

Pesnica pri Mariboru

The village is located in North-East Slovenia near Austrian border. In 2014 it had population of 7.550 inhabitants.

The village began to evolve with the arrival of the railway in the 19th century, and even more so after World War II. After 1945, Pesnica developed into the center of western Slovenske gorice. From a rural place where farmers grew mainly fruits, vegetables and potatoes, it has developed into one of the most important places in northern Slovenia, north of the river Pesnica. It became the seat of political power first in the People's Committees, then in the Municipality of Maribor Pesnica, then in the old Municipality of Pesnica, and finally the seat of the new Municipality of Pesnica. The village is also the seat of the Pesnica Administrative Unit, the administrative unit of western Slovenske gorice. The primary school and kindergarten were built by the Germans during the war, and later many clubs, societies and organizations developed. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia also ordered the set up of the Styrian Technology Park in Pesnica.



Maribor

It is the second largest city in Slovenia, the capital of the traditional province of Styria and the center of the Municipality of Maribor. It is considered to be the economic, financial, administrative, educational, cultural, commercial and tourist center of northeastern Slovenia. It is the seat of the University of Maribor and the Archdiocese of Maribor. Maribor is the seat of the Podravina Statistical Region and the Eastern Cohesion Region. It lies at 274.7 m above sea level [3], 15 ° 39 '12 "longitude, and 46 ° 33' 39" latitude. Maribor enjoys a very favorable position at the crossroads of important European routes, along the Drava River, between Pohorje, Kozjak and Slovenske gorice, between the Drava Valley and the Drava Field. Maribor was first mentioned as a castle in 1164, as a settlement in 1209, and as a city in 1254. Due to its favorable strategic location, it quickly developed and became an important industrial center by the 20th century. After Slovenia gained independence in 1991, Maribor fell into an economic crisis. In 2000, Maribor was the Alpine City of the Year, in 2012 the European Capital of Culture and the European Rafting City, in 2013 the European Capital of Youth, and in 2018 the European City of Sports.

The town developed along the Drava River, below the castle there. The first mention of the castle dates back to 1164.

The castle was called Marchburg, which translates as a castle in the mark (the mark was a border county).



The castle stood on the Pyramid Hill, just above the town.

The settlement did not arise under the fort itself; first because of the landing below the castle and secondly because of the heavily swampy southwestern area.

The first mention of the settlement Maribor dates from 1204. The market standing next to the castle is mentioned. In 1254 the market was granted city rights. With the victory of Rudolf Habsburg over Otokar II. in 1278 the city began to develop rapidly. Maribor defied the siege of Matthias Corvinus in 1480 and 1481 and the siege of the Ottoman Empire in 1532 and 1683.

The city remained under the authority of the Habsburg Monarchy until 1918.

Before World War II, Maribor was the fastest developing city in the country. Industrial plants in Melje dominated, where many important industrial plants still stand today. However, during the Second World War, when occupied by the occupier, Allied bombers bombed it to become one of the most destroyed cities in Yugoslavia, with as many as 47% of all buildings destroyed. Most of the damage suffered was repaired in the 1950s.



Partisan units entered Maribor on the evening of May 8, 1945, and OF took control. The last German troops left the city on the morning of May 9, and were still firing during the retreat. The official celebration of liberation was only on May 13 at the Freedom Square, where thousands of Maribor citizens gathered. Maribor exiles, internment camps, mobilizers and other victims of the war have begun to return. World War II claimed more than 2,600 deaths in Maribor.

Jewish community:

In the Middle Ages, the city was the center of the Jewish community in the area. The first mention of Maribor Jews dates back to 1277, when they wrote that they lived in a Jewish ghetto. The ghetto was located in the southeastern part of the city and at its peak comprised a large number of streets and part of the city center, as well as part of the main square. There was a synagogue, a Jewish cemetery and a Talmudic school in the ghetto. The community was most important around 1410. After 1450, circumstances changed dramatically due to increased competition, and in the context of the economic crisis at the time, this was a severe blow to their economic strength. With the decree of Maximilian I. in 1496, they had to leave the city. Restrictions on the residence and functioning of Jews remained until 1861.

Following the attack on Yugoslavia on 6 April 1941, the German army occupied Maribor on 8 April. Like most of northern Slovenia, it belonged to the German occupation zone. On April 26, 1941, Adolf Hitler, leader of the German Reich, visited Maribor. In Maribor Castle he met with the Maribor Nazi leadership, and then visited the ruined Old Bridge. In addition to Paris, Maribor was the only city outside of the German Reich that Hitler personally visited. On April 28, 1941, at the Sturmabteilung meeting in Maribor, the governor of Styria, Siegfried Uiberreither, said that Hitler had already given him the order before the occupation: "Make me this country again German!" ("Machen Sie mir dieses Land wieder deutsch!").

The Maribor Synagogue is one of the oldest preserved synagogues in Europe and one of two still preserved in Slovenia.

The city still has remains reminiscent of the Jewish community, including Jewish Street and Jewish Tower.

Culture in Maribor:

The Lent Festival takes place every year during the summer in Maribor. It is the largest outdoor festival in Slovenia and one of the largest in Europe.

Maribor is also known for the Borštnik Meeting, the most important festival of professional theaters in Slovenia.

Cultural institutions

In terms of geographical size, Maribor is culturally well developed. Most cultural institutions are located in the center. Among the most important are the Slovenian National Theater - SNG Maribor, Maribor National House, Maribor Castle, which houses the Maribor Regional Museum, which offers at one place collected archeology, ethnology and broader cultural history in the Maribor region and its surroundings, Maribor Art Gallery, Udarnik Cinema, which offers events and exhibitions, Maribor National Liberation Museum with museum collections with more than 10,000 museums. The Maribor Provincial Archive keeps 16 kilometers of archival material relating to Styria, Carinthia and Prekmurje.



Ljubljana

It is the capital of the Republic of Slovenia and the seat of the municipality of the same name, the most populated municipality in Slovenia. It is the geographical, cultural, scientific, economic, political and administrative center of the country. Throughout history, Ljubljana has been influenced by several cultures, as it was at the crossroads of Germanic, Romance and Slavic nations, their languages, customs and customs. It is the least populated city.

Ljubljana's transport links, industry densities, scientific and research institutions and commercial traditions are factors that have contributed to its leading economic position. Ljubljana is the seat of the central government, public administration and all ministries in Slovenia. It is also the seat of the Slovenian National Assembly, the Slovenian Government and the President of Slovenia, the largest university, the National Museum, the Slovenian Ethnographic Museum, the National and Modern Gallery and the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts.



According to legend, the first settlement at the place where Ljubljana stands today was founded by the Argonauts, or the ancient Greek hero

Jason, who stole King Aites' golden fleece, then fled with his comrades in front of the pursuers aboard the Argo, traveling across the Black Sea, and then across the Danube and the Sava all the way to the Ljubljanica River. Here the Argonauts were to dismantle the ship, transfer it by land between two waterways, and thus reach the Adriatic Sea. On the way to the sea, at the source of the Ljubljanica River, they stopped at a large lake on a swamp where the monster lived. Jason tackled her, defeating her and killing her. This monster is supposed to be the Ljubljana dragon, which is today a recognizable symbol of the city and also appears in the Ljubljana city coat of arms, but only from the Baroque period onwards.



Around 2000 BC and formerly, the marshes were inhabited by the Ljubljana Marshes. They lived on bridges or piles, wooden settlements on wheels, crammed into the bottom of marshes or lakes. They were transported in boats called saplings that were carved out of individual trunks. They also made the first bicycle carts. They survived through harvesting, hunting, fishing, livestock breeding and primitive farming. Later, among the Indo-European peoples, the area of present-day Ljubljana was settled by the Illyrians, then the Illyrian-Celtic tribe of the Japods, and in the 3rd century, the Basin of Ljubljana was settled by the Celtic Tavriski. Archeological findings of the culture of barbecue burial grounds on the castle hill, and all the way to the Kazina confirm the larger settlement in the Ljubljana area. Before the 1st century BC when occupied by the Romans, the Basin of Ljubljana was part of the Norik kingdom.

The Roman name for Ljubljana was Emona. Around year 50 AD, the settlement became a Roman military camp, fortified with masonry. The settlement was a strategic outpost and played an important role in many wars. It counted between 5,000 and 6,000 residents, mostly merchants and artisans, as well as government officials and war veterans. The streets were paved, the houses were built, equipped with public sewage, central heating. Several water supply lines were brought into the city. Better houses had painted walls of larger rooms and mosaic floors. Emona developed into an important early Christian center with a diocese and a developed store.



With the collapse of the Western Roman Empire and the subsequent migration of peoples, Roman Emona also collapsed. In 452, it was demolished by the Huns under Attila's command, later ravaged by the East Goths and Langobards.)

The Slavic ancestors gradually immigrated to the area at the end of the 6th century. About three centuries later, despite the ongoing Hungarian invasions, the area passed under Frankish administration. The first written references to Ljubljana as a medieval settlement date back to the period between 1112 and 1125, when Rudolf of Tarcent granted the Aquileian capital a smaller estate at Ljubljana Castle. Later, the area of the Ljubljana Basin passed into the hands of relatives of the Carinthian dukes of Spanheim. The designation of Luwigan as a precursor to today's name first appears in 1144. In the 13th century, Ljubljana at that time consisted of three

gradually protected and separated nuclei: the Old, the City (the first walled) and the New Square, into which five gates led, connected by the Lower (Špitalski) and Upper (Shoemaker) Bridge. Gothic churches with their bell towers rose among the standing houses. By acquiring town rights in 1220, the castle was also able to forge their own money, and the city eventually took over the primacy of Kranj and Kamnik and became the capital of the Carniola region.

In 1270 the city was occupied by the Czech king Otokar II. Přemysl. When defeated by Rudolf Habsburg, the city came under his authority in 1278. The city of Habsburg officially renamed the city Laibach and granted him 39 trade and other privileges. In 1461, with the founding of the diocese at the Church of Sts. Nikolai became a chair. With the exception of the time of the Illyrian Provinces (1809 to 1813), Ljubljana was their capital until the end of the First World War.

Under Napoleon's occupation (1809-1813), the city was the capital of the Illyrian Provinces. One of the official languages has become Slovenian.

In the first half of the 19th century, the banks of the Ljubljanica River were partly renovated and new stone and iron bridges were erected. At that time, the poet France Prešeren was also working in Ljubljana. In 1849 he brought the first train from Vienna, and eight years later the southern railway was completed, and thus the connection with Trieste was completed.



In 1895, a city with 30,000 inhabitants suffered a devastating earthquake with a magnitude of 6.1 on the Richter scale, which destroyed 10% of the approximately 1,400 buildings. Similar to the earthquake of 1511, the city was rebuilt in then typical styles, especially the Art Nouveau style. It was renovated mainly by Austrian and Czech architects in the neo-classicist and secessionist style (see also Art Nouveau in Ljubljana).

After the collapse of Austria-Hungary in 1918, Ljubljana was an important city in the country, later the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. In 1929, Ljubljana became the seat of the Dravska Banovina in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. During the Kingdom, the University (1919), the National Gallery (1918) and the Academy of Sciences and Arts (1938) were founded.

In the mid-1930s, new settlements were built in Poljane and Bežigrad, following modern, functionalist views. In the period between the wars, the image of the city was most clearly shaped by the architect Jože Plečnik, whose seal is so strong that the architectural period was given the name Plečnikova Ljubljana.

After the Second World War it became the capital of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia within Yugoslavia. Due to better economic status, many new townspeople immigrated to the city, which led to the expansion and construction of many residential neighborhoods.



The independence of Slovenia was proclaimed in Ljubljana on 25 June 1991, the center and capital of which is today. The city of the capital is guaranteed by the constitution, of which Article 10 states: "The capital of Slovenia is Ljubljana."

In 2010, Ljubljana was proclaimed the World Book Capital, among other things, a new stadium and hall were built at Stožice Sports Park. Numerous interventions, the development of new pedestrian paths and green spaces have helped make Ljubljana the 2016 European Capital of Culture.

Postojna cave

The cave was first described in the 17th century by the pioneer of study of karst phenomena, Johann Weikhard von Valvasor, although graffiti inside dated to 1213 indicates a much longer history of use. In 1818, when the cave was being prepared for a visit by Francis I, the first Emperor of the Austria-Hungary, a new area of the cave was discovered accidentally by local Luka Čeč. In the 1850s, the Austrian-Czech geographer Adolf Schmidl published the first comprehensive scientific overview of the Postojna caves and the Pivka Basin, which became a standard reference point in the study of speleology.

In 1819, Archduke Ferdinand visited the caves, this is when the caves became officially known as a tourist destination. Čeč became the first official tourist guide for the caves when the caves were opened to the public. Electric lighting was added in 1884, preceding even Ljubljana, the capital of Carniola, of which the cave was part at the time, and further enhancing the cave system's popularity.

In 1872, cave rails were laid along with first cave train for tourists. At first, these were pushed along by the guides themselves, later at the beginning of the 20th century a gas locomotive was introduced.

During World War I, Russian prisoners of war were forced to construct a bridge across a large chasm inside the cave.



During World War II, German occupying forces used the cave to store nearly 1,000 barrels of aircraft fuel, which were destroyed in April 1944 by Slovene Partisans. The fire burned for seven days, destroying a large section of the cave and blackening the entrance.

After 1945, the gas locomotive was replaced by an electric one. About 5.3 kilometres (3.3 mi) of the cave system are open to the public.

At the end of the 1990s it was one of world's most visited show caves, with nearly 1 million tourists per year.



In June 2015 the cave administration reported that cave divers managed to explore a further underwater section of the cave leading towards Planina Cave, thus lengthening the cave system from 20,570 m (67,490 ft) to 24,120 m (79,130 ft). The cave also houses the world's only underground post office.

Postojna Cave was carved by the Pivka River over millions of years. There are stalagmites, stalactites, and formations called curtains or draperies that look like folded curtains.

The cave system is 24.12 kilometers (14.99 mi) long and is made up of four caves interconnected through the same underground river. However, according to speleology rules, the passages and siphons connecting the caves must be walked or swum through by man for them to be considered one whole. Connecting two of the main cave systems will make this the longest cave system in Slovenia and one of the longest in all of Europe. There remain 400 meters (1,300 ft) between the two caves, which would make the cave system between 31,000 meters (102,000 ft) and 35,000 meters (115,000 ft) long.

The caves are also home to the endemic olm, the largest trogloidytic amphibian in the world. The tour through the caves includes an aquarium with some olms in it. On January 30, 2016, a female olm at the cave began to lay over 50 eggs. This rare event led to global news about Postojna Cave and the olm. From the end of May to mid-July 2016, twenty-two baby olms successfully hatched. Karst topography refers to a plateau in southwestern Slovenia and northeastern Italy, which gave the name to karst topography.

The exhibition "EXPO Postojna Cave Karst" was opened in April 2014. It is the largest permanent exhibition about the cave and karst phenomena around the world. The exhibition features interactive presentations about the history of the tourism-related development of the cave. Visitors learn about karst phenomena through projections of various material onto a three-dimensional model, discover the special features of the karst environment, and learn about historic events at Postojna Cave on the Wall of Fame. The exhibition is of interest to both the general public and experts. Children are interactively guided through the exhibition by an olm and a slenderneck beetle, and can ride a cave train by themselves.



Ptuj

Ptuj (old name Optuj, Latin Poetovio, German Pettau) is the city and center of Ptuj municipality. It is called the oldest city in Slovenia, which is a doubtful fact, since prehistoric settlements were not towns, medieval privileges older than Ptuj are at least a dozen cities. The area of the city was inhabited as late as the Stone Age, and in Roman antiquity the Poetovio fort developed from the military camp in the first century. The medieval part of the city leaned against the foot of Castle Hill. Past Ptuj, there was also a historically important crossing over the Drava, where a trade route between the Baltic and the Adriatic Sea called the Amber Route took place.



Around 15 BC the ancient Celtic settlement came under Roman rule and was included in the military province of Illyria, before that Petovion was part of the kingdom of Noricum, and in the years 6 - 9 it was part of Pannonia. The Romans dated around 15 AD. no. The town was first settled on the right bank of the Drava, where a military camp was erected, and gradually extended to the left bank, where artisan quarters (remains of a Roman furnace) and wealthier quarters with villas (Vičava, Bratje Reš) were created. Year 69 is considered as the first written mention of Ptuj. Tacitus writes about the consecration of Pannonian military commanders in Camp XIII. the Roman legions of Gemina.

Due to their location on the outskirts of the empire, VIII also had its seat in Ptuj three times. legion of Augustus and XIII. the Gemina legion. During the Pax Roman era, the Roman Legion numbered 5,120 Legionnaires and was usually supported by an equal number of auxiliary troops. The more prestigious legions and those stationed at the border of the empire or in troubled provinces aspired to have more auxiliaries. Thus, some legions were briefly reinforced by 15,000-16,000 troops. From this, they also conclude that Poetovio could have, to the greatest extent possible, with the presence of both legions, over 100,000 people at the same time.



Around 103, the city was given civil administration and the status of a colony named Colonia Ulpia Traiana Poetovio after Emperor Trajan. In 117 - 138, the time of Emperor Hadrian, a stone bridge over the Drava was built. In the 2nd century, the Orpheus Monument was erected in memory of Mayor Marcus Valerius. In the middle of the second century, they place the 1st Mithraeus.

Poetovio became the most important and largest Roman city in Slovenia in the 3rd century. The city had a population of 10,000, with a population of around 30,000 and was even larger than London with 15,000 (Londinium) and Vienna with 15-20,000 (Vindobona). In the meantime, Petoviona becomes the seat of the diocese. On November 2, 303, Bishop Victor of Ptuj (St. Victor of Ptuj) dies. Viktorin Ptujski is the first commentator of the Bible, who according to St. Hieronimo was tortured and died here during the persecution of Emperor Diocletian in Ptuj.

In 379, the bishop of Ptuj, Julius Valens Ptuj, handed over to the Goths.

449 the Prophet Romulus was in the court of Attila. In the letter, he mentions Tatul's son Orest (Attila's secret clerk), who married Romulus's daughter, born in Poetovion and was the mother of the last Roman emperor Romulus Augustus (476).



Around 452, the Huns, on their way to Italy, ravage Poetovia. In 473 the Eastern Goths left Ptuj, in 476 the Western Roman Empire collapsed.

From 568 to 590 Slavs settled in the area. In 795 Ptuj came under Frankish rule. In 811, the Drava was designated as the border between the Archdiocese of Salzburg and the Patriarchate of Aquileia.

Between 840 and 874 Ptuj became the property of the Pannonian princes Pribina and Koclja. Kocelj begins to build a church in the town on the site of today's church of Sv. It was consecrated in 874. This makes Ptuj the seat of the parish and the place of regular fairs. The city remained in the hands of Ogrov until 970. Since 977 Ptuj has owned the Archdiocese of Salzburg.

In the early Middle Ages, Slavic settlements probably stood on the southern slope. According to written sources, in the 9th century two churches were to stand in the area of the Church of the Holy See and south of Prešeren Street. In 1132, written sources mention Frederick, Mr Ptujski, who, as the minister of Salzburg, became the owner of large estates in Styria. In 1147 the Archbishop of Salzburg Konrad I (1106-1147) rebuilt the castle on the Castle Hill, on the foundations of the old fallen. In the 13th century, the city already has all the important buildings: in addition to the castle, the Dominican monastery (1230) and the Upper palace (Mali grad), the Lower palace, and in the second half of the century also the Minorite monastery and the parish church of St. Yuri. Around 1250 Ptuj gains the status of a town and is surrounded by walls. From 1273 there is the oldest city seal with the image of St. George on horseback and the inscription "+ SIGILLVM * CI * UITATIS * DE * BETOVIA".

Between 1286 and 1494 a strong Jewish community lived in Ptuj. They had their street, synagogue, cemetery, school and their judge. In 1496, the emperor Maximilian I expelled them from Ptuj forever. In 1315, the first city hospital for the supply of poor burghers was established. The catastrophic flood of 1349 demolishes a stone bridge, and a new wooden one is laid downstream towards the city center. In 1376, the Archbishop of Salzburg, Pilgrim Puchheim Ptuj, endorsed the town rights and statute, which is thus considered the oldest legal document of this kind in Slovenia. In 1479 Ptuj again falls into the hands of Ogrom. In 1511, Emperor Maximilian I sold Ptuj to the Archbishop of Salzburg, who reaffirmed the city statute.



On September 22, 1532, the army of Suleiman I. the Magnificent passes by Ptuj, but he does not attack the city, robbing only the surroundings. After the end of the Turkish threat, the city begins to redevelop and rebuild. In 1551, the town's coat of arms is given a place: the red cross of St. George in the middle of the silver coat of arms. On St. In June 1555, Emperor Ferdinand purchased the city of Ptuj from the Archdiocese of Salzburg and for many centuries became the imperial-royal provincial-princely city.

The city is in the 14th century. got a complete wall with defensive towers, which was upgraded in the 16th century because of Turkish danger by Italian builders. Of the many towers, only the Drava Tower is preserved. The tower houses the Mihelic Gallery.

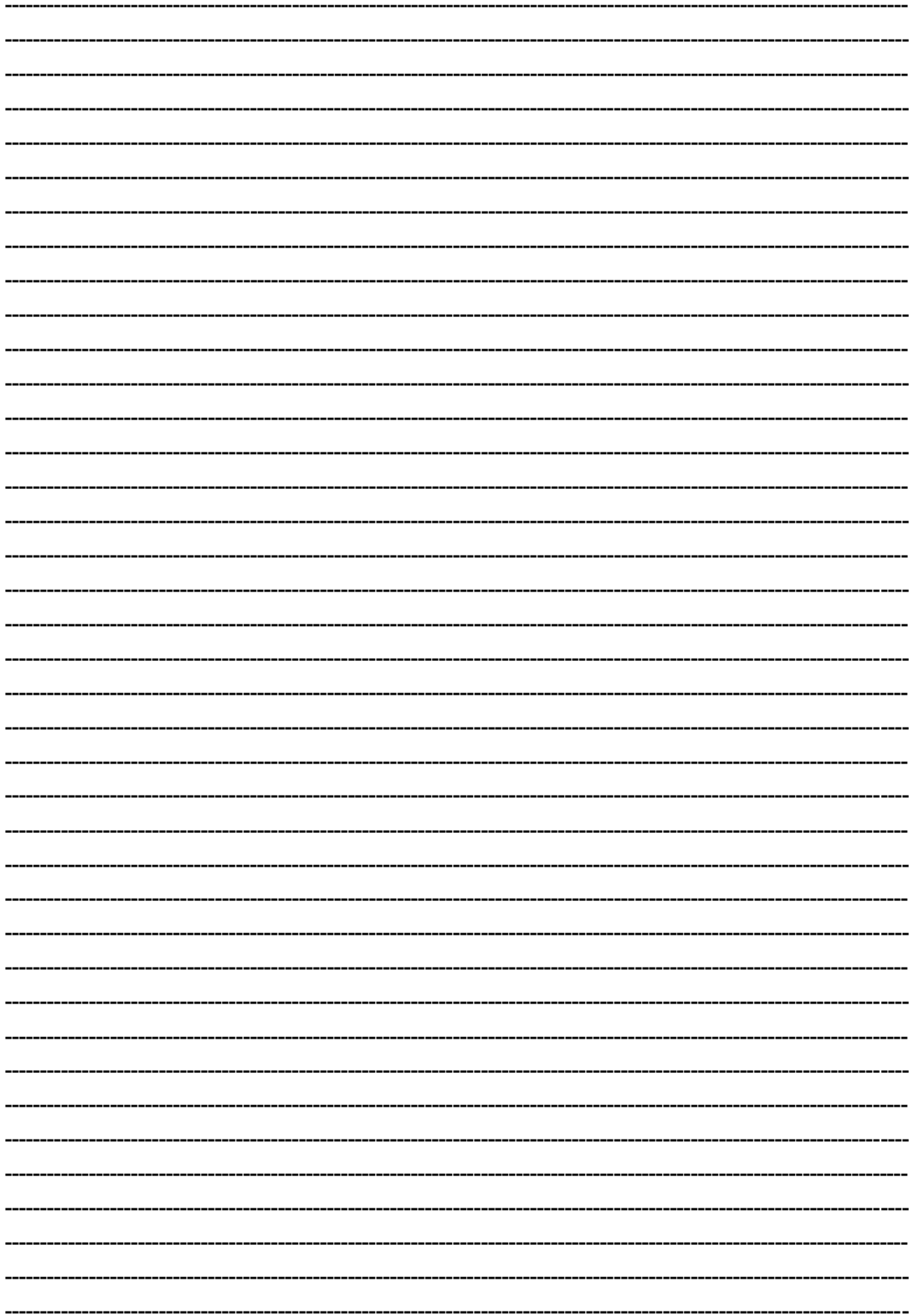
Count Walter Leslie acquired the property of Gornji Ptuj and Ptuj Castle in 1656 and owned it until 1802. The town experienced plague and several fires. In 1744, they erected a monument to St. Florian. With Josephine reforms, both monasteries and several churches were abolished. The Ptuj Theater was established.

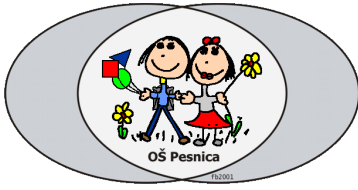


In 1805 the French came to the city. In 1830, Simon Povoden, a histographer and curate, builds some Roman reliefs in the City Tower, creating the first outdoor museum. During the construction of the railway line, which came to Ptuj in 1859-60, a railway bridge was also built over the Drava River, which was demolished during the Second World War and rebuilt after it.

During WWII, Ptuj was occupied by the Germans and was the seat of the occupation district. The city was liberated on May 8, 1945. In 1959, a new reinforced concrete bridge over the Drava was built instead of a wooden one, in 1997 a pedestrian and bicycle pedestrian bridge at the site of the original wooden bridge, and in 2007 the Puh Bridge on a new bypass road. 1969 discover the thermal water that is the basis for the development of the spa. Ten years later, a high school center was built.







SLOVENIAN PROJECT MEETING

4th - 8th November 2019

Visiting:

Pesnica pri Mariboru

Maribor

Ljubljana

Postojna cave

Ptuj

