



Green guidelines for visiting the destination St. Ana



Community St. Ana

www.sv-ana.si

Slovenia is an active safe and healthy land and one of the first countries in the world that has been granted the label Safe Travels. It is a land that tells a green tale.

It is the same in the destination community St. Ana which received the 2019 label Slovenia Green Destination – Silver. This label is granted in lines with the national program Green scheme Slovenian Tourism and is a promise for a green future. Under this program scheme green politics are realised and we create green unique exclusive experiences. As a local community we come together to follow the values of preserving unspoiled nature and environment, health, security, culture and ethnological heritage and development.



Be aware that even you as a visitor can contribute to the preservation of the national green character and the green characteristics of the community St. Ana with your actions and behaviour.



By following and taking into account the »Green Guidelines« you will contribute to reducing the negative effects of tourism and fortifying the reputation of the label SLOVENIA GREEN.

Explore and feel the green prior to your arrival to Slovenia and the community St. Ana.

- **Visiting one of the most green destinations on the planet is a decision with many responsibilities.** According to the Green Destinations standards Slovenia is the first fully certified green country.
- **Travel in by train or bus or choose an airline provider who invests in programs for reducing the carbon footprint.** The community St. Ana is located close to Maribor and Lenart, directly in contact with the neighbouring country Austria. In the community St. Ana, where possible, we defeat the distances with local transport, we use bicycles or walk where the distance is short enough.
- **Book your time off in accommodation with an international and national certificate Slovenia Green.** The community St. Ana does not have a provider with the certificate Slovenia Green. However, providers like Farmhouse Kapla and the tourist farm Mihelič strive to operate sustainably. They are responsibly handling wastewater, general waste and energy. As a local provider of accommodation, they are strongly engrained into the community. They employ locals who will be happy to share some local stories with the guests.
- **The green hours and experiences in Slovenia are organised by certified tourist agencies.** If you wish to travel in an especially green and sustainable way tourist agencies with the certificate Slovenia Green can help you organise the tours and experiences.





Travel green – sustainable and environment friendly

1. Nature and the landscape

- **Visit the green natural attractions.** The destination community of St. Ana can be found in the heart of the Slovenske gorice. Discover a beautiful, diverse and unspoiled landscape which overwhelms you with its diversity, colourfulness and rich gems of nature. Where the hills touch the sky at sunset and you are greeted in the morning by sun soaked plains.
- **You can help preserve the delicate natural balance** by walking on set and marked footpaths. Every stroll outside the estimated path can cause a biotic imbalance.
- **Taking care and preserving the animal and plant species.** Nature is home to many animals and plants, and you are a guest in their home. Please ensure you leave it as you found it. The valley of the river Ščavnica and its surroundings is an extremely important environmental area, and due to its biotic variety, it fulfils the criteria for the international important area Natura 2000, but its status is yet to be confirmed. It is the last sanctuary and an important habitat for many endangered animal and plant species. From 2019 this area is yet again the home of beavers. When visiting the river Ščavnica please follow the water guidelines and proprieties.
- **Instead of driving with a car,** try and explore the destination community of St. Ana with a bicycle or on foot. The landscape of the community of St. Ana is very diverse and intertwined with several well-kept paths that will lead you to hidden and interesting corners.
- The Destination of the community of St. Ana is perfect for exploring with a light step, as it has many marked walking trails (Anna's trail, School learning path, Community path, VTC 13, Winemaking learning path – Postič, Pomurska mountain path).
- **Romance towards your dearest ones can be shown in other ways than stomping on grass and picking flowers.** Wild blooming fields are pastures for the autochthonous Slovenian bees, as Slovenia is one of the most bee-rich countries of the world.



2. Environment and climate

- **Feel the community of St. Ana and Slovenia as a green outdoor home.** Together we can ensure that this home remains clean and well kept. Ensure waste gets appropriately recycled and dispose of it in designated areas services by waste collection companies. If you are hiking in nature bring your rubbish back with you.
- **Water is clean and drinkable everywhere in Slovenia,** as the right to clean drinking water is written in the constitution. We recommend that you purchase a **reusable bottle when visiting Slovenia** as you can access fresh drinking water on nearly every step. In the summer months the largest cities in Slovenia have public drinking fountains available, usually in town squares so you can refill your supplies.
- **Help us preserve the rich water sources** by choosing a short shower rather than a long bath and by closing the tap when brushing your teeth.
- **Help contribute towards saving energy** by using towels and bedding more than once.
- **Choose soaps, cosmetic products and other cleansing products,** that are environment friendly and do not pollute nature and its delicate ecosystems. Even if the cosmetic packaging is nearly empty use them up completely and take them back home with you.
- If a digital or battery powered device malfunctions on your trip please dispose of it at an appropriate recycling/collection point.
- **Let the environment and nature catch their signals.** Wherever possible disconnect devices from outlets along with all other electronic devices.

3. Culture and tradition

- **The Slovene Language has helped preserve the Slovene culture and sovereignty through millennia.** Try to learn a few basic words and phrases which will bring a smile to your local hosts' faces all over the country. (hello = dober dan, thank you = hvala, how are you = kako si/ste, that is so good – to je zelo dobro). The language of our locals is slightly different. Listen to them and you can learn it as well.
- **Buy local** produce, in local shops with Slovene products and produce. In the community of St. Ana you will be able to purchase local products at the local farmers market. You can also visit the providers in person.



- **Support local providers**, farms by ordering meals made from locally sourced ingredients, craftsmen by purchasing their products and artists by learning about their art.
- **Taste the richness of the Slovenian kitchen.** Visit some of our restaurants or pubs, wineries, or wine cellars. Enquire about and choose typical dishes made with locally grown produce and cooked from local recipes. These dishes will usually have a special mark on the menu.
- **The Slovene culture will be best presented to you by local guides**, who know all 4 seasons of the nature and the entire timescale of cultural activities and events. In TIC Slovenske gorice (Development agency Slovenske gorice) they will help you choose the best activity/adventure for you.
- **In the community be sure to visit the sacral heritage, vineyard museum, the memorial room of dr. Roman Lesnik, the Tea House Kolarič, the communal wine cellar and wine cellars of other winemakers (Hafner, Polič, Gungl-Šenveter and others ...)** and contribute to preserving the topmost parts of the Slovene culture and art.
- **Visit the traditional events and festivities**, which will bring you closer to Slovene customs, folk customs and traditions. In the destination community St. Ana you must not miss the 1st May hike, the erecting of the wind rattle, St. Martin's Day at the local open market. Discover the beat of the community and how the residents of the area Slovenske gorice lived in the past and how they live today.

4. Preserve Green Slovenia in your heart (Slovenia Makes You Green) and keep the destination community of St. Ana in fond memory

- **Handcrafted products with a certificate** make the best gift. Find them in shops marked with the label Art & Craft Slovenia. In the Development agency Slovenske gorice TIC and the centre of local offers you can find the products of local artists, craftsmen ...
- **Share your positive experiences** with your friends and help us spread the green thought.
- **Share your experiences in Slovenia and the destination community St. Ana on social media and use the hashtags #ifeelsLOVEnia #visitSvetaAna**
- **Open your heart** to green habits and make them a reality in your home.



**You are welcome to experience your piece of St. Ana and
thank you for helping us write our green story together.**

