

# Adelsberg Castle history path



Lenght: 1km, Time needed: 1/2 h



» Walking towards the square, one catches sight of a steep hill and high ruins on it. The hill is called Sovic, and the ruins are the walls of a once mighty castle. «

A semicircle below Sovic, located on its eastern part, is called **Majlont**; the town's core and the oldest settlement. Majlont was developed in the area between Postojna Mansion and present day Ljubljanska Street. The houses are clustered and cuddled together, but many of them survived into the present in spite of frequent fires and rebuilding. A house marked with a black dot on the map also served as castle jails in the medieval times (in actual fact a new house has been built on the foundation of the old house). Tomšičeva Street cuts through Majlont, and it used to be the main road between Trieste & Ljubljana, which is pretty hard to imagine. The well, marked on the map with the blue dot used to be the only water supply for the whole Majlont (it is 12 m deep and circular in shape, carved in flysch which is present under the whole Majlont). All the residents came there to collect water for the households and to do their laundry (there are still remains of the rock sink in the private garage).

There is a tunnel/»ricoverra« under the hill Sovic, dug out by the Russian prisoners under the Austrian military regime in WWI. They also built the Russian bridge in Postojna cave. Visits to the tunnel are not possible as the entrance and exit are on private property in Majlont and the owners disagree for common use. Residents from Majlont used the tunnel as a shelter when Slovenia expected an attack from Yugoslav forces in 1991.

Adelsberg Castle was supposedly built in the first half of the 12th century. In 1508, the castle was plundered by the Venetians, who occupied it for one year; it was heavily damaged by the 1511 earthquake and ravaged by the Turks in the 1570s; the final blow to the castle came when it was hit by lightning in 1689.

The once mighty castle was moved to the center of Postojna, where the Slovenian Academy of Science & Art now resides (also Institute for Karst Research).

The 677 metre high Sovic has always been a favourite destination for the locals and visitors. Its paths are the first to be dry in spring, it is protected against the burja (local wind) and offers a delightful view. The view from Sovic extends across the roof ridges of Tržaška Street to the slope that leads to the railway station, the lower Kremenca (566 m) and further across the fields and their mosaic patterns to the filial church of St. Anthony of Padua in Stara vas. It then stops at the gentle contours of Slavinski Ravnik and the Tabor hills including Šilen tabor.

If you go right to the green dot you come to the (flag pole) view point to the eastern part of Postojna & part of Majlont. There are also remains of the church of Sv. Uršula.

Roman coin and prehistoric ceramics were found on Sovic, which testify of early settlements in the times before Christ and in Roman times.

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## Map of path & directions



- 1 - Cross Ljubljanska street from Hotel Sport, than go up and take the first stairs on the left.
- 2 - When you come to Tomšičeva street turn left and continue downward.
- 3 - Continue down the Tomšičeva street.
- 4 - At the crossing go up right on the narrow path to Vegova street. Here is a 12 m deep well which lies under the courtyard.
- 5 - You will see a staircase on the right side, between two houses ; walk up the staircase to the forest path, then walk strait up.
- 6 - Turn right and then after a few meters you will see the ruins of the castle on the slope; procede up the slope.
- 7 - Before walking down the hill on a cart road go in the direction of the green dot: the view point on Postojna.
- 8 - At the crossing turn right on to Pot na Poljane.
- 9 - At the crossing turn right on to Za Sovicem
- 10 - Turn right on to Tomšičeva and then down the stairs back to the hotel.

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