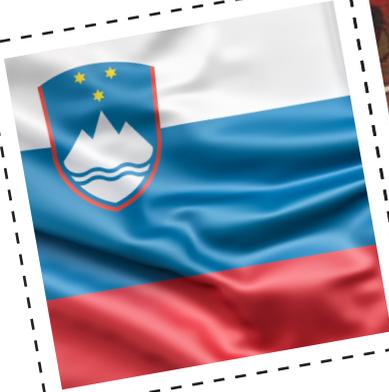
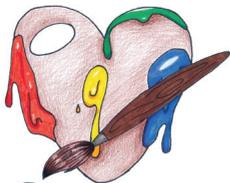


CULTURE IN A BOX
SLOVENIA



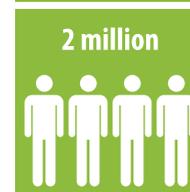
CULTURE IN A BOX
SLOVENIA



art @ heart

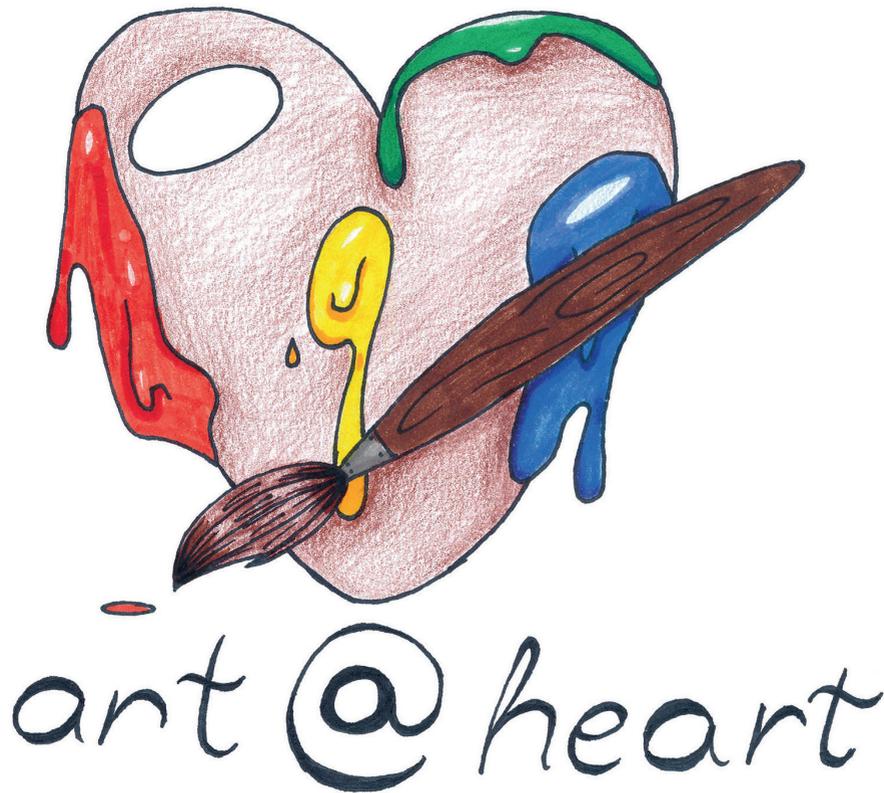
Culture in a Box: Slovenia

A FEW FACTS ABOUT SLOVENIA



Welcome to one of the most diverse countries in the world!

- **SIZE:** 20 273 sq km (11 854 sq km of forests)
- **COASTLINE LENGTH:** 46,6 km
- **BORDER LENGTHS:**
 - Croatia: 546 km
 - Italy: 235 km
 - Austria: 324 km
 - Hungary: 102 km
- **HIGHEST MOUNTAIN:** Triglav 2864 m
- **POPULATION:** 2 million
- **CAPITAL:** Ljubljana (about 1/3 of a million inhabitants city + its outskirts)
- **MAJOR TOWNS:** Maribor, Celje, Kranj
- **LANGUAGE:**
 - The official language is Slovene, as well as Hungarian and Italian in areas of „mixed“ population.
 - English is the most commonly used foreign language. Other foreign languages: German, Italian, French, Spanish . . .
 - Older generations usually don't have any problems to communicate in Croatian, Bosnian, Serbian.
- **CURRENCY:** EURO €



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Radovljica in a Nutshell

The town of Radovljica is situated above the confluence of the rivers **Sava Bohinjka** and the **Sava Dolinka**. It has the largest number of sunny days in the Gorenjska region, so let's hope it's not too cold in November, and sunny during our Art@Heart meeting too!

The town is proud of its numerous preserved monuments of civil engineering, such as the **Church of St. Peter with the vicarage, the manor house with the apicultural museum, the Šivec house and the only preserved defence moat in Slovenia**. You can explore the charming medieval architecture of Radovljica Mansion and stroll past the Secessionist villas. Make sure you take some time off from the project work to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake in **Linhart Square**. You will be accommodated in smaller private facilities, for which Radovljica has a long-standing reputation, Hotel Linhart and Lectar's.

More about Radovljica when we take you for a guided walk around the town.

OH, ONE MORE FACT:

The father of Slovenian theatre **Anton Tomaž Linhart** (1756-1795) was born in Radovljica. We're sure you know his name. Remember? Anton Tomaž Linhart Radovljica Primary School?



All above photographs by Janez Resman

[www. http://www.radolca.si/en/](http://www.radolca.si/en/)

Slovenian Flag



Designed by www.slou.pics/Freepik

SLOVENIAN FLAG DESCRIPTION:

The flag of Slovenia consists of three equal sized horizontal stripes. The top stripe is **white**, the middle **blue** and the bottom stripe is **red**. In the upper left corner of the Slovenian flag, centered between the white and blue stripe, is the country's **coat of arms** which consists of the three-peaked **Triglav Mountain**, the highest mountain in Slovenia, and **three yellow stars**.

SLOVENIAN FLAG MEANING:

The three stars on the coat of arms symbolize Slovenian independence and were adopted from the arms of the former 15th century Slovenian Duchy of Celje. The duchy unsuccessfully attempted to obtain independence from Austro-Hungarian rule. The two wavy blue lines at the bottom of the mountain represent the country's rivers flowing into the sea. Blue, white and red are traditional Slavic colors and together they make up the pan-Slavic colors. They were initially adopted by Slavic nations in the mid-19th century and were influenced by the flag of Russia; which was an independent Slavic country at the time. The colours now stand for Slavic unity and independence and can be seen in the flags of most Slavic nations.

SLOVENIAN FLAG HISTORY:

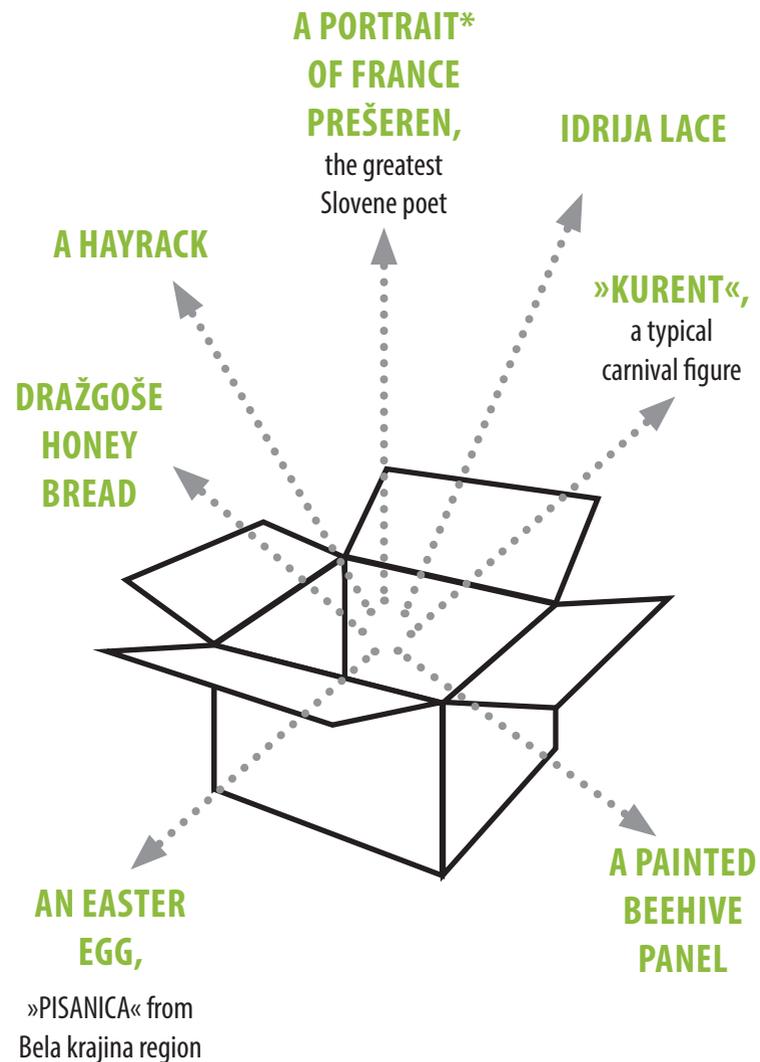
The Slovenian flag was adopted on **June 7, 1991**. The Slovenian white, blue and red colours originated with Slovenian nationalists in 1848, when Slovenia was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. When the Austro-Hungarian kingdom collapsed after the First World War Slovenia merged with other Slavic states in 1918 to form a union that would become Yugoslavia. **Slovenia gained independence from Yugoslavia in 1992.**

INTERESTING SLOVENIAN FLAG FACTS:

Slovenian artist Marko Pogačnik created the country's coat of arms in 1991. Because the Slovenian flag is similar to the flags of Russia and Slovakia there have been numerous attempts to change it, but as of October, 2004, no change had occurred.

[www. <http://www.worldflags101.com/s/slovenia-flag.aspx>](http://www.worldflags101.com/s/slovenia-flag.aspx)

So, what is our culture box?



* <http://www.preseren.net/ang/default.asp>

Beehive Panels

Slovenia is the only European Union Member State to have protected its native bee, the **Carniolan bee (*Apis mellifera carnica*)**. The Carniolan bee is famed for its docility, hard work, humility and excellent sense of orientation. So it is this bee that is one of the rare internationally recognised and protected features of our country.



source: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f5/Apis_mellifera_carnica_worker_hive_entrance_2.jpg

This breed of bee is regarded as the second most widespread bee breed in the world. For this reason special attention is devoted to preserving and cultivating the pure Carniolan bee, which is also regarded as part of the natural and cultural heritage of Slovenia.

THE ART OF PAINTING BEEHIVE PANELS

Painted beehive panels are a part of our cultural heritage and we are very proud of them.

Painted beehive panels are not known anywhere else in the world. The beginnings of this folk art can be traced back to the **middle of the 18th century**.

The smooth wooden panels on the front of bee houses posed a challenge for numerous **folk artists**, and this gave rise to fascinating images that turned simple bee houses into veritable open-air art galleries. The pictures on individual bee houses of course also helped the bees in their orientation, and made it easier for the beekeeper to remember individual houses.



source: www.panjske-koncice.com

FACT:

In Slovenia we produce around 2 000 tons of honey a year, which is sufficient for domestic needs, and when the year is particularly good, some honey can also be exported.

Hayrack

A hayrack (Slovene: **kozolec**) is a freestanding vertical **drying rack** found chiefly in Slovenia. Hayracks are permanent structures, primarily made of wood, upon which fodder for animals is dried, although their use is not limited to drying hay.

Other food stuffs such as field maize are dried on them as well. Although it is a practical structure, a hayrack is often **artistically designed** and handcrafted and is regarded by Slovenes as a distinctive form of vernacular architecture that marks Slovene identity.



source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hayrack>

source: www.en.wiktionary.org

Idrija Lace

For centuries, Idrija lace has been a **synonym for quality, prestige** and an established reputation. The deeply rooted values that are expressed in Idrija lace are highly discernable and alluring.

It is not known precisely when and from where lacemaking skills came to Idrija; however, it is probably true that the lacemaking craft was brought to our parts by the wives of miners and mining experts from German and Czech lands who came to work in the Idrija mine.



source: <http://www.sloveniaholidays.com/eng/idrija-lace-idrija.html>

The beginnings of lacemaking in Slovenia date back to the **16th century**. The frescoes found in some churches (Crngrob, St. Primož above Kamnik) testify to the widespread popularity of the lacemaking craft, as later described by the Slovenian polymath Janez Vajkard Valvasor in his famous book, *The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola* (1689). The oldest written source revealing the existence of this craft in Slovenia dates from 1696 and speaks of lace and lacemakers from Idrija.

Kurent

Kurentovanje is one of the most ethnologically significant **Slovenian carnival festivals**. It is celebrated in Ptuj on Shrove Sunday in the afternoon and **visited by more than 100,000 people every year**. The main figure, called Kurent or Korent, wears a **massive sheepskin garment** and a **chain with huge bells** around its waist, resulting in the noise the function of which is to **“chase away winter”**. The ten-day rite of spring and fertility is most likely connected to Slovene mythology and Slavic paganism. By the end of Carnival a Kurent will have collected many handkerchiefs (given by girls & women) which he carries tied around the club.



KURENT OR KORANT - THE MAIN CARNIVAL FIGURE

Kurent or Korant is the most famous traditional carnival figure of the entire region, and arguably, the most recognizable in all of Slovenia. While Kurent groups might not all look

exactly the same, it is the most popular and frequent traditional carnival figure in the Ptuj and Drava fields, and in the Haloze Hills.

Kurent or Korant, as it is known today, has its origin in popular tradition. Traditionally, the Kurent's outfit was reserved for unmarried men, but nowadays Kurent-Korant can be unmarried or married men, as well as well women and children.

The two types of Slovene Kurent-Korant are the so-called »feathery« (from the town of Markovci) and the »horned« ones (from Haloze), with the difference being mainly in the look of the head covering. The Kurent-Korant wears a massive sheepskin garment. Around its waist hangs a chain with huge bells attached—the resulting noise does a great job of chasing away winter, which is, ostensibly, the Kurent's function. The Korent also wears heavy boots and special red or green leg warmers, while the head is covered by a towering furry hat festooned with ribbons, and a mask typically sporting a long, red tongue. A wooden club is normally carried in the left hand.

source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurentovanje#Kurent_or_Korant_-_the_main_carnival_figure

France Prešeren, the greatest Slovene poet (1800-1849)



by France Mihelič (1907-1998)

France Prešeren (pronounced *fran 'tse pre 'ʃe:rən*) was born on 3 December 1800 in Vrba, a small village near Radovljica. He died on 8 February 1849 in Kranj.

He was a 19th-century Romantic poet, best known as the poet who has inspired virtually all the later Slovene literature and has been generally acknowledged as the GREATEST SLOVENE (classical) POET.

His poems have been translated into English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, Slovak, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Bengali, as well as to all the languages of former Yugoslavia, and in 2013 a complete collection of his "Poezije" (Poems) was translated to French.

www.

If you would like to learn more about France Prešeren and listen to his poems go to <http://www.preseren.net/ang/default.asp>

A PART OF HIS POEM A TOAST IS SLOVENE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The following is the official lyrics of the seventh stanza of Zdravljica:

Žive naj vsi narodi
Ki hrepene dočakat' dan
Da koder sonce hodi
Prepir iz sveta bo pregnan
Da rojak
Prost bo vsak
Ne vrag, le sosed bo mejak!

Official translation (from 1954):

God's blessing on all nations
Who long and work for that bright day
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway
Who long to see
That all men free
No more shall foes, but neighbours be!

And a more literal translation:

Long life to all the nations
That yearn (desiderium) to see the day
When wheresoever the Sun walks,
strife shall be banished from the world.
When every kinsman
shall be free

And not a devil but a neighbor shall the adjoining-land's dweller be!

ZDRAVLJICA

Spet trte so rodile,
prijat' lji, vince nam sladko,
ki nam oživlja žile,
srce razjasni in oko,
ki utopi
vse skrbi,
v potrlih prsih up budi.

Komu najpred veselo
zdravljico, bratje, č'mo zapet'?
Bog našo nam deželo,
Bog živi ves slovenski svet,
brate vse,
kar nas je
sinov sloveče matere!

V sovražnike `z oblakov
rodu naj naš'ga trešči grom!
Prost, ko je bil očakov,
naprej naj bo Slovencev dom;
naj zdrobe
njih roke
si spono, ki jim še teže!

A TOAST

(Translated by Janko Lavrin)

The vintage, friends, is over,
And here sweet wine makes, once again,
Sad eyes and hearts recover,
Puts fire in every vein,
Drowns dull care
Everywhere
And summons hope out of despair.

To whom with acclamation
And song shall we our first toast give?
God save our land and nation
And all Slovenes where'er they live,
Who own the same
Blood and name,
And who one glorious Mother claim.

Let thunder out of heaven
Strike down and smite our wanton foe!
Now, as it once had thriven,
May our dear realm in freedom grow.
Let fall the last
Chains of the past
Which bind us still and hold us fast!

source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthem_of_the_Slovene_nation

Edinost, sreča, sprava
k nam naj nazaj se vrnejo!
Otrok, kar ima Slava,
vsi naj si v roke sežejo,
da oblast
in z njo čast,
ko pred, spet naša bosta last!

Bog živi vas, Slovenke,
prelepe, žlahtne rožice!
Ni take je mladenke,
ko naše je krvi dekle;
naj sinov
zarod nov
iz vas bo strah sovražnikov!

Mladen'či, zdaj se pije
zdravljica vaša, vi naš up!
Ljubezni domačije
noben naj vam ne usmrti strup;
ker po nas
bode vas
jo srčno branit' klical čas!

Žive naj vsi narodi
ki hrepene dočakat' dan,
da koder sonce hodi,
prepir iz sveta bo pregnan,
da rojak
prost bo vsak,
ne vrag, le sosed bo mejak!

Let peace, glad conciliation,
Come back to us throughout the land!
Towards their destination
Let Slavs henceforth go hand-in-hand!
Thus again
Will honour reign
To justice pledged in our domain.

To you, our pride past measure,
Our girls! Your beauty, charm and grace!
here surely is no treasure
To equal maidens of such race.
Sons you'll bear,
Who will dare
Defy our foe no matter where.

Our hope now, our to-morrow -
Our youth - we toast and toast with joy.
No poisonous blight or sorrow
Your love of homeland shall destroy.
With us indeed
You're called to heed
Its summons in this hour of need.

God's blessing on all nations,
Who long and work for that bright day,
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;
Who long to see
That all men free
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.

Nazadnje še, prijat'lji,
kozarec zase vzdignimo,
ki smo zato se zbrat'li,
ker dobro v srcu mislimo.
Dokaj dni
naj živi
Bog, kar nas dobrih je ljudi!

At last to our reunion -
To us the toast! Let it resound,
Since in this gay communion
By thoughts of brotherhood we're bound.
May joyful cheer
Ne'er disappear
From all good hearts now gathered here.



Dražgoše Honey Bread



These hand made figurative and ornamental honey breads are made of thick honey dough and spices. They are a traditional gift and today are baked as a souvenir.

The honey breads resemble gingerbread at first glance. However, they are made using local honey rather than ginger, and their recipe has remained unchanged for centuries.

source: <http://www.slovenia.info/?recepti=9347&lng=1>



source: www.slovenia.info

Easter Egg

PISANICA – A TYPICAL EASTER EGG FROM BELA KRAJINA REGION



(source: https://www.napovednik.com/dogodek288000_velikonocni_eggstorming_-_delavnica_izdelave)

“**Belokranjska Pisanica**” Easter egg is one of the most beautiful traditional Easter egg varieties in Slovenia. The wax ornaments are drawn with a special pen-like tool. The wax gets melted above a candle flame. First the wax ornaments are drawn, then the egg is painted in red, more wax ornaments are painted on the egg shell and then finally the egg is dipped in black colour.

Pisanica Easter eggs have become a symbol of our cultural heritage and one of the most recognizable Easter traditions in Slovenia.

[www. !\[\]\(15d3dfb11951c9197b3fa51927099453_img.jpg\) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpHbruz18CU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpHbruz18CU)



CULTURE IN A BOX **SLOVENIA**



ANTON TOMAŽ LINHART RADOVLJICA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kranjska cesta 27, 4240 Radovljica, Slovenia

Phone: 04 533 75 00

E-mail: o-atlr.kr@guest.arnes.si

Web page: www.os-atl.si