

# Mountain Biking

The surroundings of Bovec are crisscrossed with trails, paths and roads that are true bliss for mountain bikers. Bovec lies at an altitude of 430 m and one of its attractions is that the mountain biking season here is very long; it starts already at the end of March and lasts until the middle of November. Tours like Mt. Mangrt and Stol, as well as the Kanin Mountain Bike Park, offer biking at an altitude of over 1000 m. The purchase of the official tourist map of the Municipality of Bovec, and/or of Bovec and its surroundings, is highly recommended for proper orientation along the biking routes. In addition, we also highly recommend the hiring of a guide, who will give you advice and take you on a tour suited to your abilities.



## LOCAL TOURIST ORGANISATION Bovec Tourist Information Centre

Trg golobarskih žrtev 8, 5230 Bovec, Slovenia  
Tel: +386 (0) 5 38 96 444  
Fax: +386 (0) 5 38 96 445  
GSM: +386 (0) 31 388 700  
E-mail: info@bovec.si  
www.bovec.si

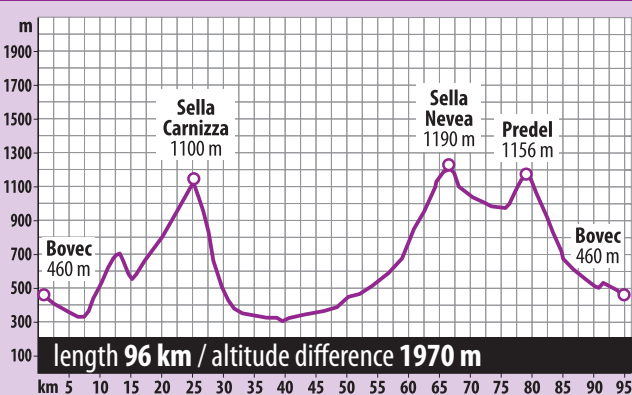


### 16 Around Kanin



This very demanding biking tour is a loop through numerous Alpine valleys on both sides of Mt. Kanin: Slovenian and Italian. The one-day tour across three mountain passes presents a challenge even for well-prepared bikers. Those who are not sure if they can complete the entire tour in one day can master this loop in stages. The tour starts in Bovec and continues via the main road toward the town of Kobarid. After 8 kilometres, the main Bovec-Kobarid road is left and a right turn is made for Učja (Uccea). There is then a rather long climb to the Učja border crossing (on the Slovenian side) and then a short descent to the Italian side of the crossing. Before the tour, it is wise to acquire information at the tourist information centre in Bovec as to what are the opening times for the border crossing, since it is not open 24 hours a day. Soon after the border crossing (on the Italian side), a right turn is made to the village of Učja (Uccea), and the tour continues via a narrow asphalt road along a level shady slope to Krnica (Sella Carnizza – 1092 m). Next is a very steep descent to the valley of Rezija (Val Resia). As soon as the road in the valley of Rezija (Val Resia) is reached, a left turn toward the village of Na Bili (Resiutta) is made, and then the tour continues up to the main Videm-Trbiž (Udine-Tarvisio) road. Here a right turn is made for Trbiž (Tarvisio), and then the tour continues via the valley of the river Bela (Rio Fella) up to the village of Kluže (Chiusaforte). In the village of Kluže (Chiusaforte), the main road is left by making a right turn across the bridge over the river Bela (Rio Fella), and the tour continues via the valley of Reklanska dolina (Val Raccolana) in the direction of V Žlebeh (Sella Nevea). After the initial flat section, the road ascends steeply at the end of the valley; after a couple of serpentines, first the aforementioned village is reached and then the saddle called V Žlebeh (Sella Nevea – 1190 m). Next is a descent via the valley of Jezerka dolina (Val Rio del Lago) past the lake called Rabeljsko jezero (Lago del Predil) to the intersection for Trbiž (Tarvisio) and Predel (Passo di Predil). At the intersection, a right turn is made, and after a short ascent, the border crossing at the Predel Pass (1156 m) is reached. A long descent is then made past the village of Log pod Mangrtom to the starting point in Bovec. If this circular tour is done in stages, one can try some additional biking tours, such as: a climb to the Božca Pasture from the Slovenian side of the Učja border crossing; biking to the end of the valley of Rezija (Val Resia); an ascent to the pastures under Mt. Špik nad Policami (Jôf di Montasio) from V Žlebeh (Sella Nevea); or a climb to the Mangrt Saddle from near the Predel Pass.

#### Very demanding biking trail



I FEEL SLOVENIA

## Biking trails



The project is co-financed by the European Union.

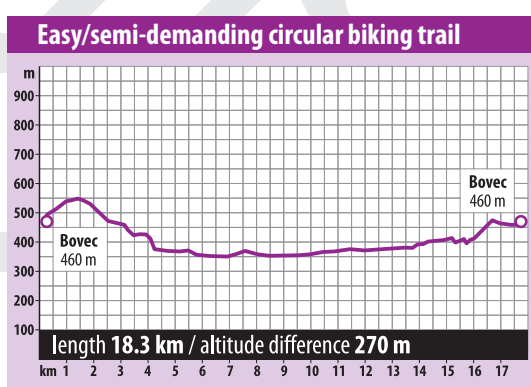
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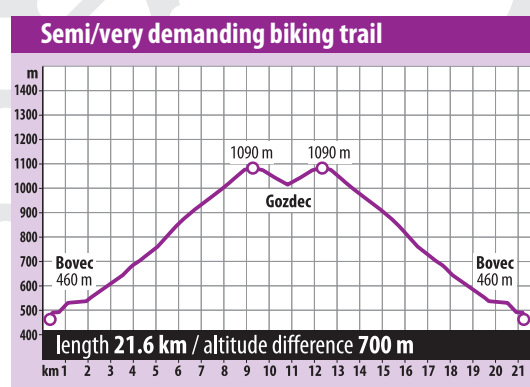
**1**

- Bovec
- Plužna
- Čezsoča
- Bovec

**4**

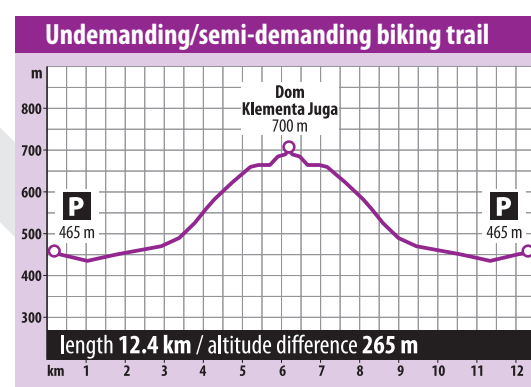
- Gozdec
- Krnica Pasture

A semi/very demanding biking trail that winds high above Bovec to Gozdec, where one can enjoy a beautiful view over the Bovec Basin. The tour starts in the centre of Bovec and continues past the church of St. Ulrich towards the hamlet of Plužna. After 1.6 km, the asphalt road ends and the tour continues via macadam road to the B station of the Kanin cable car. After 6 km of steady climbing, the B station is reached. Turn left here and follow the forest trail up to the point where trails branch off for Gozdec and the Krnica Pasture. From here, there are two possibilities: taking the left branch for Gozdec via the forest trail that at first rises and then descends, leading to the peak of Kopa (1439 m), which may be reached on foot; or taking the right branch that leads in the direction of the Krnica Pasture and ends after a long and steep ascent to a beautiful vantage point at 1250 m. From here, a 20-min. walk leads to the (now-deserted) Krnica dairy farm and its pastures. Return is made via the same route.

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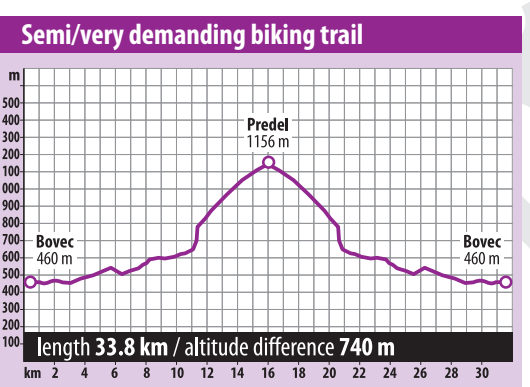
- Lepena

An undemanding/semi-demanding biking trail that leads along the Soča River and the Lepenjica Stream to the Lepena Valley. The tour starts at the turn-off for Lepena on the Bovec-Trenta road. Following the asphalt road via the right bank of the Soča River, one reaches the Klin campsite. At this point the road turns and continues towards the Lepena Valley. A bit before the end of the valley, the road leaves the Lepenjica Stream and ascends steeply up to the Lodge of Dr. Klement Jug. The starting point of this tour can be combined with sightseeing at the Great Soča Gorge, while the end of the tour offers yet another (hiking) experience: climbing up to the Krm Lakes.

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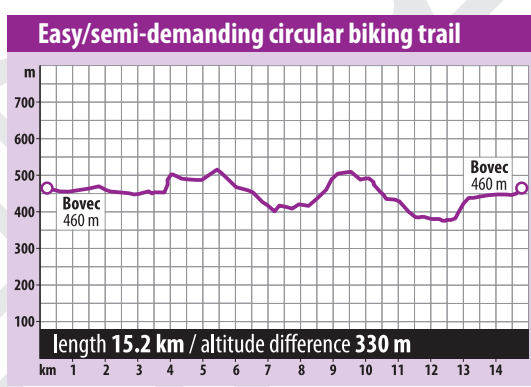
- Predel

A semi/very demanding but attractive tour from Bovec, via the Koritnica Valley to the Predel Pass. This tour starts in Bovec and continues via the main road to the intersection for Predel and Trenta. At the intersection, turn left for Predel, then continue past the Kluže Fortress and descend to the Koritnica River. Further along is the first pronounced ascent before reaching the village of Log pod Mangrtom. Soon after the village, another long and very steep ascent begins. Climbing this ascent, you rise high above the Koritnica Valley and later above the Predelica, pass the village of Strmec, and finally reach the Predel Pass (1156 m). On the way through the village of Log pod Mangrtom, one can pause at "Stoln" (a miners' tunnel), while a bit before the Predel Pass, the fortress and monument (a sculpture of a wounded lion in memory of the brave Austrian soldiers who defended the territory against Napoleonic troops in 1809) are a worthwhile stop.

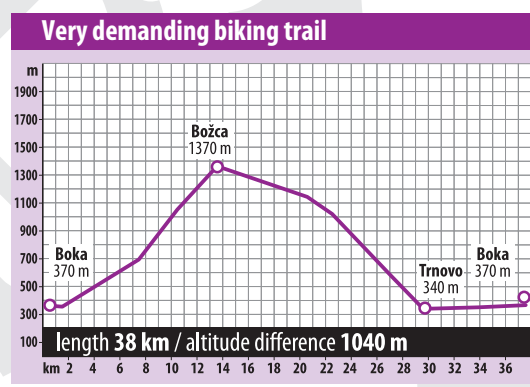
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- Bovec
- Kal
- Koritnica
- Čezsoča
- Bovec

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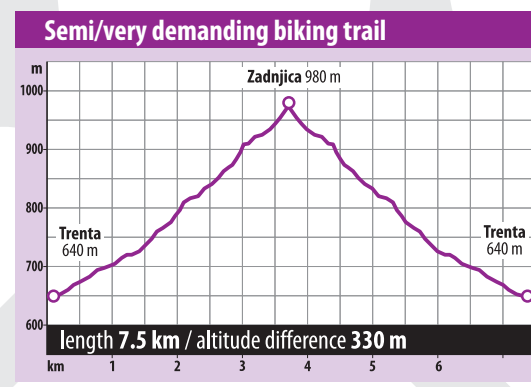
- Stol



A very demanding and tedious biking tour, which leads from the Bovec Basin via the ridge of Mt. Stol and back down to the Soča Valley. The starting point is the bridge over the Soča River at the hamlet of Log Čezsoški. Here one should head towards the village of Žaga and turn right at the road that leads to the Učja Pass (border crossing up to 2007). Just before the pass, one should turn left and follow the macadam road up to the Božca Pasture. Further along, the tour continues over the pass to the other side (the Breginj area), and here one should turn left on the cart track. From here, the scenic trail follows the ridge of Mt. Stol, passes the Hlek refuge and hunters' hut and reaches a small valley. At the turn by the post at the bottom of the valley, leave the cart track, turn sharply left and find a faint track that descends toward Hlevišče. After a downhill section characterised by 200 m of altitude difference, the track turns into a wider trail that brings one to the pasture. Next is the downhill section via macadam road to the main Bovec-Kobarid road. Here one should turn left towards the village of Trnovo ob Soči and continue right at the turn-off for the campsite. The tour then leads across the bridge over the Soča River, where one should turn left and follow the path via Prevejek and the hamlet of Log Čezsoški back to the starting point.

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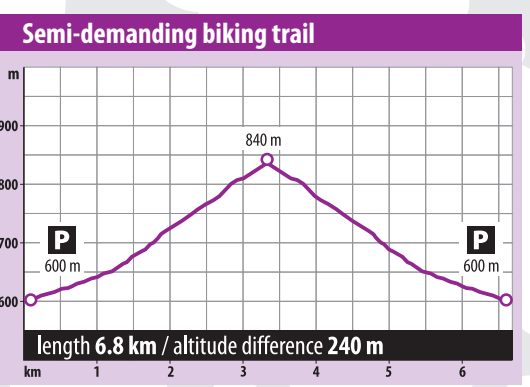
- Zadnjica

This semi/very demanding biking tour leads to the Zadnjica Valley. The starting point is at the Vršič Pass serpentine No. 50, not far from the settlement called Na Logu in the Trenta Valley. It continues via macadam road following the right bank of the Krajčarica Stream. After some kilometres, the road branches off more noticeably. To the left leads a mountain trail to Kriški podi (Križ Plateau) and up to the Belopotški slap (Beli Potok Waterfall), while you must go straight toward the end of the valley, where the gently-sloping road narrows and becomes steeper. The trail ends under the mighty wall of Kanjavec, which is the starting point for climbing Mt. Triglav via Dolič as well as for visiting the Sedmera jezera (Seven Lakes of Triglav) via Prehodavci.

**13**

- Možnica

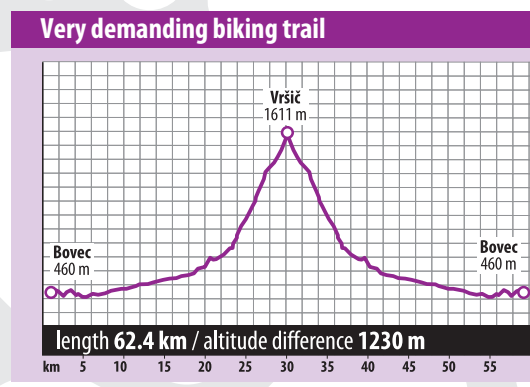



A semi-demanding short biking trail that leads to the Možnica Valley. The tour starts at the parking lot by the bridge over the Koritnica River on the Bovec-Log pod Mangrtom road. From the parking lot, the macadam road leads through an area of scree, where the trail gently turns towards the Možnica Valley. Further up, the trail leads through the shady beech forest high above the Nemčija Stream. The trail continues up to a junction, where it forks right toward the Možnica Lodge; here you continue straight up to the top of the slope, where the trail narrows to a footpath. The trip ends here. Return is made via the same route. On the way back, one has the option of either cycling to the Možnica Lodge or walking to the Nemčija Spring.

An easy to semi-demanding circular biking trail that leads across the eastern part of the Bovec Basin. From the centre of Bovec, this tour leads via the main road toward Mala vas, where at the B&B Bar a left turn from the main road is made. Here, continue right and cycle along the brook through Mala vas and further across the meadows and parallel with the main road up to the junction with the B4b walking trail leading to Ravni Laz. At the junction, keep straight and cycle further until the main Bovec-Log pod Mangrtom road is reached. Here, cross the main road and leave it again after some metres where there is a right branch-off for a macadam trail. The tour continues along this macadam road up to a bridge where a right turn is to be made to the "Kukc" homestead. Further along, there is rather steep ascent, followed by a not-too-steep descent to the village of Koritnica. The tour continues through the village up to the junction for the main Bovec-Trenta road, where you turn left for Trenta; however, leave the main road again after 100 m at the right branch-off for the hamlet of Jablenca. Next is an interesting descent via footpath to a bridge over the Soča River. After crossing the bridge, there is a short ascent to an asphalt road. Here, turn left in the direction of Zmukliča and continue up to the end of the asphalt road at the Stefan homestead. From here, the walking trail for Kršovec is followed. After a kilometre of more demanding trail, where the bike has to be carried in some sections, a cart track is reached. At this point, turn right up the slopes of Javoršček. An uphill section is followed by a short, flat one, and then by a junction with a macadam road. Here, turn left and make an extra trip to a vantage point situated 200 m higher at the landslide on the slopes of Javoršček, or turn right and descend to the asphalt Čezsoča-Jablenca road. At the junction with the asphalt road, turn left to Čezsoča and from there right and across the bridge over the Soča River. Soon after the bridge, turn left and cycle uphill to a flat section. Here, the tour leads right and, via the airfield, brings you to the starting point in the centre of Bovec.

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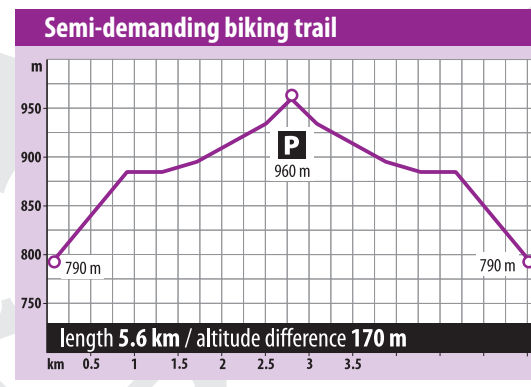
- Vršič



Climbing the Vršič Pass, the highest mountain pass in Slovenia, is a very demanding and yet popular biking trail, characterised as one of the classic biking trails in the Bovec area. The tour starts in Bovec. At the intersection for the Predel Pass and Trenta, one should turn right for Trenta and bike past the villages of Kal Koritnica and Soča. After 20 km, the centre of the scattered hamlets of Trenta is reached by following the right bank of the Soča River via a gently sloping road. From here, the serpentine road ascends steeply – the rewarding finale of this tour, the 1611-m-high Vršič Pass, is reached after numerous serpentines. The tour offers numerous natural beauties and sights along its way: the spring and the course of the Soča River with its numerous channels, the monument to Dr. Julius Kugy (the "father" of the exploration of the Trenta Valley and its mountains), the alpine botanical garden "Alpinum Juliana", and the Triglav National Park museum in Trenta.

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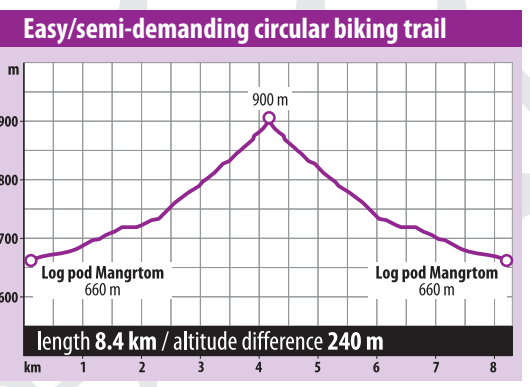
- Source of the Soča river

A semi-demanding biking trail that leads past the Source of the Soča River to the valley of Zadnja Trenta. The tour starts at the turn-off for Izvir Soča on the Trenta-Vršič road. Following the asphalt road, one reaches Koča pri izviru Soče (Lodge at the Source of the Soča River) after 1.3 km. Here the macadam road begins and takes one past the isolated homesteads of typical Trenta-like architecture to a parking lot. The end of this biking trail can be yet another starting point for a mountaineering experience (climbing Mt. Jalovec), while before reaching the end of this biking trail one can take a short hiking tour to the Source of the Soča River, which starts at Koča pri izviru Soče.

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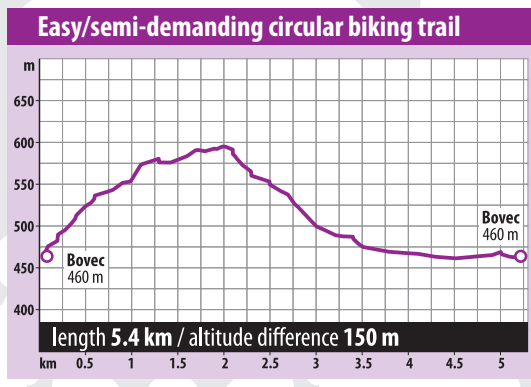
- Loška Koritnica

A semi-demanding biking trail that leads to the panoramic valley of Loška Koritnica. The tour starts at the turn-off for Loška Koritnica in the village of Log pod Mangrtom. Following the asphalt road, one reaches the Koritnica power station after 0.7 km. The trail then continues via macadam road past gravel slopes to the gable of the valley. The end of this route can be used as a starting point for a mountaineering experience (climbing to Kotovo Sedlo) or a walk (to the Koritnica Pasture). In addition, this tour offers splendid views of the mighty peaks that form the "wall" called Loška Stena (the Wall of Log), of Mt. Jalovec and of Mt. Mangrt.

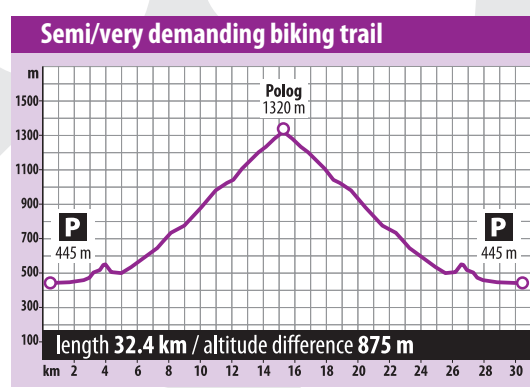
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- On the sunny side of Bovec

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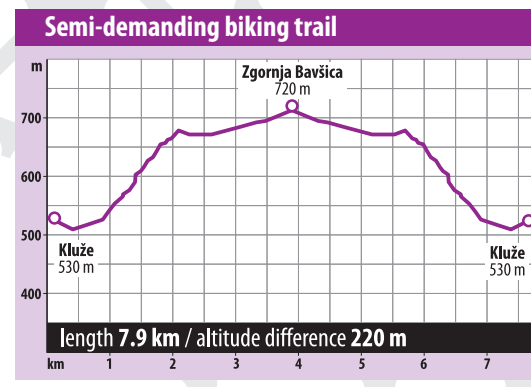
- Vrsnik



A semi/very demanding biking trail that leads to the mighty walls of Veliko Spičje. The tour starts at the wooden footbridge across the Soča River located approximately 7 km from Bovec in the direction of Trenta. After crossing the river via the footbridge, turn left and follow the cart track, which leads along the left bank of the Soča River to its confluence with the Lepenjica Stream. Soon after the confluence, continue to the bridge over the Lepenjica Stream. After the bridge, turn left to the asphalt road and go straight, passing the Klin camp, to the bridge across the Soča River. Before the bridge, turn right to the ascent and follow the macadam road straight along the left bank of the Soča River to the intersection with an asphalt road. Here, turn right toward the hamlet of Vrsnik. After 3 km, the asphalt road turns into macadam again and ascends to the hamlet called Na skali. Continue through the hamlet and uphill to the hunters' hut (1320 m). Return is made via the same route. The last part of this tour offers an extraordinary view of Vrsnik. Those who are more ambitious can combine this biking experience with hiking: a climb to Čisti vrh (1875 m), rising above Trenta, which is well known for its splendid views.

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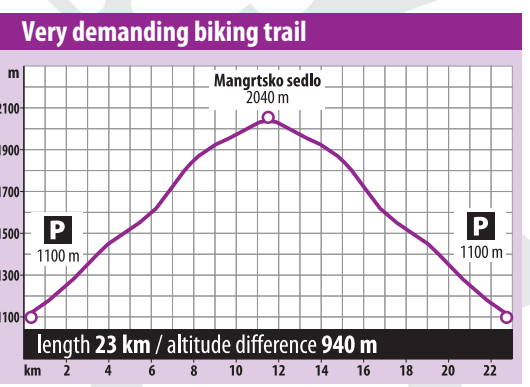
- Bavšica

This semi-demanding biking tour leads to the remote Bavšica Valley near Bovec. The trail begins at the Kluže Fortress and turns right at the bridge over the Koritnica River to the Bavšica Valley. At first, the asphalt road descends, but after short flat section it continues via a long and steep ascent. At the top of the slope, the hamlet of Spodnja Bavšica is reached from where the view of the whole valley opens up. The trail continues via a flat section past Matijev čebelnjak (Matija's Bee-House) and the hamlet of Zgornja Bavšica up to the Alpine learning centre at the end of the valley. The end of this trail can serve as a starting point for a mountaineering experience – climbing Mt. Bavški Grintavec. In addition to visiting the Kluže Fortress and Matija's Bee-House, the trail to the Bavšica Valley also offers beautiful views of the surrounding peaks.

**15**

- Mangrt

A very demanding classic biking tour, which leads via a scenic route high amidst the Julian summits. The starting point (1100 m) is the turn-off for Mangrt, from where the asphalt road ascends evenly past the Mangrt Pasture (1307 m), passes through three tunnels, and continues up to the site where a gravel road branches off for the Lodge on the Mangrt Saddle (1908 m). The tour continues to the end of the asphalt road and ends at a circular macadam road, which brings one to the highest point: the Mangt Saddle (2040 m). Here one can enjoy a beautiful view over the western part of the Julian Alps. Return is made via the same route. Alternatively, the end of this route (at its highest point) can be used as a starting point for a mountaineering experience, namely climbing Mt. Mangrt (2678 m), or a paragliding adventure that takes one to the Koritnica Valley.