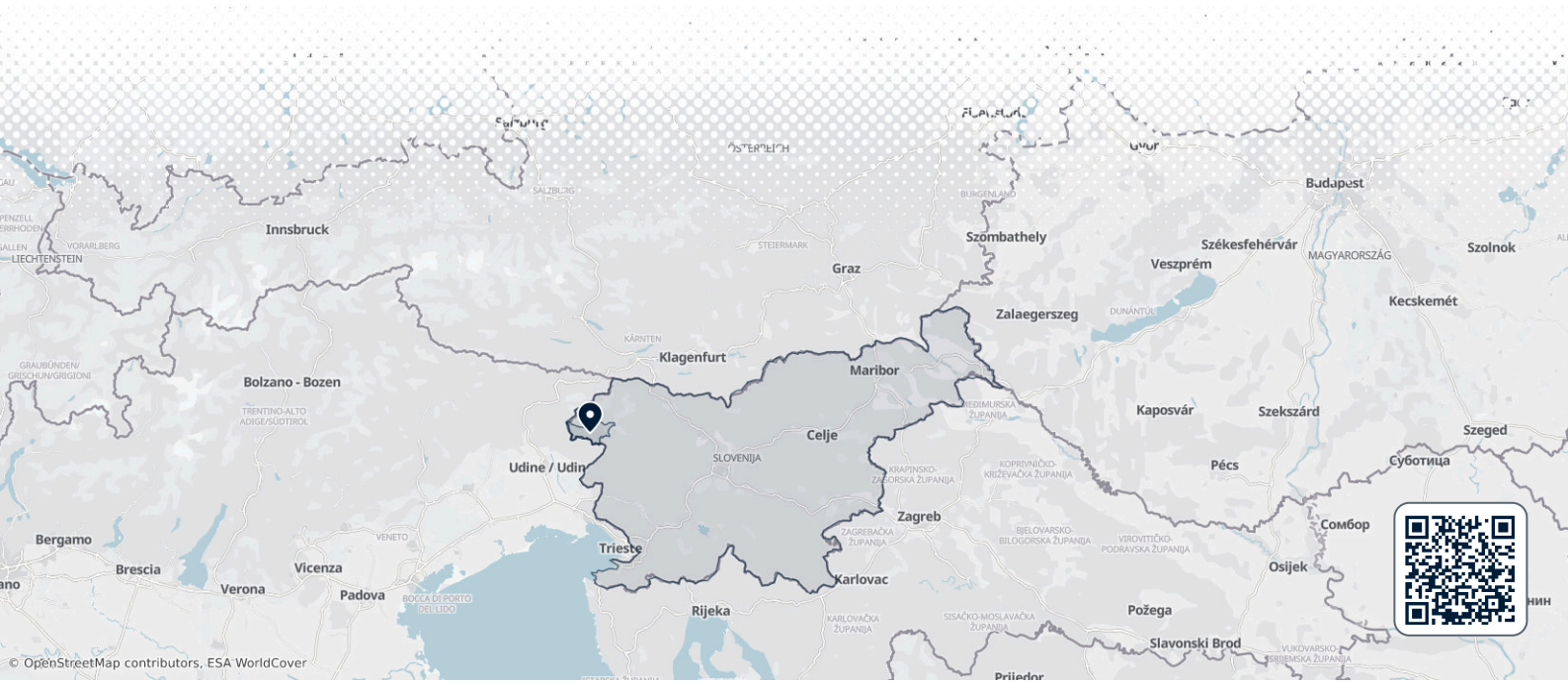


Kobarid Municipality

Slovenia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Kobarid is a small town in the Soča valley in western Slovenia, a few kilometres from the Italian border. It sits in a green basin below Mount Krn, with the clear, green Soča river flowing past the edge of town. In Italian the town is called Caporetto, a name known worldwide from one of the biggest battles of the First World War.

Most visitors come for that history. An award-winning museum, a large war memorial and marked trails through old front lines tell the story of the Isonzo Front. The town is also a quiet base for easy walks to waterfalls and gorges, swimming in the river, and serious mountain hikes. It suits history lovers, hikers and food lovers, as one of Slovenia's most famous restaurants is just outside town. The poet *Simon Gregorčič*, who wrote a famous poem about the Soča, was born in the nearby village of Vrsno.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time to visit. June and September are pleasant for walking, while July and August are warm, busier and bring afternoon storms. Autumn is rainy but colourful, and winter is quiet, with many sights in town still open.

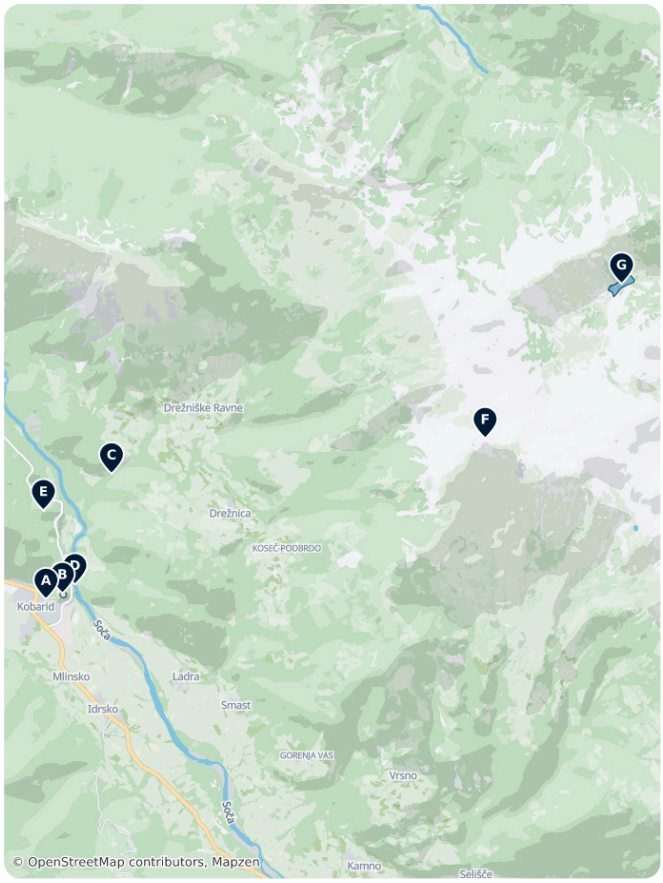
The biggest event is **Jestival**, a food and art festival held on the main square in early October. Local producers sell their goods, and Kobarid štruklji, the town's sweet dumplings, are the star of the day.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 11° Feels like 2°	-1° / -8°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 13° Feels like 4°	0° / -8°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Good Good for hiking	12° / 18° Feels like 9°	3° / -3°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for hiking	16° / 22°	7° / 1°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 26°	11° / 7°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 31°	16° / 11°	14 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	28° / 34°	18° / 13°	14 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	28° / 35°	18° / 13°	13 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 29°	13° / 8°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for hiking	18° / 23°	9° / 3°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for hiking	11° / 17°	5° / -2°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 11° Feels like 3°	1° / -7°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: June, September

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

Top sights



A Kobarid Museum tells the story of the Isonzo Front and the Battle of Caporetto in 1917. Photos, maps, letters and models show the soldiers' daily life and suffering. It won the Council of Europe Museum Prize in 1993, and it is the best place to start a visit.

B Italian Charnel House stands on a hill above the town, next to the 17th-century Church of St Anthony. Opened in 1938, the octagonal memorial holds the remains of 7,014 Italian soldiers. There are wide views over the town and the Soča valley.

C Kozjak Waterfall is a 15 m waterfall that falls into a pool inside a rock chamber, like a natural hall. An easy path takes about 30 minutes from the car park. The entrance point is open from April to October, and there is a small fee.

D Napoleon Bridge crosses the Soča in one stone arch at a narrow, deep green gorge just outside town. It is named after the French troops who marched over an earlier bridge during Napoleon's campaigns. In summer, people swim in the river below.

E Tonocov grad is an archaeological site on a steep hill above Kobarid. You can see the walls of houses and three early Christian churches from a fortified settlement of the 5th and 6th centuries.

F Krn rises to 2,244 m above the town and dominates every view. Its slopes were part of the front line, and trenches and tunnels remain near the top. Climbing it is a long, demanding day hike for experienced walkers.

G Lake Krn is the largest high-mountain lake in Slovenia, at about 1,390 m inside Triglav National Park. It is a popular hiking goal in summer, with a mountain hut nearby.

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What to experience

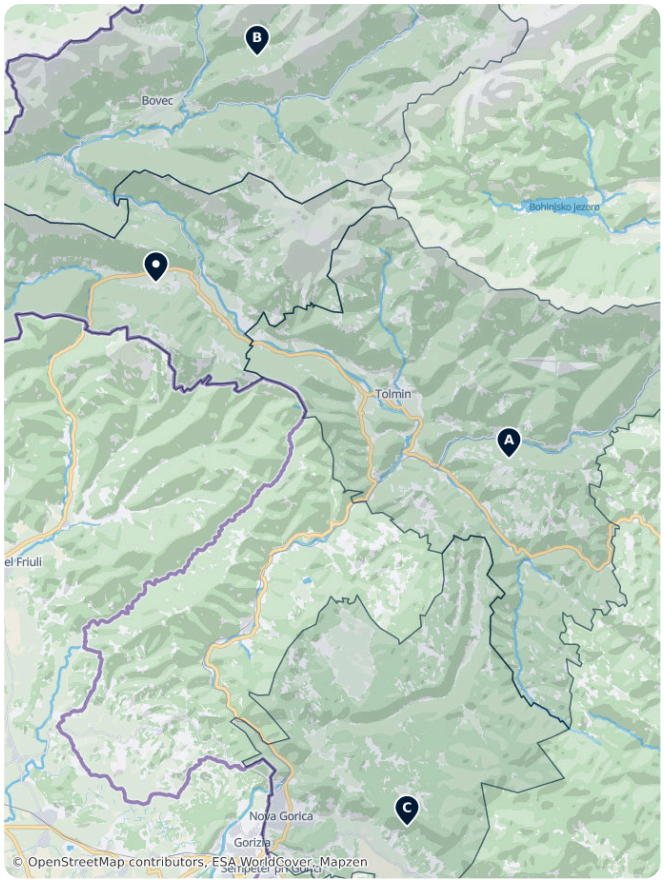
In Kobarid, history and nature are often part of the same walk.

- **Walk the Kobarid Historical Trail**: This circular trail of about 5 km starts in the town centre. It links the museum, the charnel house, Tonocov grad, old Italian defence lines, the Soča gorge, the Kozjak waterfall and Napoleon Bridge. Allow 3 to 5 hours.
- **Follow the Walk of Peace**: Kobarid is the main centre of this long trail through First World War sites from the Alps to the Adriatic. Pick one section, such as the trenches on Krn or the open-air museums nearby.
- **Swim in the Soča**: On hot days, locals swim in the cold, clear river near Napoleon Bridge and on gravel beaches nearby. The water is very cold even in August.
- **Hike to the Krn lake**: Walk up to Lake Krn on a marked trail and stay overnight at the mountain hut. Strong hikers continue to the top of Krn.
- **Take part in Jestival**: In early October, join the food and art festival on the main square and taste štruklji and local cheese.

Day trips

The Soča valley and the nearby Italian border area offer easy day trips.

- Ⓐ Tolmin — ≈20 min by car or bus. The Tolmin gorges and the meeting point of the Soča and Tolminka rivers.
- **Kolovrat ridge** — ≈30 min by car. An open-air First World War museum on a ridge on the Italian border, with views over the Soča valley and the Alps.
- Ⓑ Bovec — ≈30 min by car or bus. Slovenia's main base for rafting and kayaking, with the Boka waterfall and the Soča gorges nearby.
- **Cividale del Friuli, Italy** — ≈35 min by car through the Nadiža valley. A historic town with Lombard monuments on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- Ⓒ Nova Gorica — ≈1 h by car. A modern town on the Italian border, with a monastery and the wine hills of Brda close by.



Where to explore

Kobarid lies in the middle of the Soča valley. Upstream is Bovec, the centre for outdoor sports, and downstream is Tolmin, known for its gorges.

The high mountains around Krn are part of Triglav National Park. Further south, the valley opens towards Nova Gorica and the Italian border.

Getting there

- **By air**: Trieste Airport in Italy is the closest, about 1.5 hours by car. Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport is about 2 hours away. There is no direct public transport from either airport.
- **By bus**: Direct buses to Ljubljana are few, often only one or two a day, and take about 3 hours. Local buses run along the valley to Tolmin and Bovec. Arriva bus timetables
- **By train**: The nearest station is Most na Soči on the Bohinj railway, about 25 km away. Continue by bus via Tolmin or by taxi.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The town centre is small, and Kobarid Museum, Italian Charnel House, Napoleon Bridge and Kozjak Waterfall are all within walking distance on the Kobarid Historical Trail.
- **Buses**: Arriva buses connect Kobarid with Bovec and Tolmin, but services are infrequent, especially at weekends.
- **By bike**: Cycling is popular on the valley roads and along the Soča. Roads into the mountains are steep.
- **Tourist information**: The information centre on the main square has maps and timetables. Soča Valley tourist board

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The small town and the main history sights are easy to walk, but the mountains and nearby valleys need a car or a bus.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The valley roads along the Soča are good for cycling, but routes into the mountains are long and steep.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Yes, if you want to explore the valley, the Italian border area or the trailheads for Krn. In town you can walk everywhere.
- **Parking**: There is parking in the town centre, close to the main square. The car park for the Kozjak waterfall fills up on summer days, so arrive early or walk from town.
- **Border roads**: The main road to Italy follows the Nadiža valley to Cividale del Friuli and is open all year. Carry your passport or ID card, as Italy can carry out checks at this border.

Food & drink

Kobarid's signature dish is **Kobarid štruklji** (kobariški štruklji), sweet dumplings filled with walnuts and raisins. Local mountain cheeses are also important, and a small cheese museum in town tells the story of cheese making on the high pastures. Trout from the Soča often appears on menus.

Most restaurants and cafés are on and around the main square, a few minutes' walk from the museum. For a special meal, Hiša Franko in nearby Staro Selo is Slovenia's most famous restaurant, with three Michelin stars and chef *Ana Roš*. Book many months ahead.

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

Kobarid is very safe, and crime against visitors is rare. The real risks come from nature.

- **River safety**: The Soča is very cold, and currents in the gorges are strong. Swim only in calm pools, and do not jump from rocks or bridges unless you know the spot.
- **Mountain hikes**: Krn and the surrounding peaks are high alpine terrain. Start early, carry enough water, and watch for afternoon thunderstorms in summer.
- **War remains**: Do not enter unsafe tunnels or caves, and never touch old shells or metal objects you find in the mountains.

History

People have lived on the hills above Kobarid since prehistoric times. In late Roman times, Tonocov grad was a fortified settlement guarding the route between the Alps and Italy.

From 1915 to 1917, the Isonzo Front ran through the valley. Italian and Austro-Hungarian armies fought twelve battles here, and many soldiers died on Krn and the nearby peaks. In October 1917, Austro-Hungarian and German troops broke through the Italian lines in the Twelfth Battle of the Isonzo, known as the Battle of Caporetto. The Italian army had to retreat far to the west. *Ernest Hemingway* described the retreat in his novel *A Farewell to Arms*. Today, Kobarid Museum and Italian Charnel House remember these events.

After the war, Kobarid became part of Italy. In September 1943, partisans freed the town, and it became the centre of the short-lived Kobarid Republic until German forces took it in November. In 1947, the town became part of Yugoslavia.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Slovenia at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

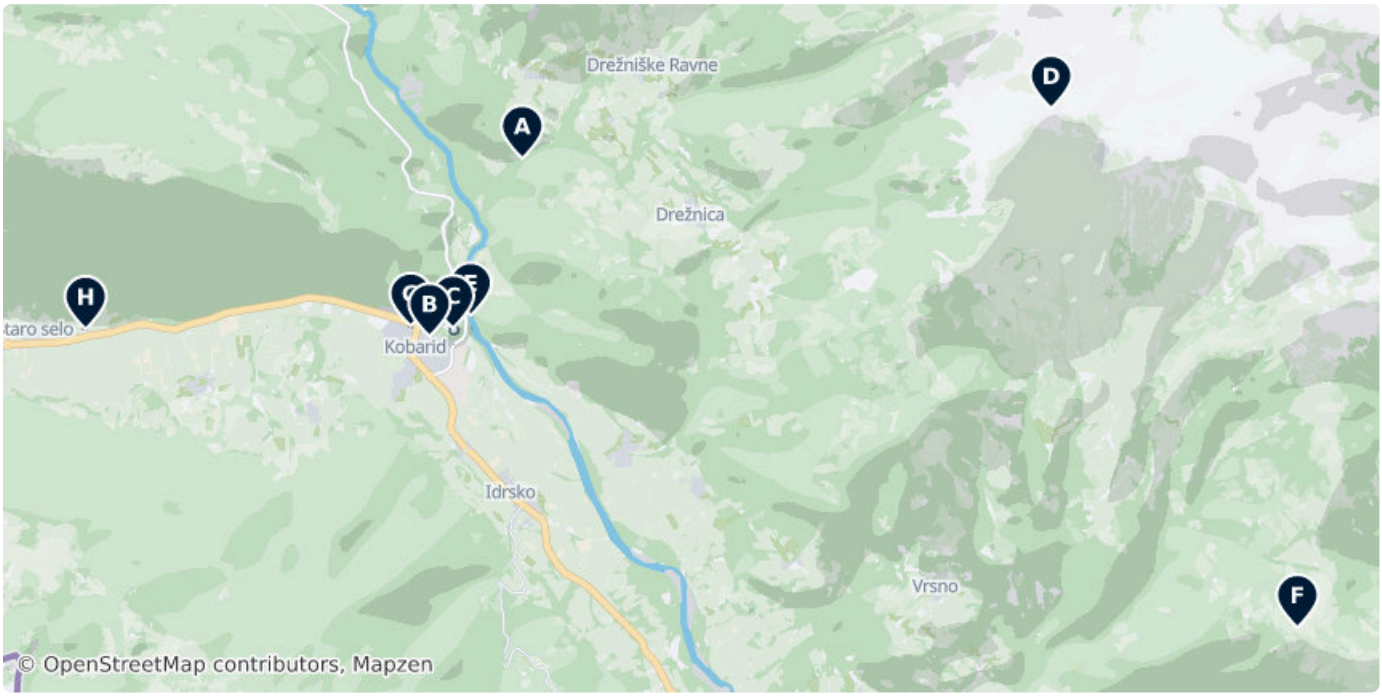
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

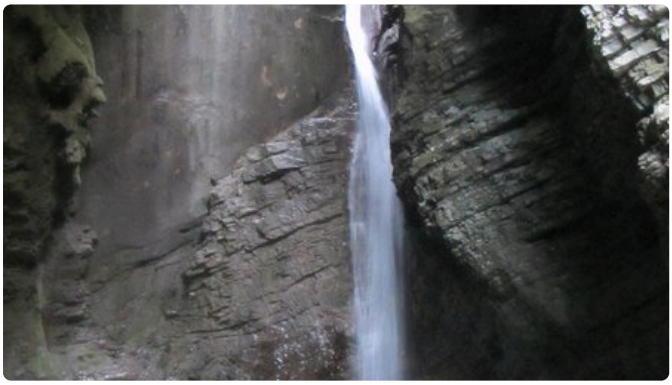
LANGUAGES
Slovenian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Kobarid's Unmissable Highlights

Kobarid balances its somber military history with the natural beauty of the Soča Valley. The Kobariški Museum and the Italian Charnel House document the events of the WWI Isonzo Front, while the town's architectural heritage is represented by the 18th-century Napoleon Bridge and the Parish Church. Nature enthusiasts can reach the 15-meter Veliki Kozjak waterfall or ascend Krn, the highest peak in the Krn Mountains. For culinary exploration, Hiša Franko serves regional cuisine prepared by three-Michelin-starred chef Ana Roš.

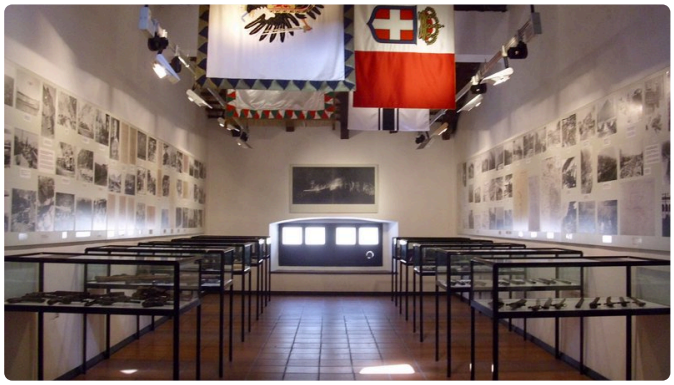




A Veliki Kozjak

A 15-meter-high waterfall captured within a limestone cavern. It is accessible via a forest trail along the Kozjak stream and features a wooden viewing platform.

(Unnamed Road), 5222, Slovenia (46.26194, 13.59261)



B Kobariški Museum

A museum dedicated to WWI in Slovenia. The exhibitions feature photos, military charts, maps, and other artefacts.

Gregorčičeva ulica 10, 5222 Kobarid (46.24653, 13.58099)

Jan-Mar Mo–Su	10:00–17:00
Apr-Jun Mo–Su	09:00–18:00
Jul-Aug Mo–Su	09:00–20:00
Nov-Dec Mo–Su	10:00–17:00

kobariski-muzej.si, +386 5 389 00 00



C Italian charnel house

The Italian Charnel House, Kobarid is an Italian military shrine in Kobarid, Slovenia.

Pot na gradič, 5222, Slovenia (46.24724, 13.58392)

thewalkofpeace.com/sl/locations/italian-charnel-house-k...



D Krn

Krn is a mountain in northwestern Slovenia. It is the highest peak of the Krn Mountains, a sub-chain of the southwestern Julian Alps.

5222, Slovenia (46.26628, 13.65892)



E Napoleon Bridge

Stone bridge spanning the Soča River. Originally built in 1750, the current structure replaces the original bridge that was destroyed during World War I.

Napoleon Bridge, 5222 Mlinsko, Slovenia (46.24834, 13.58613)



F Kapelica pod Mrzlim Vrhom

A wooden memorial chapel built by Austro-Hungarian soldiers during World War I, situated on the slopes of Mrzli Vrh near the former front lines.

5220, Slovenia (46.22131, 13.68979)

G Župnijska cerkev Device Marije Vnebovzete / Parish Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary

A Baroque church dedicated to the Assumption of Mary, located in the center of Kobarid.

1A Trg svobode, Kobarid 5222, Slovenia (46.24743, 13.57861)

zupnija-kobarid.rkc.si



H Hiša Franko

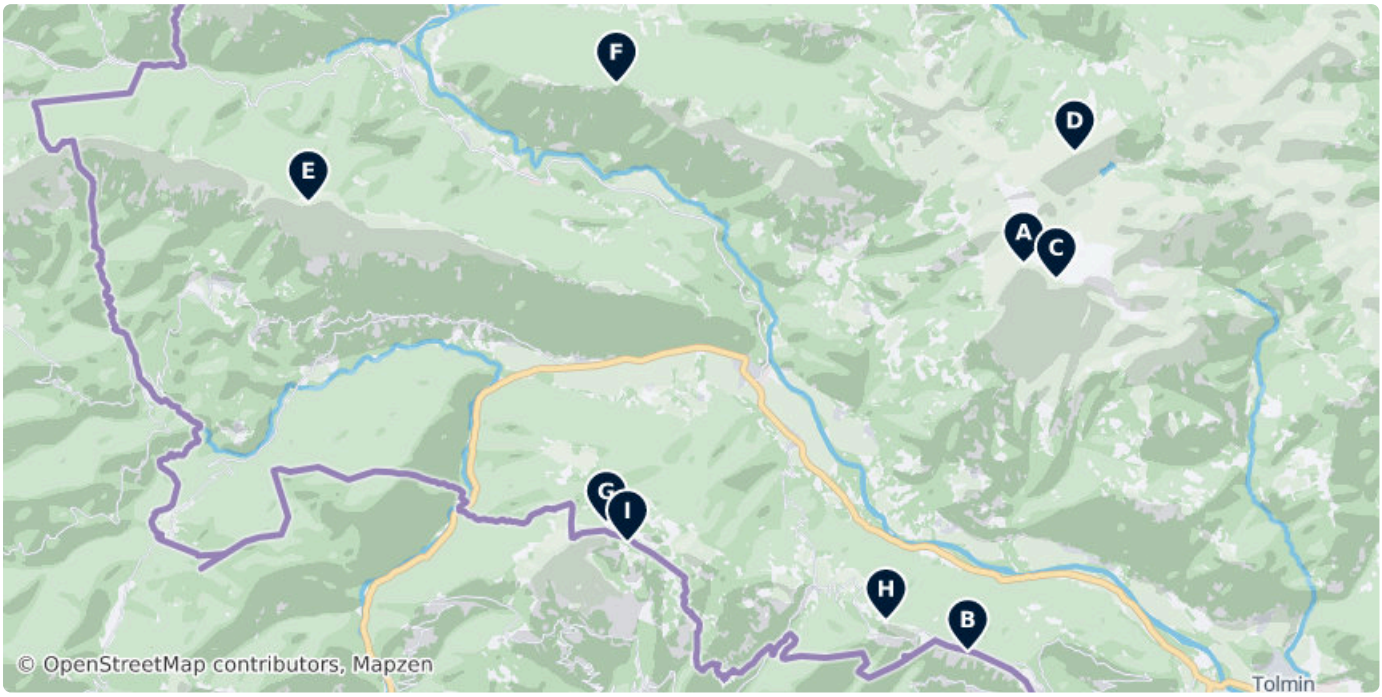
A three-Michelin-starred restaurant led by chef Ana Roš, focusing on seasonal ingredients sourced from the surrounding Soča Valley.

Staro selo, 5222 Staro selo, Slovenia (46.24715, 13.53786)

hisafranko.com, +386 5 389 4120

Majestic Mountains and Peaks

This collection features the prominent summits and ridges surrounding Kobarid in the Julian Alps and Prealps. Highlights include Krn, the highest peak in its range, and Batognica, which retains visible fortifications and mine craters from World War I. The Stol ridge offers the longest continuous crest in the region, while the Kolovrat ridge serves as a transborder natural balcony overlooking the Soča Valley and the Friuli plane. These peaks are defined by their karst topography and significant historical role in the Isonzo Front.





A Krn

Krn is a mountain in northwestern Slovenia. It is the highest peak of the Krn Mountains, a sub-chain of the southwestern Julian Alps.

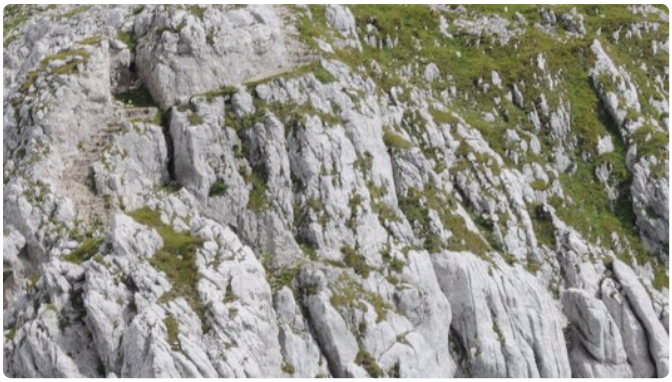
5222, Slovenia (46.26628, 13.65892)



B Kolovrat

Kolovrat is a mountain ridge of the Julian Prealps on the border between Slovenia and Italy, west of Tolmin and southeast of Kobarid.

(Unnamed Road), 5220, Slovenia (46.18956, 13.64287)



C Batognica

A 2,164-meter peak in the Krn range, notable as a major battlefield during World War I. The summit plateau still features extensive mine craters, trenches, and caverns from the conflict between Austro-Hungarian and Italian forces.

5222, Slovenia (46.26321, 13.66824)



D Veliki Lemež

A 2,043-meter summit within the Krn-Tolminski Kuk-Rodica mountain chain in the southwestern Julian Alps.

5232, Slovenia (46.28838, 13.67349)

E Stol

At 1,673 meters, this mountain forms the longest ridge in the Julian Alps. It is a prominent site for paragliding and offers panoramic views extending from the Adriatic Sea to the high Alps.

5224, Slovenia (46.27842, 13.45398)

F Špik

A 1,482-meter peak located in the Julian Alps overlooking the Soča Valley near Kobarid.

5230, Slovenia (46.30192, 13.54222)

G Veliki vrh / Monte Grande

A peak situated on the border between Slovenia and Italy, south of the Stol ridge.

5222, Slovenia (46.21496, 13.53935)

H Kuk

Also known as Monte Cucco di Luico, this peak is part of the Kolovrat mountain ridge on the border of Slovenia and Italy.

(Unnamed Road), 5220, Slovenia (46.19565, 13.61949)

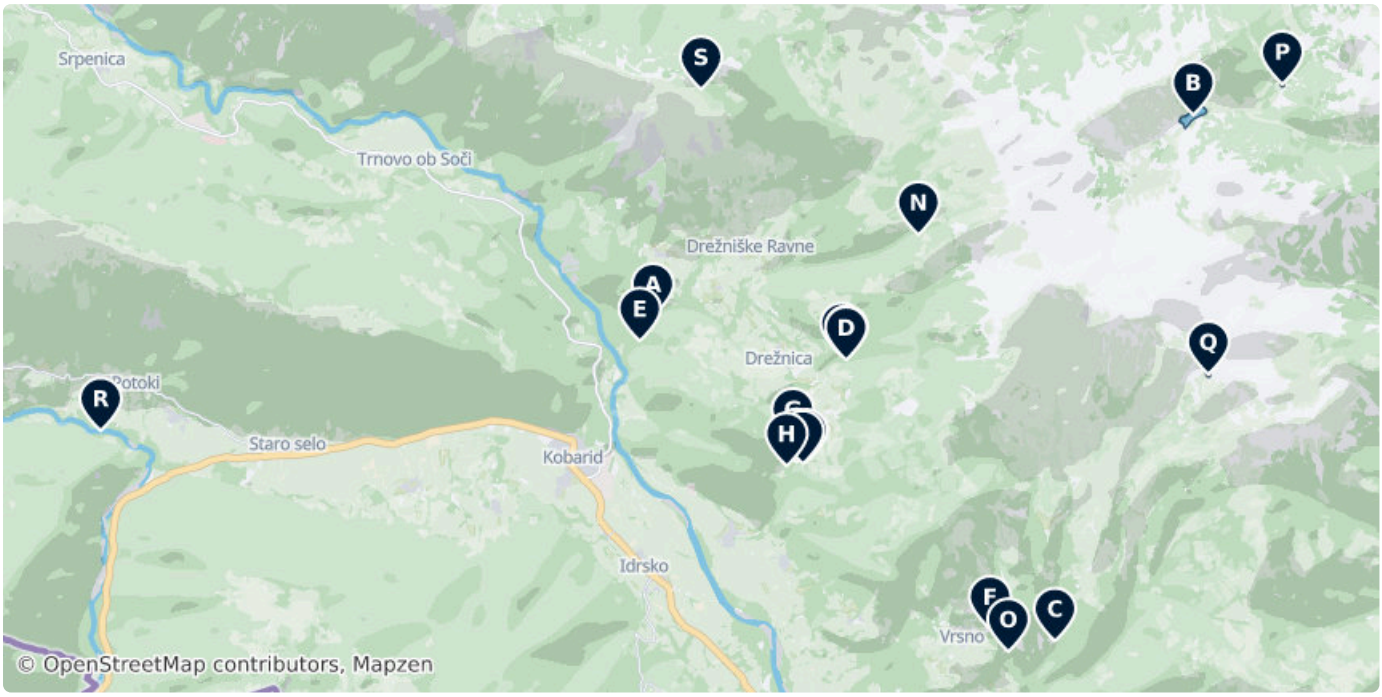
I Monte Glava

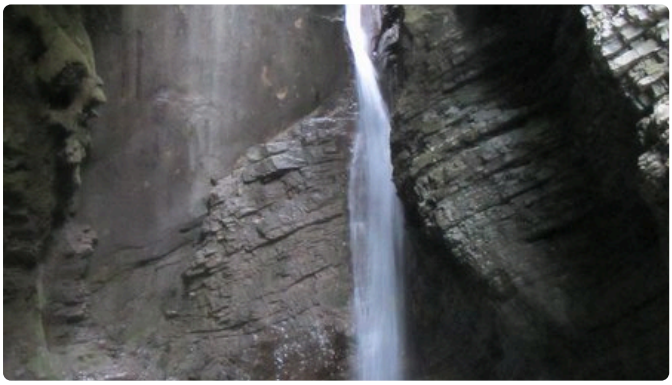
A peak located along the mountain ridges south of the Stol range, near the Italian border.

33040, Italy (46.21116, 13.54537)

Slovenia's Natural Marvels

This collection highlights the diverse geological features of the Soča Valley near Kobarid. It features the 15-meter Kozjak waterfall, enclosed in a limestone amphitheater, and the 104-meter Brinta waterfall. The list includes Slovenia's largest high-mountain glacial lake, Krnsko jezero, alongside smaller alpine pools like Dupeljsko Jezero. Visitors can explore the Nadiža Gorge, known for the historic Napoleon Bridge, as well as several multi-tiered falls on the Stopnik and Volarja streams.





A Veliki Kozjak

A 15-meter waterfall hidden within a cavernous limestone chamber on the Kozjak stream.

(Unnamed Road), 5222, Slovenia (46.26194, 13.59261)



B Krnsko jezero

Slovenia's largest high-mountain glacial lake, situated at 1,391 meters above sea level at the foot of Mount Krn.

(Unnamed Road), 5222, Slovenia (46.28527, 13.68312)

soca-valley.com/sl/iskanje-dogodivscin/narava/reke-in-jez...



C Gregorčič waterfall

An 88-meter waterfall on the Volarja stream, named after the Slovene poet Simon Gregorčič.

5220, Slovenia (46.22436, 13.65995)

D Krampež

Small waterfall located near the village of Drežnica.

5222, Slovenia (46.25693, 13.62497)



E Mali Kozjak Waterfall

The lower waterfall on the Kozjak stream, accessible via a forest trail from Kobarid.

(Unnamed Road), 5222, Slovenia (46.25910, 13.59039)

F Malenshchek

Waterfall located on the Volarja stream, characterized by its multi-step drop.

(46.22576, 13.64909)

G Slap Brusnik

Small waterfall on the Brusnik stream near Kobarid.

(46.24748, 13.61605)

H Slap Stopnik 4

One of several waterfalls on the Stopnik stream near the village of Vrsno.

(46.24464, 13.61501)

I Slap Stopnik 1

The first in a series of drops located on the Stopnik stream.

5222, Slovenia (46.24489, 13.61773)

J Slap

Waterfall on the Stopnik stream.

(46.24507, 13.61832)

K Slap Stopnik 2 in 3

Combined designation for the second and third drops of the Stopnik waterfall series.

5222, Slovenia (46.24510, 13.61667)

L Krampez

Waterfall located in the vicinity of Drežnica.

(46.25703, 13.62509)

M Sopot

High waterfall situated near the village of Drežnica.

(46.25738, 13.62421)

N Slap Curk

A 5-meter waterfall on the Curk stream, accessible from the village of Drežnica.

(46.27141, 13.63707)

O Brinta

A 104-meter waterfall, one of the highest in the Julian Alps, located on the Malenšček stream.

5220, Slovenia (46.22313, 13.65216)

P Dupeljsko Jezero

Small glacial lake located near the larger Krnsko jezero.

Dom pri Krnskih jezerih - Za Lepočami, Kobarid, Slovenia (46.28884, 13.69805)

Q Jezero v Lužnici

Alpine lake situated in the Lužnica valley below Mount Krn.

(46.25526, 13.68564)

R Nadiža Gorge

Deep river gorge featuring the historic Napoleon Bridge and known for its relatively warm swimming waters.

(46.24871, 13.50007)

S Snežna Jama

High-altitude cave that often contains ice and snow throughout the year.

(46.28822, 13.60068)

DATA SOURCES

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