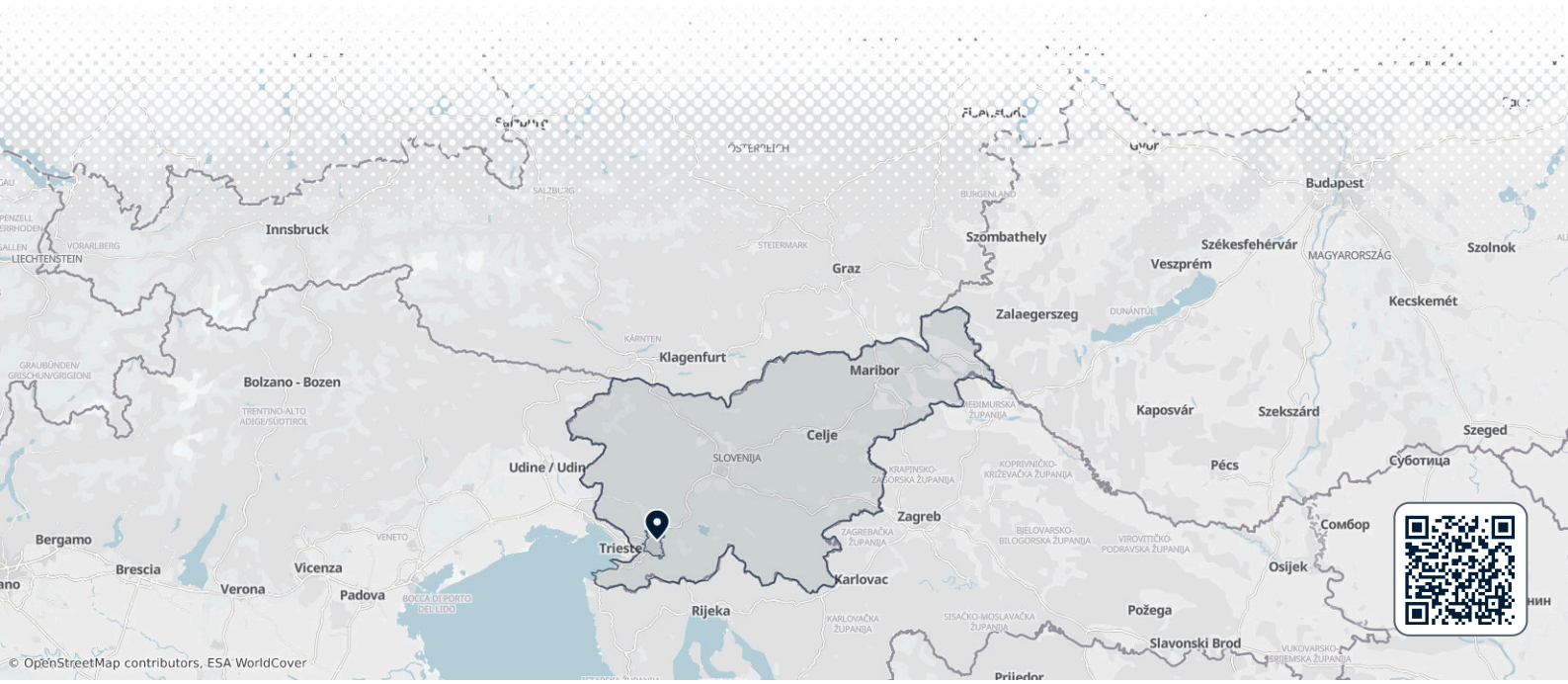


Divača

Slovenia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Divača is a small municipality on the Kras plateau in southwest Slovenia. Most visitors come for one reason: Škocjan Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where the Reka river flows through one of the largest underground canyons in the world. The caves sit 3–4 km from the village, so Divača is the natural base for a visit.

Beyond the caves, the area is quiet countryside. There are stone Karst villages, a second show cave, a small film museum and the grassy Vremščica ridge for walks with wide views. Divača is also a rail and motorway junction, so the coast, Trieste and Postojna are all within about 30 minutes. It suits a half-day stop on the way to the sea, or one or two calm nights.

Silent film star *Ita Rina* was born in Divača in 1907.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time. Summer days are warm, but rarely very hot. Winter is cool and damp, and the cold bora wind can blow hard across the plateau.

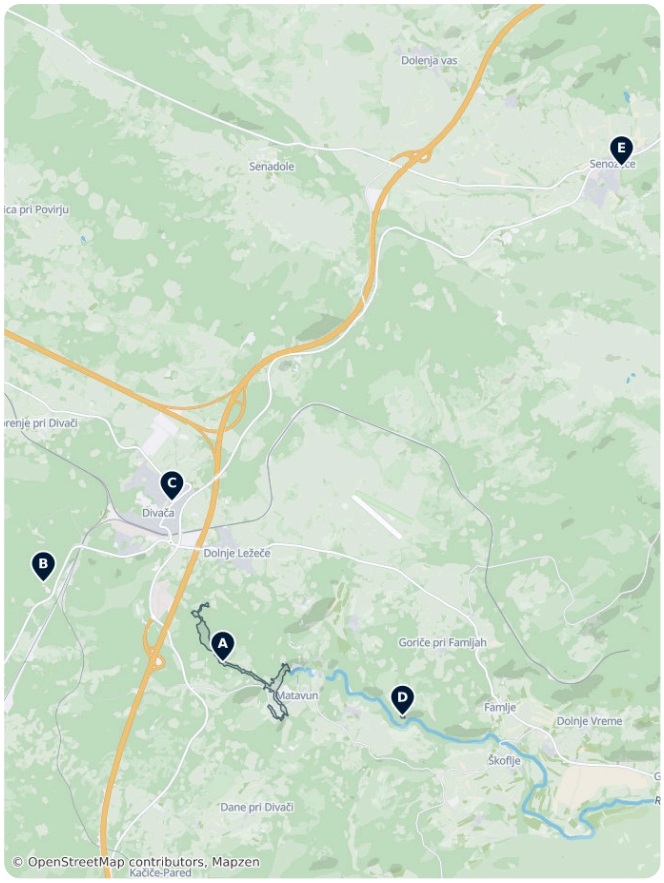
The caves stay at about 12 °C all year, so they work well on a rainy day too. Bring a warm layer even in August. In the colder months, the Škocjan tour is shorter and has fewer departures. In July and August, the tours run every hour and are busiest around midday, so arrive early.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 10° Feels like 1°	0° / -5°	Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 11° Feels like 2°	1° / -5°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for hiking	10° / 16° Feels like 6°	3° / -2°	Dry air
April	Good Good for hiking	14° / 20° Feels like 11°	7° / 2°	Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 24°	12° / 8°	Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 28°	16° / 11°	Calm winds
July	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 30°	18° / 14°	Calm winds
August	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 31°	18° / 14°	Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 26°	14° / 10°	Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for hiking	16° / 21°	10° / 5°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Fair Fair for hiking	11° / 16° Feels like 7°	6° / 0°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 11° Feels like 2°	2° / -4°	Dry air

Best months: June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



A Škocjan Caves are the reason to come. The guided tour walks through the dry, decorated Silent Cave and then into the Murmuring Cave, where the Reka river roars far below. A narrow bridge crosses the canyon about 45 m above the water. The full tour is about 5 km with around 1,000 steps and takes 2–3 hours. Photography is not allowed inside.

B Divača Cave is a much smaller show cave about 1.5 km from the village, run by the local caving club. The tour takes about 1.5 hours and shows curtains, stalagmites and crystals. It runs at weekends from March to November and daily in summer. It is about 8 °C inside.

C Museum of Slovenian Film Actors fills the Škratelj Homestead, a restored 17th-century Karst farmhouse in the centre of Divača. One part tells the story of *Ita Rina*, who was born in the village and became a European film star. In summer, films are shown in the courtyard.

D Školj Castle ruins stand on a rock high above the Reka valley, at the edge of the cave park. Only walls remain, but the views over the gorge are good. The site is easy to add to a walk around the park.

E Museum of Carting and Transport in Senožeče opened in 2025 in a restored medieval toll house on the old trade road to the coast. Interactive displays tell the story of carters, traders, smugglers and toll keepers.

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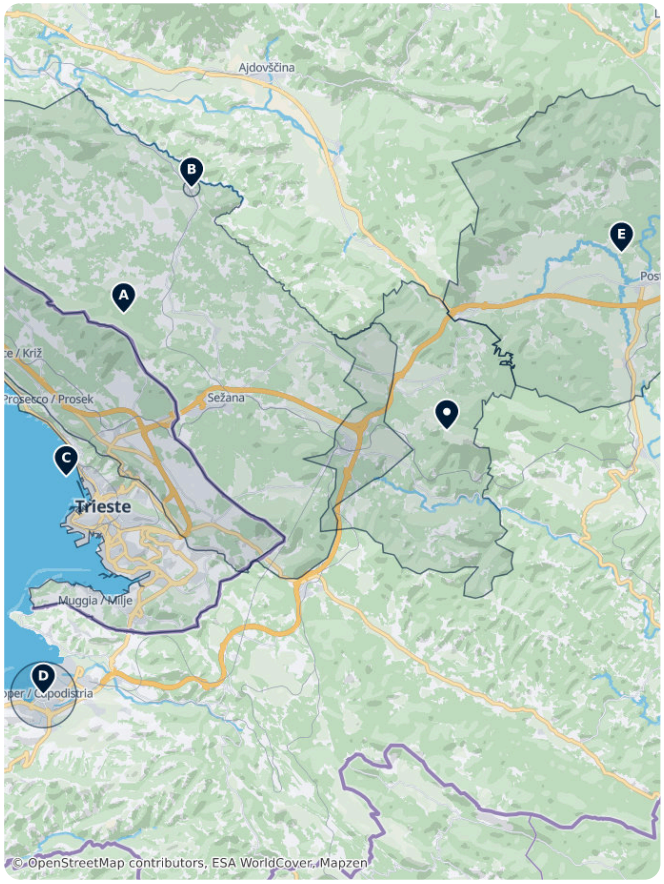
What to experience

A few things to do here that you cannot do anywhere else:

- **Walk the Škocjan Education Trail.** This circular path above ground goes around the two huge collapse dolines, Velika dolina and Mala dolina, and through the stone village of Škocjan. You see the Reka river disappear into the rock.
- **Join the Hanke Channel tour.** This 3–4 hour adventure tour follows the river deeper into the cave system, with a helmet and harness. It is for ages 15 and over. It runs only on set dates, and you must book at least 10 days ahead.
- **Hike the Vremščica ridge.** The long, grassy ridge rises to 1,027 m east of Divača. Sheep graze on the meadows, and on clear days you can see the sea and the Julian Alps. A university sheep farm on the slopes sells its own cheese.
- **Watch a summer film in a farmhouse courtyard.** The film museum in the Škratelj Homestead runs open-air screenings on summer evenings.

Day trips

Divača sits in the middle of the Karst, so many good trips are short. Times are one way by car.



- Lokev (≈10 min): Vilenica Cave is one of the oldest show caves in Europe and a calm contrast to Škocjan.
- Lipica (≈15 min): the stud farm has bred the white Lipizzaner horse since 1580. Lipikum Museum tells the story of the farm and the breed.
- A Kras villages (≈15–35 min): stone houses, wine farms and cured ham. The hilltop village of B Štanjel is the most beautiful.
- Hrastovlje (≈30 min): the fortified Holy Trinity Church has 15th-century frescoes, including a famous Dance of Death.
- C Trieste in Italy (≈30 min): a port city with grand squares and coffee houses.
- D Koper (≈30 min): a Venetian-style old town on the Adriatic coast.
- E Postojna (≈30 min): Postojna Cave with its cave train, and Predjama Castle, built into a cliff about 10 km away.

Where to explore

Divača belongs to the wider Karst region, with the coast and the caves of inner Slovenia close by.

- On the plateau: Kras for stone villages and wine, and Vipava for the wine valley below its edge.
- Caves and castles to the east: Postojna.
- On the coast: Koper and Piran.
- The capital: Ljubljana, about an hour away.

Getting there

- **By air**: Trieste Airport in Italy is the closest, about 45 minutes by car. Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport is a little over an hour away. From Ljubljana, you can continue by train.
- **By train**: Divača is on the line from Ljubljana to Koper. The trip from Ljubljana takes about 1 hour 45 minutes. Slovenian Railways
- **By car**: leave the motorway at the Divača exit and follow the signs to Škocjan and Matavun. The cave park visitor centre is 2–3 km from the exit.

Getting around

- **On foot to the caves**: a marked path of about 4 km links Divača station with the Škocjan Caves visitor centre. It takes about 50 minutes. A map at the station shows the route.
- **App shuttle**: ToyotaGO is an on-demand shuttle within Divača and nearby municipalities, Monday to Friday. You book it in its app at least 90 minutes ahead.
- **Taxi**: phone a taxi from Sežana in advance.
- **Car**: needed for Divača Cave, Senožeče, Vremščica and the day trips, as buses are rare.
- **Cycling**: quiet roads cross the flat plateau, so cycling between villages is pleasant.

More visitor information: Škocjan Caves Park

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The village is small and a marked 4 km path leads to Škocjan Caves, but the other sights need a car.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Quiet roads cross the fairly flat plateau, with climbs towards Vremščica.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?** Yes, unless you only visit Škocjan Caves. Buses are rare, and the other sights and villages are spread out.
- **Motorways**: Divača is the junction where the motorway from Ljubljana splits towards Koper and towards Trieste. Slovenian motorways need an e-vignette.
- **Parking**: there is a car park at the Škocjan Caves visitor centre at Matavun, and parking in Divača village is easy.

Food & drink

The Karst is known for air-dried **Kras pršut** (cured ham), for *teran*, a deep red wine from local terra rossa soil, and for *jota*, a bean and sauerkraut soup. Look out for an *osmica*, a farm that opens for a few days to sell its own wine, ham and cheese. A branch hung at a crossroads points the way.

There are no destination restaurants here. Eat at the family inns (*gostilna*) in Divača village and around Matavun near the caves. For more choice, the wine villages of the Kras plateau are a short drive away.

What to eat & drink

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Potica · potica
A rolled nut cake, traditionally served at holidays.

Kremna rezina · kremna rezina
A vanilla and whipped-cream custard slice, associated with Bled.

DRINKS

Slovenian wine
Wine from the Vipava Valley, Štajerska, and Primorska regions.

SIGNATURE DISHES

Štruklji · štruklji
Rolled dumplings, sweet or savory, boiled or baked.

Kranjska klobasa · kranjska klobasa
A protected (PGI) pork sausage, usually boiled and served with mustard and horseradish.

Jota · jota
A hearty stew of beans, sauerkraut or turnip, and smoked meat.

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Safety & health

Divača is very safe, and crime against visitors is rare.

- **Karst edges**: collapse dolines and cave shafts can have steep drops. Stay on marked paths, especially with children.
- **Cave tour**: the Škocjan route has about 1,000 steps and wet, slippery sections. Wear shoes with good grip and bring a warm layer.
- **Bora wind**: in winter, strong gusts can make driving and walking on open ridges unpleasant.
- **Ticks**: they are common in grass and woods. Check your skin after a hike.

History

People have lived around Škocjan Caves since prehistoric times, and finds from the caves reach into the Roman era. About 3,000 years ago, more than 1,000 bronze and iron objects, mostly weapons, were thrown into the 50 m shaft of Mušja jama as offerings. Explorers mapped the underground canyon in the late 19th century. In 1986 the caves became the first natural site in Slovenia on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

For centuries, the main road from central Europe to the Adriatic passed through Senožeče. Carters paid tolls in the town, and the old toll house is now Museum of Carting and Transport. In the 1850s the Southern Railway from Vienna to Trieste reached the plateau, and Divača grew into a railway junction. Like the rest of the Karst, it belonged to Italy between the two world wars.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Slovenia at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

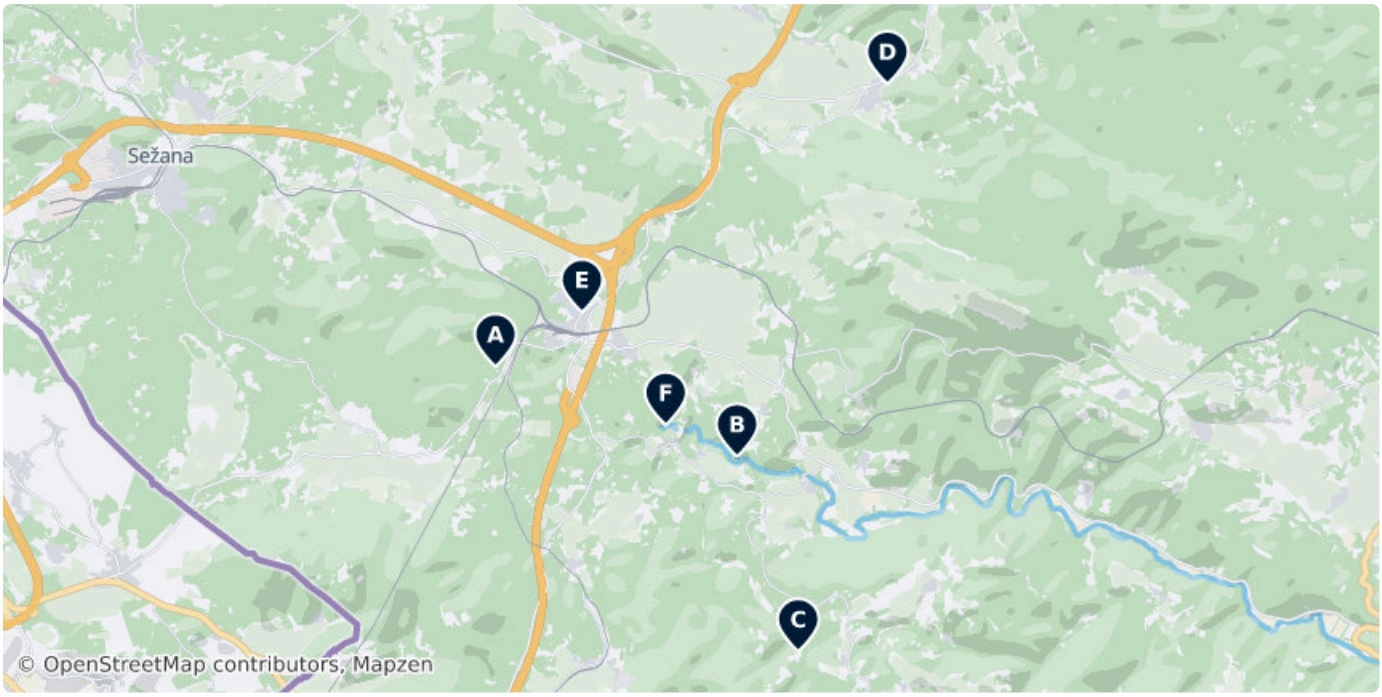
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Slovenian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Divaca's Karst Treasures

Divača serves as a primary entry point to the Karst plateau, characterized by dramatic limestone landscapes and historical fortifications. This collection includes the Divaška jama cave system and the massive Velika dolina collapse sinkhole. Historical sites feature the ruins of Grad Školi above the Reka River and the medieval Schwarzenegg Castle. Cultural heritage is represented by the Museum of Slovenian Film Actors, housed in a traditional homestead, showcasing the legacy of the country's cinematic pioneers.





A Divaška jama

Discovered in 1884, this cave features diverse dripstone formations and was historically visited by Austro-Hungarian royalty. It is part of the extensive Karst underground system.

(Unnamed Road), 6215, Slovenia (45.67524, 13.95069)

divaska-jama.info



B Školj Castle

13th-century castle ruins situated on a steep cliff overlooking the Reka River. It served as a strategic fortification within the Škocjan Caves Regional Park.

6217, Slovenia (45.66068, 14.00668)

C Grad Švarcenek / Grad Završnik / Schwarzenegg / Sworznech / Nigrignano

Ruins of a medieval castle first mentioned in the 11th century. Historically known as Schwarzenegg, it functioned as an administrative center for the surrounding Karst territory.

12 Podgrad pri Vremah, Podgrad pri Vremah 6217, Slovenia (45.62911, 14.02087)

D Stari grad

Ruins of a 13th-century fortification located on a hill above Senožeče. It historically controlled the trade routes passing through the Karst region.

(45.72095, 14.04152)

E Muzej Slovenskih Filmskih Igralcev

Located in the restored 17th-century Škratelj House, this museum features permanent exhibitions dedicated to Slovenian cinema and actress Ita Rina.

59 Kraška cesta, Divača 6215, Slovenia (45.68405, 13.97073)

May-Sep We–Su	09:00–18:00
Oct-Apr We–Su	10:00–17:00

muzejdivaca.si, 05 7310 949

F Velika dolina

A 165-meter deep collapse doline within the Škocjan Caves Regional Park. The Reka River flows across its floor before disappearing into the cave system.

(45.66579, 13.99014)

DATA SOURCES

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IMAGE CREDITS

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- Školj Castle — "Grad Školj" by Johann Weikhard von Valvasor, Public domain

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