

P R O M O T I O N

# Country's geometric centre and Municipality of Litija



Litija Municipality

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Litija Municipality lies in the western part of the Posavsko hills and in the very heart of Slovenia. The town Litija is the local centre of the municipality. It is located 37 km south-east of Ljubljana, where the river Sava formed a famous and the biggest curve on the territory of Slovenia. According to Valvasor, the name Litija originates from the Latin word "lithus", meaning embankment.

Besides the river Sava, two other traffic routes play a major role for Litija and its recognition: the main road Ljubljana-Trbovlje, and the railway Ljubljana—Zidani Most. Litija Municipality encompasses 227 km<sup>2</sup> and 107 settlements, which have, according to the central register, 14,663 inhabitants. The territory of Litija Municipality was already inhabited in the prehistory, and numerous archaeological sites prove this theory. The area of Vače is the most famous archaeological site, where the famous Vače situla was uncovered.

The hills around Litija are extremely rich in ore and that is why mining activity started in Iron Age and continued up until the 1960's, when the mine Sitarjevec - regarded as one



of the oldest lead mines in Slovenia - closed down. The first written records of the mine date back to the 15th century. Today, the mine is closed and the traditional mining and woodwork industry have been replaced by other economic activities, while the textile industry in Litija is still very advanced.

Litija Municipality prides itself on its position - in the heart of Slovenia. The visual image of our trademark corresponds to this - the Heart of Slovenia. The text demonstrates the definition of the area - in the heart of Slovenia, while graphically the sign is stylistically rounded up like a

heart, which in this case means warm reception, embrace, courage and an integrated offer.

## Events calendar for the first half of 2008: 18 January - The

### Slovene of the year

- 18 January - Meeting of the ESOS EU members with representatives of Slovenia's local communities on GEOSS
- 3 February - Registering into the book of presidents on GEOSS
- 3 February - Litija carnival
- 16 May - Quadrille of high school leavers
- 16 June - Municipality holiday
- 25 June - National Day

## Geoss - Geometric Centre of the Republic of Slovenia

Slovenia is the only country in the EU which has earmarked and protected the centre of the country by a granite pillar, where numerous traditional and mainly cultural events take place. In front of the geometric centre of Slovenia - Geoss, which was festively opened on 4 July 1982, every newly elected president introduces himself to the public and signs the golden book.

Geoss, which lies in Litija Municipality symbolises firm establishment of the Slovenes in this area, as our ancestors were able to resist any kind of denationalisation. Marked directions of the sky spread a noble thought of our heartfelt culture and a wish for friendly cooperation with all nations of the world. In 1981 we inscribed verses into Geoss, which were 10 years later incorporated into our national anthem. On 14 September 1989 in the presence of all Slovene mayors, a plate was set up with an inscription that we wish to live and manage our land alone, which .

The vicinity of Geoss comprises: monument Geoss, a memorial to a Patriot, Slovene coat of arms, and plates with the dates of independence, joining the UN and EU, some benches, flower bed, nicely paved surroundings and a big lime tree-the symbol of the Slovene nation. The poles are equipped with the flags of Geoss, the municipality, Slovenia and the EU.

The wider area of Geoss extends through Vače to a prehistoric settlement on Krona. Vače also boasts with Dom Geoss, which has four collections, while other sights worth seeing are the church of St. Andrew, a 13 million year old fossil sea coast, and a fountain cut into a rock, which beautifies the town core. The road from Vače to Klenik is decorated by statues made out of massive wood and a renovated flax dry house. An enlarged copy of Vače situla, which originates from the 6th century BC, a memorial plate to its finder and the most important explorer of this area can be found on Klenik. Geoss also has its own anthem, which is played together with the national anthem on every event.

