

PROGRAM

Monday, June 15 th , 2026 Ponedeljek, 15. junij 2026	
08:00–13:00	REGISTRATION / PRIJAVA UDELEŽENCEV
09:00–09:30	OPENING CEREMONY / OTVORITVENA SLOVESNOST
	SESSION 1 SKLOP 1
	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i>
09:30–10:00	Zaihua Liu <i>et al.</i> : Carbonate weathering turns karst waters into carbon sinks via a biological carbon pump
10:00–10:15	Jaime Fernández-Ortega <i>et al.</i> : Early Warning Systems as dynamic karst groundwater protection tools: the case of Sierra de Ubrique aquifer (S Spain)
10:15–10:30	Liangxing Shi : Both enhanced carbonate and silicate weathering strategies improve soil carbon sequestration via different pathways
10:30–10:45	Martin Sauter <i>et al.</i> : The karst vadose zone – infiltration dynamics and storage
10:45–11:15	<i>Coffee break / Odmor za kavo</i>
	SESSION 2 SKLOP 2
	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i>
11:15–11:45	Nenad Buzjak : Beyond the "dogma" of mean annual cave air temperature: rethinking cave microclimate monitoring
11:45–12:00	Dalibor Paar : Surface climatic processes as a key to interpreting carbon pathways in karst and caves: the example of Northern Velebit, Croatia
12:00–12:15	Philipp Häuselmann <i>et al.</i> : CO ₂ around Milandre Cave (Jura, Switzerland)
12:15–12:30	Neven Bočić & Slaven Vuković : Long-term monitoring of CO ₂ concentration in cave air using the CM-0018 1% CO ₂ Data Logger (CO ₂ Meter) instrument (Upper Barać Cave, Croatia)
12:30–14:00	<i>Lunch break / Odmor za kosilo</i>
	SESSION 3 SKLOP 3
	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i>
14:00–14:30	Sibo Zeng <i>et al.</i> : A greening Earth has increased the trend of karst-related carbon sink under a warming climate
14:30–14:45	Dénes Szieberth <i>et al.</i> : Challenges and methods for sampling gas-rich thermal springs discharging into water bodies - case studies from Slovenia and Hungary
14:45–15:00	Lukas Plan <i>et al.</i> : Speleogens formed by locally produced sulphuric and carbonic acid in large epigene caves of the NCA (Austria)
15:00–15:15	Mingyu Shao & Zaihua Liu : Carbon Footprint of the Loess–Karst Aquatic Continuum: Organic Matter Sources, Transformation, and Carbon Sink Effects
15:15–15:45	<i>Coffee break / Odmor za kavo</i>
	SESSION 4 SKLOP 4
15:45–16:00	Attila Kovács : Karst conduit network generation conditioned by geology, geomorphology, and hydrodynamic behaviour
16:00–16:15	Raffaele Bruschi <i>et al.</i> : Microplastics in pristine caves of the Timavo karst system: contamination patterns and spatial heterogeneity
16:15–16:30	Samah Moustafa Abozeid : Coastal karst geomorphology and submerged archaeological features at Ras Alam El-Rum, northwest coast of Egypt
16:30–16:45	Paul Griffiths & Carolyn Ramsey : Karst and Wind Energy Development in British Columbia, Canada: Implications of a Regulatory Transition

Cultural Centre Postojna
Kulturni dom Postojna

16:45–17:15	<i>Break to move / Odmor za premik</i>	KRI IZRK
	POSTER SESSION POSTERJI	
17:15–18:30	Quick poster presentations / Hitra predstavitev posterjev	
18:30–21:00	Poster display / Ogled posterjev	
19:00–21:00	ICE BREAKER UVODNO DRUŽENJE	

Tuesday, June 16 th , 2026 Torek, 16. junij 2026		
08:30–11:00	REGISTRATION / PRIJAVA UDELEŽENCEV	Cultural Centre Postojna Kulturni dom Postojna
	SESSION 5 SKLOP 5	
09:00–09:30	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i> Marek Lang: Impact of “parasitic phenomena” on the microclimate of the show caves: A case study from the Balcarka Cave (Moravian Karst, Czech Republic)	
09:30–09:45	David Domínguez-Villar <i>et al.</i>: Understanding ventilation dynamics and CO ₂ concentration variability of the permanent outflowing cave of Los Pilonos (Spain)	
09:45–10:00	Shengxin Peng & Wen Liu <i>et al.</i>: Dynamic patterns and resilience of cave air CO ₂ under tourism interferences in the Lushan National Geopark, north China	
10:00–10:15	Kristina Krklec <i>et al.</i>: Cave air ventilation dynamics in Eagle Cave (Spain): Unraveling the controls and sources of cave air CO ₂	
10:15–10:30	Laura Sanna: Near-surface CO ₂ dynamics in a karst vadose zone: insights from a tectonically stable setting	
10:30–11:00	<i>Coffee break / Odmor za kavo</i>	
11:00–11:30	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i> François Bourges: Insights into karst from monitoring heritage caves	
11:30–11:45	Marjan Temovski <i>et al.</i>: Cave monitoring at Drenska Peštera (N. Macedonia): Insight from carbon isotopes	
11:45–12:00	Petra Bajo <i>et al.</i>: CO ₂ and radon variability in a karst cave: Insights from Nova Grgosova Cave, Croatia	
12:00–12:15	Łukasz Lewkowicz: How to Professionally "Sell" a Cave? Speleological Marketing of the Demänová Caves Association (1924–1954)	
12:15–14:00	<i>Lunch break / Odmor za kosilo</i>	
14:00–19:30	Afternoon field trip (A) / Popoldansko terensko delo (A) “Composition and dynamics of air in the Škocjan Caves” <i>Bus drive and walk (several km).</i> »Sestava in dinamika zraka v škocjanskih jamah« <i>Vožnja z avtobusom ter hoja (nekaj km).</i>	

Wednesday, June 17 th , 2026 Sreda, 17. junij 2026		
08:30–09:30	REGISTRATION / PRIJAVA UDELEŽENCEV	Cultural Centre Postojna Kulturni dom Postojna
	SESSION 6 SKLOP 6	
09:00–09:30	<i>Keynote lecture / Plenarno predavanje</i> James Bendle <i>et al.</i>: Unlocking karst archives: Lipid biomarkers as underutilized paleoclimate proxies in speleothems and cave sediments	

09:30–09:45	Ivona Ivkić Filipović et al.: Holocene variability of internal carbon cycling in a karst Lake Velo Blato (Pag Island, Croatia) inferred from stable isotopes in lake sediments	Cultural Centre Postojna Kulturni dom Postojna
09:45–10:00	Bogusz Kulus: Forms of calcium carbonate precipitation in Pleistocene glacial sediments of Poland	
10:00–10:15	Astrid Švara & Nadja Zupan Hajna: Reconstructing hydrological changes in contact karst using tectonic uplift phases (Postojna Contact Karst, W Slovenia)	
10:15–10:30	Hélène Cassagne et al.: Geochemical and mineralogical modifications in speleothems associated with past bat occupations (Demoiselles and Roquette caves, Gard, France)	
10:30–11:00	<i>Coffee break / Odmor za kavo</i>	
11:00–11:15	Matija Perne et al.: Modelling and observation of CO ₂ and temperature in an intermittently-visited showcave	
11:15–11:30	Stanka Šebela: Spatial variation in carbon dioxide concentrations between the entrance and deeper parts of Postojna Cave, Slovenia	
11:30–11:45	Franci Gabrovšek: Diurnal CO ₂ variability in air exhaled from a deep vadose borehole in Planina Cave	
11:45–12:00	Nadja Zupan Hajna: From UNESCO proclamation to global implementation: The International Day of Caves and Karst	
12:00–12:30	Closing debate: The role of karst as a global carbon sink	
12:30–14:00	<i>Lunch break / Odmor za kosilo</i>	
14:00–19:30	Afternoon field trip (B) / Popoldansko terensko delo (B) “Cave air–water–rock interactions in a mature, well-ventilated stream cave; case study of the Križna Cave” <i>Bus drive and walk (several km).</i> »Interakcije med jamskim zrakom, vodo in kamnino v dobro prezračeni vodni jami: primer Križne jame« <i>Vožnja z avtobusom ter hoja (nekaj km).</i>	

Thursday, June 18th, 2026 Četrtek, 18. junij 2026		
08:30–18:00	Whole-day field trip (C) / Celodnevno terensko delo (C) “Carbon fluxes and related research from the Postojna–Planina caves system” <i>Bus drive and walk (several km).</i> »Tokovi ogljika in druge sorodne raziskave v Postojnsko planinskem jamskem sistemu« <i>Vožnja z avtobusom ter hoja (nekaj km).</i>	
18:00–19:30	<i>Break / Odmor</i>	
19:30	Reception at the Karst Research Institute Sprejem na Inštitutu za raziskovanje krasa	KRI IZRK

Friday, June 19th, 2026 Petek, 19. junij 2026		
08:30–16:00	Whole-day field trip (D) / Celodnevno terensko delo (D) “Karst of the Ljubljana Recharge Area” <i>Bus drive and walk (several km).</i> »Kraško zaledje izvirov Ljubljane« <i>Vožnja z avtobusom ter hoja (nekaj km).</i>	

LIST OF POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The following list presents the order of the 2-min long flash presentations. Authors are kindly invited to prepare 1–2 slides to attract attention to the content of the poster. Flash presentation and poster showing will both take place at Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU.

Na spodnjem seznamu je abecedni red dve-minutnih kratkih predstavitev. Avtorje vljudno vabimo, da pripravijo 1–2 prosojnici, da pritegnejo pozornost na vsebino plakata. Kratke predstavitve in predstavitev plakatov bodo potekali na Inštitutu za raziskovanje krasa ZRC SAZU.

	1 st AUTHOR	TITLE
1	Asaye Yohannes	Karst Distribution in Ethiopia: An Overview
2	Audra Philippe	Modeling of aerological, energy, and condensation volume balance. Chameau Cave, Zegzel, Morocco
3	Balázs Viktória Bernadett	In situ determination of the CO ₂ content of cave air with community science methods
4	Ciesielczuk Justyna	Origin of organic matter present in the karst system in the Rovte area, Central Slovenia
5	Cinus Daniela	Resilience of Nettuno tourist cave (Alghero, Italy) to CO ₂ pressure: multi-year monitoring of tourist flow and meteomarine disturbance
6	Engelhardt Irina	Hydrogeological drought assessment under semi-arid climate for the highly karstified Western Mountain Aquifer
7	Funk Barbara	Determining the water storage capacity of different types of limestone and dolomite using ERT
8	Gaber Ahmed	Landslide Hazard Zonation in a cut slopes along Sohag–Safaga highway based on slope properties and rock mass classification
9	Gebus-Czupyt Beata	New preliminary oxygen stable isotope results of carnivore coprolites from Biśnik Cave (southern Poland)
10	Grošanić Klara	Morphology and speleogenesis of the Vrlovka Cave (Kamanje, Croatia)
11	Huang Jenny	A field-inspired, systematic investigation of conduit network impacts on flow and transport in karst aquifers
12	Jelovčan Matej	GIS-Based Analysis of Dinaric Karst Poljes: An Integrated Approach and Preliminary Results
13	Johnston Vanessa	Rock–water–air carbon exchange along the Postojna–Planina caves system
14	Kepic Tinkara	Use of ¹³ C to trace the origin of dissolved inorganic carbon in water and organic carbon in sediments: a case study of the permanent subsurface flow of the karstic Reka River
15	Kurečić Tomislav	Towards a systematic stratigraphy of Croatian cave sediments: the QUEECAD project
16	Lončarić Robert	MOKRO project - Environmental changes of the littoral karst during the late Quaternary
17	Mammadov Ali	Carbon and oxygen stable isotope composition of speleothems from Čulejca Cave (N. Macedonia): preliminary insight on Holocene paleoclimate changes
18	Martín Pérez Andrea	Identification of organic compounds in moonmilk-forming waters by Liquid Chromatography High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (LC-HRMS)

19	Mayaud Cyril	Using FloodWatch on the field: a first assessment
20	Năpăruș-Aljančič Magdalena	ZRC SAZU and EPOS ERIC: Data provision and seismic monitoring in the Slovenian karst
21	Nunes Alvarado Diego Alfonso	Modeling CO ₂ concentration of a karstic soil from Dalmatia (Croatia) and implications for endokarst CO ₂ dynamics
22	Persoiu Aurel	Climate signals and historical ice exploitation in a high-altitude mountain karst: Crna ledenica Ice Cave (Croatia)
23	Roche Prune	Physics based modeling of speleogenesis in openKarst - preliminary results
24	Ruttyn Lilas	Towards a calibration of the infiltrability potential of the geological substratum on the Aix-Marseille Provence Metropole (SE France)
25	Rzadkowski Kewin	Denudation processes in isolated karst: a case study of the Rovte region in Central Slovenia
26	Slabe Tadej	Stone forests, developed from subsoil karren
27	Soto Limaris	Who needs to know about karst? From awareness to policy and protection
28	Surić Maša	QUEECAD - Quaternary Environmental Evolution archived in Croatian Cave Deposits
29	Šarc Filip	Coupled ventilation and hydrogeological controls on seasonal radon dynamics in Vrelo Cave (Croatia)
30	Trinajstić Nina	Karst bauxites as archives of Paleogene volcanism: Evidence from the Dinarides
31	Tyc Andrzej	MIS 6 climate variability in Central Europe recorded in a speleothem from Prekova jama cave (Central Slovenia)
32	Vivien Langhans	Long-Term Monitoring in the Vadose Zone of a Karst System: Investigating Environmental Drivers of CO ₂ Transport Dynamics Using Machine Learning

CLOSING DEBATE: THE ROLE OF KARST AS A GLOBAL CARBON SINK

Recent studies suggest that the terrestrial carbon sink may have been significantly overestimated, while major uncertainties also remain regarding the magnitude and dynamics of the oceanic carbon sink. In this context, the contribution of karst systems to global carbon sequestration remains particularly poorly constrained, with current estimates ranging widely from approximately 0.3 to 0.9 PgC yr⁻¹.

To evaluate the current state of knowledge, identify the key challenges in constraining these estimates, and discuss approaches for improving future assessments, we will host a closing debate on the global importance of karst as a carbon sink. The session will take the form of a moderated panel discussion featuring invited experts from different disciplines relevant to karst science and the global carbon cycle.

Panelists will begin with short introductory remarks before moving into an open discussion addressing current evidence, methodological challenges, and future research priorities. The session will conclude with approximately 10 minutes for questions and comments from the audience.

We warmly invite all conference participants to join this discussion and contribute their perspectives to what promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking conclusion to the conference.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration

- Registration is possible on Monday (8:00–13:00), Tuesday (8:30–11:00), and Wednesday (8:30–09:30) in the Cultural Centre Postojna (Gregorčičev drevored 2a, Postojna).
- **Registration is obligatory for all participants.**

Oral presentations

- Lectures will take place in the Cultural Centre Postojna (Gregorčičev drevored 2a, Postojna).
- PowerPoint presentations **should be given to the organizers** during the break before the Session with the presentation.
- Maximum duration of the lecture is 15 min (12 min for talk and 3 min for discussion). Invited lecturers (keynote speakers) have 30 min for the lecture. Due to a tight schedule, we ask you to please be punctual!

Posters

- Poster size: mandatory max. format is A0 – 841 x 1189 mm (portrait layout).
- Poster presentation and display will be held at the Karst Research Institute in the hall and the stairway.
- A flash presentation session will be organized at the beginning of the poster session. For this, each author(s) is asked to prepare a 2-minute-long flash presentation with 1–2 slides to attract attention to the content of the poster. After the flash session, the posters will be displayed and the authors will be able to answer the questions and discuss their research in detail.
- Leave the posters and short poster presentations (.ppt, .pdf; please name file with your surname) at the registration desk on Monday, June 15th, before the lunch break.
- Stand by your poster during the poster display.

Meals

- Lunches are not organized during the session days and afternoon field trips (Tuesday and Wednesday).
- During whole-day field trips (Thursday and Friday) simple lunches will be provided. Due to the length of the Thursday's and Friday's excursions (Excursion C and D) we suggest you take with you some additional snacks.
- Lunch breaks are timetabled into the schedule during the session days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday). You can go for lunch at several restaurants, including Štorja pod stopnicami, Bar Bor, Pri kaminu, Čuk, Pizzeria Minutka, and Bistro Perspektiva.
- On Thursday a reception dinner will be provided.

Field trips

- All fieldtrips will be combined with a bus drive and walk (several km per day).
- Registration for each field trip will be possible only on Monday, 15th June 2026 at the registration desk.
- Bus departure for the field trips is from the Postojna bus station (marked as No. 3 on the map of Postojna).
- Because of visits of caves, walking shoes, field clothes and headlamps are obligatory. At most excursions, a lot of walk is expected. Please, be ready for possible hot weather or/and rain.
- Insect repellents are recommended as we will be walking in areas populated with ticks (Ixodes ricinus) that transfer mainly lyme disease and tick-borne meningitis. Check yourself in the evening after each field trip.
- Participation on the excursions is voluntary and at your own risk. The organizers do not accept any liability for any loss, damage, injury or death arising from or connected with the excursions. Participants are advised to arrange an appropriate insurance policy. The participants are obliged to comply with the instructions of the organizers.

OSNOVNE INFORMACIJE

Prijava

- Registracija je mogoča v ponedeljek (08:00 – 13:00), torek (08:30 – 11:00) in sredo (8:30 – 09:30) v Kulturnem domu v Postojni (Gregorčičev drevored 2a, Postojna).
- **Registracija je obvezna za vse udeležence.**

Predavanja

- Večina predavanj poteka v Kulturnem domu v Postojni (Gregorčičev drevored 2a, Postojna).
- Prosimo, da PowerPoint predstavitev **oddate organizatorjem** v odmoru pred začetkom tematskega sklopa, v katerem imate predstavitev.
- Dolžina predavanja je omejena na 15 minut (12 minut za govor in 3 minute za razpravo). Vabljeni predavanja so omejena na 30 minut. Prosimo vas, da se strogo držite predpisanega časa!

Posterji

- Velikost posterjev: obvezen največji format je A0 – 841 x 1189 mm (pokončna lega).
- V začetku predstavitve posterjev bo potekala hitra predstavitev s pomočjo prosojnic. Pri tem vse avtorje vabimo k pripravi dve minuti dolge predstavitve - napovednika (ena do dve prosojnici), v kateri pritegnete pozornost na vsebino posterja. Hitri predstavitvi bo sledil klasičen ogled posterjev, kjer bodo avtorji lahko odgovarjali na morebitna vprašanja udeležencev.
- Posterje in kratke predstavitve (.ppt, .pdf) pustite pri mizi za prijavo udeležencev, in sicer v ponedeljek, 15. junija, do odmora za kosilo.
- Med ogledom posterjev stojte poleg svojega posterja.

Obroki

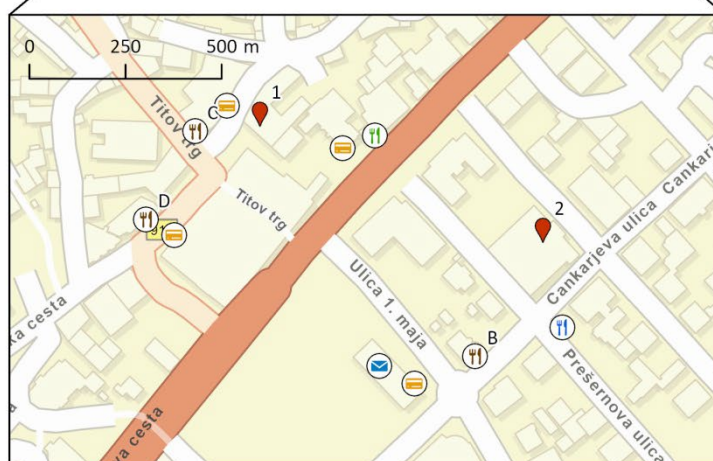
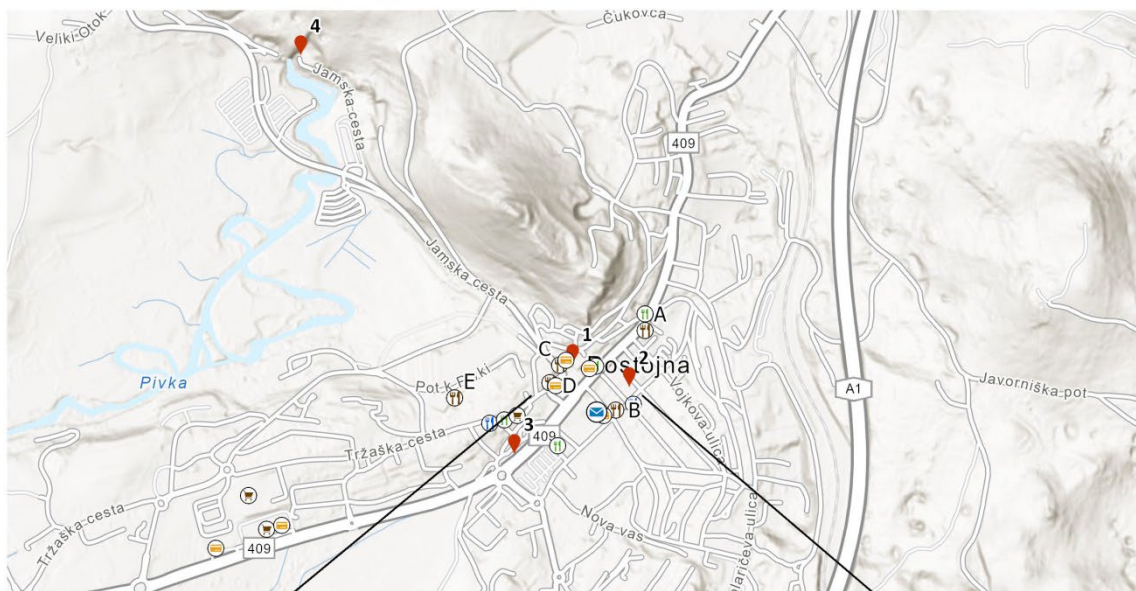
- Kosilo med predavanji in popoldanskim terenskim delom (torek in sredo) ni organizirano.
- Med celodnevnim terenskim delom (četrtek in petek) organiziramo enostavne obroke. Zaradi dolžine četrtkove in petkove ekskurzije (Ekskurzija C in D) priporočamo, da si s sabo vzamete še kakšen dodaten prigrizek.
- Odmori za kosilo so v času predavanj (ponedeljek, torek in sredo) vključeni v program. Jeste lahko v Štorji pod stopnicami, Bar Boru, Pri kaminu, v Čuku, Bistro Perspektiva, itd.
- V četrtek je v večernem delu programa planirana pogostitev.





Strokovne ekskurzije

- Vse ekskurzije bodo kombinirane z avtobusno vožnjo ter hojo (nekaj km/dan).
- Prijave za strokovne ekskurzije bodo mogoče le še v ponedeljek, 15. 6. 2026 pri mizi za prijavo udeležencev.
- Odhod avtobusov je z glavne avtobusne postaje Postojna (označeno s št. 3 na karti Postojne).
- Zaradi predvidenih obiskov jam je obvezna primerna oprema (pohodni čevlji, terenska oblačila, svetilke). Na vseh ekskurzijah pričakujemo precej hoje. Pripravite se tudi na možno vročino ali/in dež. Na ekskurzijah bomo veliko hodili – bodite pripravljeni.
- Priporočamo uporabo repelentov proti insektom. Hodili bomo po območjih, kjer se nahajajo populacije klopov (*Ixodes ricinus*), ki so lahko prenašalci povzročiteljev lymške borelioze ali meningitisa.
- Udeležba na terenskem delu je prostovoljna in na lastno odgovornost. Organizator ne prevzema odgovornosti za morebitne izgube, škodo, poškodbe ali smrtne primere, ki bi nastali v povezavi s terenskim delom. Udeležencem svetujemo, da si pred odhodom na terensko delo uredijo ustrezno zavarovanje. Udeleženci so tekom terenskega dela dolžni upoštevati navodila organizatorja.


MAP OF POSTOJNA

ZEMLJEVID POSTOJNE



-  1 - Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU / Inštitut za raziskovanje krása ZRC SAZU
-  2 - Cultural Center of Postojna / Kulturni dom Postojna
-  3 - Postojna bus station / Avtobusna postaja postojna
-  4 - Entrance to Postojna cave / Vhod v Postojnsko jamo

-  A - Pizzeria and restaurant Minutka / picerija in restavracija Minutka
-  B - Bistro Štorija / Bistro Štorija
-  C - Restaurant Proteus / Restavracija proteus
-  D - Bistro Bar Bor / Bistro Bar Bor
-  E - Pizzeria and restaurant Čuk / Picerija in restavracija Čuk

-  Post office / pošta
-  Market / trgovina
-  Fast food / hitra prehrana
-  ATM / bankomat
-  Bakery / pekarna