

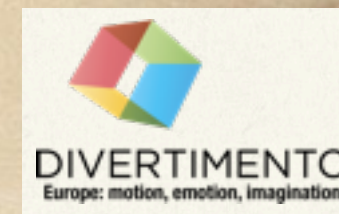
# EUROTHENTICA

*The Last Conspiracy*

COS-TOUR - 699493 DIVERTIMENTO

**Diversifying tourism offers in peripheral destinations with heritage-based products  
and services, stakeholder-skills alliances to internationalize  
locally operating micro-enterprises**





EUROTHENTICA

*The Last Conspiracy*

The Plot of Fate in Castle Race, 1668

ISBN: 9788890859298

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## EUROTHENTICA

Following the COE tradition for the European Cultural Routes, DIVERTIMENTO innovates not through the assemblage of geo-locations across a line, but with an integrative experience at each location. By defining the places as the great imperative a scenario full of objects is created for each place represented, enabling visitors to select desired objects in the locations of interest with a total of 70 different heritage objects unified as a pluralistic experiences in the Project Area. Capturing realism and providing for emotional impact creating bridges between areas interpreted and visitors the Transnational Cultural Route EUROTHENTICA becomes an interactive learning space, revealing common values and cultural diversity in the Project Area, raising the awareness of policy makers and the general public for the values and fragility of European natural ecosystems and cultural diversity.

## GREECE

*THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE.  
Dress Rehearsal: Rhodes, 1306-1522.*

## ITALY

*LOOKING FOR MYTHS  
Frederick II Hohenstaufen: Governance as Culture*

## SPAIN

*SPAIN MAZARICOS  
The inner journey on the Santiago Way*

## SLOVENIA

*THE LAST CONSPIRACY  
The Plot of Fate in Castle Race, 1668*

## ROMANIA

*THE PEOPLE'S VERDICT  
Alba Julia, 1st of December 1918.*

## BULGARIA

*THE GOLDEN ANCHOR.  
Varna, 1869*

## TURKEY

*CONNECTING CULTURES  
A truly Eurasian Story.*



## INTRODUCTION

During the mid-17th century curious events took place at the castle of Rače. Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach, who was at that time the owner of the castle, secretly joined a conspiracy against the Emperor Leopold I of Habsburg.

This intriguing story was later brought to the attention of the Slovene writer Josip Jurčič who used it as the basis for the first Slovene historic novel Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach. During his tenure in Maribor he spent every free moment among the locals of Rače listening to stories of the conspiracy.

*Be part of the conspiracy and find the conspiracy letter, lost for nearly a century!*







Our journey will start at the Pohorje hills, where rustling forests hide unusual natural phenomena, a spring and the cheerful murmurs of a mountain stream, all of

which have borne witness to the turbulent history of the local people. The people of Rače and Fram have defied this wild and unique environment for centuries.

Today, this mountainous area is flourishing as a tourist destination. The village Planica, which is far away from the commotion, offers an authentic atmosphere, outstanding natural beauty and excellent culinary delights. A wine route, which passes the village, connects it with other tourist areas of Framsko Pohorje.

The changing landscape is constantly surprising. One moment we may be admiring the high Pohorje hills, and then a moment later our gaze wanders to the Drava River Valley and its plains.

Surrounded by fairy-tale landscapes, mystical scenes, friendly people and excellent cuisine you will find the Rače castle – a place that served as the inspiration for Ivan Erasmus

Tattenbach, the first Slovene historic novel, and where we can forget the everyday hustle and bustle whilst enjoying peace and tranquillity. The castle conceals a remarkable history from the 17th century – these are the times of the Turkish invasions and the Habsburg monarchy. In 1664, the Emperor Leopold I of Habsburg signed the infamous Peace of Vasvár – a treaty that gave the newly liberated territories back to the Ottomans. In his book, Jurčič mixes the real historic events with fictional elements: love's entanglements and the joyous life of count Tattenbach at the castle. The story reveals that his mistress, Katarina Zrinska, persuades him to join the Zrinski-Frankopan conspiracy. But the count has plans for young Maria, the love of his scribe, Baltazar Ribel. Passion, love, revenge, and betrayal all intertwine throughout the story.

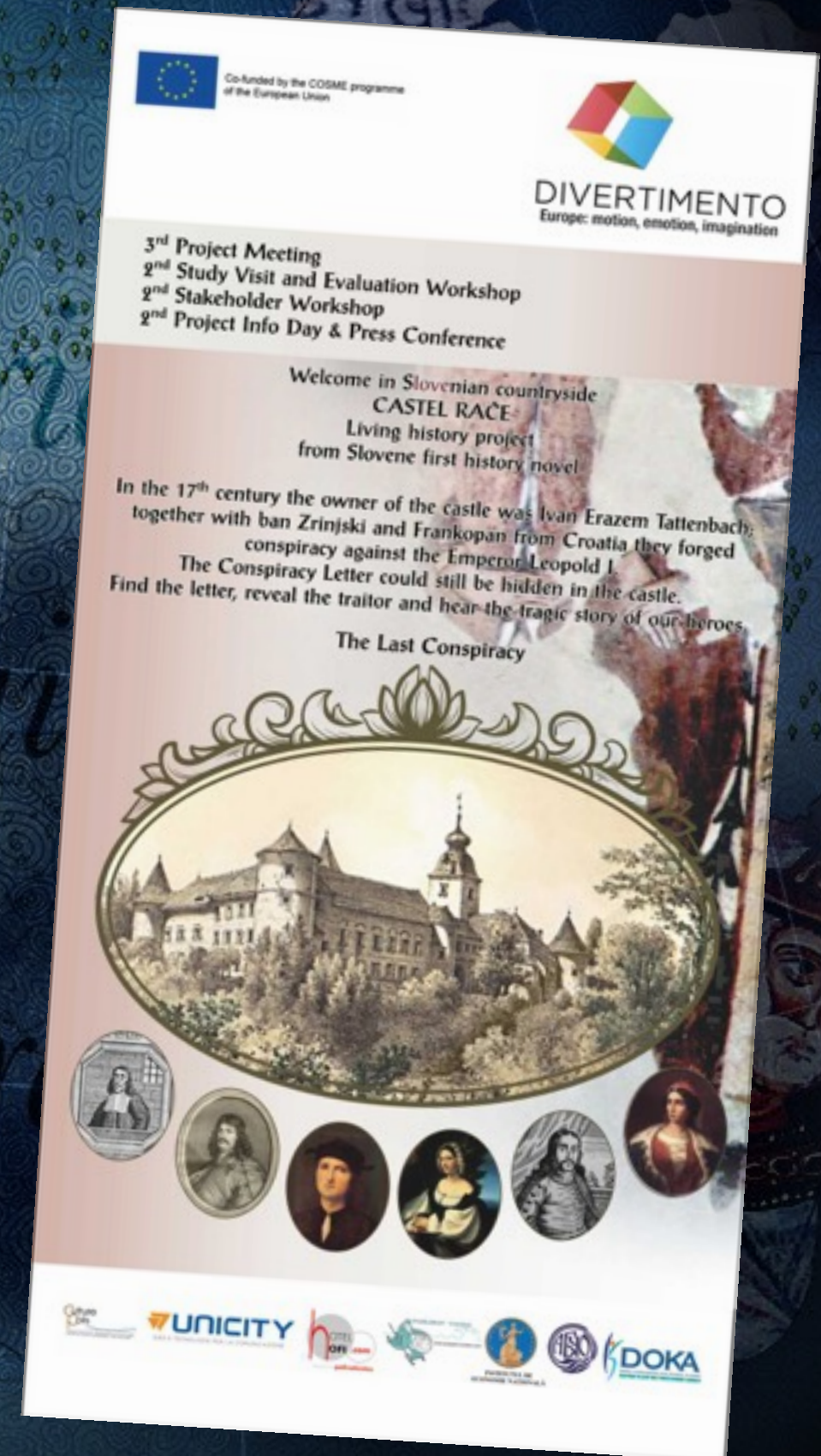




## THE LAST CONSPIRACY

Experience the living history through the first Slovenian historic novel

In the 17th century the Rače castle was in the ownership of the count Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach. Together with the noble families of Zrinski and Frankopan from Croatia he participated in the conspiracy against the Emperor Leopold I. It may be that the conspiracy letter is still hidden in the castle! Find the letter and reveal the traitor.





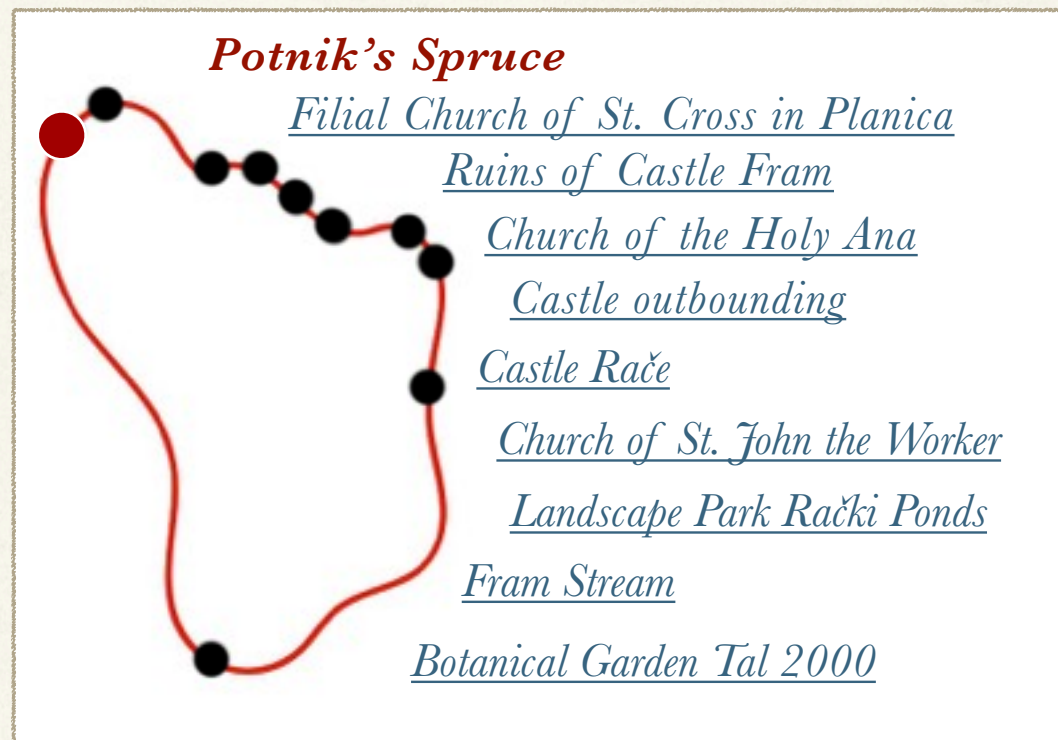




# The Path from the Quarry

Hikers are surprised and astonished when, in the middle of a forest in a ravine under a church, they find a small miracle of nature – Potnik's spruce. The spruce germinated on a white bridge made of coarse marble slabs. The bridge was laid down in Roman times, creating a path from the nearby marble quarry over the stream. During decades of growth, the spruce has spread its roots to the banks of the stream. Not far away are the remains of the abandoned marble quarry which is protected as a natural geological monument. The beauty of this marble was

well known to the Romans and we can still admire it today on the Roman necropolis in Šempeter and on the Orpheus monument in Ptuj.



## MARBLE BRIDGE

In Planica, there is a stream which runs between the Potnik farmhouse on one side and St. Cross Church on the other. A marble slab was laid over the stream as a bridge and in the middle of this plate grows a spruce which roots on both sides of the bridge. Because of its location and size the tree is protected as a natural attraction and presents an interesting natural site.



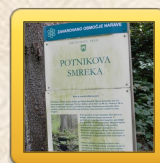
### *How the spruce hugged the stream*

The Potnik's spruce is named after the nearby farmstead. Its dimensions are nothing out of the ordinary – the trunk diameter at breast height is 90 cm and the tree is 38 m high. Similar or even thicker spruces are common at Pohorje hills. What is special is the spruce's site – the spruce germinated on a white marble bridge and spread its roots to both sides of the stream's bank.

What is also of interest is the bridge itself, made of white coarse marble. In the past, locals often used the marble as building and decorative stone. The source of the marble can still be admired in the abandoned Roman quarry which can be found near the spruce.





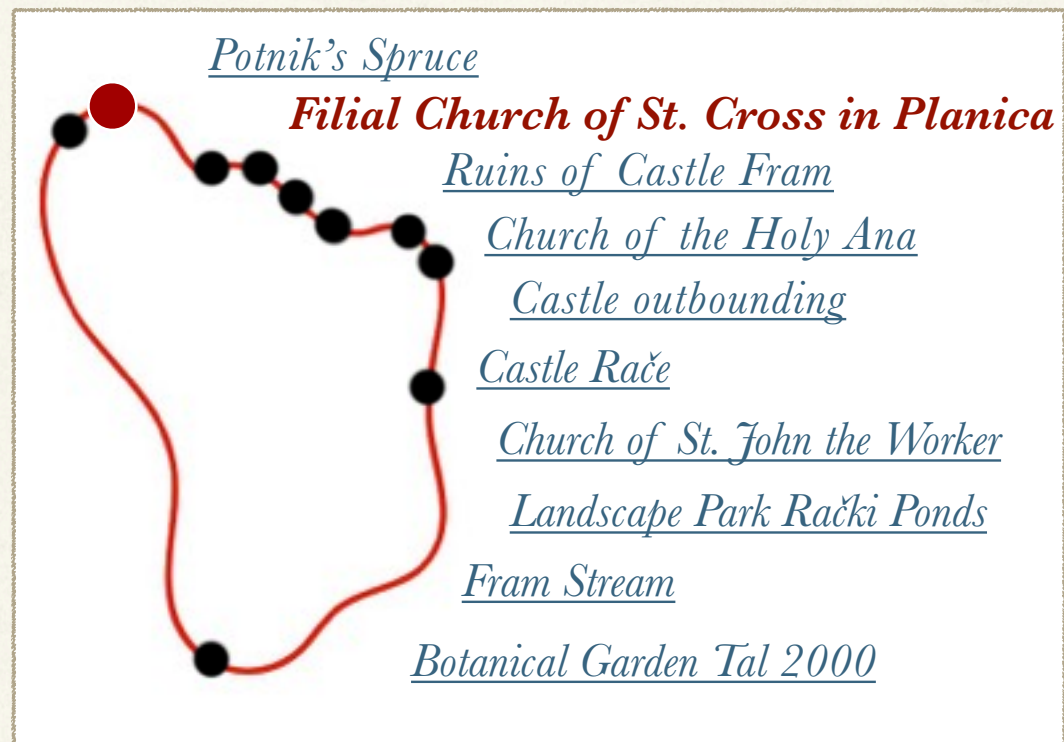




# Thanks to the Angels

Back in 1545 a St. Spirit Chapel already stood at the Hojnik estate. At the beginning of the 19th century the owners of that property were Matej and Ana Štern. One day Matej Štern fell from a very high tree, but remained alive and unharmed. To express her gratitude for her husband's survival, Ana Štern commissioned the building of a church on her estate that sits adjacent to the chapel on the site of the accident. The church was built during 1814–1815, is devoted to Guardian Angels and

St. Cross and can hold 400 people. The previous chapel was remodeled and is now the sacristy. Matej Štern died in 1836, followed by Ana in 1848.



## ARRIVAL OF ST. SPIRIT

On the road through the village of Planica Fram visitors will meet the beautiful St. Cross Church standing on a hill in front of a forest. The oldest part of the St. Cross Church is the St. Spirit Chapel. The chapel was built before 1679 and is today preserved in the sacristy. The church has a nave with an altar closure, at the side there is a belfry with an entrance to a semi-circular chapel.



### *The Permission to hold holy masses*

On 15 January 1818 a church builder asked the Graz Ordinary's office for permission to hold Holy Masses in the church. When the Ordinary's office was convinced that the building and its equipment were suited for liturgy services, on the 5th of August of the same year they permitted the holding of mass on weekdays and twice a year on Sundays. This permission was valid for seven years. After this period, each owner had to renew the request for further authorization. On 6th of July 1862 the Ordinary of Lavant permanently allowed the holding of mass in this church, as long as it was kept in decent condition and no disturbances were to happen near the church. The following year, the locals requested to have a solemn procession at the church on the first Sunday after St. Roch's Day. The church contained a statue of the saint that the locals revered very much, but the Ordinary's office refused the request.





## *The local Spirit*

The land successor Janez Štern donated the property to the Church and now the church stands on its own land. In 1882, the church was completely restored and received a bell. Today, it has only one altar made of the local Pohorje marble. A wooden cross hangs on the wall above the altar. On the altar table, next to the tabernacle, are the statues of popular saints: St. Urbanus and St. Martin on the one side and St. Gregory and St. George on the other. On the wall beside the altar is an ancient statue of St. Roch, opposite the statue, on the other side of the altar, are the statues of St. Anthony of Padua and the Mother of Christ.

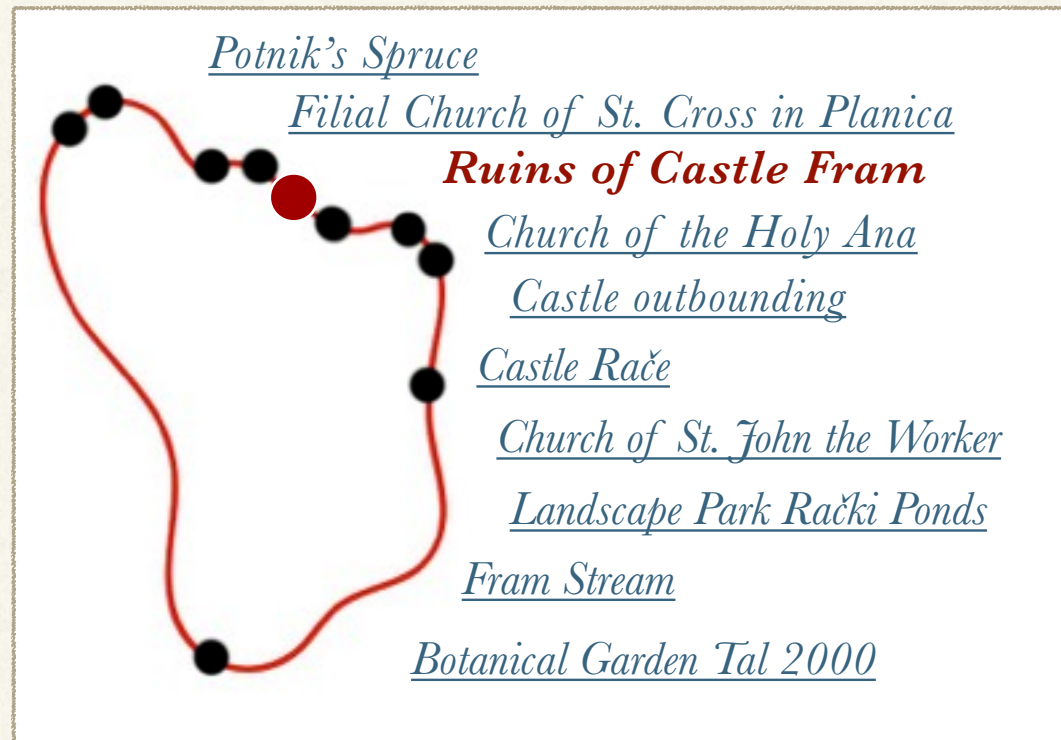




# Home to the Nobility

The Fram seigneurie was formed at the end of the 12th century. It was in the possession of one of the first marshals, which led the Duchy of Styria from 1180 onwards. It was probably this marshal who built the castle, which back then was called *Fraunheim* (German record: *Vraunhaym*) which means lord's (marshal's) home. During the years 1492 to 1499, Fram was attacked by Hungarians and Turks. In 1635, the castle was conquered by revolting peasants. At that time, the noble family of Herberstein from Slivnica owned the castle but completely neglected it. During the 18th century it burnt down leaving

ruins and in the early 19th century it finally collapsed. After World War I, the property (with the castle remains) was bought by a Fram priest and historian, Mr. Kragl.



## REVOLTING PEASANTS

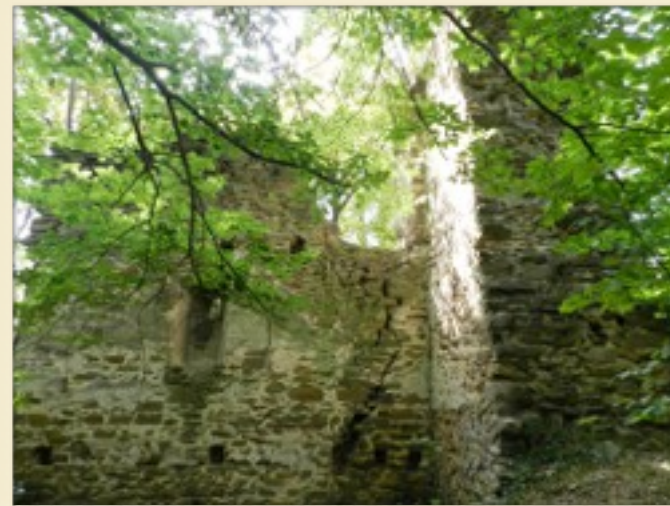
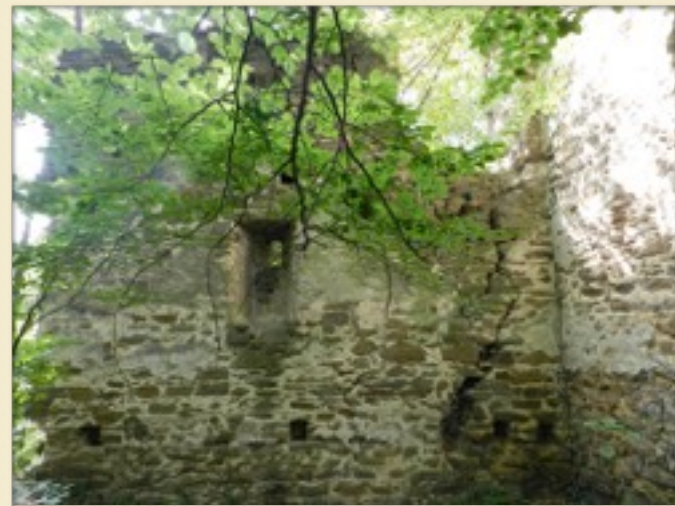
The history of medieval Fram is associated with a castle whose ruins can be found on the northwest side of today's village and speak of its past splendor. Historical sources suggest that the castle was first mentioned in 1335 as *Vraunhaym*. In 1438, the Lords of Ptuj assigned the castle to count Johanu Schaunberg. He gave it as a pledge to Melhior Wagkhin in 1546. The castle changed ownership several times. Most of the castle burned to the ground in the 18th century.



## *Spirit of Independence*

The people of Fram were not satisfied with their landlords. Between 1594 and 1616 they made complaints against them eight times, even to the ruler. At first glance it may seem that they fought for little things – paper or parchment, petty obligation of breads, records of cheeses in the land register – but in reality, they refused being subordinate to the landlords and in the end they became rebellious.

In 1615 the new landlord Janez Jakob Schneeweiss was appointed Gregor Štrakel to become the new keeper of the Fram castle for a three year tenure. He even tightened the relations with the people of Fram by imposing stricter treaties. The people threatened to move away rather than obeying these new rules. On 19 August 1616, Janez Jakob Schneeweiss announced to the authorities in Graz that Fram's people "always want to be free, their own men."





## *The Battle March*

In 1631, the landlady of the Fram lordship, Urša Schneeweiss, conducted a real battle march against Herberstein from Slivnica with over 100 armed people with flags and drums. During the conflict Herberstein's property keeper was killed and Urša died that evening as a result of her wounds. After her death Janez Jakob Herberstein became the landlord of Fram due to Urša's debts. This was the beginning of decay for the Fram castle. Slivnica gradually absorbed the lordship of Fram. Janez Jakob Herberstein was known as a cruel man. He saw the new peasants as unruly, stubborn and rebellious people, which must be bent with force. Arrangements with him proved fruitless, so the peasants, ever threatened with eviction, declared that they preferred the Turks as their landlords.

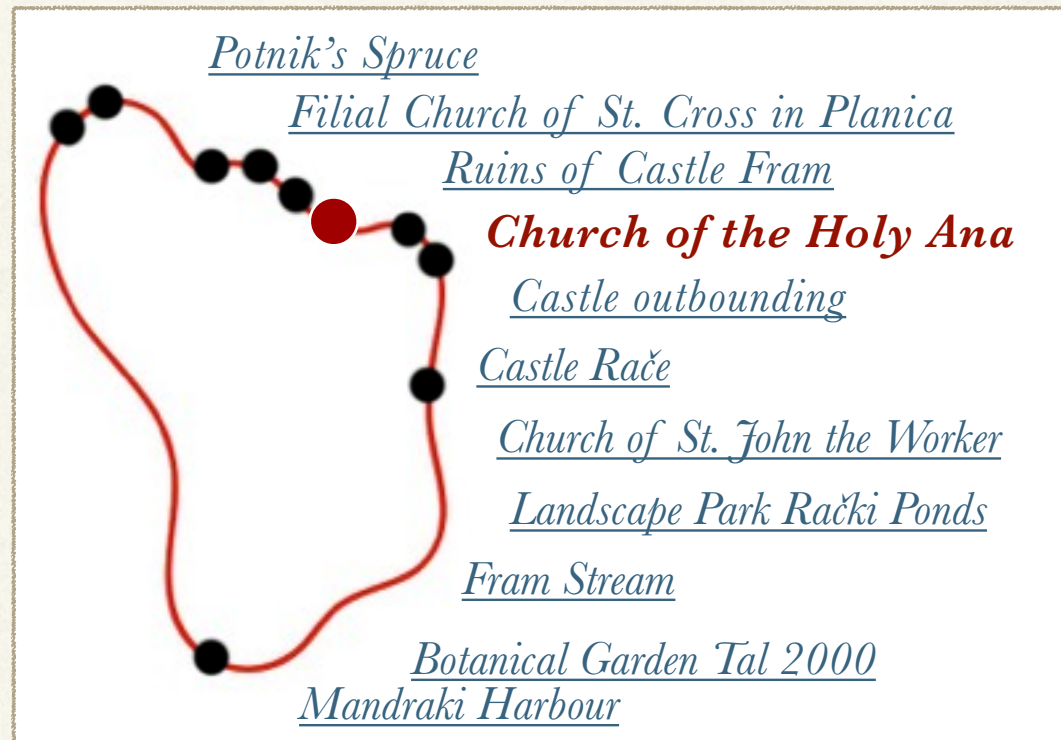




# Excellent fish and delicious crabs

The oldest most reliable report about Fram's church was found in the census of Paul Santonini. His narrative said: "After refreshing in Hoče we continued our journey and came to St. Anne's Church in Fram, which is a branch of the parish church in Slivnica. Patronage over the church is held by the abbess lady of Studenice monastery. The church is small, but beautiful. Above it rises a well-fortified Fram castle, below is the village of the same name. The owners of the castle and the village are the counts of Schaunberg. Through the village runs a mountain

stream that never dries up, because the water flows in small quantities from the nearby hills. The place is situated five miles from Hoče..." Then it tells of the flood of 1486. His report ends as follows: "The bishop



## SERVICE OF GOD

St. Anne's Church is situated on an elevated area above the village. The first chapel stood near the Fram castle on a property which belonged to the castle owners. From the Wildon nobles (the first owners of Fram) the marshal authority was passed to Ptuj lords in 1324. Ana, the daughter of Bernard from Ptuj, married count John Schaunberg. It is very likely that Ana built the first chapel in honour of her patron saint.



sanctified the church of St. Anne as well as its cemetery. Then we had excellent fish and delicious crabs and finally left this place."



### *Public Church*

The castle chapel of St. Anne became a public church very early on and was accessible to the surrounding population. However, since the population increased the church had to be extended (around the year 1500) for the first time. A church nave was built for the ordinary believers. According to the pontification registry, the extended church was sanctified by the Bishop of Lavant Lenart I Pewelr in 1511.







### *Shelter for the Chaplain*

The chaplain from Slivnica came to Fram to hold Holy Masses. Next to the church they built a small shelter house for him to retreat to after he completed his duties. The oldest baptismal book from Slivnica, the *Matrícula Parochiae Schleinizensis*, which covers the period between 1686 and 1713 includes on the last six pages a task book, drawn up by the chaplain Luka Wuttej. This task book tells us which tasks were performed (and when) at St. Anne in Fram. In Fram, Holy Masses were every month, especially during major holidays and name days.

### *The Church as a Fortress*

A look at the church's evidences of believers shows that the church was in public administration and that it was not owned by the castle, which means that the landlord was not its protector and could not dispose with its income. Around the church was a cemetery, where not only the castle owners





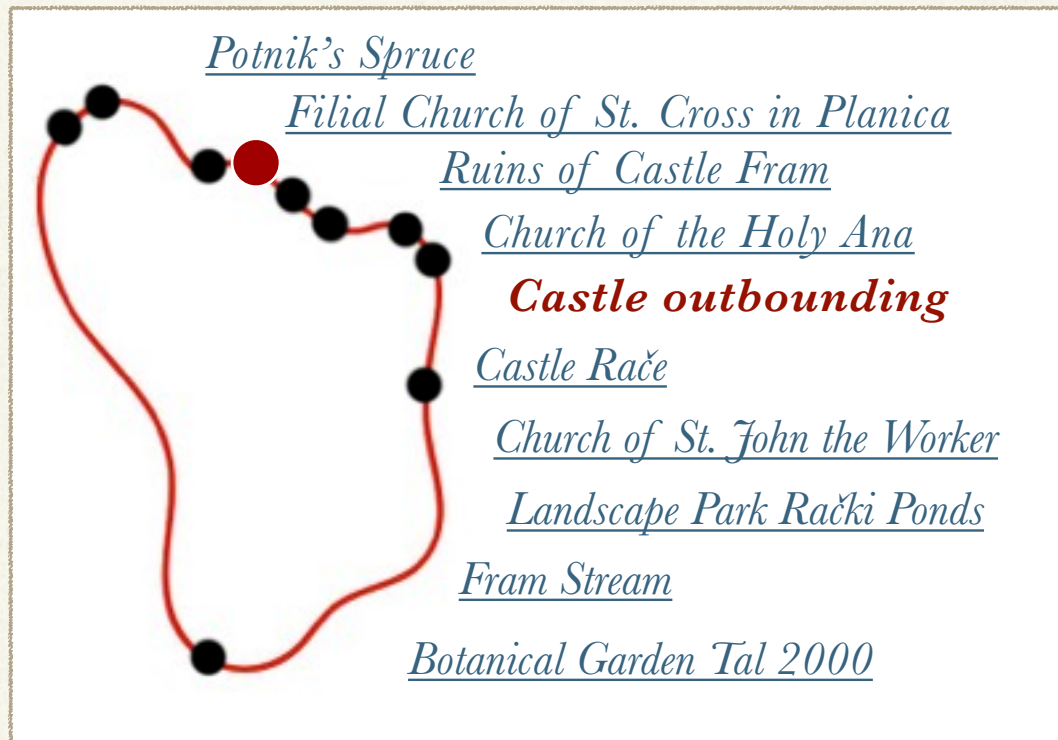
and administrators were buried but also the deceased from the surrounding villages. The cemetery was surrounded by a wall that served as a shelter for all local residents during Turkish invasions. The church itself was a kind of fortress – a special massive tower was built that served as a stronghold and lookout post.





## Fram's Dominion

In the 12th century minor dominions were formed between Maribor and Polskava, including Fram. For the establishment of the Fram dominion it was crucial that it became part of Styria in 1180. Dignity and the duchy's needs demanded that it had a provincial marshal. The duke gave this land to one of the first marshals, in all likelihood that was Herrand I of Wildon, who was interested in the territory in the far south for two reasons. Firstly, the border area of Wildon (south of Graz) was a dangerous place and in Fram his family would be safe. Secondly, here he started producing wine – probably in Stara Gora.



### HIDE FAMILY AND PRODUCE WINE

The castle outbuilding is a baroque edifice that was constructed as an adjunct to the former castle which is now in ruins. The special feature of the building is its entrance with a stone portal and the coat of arms – a shield with helmet. Horizontal façade bands and cornerstones, a baroque panel and auricular-style borders give the building its special character. At the back of the building, below the hill, is the entrance to the wine press.





### *Poll tax to protect the homeland*

When at the end of August 1521 the forces of the Ottoman sultan Suleiman (1520–1566) crushed the resistance of Belgrade, which was then part of the Hungarian state, and then at the end of August 1526 the Hungarian army was destroyed in Mohač along the Danube, it was clear that Central Europe would need an extraordinary effort for a successful defense. On 17 March 1527 Ferdinand I of Habsburg called for a special poll tax (German: *Leibsteuer*) for the Land of Styria. In April 1527, the Styrian provincial assembly in Graz, decided that the tax would be levied on all persons over the age of 12. At farms, members of the family had to pay 5 *krajcar* (1 penny – 4 silver coins), monks of the mendicant genera had to pay 8 *krajcar*, servants a sum of 8 florins (1 goldinar – 240 silver coins), laborers and craftsmen 13 *krajcar*.



### *The stone hammer*

At the end of the 16th century Fram dominion was bought by the Protestant Caharija Schneeweiss from Kozje (in 1594) and thereby Fram ceased to be in the possession of Styrian land marshals. In 1606, a right hand with stonemasons' hammer appeared in the Schneeweiss' coat of arms. Fram





was known for its excellent stonemasons, their symbol paved its way into the noble coat of arms of the Fram landlords.

On the church's wall there is a plaque with the inscription:

*This epitaph was made by the noble and righteous Ivan Jakob Schneeweiss. For Fram and Kozje, his late wife Gemi to be remembered forever.*

### ***Reputation of Fram's wine***

The Schaunberg lords, who succeeded the nobles from Ptuj, ruled Fram from 1438 to 1559. By the mid-15th century Fram's wine had already enjoyed a good reputation; from 1446 the Gornji Grad monastery had established a large vineyard. The first vineyards in Fram were mentioned in a document from 1435 which stated that a priest from Slovenj Gradec purchased the Fram vineyard.





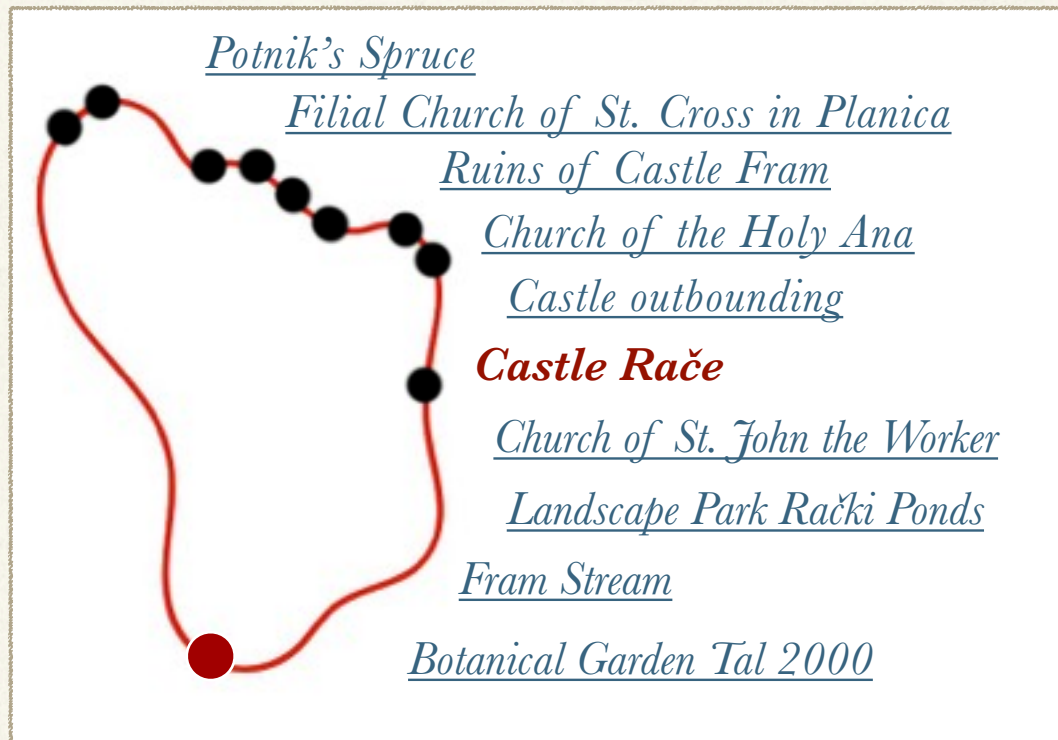




# Infamous Peace Treaty

In the mid 17th century on the Slovene, Croatian and Hungarian territories great things were about to happen, such as the violent secession of Hungary and South Slavic provinces from Austria. This was also the time of the Ottoman invasions over this territory which affected three nobles: the Croatian viceroy Peter Zrinski, the Croatian count Franj Krsto Frankopan and the Slovene count Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach.

All three mentioned nobles were among the most beloved figures in the 17th century. They had great successes in liberating the areas occupied by the Turks in the war between 1663 and 1664. However, the Vienna military council, instead of supporting them to free the rest of



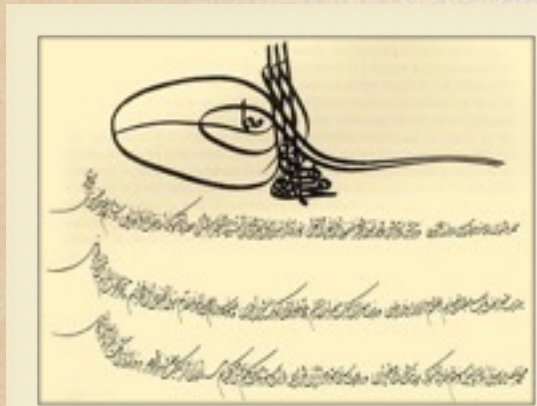
## MANSION FOR FUN AND HUNTING

A pearl in the centre of the Rače village, the Rače castle is an example of an island or water castle – a castle which is additionally protected by a high moat. The history of the castle dates back to the first half of the 16th century when the manor was completed with four wings and a Gothic Renaissance gateway. The owner of the castle in the mid 17th century, count Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach, was involved in the conspiracy against Emperor Leopold I Habsburg.



Slovene, Hungarian and Croatian land, signed an infamous peace treaty, the treaty of Vasvár in 1664 with the Turks. Emperor Leopold adopted such conditions as if he Turks were the victors and they retained the territories they had before the war! He also denied the rights and languages of other nations that had joined the empire.

### *Croatian and Slovene conspirators*



In Croatia, the conspiracy was led by the Croatian viceroy Peter Zrinski with the help of his wife Ana Katarina Zrinski and her brother Franjo Krsto Frankopan. Zrinski found an ally in the Slovene Count, Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach.

Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach used the castle as a kind of mansion for enjoyment and hunting; as a landowner he owned many manors and castles in Styria. There he met his long-term mistress Katarina – wife of Croatian viceroy Zrinski and signed the conspiracy document against the Emperor. Conspirators – viceroy Zrinski, counts Frankopan and Tattenbach resented Emperor Leopold's

pliability in the agreement with the Turks. Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach also resented the Emperor's imposed limitations on the Slovenians and their use of the Slovene language.





## *Disclosure of the conspiracy*

The nobles that planned the conspiracy had many motives. Croatian nobles sought support among soldiers. Ivan Erasmus Tattenbach had some initial concerns but later joined the conspiracy and promised to boost numbers with farmers and miners from his properties and support squad.

Unfortunately, the conspiracy was exposed. Tattenbach and his stable boy were on their way back from a dinner in a vineyard. As Tattenbach loved wine, he spoke too much. He told the stable boy all about the conspiracy. After that Tattenbach went to sleep, but the stable boy rode immediately to Maribor, and told everything to the scribe Riebel, who informed the court district in Maribor – the conspiracy was uncovered.









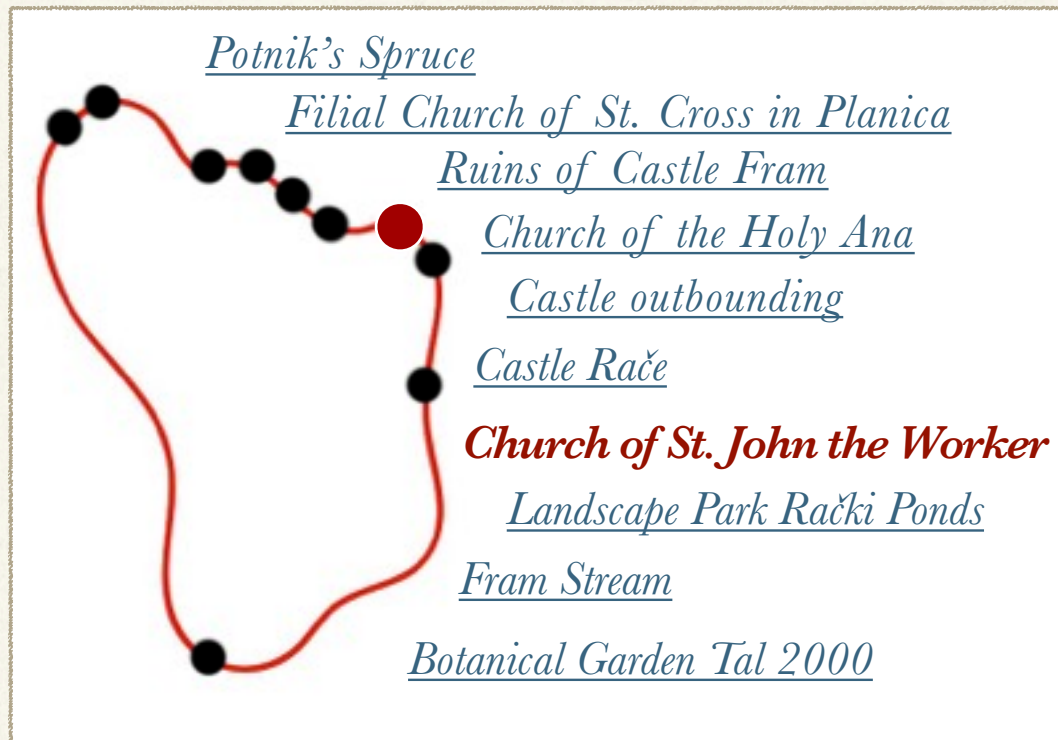
# A New Church

The church in Rače was built in 1967 and in 1982 the extension was added. In 1971, the windows of the church were decorated with colored stained glass, created by the academic painter Stane Kregar (1905–1973). The stained glass windows show the history of salvation and include a Way of the Cross.

Since the church is on the first floor, an elevator was added in 2004. In the spring of 2011 the church's interior was thoroughly renovated to prepare it for the installation of a new mosaic. Later the same year, in October 2011, Father Marko Ivan

Rupnik created the mosaic with the motif of the miracle of Jesus "Multiplication of the Loaves".

The Bible reports very little of Joseph. What we know about his life and work is that he was a quiet, modest and diligent



## THE CARPENTER'S SON

Near the castle stands a new church of St. Joseph the Worker. The Rače parish was part of the Slivnica Birth of Mary parish, which a few years ago celebrated 850 years of its foundation. The newer Rače parish was established in 1966. Parishioners chose St. Joseph the Worker as their patron, someone who is similar to them, to have him "beside them" as someone who sets an example and gives meaning to their work.



worker. He was a carpenter. St. Joseph worked with his own hands and supported the Holy Family. Also, he taught young Jesus Christ how to work and worked alongside him. And so Jesus was also called “the carpenter's son”.

### ***The history of Salvation and the Way of the Cross***

The stained-glass history of salvation and the Way of the Cross of painter Stane Kregar illustrate the suffering of Jesus from the moment that he was condemned to death from Pontius Pilate, until the moment when he lay dead in the tomb. On the way, he met many people who were hostile or insensitive to him. But most of them empathized with him thus alleviating his pain and wanted to help him.







## *The Miracle Mosaic*

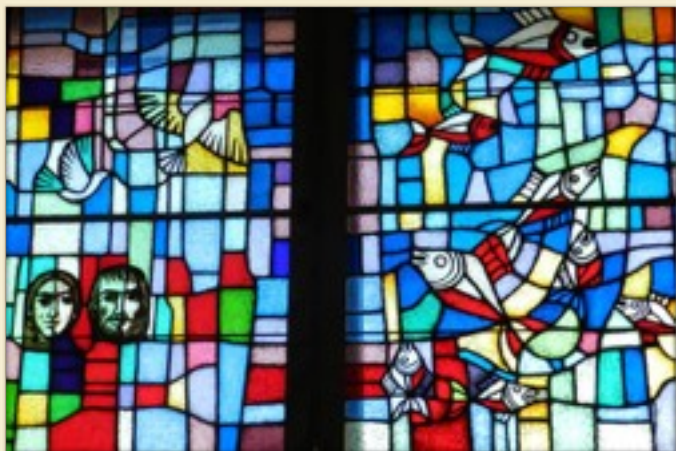
*The colours are witnesses of Light and Light is the Life of people*

(Father Rupnik)

In 2011, in the parish of St. Joseph the worker in Rače, Father Marko Ivan Rupnik along with a group of artists, created mosaics of Jesus' miracle of the "Multiplication of the Loaves". In his interpretation Father Rupnik noted that the content of the mosaic is the theology of work and the spiritual sense of the work. "Man, was created in God's image and can only be resolved by Love", wrote Father Rupnik. Parishioners greeted the mosaic with joy, many of them watching on whilst the mosaic was being created by the artist and his colleagues.

The mosaic features natural elements of Drava field – in addition to the stones from the local gravel pit there are also ears and vines. Father Marko Ivan Rupnik was delighted to invite local young people to lay their own stone in the mosaic.

In the basement of the church are spaces for the youth (Joseph Youth Centre), in the churchyard stands a separate room and playground for the younger churchgoers.



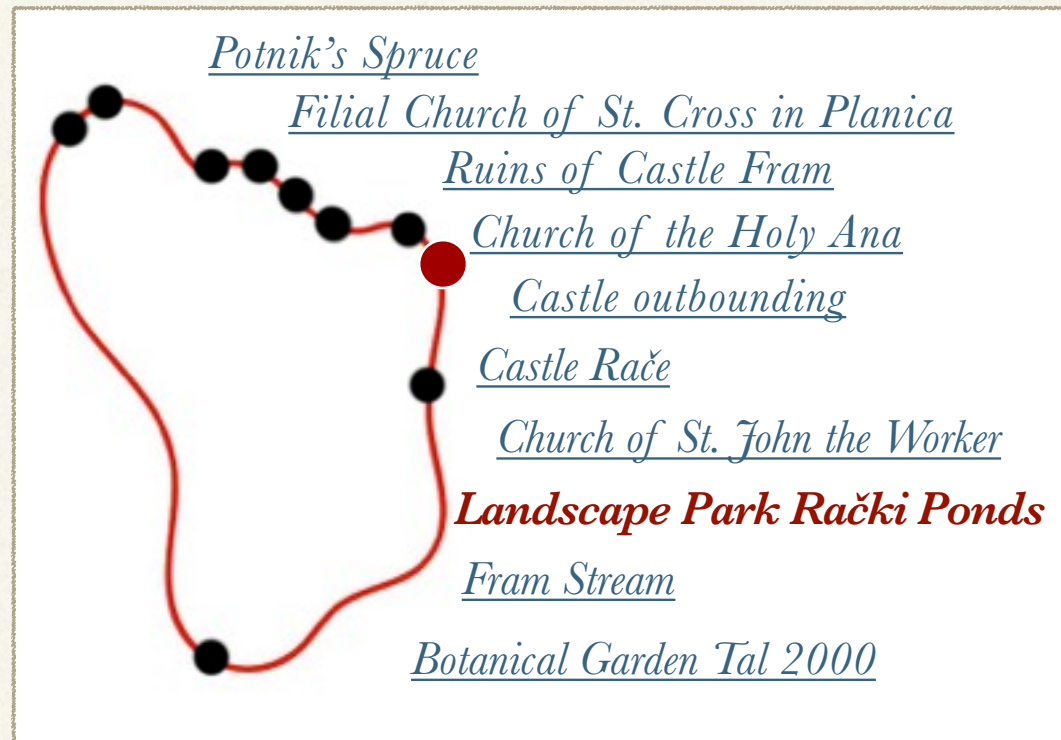


# Franciscan Cadaster

In the 16th century according to cartographic sources eight ponds were depleted in the vicinity of the Rače castle (German: *Kranichsfeld*). The majority of those ponds no longer exist. A more likely reference would have been the existence of Turner's ponds in the woods of Rače which are still the oldest in the area.

The group of six freshwater ponds south west of the Rače settlement, called Rački ribniki,- the fisher pond in Rače, were formed in the Fram stream. These ponds are probably man

made. Owners of the nearby castle were using them for fish farming as far back as the 19th century. The first known depiction found in the Franciscan cadaster, which was created in 1825, marks two ponds, the larger pond (German: *Beim*



## UNTOUCHED NATURE

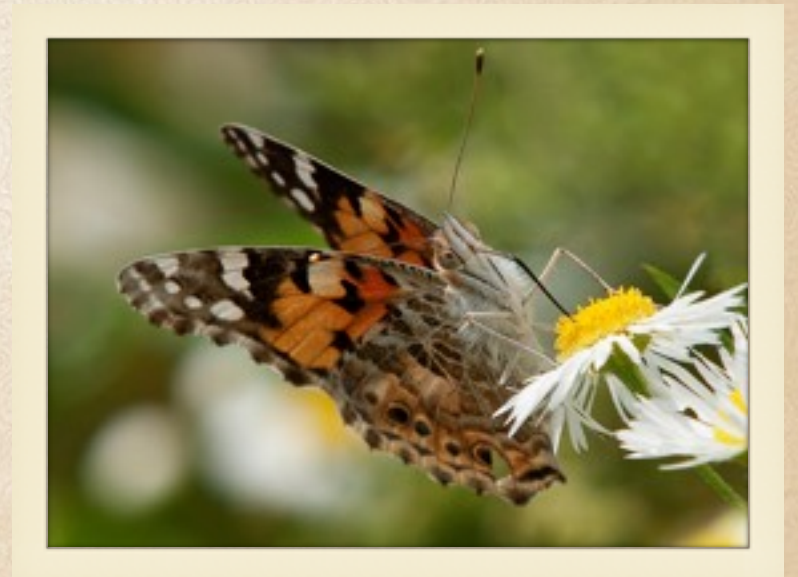
The landscape Park Rački ribniki – Požeg lies on the edge of the Drava field and covers an area of 484 ha, which includes eight different sized ponds and a reservoir. In 1992 it became an area protected by NATURA 2000. The area boasts over 210 species of birds, 50 species of dragonflies and 12 species of amphibians. Visitors come here to experience nature in all its finery, learn about plants and animals and have a chance to relax and enjoy the peace.



*Großem Teich*) and south of it the smaller Thomas's pond (German: *Thomas Teich*).

### ***Habitats of rare birds***

The varied fauna includes invertebrates, aquatic beetles, butterflies and dragonflies. Water areas are important for birds as they offer waterside nesting space in the overgrown reeds. The most common nesting birds are the little grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*), the great crested grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*), the tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*), the green crake (*Gallinula chloropus*) and the common coot (*Fulica atra*). Occasional nesters include the small crake (*Porzana parva*), the great reed warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*) and the sedge warbler (*A. schoenobaenus*). During the autumn and spring migration crowds of water birds stop at the Rački ribniki. Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) are often sighted flying overhead.





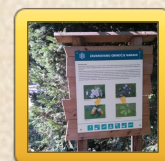
## *Rare and endangered plants*

The ponds are habitats of rare fauna. In the big pond grows the yellow floating heart (*Nymphoides peltate*), in the small pond the brittle water nymph (*Najas minor*) has been found. Each year, the pond surface is covered with rosettes of water chestnut (*Trapa natans*). When the ponds are empty, the bottom of the ponds quickly develop typical frontier community mudflats with some rare and endangered species, such as grass jelly (*Gelatin triandra*), water purslane (*Ludwigia palustris*), prostrate false pimpernel (*Lindernia procumbens*), and very rare yellow seed false pimpernel (*Lindernia dubia*).

Turn's ponds are the recognised habitat of European endangered aquatic fern water clover (*Marsilea quadrifolia*), therefore this area of the park is covered by the European ecological network NATURA 2000. Also recorded here are spawn amphibians and over 25 species of dragonflies including the fascinating endangered brown hawker (*Aeshna grandis*) and afore-mentioned hairy hawker dragonflies (*Brachytron pratense*). In the Požeg reservoir the green toad (*Bufo viridis*) has been sighted – extremely rare for northeastern Slovenia. Typical nesters in the area include the highly endangered small bittern (*Ixobrychus minutus*) and the kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*).









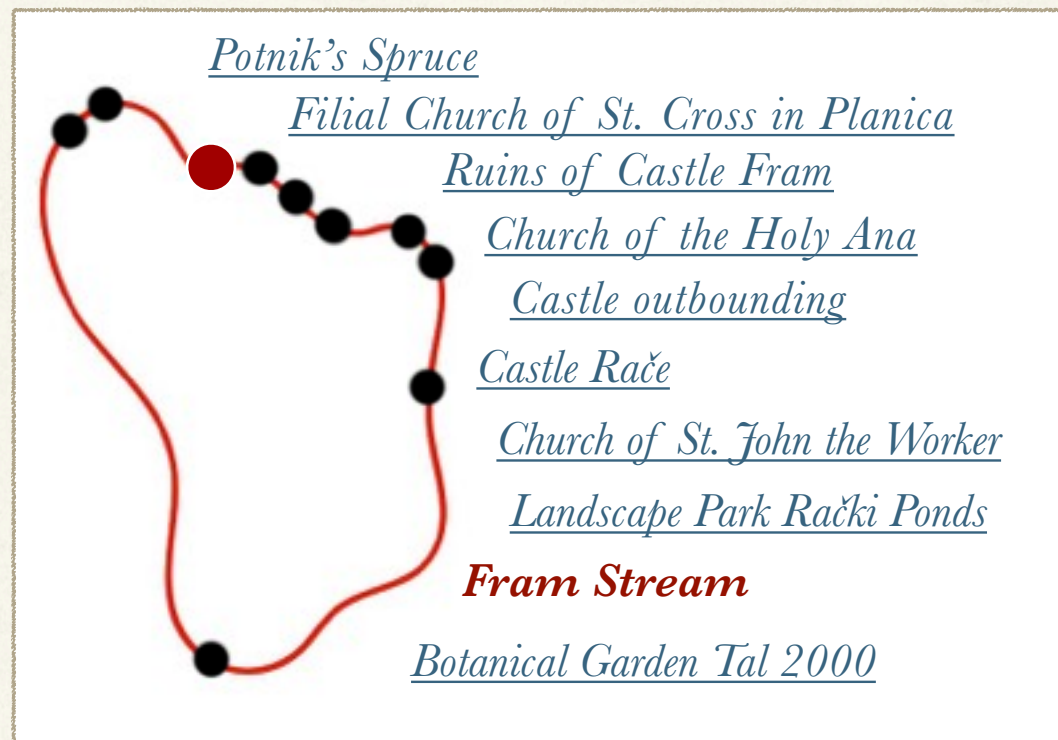
# The Golden Fountain

The Fram stream springs at Slivniško Pohorje. Only 170 meters downhill from its source the waterfall starts.

The Fram waterfall is one of the fan type of waterfalls and despite the poor flow of water, it is worth a visit. The Fram stream is protected as a hydrological natural monument. The overall flow of the Fram stream, which is 26 km long, is over metamorphic rocks.



In Roman times an aqueduct was routed from Fram to the Roman Petovio, present-day Ptuj. A stone channel of a Roman aqueduct runs on a flat field from the direction of Fram to Ptuj. It is worth studying the Roman history in more depth to understand this engineering marvel. Fram was the source of drinking water for Petovio and was called the “Golden Fountain”.



## TECHNICAL MONUMENT

The Fram stream is a protected hydrological nature monument. The whole Fram stream flows over metamorphic rocks. A very special point of interest is the 12 m high waterfall called Framski slap in the upper part of the stream. The stream follows the natural environment all the way to the lowlands. In previous times the stream was used for economic benefit – milling, saw and oil industries were very strong and based their industries around the Fram stream.



### *Sagadins saw and Mateks mill*

The Fram stream and its tributaries are one of the few that have survived from human interference such as the likes of power plants. Already in the mid-17th century, stockbreeders watered their



meadows. Towards the end of the same century water powered 37 mills, three smithies and two stamp mills. Lime was burned in three lime kilns. This gave the place its unique character. Today only the remains are visible, including Svetej's saw and mill on the Fram stream below the Planica village. Only Sagadin's saw from 1890 in Fram is still able to work with a water drive. It should serve as an example of a technical monument.

Matek's mill (now owned by the Pečovnik family) is the only preserved mill on Fram's part of Pohorje. Higher up in the hills people once milled for domestic needs. In the lowlands, there were some mills owned by craftsmen, who worked for the needs of Fram and surrounding areas in the Drava field. This was the case with Matek's mill. The first mills were recorded in 1527. Most mills were active before





electrification between both World Wars. The first mention of Matek's mill was in 1781.





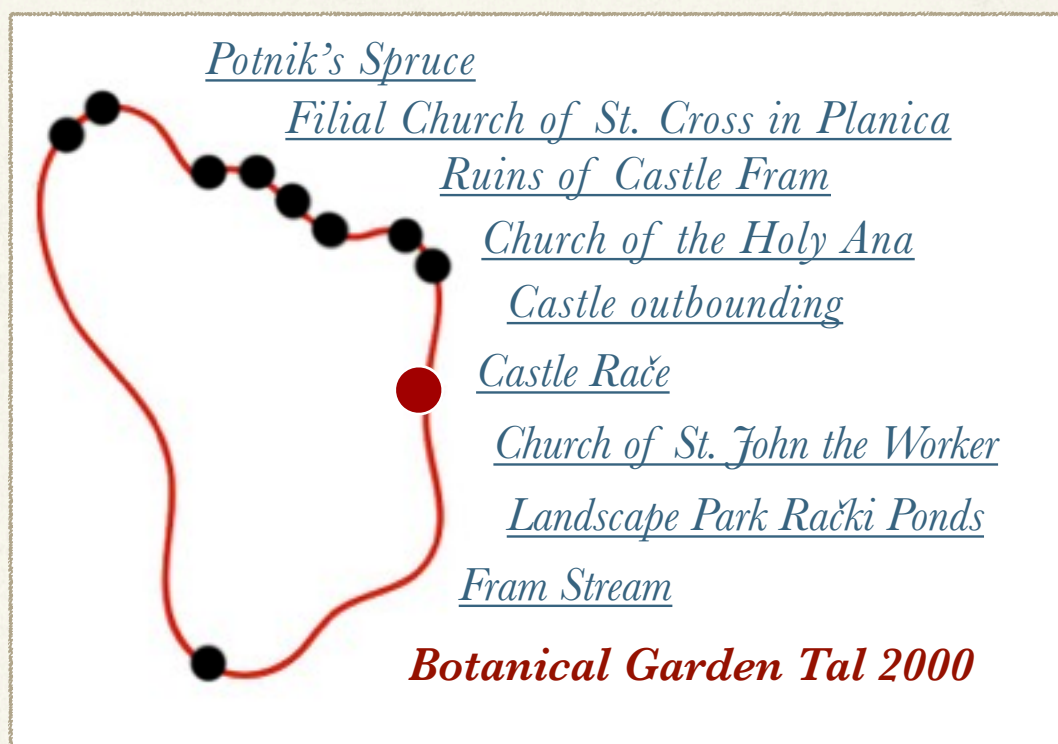
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## *Fram Oil Mill*

The Fram Oil Mill, which operates in an impressive building in the centre of the village, is successfully continuing its tradition of oil production. Producing pumpkin seed oil is a tradition because record shows that the first oil press was established here in 1750. Fram Oil Mill is the oldest mill in Slovenia. The tradition of oil production in Fram began in 1886, when the Bezjak family established the first oil plant. In the year 1948 the state nationalized the pumpkin seed oil factory which belonged to Ivan Bezjak. They renamed it Fram Oil Mill.

Pumpkin seed oil is unrefined edible vegetable oil which is produced following a traditional procedure. This procedure, along with little secrets of processing pumpkin seeds, which are transmitted from generation to generation, is the reason why excellent pumpkin oil is created here. This oil bears the protected designation of origin or geographical indication certificate.





### BIOENERGETIC POINTS

In the vicinity of the Landscape park Rački ribniki – Požeg, in the settlement Zg. Gorica, lies the botanic garden TAL 2000. Within an area of 6000 m<sup>2</sup>, aqueous plants, waterside plants, poisonous plants and healing plants are all presented. The collection of aqueous plants and waterside plants is the biggest in Slovenia. Amongst this collection it is worth mentioning one of the most celebrated and rarest of the garden, the four-leaver European water clover.

## Healing Plants

Among the precious plant species, we can see those growing wild in nature (the deadly nightshade, the poison hemlock, the Daphne's, hellebores, etc.); those decorative poisonous plants (the yew tree, the cedar, the larkspur, the European holly, and the foxglove) and also those which were brought here for economic reasons (such as tobacco).

The healing plants are divided into two groups: those found in the wild (the wood burdock, the tormentil, the silverweed, the plantain, the vervain) and those growing in gardens (the sage, the purple coneflower, the sedum genus, the hyssop, the balm, the peppermint and similar).



At the botanical gardens, we may find variegated dragonflies, and listen to frogs croaking and enjoy birds singing. We can also have a look at a smaller



collection of stones and minerals and gather exhaustive information and written materials about the landscape park. Visitors can also enquire about the tourist offerings and sights in the surrounding areas.

### *Aquatic and waterside plants*

The botanical garden TAL 2000 has the largest collection of growing (wild) aquatic and waterside plants in Slovenia. We will not find anywhere else in Slovenia such a diverse collection of aquatic plants. Among them are quite rare, endangered species, some of which already disappeared from our marshlands, ponds, and swamp meadows years ago. On view are also a collection of poisonous plants, and a smallish collection of minerals.

Among the aquatic plants, you can admire quite rare species such as the whitewater lily, four-leafed swamp grass, laxmann reed mace, frogbit, nutmeg, water violet, etc. Botanical garden TAL 2000 is especially proud of two extremely rare water ferns: schimmfarn and water clover.







### ***Poisonous plants***

Poisonous species are represented by autochthon plants and also by species that were brought to the garden – most frequently as decorative plants. Among the first category belong: the deadly nightshade, the black hellebore, the black hyoscyamus, *Polygonatum*, *Conium maculatum* and others. As decorative species, the following were brought here: the Caucasian heracleum, *Ricinus communis*, and the poisonous sumach.

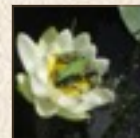
Visitors can also look at some medicinal herbs and can purchase aquatic, waterside and decorative plants to take home. In the botanical garden, there are also energy points.

### ***"Parzivals fairyland"***

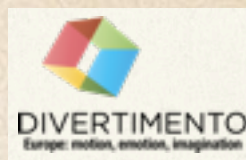
In TAL 2000, you can organize natural science days and natural science excursions. In the botanical garden TAL 2000, young visitors can be found in the mines looking for treasures, listening to stories from the Middle Ages and fishing on Parzival's lake.











## EUROTHENTICA

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The Plot of Fate in Castle Race, 1668

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