



Hill House

Visitor's Handbook

Hi

from Dejan and & welcome to Hill House in Novo mesto. Sadly, we can't be here to welcome you in person but hopefully these short notes will help make your stay more enjoyable. For your information, the address here is:

Trška Gora 34C
8000 Novo mesto
Slovenia



Google Maps or any other navigation will bring you to the right location (highway exit Novo mesto VZHOD/EAST and bypass the shopping centre 'Supernova Qlandia Novo mesto'):
<https://goo.gl/maps/3xHadnrEfy01Q9Hs8>



Note that you can type 's' letter instead of special character 'š', 'z' instead of 'ž' and 's' instead of 'š' in your online searches and navigation.

About Us

I have been enjoying the view of the valley since I was a child and years later took great pleasure in introducing people to Trška Gora and all joys of Dolenjska region and Slovenia. The house is in the unique vineyard region on the sunny south slope of Trška Gora. You may see wildlife from the house, including deer, rabbits, foxes and eagles.

We hope you enjoy your time in Slovenia as much as we do!

Fibre optics internet & Wi-Fi

You'll find the Wireless Hub on top of the white cabinet in the Living Room. The house has a reliable and fast **fibre optics** Internet connection (ISP downlink 100 Mbps / uplink 40 Mbps).

1. Select the Wireless Network: **HillHouseNovoMesto**
2. Enter the Password/key: **INNBOX3128305005851**

Password/key has to be entered EXACTLY as above.



The Internet bandwidth here is excellent and you can utilise several streaming services and work remotely.

Google Cast available on the TV

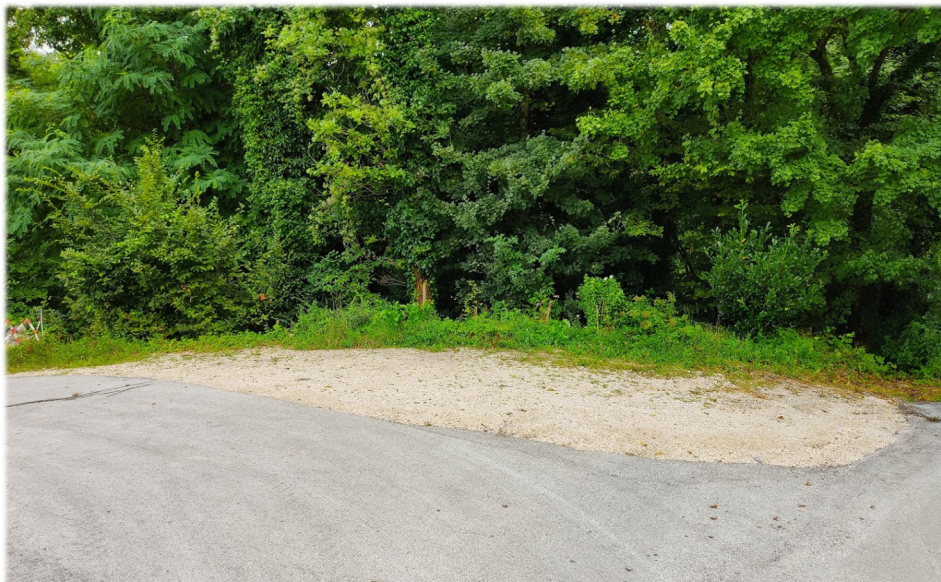
If you select source HDMI1 on the TV remote (Phillips), Google Cast will be turned on. You need to be connected to the Wi-Fi in order to use it.

Getting around, parking, fast EV charging

You are around 45 minutes' drive away from two capitals (Zagreb and Ljubljana). The highway is around 5 minutes away by car. The nearest shopping centre Supernova Qlandia is very close (Otoška cesta 5, 8000 Novo mesto).

We highly recommend you hire a car for visiting Slovenia. There are several rental companies available at your arrival airports (Ljubljana, Zagreb or Venice).

When you arrive, you can *park on the top of the road* before it starts descending next to the forest. It will be in front of you just before your left turn to Hill House. Do not descend with your car to the house.



You can charge your electric car at the **multi-standard EV charging hub** at the Supernova Qlandia shopping centre in Novo mesto. It has a maximum power output of 350 kW per charger. Please check <https://www.onecharge.eu>



Pets

Novo mesto is pet friendly and well-behaved pets are always welcome here but are not allowed on the furniture or the beds. There is an additional one-time cleaning charge of €25 pet stay.

There are nation-wide restrictions in place from May-June and October-November prohibiting dogs to be off lead in the forests due to rabies.

Check In Time

Check in time **after 15.00.**

Check Out Time

Latest check out time is **10.00** (morning). Please see departure notes on page 12.

A Very Brief History of Trška Gora and Novo mesto

Trška Gora roots date back to medieval times. It was mentioned in the book 'Glory of the Duchy of Carniola' of Johann Valvasor in 1689 as the vineyard hill above Novo mesto.

On the top of the hill a 400 + year old Linden tree grows next to the Church of St. Mary.



The town Novo mesto was originally called *Rudolfswerth* after one of the kings of the Habsburg monarchy. The Grammar school is the oldest in the region dating from 1746.

In 1469, Franciscan monks arrived in Novo mesto from today's region of Bosnia with some rare and fascinating books. Their monastery can be visited by appointment by calling +386 7 338-1470 (Father Tomaž Hočevar, tomaz.hocevar@rkc.si).



Eating out and shopping

When we visit Novo mesto, we do not bother with preparing any meals as food is relatively cheap and accessible. Most restaurants (so called 'gostilna') are on the outskirts of the town.

You can take away a prepared foods (e.g., roasted chicken, turkey steak, stews, salad etc.) from the shopping centre, Supernova Qlandia. Parking is free and opening hours are from Mon - Sat 9.00-21.00.

We adore a national delicacy, *buckwheat bread with walnuts* (note gluten and nut content for allergies!) from the local shop SPAR in Qlandia. SPAR in Austria and Slovenia has more and better-quality food than SPAR in The Netherlands and the UK.



Other **restaurants** that we recommend and eat regularly at (use Google to search):

- **Gostišče Loka** - on the river bank of Krka which has a quieter atmosphere.



- **Totalka** - they have an appropriate choice of pizzas, "pičiči" (local version of pizza) and reasonably priced salads.



- **Gostilna Čefidelj** - good option for meals around 12.00 noon.



- **Gostilna Pugelj** - it is a walking distance from the house, but it is not easy to find. Please use Google Maps which will guide you there.



- **Jernejev hram** – they serve mainly meals around 12.00 noon and have some options in the evening.



- **Hotel & Restaurant Dolenjc** - Good option of different food for a reasonable price.



- **Picerija Mačkovec** - the closest restaurant to the house (mainly Italian and Mexican cuisine)



- **Gostilna Vovko** - one of the best restaurants in the area. They serve a really good food at reasonable prices. Reservation is recommended.

<https://gostilna-vovko.si/>



- **Oštarija in Dolenjske Toplice** – a restaurant around 15 km west from the house in the village of Dolenjske Toplice. Slightly higher prices.



- **Kavarna Štraus in Kostanjevica na Krki** - <https://www.facebook.com/bar.straus/>



- **Gostilna in picerija Šentpeter in Otočec** – a pleasant atmosphere.

<http://www.sentpeter.si/galerija/>



- **Gostišče Koren** – located next to the swimming area of Krka river - Žužemberk.

- **Prepih** - around 15 minutes' drive – quality and consistency are what they do well here. Lots of outdoor activities for children.



- **Pri Belokranjcu** - a 10-minute drive



Slovenian restaurants usually offer a '*malica*' / '*kosilo*' (special deals) around 12.00 noon in every city in the country. It is a discounted lunch being offered for a much cheaper price for a certain time period. The meal can comprise 1, 2 or 3 courses. It is very time sensitive, so arriving at 13.00 might mean you will miss it.

Spa

If you are looking for a manicure or pedicure, there is a small salon at Qlandia called 'Urban Spa'. You can call +386 51 641090. It's also easy to visit them and arrange an appointment.

In the region of Dolenjska, you have several spas available with thermal pools and treatments. For treatment appointments (e.g. massage), please give them a call. Check their websites for facilities and treatments:

- *Hotel Balnea* (mainly indoor pools, 25 min away)
Zdraviliški trg 7, 8350 Dolenjske Toplice



- *Šmarješke Toplice* (indoor and outdoor pools, 12 min away)
Šmarješke Toplice 100, 8220 Šmarješke Toplice



- *Terme Čatež* (27 min away, a much larger spa)
Topliška cesta 35, 8250 Brežice



- Terme Otočec (10 min away)
<https://www.terme-krka.com/us/en/otocec/spa/>



You can also check outdoor natural thermal pools - **Kleevč**. It is free of charge. Constant water temperature is around 24,8 °C. It is a 15 min drive from the house.



A little further south you can find another free thermal pool called **Klunove toplice**. The water is approximately around 27 °C.



A few precautions for driving in Slovenia

The speed limit on the motorways is 130 km/h. In urban areas the limit is 50 km/h and 90 km/h outside the urban areas. There are many speed cameras (static and mobile).

Note that drivers in Slovenia are generally not as 'respectful' and more 'aggressive' especially when driving around roundabouts and on the motorways.

If you rented a car, make sure you have a digital vignette for the motorways. You can order the vignette online at <https://evinjeta.dars.si/en>.

Things to See & Do

Kolpa river:

I really like the area around the Kolpa river. We did a nice bike tour from *Sinji vrh* to *Osilnica*. We advise you that you start early in the morning.

Note: There are not many shops in this area starting from *Stari trg* and further, so buy things in *Črnomelj* or *Metlika*.

Here are the official places to swim in river *Kolpa*:

Prelesje - Kot, Sodevci, Radenci, Damelj, Podbrežje-Fučkovci, Podzemelj, Primostek, Učakovci-Vinica, Adlešiči, Dragoši - Griblje

Restaurants in the area:

Gostinstvo Madronič (fish)

<http://www.gostinstvo-madronic.si/home-eng>

Gostišče Veselič

Podzemelj 17, 8332 Gradac

Hiking:

- **Nebesa nad Šentrupertom** – has a lovely view. Starting point is here:

<https://www.visitdolenjska.eu/izletniska-kmetija-mozina.html>

If you want, you can go all the way up to the top with a car.

- **Trdinov vrh** (mountain with transmitter) - on the border with Croatia. On the way to the summit there is a lodge called *Gospodična*. Starting point: *Gabrje* village.

You can reach Zagreb or Ljubljana within 45 minutes' drive on the highway.

Lake Bled is about 1h 15 minutes away which you can combine with visiting Lake **Bohinj** (a further 30 min away from Bled).

Another destination worth visiting are the **Postojna caves** (1hr 15 min) and/or **Škocjan caves** (a further 25 min from Postojna). They are on the UNESCO's list of natural and cultural world heritage sites

We particularly recommend visiting the Slovenian Adriatic coast (Piran, Koper, Izola).

You could also visit Croatian Istria or the city of Trieste.

Soča valley is famous for the unique azure colours of the river, white water kayaking, cycling and hiking. There are also tours of World War I sites.

A great place to visit is Hiša Franko, a two (2) Michelin stars run restaurant run by a world-renowned chef **Ana Roš**. Reservation is required:

Website: <https://www.hisafranko.com/en>

Address: Staro selo 1, 5222 Kobarid



Slovenian / Slovene Language

Many Slovenians speak English although the older generation tends to speak German as well as Slovene. Almost all young people in Slovenia speak English.

A few useful words, translations and pronunciation:

Good day. – Dober dan (do-ber dan)

Good morning. – Dobro jutro. (do-bro yu-tro)

Hello - Živjo (the 'ž' sounds like J in Jean, so 'ziv-yo)

Please - Prosim (pro-sim)

Thank you very much - Najlepša Hvala (nay-lep-sha] hwa-la)

Goodbye - Adijo. (a-di-o)

Good night– Lahko noč (lah-ko notch)

Where is the toilet? – Kje je WC? (Kye ye ve-tse?)

Yes - Ja (ya)

No - Ne (ne)

Do you speak English? Govorite angleško? (Go-vo-ri-te an-gle-shko?)

Beer – Pivo

Wine – Vino

Coffee with milk – Kava z mlekom (ka-va z mle-kom)

Tee – Čaj (tsch-ay)

House rules

No Smoking

This is a no smoking property. If you have visitors who smoke, please ask them to do so outside of the building. It is not permitted to throw cigarette buds outside as it is a fire hazard.

Candles & Tea Lights

As a fire precaution, no candles or tea lights are allowed inside or outside the property, including the balcony. Candle wax cannot be removed from the outside render/ façade and is expensive to repair.

Neighbours

Please be aware that our neighbours are not in a position to assist you with any issues you have. I would be grateful therefore if you would not contact them. Please respect their privacy.

There emergency numbers are set out above.

Liabilities

Any damage (that is not normal wear and tear) caused by the guest/tenants of the property, house or outside the house, including missing items or equipment is the responsibility of the guest/tenants of the property. Extensive cleaning (e.g., rubbish on property, walls need painting) will be charged. There is no limit to the liabilities to the damage caused to the property.

No other people are allowed on the property other than those registered during your fixed term rental period. Liabilities continue beyond the rental period.

Property address: Trska Gora 34C, 8000 Novo mesto, Slovenia.

GDPR

Personal information (e.g., full name, address, contact details) will be collected and maintained before and during your stay at the Hill House, Novo mesto. We maintain contact details inside the Airbnb or Booking.com platforms and are compliant with the GDPR regulations.

We will not retain your personal information longer than necessary unless we legitimate reason to do so (e.g. when dealing with local Slovenian regulation and law or damage claims).

If you would like to remove your personal information from booking platforms (e.g., Booking.com / Airbnb) please arrange that with them directly.

Fire & Safety

Emergency number is **112**.

Air conditioning

- It is located on the top floor. When windows are closed, the cold air will flow downwards and cool the rest of the floors.
- You can use it for heating as well, just change the **MODE**
- Instructions for use are in the white cabinet (under the TV) on the left side in a red folder.

Underfloor heating

- The main unit is located in the utility room and should not be managed by guests – it is self-regulating.
- In winter season, please try to keep the heat indoors (e.g. closing doors, windows) as heat pumps take much longer time to warm up the rooms' air
- The bedroom is set to slightly lower temperature than the living room and kitchen.

Kitchen

- Cooker / Hob
 - The hob is ceramic and will remain hot after you have turned the ring off
 - Do not let children near the hob in case it is still hot
 - Please note, the hob is NOT a worktop.
- Oven
 - Mains switch is next to the oven
 - Right knob is for temperature
 - After the oven is turned off, the cooling fan may continue to run.
- Dishwasher
 - Make sure the Power button is pressed down (on the left-hand side on the top of the dishwasher door)
 - Select the program you need by pressing the “Program” button (I usually select *Auto* programme)
 - Check that the two spinning arms inside the dishwasher can spin round and nothing is blocking them from turning. Note: if the arms can’t spin it increases the risk of a fire
 - Put the dishwasher tablet / detergent in the correct compartment on the inside of the dishwasher door and close the compartment. Only use dishwasher tablets / detergent, DO NOT use Washing Up liquid
 - Close the door and after a few seconds the program will start
 - When the program has finished, the dishwasher will beep.
- Washing Machine*
 - The programs are on the centre of the washing machine
 - Select the correct program using the right-hand dial (e.g. Cotton, shirts, ...)
 - Place the washing machine tablet inside & close the door
 - To dry clothes, turn the right-hand dial to OFF
- Tumble dryer*
 - The programs are on the left on the dryer
 - Select the correct program using the right-hand dial (e.g. 60 min)
 - Clean up the dust layer after drying as it increases the risk of fire, if not cleaned every time
- Extractor Fan
 - Switch is on the unit
- Fuse box
 - The fuse box is located underneath the stairs

* will only be made available to guests who book for longer than 3 nights unless agreed and paid for in advance.

Living Room

- TV
 - Full HD LED TV
 - See separate instructions for the TV media device
- PlayStation
 - You cannot buy or add additional games onto the console; we do add games infrequently (every couple of months)
 - You should login as a guest
- Sofa Bed
 - Remove the cushions
 - Pull back the fabric flap
 - Pull the front of the sofa bed out and then slightly up
 - Unfold the bed and ensure the legs are firmly on the floor.
- Window (lock)
 - Trška Gora and Slovenia are relatively safe, however to ensure your possessions are safe, please close all windows when you leave.
 -
- Window Blinds
 - To raise the blind, hold the handle with two hands; fold it towards you and start rotating the lower handle; blinds will move up or down based on the direction of rotation.
- Balcony doors
 - Opening the balcony door:
 - Rotate the door handle counter clockwise to 3 o'clock and gently pull the sliding door towards you by holding the handle firmly. Once the sliding door has fully moved towards you and is parallel to the rest of the window and aligned with the runners, push it to your right to open it
 - Closing the balcony door
 - Make sure the door handle is at 3 o'clock and slide the door gently to the left side to close it. Do not change the position of the handle, keep it at 3 o'clock. Once the door slides into the opening, just gently push the top of the door to close it fully. Once the sliding door sits into its place, rotate the handle to 6 o'clock.

Balcony

- The balcony railing is not safe for children to climb or play on; there are gaps between the railings
- The surface of the outdoor tiles can be slippery when wet; be careful when you apply sun tanning products as that can also create a slippery surface
- Note that around sunset mosquitos will attempt to come inside; closing the door before the start of sunset will help keep them outside.

Bedroom

- Please be careful of the hard-wooden edges of the beds and low ceilings

Bathroom

- The electric towel radiator has a thermostat
- Floor tiles get slippery when wet
- This towel rail can get very hot, so be careful with young children around. The power switch is in the bedroom next to the radiator and is labelled "Towel Rail". If the towel rail is not working, check that this is switched on

Staircase

- Place *hold the rail* at all times when walking up and down the stairs; please watch children on the stairs – supervision is necessary.

Utility room

It is only available to guests when booking for longer stays (3 nights or longer). Please send a request when booking; additional fees will apply.

- Inside you will find:
 - Iron and ironing board
 - Clothes drying rack
 - Vacuum cleaner
 - Washing machine
 - Tumble dryer

Note that we store private things in the utility room (on the shelves, boxes). They are not for use by guests. The room is left open for access to the dryer and washing machine only. For safety reasons do not allow children into the utility room.

Rubbish & Recycling

- Bins (Recycling)
 - The bin next to the fridge is for general waste. General waste can be disposed of in the black/green waste bins in the lower part of the hill in Sevno or Novo mesto. Trška Gora is considered a rural area and rubbish collection is centralised in certain areas. No rubbish is collected from outside the house.
 - Recycling waste is sorted into *plastics (yellow top)*, *paper (blue top)* and *general waste* (glass bins and organic waste are not always available!)

Repairs and Damage Report

- Our cleaner does a thorough job keeping the flat clean and in working order
- If you notice anything that needs repairing, please send me an email – reservations@hillhousevineyard.com with details of the item(s) that need repairing
- If any damage has been caused, it is better to be upfront and let us know as soon as it occurs at reservations@hillhousevineyard.com



Departure Notes

- Check out time: **before 10.00** (morning)
- Check in time: **not earlier than 15.00** (afternoon)
- The cleaner arrives at 10.00 (morning) exactly so please ensure you have vacated the house by this time
- Please leave the key in the post-box
- We hope you've thoroughly enjoyed your holiday here in Trška Gora. Reviews are essential to us, so please don't forget to leave a review on the Airbnb and Booking.com websites

Novo mesto

Tourist information centre

Address: Glavni trg 11, 8000 Novo mesto (*in the main square of Novo mesto, parking is nearby*)

Opening hours: Mon - Fri from 8.00 AM until 7.00 PM, Sat 9.00 AM – 3.00 PM, Sun 09.00 – 1.00 PM.

Phone: +386 7 393 92 63

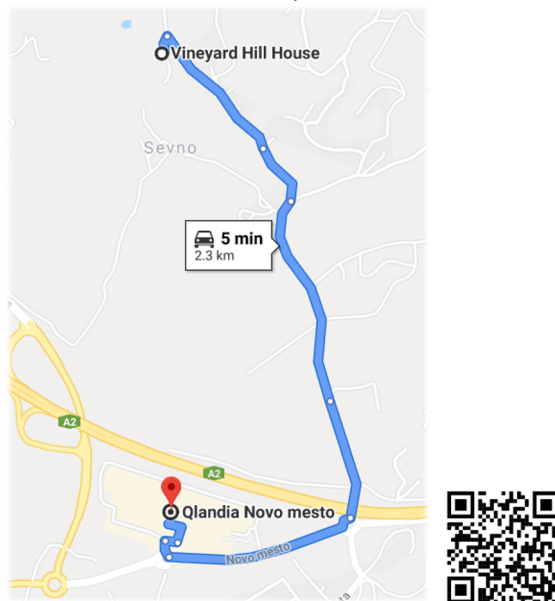


Note that you have plenty of tourist brochures / leaflets on the ground floor inside the cabinet with a variety of tourist destination options.

Shops, pharmacy and petrol stations

Supermarkets

- There is a large shopping centre called *Supernova Qlandia* nearby in Otoška cesta 5, 8000 Novo mesto. Closed on Sundays.



Pharmacy

- Inside the *Qlandia shopping centre* on the furthest west side (the opposite side where SPAR is located)
- Address: Otoška cesta 5, 8000 Novo mesto

Petrol stations

- Petrol, Ljubljanska cesta 28a or Belokranjska cesta 3, 8000 Novo mesto
- OMV, Ljubljanska cesta 11, 8000 Novo mesto

Closest multi-standard EV charging station

- Petrol Supernova Qlandia, Otoška cesta 5, 8000 Novo mesto



Emergencies

- National emergency number is **112** (fire, police, medical and natural disaster)

A & E

- Hospital Novo mesto
Address: Šmihelska cesta 1, 8000 Novo mesto
Note: in Slovenian it is called 'URGENTNI CENTER'



- If you have forgotten your prescribed medication on your trip and have the European Medical Card (EHIC), the only way to get the medication is by visiting 'URGENTNI CENTER'.

Vet

- Veterina Novo mesto
Address: Šmarješka cesta 2, 8000 Novo mesto
Phone: +386 7 393 47 40



Optician

- Optika Clarus Novo mesto
(inside Qlandia)
Address: Otoška cesta 5, 8000 Novo mesto
- Glashmaher
Address: Seidlova cesta 16, 8000 Novo mesto

Kids

Spa

- A variety of swimming pools and water parks available (check with the *Tourist Information Centre*)

Outdoor activities

- Plenty of hiking routes available, especially the Julian Alps, rafting in the *Soča valley* (check on Google rafting from a town called *Bovec*)
- Swimming in the river Krka is popular
- Check <https://www.slovenia.info/en/things-to-do/family-fun>

Adventure parks

Closest in Bled or Postojna

- Please check the websites:
<https://www.slovenia.info/en/stories/let-the-adventure-begin>
<https://www.thinkslovenia.com/sports-activities/summer-adrenalin-parks>



Trains & Buses

Railway station Novo mesto

Address: Kolodvorska ulica 1, 8000 Novo mesto

Note: Infrequent connections to Ljubljana and Zagreb

Bus station Novo mesto

Address: Topliška cesta 1, 8000 Novo mesto

Note: Infrequent connections

Airport transfers

If you require transfers between airports in the region, a company called **GoOpti** can pick you up at your agreed location if you pre-book. The sooner you book, the lower the price.

More information at <https://www.goopti.com>



Note: Map might be outdated as new routes are constantly added.