

LJUBLJANA 20/21 AND 21/22 OF JUNE

On the round trip to Ljubljana and Zagreb we landed at Rijeka Airport on June 19 and stayed at Jadran Hotel in Rijeka. On June 20, we traveled by taxi down to the railway station in Rijeka to take the train to Ljubljana.

A little about Slovenia



Slovenia's position in Europe



Flag



Coat of arms

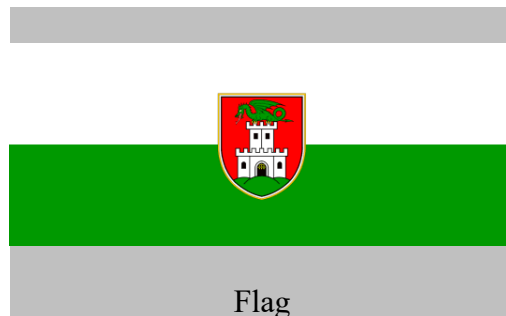
It is believed that the Slavic ancestors of today's Slovenians settled in the area of the 6th century. The Slavic Principality of [Carantania](#), the first Slovenian state, was formed in the 7th century. In 745, Carantania lost its independence when it came under the Franconian empire. During the 14th century most of the area came under the Habsburgs and later Austria-Hungary.

After the dissolution of Austria-Hungary in 1918, [Slovenia](#) became part of the kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, which in 1929 became Yugoslavia. During World War II, the country was divided between Italy, Germany and Hungary. After World War II, Slovenia became a part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, officially established on November 29, 1945. Slovenia of today was formed June 25, 1991, when it became independent from Yugoslavia.

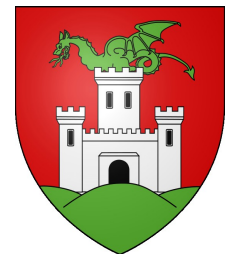
A little about Ljubljana



Ljubljana's position in Slovenia



Flag



Coat of arms

Although Roman settlements were built in 15 AD, the city is mentioned for the first time in 1144 (by its name Laibach) and 1146 (by the name of Luwigana).

Having gained city rights in 1220, Ljubljana came under the Habsburg rule in 1335, became bisexual in 1461 and developed into a Slovenian cultural center during the late Middle Ages. The Habsburg regime was only interrupted by the Napoleonic wars, since the city between 1809 and 1813 was the capital of the French Illyrian provinces. In 1821, the city hosted the Laibach Congress. Under Austrian rule was the capital of the Duchy of Carniola / Krain.

When Austria-Hungary broke down in 1918, the city became the capital of the region of Drava Banovina (about today's Slovenia) in the Serbs, Croatian and Slovene kingdoms. In April 1941 it was occupied and then incorporated in Italy. After the war, it became the capital of the Yugoslav Socialist Republic of Slovenia. When Slovenia became independent in 1991, it became the country's capital.

Ljubljana has been destroyed by earthquakes several times. After the earthquake in 1511, the city was rebuilt in Renaissance style, and after the earthquake in 1895 severely damaged the city, also in neoclassical and Art Nouveau style. The city's architecture is therefore quite mixed today.



The railway station in Rijeka. The building is quite big, but it seemed quite dilapidated.



After we had bought tickets we sat for a while in the waiting hall.



Our train looked something like that.



The cabin where we sat looked almost like this.



I bought some "travel beer" at the train station in Rijeka. Smiles.



Ožujsko is the most common beer brand in Croatia.



The back of the can.



Another picture of the railway station in Rijeka.



The first stop in [Opatija-Matulji](#). Opatija is a popular resort town.



In Sapjane the train stopped for a while because of passport control out of Croatia.



In [Iliriska Bistrica](#) we stopped for a while too because of passport control into Slovenia.



Pivka.



Postojna.



This old locomotive is standing at Logatec station



Logatec



Then we arrived at Ljubljana railway station. It was built in 1849 while Ljubljana belonged to Austria-Hungary. It was on the main line between Vienna and Trieste.

The building was renovated in 1980.
From the station we took a taxi to the hotel.



We would have two nights at this hotel called [City Hotel](#). Vi had this balcony.



On the wall of our room there was a big picture with motif from the city.



From the balcony we had a view of the castle on a hill above the city.



The following day we went down to the center past [Grand Hotel Union](#). Large building.



These waiters stood outside the main entrance.



Then we are down on [Prešeren Square](#). This is the main square named after [France Prešeren](#). He is regarded as Slovenia's national poet. He was born in 1800 in Vrba in Krajin and died in 1849 in Krajin.



When we turn in the direction where we came from we see the [Franciscan Church of the Annunciation](#),



Next to it is a large department store, [Galerija Emporium](#).



View west.

On the square stands a [statue of France Prešeren](#). A [muse](#) is sitting on a rock above him.



This is [the triple bridge](#). Alle tre bruene er i dag fotgjengerbruer.



On the triple bridge we look forward to [Ljubljana Cathedral](#).

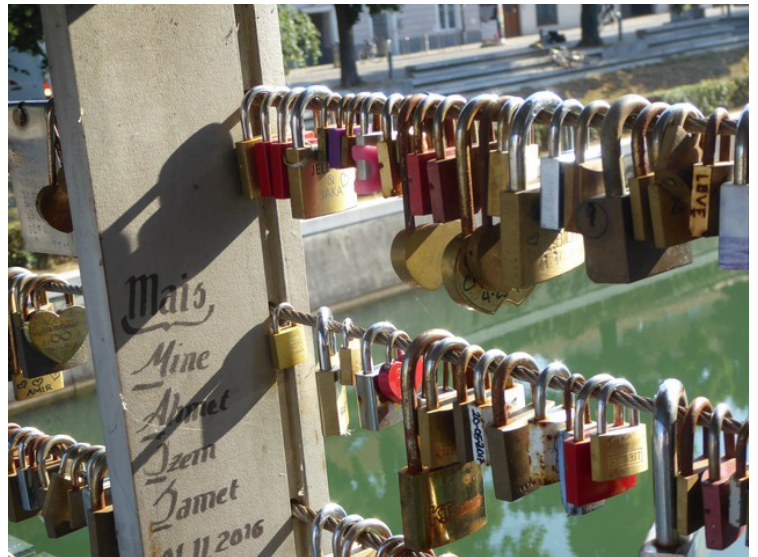


To the right we see the arcades that go along the river between the triple bridge and the dragon bridge. They are called [Plečnik's arcades](#) after [Jože Plečnik](#), a Slovenian architect who had a major influence on the design of the city. Here are shops, cafes and restaurants.

These two figures stand in the end of [Mesarski Most](#) (Butchers Bridge). They are to represent Adam and Eve.



This is Mesarski Most, a pedestrian bridge opened in 2010.



Couples in love have hung padlocks on the railing on the bridge.



View up the river. The arcades on the left. The arcades lie there as the old city wall went.



View down the river.. The river is called [Ljubljana](#). It flows into [Sava](#) just outside the city.



Here we have come to [Dragon Bridge](#). It has been named after the dragon figures that stand at each end of the bridge. It is a bridge for cars opened in 1901. It is protected as a technical monument. A dragon figure is also included in the city's coat of arms.



Here we can see the whole bridge.



We go back to the central market.



Various clothes and shoes are sold here.



Above the market we see [the castle](#) and the [funicular](#) that goes up there. The funicular was opened in 2006.



More pictures from the market.





We saw a lot of people cycling in the city.



Here you can rent city bikes. We saw more renting stations like this.



Here we look over one of the side streets facing the castle.



There were pigeons in this city as well.

Garbage basket with sorting.



The triple bridge again.



The river.



When we had walked so far we found out that we needed a break and we settled down here.



We ordered beer. Union is one of the largest breweries in Slovenia. It became part of Heineken in 1915.



The restaurant is located right by the river.



Special house.



Stylish house.



View south along the river.



View in direction of the triple bridges.



A small sightseeing boat on the river.



The triple bridge with the Franciscan church to the left.



This is [Cobblers' Bridge](#), which is one of the oldest pedestrian bridges.



View further up the river.



This is on the new market square, Novi trg.



Here we can look further up [Novi trg Square](#).



This is [The National and University Library](#)



Funny name, [Monstera Bistro](#).



We see these ornaments on the university building.



[University of Ljubljana](#). The oldest and largest university in Slovenia with over 60,000 students.



This is [Dvorni trg Square](#).



Then we arrive at [Kongresni trg Square](#). At the front we see a music pavilion.



Here we look southwards, across Kongresni Trg. The square was heavily upgraded in connection with the [Congress of Laibach](#) in 1821.



On the square we find an anchor that reminds us that Slovenia got access to the sea after WWII.



[The Institute of Contemporary History](#) is located just north of Kongresni Trg Square.



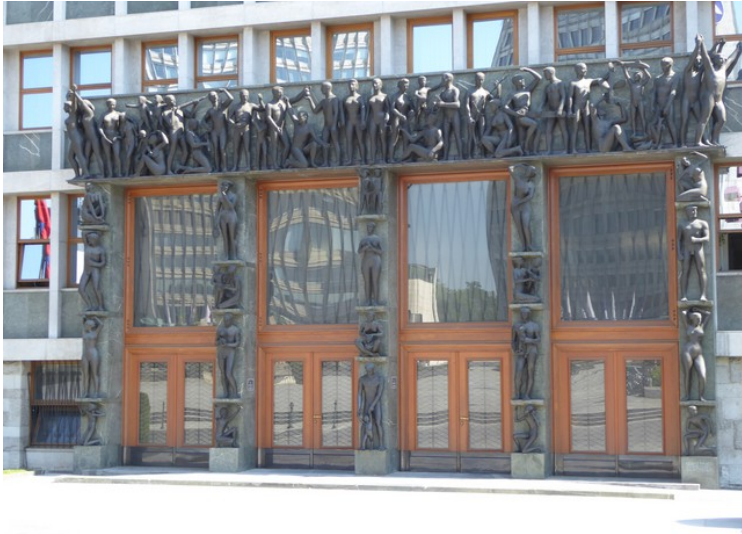
Here we are looking in direction of Plečnikov trg Square.



Plečnikov trg Square



The Slovenian Parliament building.



The entrance is flanked by statues representing working people.



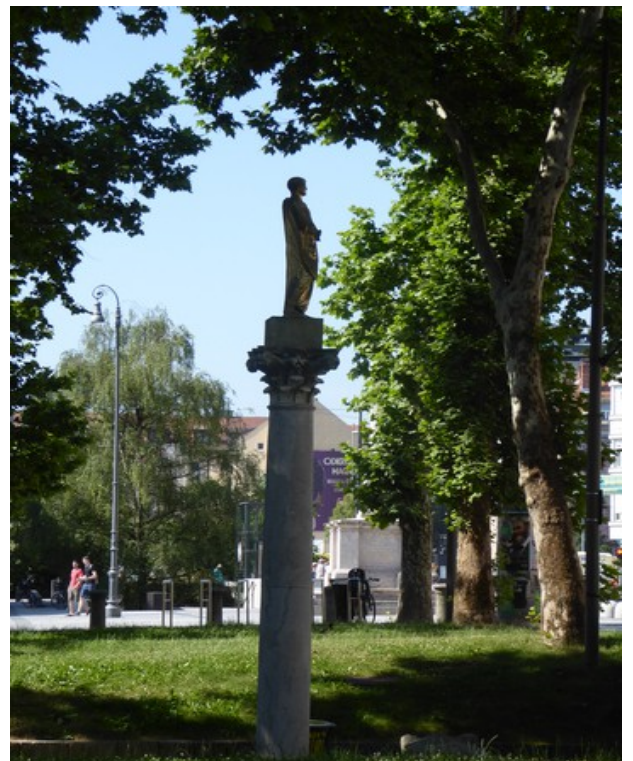
This bronze statue on Trg Republike Square weighs 19 tonnes and is one of the largest in Slovenia. It is supposed to represent a set of crowds, fights and revolutionary victories .



This is Trg Republike Square, which lies in front of the Parliament building.

The tall buildings are public offices and banks.

Here we are on our way back at Kongresni Trg. There are several statues in the square.





Back by the river. A sightseeing boat passes by.

Another statue at Kongresni Trg.



Now we had to take a break again. We sat at a riverside restaurant. We had gin & tonic and a toast that was very good.



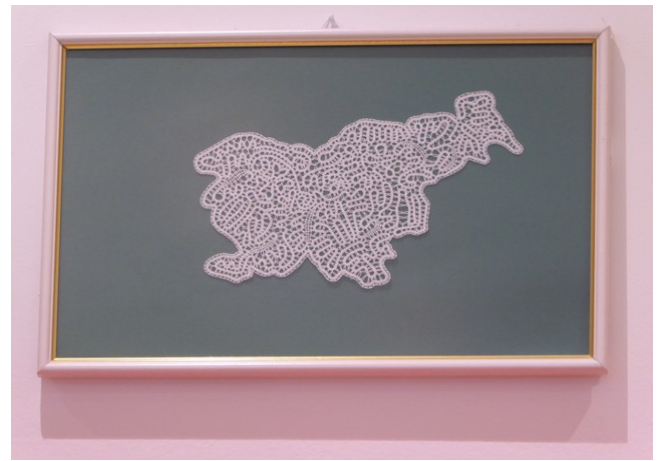
One who sat at the neighboring table took a picture of both of us.



On our way back to the hotel we are now on the triple bridge and take a photo down the river. The arcade on the right side.



The Franciscan church again.



A picture made of lace. It has the same shape as Slovenia.

The next day we had to check out at 12.00. We had planned to travel by train to Zagreb, but it did not leave until 14.45, so we sat for a while in the hotel lobby before we took a taxi to the train station.

Some pictures from the hotel lobby.





Here we have come to the train station and are waiting for the train.



This is a heavy luggage conveyor. Instead of dragging the luggage up the stairs, the luggage is put on the belt and it starts to go. Easy!