perfectly decent up until noon. In our experience, smaller imitations in black are the most successful. A small black ant and black sedge on a 16 or an 18 hook present a huge challenge for fish.

Fishing is also possible in the heat around noon. This is when grayling migrate to the fast-flowing splashing sections and cascades, and the Sava Bohinjka has plenty of



those. In a less-than-a-foot-deep cascade there are trophy-sized fish arranged in a queue. A tiny coachman, ant or sedge served at the right spot may reward you with a dream fish. However, the bite is fast and almost goes unnoticed by most anglers due to the glistening waves on surface of the river. The evening rise is getting shorter and shorter in the summer, sometimes a day even passes by without one, especially following afternoon storms, which are not uncommon in the Bohinj area. In such cases, using larvae is the smart choice. After sunset, a streamer has been known to be quite successful. At dusk, one can use a streamer to catch trout as well as huchen, as their population in the area is quite large.

In autumn, the valley of the Sava Bohinjka is a place of enchanting colours, surrounded by towering snow-capped peaks. Because the water level is usually low at that time of year, anglers can reach nearly any fishing spot. Sometimes warm and sunny days come in October as well. Grayling and rainbow trout are the main focus of anglers. The fishing season is closed for brown trout, which reach the peak of surface activity right about that time. Brown trout of enviable proportions, which have kept out of sight earlier in the season, bite on dry fly. The grayling is a different story altogether, but fishing for it around noon, in an autumn-tinted setting, can be a wonderful experience.

Autumn is the time for using tiny imitations and going fishing around noon; successful fishing is possible in November too, although the effective time is somewhat short. With the beginning of winter comes the season for huchen, which is a particularly charming experience considering that snow-capped peaks reflect in the crystalline water. The Sava Bohinjka has an exceptionally large population of huchen, so a catch is as good as guaranteed. But not just any catch – trophy-sized individuals of considerable weight have been known to bite in the past. The record to date stands at 16 kilograms.



The Sava Bohinjka is managed by four organisations:

- From Lake Bohinj to the road bridge outside Bohinjska Bistrica: **RD Bohinj – Bohinj Fishing Club**

 www.bohinj.si/ribolov/

- From the road bridge outside Bohinjska Bistrica to the dam in Soteska: **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**

 www.zzrs.si

 www.fishing-slovenia.si

- From the dam in Soteska to Cajhen Dam near Lancovo: **RD Bled – Bled Fishing Club**

 www.ribiska-druzina-bled.si

- From Cajhen Dam to the confluence with the Sava Dolinka: **RD Radovljica – Radovljica Fishing Club**

 www.ribiskadruzinaradovljica.si

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-radovljica

1 The Sava Bohinjka, photo: J. Borišek

2 Grayling, photo: M. Müller

3 The Sava Bohinjka, photo: I. Holy

4 The Sava Bohinjka, photo: J. Borišek

5 Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy



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RADOVNA



The crystal clear, cold glacial waters emerge from the white sand in the upper part of the valley, straight from the heart of Triglav, the country's highest peak. The first kilometre of this cold, green-tinted small river, which is a real treat for the eye, is so unwelcoming that there are no fish in it. Only downstream from the first dam does it have brightly coloured red-dotted brown trout, which can later be found throughout its entire course. The Radovna valley, along with the Radovna river, is part of Triglav National Park. There are few farms in the upper and middle reaches of the valley, so that the scenery there is practically unspoilt. There is a stone barrier on the small river at the mouth of the valley, as if Mother Nature wanted to make fortifications. The waters of the Radovna carved the famed Vintgar Gorge in order to finally meet with the Sava Dolinka after 17 kilometres.

The **Radovna** is an exceptional watercourse for fly fishing. Its upper course is inhabited

exclusively by the brown trout. Despite plenty of food, the trout there grow very slowly due to cold water. Their average size is low, and most of them fall below the minimum permissible size limit. But given the remarkable setting, that seems not particularly bothersome. The setting is particularly charming during summer, when the whole country is in the midst of a heat wave, but the Radovna valley is merely pleasantly warm. Apart from the brown trout, the Radovna is also home to the rainbow and brook trout. Interestingly, the brook trout population was preserved in the middle course of the Radovna, where there are many springs. The areas where the water from the springs drains into the Radovna is where brook trout spawn, and they also provide shelter to their progeny and fry.

The spring fishing usually starts in typical winter conditions. The sun is not strong enough in March to melt the snow in the shady Alpine valley. The start of the fishing season is sometimes more like fishing for huchen than it is fly fishing. If trout had not been introduced, the start of the season would be much worse. Trout activity increases as days grow warmer, so trout rise to the surface more often in search of airborne food. Snowmelt slows down this process somewhat, but a determined fly fisherman can nevertheless land a good catch in the course of a day's fishing in spite of less than ideal conditions.

Fishing in the Radovna is most satisfying in the middle of summer. When it is unbearably hot elsewhere in the country, the freshness of the Radovna is truly invigorating. The fish

feed vigorously, and in the evening they rise to the surface in large numbers, creating a lively sight, which often extends late into the night.

Before the valley is clad in autumn colours, the fishing season closes for the brown trout. On a warm and sunny day, brown trout swim up to the surface of pools, in which they had been successfully hiding from anglers earlier in the season. They are often tricked into biting on tiny mayfly imitations. The same goes for rainbow and brook trout, the seasons for which are still open that time of year.

From the source to the Radovna Hydroelectric Power Plant, the Radovna is managed by **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**

www.zzrs.si

www.fishing-slovenia.si

1 The Radovna, photo: J. Borišek

2 The Radovna, photo: J. Borišek

3 Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy



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UPPER SAVA



From the confluence to Kranj, or better, to the mouth of the Kokra, the **Sava** is a big and promising salmonid watercourse. There, the river drifts away from the main highways, allowing anglers to find their own quiet spot to fish and soak up the burbling sounds of the river. The pools are deep, cascades wide and rapids long. The river can be accessed at numerous locations.

The fishing is generally good, although at the start of the season the fish can be quite picky due to the abundance of food. Once the snowmelt has gone, the evening rise is spectacular and continues for a long time. After a promising start of the evening rise in August, fish are known to silently disperse and hide. Apart from brown and rainbow trout, the upper Sava also has noteworthy grayling and huchen populations. Relatively rare because cormorants feed on them, grayling grow to exceptional proportions in this river. A good many fly fishermen have caught their biggest

grayling right there and joined the "50+ club". The situation with huchen is similar. The depths and rapids of the upper Sava have rewarded many huchen anglers with trophy-sized specimens weighing 10+ kilograms. Every couple of years, fans of winter spinning have a stroke of luck, landing individual huchen weighing around 20 kilograms. Interestingly, the biggest huchen ever to be caught in this part of the Sava to date was hooked in the middle of Kranj, in a pool under the bridge with the main road leading into the city centre. The huchen, caught on 25 January 2008, which was 127 centimetres long and weighed 24.80 kilograms, is probably one of the heaviest, if not the biggest, individuals ever to be fished out of Slovenian waters.

The waves of Lake Trboje, which flooded part of the magnificent Zarica gorge, reach all the way to the mouth of the Kokra. The Sava carved into the conglomerate of gravel deposits beneath the city of Kranj a steep gorge, through which the river flows – over pools, cascades and rapids – into the Sorško Polje flatland. This area features a lake, with different fish. Trout are still in the lake; not as many as before the flooding in 1986, but they grow to exceptional sizes. There are also many nase, a vast number of which migrate to their feeding grounds in the Sava in Kranj in summer, to the stretch between the Tekstilindus dam and Lake Trboje. The ever-present wanderer chub have strengthened in numbers, and barbel are not far behind. Other species include carp, perch, zander and wels.

The upper Sava is managed by:

- From the confluence of the Sava Bohinjka and Sava Dolinka to the mouth of the stream on the left bank above the mouth of the Tržiška Bistrica: **RD Radovljica – Radovljica Fishing Club**

www.ribiskadruzinaradovljica.si

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-radovljica

- From the mouth of the stream on the left bank above the mouth of the Tržiška Bistrica to Majdič Dam, Kranj: **RD Tržič – Tržič Fishing Club**

www.rdtrzc.si

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-trzic

- From Majdič Dam, Kranj, to the Medvode Hydroelectric Power Plant: **RD Kranj – Kranj Fishing Club**

www.ribiskadruzinakranj.si

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-kranj

- From the Medvode Hydroelectric Power Plant to the bridge between Brod and Tacen: **RD Medvode – Medvode Fishing Club**

www.rdmedvode.si

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-medvode





TRŽIŠKA BISTRICA, KOKRA



The **Tržiška Bistrica** is managed in its entirety by **RD Tržič – Tržič Fishing Club**

 www.rdtrzic.si

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-trzic

The **Kokra** is managed in its entirety by **RD Kranj – Kranj Fishing Club**

 www.ribiskadruzinakranj.si

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-kranj

Water from the steep slopes of the Karavanke Alps discharge into the **Tržiška Bistrica**, a left tributary of the Sava. Its course is marked by a significant drop, and the river has a torrential character. The water is cold, but of an exceptionally transparent and distinctive bluish-green colour. Fully productive, the water is inhabited by brown and rainbow trout, which grow to enviable proportions.

A little further to the east, the **Kokra** has carved a valley stretching high up into the Kamnik Alps. It is relatively easy to get to and fishable throughout its course. Only in Kranj where, just before it joins the Sava, it dips into a canyon, is it somewhat harder to access. Its upper reaches are inhabited by the brown and rainbow trout; from Preddvor downstream, the river also affords habitat to the grayling. Its population is stable, and trophy-sized individuals are caught from time to time.

1 *The Sava, photo: L. Dakskobler*

2 *Grayling, photo: B. Konc*

3 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic, photo: I. Holy*

4 *The Kokra, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein*

5 *The Tržiška Bistrica, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein*

6 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*

7 *The Kokra, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein*





POLJANSKA, SELŠKA SORA



The **Poljanska Sora** sources as a small stream in one of the countless secluded ravines. When it is joined by flows from many other ravines in its short winding course to the town of Žiri, it turns into a beautiful and plentiful spot for fly fishing. It has many dams in its 43km course. A vestige of the old times are a few wooden dams, particularly in the upper course. The Sora has numerous meanders with deep pools, which spread out into a long and narrow whitewater section along one bank and a gravel area on the other.

The Poljanska Sora is a beautiful river, good for fishing and relatively easy to access throughout its course. It is a classic grayling water, with grayling as far up as above Žiri. Of course, the very first pools downstream from the source are already home to the brown trout. Huchen don't reach record sizes, but their population is relatively stable. Apart from huchen,

rainbow trout and brook trout are the focus of fly fishermen. Not so long ago, the main fly-fishing fish was the grayling. For a variety of reasons, perhaps most importantly cormorants feeding on them, the grayling population in the middle and the lower reaches of the Sora is tremendously unstable.

The Sora is not a very demanding river in fishing terms. It is a classic grayling water offering prime dry-fly fishing throughout the entire season. The trout are rather unpredictable, especially the brown trout. However, the rainbow trout, and from time to time the brook trout, save the day. The grayling population in the upper course has increased significantly over the last years despite the fact that grayling were relatively rare in this part of the river 20 years ago. Today the upper course of the Sora is considered the most stable grayling area. What is more, the same section of the river is also known for its trophy-sized brown trout. Individual specimens weighing 5–10 kilograms are caught every couple of years.


When reaching Zali Log, the small **Selška Sora** is just big enough to be interesting for fly fishing. Its 30km-long course features many water barriers and dams. It is primarily a trout water, with brown and rainbow trout throughout its course. Despite the fact that this Sora is not the most fitting habitat for the grayling, there are some representatives in the lower reaches of the river. Its population is small and only managed to sustain itself in few areas.

With a road running along it all the way, the Selška Sora is easy to get to. It is home to a large population of trout, and the rainbow trout predominates. Every now and again there are reports of trophy-size brown trout catches, much as in the Poljanska Sora.

The **Poljanska Sora** is managed by three organisations::

- From the source to Barbna žaga in Hotavlje: **RD Žiri – Žiri Fishing Club**

 www.rd-ziri.com

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-ziri

- From Barbna žaga in Hotavlje to the bridge between the dams at Log pod Volbenkom: **RD Visoko – Visoko Fishing Club**


 www.rd-visoko.si

- From the bridge between the dams at Log pod Volbenkom to the confluence with the Selška Sora: **RD Sora – Sora Fishing Club**

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-sora

The **Selška Sora** is managed by two organisations:

- From the former horse ford to the confluence with the Poljanska Sora: **RD Železniki – Železniki Fishing Club**

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-zelezniki

- From the former horse ford to the confluence with the Poljanska Sora: **RD Sora – Sora Fishing Club**

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-sora



MEŽA



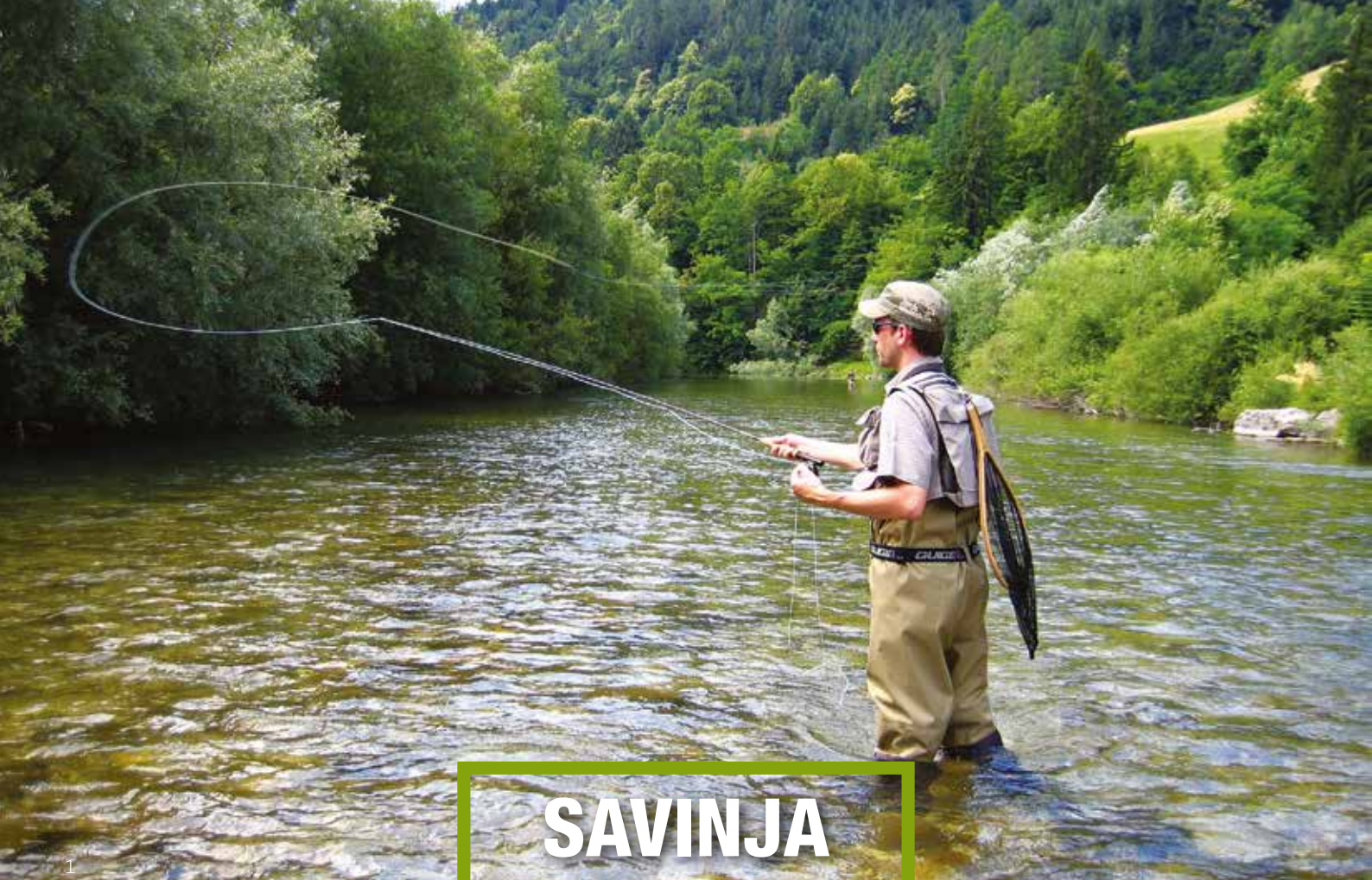
The **Meža** river emerges from the depths of the Kamnik Alps on the Koroška side. It is inhabited by brown trout throughout its 40-plus-kilometre course. Trophy-sized individuals weighing several kilograms are caught every year. Grayling also inhabit the Meža from Mežica downstream, but they are quite rare. In its lower reaches, a few kilometres before it spills into the Drava, there are large numbers of chub, barbel and nase. They typically grow well above their average size. The Mislinja river, a productive trout water throughout its course, also flows into the Meža here. From Slovenj Gradec downstream, the river is home to grayling as well.

The Meža is managed in its entirety by **Koroška ribiška družina – Koroška Fishing Club**

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-koroska

- 1 *The Sora, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein*
- 2 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*
- 3 *Grayling, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein*
- 4 *The Meža, photo: B. Konc*
- 5 *Brown trout, photo: B. Konc*
- 6 *Brown trout, photo: B. Konc*
- 7 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*





SAVINJA

DRETA

The Savinja river has its source at the Rinka waterfall, an elegant 90-metre drop over the rocks below Okrešelj. On more than half of its 95-plus-kilometre journey to the Sava river, this green river is inhabited by the prime fly-fishing species: brown trout all the way from the Logarska valley, and grayling from Igla below Solčava. At Ljubno, these are joined by huchen. Rainbow trout, permanent inhabitants of the rapids and pools of the Savinja, often save the day, when brown trout refuse to leave their hiding places and grayling are too busy chasing tiny midges.

Fly fishermen find the Savinja river most beautiful in the upper Savinja valley, which extends to Soteska below Mozirje. The snowmelt is gone with the last cold days of the spring, so the second half of May offers truly delightful dry-fly fishing. The fish are not picky, and successful fishing continues into June. As the heat increases, the water level drops, and the fish get pickier since food abounds. In the middle of summer, the water warms up significantly even in the upper course. So successful fly fishing is limited to mornings and evenings. The evening rise is extremely intense and can extend late into the night. However, if you use a nymph, you can trick a big grayling to take the bait even in scorching heat. In autumn, fly fishing is best around noon, which can be a particularly enjoyable experience. One cannot but wonder where so many brown trout had been hiding earlier in the season.

The huchen population begins to increase downstream from Nazarje,



as this is where the habitat of schooling cyprinids, with barbel as the predominant species, ends. Apart from barbel, there are also chub, which are extremely widespread. Both species represent a challenge to fly fishermen, particularly barbel, which grow to respectable sizes here.



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The **Dreta** river, which feeds the Zadrečka valley and drains into the Savinja at Nazarje, is also noteworthy. Overcoming a number of dams along the way, it is quite tame. Rainbow trout, brown trout and grayling are the focus of fly fishermen. The grayling population is good, with quite a few trophy-sized specimens. And because the fishing pressure is low, they are not quite so picky.




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The upper course of the Savinja, which is suitable for fly fishing for salmonids, is managed by two organisations::

- From the source to Kolenec Dam at Grušovlje: **RD Ljubno – Ljubno Fishing Club**

 www.rd-ljubno.si

- From Kolenec Dam at Grušovlje to the bridge in Letuš: **RD Mozirje – Mozirje Fishing Club**

 www.rd-mozirje.si

 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-mozirje

The **Dreta** is managed in its entirety by **RD Mozirje – Mozirje Fishing Club**.

- 1 The Savinja, photo: G. Križnik
- 2 The Savinja, photo: G. Mitchell
- 3 Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy
- 4 Brown trout, photo: M. Müller
- 5 The Savinja, photo: B. Konc
- 6 Grayling, photo: M. Müller
- 7 The Dreta, photo: I. Holy



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Traditional dishes are prepared using our own organic produce. Numerous awards confirm our quality.

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We offer suitable space with excellent culinary possibilities for large groups (up to 150 people) – weddings, anniversaries, seminars, etc.

Active Holidays – Relaxing Holidays.

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The Upper Savinja Valley offers a number of interesting excursions in nature and tours of the interesting cultural heritage.





KOLPA



Slovenia shares the upper and the middle course of the **Kolpa** river with its neighbour, Croatia. Because the river and its valley are located away from vibrant centres of activity, they have managed to escape the fate of many European rivers. The valley is peaceful, and the Kolpa still flows unobstructed, as if in a time long past. Its flow is interrupted only by stone dams built by millers a long time ago, which have recently been reconstructed by the water authorities. In the tranquil Kolpa valley, the red-spotted brown trout still catch midges just as they used to centuries ago. Behind a rock in the middle of a bubbling stream, a red caudal fin indicates the presence of a grayling taking a rest. These two species, together with the huchen, live in the upper reaches of the Kolpa. Grayling are present as early as the riverhead and can be found as far as Dol.




The entire course of the Kolpa is easily accessible from the road which runs parallel to the river, starting in Oslica, down past Gruntovec and Fara, and all the way to Dol. In between, below Slavski Laz, the valley narrows; the river winds its way past Bilpa through a canyon several kilometres long, where heavy rain causes the underground Rinža river to emerge, after disappearing below ground near Kočevje. At the village of Vrt, where it steers away from the steep slopes, the Kolpagets more space to breathe. There are excellent fishing spots in the middle of the dense Kočevje forests. Here, the fascinating scenery is wonderfully complemented by plentiful wildlife.

An angler will often see a deer crossing the river at a ford or a herd of boar migrating to the other side of the river. There are bear tracks in the river sand, as the impenetrable forests above the Kolpa river are home to bears, which also hibernate there. The sight of a furry creature casually rummaging the riverbank has been known to chase away an angler every so often.

The best time for fishing is the second half of spring to early July. Later, when the water level drops and days grow hotter, fish become lazy. At the beginning of the high fishing season, the fish are very active, and the evening rise is remarkable. In summer, however, most of the fish retreat to white-water sections and pools above dams. They become active again when the water level rises at the end of August. September has been known to afford good fly fishing for grayling using tiny dry flies.

There are good fishing spots all the way downstream from Osilnica. In fact, there are no bad fishing spots. The main targets are grayling. There are grayling everywhere at the start of the season, and they are active all day long. In summer, good fishing is limited to mornings and evenings, and in autumn, fishing is again best during the day. Brown trout are more commonly encountered in the upper course up to Fara. Of course they also inhabit the reaches further down the river, where they are in lesser numbers, but grow bigger.

The left bank of the Kolpa (the right bank is in Croatia), which is suitable for fly fishing for salmonids, is managed by two organisations:

- From the inflow of the Čabranka to the dam at Slavski Laz: **RD Kočevje – Kočevje Fishing Club**
 www.rd-kocevje.si
- From the dam at Slavski Laz to the dam at Dol pri Starem trgu: **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**
 www.zzrs.si
 www.fishing-slovenia.si

1 The Kolpa, photo: D. Babič

2 Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy

3 *Perla marginata*, photo: N. Stančeva



KRKA, RADEŠČICA

As with most karst river sources, the source of the **Krka** is gushing with water, so the river burbles in all its grandeur straight from the source. On its 3-kilometre journey to the village of the same name, the riverbed of the Krka is level with the valley.

From there on, its riverbed is sunk into the soft limestone terrain of the Dolenjska Hills.

The water rich in limestone has formed countless brittle tufa deposits in its channel. Waters of the Krka spill from one pool into the other, across cascades overgrown with green moss, which provide ample shelter to the fish.

The 93-kilometre course of the Krka river is inhabited by all the fish species of the Danube Basin that are normally found in Slovenia. One-third of it consists of salmonid waters, with the brown and the rainbow trout as the predominant species. Downstream from the dam in the village of Krka, the two species are joined by the grayling, but its population is rather small and restricted to rare locations found up to the inflow of the Radeščica river. Huchen inhabit the reaches between Zagradec and Novo Mesto; however, individual drifters can also be found outside this area. The huchen population has been stable for a good number of years. An impressive number of huchen weighing about 10 kilograms are caught each year, and from time to time reports come in complete with photos of lucky anglers posing with trophies weighing some 20 kilograms. The habitat created by the Krka river is rich in every respect. The fish have plenty of food to eat all year long. The water temperature is relatively steady,

so the living conditions for fish are in fact optimal all the time. Fly fishermen, particularly those using dry flies, know this all too well. Dry-fly fishing is extremely successful in spring and early summer, when caddis flies, mayflies, sedges and stoneflies swarm. This is the time when rainbow and brown trout continually rise to the surface for food. When the swarming stops, one gets the impression only one trout species inhabits the Krka river – the rainbow trout. However, brown trout are considerably more numerous according to the catches registered.

The best time for fly fishing is from the middle of March to the end of June. Fishing with a dry fly in March is best around noon, when the warm spring sun triggers the swarming of insects and flies. The evening rise starts as early as April, if the weather is warm. The peak of activity is reached in May and at the beginning of June. On a warm evening, it can extend late into the night. The mirror-like water surface is ruffled by countless ripples in the



evening. Trout are often seen feeding in the pools and splashing sections. At dusk, small and middle-sized fish are the first to rise to the surface, while the bigger fish wait until just before it gets dark. Among them are also those most sought after – trophy-sized brown trout.

The summer and a low water level are not something fly fishermen look forward to. Most of the dams run dry and what water is left dribbles over them in narrow streams, or is sucked below ground through the porous tufa bed. Green thread algae start to grow vigorously, making it extremely difficult to fly fish with larvae and dry flies. The fish become pickier, and the evening rise is short or even non-existent.

When the water level rises again at the end of summer, the Krka river becomes green again and it is once more the right time to go fishing. The effective fishing time depends on daylight. The trout season is closed and there are not many grayling, so most fly fishermen will call it a day.

The upper course of the **Krka**, which is suitable for fly fishing for salmonids, is managed by two organisations:i:

- From the source to the hydroelectric power plant at Zagradec **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**

 www.zzrs.si

 www.fishing-slovenia.si

- From the hydroelectric power plant at Zagradec to the bridge in Soteska: **RD Novo mesto – Novo Mesto Fishing Club**

 www.rdnovomesto.si

The **Radeščica** is managed in its entirety by **RD Novo mesto – Novo Mesto Fishing Club**

 www.rdnovomesto.si



- 1 The Krka, photo: D. Hojnik
- 2 Ephemera danica, photo: N. Stančeva
- 3 The Krka, photo: R. Tisnikar
- 4 The Radeščica, photo: M. Luštek
- 5 The Radeščica, photo: J. Ušeničnik Schifferstein
- 6 Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy



UNICA, OBRH

Today, **the Unica** is prized as one of the best grayling waters in Europe. At mayfly time and again in June, when stoneflies and caddis flies swarm the area, fly fishermen from around the world converge on Planina. This is the time when it is possible to trick a trophy grayling at daybreak. Or, alternatively, a trophy-sized brightly coloured brown trout in the evening twilight. Much depends upon nerves, as an unfortunate angler may often – burning with passion for hunting – make a wrong move, which this fish will take advantage of in the blink of an eye.

The **Unica** river's journey begins on the southern edge of one of the most beautiful and best-preserved Karst plains. Actually, it forms when two rivers converge. The **Pivka**, which, after flowing through underwater mazes of the Karst, gushes from the Planinska Jama cave in a short but powerful waterfall. After a burbling two-kilometre journey, the Pivka converges with a deep but tame river, the **Malenščica**, which has lush vegetation on its banks. From there on, the Unica winds its way several times across the entire breadth of the 6km-long Planinsko Polje. Despite the fact that halfway the porous Karst terrain begins to swallow its waters, sending them into mysterious depths, the river manages to successfully meander across the Karst plain. Up until the sinkholes at Grčarevec, which suck the last remaining drop of the Unica, the river's course is as much as three times longer than the entire length of the Planinsko Polje plain.

Living conditions for fish are extremely good in most Karst waters. The karst phenomenon of intermittence works in favour of the fish of the Unica. There are times between autumn and late spring when such are the volumes of water gushing



to the surface that the sinkholes cannot suck them all down below ground in time. When this happens, much of Planinsko Polje is flooded for a week or two, perhaps even longer. In this way, the fish receive an additional, plentiful source of food.

The summer heat and a myriad aquatic and waterside insects available for fish to eat chases most anglers away to other locations where it is easier to fish. Fly fisherman fishing in the Unica during those times have all the space they could possibly wish for. That is the perfect time for putting one's knowledge of fishing



to the test and for gaining new valuable experience. But the fish hold the trump cards here.

The autumn sun shifts the best time to go fishing to around noon. In autumn, particularly if it is warm and sunny, fly fishermen enjoy catching trout – the season for which is at that time closed – and grayling on tiny olive imitations. Even in November, when days are usually grey, fishing in sunny and calm conditions can be a true delight.


In the Unica there are no rainbow trout, which are the usual face savers for many anglers around the globe. So even the best fly fishermen out there and local experts have to admit defeat in the face of nature from time to time. But nature richly rewards its most faithful admirers on other occasions, and so a year passes.

The Obrh is a delightful, small river which flows through the Loška valley. The Obrh originates from two groups of

karstic springs in the southern part of the Loško field (Loško polje). It flows past Snežnik castle and through the settlement of Kozarišče. West of the settlement Pudob, the river merges with the small brook known locally as the Veliki Obrh, and continues on downstream as the main Obrh River. The river is rich in a dense carpet of natural, stream bed and marginal flora. Fish food is abundant and the Obrh is renowned for its beautifully coloured brown trout, particularly in the upper river. If good fortune is on his side, the stealthy angler has the opportunity to take a trophy brown trout from one of the river's deeper pools. There is also an abundant stock of grayling in the Obrh, and it can produce excellent bags of a high average size to the visiting angler. Fishing on the Obrh is covered by special fishing regulations. Only 3 fishermen are allowed to fish in the river daily and only a maximum of 100 fishing permits may be issued in one fishing season.

The best locations for fly fishing for grayling and trout in the Unica can be found in the upper and the middle course of the river. The Unica is managed in its entirety by **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**

 www.zzrs.si

 www.fishing-slovenia.si

The Obrh is managed in its entirety by **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia.**

1 *The Unica, photo: I. Holy*

2 *Ephemera danica, photo: N. Stančeva*

3 *The Obrh, photo: G. Mitchell*

4 *Grayling, photo: J. Ocvirk*

5 *The Obrh, photo: G. Mitchell*

6 *Brown trout, photo: M. Müller*

7 *Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy*



FLY FISHING FOR HUCHEN

The huchen is definitely the prize game fish of Slovenian waters. All the more so when it comes to fly fishing for it. It was believed for a long time that there was no way it could ever be caught on a fly. So if a huchen happened to bite, it was merely a stroke of incredible luck or because the catch was less than a fully-grown adult. However, as the spectrum of fly fishing techniques expanded, fly fishermen quickly found that huchen had a soft spot for the streamer. The best time is immediately after spawning, at the end of April and in May, when the fishing season for huchen is still closed in Slovenia. But a keen fly fisherman can also land a huchen during the fishing season by casting different streamers. A huchen enthusiast carrying a fly-fishing rod in the middle of winter is becoming an increasingly common sight. To land a huchen using the conventional angling technique is a highlight in its own right, but to catch it on a fly is simply unsurpassable.

The middle-sized rivers of Slovenia, such as the Sora, Savinja and Kolpa, offer the best locations for fly fishing for huchen. The prime location, however, is the Sava Bohinjka, where the huchen population is in excellent shape. So if you are keen on fishing for some huchen, try fly fishing for it on the Sava Bohinjka, and you will not be disappointed.



The Sava Bohinjka, photo: J. Borišek 1
Huchen, the Savinja, photo: D. Babič 2
The Sora, photo: I. Holy 3
The Savinja, photo: B. Konc 4
Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy 5

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SAVA BOHINJKA

The reaches of the Sava Bohinjka suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by three organisations:

- From the road bridge outside Bohinjska Bistrica to the dam in Soteska **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**
📍 www.zzrs.si
📍 www.fishing-slovenia.si
- From the dam in Soteska to Cajhen Dam: **RD Bled – Bled Fishing Club**
📍 www.ribiska-druzina-bled.si
- From Cajhen Dam to the confluence with the Sava Dolinka: **RD Radovljica – Radovljica Fishing Club**
📍 www.ribiskadruzinaradovljica.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-radovljica

SAVA

The reaches of the Sava suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by five organisations:

- From the confluence of the Sava Bohinjka and Sava Dolinka to the mouth of the stream on the left bank above the mouth of the Tržiška Bistrica: **RD Radovljica – Radovljica Fishing Club**
📍 www.ribiskadruzinaradovljica.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-radovljica
- From the mouth of the stream on the left bank above the mouth of the Tržiška Bistrica to Majdič Dam, Kranj: **RD Tržič – Tržič Fishing Club**
📍 www.rdrtrzic.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-trzic
- From Majdič Dam, Kranj, to the Medvode Hydroelectric Power Plant: **RD Kranj – Kranj Fishing Club**
📍 www.ribiskadruzinakranj.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-kranj
- From the Medvode Hydroelectric Power Plant to the bridge between Brod and Tacen: **RD Medvode – Medvode Fishing Club**
📍 www.rdmedvode.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-medvode
- From the bridge between Brod and Tacen to the inflow of the Ljubljana: **RD Straža – Sava – Straža – Sava Fishing Club**
📍 www.rdstrazasava.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-straza-sava

SORA

The reaches of the Sora suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by two organisations:

- From the confluence of the Poljanska Sora and Selška Sora to the dam at Goričane: **RD Sora – Sora Fishing Club**
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-sora
- From the dam at Goričane to the dam at the inflow into the Sava: **RD Medvode – Medvode Fishing Club**
📍 www.rdmedvode.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-medvode

KRKA

The reaches of the Krka suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by **RD Novo mesto – Novo Mesto Fishing Club**:

- 📍 www.rdnovomesto.si

KOLPA

The reaches of the Kolpa suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by two organisations:

- From the bridge at Petrina (the international border crossing with Croatia) to the dam at Slavski Laz: **RD Kočevje – Kočevje Fishing Club**
📍 www.rd-kocevje.si
- From the dam at Slavski Laz to the dam at Dol pri Starem trgu: **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**
📍 www.zzrs.si
📍 www.fishing-slovenia.si

SAVINJA

The reaches of the Savinja suitable for fly fishing for huchen are managed by two organisations:

- From Kolenec Dam at Grušovlje to the bridge in Letuš: **RD Mozirje – Mozirje Fishing Club**
📍 www.rd-mozirje.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-mozirje
- From the bridge in Letuš to the bridge in Petrovci: **RD Šempeter – Šempeter Fishing Club**
📍 www.rd-sempeter.si
📍 www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-sempeter

FLY FISHING FOR CYPRINIDS AND PIKE



All the fish species in the Slovenian waters regularly or at least occasionally feed on aquatic or waterside insects. This makes them potentially catchable by fly fishermen. And there is more. Even the markedly herbivorous fish species can be caught using artificial bait, which does not really imitate their main food, but presents a delicious nibble nonetheless (roe, grasshopper, cricket, crayfish, mouse or similar rodents, etc.).



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Lake Cerknica, photo: STO photo archive 1
 Lake Cerknica, photo: R. Tisnikar 2
 Chubs, photo: K. Istinič 3
 Barbel, photo: B. Konc 4

Cyprinids are the largest fish family in Slovenian waters. Several species are particularly popular with fly fishermen, and the most common are listed below.

Every fly fisherman knows **the chub**. It is present everywhere, both in waters known for trout and for moderlieschen. Of course it is also found in lakes. What is more, it is an omnivore. As such, it can be fished and caught using dry flies, larvae or streamers. In any season, the spectrum of flies that can be used for this fish is endless. In summer, the best choice would be a large wool fly or fluff fly on hooks ranging from size 6 to size 12, while in winter, on a sunny day, chub will carelessly grab a tiny olive on a 16 hook. There is no larva imitation a chub would sneer at. But like everywhere else, the right time and place are essential. As for streamers, smaller is better.

Almost all Slovenian waters have good chub populations. The best rivers for chub are the Sava, with its tributaries in the middle and lower course, the Drava and the Mura. Lakes, however, should be specifically pointed out, both natural and man-made: Bohinj and Bled, the reservoirs on the Sava and Drava, and particularly our distinctive karst phenomenon, the intermittent Lake Cerknica. Chub there grow over 60 centimetres in length, and individuals measuring 40–50 centimetres are likewise not uncommon.

Generally, the chub is a very wary fish. Especially if wandering on its own. When in shoals, however, it is quite jealous of the competition, so it will aggressively snatch a fly. It will put up a good fight when hooked. The first attempt to break free usually ranges from 10 to 15 metres. It then usually makes several more attempts, of shorter and shorter duration. It stops fighting relatively quickly, floating on its side within the angler's reach.

The barbel is a typical representative of river fish and, weighing up to 6 kilograms, one of the biggest among them. It is widespread across the country. Its relative in the waters of the Adriatic Basin is the **Italian barbel**, of comparable size and weight are comparable to those of the barbel. A schooling fish typically found at the bottom, the barbel is most commonly caught using sinking imitations of larvae. Gold head imitations are particularly effective. Barbel caught on a streamer are also not uncommon. The best fishing waters for barbel are the middle course of the Sava, the Sora, Savinja, Krka, Kolpa, Mura, the Drava and their tributaries. Once hooked, it puts up a remarkable fight. Being a fish of fast-flowing waters, it is known to pull back into the splashing water, whipping its tail against the backing. Tiring out a barbel of considerable weight, especially on a light backing, may take a while.

The roach is most commonly found in karst waters: The Krka, Ljubljana, Kolpa. It also inhabits the Sava, Savinja, Mirna and Drava. Early in the summer, in the evenings, roach like to swim to the surface to pick up caddis emergers, imagoes, even drifting insects. The Slovenian sedge has proved to be an extremely effective imitation in situations such as these. When hooked, the roach puts up a strong and persistent fight. It will keep pulling back into the splash and to the bottom. As an individual can weigh 2 kilograms or even more, one may have a very hard time tiring it out.



In principle, **the carp** is a fish of standing waters. Over the last 20 years, however, it has spread to all the big rivers as well, into the barbel zone. Fishing for carp is best in lakes, fishponds and reservoirs, notably in summer. On a sunny day, individuals, even the whole shoal, rise beneath the surface. The most effective bait in such cases is the globug in white, orange or yellow. A carp swallows a slow-sinking globug with a strong gulp from as far as 20–30 centimetres, but it will also spit it out vigorously if we happen to miss the strike. Luckily, it snags itself from time to time. This is followed by a sudden pull, which can extend as far as 10, 20, even 30 metres. This is the most difficult part of fishing for carp. If the angler is not anticipating the pull, a fish weighing several kilograms may easily snap the light backing. Given the size of the fish, exhausting it may take a relatively long time.

Much like carp, grass carp, or white amur, can also be successfully fished in the same areas using a green globug. Because these fish are typically big and strong, and known to react aggressively once snagged, attempting to break away in a long sweep, even a leap into the air, the fishing ends with a win for the fish most of the time.

The rudd is a widespread species found mostly in standing waters. Few anglers are familiar with the fact that they can prove to be a remarkable fly-fishing target. Rudd are normally quite small in size, but in some waters it can grow to enviable proportions. Caught with nymphs and, less often, dry flies, individuals 30–40 centimetres long are hauled out of Lake Cerknica on a regular basis. Rudd are not picky fish. As they usually swim in shoals, several fish pounce on a fly presented into the water. Once hooked, the rudd fights fiercely to break away, which is the most difficult part of fishing for it. It tires fairly quickly. Because it strikes readily, it is a great game fish for learning how to fly fish.

The bleak is a schooling fish which swims just beneath the surface. It promptly eats anything that falls on the water's surface. Because it is rather small in size, dry flies or nymphs must be dimensioned accordingly. The fishing for bleak is most productive and fun in warm months.





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A **streamer** can be used for catching several fish species, **the pike** being the prime target. Pike are fairly frequently encountered in lakes and the middle and lower reaches of rivers, and the numerous man-made reservoirs have only strengthened their presence. They can be successfully fished using bigger streamers with bright colours, which make the lure appear as though it was alive. The jig is also known to yield astonishing results every now and then. Yellow and red are recommended, but silver and white are also very good. Streamers should measure 10 centimetres and up. The best fly fishing for pike is at the dams on the Drava and in the middle and lower reaches of the Sava, and some of the lakes, particularly the shallow lakes, such as Lake Cerknica.

The asp is quite rare in Slovenia. Its population is relatively large in the lower reaches of the Krka, Drava and Mura, where they afford good angling. The best way to catch asp is to use small streamers in silver or white colours.

The perch can be successfully fished using small streamers and jigs, primarily in lakes, but also in some of the rivers where its population is large enough to allow fishing.

The Kolpa, photo: D. Wedam, STO photo archive 1

The Krka, photo: J. Ocvirk 2

Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy 3

Carp, photo: C. Mlinar 4

Perches, photo: J. Ocvirk 5

Rudd, photo: Jure Ušeničnik Schifferstein 6

Flies, tied by: T. Modic; photo: I. Holy 7

Pike, photo: K. Istinič 8

Streamer, tied by I. Holy, photo: S. M. Lešnik 9



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KOLPA

The left bank of the Kolpa (the right bank is in Croatia), which is suitable for fly fishing for pike and cyprinids, is managed by two organisations:

- From the dam at Dol pri Starem trgu to the dam at Krasinec: **RD Črnomelj – Črnomelj Fishing Club**
www.rdcrnornelj.si
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-crnomelj
- From the dam at Krasinec to the national border: **RD Metlika – Metlika Fishing Club**
www.rdmeklika.si

KRKA

The reaches of the Krka suitable for fly fishing for pike and cyprinids are managed by three organisations:

- From the bridge in Soteska to the bridge in Mršeča vas: **RD Novo mesto – Novo Mesto Fishing Club**
www.rdnovomesto.si
- From the bridge in Mršečava to the inflow of the Sušica stream: **RD Kostanjevica – Kostanjevica Fishing Club**
www.kostanjevica.si
- From the inflow of the Sušica stream to the confluence with the Sava: **RD Brežice – Brežice Fishing Club**
www.ribiska-druzina-brezeice.si
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-brezeice

SAVINJA

The reaches of the Savinja suitable for fly fishing for pike and cyprinids are managed by three organisations:

- From the bridge in Letuš to the bridge in Petrovci: **RD Šempeter – Šempeter Fishing Club**
www.rd-sempeter.si
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-sempeter
- From the bridge in Petrovci to the Tremerje viaduct: **RD Celje – Celje Fishing Club**
www.rd-celje.si
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-celje
- From the Tremerje viaduct to the road bridge in Zidani most: **RD Laško – Laško Fishing Club**
www.rdlasko.si
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-lasko

MEŽA

The stretch of the Meža suitable for fly fishing for cyprinids (from Slovenj Gradec to the inflow into the Drava) is managed by: **Koroška ribiška družina – Koroška Fishing Club**

www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-koroska

DRAVA

The reaches of the Drava suitable for fly fishing for pike and cyprinids (from the Austrian to the Croatian border) are managed by five organisations:

- From the Austrian border to the Vuzenica Hydroelectric Power Plant: **Koroška ribiška družina – Koroška Fishing Club**
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-koroska
- From the Vuzenica Hydroelectric Power Plant to the Ožbalt Hydroelectric Power Plant: **RD Radlje – Radlje Fishing Club**
www.rdradlje.si
- From the Ožbalt Hydroelectric Power Plant to the Mariborski Otok Hydroelectric Power Plant: **RD Ruše – Ruše Fishing Club**
www.rd-ruse.si
- From the Mariborski Otok Hydroelectric Power Plant to the former cable ferry between Dvorjane and Starše: **RD Maribor – Maribor Fishing Club**
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-maribor
- From the former cable ferry between Dvorjane and Starše to the national border at Zavrč: **RD Ptuj – Ptuj Fishing Club**
www.ribiske.karte.si/rd-ptuj

UNICA

The best locations for fly fishing for pike and cyprinids are in the lower course of the river. The Unica is managed in its entirety by **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**

www.zzrs.si
www.fishing-slovenia.si

LAKE CERKNICA

Lake Cerknica is managed by two organisations:

- Upper part: **Zavod za ribištvo Slovenije (ZZRS) – the Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia**
www.zzrs.si
www.fishing-slovenia.si
- Lower part: **RD Cerknica – Cerknica Fishing Club**
www.rdcerknica.si

- 1 The Drava, photo: D. Babič
- 2 The Savinja, photo: I. Holy
- 3 Pike, the Unica, photo: B. Konc



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e info@hotel-jezero.si, www.hotel-jezero.si

Hotel Jezero is a modern hotel, which is situated in Triglav National Park, on the central position close by Lake Bohinj and Sava Bohinjka. The hotel has 76 rooms with a direct telephone line, cable TV, Internet access, minibar, safety – deposit box, hairdryer and balcony. There is also the hotel restaurant Vrtovin, with a covered and summer terrace, the à la carte restaurant Zlatovčica with a covered terrace, a coffee bar, indoor pool with garden, fitness studio, saunas, massages and parking place.



PRIVATE HOTEL KOBALA***



Poljubinj 6a, SI-5220 Tolmin

t +386 (0)5 381 01 55, f +386 (0)5 388 18 73

e penzion.kobala@siol.net, www.penzion-kobala.si

Private hotel Kobala is situated in the valley of the Soča river and represents a nice starting point for active holidays in intact nature or visit of nearby natural and cultural sights. The private hotel offers comfortable accommodation in rooms or apartments, and has a restaurant where they will spoil you with excellent home specialities. The fishermen will find their own pool in one of nearby crystal clear rivers Soča, Tolminka, Idrijca, Bača, Nadiža or many other smaller creeks which are all full of autochthon marble trouts (also called Soča trout), Adriatic grayling and other fish species. Warmly welcome.



LODGE NOVAK

Sadinja vas pri Dvoru 7, SI-8361 Dvor

t +386 (0)7 308 74 30, +386 (0)41 343 000

e trota@siol.net, www.novakdoma.eu

Lodge Novak is located in the heart of Suha krajina in the Dolenjska region, in village Sadinja vas above the valley of river Krka. You will find intact nature, peacefulness of rural environment, homemade food, excellent wines, cosy rooms and relaxing atmosphere, a perfect getaway to fill yourself with fresh energy for the challenges of everyday life. Fly fishing on river Krka is our guests' favourite, therefore we offer a special storage room for fly fishing equipment. We offer also free WI-FI in our lodge. The Novak family is expecting you.



LODGE & CAMPING PLACE KLIN***



Lepena 1, SI-5232 Soča

t +386 (0)5 388 95 13, f +386 (0)5 388 95 14

e kampklin@siol.net, www.kamp-klin.sloveniaholidays.com

Lodge & Camping place Klin Lepenais located in the beautiful valley at the confluence of Alpine beauties - the Soča and Lepena rivers, 10 km away from Bovec. The pristine nature offers an excellent environment to relax completely and is also a perfect starting point for fishing, hunting, mountaineering, cycling, rafting, kayaking... If fishing is your favourite hobby you will be thrilled to discover the river full of trouts and fishing permits can be bought with us. We offer guests comfortable rooms and more than 100 camping places, restaurant with good food, Wi-Fi, playground for the children... Welcome!

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