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**BRDA**

Land of invigorating moments



*European **DE**stination of Excele**N**ce 2015 in SLOVENIA*





# LAND OF INVIGORATING MOMENTS

## MEET THE WELL-KNOWN WINEMAKERS AND HEARTY GRANDMOTHERS

Welcome to the sunny and sweet side of the world! The gentle hills of **Brda** in southwest Slovenia are dotted with romantic villages, green vineyards, olive trees and orchards. Hospitable **wine cellars** and **tourist farms** can be found everywhere. The energy of sun and love creates wine, sweet fruits, honey and olive oil. Brici (residents of Brda) are **proud people**, deeply **attached to their soil and tradition**. From the very first visit, they treat their guests as good friends.

The Brda winemakers are renowned for producing **top-quality white and red wine** that is served in the best restaurants around the world. The predominant wine variety is the **autochthonous Rebula**, glimmering in sunny golden-yellow shades. In Brda they say that **wine never likes to be alone**, it always feels better in good company. Therefore, in wine cellars they are happy to serve **home-made prosciutto and salami**.



In local inns and tourist farms, they abide by **original cuisine with fresh local delicacies** and herbs. **The recipes of Brda grandmothers** are still divine commandments of the local cuisine, but are often spiced with inventiveness and a modern hint of cosmopolitanism. Wherever you stop in Brda, you are surrounded by **pleasant scents**, the scents that can only develop where **the freshness of the Alps meets the warmth of the Mediterranean**.

*Mature fruits of Brda catch the sun and make people smile. Taste cherries, apricots, Japanese persimmons and figs.*

*Brda is the land of invigorating moments*

## ENJOY THE PLEASURES OF WINE AND CULINARY FESTIVITIES

**The CHERRY FESTIVAL** in June is the most popular tourist event in Brda. During the festival, the entire Brda region puts on a round, red-cheeked face. Red and firm Brda cherries have always been adored in the imperial Vienna. The Cherry Festival is always followed by the traditional Brda Parade.

**BRDA AND WINE** in April is a traditional wine and cuisine festival. Don't miss the gourmet experience combined with the tasting of premium quality wines made by Brda winemakers.

**The DAYS OF REBULA AND OLIVE OIL** are a traditional event that attracts many visitors anxious to taste the excellent autochthonous Rebula wine and gastronomic treasures of Brda.

**ST. MARTIN'S DAY** in November is a celebration dedicated to young wine, connecting winemakers with lovers of wine and autumn culinary delights. One of the biggest feasts for St. Martin's Day in Slovenia takes place in Brda every year and is organised by locals, Brici with particular passion. The Brda Women's Society is active throughout the year in its efforts to spread the culture of enjoying wine and cuisine.





## EXPERIENCE GREEN AND ACTIVE HOLIDAYS IN BRDA

**Get to know Brda with multi-coloured feelings and green mentality!**

The land of invigorating moments invites you to enjoy active holidays **in hiking shoes or on a bike** all seasons of the year. When hikers on the **Alpe Adria Trail** arrive in Brda, they are amazed by the views of the undulating scenery that set their hearts in motion, particularly in springtime when the landscape is covered in white and pink fruit-tree blossoms. **Eight** very special **hiking trails** wind among vineyards, orchards and olive groves. They are all named after old varieties



of Brda cherries. Another interesting feature is the **Gradnik educational trail**, named after the famous poet who perceived living in Brda as “stars falling from the sky.” Today the **Peace Trail from the Alps to the Adriatic**, which runs through Brda, is a representation of hope and reminder of World War I. The diverse landscape can be explored by bike on **nine cycling trails**. They are named after sweet Brda fruits tempting cyclists during their pedal. For the biggest hedonists who aren't too enthusiastic about panting among the hills, an **environmentally friendly** mode of transport is also available – **electric bikes and scooters**.

## NOBLE TALES OF BRDA VILLAGES AND CASTLES

Have you ever heard a noble tale about Brda? There are plenty of them! The land of fruits and sun has been exposed to turmoil due to it being **at the junction of the Slavic, Romanic and Germanic worlds**, hence its turbulent and dramatic history. Since ancient times, the nobility enjoyed retreating in Brda to relax and socialise. Hence, some **pearls of Slovenian cultural heritage** have been built in the midst of the green hills. The **Dobrovo Castle**, clearly visible from all directions, has a wonderful Renaissance edifice. The recently renovated **Vipolže Villa** is the most beautiful Renaissance villa in Slovenia. Shining in its new design, it boasts a state-of-the-art centre for cultural, business and educational tourism. The fortified **medieval village Šmartno**, located in the geographical heart of Brda, attracts many delighted visitors. Due to its romantic atmosphere and picturesque setting, it is considered to be **one of the most beautiful cultural monuments in Slovenia**. From its ramparts, one can enjoy the view of undulating hills and the peak of **Sabotin**, from which the highest Slovenian peaks towering above the emerald Soča valley and the Adriatic Sea can be admired in a single sweeping view in clear weather.



## INVIGORATING BRDA ADVENTURES

- **GRAPE PICKING WITH THE LOCALS, CALLED “BRICI”**
- **WALKING AMONG OLIVE GROVES**
- **DONKEY TREKKING**
- **BAREFOOT WALKING**
- **CREATIVE WORKSHOPS**
- **APITHERAPY WITH BRDA BEES**

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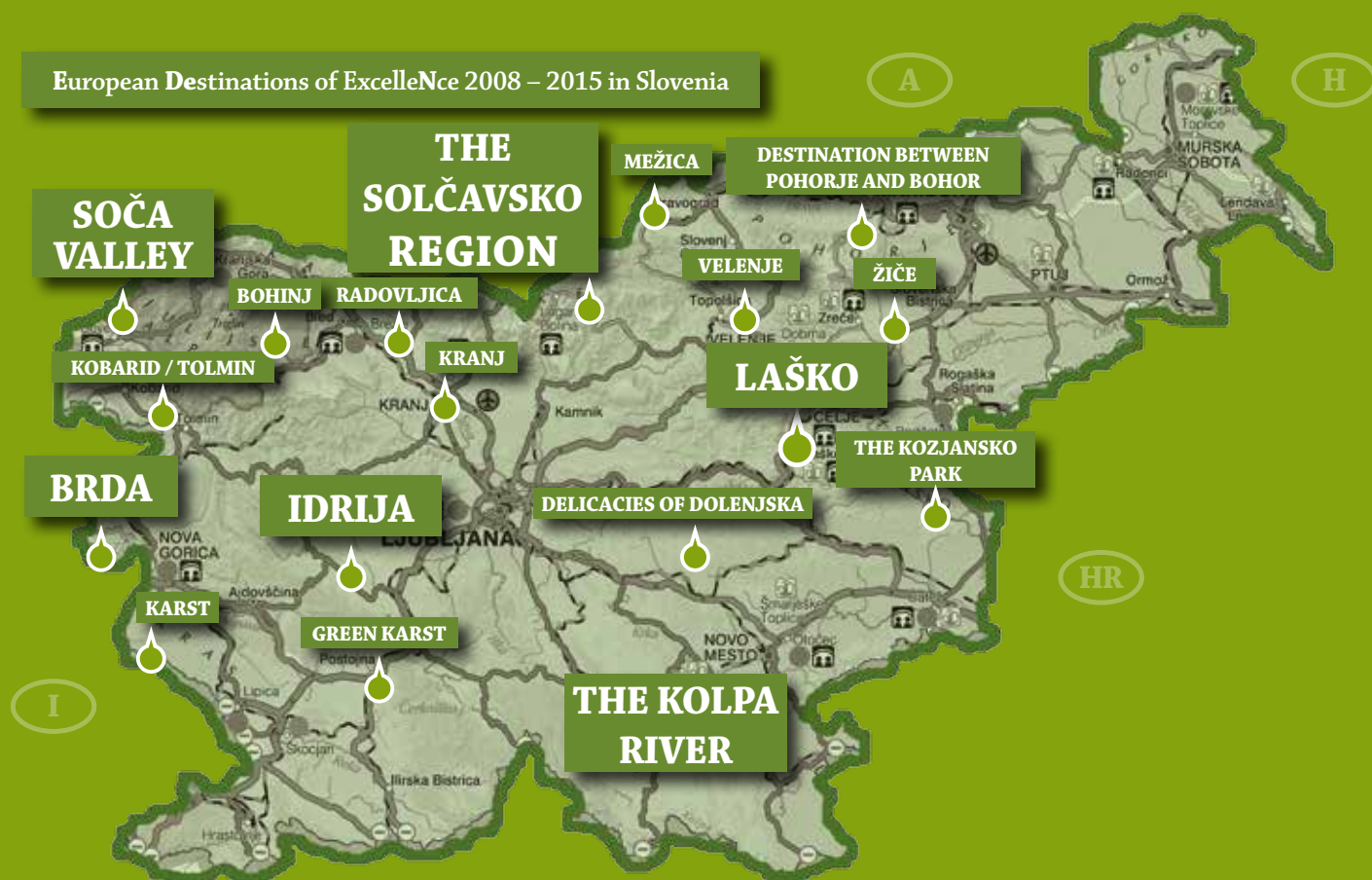
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