



RIDE EUROPE

ROUTE 1. STAGE 3. DAY 2.

LAKE BLED TO OPATIJA SLOVENIA TO CROATIA

APPROXIMATELY 150 MILES (240KM)

Today's route takes you through some of Slovenia and Croatia's most rewarding landscapes, starting with a climb to the Smučišče Rudno ski resort near Železniki. It's well worth stopping here for a hot chocolate and slice of warm Potica (walnut-filled pastry), while taking in the mountain views.

Descending into Železniki, you will discover a town renowned for its ironworking heritage. As you ride into the rolling hills of the Poljane Valley, you'll reach Žiri – an area famous for its centuries-old lacemaking and shoemaking traditions.

Next comes the Karst region and the town of Postojna, best-known for Postojna Cave, carved out by the Pivka River over millions of years. There's also Predjama Castle, built dramatically into the face of a 123m cliff. Leaving Postojna, the route heads towards the historic town of Ilirska Bistrica. It acts as the primary gateway to the limestone Karst Plateau, home to the Škocjan Caves. Adjacent to the Karst region lie the Brkini Hills, known for fruit orchards and rural scenery, offering a relaxed journey before crossing into Croatia.

Your day concludes in the historic seaside resort of Opatija, celebrated for its beautiful Belle Époque villas and Lungomare coastal promenade. It's the perfect place to unwind after a memorable day's ride on superb roads.

WHERE TO STAY

There are limited campsites around Opatija but the nearest is:

Camping Opatija – a terraced natural woodland campsite situated in Ičići, close to the Lungomare coastal promenade and just 2km from the historic centre.

rivijera-opatija.hr



Opatija has more than 1,300 types of accommodation to suit every budget.

Recommended hotel:

**Hotel Palace
Bellevue, Opatija**

Ul. Maršala Tita 144-148, 51410, Opatija

liburnia.hr/en/hotel-palace



HIGHLIGHTS

- Železniki
- Žiri
- Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle
- Karst Plateau and the Brkini Hills
- Opatija



ROUTE MAP



Scan the QR
code or click
here to view
the route

DEPART FROM LAKE BLEĐ

	Road	Direction
At Grand Hotel Toplice on the lakeside, pick up and follow	209	Bohinjska Bistrica/Tolmin
In Bohinjska Bistrica, pick up and follow	909	Zgornja Sorica/Tolmin/Železniki
In Zgornja Sorica, pick up and follow	910/403	Spodnja Sorica/Zali Log/Tolmin/ Železniki
In Železniki, pick up and follow A village ski resort	403	Škofja Loka
In Škofja Loka, pick up and follow	210/408	Gorenja Vas/Žiri
In Žiri, pick up and follow	407	Smrecja/Podlipa/Vrhnika
In Vrhnika, pick up and follow	409	Logatec/Kalce/Postojna
In Postojna, pick up and follow	6	Pivka/Zagorje/Knezak/Ilirska Bistrica
In Ilirska Bistrica, pick up and follow On the border with Croatia, just south of the village	6	Jelšane
After the border, you are now into Croatia. Pick up and follow	8	Rupa/Permani/Mučiči/Jurdani/Opatija (non-motorway)

Disclaimer: These are suggested routes only and we cannot be held responsible for the condition of the roads, the weight of traffic or any detours. Fuel stations can be few and far between in some rural areas of Slovenia and Croatia. Make sure you start each day with a full tank and top up when you can.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY **call 112** from any mobile phone