



Treasures in the middle of the city


TIVOLI, ROŽNIK AND ŠIŠKA HILL LANDSCAPE PARK



KRAJINSKI PARK
**Tivoli, Rožnik
in Šišenski hrib**

A stylized, light green leaf graphic is positioned on the left side of the page, extending from the bottom towards the top. It features a central stem with several pointed leaves branching off to the right.

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Green lungs, local playground, sports ground, a place of inspiration and culture – these are just a few of the metaphors with which we can describe the Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park. Tivoli Park and the forests of Rožnik, Šiška Hill, Koseze and Za Mošenico, as well as the Koseze Pond, meadows along the Glinščica River and the footpath »The Trail of Remembrance and Comradeship« all offer numerous exploration opportunities to visitors.

The area was first protected in 1984, when the then local authorities designated the area a Natural Site of Special Interest in order to conserve numerous natural values and landscape diversity in the heart of an urban area. In 2015, the Municipality of Ljubljana drafted a new ordinance in order to conserve numerous natural values, extraordinary biodiversity, and landscape diversity of the area.





The landscape park is known for its two seemingly separate parts –Tivoli Park and forest. They are complemented by species-rich meadow, wetland and water ecosystems.

The area in the near vicinity of Ljubljana city centre with rich nature and culture contains many paths that lead to Mostec, Šiška Hill or Cankar Peak where the Visitation of Mary Church and the Rožnik Inn are located.



Geographical description

The landscape park is situated in the northwestern part of Ljubljana. It encompasses the Tivoli city park and the forest areas of Rožnik, Šiška Hill and Koseze forest (orig. Koseški boršt) covering a total area of 459 hectares. This is a place where nature is connected to culture and where sports and other leisure activities are closely intertwined.

In the eastern part, Tivoli Park is located. It represents a transitional area between the urban flat part of the city and the hilly forest area. The central and the largest part is covered by this hilly forest together with the following peaks: Rožnik Hill, Šiška Hill, Fat Hill (orig. Debeli hrib), Veliki Rakovnik Hill, Drenik Peak and Tivoli Peak.

In relatively remote areas of the park, we can find the most important places in terms of nature conservation, including the protected area of Mali Rožnik Nature Reserve and Mostec Nature Reserve. These are the habitats for marsh and wetland plants, alder, water areas overgrown with sedge plants, peatlands, and peat bogs in the lower parts of Mali Rožnik.

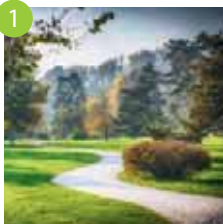
On the western side, the hills turn into a flat lowland of two forest areas of Koseški boršt and Za Mošenico, where the lowland forest intertwines with cultivated areas. On the western edge, the park ends with The Trail of Remembrance and Comradeship that symbolically joins the commitment to a healthy lifestyle and the preservation of historical values.

Did you know?

New York City's Central Park encompasses 341 hectares, London's Hyde Park 140 hectares, whereas Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park comprises 459 hectares.

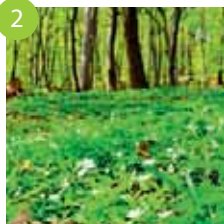
Tivoli Natural Monument

1



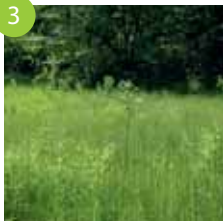
Pod Turnom Natural Monument

2



Mali Rožnik Nature Reserve

3



Mostec Nature Reserve

4



Tivoli Castle

5



Cekin Mansion

6



Plečnik Promenade

7



Jesenko Trail

8



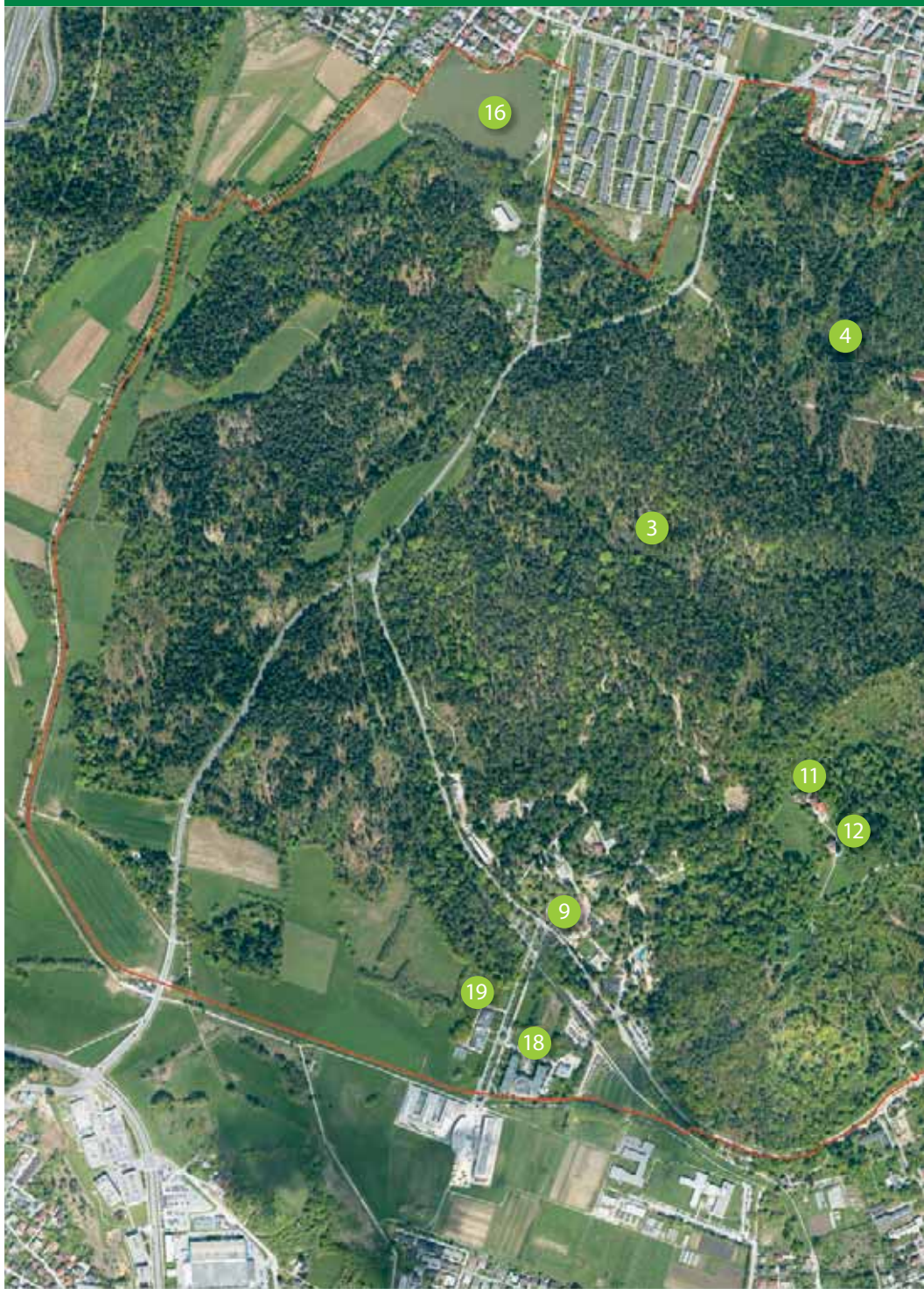
ZOO

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Švicarija

10





Cankar Peak



Visitation of Mary Church



Tivoli Pond



Tičistan (Birds' Home)



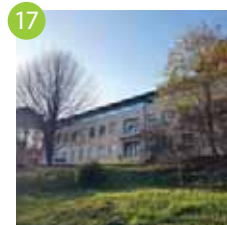
Phenological park



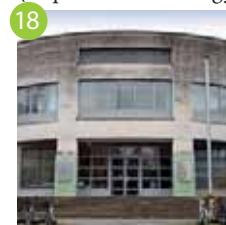
Koseze Pond



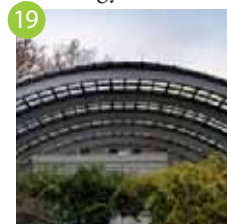
Slovenian Forestry Institute



Biotechnical Faculty (Department of Biology)



National Institute of Biology



Tivoli Hall



Park in numbers

Cultural monuments
of national importance
(Plečnik Promenade,
Cekin Mansion,
Triangular Park,
location of the summer
theatre in Tivoli



Cultural monuments of local
importance (Cankar Memorial
Room at Rožnik Hill, Tivoli
Hotel, Memorial plaque to the
Founding Congress of the CPS,
Monument to the Pioneers,
Monument to the Miner,
Archaeological site
of Ljubljana

23 other cultural heritage
units (Boy with a Fish,
Shepherd, Ivan Cankar
Monument at Rožnik
Hill, Visitation of Mary
Church at Rožnik Hill



2 natural monuments
- Pod Turnom Natural
Monument and Tivoli
Natural Monument

2 natural reserves -
Mali Rožnik Nature
Reserve and Mostec
Nature Reserve



15 natural values, of which
11 trees of exceptional
dimensions protected as
natural values



The natural features of Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park are exceptional. With gratitude to our ancestors who preserved it the way we can admire it today, we must continue searching for the ideal balance between its protection and activities in this area so that our descendants will be able to admire and enjoy it as well.

More than **2,800** species

700 different species of plants

500 species of butterflies

1,250 species of fungi

110 species of beetles

100 species of birds (70 of which are nesting birds)

50 species of spiders

45 species of dragonflies

25 species of mammals (9 of which are bat species)

11 species of reptiles

10 species of amphibians

2 species of crustaceans

Tivoli Castle
Tivoli Pond and Čolnarna



Plečnik Promenade

The Jakopič Pavilion, built in 1908 by architect Max Fabiani, was located at the beginning of the Latterman Avenue



History

A wider area of Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park was first mentioned in connection with a water supply system built in the 2nd century, which supplied the Roman colony of Emona with water.

In the 15th century, the banks of Rožnik were already covered in orchards, vineyards and forest. In mid-15th century, a leper hospital was located on top of the Rožnik Hill. A church was presumably built in the same place and was first mentioned in 1526.

The origins of Tivoli Park lie in the gardens around Podturn Manor (the present Tivoli Castle) and around Leopoldsrue Castle (the present Cekin Mansion). During the Illyrian Provinces, the first three A-shaped avenues were designed by the French architect Blanchard. His work was continued by the Austrian governor Latterman who planted the avenue between the present Tivoli Castle and Cankarjeva Road.

In the mid-19th century, when Podturn Manor was bought by Franz Joseph I. of Austria, the name »Tivoli« was given to main avenues, in the end of the 19th century, when the mansion with all its land became an urban estate, this name was given to the entire park area between both mansions.



In 1835, the Ljubljana Casino Society (high society's social club) above Cekin Mansion built a popular inn and café. Due to its specific and attractive architecture, the local inhabitants named the building »Švicarija« – the Swiss house.



◆ A wide sand-covered walking path with centrally-positioned concrete bases for glass lamps, also known as the Jakopič Promenade, is one of Plečnik's most important works. In 2009, it was declared a cultural monument of national importance.



◆ Tivoli Park is full of numerous fountains and statues. One of the most famous statues is Zdenko Kalin's statue, named Boy with a whistle, also the symbol of RTV Slovenia.



Between 1921 and 1939, Tivoli Park was rearranged by the famous architect Jože Plečnik, who designed a wide promenade in the central park area as a connection to the city centre. The promenade ends in front of the staircase under Tivoli Castle and is named after the Slovene impressionist painter Rihard Jakopič.

In 1929 in the eastern edge of the Tivoli Park, the Ilirija swimming pool complex was built according to the plans of Stanko

Bloudek. At that time, it was the most modern of its kind in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. In the 1950s, also according to Bloudek's plans, a ski jumping hill at Galetovo was built, of which only the tower was preserved. Later, a sports park under Cekin Mansion was named after Stanko Bloudek. The park comprised tennis, basketball and roller-skating courts, as well as a children playground. In 1965, according to the plans of the architect Marjan Božič,

the Tivoli Hall was built and intended for sports events and bigger concerts. In its nearby area, there is a hall with an indoor swimming pool, fitness centre and a bowling alley.

Today's main promenades surrounded by wild chestnut tree avenues are complemented by numerous paths, individual flower parks, interesting trees, fountains and statues. There are more than 80 tree species in the park, many of which are exotic.



In the 19th century, the hilly part of the landscape park was entirely covered with forest. Step by step, the area has become firmly lodged in the consciousness of the city dwellers as an uninhabited urban space for relaxation and recreation and remains as such even today.

Koseze Pond

Broad-bodied chaser
(*Libellula depressa*)



Eurasian nuthatch
(*Sitta europaea*)

Fairy inkcap
(*Coprinellus disseminatus*)


Alder trees




Natural importance

The landscape park area comprises four small-scale protected areas, five areas of natural value, 11 tree natural values, the ecologically important area of Rožnik, habitat types that are preferentially preserved in favourable conditions (such as extensive meadows, low marshes etc.), several endangered and protected fungal, plant and animal species as well as their habitats.

Field research, surveys and the acquisition of new data further confirm and increase the importance of nature conservation and the need to systematically manage the area. The aim of the management is to conserve nature and to enable all activities that enhance the quality of visiting this area as well as the beneficial impact of the area on the city around it.



More than **2,800** species of organisms live here, many of which are rare and endangered. According to currently available information, **30** species of plants, **17** species of birds, **10** species of amphibians, **6** species of reptiles, **10** species of butterflies, **5** species of beetles, **2** species of stone crayfish and **2** species of fish are endangered.





Broad-Leaved Marsh Orchid
(*Dactylorhiza majalis*)



Round-leaved sundew
(*Drosera rotundifolia*)



Peat moss
(*Sphagnum* sp.)



Edible frog
(*Pelophylax kl. esculenta*)

Small-scale protected areas





1

Tivoli Nature Monument – city park

Tivoli Park is one of the most important green spaces in Ljubljana. It connects the city centre to the forest area on Rožnik and Šiška Hill. The park has over two centuries long and very colourful history, as is the tradition of visiting and walking around it. It has a symbolic meaning for the city of Ljubljana and its surroundings and is recognizable throughout Slovenia.

As an extremely diverse area, the park is home to rare and endangered animal species, especially birds. The old deciduous trees in Tivoli Park are the habitat for a protected species of hermit beetle (*Osmoderma eremita*). We protect the species as well as its living habitat.



Hermit beetle
(*Osmoderma eremita*)

2

Pod Turnom Natural Monument

Pod Turnom Natural Monument is located under the east slope of Tivoli Peak and Šiška Hill – stretching from Tivoli Castle to Cekin Mansion. This is a natural site of the European False Stitchwort (*Pseudostellaria europaea*). This small and gentle plant was first discovered and described by the Austrian natural scientist Franz Xaver von Wulfen in 1762.

In order to preserve the positive state of this site, we need to continue with adequate forest management in this area.

◆ The European False Stitchwort is widespread in the eastern and southern parts of the Alps in moist deciduous forests. It grows in larger or smaller patches in places where the soil is constantly moist.

3 4

Mali Rožnik and Mostec Nature Reserves

The area or Rožnik, Šiška Hill and Koseze forest is important both in terms of natural values and landscape protection as well as in biodiversity conservation. Various natural features are connected here, forming a mosaic of preserved ecosystems, which consist of rare and endangered species of fungi, plants and animals.

Mali Rožnik Nature Reserve and Mostec Nature Reserve are transitional bogs. Both are located on the southernmost border of the European wetland areas and were protected already in 1984.

Mali Rožnik Nature Reserve

or the Rakovnik Marsh is situated in the valley between the ridges of Mali Rakovnik and Veliki Rakovnik Hill. The habitats for marsh and swamp vegetations and the presence of many other species, including several rare and endangered ones, contribute to the great species diversity in this landscape park. These areas are therefore vitally important for nature protection.

Mostec Nature Reserve

or the Koseze Marsh is located on the lower part of the Mostec wetland valley at the foot of the hill Debeli hrib. The area is filled with water flowing down from Debeli hrib and an intermittent watercourse that flows from Mostec to Koseze Pond.

A number of endangered plant species grow in the reserve area, such as bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), bog-sedge (*Carex limosa*), bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*), bog violet (*Viola uliginosa*), marsh violet (*Viola palustris*), common sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), common cranberry (*Oxycoccus palustris*), common cotton-grass (*Eriophorum angustifolium*), broad-leaved cotton-grass (*Eriophorum latifolium*), water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*), mamillated spike-rush (*Eleocharis mamillata*), white beak-sedge (*Rhynchospora alba*), etc.

Both reserves require regular management, including monitoring of species status and habitat types, control of overgrowth and introduction of invasive non-native species, as well as raising awareness of the importance of conserving such sites.

This is the largest habitat for bog arum (*Calla palustris*) in Slovenia. As it is endangered, this species is on the Red List and protected.



◆ The area of clean and slowly flowing water is the ideal habitat for one of the most endangered fungal species in Slovenia. The above photograph shows the water club mushroom (*Vibrissea truncorum*).



◆ At the foot of the hill where the water slowly flows towards the plains under peat mosses, we can find a very special animal – *Niphargus sphagnicolus*, a species of crustacean. It is the only endemic species in the park, so we cannot find it anywhere else in the world.



Bogs and other wetlands are of outstanding importance for maintaining biodiversity and mitigating climate change, especially in carbon and methane storage. Due to their fast disappearance in the past few decades, they now cover only around 3% of Earth's surface.





Forests

Forests, an important part of the Ljubljana's green lungs, are the remains of a once wide forest ecosystem in the Ljubljana Basin. Here, we can find relatively naturally preserved vegetation, which mostly consists of acid-loving sessile oak and sweet chestnut forests, beech forests and blechnum, and scots pine forests and blueberry.



▲ Bank vole
(*Clethrionomys glareolus*)

◆ Deer fern
(*Blechnum spicant*)



Sights and attractions, a mixture of natural wonders and man-made structures



5

Tivoli Castle

Already in 1267, a defensive tower named Turn was located on the site of the present-day Tivoli Castle. In 1442, it was burnt down by the army of Ulrich II, Count of Celje, in the battle for Ljubljana.

The land owner, baron Georg von Apfaltrerer, built a new mansion under the ruins, which was called Podturn (for some time also Podrožnik). In the following years, it had many owners. In 1601, it was bought by the Jesuits in Ljubljana who replaced it with a new building which was later also used as a bishop's summer residence.

In 1865, the castle was bought by the Municipality of Ljubljana. During this time, they built a pool with a fountain and a staircase with the famous cast iron statues of dogs.

In 1986, the City of Ljubljana established the International Centre of Graphic Arts in Tivoli Castle and has been housed here ever since.

6

Cekin Mansion

This baroque mansion was built between 1752 and 1755 by order of Count Leopold Karl Lamberg as the Lamberg Mansion. The modestly decorated mansion in baroque style has a pilaster-ornamented façade, one of its beautiful traits is also the ballroom hall on the second floor. The building was named after its Hungarian owners. However, since the last name Szogyeny was hard to pronounce for the local inhabitants, they translated the name to Slovene – Cekin Mansion.

After World War II, the mansion was nationalized. Today, Cekin Mansion houses the National Museum of Contemporary History.





8

Jesenko Trail

The Jesenko Trail begins above the sledding area and ends behind the Tivoli Castle. The about three-kilometre-long path leads past 30 different tree and shrub species that are marked with plates with Slovenian and Latin names of the species. About a third of the species are local to this area, whereas others were brought here.

It is named after the Slovenian botanist and plant geneticist Fran Jesenko (1875–1932), the first professor of botany at the University of Ljubljana, the founder of the botanical institute and one of the first Slovenian nature scientists.



The trail was created during the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations Congress that took place in Ljubljana in 1986.

11

Cankar Peak – the home of Ivan Cankar

In 1910, the Slovenian writer Ivan Cankar moved in the Rožnik Inn and lived there until 1917. He stayed in a room with a window facing the church. In the present Memorial Room, he did not sleep that often; however, his friend Oton Župančič spent the night there on several occasions while visiting his friend.

In 1948, the City Museum of Ljubljana arranged the Cankar Memorial Room. The room contains some of Cankar's personal objects, such as his wallet, tie, visiting card and a permanent entrance ticket for the Jakopič Pavilion.



The top of Rožnik was named after Cankar (Cankar Peak) and a monument, the work of the sculptor Frančišek Smerdu, was also built there in his honour.

14

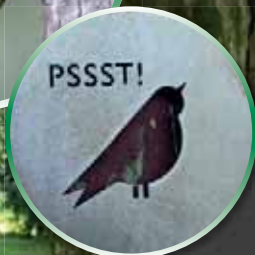
Tičistan (Birds' Home)

Tičistan (roughly translated as Birds' Home) is located between Tivoli Castle and Cekin Mansion. Here, people could always encounter birds and squirrels, feed them or watch them. Birds (and also squirrels) became very used to the presence of people. We can often see how they come very close to a person, and if visitors are patient enough, they might sit on their hand.

In addition to more common bird species, such as sparrows, city pigeons and blackbirds, we can also see robins, goldfinches, blue tits, nuthatches, finches, great spotted woodpeckers and lesser spotted woodpeckers.

Birds have many hiding places here. A network of suitable nesting sites has been set up for easier nesting.

◆ Eurasian blue tit
(*Cyanistes caeruleus*)



15

Phenological park

In the vicinity of Cekin Mansion, the only Slovenian phenological park is located. It is a part of the network of International Phenological Gardens of Europe. Phenology is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events, such as tree and shrub leafing in the spring, flowering, fruit ripening, autumn foliage and abscission.

The park is planted with deciduous and coniferous plants and certain shrub species, all of which are native to Europe. All these trees are descendants of plants grown in the parent garden in Germany. The same genetics excludes the genetic variability that plants could inherit in seed reproduction, which is very important when comparing the data between gardens across Europe and studying the environmental effects on the phenological development of these plants.



The phenological park in Tivoli was founded in 1958 by the Hydrometeorological Institute of the Republic of Slovenia. From 2001, it has been under the management of the Slovenian Environment Agency in cooperation with the Municipality of Ljubljana.

13

Tivoli Pond

An artificial pond, created in 1880, has always been an important place for socializing – it was used for boating in summer and for skating in winter. A boathouse and several pavilions were located by the pond. After World War II, the boathouse was demolished, and a new building was constructed at its place. Today it is a coffee house.



▲
Common moorhen
(*Gallinula chloropus*)

In the summer, you can see water lilies on the pond and numerous non-native fish in it. The release of aquarium fish and turtles into the pond is strictly prohibited.



Koseze Pond

Koseze Pond is located on the western part of the landscape park. It was created in the area of a former clay pit, where quality bricks were made for Gustav Tönnies' factory. These bricks can still be found in numerous buildings in Ljubljana and across Slovenia. Stagnant waters, although artificial, are a real magnet for waterfowl and other animals, especially if the banks are full of waterside vegetation. Koseze Pond is the home of mallards, common moorhens and mute swans. It is also the habitat for numerous amphibians, dragonflies and other water animal and plant species.

A walking path leads around Koseze Pond along with an educational path that represents habitats and species that live in the area of Koseze Pond. The invasive non-native species found in and around the pond are described in particular. A larger wooden platform and some viewing piers are also near the pond. Although the pond is man-made, it is important both for nature conservation in the city and cultural heritage. The pond plays a significant social role as it is a place of relaxation for local residents and visitors.




Trails in the landscape park, possibilities for sports and leisure activities

Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park comprises numerous walking trails. If you prefer open spaces and the company of other visitors, you can go for a walk in Tivoli Park. If you want more peace and quiet, less crowded places and calming forests, the landscape park offers more than 15 kilometres of forest trails. They lead you to Rožnik Hill, Drenik Peak or Mostec. The western part of the park is surrounded by The Trail of Remembrance and Comradeship, suitable for walking, running and other types of recreation. For sports enthusiasts, we recommend the Mostec jogging path. You can learn something new when visiting the Jesenko Trail, the educational path along the Koseze Pond and the forest classroom above the sledding area which is also equipped with signs in Braille.










Visitors come to Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park with different intentions and expectations. It is important that we are considerate of nature, other visitors, landowners and people who live or work in the park.

The landscape park is a home to numerous animals. Some of them live in forests, others in open green spaces, whereas some live near the water surfaces. All animals are especially sensitive in springtime when they have babies. If we wish to maintain the privilege of having these animals almost in the city centre, it is crucial we do not disturb them or feed them. If we bring a dog to the park, it has to be on a leash.

As in other protected nature areas, certain restrictions and prohibitions also apply to Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park: it is forbidden to have an open fire outside designated areas, to camp with tents, or to dispose waste. Harvesting of forest fruits and fruits is allowed, but only moderately and for your own needs – up to two kilograms a day (mushrooms, chestnuts, and forest fruits, such as blackberries, raspberries, blueberries) and up to one kilogram of herbs. The exceptions are the areas of Mostec Nature Reserve, Mali Rožnik Nature Reserve and Pod Turnom Nature Monument where harvesting is not allowed.

MORE INFORMATION


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CONTACTS

MUNICIPALITY OF LJUBLJANA

Department for Environmental Protection

Zarnikova 3, 1000 Ljubljana


 (01) 306 43 00


 varstvo.okolja@ljubljana.si

JAVNO PODJETJE VODOVOD KANALIZACIJA SNAGA d.o.o.

Division Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park

Vodovodna cesta 90, 1000 Ljubljana

 (01) 4779 792

 info.kptrsh@vokasnaga.si

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Text authors: Mateja Nose Marolt, M.Sc., Luka Šparl, Andrej Verlič, Ph.D., Saša Vochl
(JP VOKA SNAGA d.o.o., Division Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park)

Peer review by: Marjana Jankovič (Municipality of Ljubljana, Department for Environmental Protection), Alja Grošelj, M.Sc., Urška Galien (The Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation)

Translation and proofreading by: Valentina Žitek

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The landscape park was established in order to preserve many natural values, extraordinary biodiversity, landscape diversity and natural processes. Thanks to the integration of natural and cultural heritage along with the coexistence of cultural, sports and other leisure activities, this area is of special importance to the inhabitants of Ljubljana as well as residents of the wider city area. It also represents the capital's unique identity.



TIVOLI, ROŽNIK AND ŠIŠKA HILL LANDSCAPE PARK



City of
Ljubljana

