
A day in Slovenija: Postojna caves and Predjama castle

Meet your driver in piazzale Roma at 8:30am and in 2 hour we'll reach the Postojna caves in Slovenija and The Predjama castle, the unique castle in the world built into the rock... unmissable!!!



Postojna Cave

The most visited tourist cave in Europe is a place where the proteus or olm offspring are once again hatching. The cave railway has been operating at the cave for 140 years. Predjama Castle is located close to Postojna Cave and is the largest cave castle in the world.



Take a train to the magical underground world

Postojna Cave is the only karst cave with a railway, which was built more than 140 years ago. The unique tourist train will take you to the underground network of karst corridors, galleries and halls. During an hour-and-a-half-long guided tour, you will learn about all of the most important karst features: the largest, 16-metre-high stalagmite known as the Skyscraper, the

crystal white symbol of Postojna Cave – the Brilliant, the oldest underground post office in the world and the most famous underground animal – the olm or the human fish.



The most visited cave

Thus far, more than 38 million visitors from all over the world have seen Postojna Cave. They began their visit at the departure platform of the unique cave railway. A 5-kilometre subterranean trail is available for tourist visits. The train has also been adapted for disabled access.



Visit the baby dragons

It was believed that a dragon lived in Postojna Cave, and that the human fish are its offspring. The only European underground vertebrate and the largest underground predator can live for up to 100 years and can survive more than eight years without food. More than 150 animal species live in the karst caves of Slovenia, the olm or the human fish (*Proteus anguinus*) being the largest. Postojna Cave is the most

biologically diverse cave in the world. One of its corridors features a vivarium, where you can learn about incredible cave animals and their stories. Standing out among them is the historic event in 2016, when people could witness "dragon" hatchlings coming out of olm eggs for the first time in the 200 years the cave has been open to tourists.

Birth of dragons

In May 2016, the first observed hatching of the human fish took place in Postojna Cave. For the first time in the 200-year history of the cave, people could observe these incredible creatures hatch and develop. See why this birth is so significant.

Tour Timetables				
Take a look at the timetables of all our sights and plan your day the way it suits you best. The Postojna Cave Park is open year-round, including on public holidays. Let the adventure begin!				
Postojna Cave Tour Timetable				
EXPLORE THE PARK	POSTOJNA CAVE	PREDIAMA CASTLE	PARK ATTRACTIONS	HOTEL IAMA
March	•	•	•	
April	•	•	•	•
May	•	•	•	•
June	•	•	•	•
July	•	•	•	•
August	•	•	•	•
September	•	•	•	•
October	•	•	•	•
November	•	•	•	
December	•	•	•	

Link to the [CAVES TICKETS](#)

Caves tour duration: 1,5 hrs

Around 12:45/13:00 let's stop for a typical slovenian lunch... once appeased the stomach, let's head to the Predjama castle



Predjama Castle and its hidden cave entrances

Predjama Castle is located in the vicinity of the Postojna Cave and is the largest cave castle in the world. For over 800 years it has been guarding a rock face, 123 metres high. Mysterious underground tunnels connect it with the cave directly beneath. The castle, which has also been a film location,

offered refuge to its legendary owner Erazem Predjamski in the 15th century. This robber knight resisted a siege for over a year in his castle with its incredible appearance and location. Visitors can take a bus between the Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle in order to see both of these attractions.



Knight tournaments and medieval days

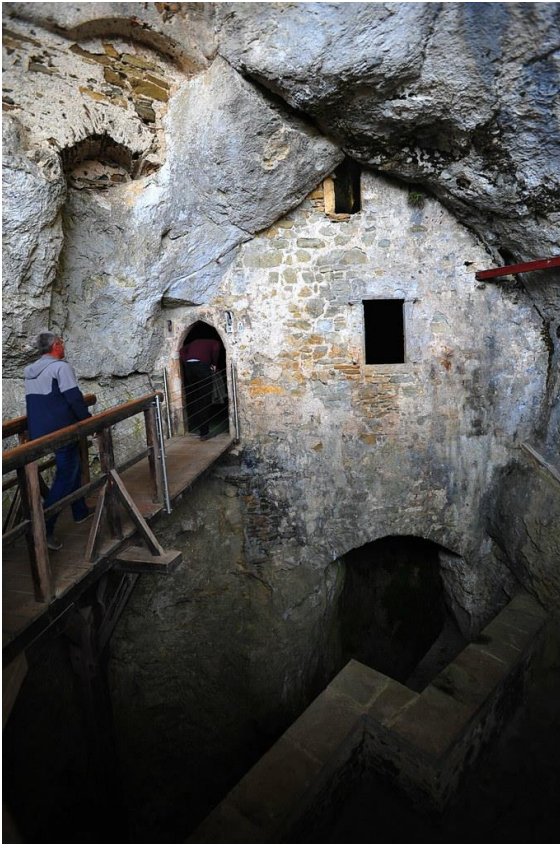
Every summer, Predjama Castle is the location of Erazem's Knight Tournament, in which knights, archers, swordsmen, and horsemen show their fighting abilities and the historic way of life at a knight's encampment. Medieval days, markets, and camps are also organised by many other Slovenian towns with castles.

Predjama Castle Tour Timetable										
	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	–	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00
January		●					●			
February		●					●			
March		●					●			
April		●						●		
May	●								●	
June	●								●	
July	●									●
August	●									●
September	●								●	
October		●						●		
November		●						●		
December		●						●		

Predjama Castle, 9km from Postojna, is one of Europe's most dramatic castles.

It teaches a clear lesson: if you want to build an impregnable fortification, put it in the gaping mouth of a cavern halfway up a 123m cliff. Its four storeys were built piecemeal over the years from 1202, but most of what you see today is from the 16th century. It looks simply unconquerable.

An audioguide (available in 15 languages) details the site's highlights and history. The castle has great features for kids of any age – holes in the ceiling of the entrance tower for pouring boiling oil on intruders, a very dank dungeon, a 16th-century chest full of treasure (unearthed in the cellar in 1991), and an eyrie-like hiding place at the top called **Erazem's Nook**, named for Erazem (Erasmus) Lueger.



Lueger was a 15th-century robber-baron who, like Robin Hood, stole from the rich to give to the poor. During the wars between the Hungarians and the Austrians, Erazem supported the former. He holed up in Predjama Castle and continued his daring deeds with the help of a secret passage that led out from behind the rock wall. In 1484 the Austrian army besieged the castle, but it proved impregnable. Erazem mocked his attackers, even showering them with fresh cherries to prove his comfortable situation. But the Austrians had the last laugh – finally hitting him with a cannonball as he sat on the toilet. An ignoble fate for a dashing character.

The **cave** below the castle is part of the 14km Predjama cave system. It's open to visitors from May to September (but closed in winter so as not to disturb its colony of bats during their hibernation). Another adventure option is to visit the narrow Erazem's Passage, through which the besieged knight was connected with the outside world (some climbing skills are required for this). Tours need to be booked at least three days in advance; caving tours range in price from €24 to €80.



At the end of the visit (about 1hr) let's drive back to Venice and quick stop in Trieste, to enjoy a good coffee (Illy coffee headquarter) in one of the historical coffee-bar in Trieste, **Caffè degli Specchi**

Caffè degli Specchi is on Trieste's main square, Piazza Unità d'Italia, inside Palazzo Stratti, commissioned by the Greek trader Niccolò Stratti.



Founded in 1839, it is the last remaining café of the original four that used to dominate the piazza that was once called **Piazza Grande**. The **atmosphere** inside is reminiscent of the **Habsburg Empire**: having a coffee here makes you feel a bit like **Princess Sissi**.

Caffè degli Specchi has always been considered **Trieste's front parlour**.

Traders, intellectuals, army officers, all met here, also because it was the venue of concerts directed by the young Franz Lehar.



Its **special, enchanting atmosphere**, thanks to which it has been added to the **Listed Buildings of Italy**, takes you back to the times when its tables hosted important writers and famous historical personalities, such as **Joyce and Svevo**.

In the 19th century, the irredentists used to meet at Caffè degli Specchi and after the Second World War it became the **headquarters of the British Navy**.

Caffè degli Specchi witnessed all the big events and historical facts involving Trieste. Its name, which in Italian means "Café of the Mirrors", derives from the tradition of **engraving important historical events on mirrors or sheets of glass**. Unfortunately, today only three mirrors have been preserved.

Recently, the **Peratoner family**, master chocolatiers renowned across Italy, have taken over its management. Therefore... in this historical Italian café, now you can **enjoy coffee and lots of chocolate!**

Tour duration: 11hrs