

The Vipava Valley

So magnificent and awesome, say many. And indeed, it is so. **Each traveller**, may he be on his way from the central Slovenia towards the coast or from the western border to the Slovene capital, he will stop for a minute to admire Nanos. Then there is the Vipava River which comes to life from under the very mountain and created this unique valley millions of years ago, the Paradise itself, on



its way to the Soča. **The Upper Vipava Valley**, situated on 350 km² joins two communities, the Vipava and Ajdovščina communities and counts approx. 23 000 residents. This part is a unique mixture of the Mediterranean as well as the Continental features. The spring in the valley is for the whole two months longer than in the central parts of Slovenia, this is why the fruits and vines do nowhere so well as right here. And all that despite the strong wind, burja, which shows its power, and can reach its dangerous 180 kmph. However, around the valley, on the Karst Plateau, the climate is already different, no longer so kind and pleasant but already crafty and mean. **But right there the view is incomparable**, from Nanos, Hrušica, the Trnovo Forest and the Vipava hills you can hug the castles, country seats, churches and all the vineyards the valley prides itself on.

In the past

Wine making was originally introduced to the Vipava valley over two thousand years ago by the Romans and their love and respect for this art is still reflected in people's attitudes today. **Wine making is regarded as a way of life** here. Just as it was in 1689, when the famous Slovenian author and historian, Janez Vajkard Valvasor, published his classic description of the area, "The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola". In his book Valvasor claimed that



the Vipava valley produced more wine than bread and backed this up by noting that Vipava even included a vine on its coat of arms! Certainly the area has always been very proud of its wine production. In the Middle Ages, when Vipava wines were particularly popular with the court in Vienna, the local authorities went to great lengths to stop Italian winemakers from using the word Vipava to describe their inferior products. And rightly so! **Quality and dedication** have always been the key to the superb wines produced here and local winemakers have always understood the need for research and new techniques. Not surprisingly the **first book** on wine cultivation was published here by Matija Vertovec and this is where the **first agricultural school** was established as well as the **first wine association**. And all over a hundred years ago!

The sweetness of our grapes

The sun warms the ground in this region much earlier than in other parts. This makes the vital forces within the vine start circulating and the vinegrowers are forced to do the winter cut of the vine tree already in February, at time which seems early for other Slovenian regions. Next, the rains of the spring follow and water the earth. This water becomes of special importance later on,



during the summer when it is, as matter of fact, the only source of liquid. Vinegrowers do their best for the favour of the vine: they clear all weeds around the plant so that the moisture remains in the soil making it more verdant and fertile. This not only helps the vines survive the summer heat but also bear many fast ripening and larger **grapes**. They become increasingly sweeter, fragrant, shiny and colourful. Finally, the vinegrowers can't wait to pick and press the grapes and produce wine. Grapes having been picked, the plant can sink into a deep winter sleep.

How to prepare "tropinka" turnip

First, cut the leaves of fresh turnip, but leave the roots. Then place a layer of grapes skins, set aside during harvest, in a tub, and cover it with a layer of turnip. Repeat the procedure until you do run out of the turnip and always place a final layer of grapes skins over the turnip. Pour tepid water over all layers and let it sit in a cold room for about five to six weeks. Take the turnip out of the tub each time separately and grate it. Make a minestrone - "jota" out of it or turnip in a pan.

(Taken from the book "Da ne bi pozabili, Planina pri Ajdovščini, Običaji in recepti naših prednikov, Aktiv gospodinj, 2005)

"Jota" – minestrone made of sour cabbage or turnip

Peel the potatoes and cook them. Cook sour cabbage or turnip separately. When potatoes are cooked, strain them, setting aside the water. Mash the potatoes well, add cooked cabbage or turnip and pour the water from cooking the potatoes. Add cooked beans. Grease the pan and pour flour in it. Roast the flour so that it gets a bit yellow, add garlic and when it smells nice, pour in one ladle full of liquid from the jota. Cook together for another five minutes. An excellent side dish for jota is a good home-made sausage.

(Taken from the book "Da ne bi pozabili, Planina pri Ajdovščini, Običaji in recepti naših prednikov, Aktiv gospodinj, 2005)

Through the villages, vineyards, across the fields, hills and meadows

Along the Vertovec Trails. Set out along the walking path through the villages of the Upper Vipava Valley where **Matija Vertovec** (1784 – 1851) once worked and lived. The excursion is organized every first Sunday after St. Martin's Sunday and begins at an old oak in the village of Ustje near Ajdovščina. The tour takes four to



five hours of walking. However, you can also go by yourself along this well-marked path. Let yourself enjoy the adventure of walking along the road and tasting a glass of good wine, while chatting with friendly local people. (Look at map 🗺️) • **Through the Vrhpolje vineyards.** This traditional excursion is organized every last Sunday in February and lasts about three to four hours. The path goes through vineyards, passing the renowned Zemono Manor, Old Vipava Castle, along the gorge of Bela torrent and the famous Bela climbing wall, rising high above the village Vrhpolje and returning back through vineyards to the starting point. Members of The Turistično društvo Vrhpolje organize visits to the cellar and tastings of their wines. Finally, it is also possible to buy open and closed wine bottles along the road. (Look at map 🗺️)

To your health!

Habits and customs contribute to the uniqueness of this valley and these people, and the wine and its making play a very important role in that. The greatest festival of this valley is vintage. Vine-growing is an ancient tradition. **The harvest** or informally *bndima* has always been one of the most beautiful and, at the same time, difficult days of the year. Traditionally, the merry grape pickers gathered in vineyards, grabbed the *fouči* (curved knives) and filled the *brentači* (wooden containers for carrying the grapes on the shoulder) with the ripe grapes. Since then, very little has changed. Several vinegrowers and wine producers invite visitors from far and near to touch the greatness of Vipava's vines with their own hands. The harvest in the Vipava Valley is still made manually and lasts for an entire month or even more so that the grapes are picked at the best time and immediately produced. In the past it was the "thunder and lightning" of the *možnarji* (a kind of small and home-made fireworks) that was announcing the beginning of the season. The grapes having been picked, the most starts maturing and around **St. Martin**, in the early days of November, it changes into wine. This is a special happy occasion and people make celebrations and festivities, known as martinovanje. A well-known festivity is called **"Wine Cellars of the Vipava Valley between St. Martin's Day and Christmas"** and has become quite popular in the last few years. Individual villages show their cultural, artistic heritages. Furthermore, throughout the whole year visitors can taste the Vipava's rich wines and delicious food, while in spring and autumn they can pay a visit to **"osmice"**, i.e. farms that open their doors for eight days, inviting people to try their home-made food and drink. "Osmice" are marked with bunches of ivy as well as sign posts. This habit started during the sovereignty of Maria Teresa who considered this a way to fight the poverty among the farmers. Now the main purpose of this occasion is enjoying oneself.

The nobility of the wine

Vipava Valley's vinegrowers can produce as many as 25 varieties of wine. The most well known among the whites are: **Rebula (Ribolla Gialla), Sauvignon (Sauvignon Blanc), Malvazija, Laški Rizling (Welsh Riesling) and Chardonnay**, while the reds are: **Merlot, Barbera and Cabernet Sauvignon**. Furthermore, Vipava vinegrowers also produce domestic varieties like: **Zelen, Pinela, Klarnica, Poljšakica, Glera, Pergulin, Vitovska Grganja, Pikolit** and world famous Sivi and Beli Pinot (Pinot Gris and Pinot Blanc), Rumeni Muškat (Yellow Muscat), Zeleni Sauvignon (Sauvignonasse), Prosecco, and red wines – Modri Pinot (Pinot Noir), Cabernet Franc, Refošk and Syrah. The selections of varieties as well as the proportion between whites and reds constantly changes as well; there are approximately 35 % red sorts and 65 % white sorts. Fifty years ago there were mainly whites, but today the Vipava Valley's vinegrowing region is also famous for its excellent red wines. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Barbera have adapted themselves very well to Vipava's soil. On the market, along with the varieties, consumers can also find some of Vipava's selection of mixed wines. These wines captured the wine market in Slovenian regions more than four hundred years ago. »Vipavec« mainly consists of Malvazija, Rebula, Sauvignon and Laški Rizling. If you want to encounter the authenticity and originality of Vipava's vineyards, you should taste **Zelen and Pinela**. They are both considered to be unique to the Vipava Valley, which were almost forgotten in the past. Fortunately, in recent years, local people have started to again appreciate the heritage of their ancestors and there are many who grow both varieties. The producers of the varietal Zelen of the Upper Vipava Valley founded the commercial interest Association of **Konzorcij Zelen** in 2003. In 2006 the Pinela's producers also joined this association whose purpose is to protect the quality of local and unique varieties, such as Zelen and Pinela, to establish their characteristics as varieties and increase their visibility.

The Vipava wine road

The Vipava Valley wine region has 2566 ha of vineyards with the Vipava Wine Road as one among twenty others in Slovenia and one of four in the Primorska region. With 30 wine villages and its farmers the Upper Vipava Valley Wine Road is one of the biggest of its kind, and is well-marked by the signposts, only an hour away from Ljubljana. The basic offer is **high quality wines**. Furthermore, visitors of the tourist farms, wine cellars and osmice can enjoy tasting home-made and locally produced food and drinks. Of course, each visitor is welcome to visit natural and cultural sights, walk along well-marked paths, attend interesting festivals, buy a souvenir or any other handicrafts, get fit by taking part at various sports activities, or relax by cycling or flying. When visiting these villages you will meet simple people, who work in their vineyards, fields and cellars all year round. Those people embody originality and uniqueness which will warm every visitor's soul and fill them with energy for the times when things do not go the best way. Nonetheless, it is advisable to **phone in advance** and let the hosts know the day and the time of your arrival to their home. For more information, contact TIC Ajdovščina or TIC Vipava.



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VINEGROWING AND WINEMAKING ASSOCIATIONS

Društvo Vinogradnikov in vinarjev Brje na Vipavskem

Brje 73, 5263 Dobravlje

Društvo Vipavskih vinogradnikov in vinarjev

Lože 35, 5271 Vipava

Vinarsko – turistično društvo Vrhpolje

Vrhpolje 95, 5271 Vipava

Konzorcij Zelen g.l.z.

Vinarska cesta 5, 5271 Vipava



The wine,
born to the
sun and wind



BATUJE – In the heartland of the Vipava Valley: due to the village's position near the Vipava River, an early settlement was possible there; this has also been confirmed by archaeological findings. At the Church of St. Ana, visitors can admire a gothic presbytery with frescoes dating back to the end of the 15th century. (☞ 5262 Črniče) #1

- S&V Rijavec, Milan Rijavec, Batuje 40, ☎ 36 66 082

BRJE – Vine growers with experiences: lies on a small hill which offers a magnificent view of the surrounding landscape, with the hamlet of St. Martin. In 1899 the local vine-growers founded a wine society where they joined their knowledge and experience about vine-growing and wine-making. One of the founders was also the Slovene famous and important poet Simon Gregorčič. (☞ 5263 Dobravlje) #1

- Kmečki turizem Birsca, Oskar Birsca, Brje 18/a, ☎ 36 88 113, ☎ 031/742 437
- V&V Pečenko, Danilo Pečenko, Brje 32, ☎ 36 47 558, ☎ 041/603 371
- Vinska klet Koron, Borut Koron, Brje 73/a, ☎ 36 88 103, ☎ 040/620 866
- Kmetija Čehovin, Aleš Čehovin, Brje 76/b, ☎ 36 88 111, ☎ 041/507 675, ☎ 041/953 448
- Vinska hiša Mansus, Bogdan Makovec, Brje 79, ☎ 36 47 560, ☎ 041/648 524, 031/649 613
- Vina Kavčič, Miran Kavčič, Brje 84, ☎ 36 47 675, ☎ 040/287 882
- V&K Furlan, Boris Furlan, Brje 90, ☎ 36 47 682, ☎ 041/359 282
- Vina Ličen, Jože Ličen, Brje 104, ☎ 36 47 523, ☎ 040/ 246 362
- V&V Stegovec, Boža Stegovec, Brje 121 – Sv. Martin, ☎ 30 57 700, ☎ 031/200 111, 041/369 633

BUDANJE – A sunny spot of delicious fruit and wine: The village carries an aristocratic name given after the Hungarian aristocrat Buda who had a residence in the village. The last house in the village, referred to as Na Avžlaku, used to be a tollhouse. In the upper parts the inhabitants grow fruits, apricots in particular; lower down there are vineyards. Quite surprisingly silkworm breeding was developed there in the last century, later abandoned (☞ 5271 Vipava) #4

- Trsničarstvo VITIS, Ivan Ferjančič, Budanje 5/1, ☎ 36 45 285, ☎ 041/651 211
- Domačija Kopal, Ivan Kopal, Budanje 7/a, ☎ 36 45 000, ☎ 041/698 549

ČRNIČE – Is an extremely compact village, where presumably a Roman road ran. The first settlements of the hamlets Ravne and Črniče originate from the fort Tabor na Griču above the village, which at first served to Romans to defend themselves against the Turks. The military cemetery of the 1st World War, which is designated as a cultural monument, is also worth seeing. (☞ 5262 Črniče) #1

- Kmečki turizem Kosovel, Janko Kosovel, Črniče 46, ☎ 36 66 310
- S&V Ušaj, Davorin & Stojan Ušaj, Črniče 56, ☎ 36 66 075, ☎ 041/455 387, 041/518 171
- S&V Kosovel, Aleš Kosovel, Črniče 84a, ☎ 36 66 148, ☎ 041/ 484 907
- Turistična kmetija Arkade, Silva & Jordan Cigoj, Črniče 91, ☎ 36 44 770, ☎ 041/614 708

DOBRAVLJE – Hamlets scattered along the main road: on the vast field called Dobrava, after which the village was named, there is the Church of St. Peter dating back to 1641; it is actually a small museum of the famous Baroque painter Anton Cebej. (☞ 5263 Dobravlje) #2

- Vinska klet Plahuta, Katarina & Drago Plahuta, Dobravlje, (IV. Prekomorske 74, Ajdovščina), ☎ 366 17 90, ☎ 041/ 822 971

ERZELJ – Village with a turbulent past: It is situated on the ridge of Vipava hills. There you can find the walls once surrounding the castle which belonged to the patriarchs of Aquillea, dating back in the 14th century. Its towers, built for defence reasons when fighting the Turks, are still well preserved. St. Mihael, a six hundred-year-old church, and cellars, some of them very old, will warmly accept the tourist and allow them to enjoy in the beauty of the village (☞ 5271 Vipava) #3

- Kmetija Volk, Branko Volk, Erzelj 6, ☎ 36 48 818, 36 48 813
- Kmetija Volk, Dušan Volk, Erzelj 11, ☎ 36 48 027, ☎ 041/556 358
- Vinski hram Ferjančič, Milan Ferjančič, Erzelj 18, ☎ 36 48 801
- V&K Miška, Stano Miška, Erzelj 22, ☎ 36 48 806, ☎ 041/583 955
- V&K Bizjak, Bojan Bizjak, Erzelj 31, ☎ 36 48 807, ☎ 041/ 207 134

GABERJE – Excellent grapes for even more delicious wines: Gaberje is a well-crowded village which lies under Ostri vrh, Trešnjak and Planina. The locals are particularly concerned with production of wine and cherries; there are excellent positions for vineyards, especially on the southern slopes of the hills. (☞ 6222 Stanjel) #3

- Kmetija Kos, Samo Kos, Gaberje 7, ☎ 36 48 623, ☎ 040/982 152
- Klet Čehovin Bogdan, Bogdan Čehovin, Gaberje 92, ☎ 36 48 632, ☎ 041/885 266

GOČE – Village of 60 vaulted cellars: There are over sixty in the village. The houses deserve respect for their old age if not for other facts, such as that they are made of sandstone, decorated with many carvings, occasionally the roofs are covered even with slates. This undoubtedly justifies the reason why the village has become a cultural monument. In the past the vine-growers produced more than fifty-four wine sorts, nowadays they pride themselves on their top quality, once more the Vipava Pinela must be mentioned. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #3

- Fajdigov hram, Božo Fajdiga, Goče 4/a, ☎ 36 45 513, ☎ 031/ 299 093
- Kmetija Ferjančič, Jože Ferjančič, Goče 9, ☎ 36 45 515, ☎ 041/834 012
- Vino Povh, Stanko Povh, Goče 15, ☎ 36 45 658, ☎ 041/514 384
- Kmetija Furlan, Jože Furlan, Goče 20, ☎ 36 45 539
- Cejkotova Domačija, Davorin Mesesnel, Goče 44, ☎ 031/398 496

GRADIŠČE pri VIPAVI – Vineyards at the foothills of Nanos: the village Gradišče lies on the steep slope above Vipava. The hill topped with the Church of St. Nikolaj, glimmering in the sun, once used to be called Hvalin breg (the Hill of Praise). From there you can enjoy in a marvellous view over the valley and, just a bit higher, admire Gradiška Tura, the precipice walls popular with climbers. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #4

- Kmetija Ferjančič, Boris Ferjančič, Gradišče 11, ☎ 36 85 283, ☎ 031/892 585
- Vinarstvo Andlovic, Rajko & Anton Andlovic, Gradišče 18, ☎ 36 65 149, ☎ 041/678 634
- AVIN V&K, Franc Andlovic, Gradišče 39, ☎ 36 65 345, ☎ 041/ 708 087
- Vina Poljšak, Samuel Poljšak, Gradišče 39/a, ☎ 36 65 359, ☎ 041/441 001

LOKAVEC – An old blacksmith's village: The village lies at the foot of Čaven and Gora. The springs and nearness of the Trnovo Forest helped the sawing, smith, milling and brewing industry to develop. The brothers Bavčar made and tried the first Slovene plane in Lokavec. The vineyards and fields encircle the village. In the middle of the village, the Church of St. Lovrenc was erected and later on renovated in the 19th century according to the plans of the famous architect Maks Fabiani. (☞ 5270 Ajdovščina) #3

- Kmetija Černigoj – pri Lovrincovih, Lokavec 76/b, ☎ 36 42 192, ☎ 040/239 189

LOŽE, MANČE – Full of landmarks, but the greatest is wine: In order to come to this condensed village you will have to cross the bridge, dating back in 1803. There



is also a castle named Leuternberg to visit and admire. It originates from the 12th century, later it was reconstructed and rebuilt into the baroque style. Manče lies along the road connecting the Vipava Valley with Kras. There are cultivated fields as well as meadows situated on the plain near Močilnik Brook, while to the south of the village there are hearty vines. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #3/4

- Turistična kmetija Rehar, Jože Rehar, Lože 9, ☎ 36 45 730, ☎ 041/ 549 781
- Kmetija Benčina, Dušan Benčina, Lože 18, ☎ 36 85 355, ☎ 041/650 662
- Kmetija Fajdiga AVE, Marjan Fajdiga, Lože 35, ☎ 36 45 500, ☎ 031/319 135
- Vino Jamšek, Ivan Jamšek, Manče 5, ☎ 36 85 136, ☎ 041/ 919 714

OREHOVICA – A sanctuary for Zelen. This is a sort of wine typical only of this region. For the very first time, this unique wine was mentioned in 1499, in the Gorizia county land register. Later Janez Vajkard Valvasor, historian and journalist, spoke in favour of this village and its special wines. (☞ 5272 Podnanos) #4

- V&K Fabčić, Ivan & Simon Fabčić, Orehovica 2/a, ☎ 36 69 200
- Pasji Rep Premm – Franc Premm, Orehovica 11a, ☎ 36 69 119, ☎ 041/745 020
- V&K Potočnik, Franc Potočnik, Orehovica 24, ☎ 36 69 102

PODBREG, PODNANOS – Under the mighty Nanos Mountain, Podnanos is a densely packed village with narrow streets (gase) running around the Church of St. Vid. The village is adorned with bridges and features a rich cultural and historical heritage. In the past, this place was called Sembid, after a parish patron St. Vid – and the locals still use this name. The composer Stanko Premrl, who set Zdravljica, the national anthem, to music, also lived in this place and his nephew Janko Premrl is a national hero. (☞ 5272 Podnanos) #4

- V&K Trošt, Bernard & Janko Trošt, Podbreg 18, ☎ 36 69 279, ☎ 041/401 204
- Vina Moser, Adam Žvanut, Podbreg 18/a, ☎ 36 69 155, ☎ 031/370 560
- roSA• V&K, Darko Rosa, Podnanos 43, ☎ 36 69 174, ☎ 041/769 138

PLANINA – On the top of Vipava hills: A small church named after St. Pavel lies on the small hill over the village and gives a splendid view of the whole Vipava Valley. There the Celtic cemetery was found and not far away from the church the remains of the ancient fort can still be seen. The Romans supposedly planted the first vine right near the church. Matija Vertovec, who served as a priest in Planina, taught farmers smart vinegrowing practices. Planina's vinegrowers continue the traditions and especially boast of the local varietal Pinela. (☞ 5270 Ajdovščina) #3

- Trbižanova kmetija, Bojan Trbižan, Planina 8/a, ☎ 36 42 519, ☎ 041/835 501
- Vinska klet Štokelj, Damjan Štokelj, Planina 9, ☎ 36 80 204, ☎ 041/483 777
- Županovi, Jože Marc, Planina 11, ☎ 36 42 762, ☎ 041/822 256
- V&V Viktor Marc, Viktor Marc, Planina 19, ☎ 36 42 524, ☎ 041/698 565
- Domačija Božič, Tomaž Božič, Planina 32, ☎ 36 42 529, ☎ 041/822 029
- Pri Kobalovih, Stefan Kopal, Planina 33/a, ☎ 36 42 518, ☎ 041/766 759
- Kmetija Karla Petriča, Karlo Petrič, Planina 40, ☎ 36 42 757, ☎ 040/239 188
- Kletarstvo Petrič, Anton Petrič, Planina 56/a, ☎ 36 42 537, ☎ 041/ 830 777
- V&V Pipan, Jože Pipan, Planina 62, ☎ 36 42 584, ☎ 031/846 271
- Božičev hram, Marjan Božič, Planina 66, ☎ 36 42 592, ☎ 041/238 551
- Kmetija Ferjančič, Peter Ferjančič, Planina 73, ☎ 36 89 055, ☎ 041/834 013
- Hram Franja Marca, Franjo Marc, Planina 77, ☎ 36 42 838, ☎ 041/238 884
- Kmetija Martina Marca, Martin Marc, Planina 82, ☎ 36 42 585, ☎ 041/520 923
- Fortunatov hram, Peter Marc, Planina 96, ☎ 36 80 400, ☎ 041/595 128
- Guerila, Zmago Petrič, Planina 111, ☎ 041/ 616 091

PODRAGA – Spirit of past centuries, being kept to make the present more alive. The vines of Podraga vine-growers are planted in Ravno Brdo where the Vipava hills already touch the first slopes of the Kras. And those very vines are said to have been giving the exquisite wines for the last five hundred years. (☞ 5272 Podnanos) #4

- Posestvo Sutor, Primož & Edvard Lavrenčič, Podraga 30, 31, ☎ 36 69 367, ☎ 041/363 272

- Kmetija Fabčić – Tomasov, Tomaž Fabčić, Podraga 52, ☎ 36 86 029, ☎ 041/508 308
- Kmetija Lozej, Jože Lozej, Podraga 58, ☎ 36 69 058, ☎ 041/589 424
- Kmetija Furlan, Klavdij Furlan, Podraga 84, ☎ 36 69 469

POTOČE – This village is surrounded by fields, well-arranged orchards and vineyards which grow well on the areas exposed to the sun at the foothills of Čaven. (☞ 5263 Dobravlje) #2

- Tilja vinska klet, Matjaž Lemut, Potoče 41, 5263 Dobravlje, ☎ 36 46 684, ☎ 031/399 748
- Vino Štrukelj, Tomo Štrukelj, Selo 2/a, ☎ 041/790 741
- V&K Mrmolja, Drago Mrmolja, Selo 28/e, ☎ 36 66 576, ☎ 041/642 606

SKRILJE – In ancient times on the sunny side of Čaven, the village was built out of stone brought from the village quarry. Its structure is unique: slate – marl rock splits into stone and slate plates of various sizes and application. The name Skrilje actually comes from this similarly-named rock. (☞ 5263 Dobravlje) #2

- Gostišče Rustja, Skrilje 91, ☎ 36 46 550, 36 46 551

SLAP – Wines from this place were praised by Valvasor, already 300 years ago. Again it was the sun which greeted and still greets the vine slopes first thing in the morning that contributes to the wine's delicacy. The original and the oldest Slovenian book titled "Vinoreja za Slovence" (Vinegrowing for Slovenes) written by Matija Vertovec in 1844 has been preserved in the village. Also, the first Slovenian agricultural school operated in Slap. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #3/4

- Vinska klet Zorž, Lurij Zorž, Slap 13, ☎ 36 45 735, ☎ 041/698 556

- Kmetija Na Rovni, Dominik & Pavlo Zorž, Slap 15, ☎ 36 45 783, ☎ 041/551 105
- Kmetija Rončič, Peter & Rajko Rončič, Slap 48, ☎ 36 85 309, ☎ 041/ 653 595
- Kmetija Pregelj, Igor Pregelj, Slap 52, ☎ 36 45 734, 36 87 125, ☎ 041/843 411
- Kmetija V Malnu, Jakob & Davorin Furlan, Slap 63, ☎ 36 45 713
- Kmetija Trošt, Stojan Trošt, Slap 72, ☎ 36 45 722, ☎ 041/594 285
- Kmetija Uršič, Erik Uršič, Slap 76, ☎ 36 45 640, ☎ 041/724 905
- Družina Marc, Miran Marc, Slap 83/a, ☎ 36 87 126, ☎ 041/362 825
- Turistična kmetija Na hribu, Joža Zorž, Slap 93, ☎ 36 45 708, ☎ 031/724 810

ŠMARJE – Sweet grapes on sunny hills: Šmarje features narrow streets called gase, wooden balconies, jutting roofs, stone window frames, portal and fountains. Near the village lies a well preserved six-hundred-year old cellar, once the count's property. The priest Matija Vertovec, one of the most important Slovenian expert writers from the 19th century, was born in the hamlet of Jakulini. He taught Vipava farmers about agriculture and he was especially interested in viticulture, agriculture and applied chemistry. (☞ 5295 Branik) #2

- Grofova klet, Miloš Gruntar, Šmarje 14, ☎ 36 48 608, ☎ 041/506 156
- Poljšakova kmetija v Brajdi, Darko Poljšak, Šmarje 28/a, ☎ 36 48 692, ☎ 041/275 267
- Kmetija Jejčič, Zmago & Irena Jejčič, Šmarje 48/b, ☎ 36 48 622, ☎ 041/386 118
- Sončni Skol, Gruntar & Sulič, Šmarje 55, ☎ 36 48 762, ☎ 041/371 180

USTJE, DOLENJE: – Country calm on the edge of the urban bustle: of the nearby town Ajdovščina. This village lies at the meeting of the Vipava River and Jovšček Brook, rising on the south-eastern slope of the hill where an ancient Church of St. Janez stands. An old oak in front of the village represents a starting point for the excursion "Along Vertovec Trails" which continues up to the forest above the village, passing the Church of St. Marjeta. The Vipava river bank is a rich fossil site. (☞ 5270 Ajdovščina) #3

- Družina Stibilj, Marko Stibilj, Ustje 37/b, ☎ 36 62 459, ☎ 041/432 521
- Pridelava & prodaja vina Vidmar, Marjan Vidmar, Ustje 42, ☎ 36 81 606, ☎ 041/323 860
- Kmetija Pipan, Miran Pipan, Dolenje 28, ☎ 36 42 802, ☎ 040/265 507

VIPAVA – Is a town at the Vipava River springs already in Valvasor's time the town had a vine in its coat-of-arms. Today Vipava can show one of the biggest wine cellars in Slovenia ever – Vipava 1894. Visits to the cellars, wine tasting, typical Vipava's food, selection of unforgettable wines in an enoteca will inspire not only connoisseurs but also experienced lovers of fine cuisine. In Vipava's centre, there is a modern wine shop, Vinoteka Vipava, where visitors can get to know and taste Vipava's various wines and begin to appreciate them. Moreover, they can learn about the heritage, rich tradition and people's deep affection for this land and vine. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #4

- Vipava 1894 Vipava d.d., Vinarska cesta 5, ☎ 36 71 200
- Vinoteka Vipava, TIC Vipava, Glavni trg 1, ☎ 36 87 041

VRHPOLJE, DUPLJE – Where wine is the tradition: These are the two villages on which the strong wind, burja, made its special impact. Namely, it made strong and determined people; people who know how to appreciate their wines. The wine is known as oberfelder or vrhpoljec, as this the old name for the village. In old times they used to sell it at the Vienna. The Vrhpolje Winegrowing and Tourism Association keeps the winegrowing tradition alive and takes special care for vine. It also organizes an excursion through the Vrhpolje Vineyards once a year. (☞ 5271 Vipava) #4

- Vina Škrij, Marko Škrij, Vrhpolje 1, ☎ 36 65 221, ☎ 041/401 205
- Kmetija Žvokelj, Aleš Žvokelj, Vrhpolje 7, ☎ 36 65 658, ☎ 041/320 921
- Mežnarjeva kmetija, Ivan Premr, Vrhpolje 26, ☎ 36 65 453, ☎ 041/363 026
- Kmetija Čurk, Peter Čurk, Vrhpolje 31, ☎ 36 87 198, ☎ 041/613 762
- Kmetija Tomažič, Jože Tomažič, Vrhpolje 77, ☎ 36 65 318, ☎ 041/ 707 534
- Vina Krapež, Martin Krapež, Vrhpolje 95, ☎ 36 87 110, ☎ 040/219 500
- Vina Monvi, Bojan Škrij, Duplje 33, ☎ 36 45 129, ☎ 041/670 368

VRTOVIN – Vines that resist the wind and the sun most successfully. The inhabitants of Vrtovin grow their vines on the steep slopes of Čaven. In the middle of the village there is a church with a well-known statue of Mary with Jesus from 1460. Above the village, under St. Pavel's Školj Plateau, there is a water reservoir, in the form of a tower. At 11 metres, it is the oldest well-preserved example of Roman architecture of such height in Slovenia. (☞ 5262 Črniče) #2

- Vinarija Batagelj, Gorazd Batagelj, Vrtovin 22, ☎ 36 47 275
- V&V Kandus, Jožko Kandus, Vrtovin 30, ☎ 041/687 238

VELIKE ŽABLJE – has fruit and grapes in abundance to offer. The local people own vineyards above the village, while there are some greenhouses and orchards especially with cherries and peaches. (☞ 5263 Dobravlje) #2

- Kmetija pri Petrovih, Franjo Slejko, Velike Žablje 15, ☎ 36 46 125, ☎ 040/575 322
- Kmetija Črv, Miroslav Črv, Velike Žablje 46, ☎ 36 46 053, ☎ 041/517 466

ZAVINO – The village with »vino« in its name: It is the connoisseurs that come into their own here. In addition to all the unique wines already mentioned, there is one more to come, the Vitovška Garganija, which is said to come to the village with a bride during the Austro- Hungarian Monarchy. (☞ 5295 Branik) #2

- Furlanov hram, Bojan & Andrejka Furlan, Zavino 19, ☎ 30 57 330, ☎ 041/863 840
- Kmetija Bandelj, Zorko Bandelj, Zavino 21, ☎ 30 57 213
- Družina Blagonja, Vladimir Blagonja, Zavino 25/a, ☎ 30 57 331, ☎ 031/369 041
- Kmetija Furlan, Branko Furlan, Zavino 33, ☎ 30 57 101, ☎ 041/728 587

V&V – vine growing and wine making, V&K – vine growing and wine making, S&V – fruit growing and wine making, ☎ – Post, Post code, # – Position on the map, ☎ – Winemaking, ☎ – Country Cottage, ☎ – Fruit-growing, ☎ – They open osmice, ☎ – Restaurants, Pubs, ☎ – Phone - country and area code: +386 (0)5, ☎ – Mobile phone, ☎ – Accommodation for the night, ☎ – Picnic area, ☎ – Member of Konzorcij Zelen

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