



23rd International Karstological School "Classical Karst" Caves – Exploration and Studies

combined with the

50th Anniversary of the International Union of Speleology – UIS



POSTOJNSKA JAMA
CAVE-GROTTE-HÖHLE



Postojna, June 15th to 20th 2015

First Circular

Topic and Goals

The International Karstological School “Classical Karst” has been conducted annually since 1993. Different aspects of karst studies are presented each year. The basic objectives are to present the state-of-the-art in the selected topic, and encourage discussions related to the school’s topic through lectures, poster presentations and field trips in the Classical Karst of Slovenia.

The first days of the 23rd Karstological School will be devoted to the exploration and scientific study of caves. Caves play an important role in human history. They were used as shelters and dwellings by early people; they were places of anxiety, mystery, religion, fear, curiosity, adventure, and also knowledge. People have explored caves for thousands of years, but the first systematic exploration and realistic descriptions are from the 17th Century. In the 19th Century, when many of the natural sciences were forming, cave exploration by individuals and caving societies laid the foundations of speleology as we understand it today—where cave exploration, mapping and science work hand-in-hand for new, better, understanding of caves.

Last day of the School (Friday) will be dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of International Union of Speleology – UIS. UIS was established during the 4th International Congress of Speleology, which was held in Ljubljana and Postojna in 1965. The UIS was officially founded during the Closing Ceremony of the Congress on September 16th in Ljubljana.

We invite all speleologists, karstologists, experts and young scientists, students, cavers and all persons attracted by caves and karst to participate at this School.

The topics of this year’s School are:

- Cave science
- Open exploration frontiers; big cave systems
- History of cave exploration in Central Europe – “ALCADI”
- History of the International Union of Speleology and the future of speleology
- Other topics related to caves and karst

Program Outline

	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Morning	-Registration -Opening of event CAVE SCIENCE -Key & invited lectures -Lectures of participants	OPEN EXPLORATION FRONTIERS; BIG CAVE SYSTEMS -Key & invited lectures -Lectures of participants	HISTORY OF CAVE EXPLORATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE – »ALCADI« -Key & invited lectures -Lectures of participants	-Whole-day field trip to “Classical Karst” caves: Škocjanske jame, cave entrances to underground river Reka, Grotta Gigante, springs of river Timava	UIS DAY -Tourist visit of cave Postojnska jama -Key & invited lectures	-UIS Bureau meeting -Optional: free visits to “wild” caves with cavers of JZS (Speleological Association of Slovenia)
Afternoon/ evening	-Lectures of participants -Poster session -Karst mysteries -Institute reception	-Field trip: Planinska jama cave, Rakov Škocjan, Cerknjško polje (entrance to cave Karlovice)	-Field trip: Vilenica		-Lectures of participants - UIS 50 th Anniversary: celebration in the cave Postojnska jama -Banquet in front of the cave	-UIS Bureau meeting

Keynote lectures

Prof. Dr. Derek Ford, Canada: The four state model of meteoric water cave genesis and its integration with models of the development of plan patterns of passages

Andy Eavis, UK: Explorations of big cave systems

Acad. Prof. Dr. Andrej Kranjc, Slovenia: “Classical Karst” exploration history

Dr. Trevor Shaw, UK: History of cave science

Prof. Dr. Arrigo Cigna, Italy: UIS history

Other

Invited lectures

Thematic lectures

Poster presentations

Detailed program will be available on website from 1 June 2015.

Technical & Registration Information

The official languages of the School are English and Slovenian.

The regular registration fee **for the whole week (15 – 19 June) is 150 EUR**. The registration **fee for young students is 50 EUR** (confirmation required; under 30 years of age).

Registration for the School includes: printed materials, excursions, organized tourist visit of cave Postojnska jama, refreshments during coffee breaks, attendance at the reception at the Karst Research Institute, celebration of the UIS 50th Anniversary in the cave, and the banquet.

The registration fee **only for the UIS Day Celebration (Friday, 19 June) is 50 EUR** and includes printed material, an organized tourist visit of the cave Postojnska jama, lectures, UIS 50th Anniversary activities in the cave, and the banquet. On Saturday, 20 June, free visits to selected “wild” caves will be available, guided by cavers from local speleological clubs – members of Speleological Association of Slovenia.

Registration is possible [only online](#) and will be open from **15 December 2014** until **15 May 2015 for School** and **until 1 June 2015 for UIS day**.

Please register yourself, even if you are invited lecturer or one of the organizers, to ensure you get a BADGE!

According to the **limited place** in the Cultural Centre and in the cave, please sign up as soon as possible, because **when capacity will be full, we will close registration!**

Abstracts in English are submitted at the registration. Participants should indicate the preferred type of presentation (oral/poster), but the final decision will be made by the organizers. Abstracts will be published together with the Program and Guidebook. Selected presentations may be published in the journal [Acta Carsologica](#).

The fee must be paid no later than 15 May 2015 for the School and by 1 June 2015 for UIS Day!

Because of high bank wire transfer fees, if you are coming as part of a group, we suggest paying once for the group, but please specify the individuals covered by the payment:

IBAN: SI56 01100 6030347346

SWIFT: BSLJSI2X

Reference: 41139 – 23

Our address: ZRC SAZU, Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana

Bank address: BANKA SLOVENIJE, Slovenska cesta 35, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

If you have any problems with payment, please contact us by e-mail: iks@zrc-sazu.si

NOTE:

No School materials and admission to excursions, reception, celebration, or banquet will be available without your official registration BADGE!!!

Organizers

International Karstological School "Classical Karst":

Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
Titov trg 2, SI-6230 Postojna, Slovenia

T: +386 5 700 1900

F: +386 5 700 1999

E: iks@zrc-sazu.si

Web: <http://iks.zrc-sazu.si>

UIS 50th Anniversary:

International Union of Speleology - UIS & Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
Titov trg 2; SI-6230 Postojna, Slovenia

Co-organizer of UIS 50th Anniversary:

Management of Postojnska jama d.d.
Jamska cesta 30, 6230 Postojna, Slovenia

Web: <http://www.postojnska-jama.eu/>

The 23rd International Karstological School "Classical Karst" is supported by:

- Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO
- Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Municipality of Postojna
- Škocjanske jame Park
- Grotta Gigante
- JZS – Speleological Association of Slovenia

Contact person:

Nadja Zupan Hajna

E: iks@zrc-sazu.si

Organizing committee

Nadja Zupan Hajna, Andrej Mihevc, Franci Gabrovšek, Petra Gostinčar, Zdeněk Motyčka, Matej Blatnik, Martin Knez, Peter Kozel, Janez Mulec, Bojan Otoničar, Metka Petrič, Tanja Pipan, Mitja Prelovšek, Tadej Slabe, Stanka Šebela, Nataša Viršek Ravbar

Program committee

Nadja Zupan Hajna, Andrej Mihevc, Andrej Kranjc, Franci Gabrovšek, Pavel Bosák

Location

Postojna, Slovenia

(1) Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, Titov trg 2, 6230 Postojna – Reception at the Institute

(2) Cultural Centre of Postojna, Gregorčičev drevored 2, 6230 Postojna – Registration & Scientific program (Lectures & Posters)

(3) Cave Postojnska jama – UIS 50th Anniversary celebration & Banquet & Tourist visit

Transportation from Airports

You can book your transportation from various airports to Postojna and back through the travel agency Kompas Postojna, which offers competitive prices. For more information, contact the agency by e-mail: accommodation@kompas-postojna.si

Accommodation for participants

The participants (except invited lecturers and UIS Bureau members) are asked to book their accommodations through the travel agency Kompas Postojna. The agency **has special prices** for participants of the UIS Anniversary and School if you book your accommodations **by 1 February 2015**.

There are several possibilities for accommodations: **Hotel Kras** (in front of the Institute), **Sport Hotel** (close to the Culture Centre), **Youth Hostel Proteus** (close to the Institute), **Camping Pivka jama** (5 km from Postojna; camp and bungalows), **private apartments and rooms** (in Postojna). More information on the accommodations is available on the School's website: <http://iks.zrc-sazu.si>!

For booking and information please contact the following address:

KOMPAS POSTOJNA, d.o.o., travel agency

Titov trg 2a, Postojna, Slovenia

Phone: (00) 386 5 7211480

Fax: (00) 386 5 7211487

Contact persons: Masa, Azra, Mateja

e-mail: accommodation@kompas-postojna.si

Places to Eat

(1) Proteus

Restaurant with all sorts of food and a daily menu. On Postojna's main square, next to the Institute.

(2) Bar Bor

Traditional local daily meals. Good and cheap. On the corner of Postojna's main square; across the street from the Hotel Kras.

(3) Pizzeria Čuk

Located in the Sport Park. Although known as pizzeria, they also serve good pasta and other food, including salad bar and a daily menu.

(4) Pizzeria Minutka

Pizzeria with other items, "Balkan" food, and a daily menu.