

SAVE THE DATE "IDCK"

**First Celebration of the International Day of Caves and Karst (IDCK),
proclaimed by UNESCO**

Postojna, Slovenia: 10–13 September 2026



Following the proclamation of the **International Day of Caves and Karst (IDCK)** by UNESCO, the **first official celebration** is planned to take place in Postojna, Slovenia, in September 2026.

The central date of the celebration will be 13 September 2026, with a series of scientific and outreach events planned in the days leading up to it.

Preliminary programme outline (subject to confirmation):

- **10 - 12 September 2026 – International conference in Postojna**
Theme: Sustainable management of caves and karst, with a focus on protection, education and research as a foundation for sustainable development, and scientific excursion to selected karst and cave sites
- **12 September 2026** (Saturday evening) – Official IDCK celebration event in Postojna Cave (*to be confirmed*)
- **13 September 2026** – International Day of Caves and Karst

Details regarding the conference programme, invited speakers, co-organisers and registration will be announced in due course.

Organisers (preliminary):

with the support of the Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO

- International Union of Speleology (UIS)
- Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, Slovenia
-

We warmly invite all supporters of the International Day of Caves and Karst initiative, as well as the wider scientific, educational and policy communities, to save the date. A formal announcement, registration form and detailed programme will follow.

Nadja Zupan Hajna
For the Organizers

Postojna, 14.1.2026

Further information will be available on the websites: <https://uis-speleo.org/>;
<https://www.caveskarstday.org/>; <https://izrkp.zrc-sazu.si/en>