



## Tretji forum EPUO 2025: Inovativna učna okolja

19. junij 2025,  
Center Rog, Ljubljana in po spletu

#ForumEPUO2025 #EPUO2025



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA VZGOJO IN IZOBRAŽEVANJE



Sofinancira  
Evropska unija

## Forest libraries

Where nature meets knowledge

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# Imagine ...





# Why forest libraries

- **Reconnection:** With nature, with books, and with ourselves and others.
- **Inspiration:** Surrounded by living trees, the imagination opens up in unexpected ways.
- **Slowness:** Reading in nature slows us down, calms the nervous system, and allows deeper thinking.
- Reading in green environments improves **concentration, mood, and even information retention.**
- ▶ Forest libraries create the ideal conditions for this kind of mindful, undistracted learning.
- ▶ They are places of peace, culture and collaboration.





# First Slovenian forest library

Herbalist centre of SE Slovenia in Zagrad at Skocjan

- ▶ construction in 2022 as part of the EU funded project "Herbalium - a space for nature, health and well-being,,
- ▶ built with indigenous materials and by members of local community
- ▶ a unique research, learning and relaxation public space
- ▶ operates on the basis of trust, respect and openness
- ▶ open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- ▶ it works like a little free library with a little more space and comfort
- ▶ diverse selection of books about nature, forest, personal growth, self-care and other topics that benefit human development, improving knowledge, skills, health
- ▶ anyone can contribute to the community by bringing his own book and leaving it in the Forest Library and thus share knowledge



<https://www.zeliscarski-center.com/>



# Following the first ...

The first forest library has become an inspiration and encouragement to many ...



Ljubljana Castle



Forest library Motnik



# Reading in forest libraries

on World Tourism Day (27. september)

Purpose and objectives of the project were:

- raising awareness of the importance of reading for individuals and society (reading is the basis of all literacy),
- promoting a reading culture and reading for pleasure,
- socializing with a book in a public space,
- raising awareness about appropriate behavior in the forest - forest etiquette and etiquette of visiting the natural environment
- highlighting the importance of the forest as a valuable source of renewable energy and raw materials and its beneficial effect on the entire environment and population,
- informing public about the various (innovative) tourism opportunities,
- popularizing tourism, especially in lesser-known areas of the country,
- developing green tourism for the development of a circular economy,
- cooperation and connecting institutions, groups and individuals in the development of rural areas, tourism or the economy.



Ob letošnjem svetovnem dnevu turizma  
27. septembra 2024, ob 17. uri

**BEREMO  
V GOZDNIH KNJIŽNICAH**

**READING  
IN FOREST LIBRARIES**  
on world tourism day  
Join us on September 27, 2024 at 5 PM



Svoj dogodek vpišite na posebni spletni strani  
Turistične zveze Slovenije  
Register your event on the dedicated website  
of the Tourist Association of Slovenia

<https://forms.gle/y4hGtx5a6uJt7NF17>



**Letošnja tema svetovnega dneva turizma je: »Turizem in mir«!**

Letošnji dan turizma bo v Sloveniji Zavod za gozdove Slovenije v sodelovanju s Turistično zvezo Slovenije, Andragoškim centrom Slovenije in Gozdarsko knjižnico (Gozdarski inštitut Slovenije) obeležil s povabilom k branju v gozdu. S tem bomo spodbujali bralno kulturo v Sloveniji in se vključili tudi v Nacionalni mesec skupnega branja, v katerem bo letos osrednja tema branje v javnem prostoru (več: <https://nmsb.pismen.si>).

**Gozd je učilna. Drevesa so čudesa našega sveta. Vsako posebej nas zna nagovoriti. Zato nas vabi, da mu prisluhnemo. Vstopimo v dvorano skrivnosti dreves s knjigo in besedo.**

Društva, skupine in institucije vabimo, da v **petek, 27. septembra 2024, ob 17. uri** v najbližjem gozdu, npr. ob učni oziroma tematski poti, organizirajo z branjem povezan dogodek. To je lahko postavitve gozdne knjižnice, javno branje literature v gozdu, pripovedovalski večer, predstavitev knjig, pravljice za otroke ali kaj podobnega. Morda organizirano obiščete gozdno knjižnico izven svojega kraja.

Pri organizaciji dogodkov se lahko povežete z lokalnimi vrtci, šolami, domovi za starejše, medgeneracijskimi centri, VDC centri, splošnimi knjižnicami ter založbami, občinami in drugimi zainteresiranimi posamezniki. Svoj dogodek vpišite na posebni spletni strani Turistične zveze Slovenije <https://forms.gle/y4hGtx5a6uJt7NF17>, da ga bomo lahko promovirali tudi v širši javnosti.

Osrednji dogodek ob svetovnem dnevu turizma v Sloveniji bo v **petek, 27. septembra 2024, ob 17. uri v Zeliščarskem centru JV Slovenije v Škocjanu**, kjer je postavljena prva gozdna knjižnica v Sloveniji.

**Vabljeni k sodelovanju!**

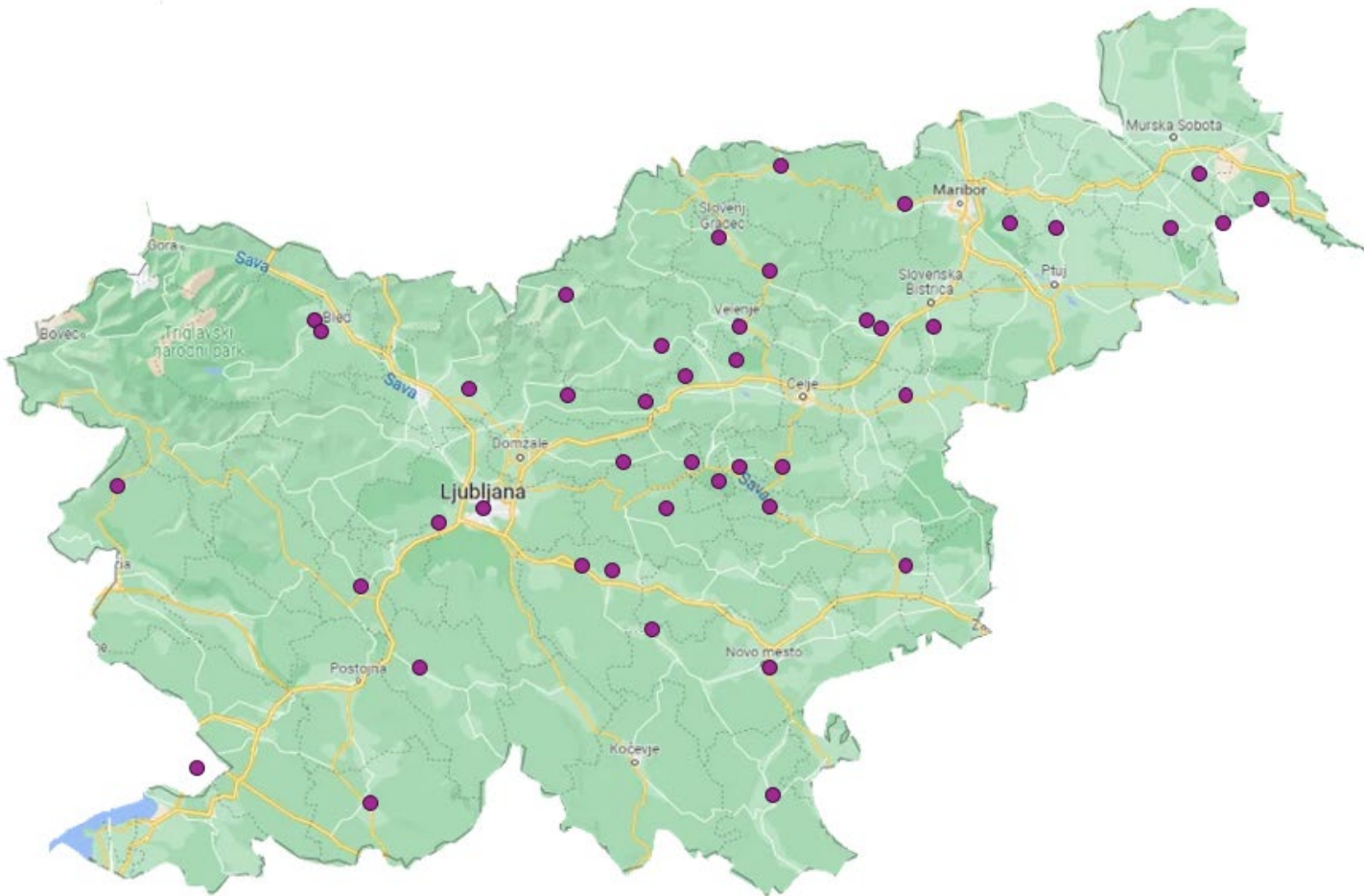


Ilustracija: Card Henjak, ilustr. Dr. Horowitz



# Reading in forest libraries

/map of venues



More than 60 organizers:

- ▶ tourist associations,
- ▶ local communities,
- ▶ castles,
- ▶ mountain lodges,
- ▶ homes for elderly,
- ▶ kindergartens,
- ▶ schools,
- ▶ units of the Slovenian Forest Service and
- ▶ other organizations from entire Slovenia and abroad

... have read on the same day at the same time.



# Reading in forest libraries /activities

They have been:

- reading aloud together,
- sharing their own written words and verses under the trees,
- socializing with authors,
- telling each other fairy tales and share their memories,
- collecting books for little free forest libraries,
- exchanging knowledge,
- strengthening and connecting local communities through reading,
- contributing to the strengthening of reading culture and mutual understanding in Slovenia.





# The Book of Peace

- ▶ It includes photos from reading events, and inspiring thoughts about peace, reading, nature, culture, and life in general, contributed by participants in the Reading in Forest Libraries.
- ▶ Its covers are made of **ten indigenous Slovenian tree sorts** (Nejc Pižmoht, Pineks Wood Radeče).
- ▶ The book is stored in the Forestry Library in Ljubljana.





# What will happen next ...

Reading in nature is no longer just a concept  
— it's becoming a way of life.

The Forest Library is more than just a place  
for reading and gathering; it has become a  
symbol of change.

It stands as a peaceful rebellion against the  
fast pace of modern life — an invitation to live  
more consciously and to reconnect with  
ourselves, with others, and with nature.  
(*Rok Petančič*)







"Amid the whispering trees and the rustle of pages, stories slumber — waiting to be awakened by curious hearts, and to awaken something in us, too."

Thank you!