Additional Information for couch surfers - Flat in Ljubljana

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This document contains some basic information about the flat. **See also**:

• Map of Nearby Facilities (log in to Google for better viewing)

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1.1 Utilities Nearby

1.1.1 Shopping

The ultimate shopping site is the <u>InterSpar shopping center</u> (=>) that is located **just across the street**. You can buy there food, clothes, footwear, sport equipment (Hervis), persona hygiene items (DM), kitchenware, etc., and you can almost get there in slippers and sleeping suit :-)

If you prefer smaller shops, the <u>Mercator shop</u> is equally close, just around the corner (or two), it's a decent grocery shop.

To buy better quality **fruits and vegetables**, try the <u>small shop at this location</u>. 4 minute walk.

<u>Hofer</u> (=>) is a cheaper discount shop. 8 minute walk from the apartment.

Merkur (=>) sells home equipment. 7 minute walk.

1.1.2 Restaurants

Food is really not a problem at this location, there are a number of inexpensive restaurants of rather good quality around.

- There is a canteen (self-service) within the <u>InterSpar</u> shopping center (=>, just across the street). Though not my preferred choice, they have cheap daily menus and a nice salad bar with plenty of choice.
- <u>Via Bona</u> is a place where you will probably not be disappointed with food. 6 minutes walk from the apartment.
- <u>Hombre</u>, a Mexican-style restaurant (Mexican pizzas, tasty burritos, chimichangas, tortillas...), nice interior, especially to eat something in the evening and continue with a couple of beers till late hours. Food served until 9 p.m., drinks until 11 p.m. 14 minute walk.
- <u>Hood Burger</u>, best hamburgers in town. I'm never interested in hamburgers, frites and similar junk food when I travel, but I recommend you to try this one. I prefer to take Le Brie, frites and Tak (beer). They care about quality and fresh ingredients. It's been hit in Ljubljana ever since a couple of economics students decided to make some money by serving hamburgers. 3 minute walk (if you look through the window, it's right from the InterSpar).
- Sputnik, a place named after the first human made Earth satellite launched in 1957 and triggering the space race, is one of the most popular gathering places in Ljubljana. They also serve reasonably good meals during lunch time. 7 minute walk.
- <u>B2</u>, one of my preferred choices to eat (hope you would like it, too). Possibly because you can take a relaxing walk there via a white sand-covered path along the

"Mali Graben" river (more like a stream), but I like their food, too. 22 minute walk. There is also a shorter way, but not approximately as nice (16 minute walk). Note that the last part of it is not drawn precisely by Google maps, but you will easily find it - check the location. Tasty food and reasonable prices.

- <u>Harfa</u>, very close to B2. Good food, a bit better quality than in B2, but smaller amount, I don't take this one when I'm really hungry. 16 minute walk.
- <u>Laterna</u>, a place with pizzas, lasagnas, pasta, etc. Mid-range quality. In summer there is a small pond with golden fish in the backyard, if you go there with small kids they will like it. 8 minute walk.
- Azur, pizzas and other dishes, a bit higher end. 13 minute walk.
- Zabar (=>) a pub with traditional Slovenian dishes. Long tradition, also known for snails, frog legs and tasty ice cream. Prices are a bit higher than elsewhere. 11 minute walk.
- <u>Kurji tat</u>, a really cheap restaurant, a bit more traditional Slovenian style pub. 6 minute walk.
- <u>Lanzhou Lamian</u>, a Chinese restaurant ("**kitajska restavracija**"). Food is not too good and not too bad, it is a convenient alternative if you are up to something non-European. 16 minute walk.

1.1.3 Bars

There are a number of bars around the location, but perhaps you will prefer to try out more lively bars in the city center (there are really lots of them). Still, if you want to drink a beer or coffee close to the apartment, here are some options:

- the Winston tea house and another coffee coffeehouse are located within the "InterSpar" shopping center across the street. Nice to have a morning coffee with croissant, a beer or something else at a busy place. 3 minutes walk.
- <u>Sputnik</u>, a popular gathering place of intellectuals, travelers, artists, technical freaks and similar creatures. Cozy interior, nice to sit outside in the summer. 7 minute walk.
- <u>Buldog bar</u>. Next to the B2 restaurant. In summer you can have a cold beer (or two, they will not restrict you) in a small forest of oaks next to the bar really nice during hot summer evenings. Interesting ambient (the owner likes bulldogs). Occasionally they keep events such as traveler's lectures (about exotic places around the globe, of course). 16 minute walk.
- <u>Blue bar</u>. A good place if you want to sit with somebody and have a chat, it is usually not crowded. 7 minute walk.
- <u>Hombre</u>, beside you can get a nice Mexican meal, it's also nice to have a drink in its cozy interior (or outside in summer), either in pair or in larger company. Open till 11 p.m. 14 minute walk.
- <u>Direkt</u>, a billiard club whee you can have a drink or two playing billard with your company. Local scene, not many tourists. 8 minute walk.

There are a number of other bars close to the location. We haven't mentioned them because these are bars with more local scene and you would probably not find them very interesting. If you

would nevertheless like to get a feeling of it, you can <u>try this one</u>, but don't expect cheerful partying atmosphere there. Still, drinking a morning coffee in company. When there are important football (soccer) matches, these bars would put TV screens in front for the guests who will come to watch the game and shout loudly for their team.

1.1.4 Money

The closest **cache machines** are in the <u>InterSpar</u> **shopping center** (\Longrightarrow) one located inside in the middle of the center, the other one left to the western entrance (so it's accessible over night). 3 minute walk.

You will find cache machines in busy streets, near larger shops and next to banks in Ljubljana. Major credit cards, Maestro and Cirrus are accepted.

The **closest bank** is the SKB (now a branch of Societe General) inside the **InterSpar shopping center** (right after the western entrance, on the left-hand side). 3 minute walk.

There is a UniCredit bank (=>) towards town the "Trzaska cesta". 19 min walk.

1.1.5 **Sport**

Kolezija swimming pol (summer) (=>), a brand new (built 2015) 50 m swimming pool beneath mighty old trees. There also are **saunas**. Currently only a summer pool, I hope they will upgrade the facility to extend operation during winter. 2 minute walk.

<u>Sport center Sokol</u> (<u>></u> - in Slovene, <u>></u>), fitness center, sauna, massage, shop (sport food, fitness equipment, utilities). 11 minute walk.

<u>Gymnastic center Ljubljana</u> (=>), a large brand new (built in 2015) gymnastic center with a **fitness center** and other facilities. 10 minute walk.

Park Vic (=> - in Slovene), has a football ground. 13 minute walk.

Konex Sport center (=>), a larger sport center with fitness, badminton, squash. 25 minute walk, 6 minutes by car, not easily accessible by city bus.

Sport center "Dolgi Most" (=>) - fitness, volleyball, etc. 27 minute walk, 5 minutes by car.

1.1.6 Other

The <u>closest Pharmacy</u> (=>) is 5 minute walk away. You'll probably find everything you might possibly need there. Another pharmacy is "<u>Lekarna Vic</u>" (=>) next to the health center, 17 minute walk from the apartment.

The nearest health center is "Zdravstveni dom Vic" (=>), 17 minute walk from the apartment.

The **Police station** is 4 minute walk away. Dial **113** for emergencies.

The **Post office** is 8 minute walk from the apartment.

1.2 How to Access

1.2.1 By Train

You can get a taxi from the <u>main train station</u>, or take a bus No. 6 from the "<u>Bavarski</u> <u>Dvor</u>" city bus stop (wait at the stand across the road, for buses going to the left side). You exit at the "<u>Bonifacija</u>" stop, from which it is 5 min walking from the flat.

You will need the **Urbana** city card for the city bus. You can get it in kiosks, one is right at the Bavarski dvor bus stop (please check which side of the street).

More information for city bus ("LPP" - "Ljubljanski potniški promet"):

- Plan of lines
- <u>All information</u> (English)
- More routes (daily and night lines)

Taxis are relatively cheap in Ljubljana and if you are two there is no big deal to take one. They are geneally cheaper if they order them, rather than stop one on the street. One company with reasonable prices is Metro Taxi, phone (+386) 080 11 90.

1.2.2 From the Ljubljana International Airport

There are several taxi services that operate from the Ljubljana international airport to Ljubljana. They will generally drop you off at whatever location, sometimes for a small additional payment if you want to get off at a nonstandard location.

Prices from and to the airport should be around 10 EUR per person, but you should order it in advance. You can get a transfer at the airport, too, but it will be more expensive.

Operators:

- Vamo Tamo
- <u>Some other companies</u> (on the airport's page)

1.2.3 By Car

It's easy to find the location of the apartment when you come by a car. From the highway ring around Ljubljana, you take the west access road, i. e. exit No. 35 or Ljubljana-zahod ("zahod" = west). Turn right after you get off the highway, towards the Center. You are now on the main access road on the west, on a four-lane "Trzaska cesta". You pass by the first fuel pump on your right-hand side, then turn right in the first crossroad with a traffic light, then immediately left, and here you are, you can park on the parking space on the right-hand side of the street, just in front of the block. It's the first block with entrance facing the "Jamova" street.

On Google maps, here is:

- Access if you come **from the west**
- Access if you come **from the north**
- Access if you come **from the south**

If you come from the east, you can take either the northern or the southern part of the ring (northern part has predominantly left turns from this side and southern part has predominantly right turns), so refer to the appropriate of the last two options.

Parking:

You can park the car on the small parking space in front of the block.

If there is no space there, you can park in front of InterSpar, a shopping center across the street. Attention, this parking space is usually closed between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.; you can leave the car there overnight but you won't be able to get out before they open the ramp at 8 a.m.

Another possibility is a public parking space at the <u>other side of InterSpar</u>, outside the shopping center area. Parking is free there.

Parking at these locations is considered safe, I haven't had any problems in 15 years.

Very rarely, maybe once in two years, after very heavy rainfalls, the Gradaščica stream can overflow and submerge the parking space in front of the block. If something like that prepares, it is better to park a car in an elevated location far enough from the stream, a <u>rather safe location is here</u>. Occasions when this is realy a threat are rare, in such cases whole quarters of the city would be flooded, and people will be alert beforehand (ask locals / neighbors if if there are heavy rainfalls and you are worried).

1.3 Getting Around

To go to the **city center**, there is a nice half an hour walk that goes along the "Gradascica" stream that passes the location (<u>Google maps link here</u>). You can not get lost, just follow the streets along the stream. Where the stream flows into the "Ljubljanica" river, you turn left and follow the street along the river; lots of city's attractions are found there.

It is easy to take a public **bus to the city center**. The <u>"Bonifacija" bus stop</u> is less than 5 minutes walk from the apartment. **City bus No. 6** drives directly to the center. The best stop to get out to explore the center is the **"Posta" stop** next to the post office. If you turn right after the post office, the "Copova" street will bring you right to the "Tromostovje" (three bridges crossing the Ljubljanica river).

You will need the **Urbana** city card for the city bus. You can get it in kiosks, post offices, fuel stations, designated machines, etc. The nearest site to the appartment where you can get one is the InterSpar shopping center across the street.

2 Information

2.1.1 Important Phone Numbers

International code for Slovenia is +386. International dialing code is 00.

- 112: Emergency services urgent medical help, firefighters, veterinary help, rescue teams
- 113: Police emergencies
- 080 12 00: Police reporting offenders, anonymous phone line
- 1987: roadside assistance and towing (AMZS)
- 1188: Information on telephone subscribers in Slovenia
- 1180: Information on international telephone subscribers
- 198 10: Alarm call service
- 090 93 9881: General information (pay number)

2.1.2 House Rules

- No smoking inside (you can use the balcony).
- Please close the windows in case of rain and when leaving the apartment.
- Please respect the general house rules and keep quiet during sleeping hours.

2.1.3 Handling Information

Waste: Trash bin is below the sink in the kitchen. Put a plastic bag in it. Trash is emptied into the large black trash container which you will find in a special chamber outside the block - exit the block, turn left and open the heavy brown door (if you are turned towards the block, it's on the right-hand side of the block).

Some waste must be **collected separately**:

- Paper is collected in the narrow plastic container in front of the block (sign: "papir").
- Organic waste is collected in another narrow container in front of the block.
- Plastics, cans and other **packaging** is collected in a container located on the left-hand side of the block (if you look from the outside towards the entrance).

• Glass is collected in containers behind the block. (sign: "steklo"). Exit the block to the backyard, cross it and pass another block on the right, then turn right (when you come to the parking blace on the other side - back side - of the block complex), containers for glass, paper etc. are located about 30 m forward (see the map, layer essentials).

There is a neat brochure about waste handling, but I found it only in Slovene.

Bed dress is in the high wardrobe in the living room. Couch is also comfortable to sleep if you prefer it over bed.

In winter, turn the **radiators** down to the minimum (but do not turn off completely) when you end your stay.

Slippers are in the small cupboard in the anteroom.

Purifiers and detergents are below the sink in kitchen.

Boiler must be turned on in to heat the water for bathing. It is 60 l and also heats the kitchen water. Switch on the switch left of the bathroom door and turn the round button on the boiler (see picture below). It's O.K. for one person to turn the round button to the "e" position. If there are more people, turn it to "max" at least half an hour before bathing. Push in the button on the right to heat the water faster. Please keep the round button in the "e" position or lower during the day, and to the "min" when you end your stay.



boiler panel.

There are boiler, washing machine and infra-red heater **switches** on the switchboard **left to the bathroom door**, together with the light switch. Take care that the **infra-red heater** is not left on (always switch it off by its own switch - successively pull its cord until number 0 is shown on the heater).

The bathroom door is somehow difficult to lock. From inside, you can push the door towards outside near the handle and then turn the key. A bit of feeling is required for this, don't use force if the key doesn't turn easily.

2.1.4 Case of Emergency

If you need **to close the water**, there is a central valve for the whole apartment **in the bathroom**, behind the cupboard **below the mirror**: Open the cupboard door on the right-hand side (under the sink), take out the shelf, open the little tin door behind, and turn the valve gently.

Kitchen uses **city gas**. Gas <u>valve</u> is above the <u>cupboard</u> in the <u>kitchen</u>. Turn it off if you smell leaking gas (it has distinctive odor) and airing does not stop it.

In case of **fire**, there is a fire **extinguisher in the staircase** out of the flat. Evacuation path is down the stairs.

Phone: call 112 in case of emergency (medical help, firefighters, rescue), 113 for police (in case of burglery, physical threat, etc.).

3 USEFUL LINKS

3.1 Tourist Information

- Ljubljana on WikiTravel
- Slovenia on WikiTravel
- Events in Ljubljana
- Ljubljana Events another page containing information about events in Ljubljana