



SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENTS OVERVIEW 2020-2023

In destination Kočevsko we carried out numerous activities in the area of sustainability between 2020 and 2023

Golden destination

2020

Destination Kočevsko proudly bears the title **Slovenia GREEN destination GOLD** from 2020.



Global TOP 100 Sustainable Destinations

Destination Kočevsko was ranked among the **100 most sustainable destinations in the world** and won 2nd place in the **GREEN DESTINATION STORY AWARDS** for an exceptional story dedicated to the bear watching program a method of preserving the brown bear population in Kočevsko.



SO-RI-KO project



As part of the project, a **reliable supply of safe and healthy drinking water** was ensured for all residents of the municipalities of Sodražica, Ribnica and Kočevje. A total of 68,040 meters of new pipelines, 11 pumping stations, five reservoirs and three drinking water treatment plants were built.

6 new green tourist programs

- Cycling product "From Dragon to Bear"
- Family product "Family Forest Fun"
- Photo-hunting of bears
- Experience of the Krokar Primeval forest with a VR tour
- Experience of Kostel Castle
- The land of Peter Klepec

Sustainable mobility



- establishment of a regular passenger train line between **Kočevje and Ljubljana**
- **5,3 km** of new cycling routes
- on-call transport in the Municipality of Kočevje **Toyota GO**
- management of **KOLU** system
- purchase of **mountain bikes** and **e-bikes** for rent
- routing of the cycling route "From Dragon to Bear", between Ljubljana and Kočevje

10 new destinational tourist guides

In 2022 we conducted **educational training** for new tourist guides of destination Kočevsko, of which there are now 45.



Digitalization of natural and cultural heritage

2021 - 2022

We have digitized 15 spots in the **Krokar Primeval Forest**, which was also inscribed on the **UNESCO natural heritage list**.



We also digitized the **Fridrihštajn Castle** and **Kostel Castle**.

Restoration of a sculpture - stature by a local artist **Stane Jarm: Deklica s piščalko** ("Girl with a flute")



Trainings on the topic of sustainability

2020 - 2023



We conducted **numerous trainings** on the topic of sustainability for tourist providers of destination Kočevsko, conducted **individual visits** to providers and a **joint meeting** of providers.

Internationally recognized sustainability certificates

SLOVENIA GREEN ACCOMMODATION

4 accommodations

Camp Jezero Kočevsko, Hostel Bearlog, Lovski dom Polom, Cirus Apartments

SLOVENIA GREEN ATTRACTION

1 attraction

Avanturistični park RIS

We developed the collective brand **O, KOČEVSKO!**, where we included many local **catering providers, artisans** as well as **growers and processors**, and certified a total of 76 dishes, crops and products.

2022 - 2023

O, KOČEVSKO!



4 catering providers



13 growers and processors



10 artisans



10 "limited selection" products



Preparation of a system for **marking hiking trails** with directional boards

Regulated **fishing regime** with the establishment of **15 fishing locations**



Cleaning of lower layers of water of Lake Kočevje with the aim to preserve the landscape and surroundings of the lake

Preparation of the brochure "**Green tips for visting Kočevsko**"

