

European Competition for Towns and Villages

Velika Polana, 28. 6. 2014



Občina Velika Polana

Velika Polana

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Uvod

Višja kvaliteta bivanja in življenja = lepo in urejeno okolje, zdrava pitna voda, ohranjena naravna in kulturna dediščina, urejena infrastruktura...

To so cilji in pričakovanja, ki smo si jih zadali leta 2006, ko smo snovali nov razvojni program.

Preobrazba kraja je bila celovita in vidna na vsakem koraku. V okviru tekmovanja Turistične zveze Slovenije Moja dežela – lepa in gostoljubna smo v letu 2013 prejeli priznanje za najlepše trško jedro v Sloveniji.

To nas je motiviralo, da smo pristopili k nadaljnjim urejanjem kraja in to ne samo za tiste, ki k nam prihajajo, ampak tudi za nas in za naše boljše počutje in motiv ter izziv mladim, da ostanejo v naših krajih.

Na tekmovanje Entente florale Europe smo se temeljito in strokovno pripravili, saj se zavedamo pomena in prestiža priznanja, za katerega upamo, da ga bomo dobili, prav tako pa odgovornosti, ki smo jo sprejeli, ko smo se na to tekmovanje prijavi.

Dobrodošli pri nas!

Damijan Jaklin
Župan Občine Velika Polana



Introduction

Higher quality of living and life equals nice and tidy environment, healthy drinking water, preserved natural and cultural heritage, established infrastructure, etc.

These are the goals and expectations that we set in 2006, when we designed our new development program.

The transformation of our town has been completed and can be seen everywhere. In 2013, we have been awarded the best market town centre in Slovenia by the Tourist Association of Slovenia in the My Country – Beautiful and Inviting competition.

This nomination motivated us to continue landscaping, not just for the visitors, but also for ourselves, our well-being and to motivate our youth to stay in the region.

We have thoroughly prepared for the Entente Florale Europe competition, because we are aware of the importance and prestige of the award we hope to win. We are also well aware of the responsibility that we have taken, when we entered this competition.

Welcome to Velika Polana!

Damijan Jaklin
Mayor of Velika Polana

Načrtovanje / razvojni pristop

Občina Velika Polana je razpoznavna po svoji naravni in kulturni dediščini, ki je pomembna v nacionalnem in evropskem smislu, zato je zelo pomembno kako gospodarimo oz. ravnamo z in v prostoru.

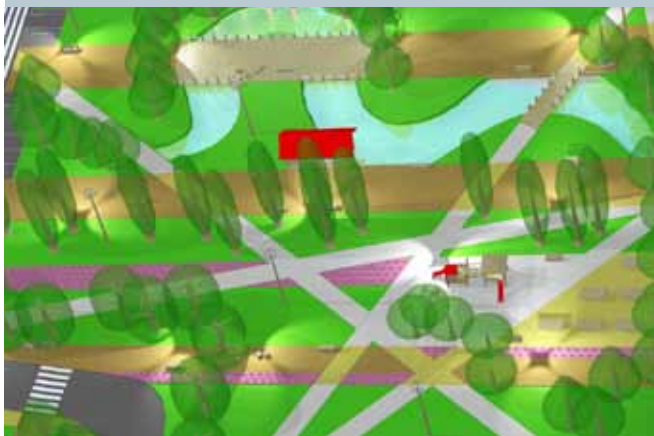
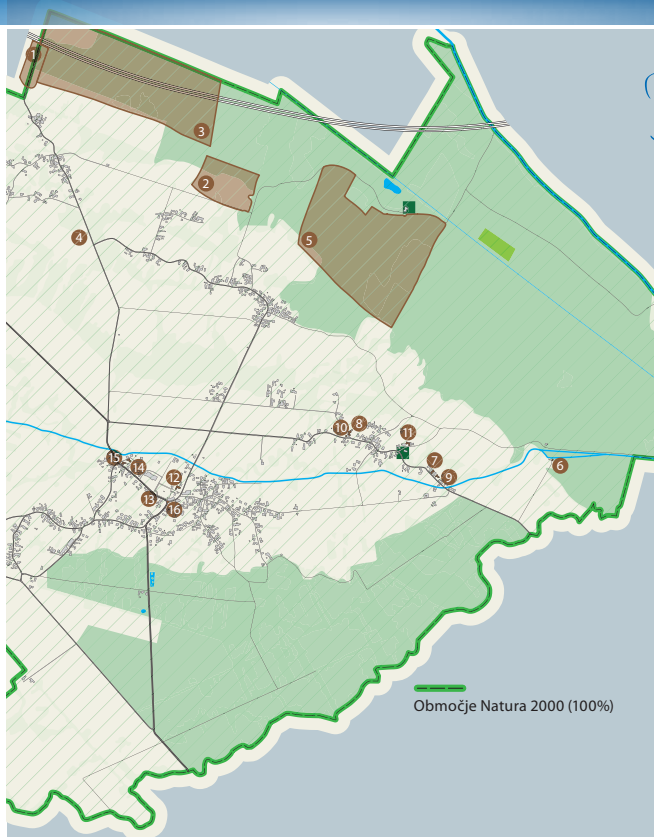
Občinski prostorski načrt je ta krovni dokument, ki določa smeri razvoja prostora, določa pogoje za uvrščanje objektov v prostor in druge aktivnosti v prostoru.

Vsebina občinskega prostorskega načrta je kompromis med pobudami javnosti in razvojnih teženj občine na eni strani in smeri državnih soglasodajalcev na drugi strani. Postopek se začne na približno sedem do deset let in poteka v več fazah. Sam dokument sprejme po pridobitvi vseh smernic, javni razgrnitvi in pozitivni presoji vplivov na okolje občinski svet Občine Velika Polana in velja do potrditve novega dokumenta.

Smeri razvoja občine po različnih področjih pa so na drugi strani določene z Načrtom razvojnih programom in kot take sestavni del Regionalnega razvojnega programa in Programa razvoja podeželja našega območja oziroma regije. Vsebina je odraz tako razvojnih potreb občine, kjer pri tem sodelujejo tako vaški odbori, odbori občinskega sveta in občinski svet, kot tudi drugi organi in so prav tako usklajeni in potrjeni s strani občinskega sveta.

Načrt razvojnih programov je živ dokument, ki omogoča pobudnikom, da posedujejo svoje predloge kadarkoli v obravnavo in potrditev.

Okolje – naravna in kulturna dediščina nista naša last ampak smo si jo izposodili od naših prednikov, da jo čuvamo za naše zanamce.



Planned / development approach

The Velika Polana municipality is known for its rich natural and cultural heritage acknowledged on national and European level that cares deeply about the management of its environment and living area.

The municipal spatial plan is the cover document that determines the direction of developments and the requirements for placing buildings and activities into our living area.

The content of the municipal spatial plan is a compromise between public initiatives and developmental trends of our municipality and directives of national consent authorities. The process shall start at approx. seven to ten years and is to be carried out in multiple stages. The document itself can only be adopted by Velika Polana's municipal council after obtaining all directives, after making a public announcement and receiving a confirmation of positive environmental impacts. Once the document is adopted, it will stay valid until a new document is confirmed.

The developmental directions of the municipality in different fields and areas are also determined in our plan of developmental programmes and are considered an integral part of the regional developmental programme and the programme for the development of the countryside in this region or area. Its content is a reflexion of our municipality's developmental needs, which have been determined in cooperation with the village committee, the committees of the municipal council and the council itself as well as with other bodies that are in line with and confirmed by the municipal council. The plan for developmental programmes is a living document that enables its initiators to state their suggestions and leave them in accorded treatment.

The environment – a natural and cultural heritage that we do not possess, but have borrowed from our ancestors to protect and keep for our future generations.

Okolje – Naravno okolje

Velika in Mala Polana sta zaradi največje populacije bele štorke in odnosa ljudi do nje leta 1999 prejeli s strani evropske fundacije Euronatur naziv »Evropska vas štorkelj«. To in pa dejstvo, da je 100 % občine umeščeno v zaščiteno področje narave Natura 2000 je obveznost in odgovornost občine in občanov, da skrbimo za naše naravno okolje.

V zadnjem obdobju smo tako izvedli vrsto aktivnosti na področju izobraževanja in ozaveščanja prebivalstva (ornitološki tabori, brošure, prikazi ...), kot tudi konkretne projekte.

Penovje – izginjajoči biser Nature 2000 je projekt, v okviru katerega smo sanirali več kot 5 ha zaraščajočih močvirskih travnikov, ki so obenem rastišče močvirske logarice (*fritillaria meleagris*).

Kmetijstvo je v našem okolju še vedno pomembna dejavnost, pri kateri pa se uporabljajo tudi kemična sredstva, zato je pomembno, da se morajo naši prebivalci vsako leto na tem področju izobraževati in pridobiti ustreznih certifikat usposobljenosti, tako za sebe kot za naprave, s katerimi razpolagajo. Prav tako je v okolici vodnih virov prepovedana oz. omejena uporaba določenih kemičnih sredstev. Prepoved velja tudi za kakršnokoli odlaganje odpadkov v okolju in v primeru, da se ne najde storilec, ima občinski inšpektorat pristojnost, da odredi čiščenje lastniku parcele.

Občina Velika Polana ima ločeni sistem za zbiranje in odvajanje padavinskih voda, ki jih odvajamo v zadrževalnike, ki so vzpostavljeni kot močvirja in življenjski prostor različnih rastlin in živali.



Environment – Natural environment

Velika and Mala Polana are known for possessing the largest population of white storks treated with respect and protected from all harm by the municipality and the local people. For these two reasons the European Euronatur Foundation awarded the two villages in 1999 with the title »European Stork Village«. This proves that our entire municipality is located within the Natura 2000 protection zone. We are very proud of this title and are well aware of the huge obligations and responsibilities that were hereby given to our municipality and our local people. Together take good care of our natural environment. Lately, we have performed a number of activities in the field of education and informing of our people (organising ornithological camps, handing out brochures, giving demonstrations, etc.). We have also worked on a number of important projects.

Penovje – the vanishing pearl of the Natura 2000 is a project in frames of which we have rehabilitated over more than 5 hectares of almost overgrown marsh meadows, which are the natural site and growing place of the rare Snake's Head (*fritillaria meleagris*).

In our environment agriculture is still a very important activity, which is sadly also connected to the use of chemical agents, therefore, it is of grave importance to educate our residents in this area on yearly basis, so they can obtain the appropriate certificates for themselves and the machines and devices they are using. The use of certain chemical agents in the area of water resources is strictly prohibited or restricted. The restriction also applies to disposal of waste in the nature. In case the municipal inspectorate can't find potential perpetrators and polluters, it can order to clean the polluted land on the expenses of the land's owner.

The Velika Polana municipality has a separate system for the collection and discharge of stormwater that is discharged into reservoirs. These reservoirs have been turned into marshes and habitats for a variety of plants and animals.

Okolje – Grajeno okolje

Občina Velika Polana se veskozi trudi, da gradi infrastrukturo, s katero zadovoljuje potrebe občanov, pri tem pa strmi k temu, da sami objekti niso tujek v okolju. Na področju Občine Velika Polana je 16 lokacij oz. objektov umeščeno v register nepremične kulturne dediščine Republike Slovenije.

Zavedajoč se pomena te dediščine, je občina v preteklih letih obnovila domačijo pisatelja Miška Kranjca, Sabolovo domačijo v Mali Polani in pa Copekov mlin. Pri obnovi vseh treh objektov smo sodelovali z Zavodom za varstvo kulturne dediščine in upoštevali njegove smernice. Prav tako so vsi objekti v funkciji in služijo predvsem turističnim namenom.

Ponašamo se tudi z novimi objekti, ki zagotavljajo medgeneracijsko druženje in izvajanje dejavnosti različnih prostovoljnih društev – medgeneracijski center Velika Polana, Mala Polana in Brezovica.

Prav tako smo obnovili in energetsko sanirali osnovno šolo in vrtec ter zagotovili gretje z geotermalno energijo, kar umešča stavbo v eno izmed energetsko najučinkovitejših. Med obnovljenimi objekti so tudi Center zaščite in reševanja, ki poleg prostovoljnemu gasilcem služi tudi potrebam Civilne zaščite in drugim organizacijam, prireditveni center Poljana, kjer potekajo različne prireditve na področju športa, kulture ... Imamo tudi dva žalna objekta, ki omogočata človeku dostojno slovo.



Environment – Built environment

The Velika Polana municipality is constantly trying to build the appropriate infrastructure to meet the needs of the citizens, without seriously affecting the environment with buildings and construction work. In the area of Velika Polana there are 16 locations or buildings registered as Immovable Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Slovenia.

Recognizing the importance of natural and cultural heritage, the municipality has restored the farmhouse of the famous Slovene writer Miško Kranjec, the Sabolovo homestead in Mala Polana and the famous Copek mill. These renovations were performed in cooperation with and according to the directives of the Institute for Protection of Cultural Heritage. All of the renovated facilities and buildings are in function and serve mainly for tourist purposes.

We are also proud of our new buildings and constructions the purpose of which is to ensure intergenerational socialization and implementation of various voluntary associations - an intergenerational centre in Velika Polana, Mala Polana and Brezovica.

We have also renewed, modernized and rehabilitated our primary school and kindergarten in order to provide heating with geothermal energy. Among the renovated buildings are also the protection and rescue centre, which is not used only by our volunteer firefighters, but also put at disposal to the civil protection centre and to other organizations, the Poljana event centre, where a variety of cultural and sports events are taking place throughout the year, etc. We have also provided our citizens two mourning facilities, where the relatives of our deceased can have a decent farewell.

Gibanje na eni strani in pa turistično kolesarjenje na drugi strani sta bila motiva, da smo zgradili mrežo kolesarskih in pohodniških poti, vključno s počivališči z ustrezno infrastrukturo ter pripadajočo signalizacijo.

Zavedamo se krhkosti naravnega okolja, zato smo se odločili, da ne vodimo skupin direktno v naravno okolje, ampak jim le-to predstavimo v parku »Dežela štokelj« – središče za interpretacijo naravne in kulturne dediščine Nature 2000. V samem parku lahko turisti dobijo informacije, tako o pomenu in vsebini naše naravne in kulturne dediščine, prav tako pa spoznajo štokljo, če se sprehodijo po štrkovi poti.

Pri vseh v zadnjem obdobju zgrajenih objektih smo si prizadevali, da smo jih zgradili kot energetske učinkovite, kot tudi, da rabijo okolju čim bolj prijazne energetske vire (geotermija, sončna energija, biomasa ...).



To promote outdoor activities and attract more tourists we built a net of cycling and walking paths with rest areas, the appropriate infrastructure and traffic signs.

We know how fragile the natural environment is, so we decided not to lead our groups of tourists directly into the nature, but rather to build a replica of our beautiful natural environment and invite our tourists into the »Land of storks« park - the centre for the interpretation of natural and cultural heritage of the Natura 2000. In this park, tourists can get information on the importance and content of our natural and cultural heritage and learn about the storks, as they walk down the Stork path.

In all of the recently built buildings, parks and facilities we have tried to include efficient and Eco-friendly energy sources such as geothermal and solar energy, biomass, etc.



Okolje – Čistoča in urejenost

Urejenost in čistoča okolja sta bistvenega pomena za kvaliteto bivanja tako prebivalcev, kot tudi turistov.

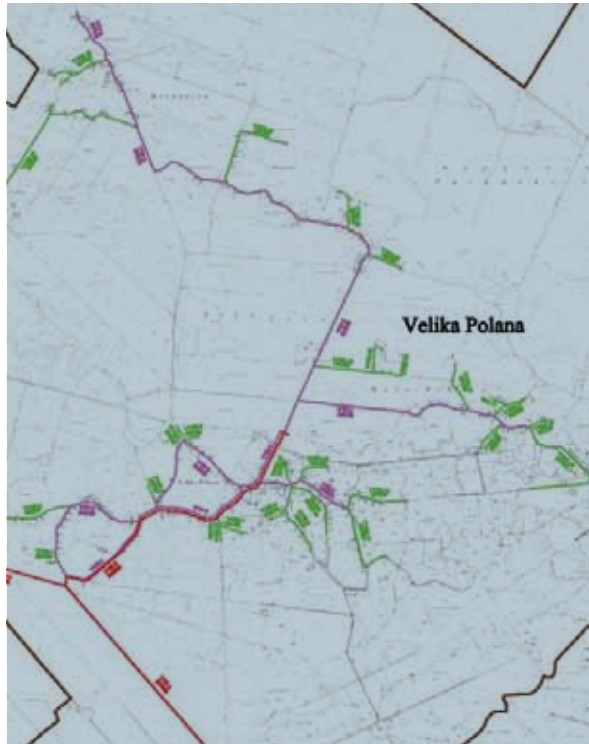
Voda je vir življenja in pri nas lahko povemo, da pijemo zdravo vodo in to direkt iz pipe. Ne glede na to smo se odločili, da zgradimo novi vodovodni sistem, ki bo dolgoročno povečal varnost oskrbe, prav tako pa zmanjšal izgube v sistemu, s tem bomo vplivali na zmanjšanje in varovanje vodnih virov. Voda je pri nas tudi zelo pomembna za ogrevanje, saj omogoča ogrevanje objektov z geotermalno energijo, ki je ena najčistejših energentov.

Za varovanje vodnih virov pa smo poskrbeli tudi s čistilno napravo in kanalizacijskim omrežjem, ki pokriva celotno občino, pri tem pa prebivalce obvezali, da se morajo obvezno priključiti na omrežje oziroma pripeljati in očistiti odpadlo vodo na čistilni napravi.

Odpadki pri nas ne grejo v naravno okolje. Zgradili smo enega najsodobnejših centrov za ravnanje z odpadki, kjer le-te ustrezno predelamo in recikliramo. Na področju naše občine pa imamo zbirni center, kjer imajo občani vedno možnost brezplačno oddati različne vrste odpadkov. Uvedeno imamo ločeno zbiranje odpadkov pri vsakem gospodinjstvu in odvoz le-teh na center za ravnanje z odpadki. Prav tako pa enkrat letno oz. po potrebi izvedemo akcije zbiranja različnih vrst kosovnih odpadkov, gum in nevarnih odpadkov.

Vsako leto pa občina skupaj s prostovoljci in organizacijami izvede očiščevalno akcijo. Za javne površine skrbijo tako posamezna društva, ki opravljajo z objekti, kot tudi občinsko podjetje Natura VePo. Vse so opremljene s primernimi koši in drugo infrastrukturo ter osvetljene s svetilkami, ki ne povzročajo svetlobnega onesnaževanja.

Nad različnimi aktivnostmi v okolju bdi medobčinski inšpektorat za okolje, ki ima svetovalno in kaznovalno vlogo.



Environment – Cleanliness and tidiness

A clean and neat environment is crucial for quality living of locals and tourists.

Water is the source of life and we are extremely happy and lucky to be able to drink healthy drinking water from the tap. Even though, our water is clean and healthy, we have decided to build a new water distribution system, which on long term will increase water security and at the same time decrease loses in the system and reduce the use and protection of water sources. In our municipality water is also important for heating; we can use geothermal water, which is one of the purest energy sources to heat our homes and other buildings.

In order to protect the water resources, we also took care of the sewage treatment plant and sewerage network covering the entire municipality and have thereby committed all residents to be connected to the grid without exceptions or to bring in and clean the wastewater on the treatment plant.

Our waste does not end up in the natural environment, as we have successfully taken care of this problem. In cooperation with the other municipalities in Pomurje we have built one of the most modern centres for waste management, where we duly process and recycle our waste. In the area of our municipality, we have a collection centre where citizens can bring different types of waste, which is then properly taken care of, is removed and recycled. We have introduced a separate collection of waste in every household and its transportation to the Centre for Waste Management. Once a year or when necessary, we also collect various types of bulky waste, tires and hazardous substances.

Each year our municipality, volunteers and organizations organise a cleansing campaign. Together we pick up and remove all trash from the environment and afterwards carry out various activities to raise people's awareness. The public areas are being cleaned by individual associations engaged in this project and by the NATURA Ve Po municipal company. All of them are equipped with appropriate bins and other infrastructure and illuminated with lamps that do not cause pollution.

The intermunicipal environmental inspectorate supervises all the activities in our environment and is also there to advise and penalise those who try breaking the law.

Pokrajina

Velika Polana je vas z nekaj manj kot 1000 prebivalci in leži v občini Velika Polana. Tipologija vasi je tipično panonska z razvejanimi ulicami in hišami neposredno ob cesti. V preteklem obdobju je dominiral panonski tip hiše na »ključ«. V centru vasi Velika Polana, ki je istočasno občinski center stojijo občinska zgradba, pošta, trgovine, lokali, dom starejših, šola, vrtec, igrišča, cerkev, pokopališče in žalni objekt in pa park, na katerega se navezujejo vsi objekti in omogoča komunikacijo med njimi.

Velika Polana in sama občina je del dolinskega dela Prekmurja in pomurske regije. Za ta del je značilna predvsem velika biodiverziteteta naravnega okolja in neintenzivno kmetijstvo z malimi obdelovalnimi površinami. Prav tako ni stroge ločnice med naselji in naravnim okoljem, saj se leto zajeda neposredno v vas. Tako vas kot celotno področje občine Velik Polana je umeščeno v čezmejni UNESCO, biosferni rezervat »Mura, Drava, Donava« (TBR MDD) v ustanavljanju, za katerega so značilni poplavni gozdovi in pa premikajoči se meandri reke Mure.

Velika Polana je del pokrajine, kjer v Sloveniji sonce prvo vzide in pokrajina, kjer se pogled odpira daleč na štiri strani neba, kar daje svojevrsten pečat tudi ljudem, ki so znani po svoji odprtosti in gostoljubnosti.



Landscape

Velika Polana is a village with a few less than 1000 inhabitants and is situated in the municipality of Velika Polana. It's a typical Pannonian village with branched streets and houses directly next to the road. In the past dominated so calles, Pannonian »turnkey« type houses. In the center of of Velika Polana, which is also the municipal center, there is the municipal building, post office, shops, cafes, elderly home, school, kindergarten, playgrounds, church, cemetery, mourning facility and a park that connects all the buildings. Polana and the municipality itself is part of the lower part of Prekmurje and Mura region. This part is characterized by the vast biodiversity of the natural environment and non-intensive agriculture with small arable land. There is also no strict dividing line between settlements and the natural environment. So, the entire area of our municipality is embedded in a cross-border UNESCO Biosphere Reserve »Mura, Drava, Danube« (TBR MDD) in the formation, which is characterized by alluvial forests and is moving meanders of the Mura river.

Velika Polana is part of the landscape where the sun first rises in Slovenia and where the view opens up far to the four corners of the sky, giving it a unique mark on the people who are known for their openness and hospitality.

Odprti zeleni prostori

Velika Polana je okrog in okrog obdana z naravnim okoljem. Ne glede na to smo v samem kraju poskrbeli za odprte zelene prostore, ki omogočajo druženje, počivanje, kot tudi različne druge aktivnosti.

Osrednji zeleni prostor v Veliki Polani je park »Dežela štokelj«, površine okrog 0,9 ha. Park je zasnovan tako, da povzema značilnosti avtohtonega naravnega okolja, vanj pa so vključeni tudi elementi stavbne dediščine področja. V njem je enovito zasnovana parkovna infrastruktura (klopi, koši), kot tudi igrišče za otroke in pa prostor za tržnico. Vodni habitat v parku je pomemben zaradi dvoživk, ki žive v njem in pa rib, prav tako pa predstavlja za štoklje vir hrane. Poseben del parka je namenjen ohranjanju travniških rastlin, zato v tem delu poteka letno dvakrat ročna košnja.

Park je obenem informacijsko središče in začetek različnih smeri odkrivanja širšega področja, zato se nanj navezujejo kolesarske in pohodniške poti. Uporabnikom le-teh je na njih omogočeni počitek na počivališčih, ki jih je v okolici Velike Polane več kot pet, v skupni površini okrog 0,16 ha, za njih je značilna ustrezna infrastruktura (klopi, koši, informacijske table, zasaditve ...).

Pri vrtcu in osnovni šoli so prav tako dostopne zelene površine, zasajene s parkovnim drevjem in učilnica na prostem tako za potrebe vrtca kot osnovne šole.

V neposredni bližini stoji prireditveni center Poljana z večnamensko infrastrukturo in igrišči.



Open green spaces

Velika Polana is surrounded by nature. Notwithstanding this, we took care of green open spaces that allow socializing, resting, as well as various other activities in the village itself.

The central green space in Velika Polana i.e. the »Land of storks« park measures around 0.9 ha. The park is designed in such a way that it summarizes the characteristics of the indigenous natural environment, but also includes elements of architectural heritage areas. It is a single parkways infrastructure (benches, bins), as well as a playground for children and a perfect marketplace. The water habitat in the park is important, because of amphibians that live in it and fish. It also represents a source of food for storks. A special part of the park is dedicated to the conservation of grassland plants, therefore, the area is mowed twice a year by hand.

The park is also an information center and a starting point for discovering wider areas, so it connects biking and hiking trails. Users of these trails can take a break at the rest stops, there can be found more than five of them in the vicinity of Velika Polana, with a total area of about 0.16 ha, they are characterized by adequate infrastructure (benches, bins, information boards, planting etc.)

There are also accessible green spaces, planted with park trees and outdoor classroom for the needs of the kindergarten and primary school.

In the vicinity is the Poljana event center with multifunctional facilities and playgrounds.

V neposredni bližini župnijske cerkve Srca Jezusovega v centru Velike Polane, je tudi pokopališče in žalni objekt, ki sta ustrezno urejena in tudi upravljena. Občina je začela tudi z gradnjo novega dela pokopališča, ki se arhitekturno navezuje na kompletno zasnovo centra Velike Polane.

Vse površine in objekti so prosto dostopni in na vseh je poskrbljeno tako za odlaganje smeti in ustrezne parkirne površine. Za površine skrbi občinsko podjetje Natura VePo, katerega naloga je tako tekoče vzdrževanje in popravila in tudi čiščenje, enkrat letno v okviru vseobčinske akcije pa se vključijo prostovoljci in organizacije.



In the close proximity of the parish church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the center of Velika Polana, there is also a properly regulated and managed cemetery and a mourning facility. The municipality has also initiated the construction of a new part of the cemetery, which refers to a complete architectural design of the centre of Velika Polana.

All areas and facilities are freely available, offering adequate parking facilities and are properly taking care of garbage disposal. The Natura Ve Po Municipal company takes care of these areas, their task involve ongoing maintenance and repairs as well as cleaning once a year during the municipal campaign, when volunteers and organizations engage and participate in the project.



Trajni nasadi

V preteklosti ljudje v vasi niso posvečali velike pozornosti trajnim nasadom, saj zaradi vpetosti v naravni okolje niso čutili potrebe po tem. Z preobrazbo vasi v trg pa se je spremenila tudi struktura vasi, z upadom kmetijske dejavnosti in neposrednega stika z naravnim okoljem pa tudi pogled ljudi na različne oblike zasaditev in nasadov.

Največji nasad avtohtonih in parkovnih dreves je v centru Velika Polane in je nastajal v obdobju zadnjih dvajsetih let. Sam izbor in pa struktura zasaditev ni tujek v okolju ampak pomeni nadaljevanje naravnega prepletanja naseljenega dela vasi z zunanjim naravnim okoljem in tako povzema njegovo strukturo in oblike.

Poleg dreves sestavljajo trajne nasade tudi grmovnice in zelene žive meje, prav tako avtohtonih vrst. Med trajne zasaditve spadajo tudi zasaditve z avtohtono vinsko trto, ki so na Domačiji pisatelja Miška Kranja in pa pri Centru zaščite in reševanja. Gre za izbor izginjajočih avtohtonih vinskih trt, iz katerih pridelamo tudi vino, ki ga ponudimo turistom. Posebej smo ponosni tudi na potomko najstarejše vinske trte na svetu – žametne črnine. V letošnjem letu je Občina Velika Polana začela z zasaditvijo medonosnih dreves, med katerimi je prvi lipov drevored v centru Velike Polane. Prav tako pa smo kupili parcelo, kjer bomo vzpostavili travniški nasad starih visokodebelnih jablan.

Občina Velika Polana vodi kataster drevesnih vrst in pa priročni kataster zasaditev, na osnovi katerega izvajajo zaposleni občinskega podjetja redna vzdrževalna dela.

V primeru poškodb na drevesih se skuša te ustrezno sanirati, v primeru pa da je drevo iz kakršnihkoli razlogov v celoti uničeno, se ga nadomesti z novim.



Permanent planting

In the past, people in the village have not paid much attention to permanent crops, because of their involvement in the natural environment they did not feel the need to do so. With the transformation of our village into a market, the structure of the village changed, with a decline in agricultural activities and direct contact with the natural environment as well as people's view on various forms of plantings and crops. The largest grove of native and park trees is in the center of Velika Polana and has evolved over the past twenty years. The selection itself and the planting structure are not an intrusion into the environment, but a continuation of the natural intermingling of the settlement part of the village with the natural environment, summarizing its structure and shape.

In addition to trees, permanent crops consist of green shrubs and hedges, which are native species. Permanent planting includes the planting of indigenous vines originating from the back yard of house that once belonged to our famous writer Miško Kranjec and at the Centre of protection and disaster relief. It is a selection of disappearing indigenous vines from which we also produce wine that is offered to tourists. We are particularly proud of an offspring of the oldest vine in the world - the velvet blackness. This year, Velika Polana began with the planting of honey trees and the first linden tree avenue in the center of Velika Polana. In addition, we bought a parcel of land where we will establish a meadow crop of old high trunk apple trees.

Our municipality leads a cadastre of tree species and a handy planting cadastre, on the basis of which the staff of the municipal company schedules maintenance. In case of any tree damage, they appropriately rehabilitated or if the damage is too big replace the trees with new ones.

Sezonski nasadi

Okna v Veliki Polani so bila že od nekdaj okrašena s cvetočimi rožami. Tradicija se je ohranila do danes, za njo pa skrbijo pridne ženske roke. Občina Velika Polana se je letos odločila, da čim več oken krasijo »štorklje – pelargonije« zato je pripravila razpis za sofinanciranje nakupa rož, vključno z možnostjo zasaditev in strokovnih nasvetov pri tem.

Prav tako smo sami zasadili več kot 3000 pelargonij, ki tako krasijo okna javnih objektov, talna korita, stebre ulične razsvetljave, posebej smo pa ponosni na cvetlične stebre, ki so jih v celoti izdelali naši zaposleni. Glede na dober odziv krajanov je vas dokaj enotno ocvetličena, kar je tudi dokaz o skupnem sodelovanju.

Poleg zasaditev v koritih smo na različnih zelenih površinah zasadili manjše cvetlične grede, ki skupaj z drevesi in grmovnicami ter ostalo infrastrukturo tvorijo usklajeno celoto.

Za sezonske nasade skrbijo zaposleni na Občini Velika Polana in pa posamezne organizacije v primeru, da so ti pri njihovih objektih, ki jih upravljajo. Za zasaditve po domovih pa skrbijo prebivalci sami.



Seasonal planting

Windows in Velika Polana have always been decorated with blossoming flowers. This tradition is still alive and carried on by our local women. This year the Velika polana municipality has decided to decorate as many windows as possible with »stork-pelargoniums«, so the municipality prepared a tender for co-financing the purchase of flowers, including the possibility of planting according to expert advice.

We also planted more than 3000 pelargoniums that now adorn the windows of public buildings, floor sinks, and street lighting pillars. We are especially proud of the flower pillars, which have been fully produced by our employees. Considering the response and co-operation of the local residents, the village is now fairly decorated with flowers.

In addition to planting in troughs, we have also planted flowers on various green areas. The small flower beds together with all the trees and shrubs and other infrastructure form a harmonized whole.

The staff of the Velika Polana Municipality and individual organizations take care of seasonal crops near the facilities they operate in. The residents take care of the plants in their homes.



Pelargonija = grška beseda »pelargos« = slovenska beseda »štorklja« = Evropska vas »štorkelj« = Velika Polana

Pelargonium = greek word »pelargos« = Slovenian word »stork« = European village of »storks« = Velika Polana

Okoljevarstveno izobraževanje

Osnovna šola »Miška Kranjca« Velika Polana, v okviru katere deluje tudi vrtec, posveča v okviru svojega programa dela veliko pozornost okoljevarstveni vzgoji na vseh področjih. Šola je tako vključena v mrežo Eko šol, ki izvajajo mednarodno uveljavljen program celostne okoljske vzgoje in izobraževanja, namenjenim spodbujanju in večanju ozaveščenosti, o trajnostnem razvoju med učenci, skozi aktivno udejstvovanje v lokalni skupnosti in širše. Šola nosi »zeleno zastavo«, to je javno in mednarodno priznanje za okoljevarstveno delovanje, skladno z mednarodnimi kriteriji FEE (Foundation for Environmental Education). Na šolskem dvorišču imajo tudi učilnico na prostem z zelišči in drugimi rastlinami. Prav tako se kot šola aktivno vključuje v različne aktivnosti na področju zbiranja odpadnega papirja, zamaškov, baterij..., kjer te surovine oddajo v nadaljnjo predelavo. V okviru programa izvajajo vrsto naravoslovnih dni z različno tematiko, vezano na okolje in okoljevarstvo.

Šola se aktivno vključuje tudi v program Turistične zveze Slovenije Turizmu pomaga lastna glava, ki je vezan na raziskovanje v turizmu in ugotavljanje možnosti za razvoj turizma v našem okolju.

V okviru okoljevarstvenega izobraževanja Občina Velika Polana tudi določene projekte, v okviru katerih zainteresiranim svetujemo kako revitalizirati in vzdrževati močvirske travnike in izvajati aktivnosti v naravnem okolju, tako da bodo čim manj moteče za živalski in rastlinski svet.

Pri tem občina uporablja različne oblike komunikacije od delavnic, pisnih informacij, kot tudi internet in druge možnosti. Občani se zavedajo pomembnosti varovanja okolja, zato se v vse aktivnosti na tem področju aktivno vključujejo.



Environmental education

The »Miško Kranjec« Velika Polana primary school with a nursery consecrates, in the framework of its work program, a great deal of attention to environmental education in all areas. The school is also included in the network of Eco-schools that implement an internationally recognized program of integrated environmental education aimed at promoting and raising awareness of sustainable development among students through active participation in the local community and beyond. The school bears a »green flag«, which is the public and international recognition for environmental performance, in accordance with the FEE international criteria (Foundation for Environmental Education). In the school yard there is also an outdoor classroom with herbs and other plants. The school actively participates in various activities related to the collection of waste paper, batteries etc. where these raw materials are submitted for further processing. The program introduces a series of natural science days with different themes, linked to the environment and environmental protection.

The school is actively involved in the program of the Slovenian Tourist Association, Tourism self-help, which is connected to research in tourism and identifies opportunities for the development of tourism in our environment.

In the context of environmental education, the Velika Polana municipality also carries out specific projects, within which interested parties are advised how to revitalize and maintain the marshy meadows and implement activities in a natural environment, which are as little disruptive to wildlife as possible.

In doing so, the municipality uses various forms of communication from the workshops, written information, as well as the Internet and other options. Inhabitants are aware of the importance of environmental protection, so they are actively included in all activities in this area.

Trud in udeleženosť

Lepo, urejeno in čisto okolje ni samo v interesu občine Velika Polana ampak je v interesu vseh krajanov in organizacij, zato tudi pri aktivnostih vsi sodelujejo. Pred zaključkom zime je vsako leto srečanje med predstavniki društev, šole in občine, kjer se dogovorimo o izvedbi očiščevalne akcije. Odziv na očiščevalne akcije je zelo velik, tako smo leta 2012, v okviru akcije »Očistimo Slovenijo v enem dnevu«, dobili priznanje za največje število udeležencev glede na število prebivalcev. Aktivnosti v okviru akcij potekajo na področju celotne občine, prav tako pa se skrb za čistočo in urejenost nadaljuje skozi vse leto. Leta 2013 smo se prvič prijavili na tekmovanje v urejenosti Turistične zveze Slovenije, v okviru projekta Moja dežela – lepa in gostoljubna in zasedli 1. mesto kot najlepše urejeno trško jedro v Sloveniji.

Velika Polana prvič sodeluje na tekmovanju urejenosti krajev Entente florale Europe, o čem smo že in bomo obveščali širšo javnost, seznanjena so pa tudi vsa društva in organizacije, ki se aktivno vključujejo v priprave. Usklajevanje med različnimi prostovoljnimi organizacijami, občino in šolo poteka na različne načine (sestanki, dopisi,...). Zanj pa je značilno predvsem velika zainteresiranost in nestrpnost pred prihodom ocenjevalcev. To sodelovanje je že tradicionalno in se bodo nadaljevala tudi v prihodnje, kar nam daje upanje, da je naše okolje trajno varno.



Effort and involvement

Appealing, neat and clean environment is not only in the interest of the municipality, but it is in the interest of all inhabitants and organizations. This is the reason why they are all so actively involved in these activities. Every year, before the winter ends, the representatives of associations, schools and municipality meet and agree on execution of cleaning campaigns. The response to these campaigns is very amazing, therefore, in 2012, within the framework of the campaign »Let's clean Slovenia in one day« we received recognition for the largest number of participants considering the number of inhabitants. Activities in the context of the campaigns are carried out in the entire municipality. The concern for cleanliness and orderliness in Velika polana continues throughout the year. In 2013 we signed up for a contest in orderliness, organized by the Tourist Association of Slovenia, in the frames of the My Country - Beautiful and Inviting competition for the first time and took the 1st place in Slovenia.

Also for the first time Velika Polana has entered the Entente Florale Europe contest. We have already started informing the general public about this contest and will keep them informed on the future projects. Our associations and organizations have already been informed and are actively involved in the preparations for the contest. The coordination between various voluntary organizations, the municipality and school runs in different ways (meetings, letters, etc.). It is mainly characterized by large desirability and impatience before the arrival of the evaluators. Cooperation became part of our traditional and will be passed on to future generations. This gives us hope for a safe environment.

Turizem in prosti čas

Zgodba

Med skrivnostno Muro, čarnimi močvirskimi logi in obri-si bližnjega gričevnatega sveta goric, se na panonski rav-nici razprostira občina Velika Polana. Le tri naselja: Velika Polana, Mala Polana in Brezovica, a pester mozaik narav-ne in kulturne dediščine, prijazni ljudje ... razlog več, da še postanete in odkrijete več.

Štorkelj je pri nas največ v Sloveniji, zato je fundacija »Euronatur« Mali in Veliki Polana podelila naziv »Evrop-ska vas štorkelj«. Vseh devet gnezd se nahaja na električ-nih drogovih.

Polanski log, največji kompleks črne jelše v Evropi, nudi zatočišče za mnoge ogrožene rastlinske in živalske vrste, Gozdna učna pot v njegovem osrčju pa informacije o ra-stlinskem in živalskem svetu, ter pomenu vode za njegov obstoj.

Velika Polana je rojstni kraj pisatelja Miška Kranjca. Na njegovi domačiji je ohranjena delovna soba in stalna raz-stava z njegovimi knjigami, dokumenti, fotografijami in likovnimi deli. Domačija je tudi začetek Miškove poti, ki vodi do njegove zidanice v Lendavskih goricah.

V Mali Polani ob potoku Črncu stoji še eden zadnjih ohranjenih potočnih mlinov v Pomurju, Copekov mlin. Zgodovinski pomnik stavbne arhitekture preteklega ob-dobja je tudi Sabolova domačija v Mali Polani.

Farna, velikopolanska cerkev je posvečena Srcu Jezuso-veму. Pri njej se začne romarska pot poimenovana po žu-pniku Danielu Halasu, ki je leta 1939 prevzel vodenje fare, v času 2. svetovne vojne pa umrl mučeniške smrti.

Štefan Hozjan, cesarsko-kraljevi pilot, eden najuspeš-njših letalcev prve svetovne vojne, je bil rojen v Brezovi-ci, kjer stoji tudi obeležje njemu v spomin.

Vabljeni k nam!



Tourism and Leisure

Our story

Among the mysterious Mura river, black meadow woods and silhouettes of the nearby hilly vineyards, lies the Velika Polana municipality, extending throughout the Pannonian plain. The location of only three small settlements: Velika Polana, Mala Polana and Brezovica with a rich mosaic of natural and cultural heritage and friendly people are the reason why you should stop by and discover more about this region.

We have the largest population of storks in Slovenia and, therefore, the »Euronatur« foundation granted the title "Euro-pean village of storks" to Mala and Velika Polana. All nine nests are located on electric poles.

The Polanski log forest, the largest complex of black alder wood in Europe, offers shelter to many endangered plant and animal species, The Woodland educational trail in the heart of the forest, offers information about our plant and animal world and the meaning of water for their existence.

Velika Polana was also the birthplace of the famous Slovene writer Miško Kranjec. In his home you can see his well preserved study and a permanent exhibition of his books, documents, photographs and works of art. The homestead is also the start-ing point of the hiking trail Miškova pot, which ends at the writ-er's wine cellar in Lendavske gorice.

In Mala Polana, next to Črncu (stream), there is one of the last preserved brook mills in the Pomurje region known as Copek's mill. A great example of historical recollection of residential ar-chitecture is also Sabol's house in Mala Polana.

The parish church of Velika Polana is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The pilgrimage route starts here and is named after the priest Daniel Halas, who took over the leadership of the parish in 1939 and died a martyr's death during World War II.

Štefan Hozjan, imperial-royal pilot, one of the most successful pilots of World War I, was born in Brezovica, where the monu-ment in his memory was erected.

Turizem in prosti čas

Dejstva

Turizem je razvojna priložnost ne samo naše občine ampak tudi naše regije, tega se zavedamo in na tem gradimo.

Naša turistična zgodba je namenjena vsem tistim, ki jim ni do osamljenega turizma, velikih hotelov, igralnic..., namenjena je tistim, ki želijo pristen stik z naravno in kulturno dediščino, tistim, ki želijo začutiti utrip kraja in ljudi in z njimi zaživeti tistih nekaj dni, ko so v kraju.

Naša infrastruktura je primerna tako za pohodnike, kot za kolesarje, pri tem pa ni omejena samo na Veliko Polano, ampak je del kolesarske mreže ob reki Muri, ki pelje skozi več držav kot tudi pohodniške poti, ki pokrivajo celotno Pomurje. V Veliki Polani se začne tudi Pohod po Miškovi poti, sama domačija pa je tudi začetek Slovenske pisateljske poti.

Pravi utrip kraja se začuti na prireditvah. Le-te organizirajo v Veliki Polani društva in to skozi vse letne čase. Na njih se prepletajo kulturne, športne, kulinarčne in druge vsebine, prav tako pa določene ohranjajo stare običaje in opravila. Rdeča nit vsem je, da so organizirane z motom »Za vsakega nekaj« in namenjene vsem starostnim skupinam, tako prebivalcem kot tudi turistom.

V občini lahko turisti tudi prespijo, sicer ne v hotelu ampak na domačiji pisatelja Miška Kranjca in to na posteljah s slamo ali v ustvarjalno doživljajskih ateljejih. Za vse tiste, ki jim ta tip nastanitve ne ustreza, pa so le nekaj kilometrov stran štirje termalni centri, ki nudijo drugi tip nastanitev in tudi termalna in druga doživetja.

Več informacij o kraju in turistični ponudbi kot tudi vodenje so na voljo v Turistično informacijskem centru ŠTRK v centru Velike Polane. TIC nudi informacije tudi o turistični ponudbi regije in izvaja promocijske aktivnosti in pomaga pri organizaciji prireditev.



Tourism and Leisure

Facts

Tourism is a great opportunity not only of our municipality, but also for the entire region. Our story is dedicated to all, who do not like solitary tourism, large hotels, casinos etc., to people who would like to get in touch with the natural and cultural heritage, experience the life of our local people and live in their homes during their stay.

Our infrastructure is suitable for walkers and cyclists and is a part of the cycling network along the Mura River, which runs through several countries and includes hiking trails that cover the entire Pomurje region. In Velika Polana there is a famous trail called "Miškova pot" that starts at Miško's homestead and represents the starting point of our writers' path.

The best time to visit and feel the local life is during our special events. They are organized by associations from Velika Polana throughout the year. They are intertwined with cultural, sporting, culinary and other content and some of them preserve old customs and tasks. The common thread of all of them is that they are organized with the motto »something for everyone« and are perfect for all age groups, both residents as well as tourists.

We also offer accommodations, not in a hotel, but on the homestead of Miško Kranjec, on the thatched beds or in the creative experiential studios. Those, who are used to classical tourism can stay in the nearby spa centers and enjoy thermal and other adventures. More information about the resorts and tourist facilities as well as management are available at the ŠTRK Tourist Information Centre in the center of Velika Polana. TIC also provides information about the tourist offer of the region and carries out promotional activities and helps organizing events.

For further information on the site, tours and tourist facilities contact the ŠTRK Tourist Information Centre of Velika Polana. ŠTRK will provide you with all information on tourist offers and events.

Pot Entente florale Europe

Visit path Entente florale Europe

Mala Polana

Črnc

Velika Polana

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Občina Velika Polana | Municipality Velika Polana |
| | TIC ŠTRK – Turistično-informacijski center | TIC ŠTRK – Tourist information centre |
| 2 | Park »Dežela štokelj« | Park »Land of storks« |
| 3 | Domačija pisatelja Miška Kranjca | The homestead of writer Miško Kranjec |
| 4 | Osnovna šola Miška Kranjca Velika Polana | The »Miško Kranjec« Velika Polana primary school |
| 5 | Prireditveni center Poljana | Event center Poljana |
| 6 | Cerkev Srca Jezusovega | The church of Jesus' Heart |
| 7 | Center zaščite in reševanja | The protection and rescue centre |
| 8 | Dom Danijela Halasa Velika Polana | Elderly home Danijel Halas |
| 9 | Klet Sv. Martina | Wine Cellar st. Martin |
| 10 | Potok Črnc | Brook Črnc |
| 11 | Vudina | Vudina |
| 12 | Čistilna naprava | Sewage treatment plant |
| 13 | Sabolova domačija | »Sabolovi« homestead |
| 14 | Penovje | »Penovje« |
| 15 | Copekov mlin | Copek mill |

Občina Velika Polana

Municipality Velika Polana



1 Domačija pisatelja Miška Kranjca
The homestead of writer Miško Kranjec



2 TIC ŠTRK – Turistično-informacijski center
TIC ŠTRK – Tourist information centre



3 Sabolova domačija
»Sabolovi« homestead



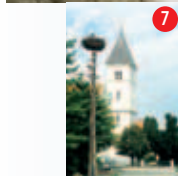
4 Copekov mlin
Copek mill



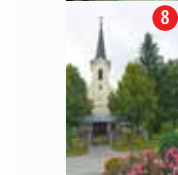
5 Polanski log
Polana wood



6 Spominska soba Štefana Hozjana
Štefan Hozjan's memorial room



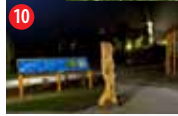
7 Cerkev Srca Jezusovega
The church of Jesus' Heart



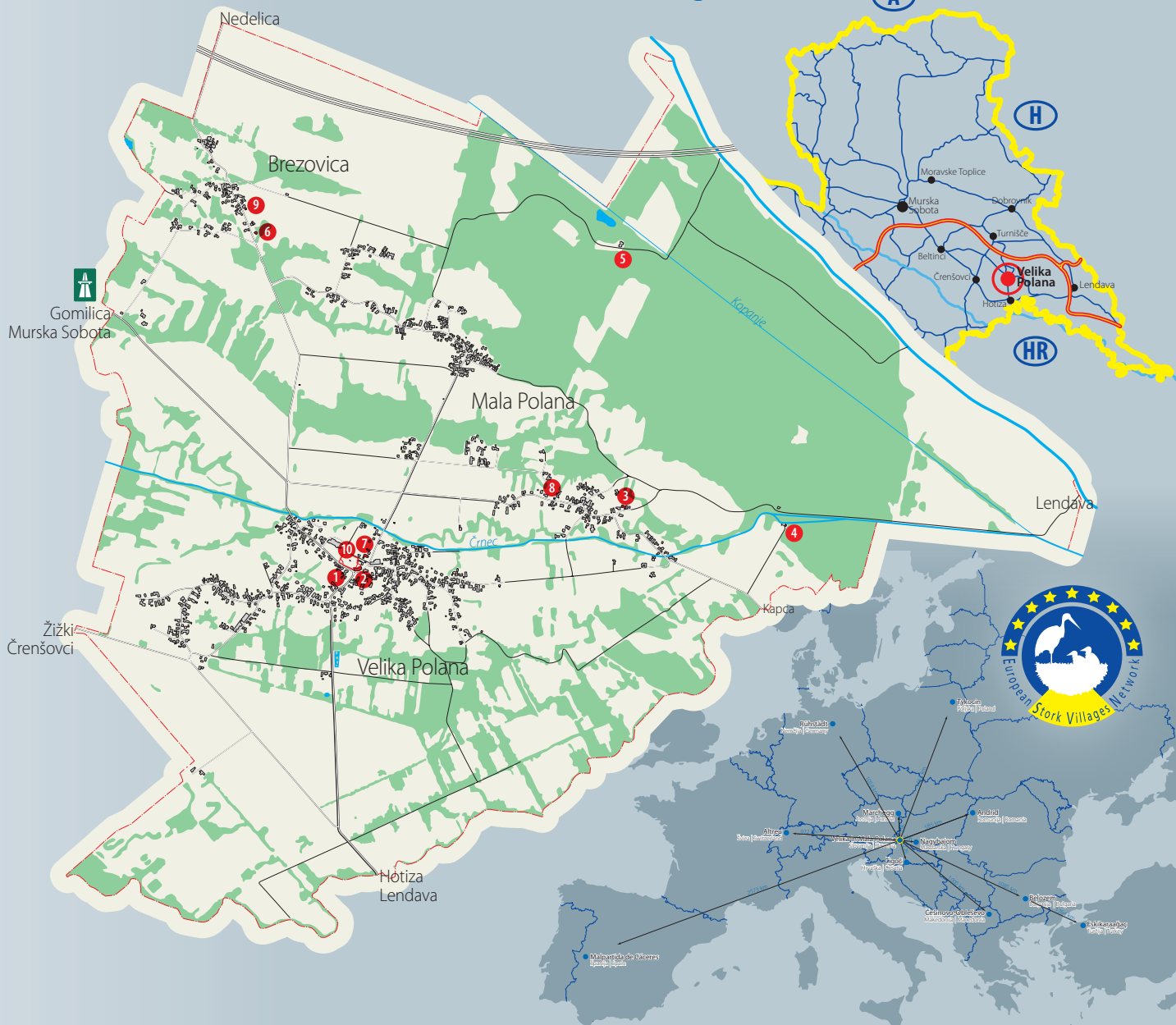
8 Kapela Karmelske Matere Božje
The chapel of Carmelite Mother of God



9 Kapela Sv. Jožefa Delavca
The chapel of St. Joseph the Worker



10 Park »Dežela štokelj«
Park »Land of storks«



European Competition for Towns and Villages

Velika Polana, 28. 6. 2014

