

If you notice water or riparian animals, do not disturb them. Just observing them will bring you much more satisfaction.

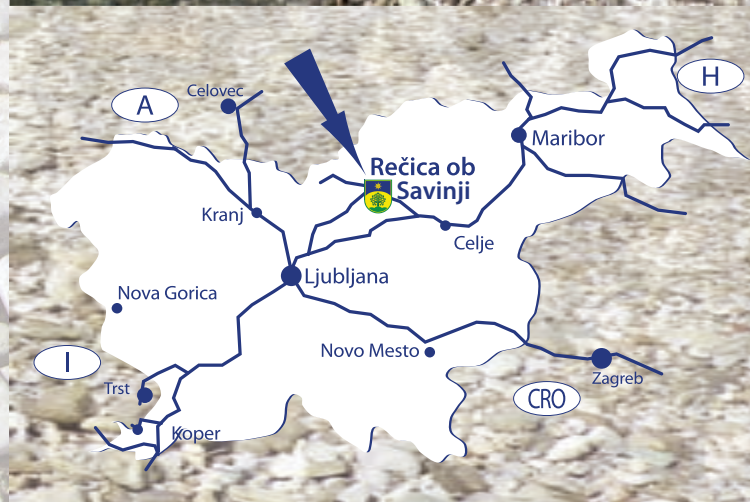
Pollution along the river can cause much damage in nature. Here it should be taken into consideration that some waters, such as groundwater, in fact cannot be seen at all.

As water and riparian plants thrive only in or along waters, we must not destroy them. Apart from their diversity and beauty, they are home to numerous animals.

Many waters and their banks can be very dangerous. So let us be extra cautious when dealing with them and let us rather admire them from a safe distance.

A picnic along the water is a wonderful pastime, but do not forget to clean up after yourselves.

You can enjoy water sports only in places where allowed.



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From its source under the Okrešelj firn field in the Logarska valley to Zidani Most, where it drains into the Sava, the Savinja River covers an almost 100 km long course. It is the longest river with its source and outfall in Slovenia, otherwise it holds sixth place. In its upper course, it is a typical Alpine river of a torrential character with a steep drop, numerous rapids and pools. The winding and flume-like course gives an additional character to its picturesqueness and diverseness. Below the village of Ljubno, its course calms down slowly, and the river begins depositing gravel material.



In the area between the Grušovlje and Špende Dams, the river is still in a natural state. Here it meanders, constantly shifts its course within the wide bed, creates larger and smaller meanders, and deposits gravel of all possible sizes. The visible image of the area differs permanently. The fast

river dynamics is particularly distinct during high waters, when the river often breaks its banks. And its old beds can yet again be restored to life for a short or longer period of time.

Organisms migrate in the area in view of the newly formed environments. In places where the Savinja shifts its bed or deposits gravel, a »competition« between organisms begins for the colonization of the stripped land surfaces. The less demanding organisms are faster. Those that require more nutrients or other special conditions can settle only after a few years or even decades. On the Savinja banks, much more will be seen and heard by an attentive observer.

The Savinja river - in the midst of gravel pearls

Owing to its protective colours, the Dipper is almost invisible amidst gravel-stones.





The diversity of animals, both land and aquatic, is great. The European Crayfish is an indicator of water quality. The Jersey Tiger Moth is one of the species protected within the Natura 2000 network. It is an inhabitant of forest edges and undergrowth.



The diversity of birds in the area is great, for here they find enough food and space for nesting, as well as quietness in the thicket. The Kingfisher breeds in gravel banks and feeds on small fish.



The White Willow scrubs spread along both banks of the Savinja River. As the thick herbage limits human activities in these places, quiet zones in which plants and animals can find their homes, can be found here.



The Savinja can change its course between gravel deposits every time its water level rises to a certain extent (2009 above, 2011 below).



As the vast floodplain area of the Savinja River between the two dams is situated along agricultural land, many inhabitants of woodlands are also character species of agricultural landscape.



The Savinja River in the vicinity of Trnovec, with Rečica ob Savinji (right) and Varpolje (left) in the background.

Če opaziš vodne in obvodne živali, jih ne plaši in ne vznemirjaj. Opazovanje ti bo prineslo več zadovoljstva.

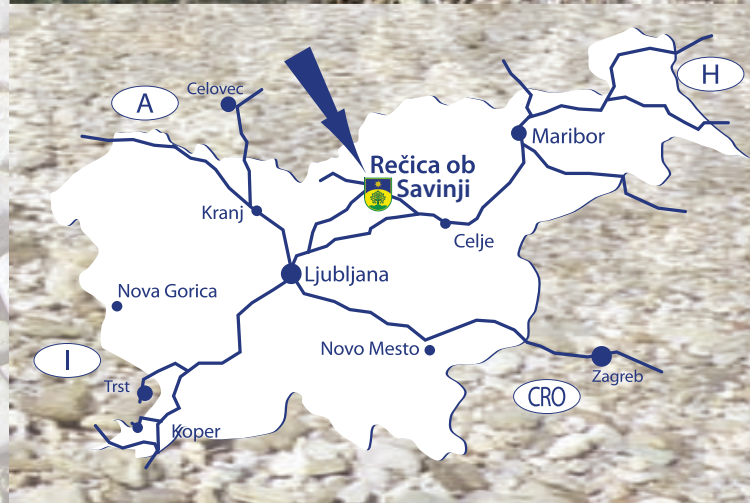
Onesnaževanje ob vodi lahko povzroči veliko škodo v naravi. Pri tem je dobro pomisliti, da nekaterih voda, kot na primer podtalnice, sploh ne vidimo.

Vodne in obvodne rastline uspevajo le ob vodah, zato jih ne uničujmo. Poleg raznolikosti in lepote so tudi dom številnih živali.

Mnoge vode in njihova obrežja so lahko nevarna. Pri takšnih bodimo še posebej previdni. Raje jih občudujmo z varne razdalje.

Piknik ob vodi je lahko čudovito razvedrilo, vendar ne pozabi pospraviti za sabo.

Vodnim športom se posvečajmo na delih rek, kjer je to dovoljeno.



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ZAVOD REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE
ZA VARSTVO NARAVE



Od izvira pod krnico Okrešelj v Logarski dolini do izliva v Savo pri Zidanem Mostu Savinja preteče skoraj 100 km dolgo pot. Je najdaljša reka z izviro in izlivom v Sloveniji, sicer pa šesta. V zgornjem toku je tipična alpska reka hudourniškega značaja z velikim padcem ter številnimi brzicami in tolmoni. Zaviti in koritasti tok daje še dodaten pečat njeni slikovitosti in razgibanosti. Pod naseljem Ljubno se njen tok počasi umiri in reka začne odlagati prodni material.



Na območju med Grušoveljskim jezom in Špendetovim jezom je reka še naravna. Tu meandrira, neprestano premešča vodni tok znotraj široke struge, ustvarja večje in manjše okljuke, odlaga prod vseh velikosti. Vidna podoba območja je vedno drugačna. Hitra

rečna dinamika je še posebej izrazita ob visokih vodah, ko reka pogosto prestopi bregove. Stare struge lahko ponovno oživijo za krajši ali daljši čas.

Organizmi se selijo po območju glede na novo oblikovana okolja. Kjer Savinja prestavi strugo ali odloži prod, se začne "tekma" med organizmi za poselitev razgaljenih površin. Manj zahtevni organizmi so hitrejši. Tisti, ki potrebujejo več hranil ali druge posebne razmere, pa se lahko naselijo šele čez nekaj let ali desetletij. Pozoren opazovalec bo na obrežju Savinje videl in slišal še veliko več.

Vodni kos je zaradi svojih varovalnih barv med prodniki skoraj neopazen.



**Savinja -
med prodnimi biseri**



Obsežno poplavno območje reke Savinje med dvema jezovoma leži na stičišču s kmetijskimi zemljišči, zato je marsikateri prebivalec logov tudi značilnica kmetijske krajine.

Raznolikost živali je velika, tako vodnih kot kopenskih. Potočni raki so kazalci čiste vode. Črtasti medvedek je vrsta metulja, ki ga varujemo v okviru območja Natura 2000. Je prebivalec gozdnih robov in podrasti.

Pestrost ptic je na območju velika, saj je tam dovolj hrane in prostora za gnezdenje, a tudi dovolj miru v goščavah. Vodomec gnezdi v prodnih brežinah in se prehranjuje z majhnimi ribami.



Bela vrbovja se raztezajo na obeh straneh toka Savinje. Gosta zarast omejuje človekovo dejavnost, zato tu najdemo mirne cone, kjer svoj dom najdejo živali in rastline.

Savinja lahko med prodnimi nanosi spremeni svoj tok vsakokrat, ko se dvigne njena vodna gladina. (2009 zgoraj, 2011 spodaj).



Savinja v okolici Trnovca. V ozadju Rečica ob Savinji (desno) in Varpolje (levo).