

STRAŽA

PO POTEH JOŽETA DULARJA

FOLLOWING THE TRAILS OF JOŽE DULAR





IZHODIŠČE

Železniška postaja v Straži.
Avto lahko pustite na parkirišču
poleg železniške postaje.

1

ŽELEZNIŠKA POSTAJA STRAŽA



Pozdravljeni na izhodišču Dularjeve poti!

Vabimo vas na pot po krajih, ki jih je v svojih knjigah opisoval pisatelj, pesnik in muzealec Jože Dular, rojen v Vavti vasi (1915–2000). V teh krajih je preživel otroštvo in mladost, s te železniške postaje pa je odhajal v novomeško gimnazijo. V stavbi zdaj ustvarja znani fotograf Borut Peterlin (<https://www.topshitphotography.com/>) now creates his art in this building.

Pri gradnji železniških tirov so v neposredni bližini postaje našli prazgodovinske peči za taljenje železove rude. Prvi vlak je v Stražo pripeljal leta 1894. Poleg prevoza potnikov je bil namenjen predvsem odvažjanju lesa in oglja iz zaledja roških gozdov. Potnike, ki so bili nomenjeni v zdravilišče Dolenjske Toplice, je pripeljal iskat topliški gostilničar Ivan Sitar; s svojim omnibusom na konjsko vprego je lahko pripeljal do 11 potnikov. Zadnji potniški vlak je iz Straže odpeljal leta 1964. Stari zapisi pravijo, da Straža ni bila nikoli več tako blizu Dunaja kakor do takrat: tu si kupil vozovnico, sedel na vlak in odpotoval na Dunaj.

Le streljaj od železniške postaje se v središču Straže nahaja avtobusna postaja. Tam lahko najdemo rumeno Jakobovo školjko in puščico, ki označujejo del slovenske Jakobove poti. Po tej trasi teče tudi prvi odsek našega pohoda Po poteh Jožeta Dularja – do cerkve sv. Tomaža na Straškem hribu.

2

CERKEV SVETEGA TOMAŽA



Cerkvena svetega Tomaža naj bi bila zgrajena že v 13. stoletju in je ena najstarejših v tem delu

JUMPING-OFF POINT

The railway station in Straža.
You can leave your car in the car park next to the train station.

THE STRAŽA RAILWAY STATION

Welcome to the starting point of Dular's Trail!

We invite you on a journey through the places written about by the writer, poet and museum professional Jože Dular (1915–2000), who was born in the village of Vavta vas. He spent his childhood and his youth in these parts, and took the train to the Novo mesto grammar school from this railway station. A well-known photographer, Borut Peterlin, (<https://www.topshitphotography.com/>) now creates his art in this building.

During the construction of the railway tracks, prehistoric iron ore smelting furnaces were discovered in the immediate vicinity of the station. The first train arrived in Straža in 1894. In addition to transporting passengers, it was mainly used for the removal of wood and charcoal from the hinterland of the Kočevski rog forests. Ivan Sitar, the local innkeeper, would regularly come to the station to pick up passengers who were on their way to the spa town of Dolenjske Toplice; he could transport up to 11 people with his horse-drawn omnibus. The last passenger train left the Straža railway station in 1964. According to old records, Straža was never again as 'close to Vienna' as it had been until then: you bought a ticket here, boarded the train and travelled to Vienna.

The local bus station is located in the centre of Straža, just a stone's throw from the railway station. You will find a yellow 'Jacob's shell' sign and an arrow, which mark the Slovenian section of the Jacob's Trail. This is also the route of the first section of our hiking tour "Following the Trails of Jože Dular" – to the church of St Thomas on Straža Hill.

THE CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS

The church of St Thomas was built in the 13th century and is one of the oldest churches in this

Dolenjske. O tem pričajo ostanki polkrožne apside in stenska slika iz zgodnjega 14. stoletja. V cerkvi si lahko ogledamo tudi restavrirani zlati oltar s kipom svetega Tomaža. Na pokopaliških nagrobnikih okoli cerkve lahko preberemo nekaj tradicionalnih straških priimkov (Darovec, Tisovec, Aš ...).

Vrnilmo se na cesto, po kateri smo prišli. Cesta zavije pod pokopališkim obzidjem in se zavije v strm klanec skozi gozd, potem pa preide v ravno pobočno transverzalo med vinogradi Straškega hriba.

3

RAZGLEDNA TOČKA MED VINOGRADI



Ustavimo se pri zidanici in uživamo v prelepem razgledu na Stražo, Krko in kraje tja do Gorjancev, Ljubna in Roga ter na Rajnvrh, Peščenco, Jelovški boršt, Organjsko lesno in mnoge druge za prebivalstvo pomembne točke. Da se ta ledinska imena ne bi pozabila, jih je naš rojak Janez Dular predstavil v knjigi Na desnem bregu.

Vzporedno z našo potjo pa se v gozdu visoko nad nami skriva rimska cesta. V tej pokrajini se dogajajo povesti (Ljudje ob Krki) in romani Jožeta Dularja.

Ko pridemo do križišča, zavijemo desno in zagrizemo v novo strmino in serpentine.

4

MATIJEV POČIVALNIK IN KUŽNO ZNAMENJE



Matijev počivalnik je znamenje v spomin na Lukčevega Matijo iz Vavte vasi, ki se je po pripovedovanju še pri svojih devetdesetih letih pogosto s pletenko v nahrbtniku odpravil v zidanico. Prvotno mesto počivalnika je bilo sicer nekoliko nižje, vendar so ga ob širitvi ceste v serpentinah morali prestaviti na prostor, kjer se nahaja zdaj.

Potem ko se tu ozremo v skrivnostno Romitovko, pot nadaljujemo med vinogradi.

part of Dolenjska. This is attested by the remains of a semicircular apse and a wall painting from the early 14th century. The church also contains a restored golden altar with the statue of St Thomas. The cemetery tombstones around the church show quite a few traditional family names from the area (Darovec, Tisovec, Aš ...).

It is time to get back on our trail. The road makes a turn below the cemetery walls and continues up a steep slope through the forest; it then cuts across the slope among the Straža Hill vineyards.

PANORAMIC SPOT BETWEEN VINEYARDS

Let's make a stop at the vineyard cottage and enjoy the lovely views of Straža, the Krka River and the surrounding area all the way to the Gorjanci Hills, Ljubno, Rog, Rajnvrh, Peščenco, Jelovški Boršt, Organjska Lesa and many other beauty spots in the area that hold a significance for the locals. In order for these traditional land names to not be forgotten, our compatriot Janez Dular presented them in his book titled Na desnem bregu (On the Right Bank).

Running parallel to our trail, there is an old Roman road in the forest above us. This area serves as the backdrop to many local folk tales such as Ljudje ob Krki (People by the Krka) and novels written by Jože Dular.

When we reach the crossroads, we turn right and then go up another winding slope.

'MATIJA'S RESTING PLACE' AND THE PLAQUE COLUMN

'Matija's resting place' is a plaque in remembrance of Lukčev Matija from Vavta vas, who, according to the locals, still made regular visits to his vineyard cottage with a demijohn on his back at the ripe old age of 90. Originally, the plaque had been put up a little further down, but it had to be relocated to its current position due to roadworks.

After taking a quick peek inside the mysterious Romitovka Cave, we can continue our journey

Nekaj 100 metrov naprej stoji kužno znamenje.

Kamnit stebrasto znamenje v Straški gori je vpisano v Register kulturne dediščine. Kdaj je bilo postavljeno, ni znano, natančen razlog postavitve tudi ne; taka znamenja so pred več sto leti postavljali v spomin ali opomin na kako nesrečo, bolezen (npr. kugo), rop, hudodelstvo ... Znamenje je bilo zadnjič prenovljeno v letih 1996/97.

Pot se prevesi navzdol, spet nekaj 100 metrov naprej pa ob njej stoji naslednja točka.

5

SPOMIN NA VOJNO VIHRO – RAVBARJEVA ZIDANICA



Pri Ravbarjevi zidanici se spomnimo na Jožico Venturini, ki je bila med drugo svetovno vojno učiteljica v Vavti vasi. Kot aktivistka OF je bila 27. 3. 1944 prav tu skupaj z Antonom Mišičem ujeta in umorjena, stara 38 let. Po njej se je v letih 1987–1991 imenovala tudi OŠ Vavta vas.

Po poti se spustimo naprej in pri prvem križišču zavijemo ostro levo. Hodimo po pobočju Straškega hriba in se zložno spuščamo proti Straži.

6

»UČENIKOVA PRISTAVA« PRI DULARJEVI ZIDANICI



Učenik so rekli staremu učitelju, o katerem je Jože Dular večkrat pisal (pod raznimi imeni) in ki si je po upokojitvi uredil bivališče in čebelnjak poleg Dularjeve zidanice v Straškem hribu; tu je po učenikovi smrti živila Kristina Vidmar, zato domačini temu prostoru rečejo tudi Pri Kristini. Stavba je bila kasneje večkrat prezidana in povečana.

Na začetku Straže zagledamo na desni strani veliko rumeno stavbo. To je bila nekoč organiza-

among the vineyards. A little further ahead, there is a plague column.

This stone column in Straška gora is entered in the Register of Cultural Heritage. When the column was erected it is not known, nor is the exact reason for its erection. These types of columns were once erected to commemorate or remind people of some calamity, disease (e.g. plague), robbery, wrongdoing, etc. The column was last renovated in 1996/97.

The trail bends down again, and the next point of interest is just a few hundred metres further.

REMEMBERING THE RAVAGES OF WAR – RAVBAR'S VINEYARD COTTAGE

Stopping at Ravbar's vineyard cottage, we remember Jožica Venturini, who was a teacher in Vavta vas during the Second World War. As a Liberation Front activist, she was captured and murdered, along with Anton Mišič, on 27 March 1944, at the age of 38. Between 1987 and 1991, the Vavta vas primary school was also named after her.

We descend further along the trail and turn sharply left at the first crossroads. We walk along the slope of Straža Hill and gradually descend towards Straža.

“THE SCHOLAR'S MANOR HOUSE” AT DULAR'S VINEYARD COTTAGE

The scholar was what the locals called an old teacher, about whom Jože Dular wrote several times (under various names) and who, after his retirement, set up a residence and an apiary next to Dular's vineyard cottage on Straža Hill. After the teacher's death, a woman by the name of Kristina Vidmar lived here, so the locals now also refer to this homestead as “At Kristina's”. The building was later rebuilt and expanded several times.

When you first enter the town of Straža, there is a large yellow building on the right. This was once an organizational outpost for the transport of wood

cija izpostava za prevoz lesa iz Auerspergovih (»firštovih«) roških gozdov na železnico. Zdaj pa v njej deluje enota vrtca Krkine lučke. Pred vrtcem zavijemo desno in se po poti spustimo do glavne ceste. Na lev strani zagledamo gostilno Zamorček, kjer si lahko privočimo kavico ali sok, potem pa odidemo čez betonski most v Vavto vas. Tu v križišču zavijemo desno in se po prehodu za pešce znajdemo pred domačo hišo Jožeta Dularja.

7

HIŠA DULARJEVIH STARŠEV



Pisatelj Jože Dular je v tej hiši preživel svoje otroštvo in mladostništvo. Njegova mati jo je med prvo svetovno vojno s svojo doto kupila od moževega strica in se skupaj z otroki vanjo vseliла, ko je bil mož na fronti.

Vrnimo se v križišče in pot nadalujimo ob glavni cesti proti Novemu mestu. Previdno, kajti na tem odseku (zdaj) še ni pločnika, cesta pa je zelo ozka in prometna. Na lev strani zagledamo Dularjev mlin.

8

DULARJEV MLIN



Propadajoči mlin je odkupila in deloma obnovila straška občina. Ko stopimo bližje, si skušamo predstavljati, kako je tu bilo nekoč.

O dogajanju v Dularjevem mlinu, njegovem pomenu za okolico, življenju in težavah rodovne Dular v Vavti vasi – Jože Dular govori v Vavtovcu – si lahko preberete v knjigi Krka pa teče naprej (Yet, the Krka Keeps on Flowing).

Takož za mlinom zagledamo tudi propadajoče ostanke Dularjeve žage, za njo pa zapuščeni govejak (napajališče živine in perišče). Nato zavijemo desno in gremo naravnost do glavne ceste. Tu stoji na lev strani hiša z velikimi gospodarskimi poslopiji – Dularjeva kmetija.

from the Kočevski rog forests, which were owned by the Auersperg family, to the railway. The building is now a kindergarten. We make a right turn before the kindergarten and come down to the main road. On the left side, there is the Zamorček Inn, where we can have a cup of coffee or a glass of juice, and then cross the concrete bridge into Vavta vas. We turn right at the crossroads and after passing the pedestrian crossing, we find ourselves in front of Jože Dular's family home.

THE HOME OF JOŽE DULAR

The writer Jože Dular spent his childhood and his youth in this house. His mother used her dowry to buy it from her husband's uncle during the First World War and moved in with the children while her husband was fighting at the front.

Let's return to the crossroads and continue along the main road towards Novo mesto. We have to be careful here, because there is no pavement on this stretch of the road yet, and it is very narrow and busy with traffic. Soon we can see Dular's Mill on the left.

DULAR'S FLOUR MILL

The dilapidated mill was bought and partially restored by the Municipality of Straža. When we step closer, we can try to imagine what life used to be like here.

You can read about the events in Dular's Mill, the importance of the mill for the surrounding area, and the life and problems of the Dular family in Vavta vas in Dular's book Krka pa teče naprej (Yet, the Krka Keeps on Flowing).

Right behind the mill, there are the dilapidating remains of Dular's Sawmill, and behind it, an abandoned govejak (watering place for cattle and a laundry place). Then we turn right and go straight to the main road. Here, on the left, there is a house with large agricultural buildings – the Dular farm.

9

DULARJEVA DOMAČIJA



Rojstna hiša Jožeta Dularja je bila med drugo svetovno vojno požgana. Po vojni so tu postavili vse na novo. Pri mlekomatu lahko kupimo sveže mleko in domače mlečne izdelke.

50 metrov naprej od kmetije se od ceste odcepí stranska pot, ki nas pripelje do stavbnega kompleksa OŠ Vavta vas.

10

OŠ VAVTA VAS IN ŠOLSKI MOST



V najstarejšem delu osnovne šole (odprt leta 1908) se je kot osnovnošolec naučil pisati in računati tudi Jože Dular, zdaj pa je v tem delu vrtec.

Šola igra pomembno vlogo pri soustvarjanju kulturnega vsakdana občine.

Prečkamo šolsko dvorišče ter odidemo mimo parkirišča, igrišča in šolskega vrta proti lesenemu mostu čez Krko.

Brv, na kateri stojite, so postavili leta 2015. Dolga je 135 metrov in se opira na deset betonskih stebrov. Z nje se lahko zazremo v razpotegnjeni Straški hrib in njegov najvišji vrh Srobotnik ali pa opazujemo ribe v Krki. Nekoč so v njej živelji raki jelševci; ljudje so jih lovili in jih za dober denar prodajali do Dunaja in naprej, dokler jih ni pomorila račja kuga. Kako bogata je bila reka Krka in kakšno izgubo je doživela vsa dolina zaradi račje kuge, si lahko preberete v Dularjevi knjigi Krka umira.

Na koncu brvi zavijemo levo po sprehajalni poti, ki teče skozi drevored, in prispemo do strškega govejaka.

DULARJEVA DOMAČIJA

The house where Jože Dular was born was burned down to the ground during the Second World War. After the war, everything was rebuilt. You can buy fresh milk and homemade dairy products at their milk vending machine.

About 50 metres from the farm, there is a by-path that branches off from the road, leading to the Vavta vas primary school.

11

STRAŠKI GOVEJAK



Nekoč so tu napajali živino, na betonskih stopnicah, ki segajo v reko, pa so straške gospodinje prale svojo žehto.

Z trenutek ali dva postojmo, zaprimo oči in prisluhnimo oddaljenemu šumenuju vode, ki pada čez vavtovski jez, potem pa naj se naše oči (in fotoaparati) pasejo po lesketavi gladini pod zidovjem Dularjevega mlina in žage, po gruči vavtovskih streh pri mostu, po obrežnem zelenju in nebesni modrini ...

Stopimo še skozi predor pod železniškimi tiri in se vzpnimo po stopnicah do ceste. Ko zavijemo desno, se po 30 metrih spet znajdemo na straški železniški postaji.

Na poti ste najbrž doživeli kaj lepega in zanimivega. Če želite o Jožetu Dularju, Vavti vasi, Straži in vsej straški občini izvedeti kaj več, lahko vzamete v roke knjigo Straža – kraj topline, zelenja in modrine (ur. Stane Granda).

Morda se spet vidimo na našem naslednjem raziskovalnem pohodu.

THE STRAŽA GOVEJAK

In the past, the locals used to water their cattle here, and the village women used to do their laundry on the concrete steps leading down to the river.

Let's stop for a moment or two, close our eyes and listen to the distant murmur of water falling over the village dam, and then let our eyes (and cameras) graze on the glistening surface underneath the walls of Dular's Mill and Sawmill, on the cluster of village rooftops by the bridge, on the riverside greenery and the celestial blue ...

All that is left to do now is walk through the tunnel under the railway tracks and climb the stairs to the road. After making a right turn and walking another 30 metres, we find ourselves back at the Straža railway station.

I hope you have had some beautiful and interesting experiences on the trail. If you want to know more about Jože Dular, the village of Vavta vas, the town of Straža and the entire Straža Municipality, you can pick up the book Straža – kraj topline, zelenja in modrine (Straža – a Place of Warmth, Greenery and Blueness) – ed. Stane Granda.

We might see each other again on our next hike.

Idejna zasnova in koordinacija projekta / Conceptual design and project coordination: Robert Kren, Rafaela Novak Kren
Avtor besedila / Author of the text: Saša Dular

Redakcija besedila / Text editing: Janez Dular
Lektura in redakcija / Slovene proofreading and editing: Janez Dular, Ana Markelj Karlič

Prevodi / English translation and proofreading: Yurena d.o.o.

Fotografije / Photography: Manca Može Janković

Oblikovanje / Design: Maja Rudolf Markovič

Spletne strani / Webdesign: WebSian, Andrej Simonič s.p.

Bralci besedil / Readers: Janez Dular, Sabina Erjavec, Brina Kren, Robert Kren, Rafaela Novak Kren, Frane Umek

Izdelava tabel / Boards: NaturArt d.o.o., Janez Jevnikar

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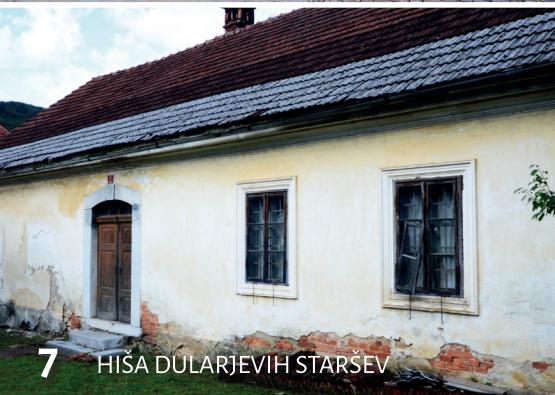
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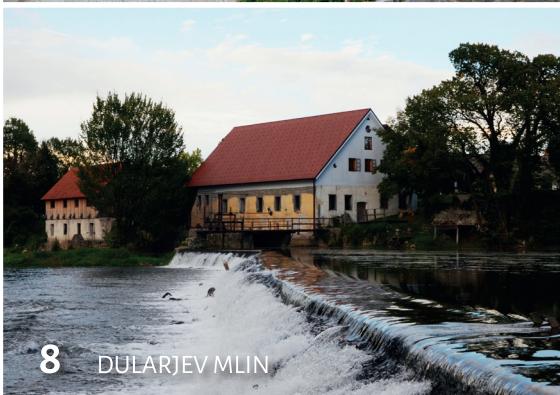
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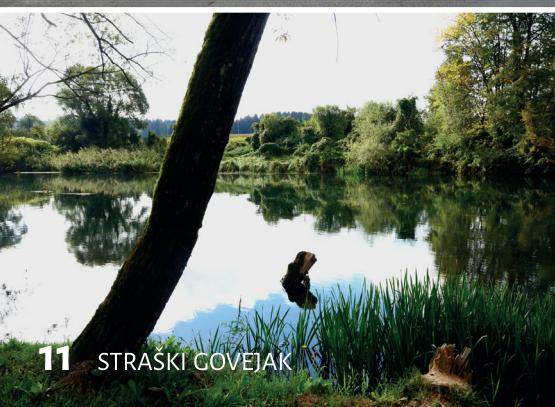
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