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Not only has BTC City long stood for a synonym of excellent shopping, it has also provided the modern man with more and more options for spending free time. You can exercise at the top-notch sports centre Millennium, have fun and relax in the Atlantis Water Park, sit behind the steering wheel of a go-kart or swing a mini golf club. You can watch a film at the Kolosej multiplex, experience the future at the Arena Vodafone entertainment centre or spin the roulette at the casino. And this is only the beginning.

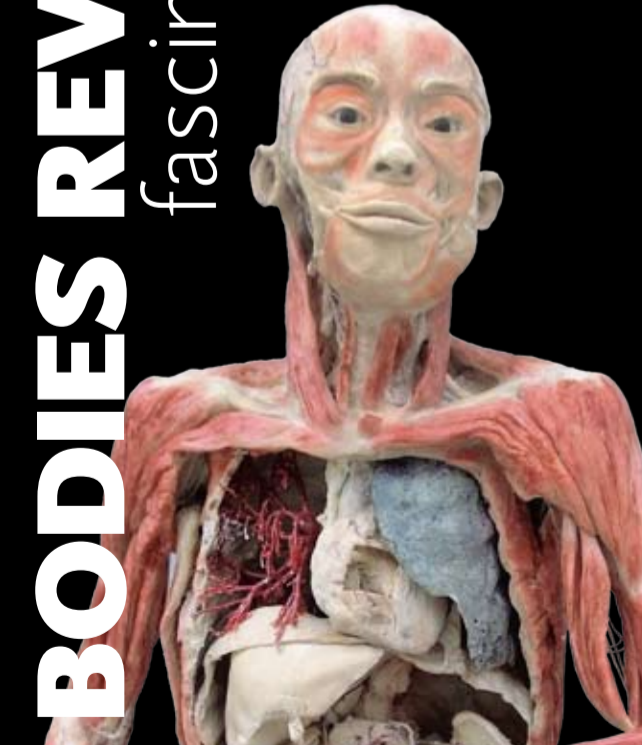
Welcome to BTC City.

THIS IS MY CITY! WWW.BTC-CITY.COM

BODIES REVEALED

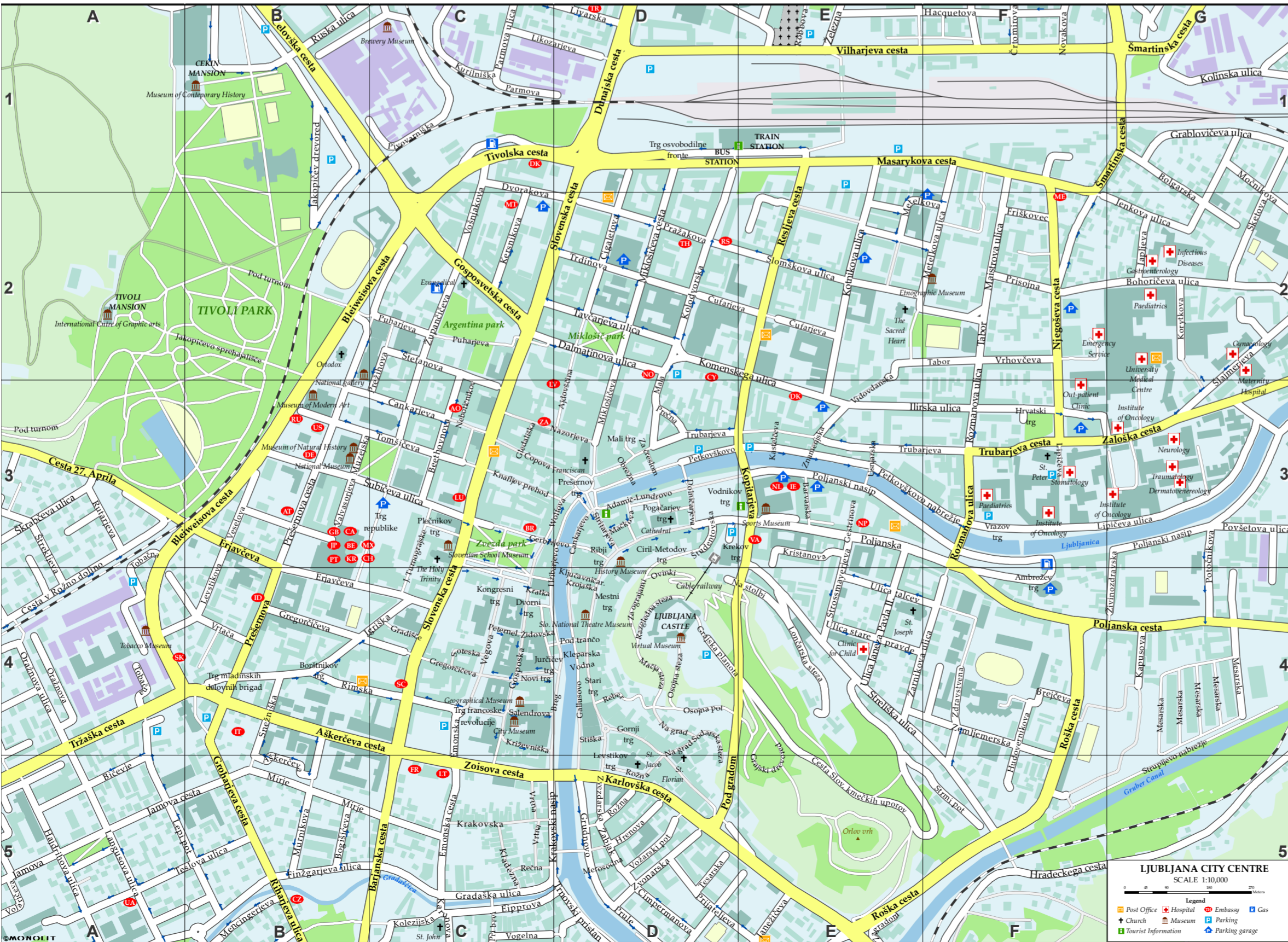
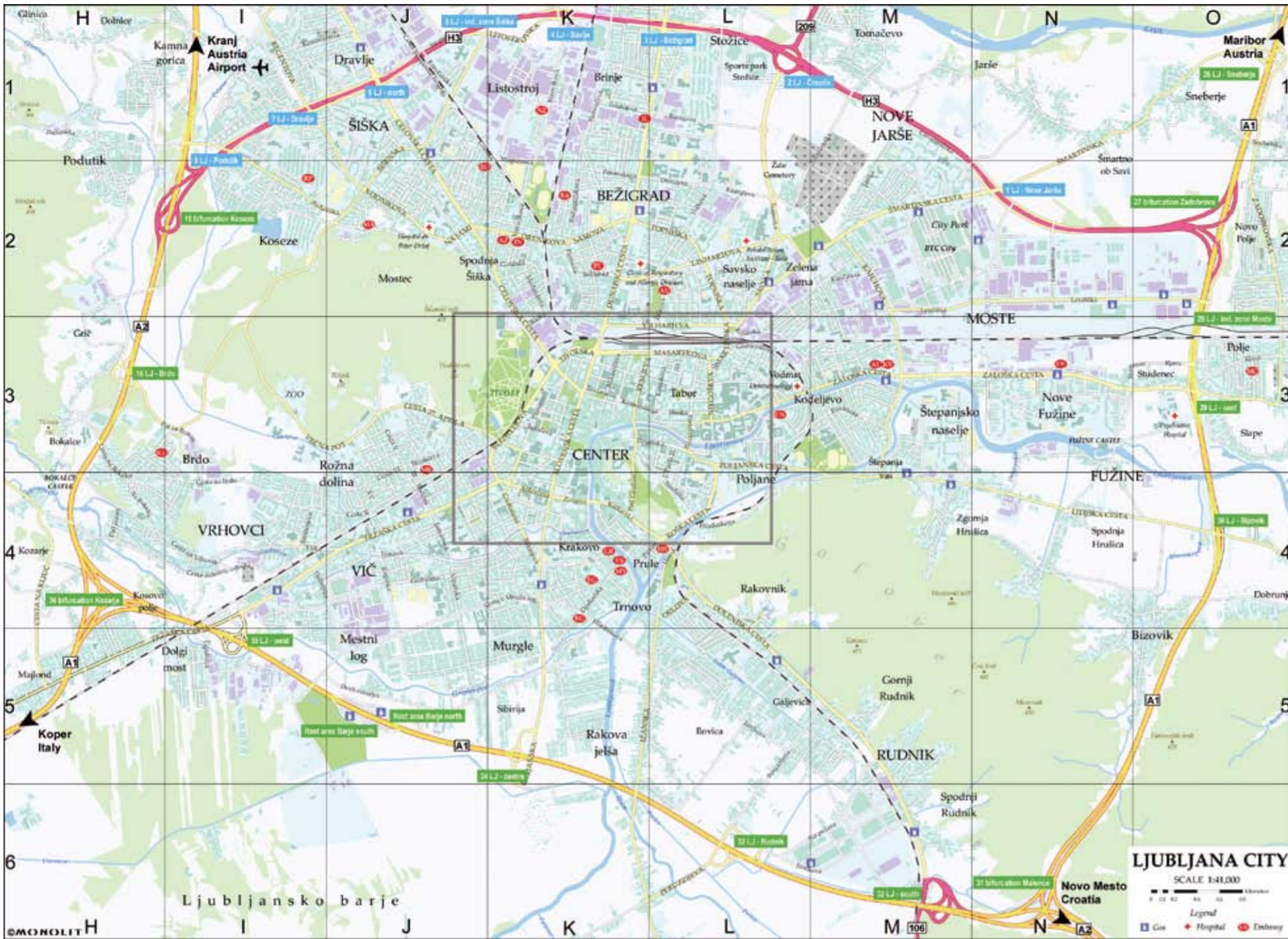
fascinating+real

the exhibition
12.4. -16.9.2012



GOSPODARSKO RAZSTAVIŠČE
Ljubljana

www.bodies.si



SHOPPING

Books

Behemot C-4, Židovska Steza 3, tel. +386 (0)125 11 392, books@behemot.si, www.behemot.si. This small, somewhat eccentric and incredibly well-stocked bookshop should be your first stop if you're looking for something new to read in English while in Ljubljana - especially if you know what you like, but not necessarily what you want, as the friendly owner is more than happy to make educated recommendations. And if nothing on the shelves catches your eye, they can also order more or less anything ever printed in English. In short, this is the kind of place that makes you hope (however vainly) that iPads and ebooks don't one day make the printed page obsolete. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sat 10:00 - 14:00. Closed Sun.

Department Stores

Maxi Market C-3, Trg Republike 1, tel. (+386) 14 76 68 00, info@maxi.si, www.maxi.si. Slovenia's most storied department store recently received an extensive interior makeover, bringing the modern shopping experience to the heart of the city centre while still maintaining the building's landmark facade. Cosmetics, accessories, men's and women's fashion are spread across the top three floors, whereas the basement level is home to arguably the country's best supermarket. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00, Sat 08:00 - 17:00. Closed Sun.

Milica C-2/3, Ajdovščina 3, tel. (+386) 13 00 46 00, info@midas.si, www.midas.si. A trade house on four floors of Midas offers global brands in the world of fashion such as: Gucci, Dolce & Gabbana, Prada, Dior, Jimmy Choo, Moncler, Paul Smith, Giorgio Armani, Diesel, Marc by Marc Jacobs, Blumarine and Givenchy. Clothing, footwear, bags and other fashion accessories to impress most fashion enthusiasts. There's also a selection of children's fashion including items from Gucci, Prada, D&G and Hugo Boss. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 17:00. Closed Sun.

Nama C-3, Tomšičeva 1, tel. +386 (0)1 425 83 00, info@nama.si, www.nama.si. Set in the heart of the city centre, just opposite the central post office, this modern department store offers several floors of clothing for men and women, with brands ranging from sporty to trendy to sophisticated. A large selection of household items can be found on the fourth floor and a supermarket stocked with an appetizing variety of ready meals, salads, produce and other quick eats is in the basement, while the ground floor is where you will find cosmetics and accessories. ▶ Open 08:30 - 20:00, Sat 09:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Fashion

iBlues D-2, Miklošičeva 7, tel. (+386) 590 74 294, info@morris.si, www.morris.si. While iBlues may sound like Apple's new line of designer anti-depressants, it's actually one of the diverse brands of the Italian-based fashion house Marella, which is known for its sensual and feminine designs and fascinating use of shapes and colours. iBlues' Spring/Summer 2012 line is intended for women who like to play with fashion - always experimenting, but never exaggerated. Prints with bold colour combinations are one of the main focuses, while jackets and dresses take advantage of new materials such as techno satin and stretch viscose. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:30, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

Malloni D-3, Mačkova 4, tel. +386 (0)40 721 702, malloni.ljubljana@gmail.com, www.malloni.com. With roots dating back to a small central Italian shoemaking workshop in the 1950s, over the past few decades the Malloni Group has greatly expanded and diversified its lines of women's fashion, but still remains a family-run business - now in the third generation. The fashion house's first Ljubljana boutique will open in the old town on 2 May 2012, just steps away from most of the city's major sights. In addition to the main Malloni label, which focuses on prêt-à-porter fashion, the shop will also feature the i-Malloni line for creative, trendy designs), Malloni Tricot (for knitwear), and iKos for innovative footwear and accessories. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sat 10:00 - 17:00. Closed Sun.

Tru Trussardi D-3, Miklošičeva 7, tel. (+386) 59 074 299, info@morris.si, www.morris.si. Like its nearby sister stores, Max Mara and La Perla, Tru Trussardi offers a range of women's clothing at the cutting-edge of fashion, but also caters to the style-conscious man, with a sophisticated range of male clothing. This season the guiding line of the men's collection is the combination of nature and design - emphasising a natural appearance with strong contrasts. Similarly,

SHOPPING

The Spring/Summer 2012 collection for women is based on a fresh concept of minimalism, and is defined by three unique moments: party boutique (which draws inspiration from the 1970s), working boutique (a professional, functional style), and holiday boutique (an active, everyday style for leisure activities). ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:30, Sat 09:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

Gifts & Souvenirs

Čokoladnica Cukrček D-3/4, Mestni Trg 11, tel. (+386) 1 421 04 53, info@benedit.si, www.cukrcek.si. A charming, family-run business with three shops in the city, Čokoladnica Cukrček has been delighting adults and making children happily sick for a decade and a half. Among the many fine examples of chocolate for sale include special Ljubljana dragons in souvenir wooden boxes, fruit covered in chocolate and even chocolate flavoured with salt. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sun 10:00 - 19:00.

Kraskavka D-3, Cihil Metodov Trg 10, tel. (+386) 12 32 14 45, info@kraskavka.si, www.kraskavka.si. Food glorious food: the song and you may well find yourself humming it as you scan the shelves of this tasty shop. A family-run business, Kraskavka provides an outlet for local produce that until recently was only sold directly from the farmer. It started off specializing in produce from the sea but has now expanded to include all manner of Slovenian delicacies from pumpkin-seed oil to Trn wine to jams, cheeses, vinegars and dried meats. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:00, Sat 09:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.

Piranske Soline D-4, Mestni Trg 19, tel. (+386) 1425 01 90, www.soline.si. Times have changed since Roman soldiers were paid in salt but this mineral still ranks as one of life's essentials. Here at Piranske Soline the canvas bags that fill the windows and the shelves are full of the stuff. There is salt for cooking, including the famous Piran salt, hand-scraped from coastal deposits, along with scented chocolates and a wide range of salt-related accessories such as salt mills and containers. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 15:00.

Shopping centres

BTC City M-2, Šmartinska 152, tel. (+386) 15 85 22 22, info@btc.si, en.btc.city.com. The biggest thing of its kind in the country, the positively humungous BTC features not only some 450 shops selling everything you could possibly imagine, but also boasts restaurants galore, bars, a post office, multiplex cinema, indoor go-kart racing, a comedy theatre, billiards, volleyball court, an enormous water park, conference facilities and its very own business district housing some of the best known local and international companies. There's free parking for more than 8,500 vehicles too, all just a couple of kilometres out of the centre of the city in the general direction of Maribor. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Citypark M-2, Šmartinska 152g, tel. (+386) 1 587 30 50, info@citypark.si, www.citypark.si. Boasting over 120 stores of all shapes and sizes, Citypark is Slovenia's largest shopping centre, and the best place to find pretty much whatever you need while in Ljubljana. Besides the massive variety of stores - such as XYZ, K&O, Big Bang, Desigual, H&M and an Interpar hypermarket - there is a terrific choice of places to eat, from Burger King to Thai food to traditional Slovenian. Unlike the city centre parking is never a problem, and there's even a large children's play area to keep the kids occupied. Find the Citypark page on Facebook to stay up to date with new openings and events. ▶ Open 09:00 - 21:00, Sat 08:00 - 21:00, Sun 09:00 - 15:00.



Malloni is opening in the old town on 2 May 2012

CULTURE & EVENTS

Music

17.05 Thursday
Jasmin Stavros & Dražen Zečić

C-4/5, Križanke, Trg Francoske Revolucije 1. Croatian music legends and certified Balkan pop stars Jasmin Stavros & Dražen Zečić will perform at Ljubljana's famed Križanke Summer Theatre in May as a way of celebrating their 40th and 35th years (respectively) in the music business. Each will perform with his own backing group, and be joined by various special guests, including some who are stars in their own right. A show definitely not to be missed! ▶ Open 20:00. Tickets €27 in advance, €30 on day of concert.

03.06 Sunday

Megadeth

J2, Kino Šiška, Trg Prekomorskih Brigad 3, tel. +386 (0)30 310 110, www.kinoslska.si. One of the most famous heavy metal bands of all time, Megadeth was formed in Los Angeles in 1983, and is (along with Slayer, Metallica and Anthrax) largely credited with developing and popularising the sub-genre of thrash metal. The band has released thirteen albums over the course of their 30-year career, most recently the original title *Thirteen* in November 2011, which was generally well-received by critics and fans alike. ▶ Tickets €29.

Festivals

24.05 Thursday - 02.06 Saturday
28th International Druga Godba Festival
Various Venues, tel. (+386) 1 430 82 60, fax (+386) 1 430 82 65, info@drugagodba.si, www.drugagodba.si. Druga Godba is a festival of world and, to a lesser extent, contemporary jazz music. It runs across Europe's best festivals of slightly alternative music difficult to fit neatly into musical categories. Druga Godba is well known for bringing to Ljubljana leading artists from different backgrounds and musical traditions who draw inspiration from different traditional folk musics and are committed to creative musical exploration. The Druga Godba line-up is sometimes even ahead of world trends. The programme for 2012 had not yet been finalised as we went to press, but if recent years are any indication it will include leading performers from several continents.

Exhibitions

12.04 Thursday - 16.09 Sunday
Bodies Revealed
D-1, Gospodarsko Razstavišče, Dunajska 18, tel. +386 (0)41 743 830, info@bodies.si, www.bodies.si. The study of human anatomy has always operated on a basic principle: to see is to know. This same principle led Egyptian, Greek, Roman and Islamic cultures to a progressively more scientific understanding of the human form. Public dissections during the Renaissance furthered this

Overflight: 6th Ljubljana Theatre Festival

D-1, Slovensko Mladinsko Gledališče, Vilhava 11, tel. +386 (0)1 3004 900, info@mladinsko-gi.si, en.mladinsko.com/festival. The Mladinsko Theatre organised the first Overflight Festival in 2007. It was conceived as an overview of the performances of the theatre's repertoire, which for more than half a century has been in substantial debt to aesthetics - opening, widening and questioning the conventional margins of theatrical arts. This year, for the first time, the festival is being prepared in cooperation with the Glej Theatre, an independent theatre organisation, which shares a similar understanding of art and its role in society. The opening and closing of the festival is also being prepared in cooperation with the Croatian Theatre Performance from Zagreb. All the performances will be subtitled in English. ▶ Tickets €9 for adults, €6 for children, students and pensioners - three or more performances €7/5. Admission to all performances €50.

GETTING AROUND



Car Rental

Al Maha A-4, Tržaška 2 (Tobačna Building, 3rd Floor), tel. (+386) 30 622 862 (Eng./Slo)/(+386) 30 674 589 (Eng), fax (+386) 1 426 40 77, info@almaharentacar.com, www.almaharentacar.com. Located in the city centre, Al Maha is one of the only low-priced car rental agencies in Ljubljana that, with offices all over Slovenia (including Brnik Airport, Ljubljana, Maribor and Koper) the friendly folks at Avis can help you find the most convenient car rental solution for your holiday, business trip or weekend away. It's always a good idea to ensure about special weekend rates, as they can be extremely easy on the wallet. ▶ Open 08:00 - 19:00, Sat, Sun 08:00 - 12:00. Airport office (0)4 23 65 000, open 08:00-22:00.

Europcar D-2, Dalmatinova 15, tel. (+386) 1 318 20 52, reservations@europcar.si, sl.europcar.si. ▶ Open 08:00 - 18:00, Sat 08:00 - 13:00, Sun 08:00 - 12:00. Airport office (04) 236 79 90, open 08:00-21:00.

Hertz D-2, Trdnova 9, tel. (+386) 14 34 01 47, ljubljana@hertz.si, www.hertz.si. ▶ Open 07:00 - 19:00, Sat 08:00 - 13:00, Sun 08:00 - 12:00.

IdealRent, tel. (+386) 31 565 170, fax (+386) 4 223 776, info@idealrent.si, www.idealrent.si. A wide range of new cars, cheap weekly and monthly rates, and free pick-up and drop-off at all locations in Slovenia (including Ljubljana centre, Brnik airport, Bled, Kraskava Gora and Maribor among other places), as well as arranging delivery at airports in neighbouring countries (Trieste, Venice, Klagenfurt, Zagreb and even Vienna) make IdealRent one of our first choices when it comes to hiring a car. Cars from €38 per day or €188 per week all-inclusive.

Taxis

Laguna Taxi J-1, Celovška 228, tel. (+386) 31 492 299/(+386) 1 511 23 14, fax (+386) 1 511 23 14, taxi.laguna@siol.net, www.taxi-laguna.com

Metro Taxi M-3/4, Litijska 16, tel. (+386) 80 11 90/(+386) 4 124 02, taxi@metroprevoz.si, www.metroprevoz.net/TaxiPrevoz.htm.

Taxi Legende Andreja Bitenca 50, tel. (+386) 31 73 22 89, taxi.legende@gmail.com, www.taksilegende.com.

Parking Garages

PH Kapitej E-3, Poljanski nasip 4, tel. (+386) 1 360 36 48/(+386) 51 366 510, phkapitej@kranjska-id.com, www.parkiraj.si. Located along the Ljubljana River beneath the modern Kapitej and Urban Villa complex, which houses both shops, offices, residences and five embassies, the garage is only 100m or so from the famous Dragon Bridge and Tržnica market. While there are only 261 spaces, you can normally find a free one.

PH Meksiko F-2, Njegošova 4, tel. (+386) 1 600 40 38/(+386) 51 366 510, phmekisiko@kranjska-id.com, www.parkiraj.si. Only opened in 2010, the Mexico Parking Garage is a large modern facility situated adjacent to the Slovenia's main medical facilities and just down the street from the central bus and railway stations. There are a total of 624 spaces, and the ground floor is home to a popular German supermarket.

PH Sentpetar F-3, Zaloška 1, tel. (+386) 1 430 59 02/(+386) 5 136 65 10, phsentpetar@kranjska-id.com, www.parkiraj.si. Situated near the University of Ljubljana Medical Centre at the intersection of Zaloška and Njegoševa Streets, Sentpetar Parking House boasts 500 parking spaces.

PH Trdnova D-2, Trdnova 9, tel. (+386) 1 230 95 00/(+386) 5 136 65 10, phtrdnova@kranjska-id.com, www.parkiraj.si. Located in the very centre of the city, only a short walk from the Ljubljana Stock Exchange, main courthouse and various corporate head offices, the Trdnova Parking House has near 1200 spaces. ▶ All garages open 00:00 - 24:00. From 07:00 - 19:00 €2 per hour, 19:00 - 07:00 the first four hours are €1 per hour, while additional hours are €0.50. The daily rate is €32, while monthly fees are as low as €150.

Transfers

Turanus Bratovševa ploščad 38, tel. (+386) 40 80 25 25, fax (+386) 59 133 611, turanus.shuttles@gmail.com, www.turanus.com. This new Ljubljana-based transport company is a convenient and economical option for getting to and from Slovenia's Brnik airport, as well as airports in nearby countries frequented by visitors and Slovenes alike. They also organise trips throughout Slovenia and neighbouring countries at prices that can be well-below those of public transport, while the exceedingly friendly owner is fluent in English and flexible with scheduling. Visit their English-language website for a comprehensive list of prices or to enquire about a reservation.

CULTURE & EVENTS

understanding, laying the foundation for our modern medical institutions and for this Exhibition. ▶ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Fri, Sat 10:00 - 21:00. Tickets €15.50 for adults, €14 for students, €9.50 for primary school pupils, free for children under six.

Special Events

12.05 Saturday
Path of Remembrance Recreational Run
Following the 35km route of a razor wire fence constructed around Ljubljana by occupying forces 1942, the annual recreational run commemorates those who died and suffered during this turbulent time in Slovene (and European) history. For those not up for running 35km at 6x in the morning on a Saturday, there is also a threehour run of 28km and 12km that begins from Mestni Trg between 9:00-9:30. The path itself, which serves a unique cultural monument, is always open to the public and worth exploring on your own. ▶ Open 06:00. Free admission.

18.05 Friday

International Museum Day
Icom.museum. Started in 1977 to raise awareness of the importance that museums have in the development of society, participation has now spread to some 100 countries and a staggering 30,000 institutions. This year's 36th iteration will be based on the theme 'Museums in a Changing World: New challenges - new inspirations', which recognises that institutions are nowadays faced with interpreting and existing in a field that is becoming increasingly fluid. What this means for you is that on 18 May all of Ljubljana's museums and galleries will offer free admission, and also feature a programme of various workshops, demonstrations, lectures and new exhibition openings.

Galleries

BEST OF 2012
Aksloma Project Space D/E/2, Komenskega 18, tel. +386 (0)590 54 360/(+386) (0)590 17 010, projectspace@aksiloma.org, www.aksiloma.org. ▶ Open 12:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon, Sat, Sun.

Mestna Galerija (City Gallery) D-3/4, Mestni Trg 5, tel. (+386) 1 241 71 70, mestna.galerija@siol.net, www.mestna-galerija.si. ▶ Open 11:00 - 19:00, Sun 11:00 - 15:00. Closed Mon.

Skuc Gallery D-4, Stari Trg 21, tel. fax (+386) 1421 31 40, galerija.skuc@guest.arnes.si, www.galerija.skuc-drustvo.si. ▶ Open 12:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon.

Vzgalica Galerija C-4, Trg Francoske Revolucije 7, info@mglm.si, www.mglm.si. ▶ Open 11:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon.

Theatres

Slovenian Youth Theatre (Slovensko Mladinsko Gledališče) E-1, Vilharjeva 11, tel. (+386) 1 425 33 12, info@mladinsko-gi.si, en.mladinsko.com. The Mladinsko Theatre (or the SMG) is considered a laboratory for actors, directors, choreographers and musicians to research and develop, risk and create. It was established in the 1950s as the first professional theatre for children and youth in Slovenia. ▶ Main box office at Trg Francoske Revolucije 5 is open Mon-Fri 12:00-17:30, Sat 10:00-13:00.



Map Hotels Restaurants Bars Sights

MINI-GUIDE

inyoupocket

LJUBLJANA

May - June 2012

INTRODUCING LJUBLJANA



Soon-to-be graduating secondary school students will take part in the world's largest Quadrille dance routine on Ljubljana's main thoroughfare (Slovenska Cesta) on 18 May this year, photo by D. Wedam

By the time you read this, Ljubljana's predictably unpredictable April weather (which brings frequent rain showers, intermittent sun breaks and lots of rainbows) will hopefully have given way to bright blues skies, with the 1st of May holidays unofficially marking the transition into summer. Instead of avoiding water falling from the sky, residents and visitors alike can enjoy the water that flows through the city, namely the Ljubljana River and a handful of canals that flow into it, by grabbing a coffee at one of the numerous riverside cafés, strolling along one of the newly redeveloped embankments (Gundobro Nabrežje is the latest to undergo the transition from grassy slope to pleasant riverside pathway), lounging in the sun with a book and/or a beer at Spica Beach or taking a cruise on one of the many boats that ply the waters during the warmer months. For those who prefer wheels to water, there are plenty of bikes available for short-term use, including through the city's popular bike share programme Bicke (which is free for the first hour but requires online registration and a credit card) or the Slovenian Tourist Information Centre on Krekov Trg, which rents by the hour or the day.

The month of May also sees a marked increase in the number of events taking place in Ljubljana, with some of the more notable ones being the Druga Godba international music festival, the Path of Remembrance Recreational Run, the annual secondary school graduation parade/street party known as the Maturanska Parada and the Overflight Theatre Festival, which is a great opportunity for non-Slovene speakers to experience Slovenia's thriving theatrical arts scene. And last but not least, those seeking some culture on a budget should mark 18 May on the calendar, as all of the city's museums and galleries will be offering free admission in observance of International Museum Day. As always we welcome any and all feedback, be it on Facebook, Foursquare, Twitter or even old-fashioned email.

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ESSENTIAL CITY GUIDES

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BY NIGHT

Bars

Bi-Ko-Fe C-4, Židovska Steza 2, tel. (+386) 44 25 93 93, bikofe@gmail.com, www.bikofe.si Situated on a sloping cobbled lane in Ljubljana's old town, BiKoFe is something of a Mecca for hipsters, students, artists, designers, musicians and the like. The winner of an award for design, the interior was entirely renovated using recycled and refurbished furniture and materials, and we can honestly say that it's one of the cosiest places to relax with a drink (or a coffee) in the city. Live DJs keep the place bumping on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights, and from time to time musical acts (some quite well-known) perform cover-free shows for the cool crowd. They also now offer light snacks, including some of the best sandwiches in LJ, which are made daily by a local Japanese woman. ▶ Open 07:00-01:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 01:00, Holidays 18:00-01:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

LP Bar C-4, Novi Trg 2, tel. (+386) 41 846 457/(+386) 40 636 797. With the existing bars and cafés in Ljubljana's old town already approaching the saturation point, new establishments have to bring something extra to table if they'd like to stick around. For LP Bar, that something extra is the unique space it occupies in a century old building on Novi Trg. The bar is comprised of a long open hall with arched white ceilings and plush couches leading back to the building's inner courtyard, and a couple of rooms opening off of it with a more traditional bar feel. They also host frequent music and arts related events, and it's best to check their Facebook page to see what's happening. ▶ Open Mon-Thur 08:00-24:00, Fri 08:00-01:00, Sat 09:00-01:00, Sun 09:00-15:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Pr' Skelet D-4, Kijūčevničarska 5, tel. (+386) 1 252 77 99, info@prsklet.com, www.prsklet.com. Look for the skeleton hanging in a cage on the corner of the street, dip up the alley and down the skeleton-riddled staircase, over the skeleton lying under the glass floor and enter what may well be the strangest cocktail bar of them all. As sharp-witted readers may have already guessed, the theme here is a skeletal one. They're everywhere - some still wearing their clothes, and even a dominatrix skeleton complete with a whip and naughty little skeleton. Not content with this, expect to find a bony hand on your cup should you order a coffee. ▶ Open 10:00 - 03:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Znauc B-4, Rimska 21, tel. (+386) 12 51 03 24. Ask any tuned-in local to make a list of their favourite bars and they're almost certain to put this place on the list. Covered in quality graffiti outside and always featuring a huddle of interesting-looking individuals smoking suspiciously large cigarettes by the entrance, the exterior is but a mild prelude to what's inside. A smallish L-shaped bar is packed day and night with more strange characters amidst an interior design straight from the pages of a Manga comic. Excellent for coffee or strong drinks, with a whip and naughty little skeleton. Not content with this, expect to find a bony hand on your cup should you order a coffee. ▶ Open 10:00 - 03:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Parlament Pub C-3, Šubičeva 1, tel. (+386) 1 251 32 43. Knowing neither whether it's a café or a bar, this peculiar oddity with its books on the shelves, shady characters and (you've guessed it) students is nonetheless a popular stop for the heavy drinking younger crowd. Known for cheap beer and cocktails (with 3 of the latter had for the price of 2), and lively international parties almost every night, it's a great place to both start or end an evening out. The entrance and terrace are at the back side of the building on Plečnikov Trg. ▶ Open 06:00 - 04:00, Sat 08:00 - 04:00, Sun 16:00 - 24:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]



Nama is a department store right in the centre of Ljubljana. Over the years Nama has become one of the city's major sights and a favourite shopping centre thanks to its great location and friendly staff.

WHERE TO STAY

Not surprisingly for a popular tourist and business destination, Ljubljana provides a wide range of accommodation options to suit all tastes and budgets. As you'd expect, prices creep up the closer you get to the centre, but the cost of a night here still remains relatively low in comparison with western Europe. The city's popularity does mean however that places do book up for the summer. Ensuring you get yourself the room the want in the location you want and for the price you want during the summer is highly recommended.

Over €170

Antiq Palace Hotel & Spa C-4, Gosposka 10, tel. (+386) 838 96 700, fax (+386) 838 06 790, sales@antiqpalace.com, www.antiqpalace.com. **Grand Hotel Union Business D-3, Miklošičeva 3, tel. (+386) 1308 11 70, fax (+386) 1308 19 14, hotel.business@gh-union.si, ww.gh-union.si.** **Grand Hotel Union Executive D-3, Miklošičeva 1, tel. (+386) 1308 12 70, hotel.union@gh-union.si, www.gh-union.si.** **Portar Hotel D-4, Gornji Trg 7, tel. (+386) 1 42 55 089, fax (+386) 1 42 55 090, www.angelohotel.si.** **Lev C-2, Vošnjakova 1, tel. (+386) 1 433 21 55, info@hotel-lev.si, www.hotel-lev.si.** **Mons H-3, Pot Za Brdom 4, tel. (+386) 1470 27 00, fax (+386) 1470 27 08, info@hotel.mons.si, www.hotel.mons.si.**

€100-170

Allegro D-4, Gornji Trg 6, tel. (+386) 59 119 620/(+386) 41 557 908, info@allegrohotel.si, www.allegrohotel.si. **Antiq D-4, Gornji Trg 3, tel. (+386) 1 421 35 60, fax (+386) 1 421 35 65, info@antihotel.eu, www.antihotel.eu.** **Best Western Premier Slon C-3, Slovenska 34, tel. (+386) 1 470 11 00, fax (+386) 1 251 71 64, sales@hotelslon.com, www.hotelslon.com.** **Central D-2, Miklošičeva 9, tel. (+386)13 08 43 00, fax (+386) 1230 11 81, central.hotel@gh-union.si, www.centralhotel.si.**

€70-100

Kavama Maček Rooms D-4, Krojaška 5, tel. (+386) 1425 37 91, macek@lj-kabel.net, www.sobe-macek.si. **Park E-2/3, Tabor 9, tel. (+386) 1300 25 00, info@hotelpark.si, www.hotelpark.si.** **Portar Art House M-3, Zaloška 110, tel. (+386) 1 54 00 166, fax (+386) 1 54 00 660, www.portal-m.si.**

Under €70

Center C-2, Slovenska 51, tel. (+386) 15 20 06 40/(+386) 41 26 33 47, fax (+386) 15 20 06 44, www.hotelcenter.si. **Emonec C/D-3, Wolfova 12, tel. (+386) 1 200 15 20, fax (+386) 1 200 15 21, hotelemonec@siol.net, www.hotel-emonec.com.**

Apartments

Marta Studio J-4, Tržaška 24, tel. (+386) 5 9020 452, fax (+386) 5 9060 012, info@martastudio.com, www.martastudio.com. **Tour AS D-2/3, Mala Ulica 8, tel. (+386) 1434 26 60, fax (+386) 1434 26 64, www.apartmaji.si.**

Hotels

Celica F-1/2, Metelkova ulica 8, tel. (+386) 12 30 97 00, info@souhotel.com, www.hotelcelica.com. **Confidenti K-4, Zherlova 30, tel. +386 (0)41 440 441, confidentihostel@gmail.com, comfy@hostel-ljubljana.si.** **Hotel Park E-3, Tabor 9, tel. +386 (0)1 300 2 500, info@hotelpark.si, www.hotelpark.si.** **Hotel Print J-4, Rožna Dolina IV/34, tel. (+386) 51 387 111, info@hostelprint.com, www.hostelprint.com.** **Vila Veselova B-3, Veselova 14, tel. (+386) 59 92 67 21, desk@v-v.si, www.v-v.si.**

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BY NIGHT

Patrick's Irish Pub D-3, Prečna 6, tel. (+386) 1230 17 68, info@irishpub-ljubljana.si, www.irishpub-ljubljana.si. Smoking bans can cause many changes to the fabric of a society, not least to the basic atmosphere of the classic Irish pub. Long gone now is the lingering nicotine smog that helped shape the style of this cellar bar, but the overall atmosphere remains more or less intact. Popular with locals, expats and tourists alike, the bar stocks all your favourite Irish tipples, served by a gaggle of cheery bar staff, plus there's the usual live sport on a big screen. ▶ Open 16:00 - 01:00, Fri, Sat 12:00 - 01:00, Sun 16:00 - 24:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Clubs

Cirkus B-4, Trg Mladinskih Delovnih Brigad 7, tel. +386 (0)51 631 631/+386 (0)41 777 747, info@cirkusklub.si, www.cirkusklub.si. Opened at the end of 2011, on the premises of the former arthouse cinema Kinoklub Vič, Cirkus has quickly become one of the more popular clubs in Ljubljana - with lots of themed nights, live DJs and photo albums posted to their Facebook page the morning after parties. Located just at the edge of the city centre (opposite the old tobacco factory), it's easy walking distance from most central hotels and hostels, and usually attracts a youthful student crowd. ▶ Open 20:00 - 05:00. Closed Mon, Sun. Admission is usually free before 23:00 and €5 after. Special events and performances can increase the price though. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Gala Hala F-1, Masarykova 24, tel. (+386) 1 43 17 063, drustvo.kapa@gmail.com, www.galahala.com. As the main concert venue in Metelkova - Ljubljana's regionally renowned independent cultural centre - Gala Hala hosts an eclectic range of performances several times per week, including many live rock acts, while functioning as a club on other nights. The state of the art sound system and acoustics make it a popular venue for both performers and audiences, and from May till October a summer stage and garden is also opened behind the main venue, which can accommodate nearly 1000 people. Check their website for a complete list of upcoming shows.

KLUB K4 B-2, Kersnikova 4, tel. (+386) 1438 02 61, info@klubk4.org, www.klubk4.org. If you're staying in a hotel in this part of town and your bed starts bouncing across the room in the middle of the night, the chances are the culprit can be found inside Klub K4. A very student-oriented club indeed, it's hot and sweaty and the DJs play some of the weirdest, hardest stuff in the country. Brilliant stuff. Klub K4 also offers Roza (Pink) Party nights for the gay community. ▶ Open 20:00 - 04:00, Thu 20:00 - 05:00, Fri, Sat 20:00 - 06:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Wine Bars

Dvomi Bar B-3, Dvomi Trg 1, tel. (+386) 12 51 12 57, info@dvomibar.net, www.dvomibar.net. This large L-shaped adventure is a pleasant café during the day and the city's trendiest wine bar by night. There's a swanky jazzy area at one end for more wine-oriented patrons, while the other side is a little more geared towards the restaurant crowd. Well upwards of 100 varieties of wine in stock is a great place to sample local vintages if you don't have time to trek out to one of Slovenia's wine growing regions, and organised tastings are held every second Wednesday from 20:00-22:00. ▶ Open 08:00 - 01:00, Sun 09:00 - 24:00. (€4.50-15). [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Adult Entertainment

Hard Core Club G-3, Dolgi Most 4, tel. (+386) 41 71 66 12, info@hard-coreclub.si, www.hardcoreclub.si. With a name like that you can't help but smile and get in a taxi and head here. The concept is simple: outstanding erotic entertainment provided by professionals in a safe environment. Groups of lads of all ages and backgrounds. Nobody pesters you to buy them extortionate 'lad drinks', there is always something worth watching on stage, and entrance is free. Drinks are reasonably priced - even the erotic ones - and the girls who perform here are on the whole of a far higher *phwoar* category than elsewhere. ▶ Open 17:00 - 05:00, Fri 17:00 - 07:00, Sat 21:00 - 05:00. Closed Sun. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Many more bars, pubs and clubs online at ljubljana.inyoupocket.com

WHERE TO EAT

Symbol key

Air conditioning	Credit cards accepted
Live music	Take away
Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Summer garden	Animal friendly
Old Town location	Wi-Fi
Designated smoking section	Smoke-free

Asian

Shambala C-4, Kržičevska 12, tel. (+386) 14 26 30 14/(+386) 31 843 833, www.shambala.si. Not only does Shambala's kitchen turn out some of the best (and spiciest) Asian cuisine in Slovenia, but the tranquil, almost meditative, ambience of the place allows you to enjoy your meal in a state of perfect relaxation - with some of the best service in town thrown in as an added benefit. During the warmer months, diners can also take advantage of the pleasant little garden that is tucked away in one of the buildings inner courtyards. Situated down a narrow alleyway off Brag, this hidden gem is definitely worth finding. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. (€3.50-9.50). [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Balkan

Harambaša C-5, Vrtna 8, tel. (+386) 41 84 31 06, www.harambasa.si. Čevapšići (che-VAP-eh-eh) - the delicious Balkan staple of juicy barbecued lamb or beef - is served in abundance here. This čevapnica has a quaint and cosy dining room, complete with old photos, antiques and a Balkan soundtrack. Aside from the odd American, the clientele is refreshingly local, and aside from the air-conditioning you could easily be in a village in the Bosnian countryside. Located in a small alleyway, to find it just follow your nose from the main road. ▶ Open 10:00 - 22:00, Sat 12:00 - 22:00, Sun 12:00 - 18:00. (€5-8). [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

International

Bistro C-3, Kongresni Trg 3, tel. +386 (0)1421 90 91, www.zvezdaljubljana.si. It didn't take long for Kongresni Trg, and Zvezda Park, to resume their rightful place as the heart of Ljubljana's city centre after reopening to the public in 2011 (now resting on top of a shiny new subterranean parking garage). This was only a matter of time before a restaurant or two moved in to satiate the appetites of a hungry citizens. While Bistro is minimalist in décor, its menu of gourmet lunches and light snacks are nothing if not decadent, and its sophisticated wine list is complemented by an ample selection of cocktails for those wishing to drop by for an after work or late night tipple. ▶ Open 11:00 - 23:00, Sat 10:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Hostelia Dela E-3, Poljanska 7, tel. +386 (0)51 491 491. Located just east of the Tržnica central market and around the corner from Dragon Bridge, Hostelia Dela is nevertheless a bit hidden on a narrow street not usually frequented by tourists, but is definitely worth finding. Not only do they serve up delicious lunchtime fare from an open-kitchen in a rustic yet cosy dining area, but the whole operation

Allegria

Restaurant Allegria Nazorjeva ulica 8, 1000 Ljubljana
Tel: +386 1 426 7402, info@allegria.si, www.allegria.si
Open Mon - Fri 11:00 - 23:00, Sat 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 12:00 - 17:00

is overseen the so-called JobFactory project, which aims to create employment opportunities for local youth who may otherwise be excluded from the working world. Thus, in addition to sincerely pleasant service and tasty food at affordable prices, taking a meal here also supports a good cause. ▶ Open 07:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun. €5-8. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

WHAT TO SEE

Ljubljana Tourist Card

Urbana Ljubljana Tourist Card www.visitljubljana.si/en/tourist-and-more-urban-ljubljana-card/. Tourist Ljubljana has recently launched its new tourist card, offering free admission to all of the city's main sights as well as free unlimited transport LPP's extensive urban bus network. The card can be purchased at most hotels and all three of Ljubljana's Tourist Information Centres (on Adamič-Lendavsko Nabrežje, at the Square of Contemporary Art and the newly christened Museum Quarter located between Metelkova and Tabor in the centre of the city. Nearly two years of renovations has transformed the former administrative building into the city's most dynamic arts space, with rooms of all shapes and sizes situated around a vaulting central atrium. The museum is focussed on works from the 1960s to the present day, and boasts a permanent collection devoted to Eastern Europe's postwar avant garde movement, as well as a selection of works from its sister institution, the Museum of Modern Art. Definitely a must-see for art fans. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €5 adults, €2.50 students/pensioners, €3.50 groups.

Bridges

Tromostovje (Triple Bridge) D-3. Perhaps Ljubljana's most characteristic structure), the triple bridge is a curious merger of a 19th century road bridge (itself replacing a medieval wooden bridge), with two 1930s pedestrian bridges designed by Plečnik, who took the opportunity to do up the whole ensemble with lamps and stone balustrades.

Zmajski Most (Dragon Bridge) E-3, Resljeva Cesta. Since it opened in 1901, Zmajski Most has been locked in a fierce competition with the castle and the conspicuously pink Franciscan Church for the title of Most Photographed Sight in Ljubljana. At any given moment during daylight hours (and only slightly less frequently at night) there is sure to be at least a person or two clicking away on one of the four large dragons guarding either side of the bridge or the smaller griffins that adorn the bottom of its eight lamp posts. Of course we're no exception, as we still remember the fog shrouded photo we snapped on our first trip to the city way back in the forgotten days of analogue film. More recently some amateur artiste apparently felt that the mythical beasts were lacking a certain je ne sais quoi and took it upon themself to add a smattering of red paint to their mouths and claws. The jury is still out on whether or not this is an improvement but it does amuse us whenever we walk past.

Cemeteries

Žale Cemetery (Pokopališče Žale) L/M-2, Med Hmeljniki 2, tel. (+386) 1420 17 00, info@zale.si, www.zale.si. Built on the site of a much earlier cemetery attached to the neighbouring (and still standing) Holy Cross Church, what's arguably Plečnik's Ljubljana masterpiece was completed in 1940. The grand arch entrance complete with stark white colonnades supposedly represents the gateway between the lands of the living and the dead. Between them and the cemetery itself are a series of peculiar buildings, chapels and monuments including the Žale funeral home. Architectural styles abound, reflecting Plečnik's vision of equality among religions. The cemetery itself, once you get there, is a pleasure to behold and is worthy of a good hour's stroll. The final resting place of many Slovenian gards including Plečnik himself, also find a small area given over to the Jewish population of the city. ▶ Open 07:00 - 19:00, April-September 07:00-21:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Churches

Franciscan Church (Franciškanski Samostan) D-3, Prešernov Trg 4, tel. (+386) 1242 93 00, franciskani.rkc.si/?id=51&mod=2. Built in an instantly recognisable, mildly swirly Baroque fashion, Ljubljana's mid-18th century Franciscan Church dominates Prešernov Trg like a big pink birthday cake. Part of a larger complex with an additional Franciscan monastery, if you're lucky enough to find the doors unlocked except for a few treats inside including Roba's 18th-century altar, some charming frescoes dating from 100 years or so later and a chapel notable for containing a cross designed by none other than Jože Plečnik. For those who don't appreciate the finer points of ecclesiastic architecture, the front steps do at least provide a nice place to sit and watch the world go by on a gloriously sunny day.

Museums & Galleries

City Museum (Mestni Muzej Ljubljana) C-4, Gosposka 15, tel. (+386) 1241 25 00, info@mestnimuzej.si, www.mestnimuzej.si. A magnificent museum run by a team of historians who know how to show people a good time, showcasing Ljubljana in all its good and bad colours throughout history. Featuring both permanent and temporary exhibitions, this is the best place in town for a crash course in city history. Find scale models of unfinished Plečnik creations, elaborate

WHERE TO EAT

Foculus

The most popular pizzeria in Slovenia

PARMA PRIMO PIZZERIA

Pizzeria with the longest tradition in Slovenia

is overseen the so-called JobFactory project, which aims to create employment opportunities for local youth who may otherwise be excluded from the working world. Thus, in addition to sincerely pleasant service and tasty food at affordable prices, taking a meal here also supports a good cause. ▶ Open 07:00 - 18:00. Closed Sat, Sun. €5-8. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Paninoteka+ C/D-4, Jurčičev Trg 3, tel. (+386) 4 125 67 14. Ljubljana's most famous sandwich shop has finally reopened its doors after a lengthy renovation, and now includes a full fledged restaurant and café in addition to the original soup and sandwiches of course) on the expanded premises. The a la carte selection leans towards the Italian, with homemade gnocchi and ravioli standing out, but also offers a handful of Slovene favourites, and the constantly changing daily lunch specials are a good value. The warm cosy atmosphere is also conducive to dropping in for an evening drink or dessert. ▶ Open Mon-Thurs 08:00-23:00, Fri 08:00-24:00, Sat 09:00-24:00 and Sun 09:00-22:00. Sandwiches €1.10-3.80. Main dishes €7.50-18.60. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Smrekarjev Hram D-3, Nazorjeva 2, tel. (+386) 1 308 19 75, smrekarjev.hram@gh-union.si, www.gh-union.si. Another of Ljubljana's upscale eateries, Smrekarjev Hram features a wide menu and a long wine list, made up of exclusively local bottles with the sole exception being French champagne for those particularly special occasions. Make sure you leave room for a main and a dessert, where you can spend on a range of soft or meat dishes such as grilled sea bass or beef in goose liver sauce, finishing off with raspberry pie or baked fig with vanilla ice-cream. The elegant interior of Smrekarjev Hram is offset by the funky multi-colored straw sculptures which add a touch of fun to somewhere with more than a touch of class. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00. [map] [info] [book] [img] [print] [share]

Mediterranean

Allegria C-3, Nazorjeva 8, tel. (+386) 1 426 74 02, info@allegria.si, www.allegria.si. Tucked away in a courtyard behind a large terrace, this long-running Ljubljana eatery has recently shifted the focus of its menu to the Mediterranean, with an extra emphasis on Slovenia's coastal regions. Seasonal specials are regularly offered, with the most popular dishes finding a home on the permanent

WHAT TO SEE

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costumes, old photographs and much more besides. Check out the fabulous little website for upcoming exhibitions. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 21:00. Closed Mon. Admission €4/2,50. English-language guided tours last Sun at 11:00.

Museum of Contemporary Art (Muzej Sodobne Umetnosti Metelkova) F-2, Maistrova 3, info@mgj.si, www.mgj.si. Along with the Slovene Ethnographic Museum and a branch of the National Museum, the recently opened Museum of Contemporary Art is one of Ljubljana's newly christened Museum Quarter located between Metelkova and Tabor in the centre of the city. Nearly two years of renovations has transformed the former administrative building into the city's most dynamic arts space, with rooms of all shapes and sizes situated around a vaulting central atrium. The museum is focussed on works from the 1960s to the present day, and boasts a permanent collection devoted to Eastern Europe's postwar avant garde movement, as well as a selection of works from its sister institution, the Museum of Modern Art. Definitely a must-see for art fans. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €5 adults, €2.50 students/pensioners, €3.50 groups.

Museum of Modern Art (Moderna Galerija) B-3, Tomšičeva 14, tel. (+386) 12 41 69 00, info@mgj.si, www.mgj.si. Following a lengthy renovation, the doors of Edvard Ravnikar's Plečnik-inspired building have finally reopened to the public. Continuing on from where the National Gallery stops, the city's excellent Museum of Modern Art houses a fine collection of Slovenian and international 20th-century art. ▶ Open Tues-Sun 10:00-18:00. Closed Mon and holidays. Admission €5 for adults, €2.50 for students/pensioners. No admission fee first Sunday of every month.

National Gallery (Narodna Galerija) B/C-2, Prešernova 24, tel. +386 (0)1 241 54 18, info@nglo.si, www.nglo.si. Inside Czech architect František Edmūd Škabrout's fabulous late 19th-century neo-Renaissance masterpiece with an additional modern wing (thrown on for good measure, this above-average gallery is one of the very best in Slovenian art from the 13th century up to the first half of the 20th century, including paintings by such notable artists as Ivan Grohar (1867-1911), Richard Jakopič (1869-1943) and Ivana Kobilca (1861-1926). The other permanent exhibition in the building focuses on European painting, and includes some really fine examples of the Renaissance-period Italian painting through to the more modernist work of the early 20th century. The gallery also contains a small gift shop, which has several good books and postcards. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €3.5-7.

Parks & Gardens

Botanical Gardens (Botanični Vrt) L-4, Izanska 15, tel. (+386) 14 27 80 80, botanik.vrt@siol.net, www.botanik.vrt.si. Nearly 200 years old, this garden is part of the biology department of Ljubljana University and has 2 hectares of protected landscape, with over 4500 species of native and foreign plants. Guided tours of groups over 15 people are possible for a small fee and when booked 10 days in advance. ▶ Open 07:00-19:00, Jul-Aug 07:00-20:00, November-March 07:00-17:00. Admission free for individuals, €1-2.5 guided views (€35-50/group).

Ljubljana Zoo (Živalski Vrt) I-3, Večna Pot 70, tel. (+386) 12 44 21 88, info@zoo.si, www.zoo.si. A large complex with a good variety of native and foreign animals, the zoo makes for an excellent day out with the kids. A pleasant 30 minute walk through leafy residential neighbourhoods from the city centre or a short ride on bus 23. Guided night tours are available on Thursdays and Saturdays

WHERE TO EAT

menu - the recent Days of Karst Cuisine has contributed a traditional risotto using Jamar sir (a cheese aged in caves) for example - and the entire menu is naturally complemented by an excellent wine list. ▶ Open 11