

# Kobarid

## The Kobarid Historical Trail

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KOBARID TOLMIN



**KOBARID**, one of the most renowned historical places in Slovenia, was already inhabited in the **HALLSTAT PERIOD** and prospered in the Roman period. Nearby is a well known late Antiquity mountain settlement called **TONOCOV GRAD**. The town is mainly known for the aftermath of the **BATTLE OF KOBARID** in October 1917, which placed Kobarid on the world map. During the Second World War, Kobarid was the centre of the liberated territory, called the Kobarid Republic.

The **KOBARID MUSEUM** presents the story of these historical events and in 1993 it received the Council of Europe Museum Award.

The nearby Soča river offers excellent possibilities for kayaking, rafting, fishing and other water sports.

**THE SURROUNDING MOUNTAINS** offer superb conditions for hiking, gliding, mountain biking and mountaineering.

Kobarid is also the **CULINARY CAPITAL** of the Primorska region, since it boasts many excellent restaurants.

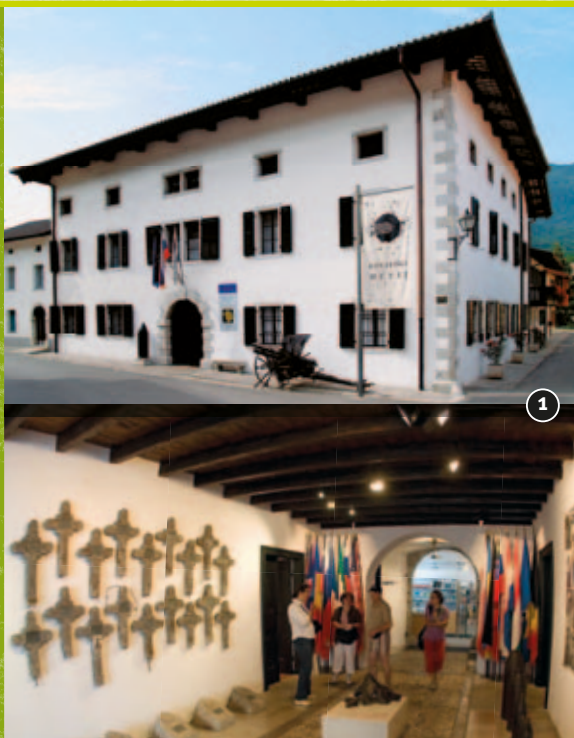


## The Kobarid Historical Trail

The trail links places around Kobarid, where important historical, cultural and natural monuments can be seen.

The trail is **5 KM LONG**, and the tour takes **THREE TO FIVE HOURS**.

You can also hire tour guides; to do so, call the **TIC KOBARID** AT +386 5 38 00 490, E-MAIL: [info.kobarid@lto-sotocje.si](mailto:info.kobarid@lto-sotocje.si), [www.visit-soca.com](http://www.visit-soca.com)



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### The Kobarid Museum

The Museum presents the First World War on the Isonzo (Soča) Front, focusing on the Twelfth Battle of the Isonzo, known as the **BATTLE OF KOBARID**. The battle turned into one of the most violent clashes in the history of this mountainous region, following the Eleventh Battle of the Isonzo, which was the most ferocious armed engagement Slovenia ever experienced. It was also the most successful breakthrough operation in the First World War and one of the first cases of a battle incorporating Blitzkrieg strategic elements.

The Museum also presents **THE HISTORY OF THE KOBARID REGION** from its inception through today.

In 1993, the Museum received **THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MUSEUM AWARD** recognising its contribution towards European cultural heritage. The Museum is open every day throughout the year.

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### Italian Charnel House

The Charnel House was built on Gradič Hill near the **CHURCH OF ST. ANTON**. The Stations of the Cross are erected along the road, leading to the Charnel House.

In 1938, the Charnel House was opened by Benito Mussolini. It has an octagonal shape and is constructed with three concentric circles that narrow as they rise. The Church of St. Anton, consecrated in 1696, is built at the very top. Mortal remains of 7,014 known and unknown Italian soldiers who had been killed in the First World War were carried to the Charnel House from nearby army cemeteries.

THE KOBARID HISTORICAL TRAIL	POST OFFICE	VIEWPOINT	BAR
INFORMATION	BANK / ATM MACHINE	ROCK CLIMBING	LODGING (1 - 20)
PHARMACY	BUS STATION	CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE SITE	INN, RESTAURANT
HEALTH CENTRE	SERVICE STATION	MUSEUM	SPORTS AGENCY
CAR PARK	CAR REPAIR SHOP	SMALL MUSEUM COLLECTION	TOURIST AGENCY
GROCERY	PLAYGROUND	MILITARY CEMETERY	

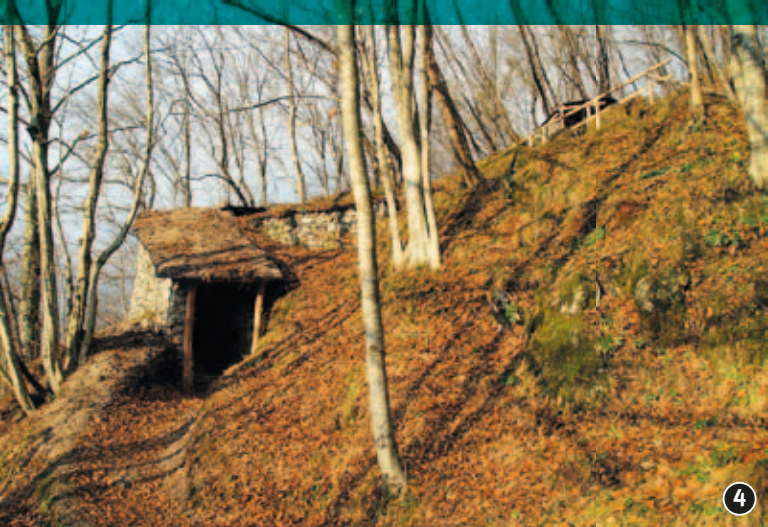


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### Tonocov Grad

Tonocov Grad Hill is a rocky elevation near Kobarid. Due to its naturally secure position, it was used as a **SETTLEMENT** for many centuries. It was settled in different periods from the Copper Age until the Middle Ages. The settlement's heyday was in late Roman and late Antiquity period, between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> century AD. Towards the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century, a settlement with over twenty houses and several churches was built on the hill. The building remains are in excellent condition. These remains and rich findings place Tonocov Grad among the most important **LATE ANTIQUITY MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENTS IN THE EASTERN ALPS**.





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## Italian Line of Defence

A path leading from Tonocov Grad leads us to the Soča river. In the past, the path was already used by the native peoples and was partly completed by the Italian soldiers during the First World War.

During the First World War, the Italian army built **THREE DEFENCE LINES** in the Soča region. A part of the third line of defence wound along both banks of the Soča river. The historic path leads us through trenches, forts and buildings defending the pass through the Soča river and the Soča Valley, as well as the roads on the right bank of the river.



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## Soča Gorge

From Trnovo ob Soči to Kobarid the Soča River runs in a **DEEP GORGE** with several pools, rapids and huge rocks in the river bed. Before the Napoleon Bridge, the upper Soča flow ends in a gorge (Korita) approximately 200 meters long, up to 15 meters deep and in some places only 2 meters wide.

Both banks of the Soča are connected with a new **52 METER LONG FOOTBRIDGE**, constructed on the very spot where a wooden footbridge had been during the First World War. The new footbridge was constructed in 1998 by the Kobarid Museum and the Kobarid Tourist Society.

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## Kozjak Waterfalls

The Kozjak brook, feeding the Soča river from the east (on the left), springs high beneath Mt. Krnčica (2142 m), and runs through many pools making **SIX WATERFALLS**. One of Slovenia's most picturesque waterfalls, the **VELIKI KOZJAK**, was created in the outlet of the lower Korita of the Kozjak Brook. Here, the waterfall carved an underground hall. Its bottom is covered by a vast blue and green pool, and its walls are reminiscent of those in the Karst caves. A 15 meter high white water column offers its visitors an unforgettable scenery.



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## Italian Line of Defence

Upon our return from the Kozjak waterfalls the path branches upwards on the left, towards **FORTRESSES** built around the time of the First World War. A **GUN EMPLACEMENT** and **OBSERVATION POST SITS** on the top of the rise. Not far away, a regulated cavern is pressed deep into the slope. It is a part of many shelters, arranged in a system of circular defence. The majority of these have been filled in; three, however, have been unearthed. The top of the observation point offers a beautiful view over a large part of the historic path and over the green Soča pools.

From this point on, the path branches off, leading on marked military roads on the slopes of Ozben towards Drežnica and Ladra.



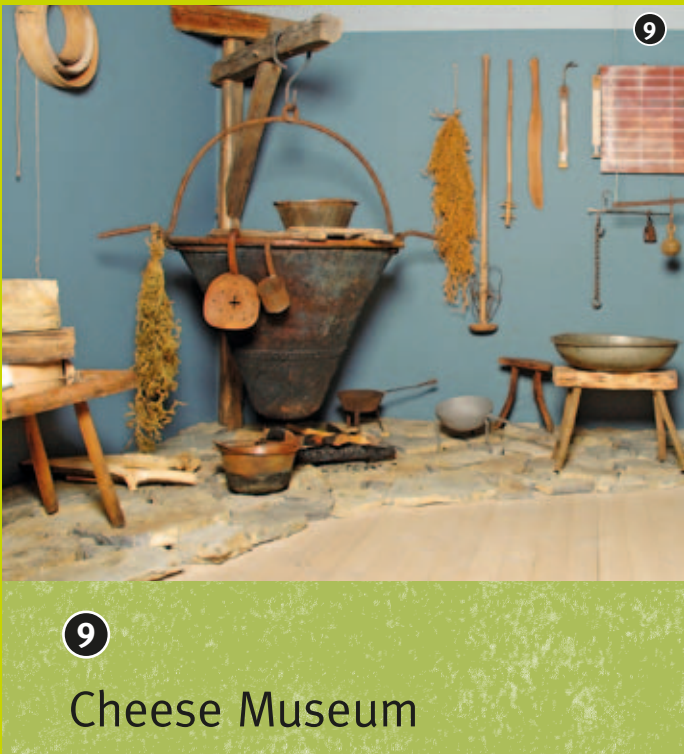
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## Napoleon Bridge

Both Soča banks below Kobarid were already linked in the past by a bridge. **THE OLD BRIDGE WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1750** and received its name when Napoleon's troops marched across it.

On 24 May 1915, the first day after the First World War had been declared, the retreating Austrian soldiers blew up the bridge. Afterwards, the Italians initially built a wooden bridge, later replacing it with an iron one.

In the Second World War, the Partisans defended the liberated territory of the Kobarid Republic near the bridge. In memory of these events there are **TWO MEMORIAL SCULPTURES** near the bridge.



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## Cheese Museum

The cheese museum is a museum of the Dairy Planika that has developed its delicious products from the many-centuries-long dairy tradition of the upper Soča Valley. The inheritance of mountains and pastures is presented with ethnological exhibits, a documentary and a reconstruction of a mountain residence with all the dairy equipment. In the little shop you can buy the famous cheese **TOLMINC**, other dairy products and various typical products of home manufacture.



INFORMATION



EASY HIKING TRAIL

DEMANDING HIKING TRAIL

EASY BIKING TRAIL

WATERFALL

PARAGLIDING – LANDING SITE

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE SITE

MUSEUM



OUTDOOR MUSEUM

MILITARY CEMETERY

WORLD WAR I BATTLEFIELD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

BAR

LODGING

INN, RESTAURANT

CAMPING SITE

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