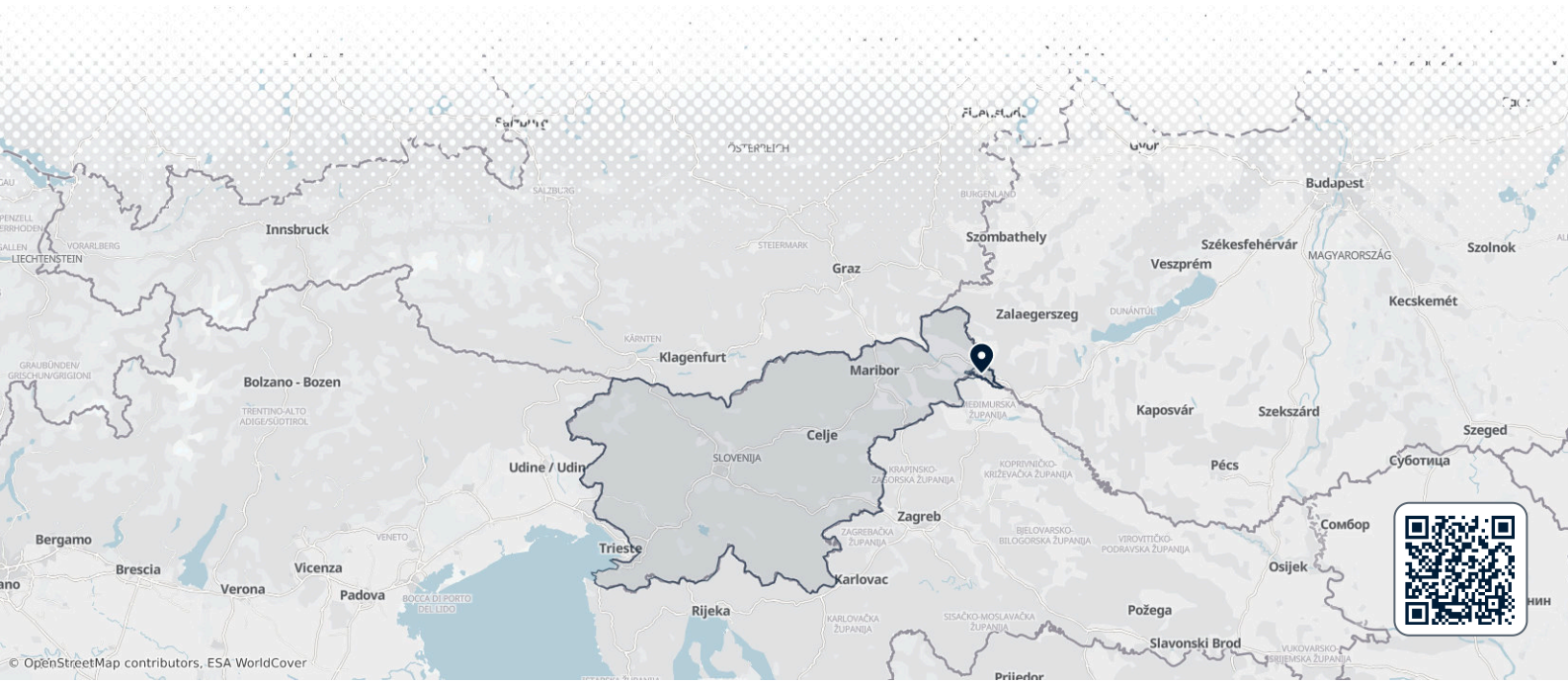


Lendava

Prekmurje · Slovenia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Lendava is a small bilingual town in the far east of Slovenia, a few kilometres from the borders with Hungary and Croatia. Its Hungarian name is Lendva, and Hungarian is an official language here alongside Slovene. You will see Hungarian on street signs and hear it in cafés, and the local food is closer to Hungarian cooking than to anything in Ljubljana.

The old centre sits at the foot of the Lendava Hills, a ridge of vineyards, wine cellars and small chapels. Most visitors come for a short break of one to three nights. They climb the Vinarium tower for the view over four countries, visit the castle and the synagogue, and relax in the thermal pools. Lendava is also a good base for the southern part of Prekmurje.

When to visit

Late spring and September are the best times, with warm days for walking in the vineyards. July and August are hot on the open plain, so plan the Vinarium and the hills for the morning. October brings the grape harvest and autumn colours. Winters are cold and grey, but the thermal pools stay open all year.

The best time for a wine trip is around **St Martin's Day** on 11 November. In the first half of November, Lendava and its wine hills hold St Martin's celebrations, with the new wine blessed and cellar-to-cellar walks through the vineyards.

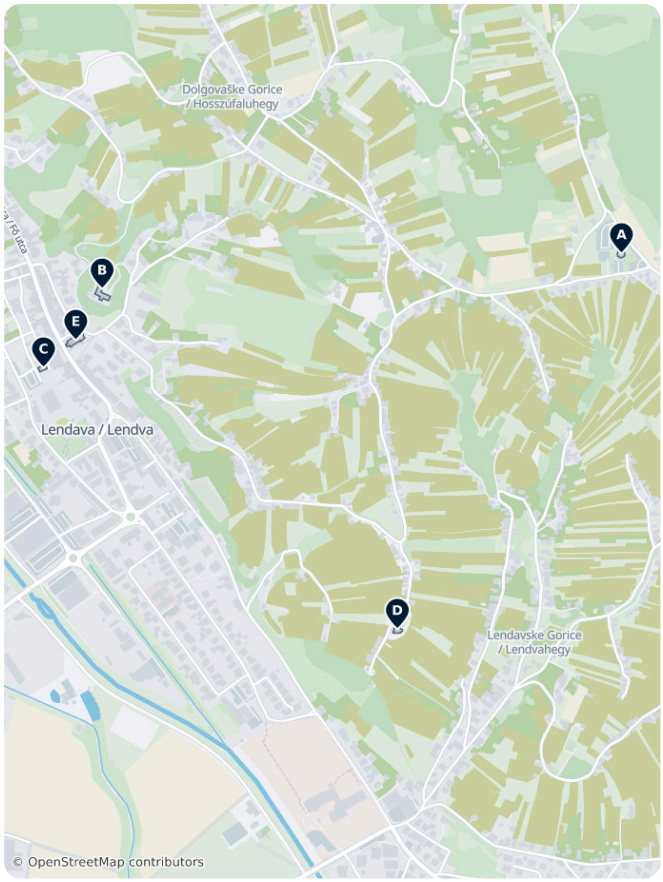
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 12° Feels like -1°	-3° / -11°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 15° Feels like 2°	-2° / -10°	Dry air
March	Good Good for cycling	11° / 19° Feels like 7°	1° / -5°	Dry air
April	Great Great for cycling	17° / 23° Feels like 13°	6° / -1°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 6°	14 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 34°	15° / 10°	13 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	29° / 36°	17° / 12°	13 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	29° / 36°	17° / 12°	12 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	12° / 6°	Dry air · Calm winds
October	Great Great for cycling	17° / 24°	7° / 0°	Dry air · Calm winds
November	Good Good for cycling	10° / 18° Feels like 7°	3° / -4°	Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 12° Feels like 0°	-2° / -10°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: May, June, September

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

Top sights

Lendava's main sights are close together. The castle, the churches, the synagogue and the theatre are in the town centre, and the hill sights are a short drive or a steep walk above it.



- A Vinarium Tower is the town's landmark, a 53.5 m steel tower on top of the Lendava Hills. A panoramic lift takes you to the viewing level at 42 m, with views over Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia and Austria.
- B Lendava Castle stands on the slope above the centre. The Esterházy family rebuilt a medieval fortress here into a Baroque castle, which now houses the bilingual Gallery-Museum Lendava, with collections on local folk life and a memorial room to the sculptor *György Zala*.
- C Lendava Synagogue dates from 1866 and is one of only two synagogue buildings left in Slovenia. It now holds an exhibition on the town's Jewish community, which was destroyed in the Holocaust in 1944.
- D Holy Trinity Chapel is a small Baroque chapel high in the vineyards. Its crypt holds a naturally mummified body, traditionally said to be the soldier *Mihael Hadik*. Visits to the mummy must be booked by phone in advance.
- E St Catherine's Church is the Baroque parish church in the centre, built in the mid-18th century.
- The **Theatre and Concert Hall** on Zala György Square is a striking organic building by Hungarian architect *Imre Makovecz*, opened in 2004. It is the main stage of the Hungarian community, and its lobby hosts art exhibitions.

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What to experience

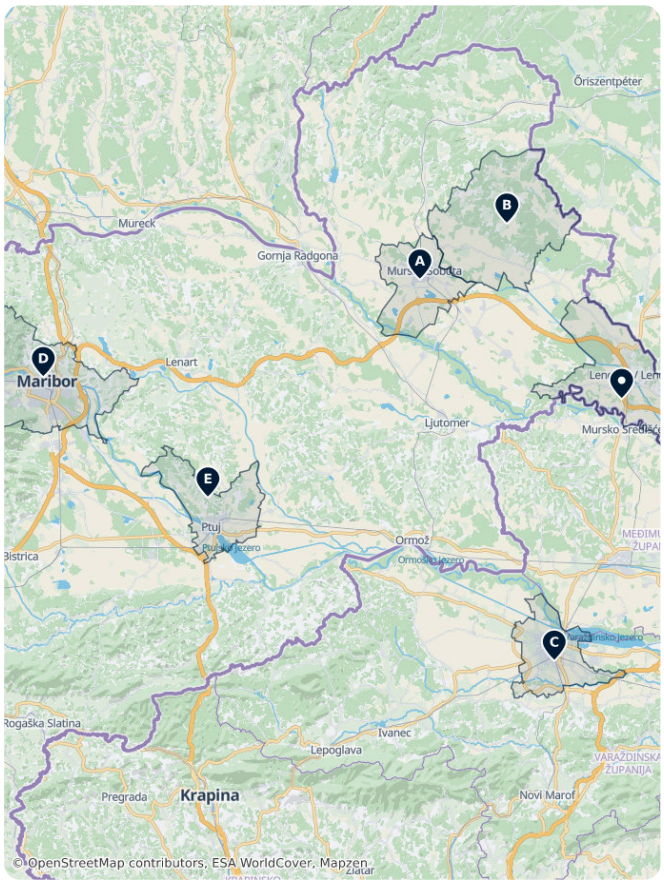
Lendava is a place for slow days: views, wine and warm water. A few things to do here:

- **Soak in thermal water**: Terme Lendava started in 1965, when oil workers drilling nearby struck hot water instead of oil. Today the resort has indoor and outdoor pools, and in summer a large outdoor pool with water slides opens.
- **Walk the wine road**: a road and marked paths run along the Lendava Hills past family wine cellars, chapels and viewpoints. Many cellars open for tastings if you call ahead.
- **Cycle into Hungary**: flat, quiet roads lead from Lendava across the open border to the villages on the Hungarian side.

Day trips

Lendava sits right on the borders, so short trips into Hungary and Croatia are easy. Times are by car.

- A Murska Sobota — about 25 minutes. The regional capital, with the Pomurje Museum in its castle and a large Lutheran church.
- B Moravske Toplice — about 25 minutes. A spa village near the hills of Goričko, with Plečnik's church in Bogojina and the Selo rotunda close by.
- C Varaždin — about 40 minutes, in Croatia. A Baroque old town with a moated castle and a famous park-like cemetery.
- D Maribor — about 50 minutes by motorway. Slovenia's second city, with an old town on the Drava river.
- E Ptuj — about 55 minutes. Slovenia's oldest town, with a castle above the Drava and a famous carnival.



Where to explore

Lendava is part of Prekmurje, the flat region beyond the Mura river. The region's guide covers its villages, churches and Goričko hills in more detail.

The other main bases in the region are Murska Sobota, the regional capital with the best transport links, and Moravske Toplice, the largest spa resort.

Getting there

- **By air**: The nearest airports are Graz in Austria, about 1 hour 15 minutes by car, and Zagreb in Croatia, about 1 hour 30 minutes. Ljubljana Airport is about 2 hours 15 minutes away. There is no direct public transport from the airports, so most visitors rent a car.
- **By bus**: Buses link Lendava with Murska Sobota, which has connections to Maribor and Ljubljana.
- **By train**: Lendava's small station is not connected to the rest of the Slovenian rail network. Its only passenger trains are a few local services to Čakovec in Croatia. From inside Slovenia, take a train to Murska Sobota, from Ljubljana or Maribor, and then a bus or taxi for the last 30 km. Slovenian Railways
- **By car**: The A5 motorway passes just outside the town on its way from Maribor to the Hungarian border. Lendava is about 200 km from Ljubljana, or around 2 hours. Slovenian motorways need an e-vignette.

Getting around

- **On foot**: the town centre is small and flat, and the castle, churches, synagogue and theatre are all within a 10-minute walk of each other.
- **To the hills**: the Vinarium tower and the Trinity chapel are on the ridge above town. You can drive almost to the top, or walk up through the vineyards: about 2 km and 150 m of climbing, roughly 40 minutes.
- **Cycling**: the plain around Lendava is flat and quiet, and the wine roads in the hills suit e-bikes. Marked routes lead along the Mura and into Hungary.
- **Public transport**: local buses are rare, especially at weekends. For anything outside the town, a car or bike is easier.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The small centre is easy on foot; the Vinarium tower and wine hills above town mean a steep 40-minute climb.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Flat, quiet roads on the plain and across the Hungarian border; the wine hills suit e-bikes.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: For the town itself, no. To reach the hills, the spa at the edge of town and the wider region, a car is the practical choice.
- **Parking**: easy and mostly free in the centre and at the sights. Check the signs for time-limited zones near the main square.
- **Motorway**: the A5 needs an e-vignette, also for short trips to the Hungarian border.

Food & drink

Lendava's signature dish is **bograč**, a spicy stew of several kinds of meat with paprika, onions and potatoes, cooked slowly in a kettle over an open fire. The town calls itself the home of bograč, and you will find it on almost every local menu. Also try prekmurska gibanica, the region's layered cake with poppy seeds, cottage cheese, walnuts and apples, and the fresh white wines of the Lendava Hills.

The most rewarding places to eat are the wine cellars and inns in the hills, where you can combine a meal with a tasting and a view. In town, the cafés and restaurants around the main street and the church square serve both Slovenian and Hungarian dishes.

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

Lendava is very safe, with little crime aimed at tourists. The main risks are outdoors. Ticks live in the grass and woods, so check yourself after walks in the hills. In summer, the heat on the plain can be strong, so carry water when walking up to the Vinarium. Do not swim in the Mura or its side channels, as the current is fast.

History

For most of its history, Lendava belonged to the Kingdom of Hungary. A fortress stood above the town in the Middle Ages, and in 1603 its defenders held it against an Ottoman siege. The Esterházy family later rebuilt it into Lendava Castle. St Catherine's Church followed in the mid-18th century.

Jewish merchants settled in Lendava in the 18th century and became an important part of town life. In 1944 most of the community was deported to Auschwitz. Lendava Synagogue remembers them today.

After the First World War, Lendava became part of the new Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and Hungary occupied it again from 1941 to 1945. Today it is the centre of Slovenia's Hungarian minority. The Makovecz theatre in the centre, built for the Hungarian community, is the most visible sign of that identity.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Slovenia at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

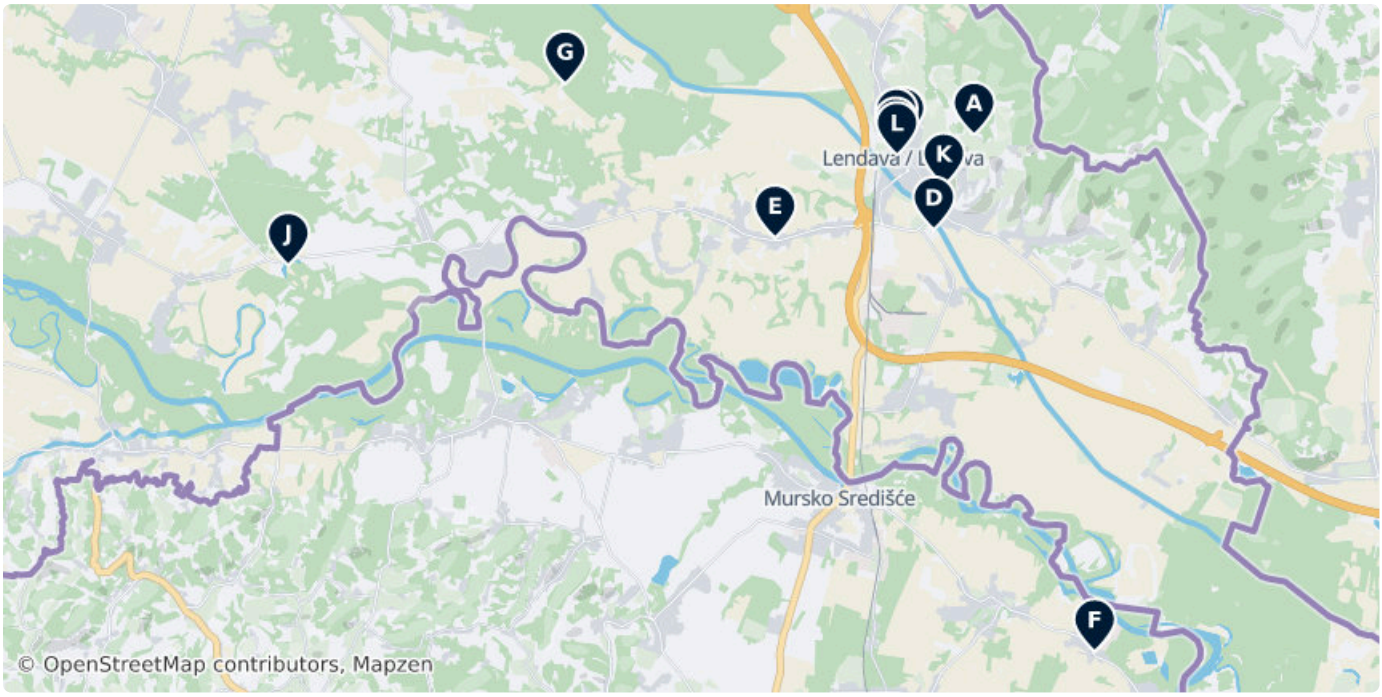
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Slovenian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Best of Lendava

Lendava's essential sights: the Vinarium viewing tower over the Lendava Hills, the hilltop castle, the synagogue, local museums and the thermal spa.





A Vinarium Tower

This 53.5-meter-tall steel observation tower rises above Dolgovaške Gorice, offering wheelchair-accessible panoramic views over the surrounding landscape.

Dolgovaške Gorice, 9220 Lendava / Lendva, Slovenia (46.56758, 16.46825)

vinarium-lendava.si

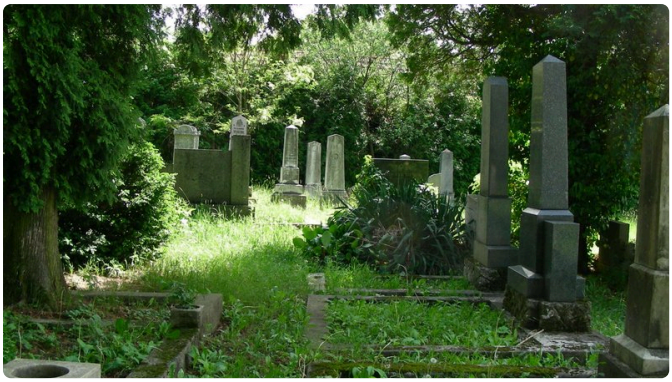


B Dvorec Lendava / Lendavski grad / Lendava Castle

A historic castle set in Lendava, representing one of the key heritage landmarks in Slovenia's easternmost municipality.

Banffyjev trg / Bánffy tér, 9220 Lendava / Lendva, Slovenia (46.56686, 16.45280)

gml.si/sl/kratka-zgodovina-dolnjelendavskega-gradu/



C Sinagoga Lendava

A former synagogue located near the Hungarian border that now serves as a local museum.

9220 Lendava / Lendva, Slovenia (46.56524, 16.45105)

Nov-Mar Mo–Sa	10:00–14:00
Nov-Mar Su	Closed
Apr-Oct Mo–Su	10:00–14:00

sinagoga.gml.si, +386 (0)2 578 92 60

D Terme Lendava

A thermal water park in Lendava offering pools and relaxation facilities.

Tomšičeva ulica / Tomšič utca, 9220 Lendava / Lendva, Slovenia (46.55326, 16.45940)

thermal-lendava.com, +386 (0)2 577 41 00

E Muzej starin

A local history museum located in Gornji Lakoš showcasing regional heritage.

Glavna ulica / Fő utca 22, 9220 Gornji Lakoš (46.55199, 16.42440)

F Centar za posjetitelje Med dvemi vodami

A nature-focused visitor center in Križovec dedicated to the natural heritage between two rivers.

Trg međimurske prirode 1, Križovec (46.48931, 16.49484)

Tu–Fr	08:00–15:00
Sa–Su	10:00–17:00

medjimurska-priroda.info

G Copekov mlin

A traditional water mill situated in the Prekmurje municipality of Velika Polana.

(Unnamed Road), 9225, Slovenia (46.57534, 16.37813)

velika-polana.si/Copekov_mlin.html

H Spominska soba Györgya Zale / Zala György emlékszoba

A memorial museum room in Lendava dedicated to sculptor György Zala.

(46.56676, 16.45282)

gml.si

I Muzej / Múzeum

A town museum on Glavna ulica hosting local cultural and historical exhibitions.

Glavna ulica 52, 9220 Lendava (46.56667, 16.45116)

gml.si



K Cerkev svete Trojice

A Catholic church situated in the hills of Lendavske Gorice.

76 Lendavske Gorice, 9220, Slovenia (46.55989, 16.46158)

zupnija-lendava.si/sl/cerkev-svete-trojice-in-mumija-miha...

J Hotiško Jezero

(Unnamed Road), 9232, Slovenia (46.54785, 16.31709)

L Kulturni center

A cultural center and theatre venue serving the town of Lendava.

9220 Lendava / Lendva, Slovenia (46.56456, 16.45127)

kkl.si

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