

# *Zveza tabornikov Slovenije*

*the National Scout Organization*



## The Scout Movement in Slovenia

began in 1922 when the first Scout group in Ljubljana was founded. In that time Slovene Scouts were members of WOSM (World Organization of Scout Movement) through federal Scout Association of Yugoslavia. A few years later also some woodcraft groups were founded in Slovenia. Both organisations were active until the beginning of the Second World War. Ten years later, in 1951 pre-war Scouts and the Woodcraft Indians reunited in the association called Zdrúženje tabornikov Slovenije (The Scout Organisation of Slovenia),

which was later renamed into, and is today known as **Zveza tabornikov Slovenije, Nacionalna skavtska organizacija (ZTS, The Scout Association of Slovenia, the National Scout Organization)**.

In 1994, three years after Slovenia gained status of an independent state, ZTS was recognised by WOSM as the National Scout Association of Slovenia – full member organization of WOSM (World Organization of Scout Movement), which today incorporates 28 millions of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in 155 states.





Zveza tabornikov Slovenije, National Scout Organisation, is contributing some unique features to the World Scout Movement – mainly due to our traditional close link with the unspoiled nature in Slovenia. This heritage is symbolically represented in

the **emblem of the ZTS**, which is composed of a woodcraft tepee tent, Scout campfire and the Slovene national symbol, three pine trees in the shape of Slovenia's highest mountain Triglav. Moreover, the Scouts in the age group from 11 till 15 years are referred to as the

Woodcraft Scouts. Our link with the nature is symbolized also by celebrating the **Slovene National Scouting Day** on April 22 – since 1951. Almost two decades later – in 1970 the very same day was selected for celebrating the International Day of the Earth.



Scouting in Slovenia represents a rich and safe **educational environment for about 8500 young people** throughout the country, which makes the ZTS **the biggest educational youth organisation in Slovenia.** Through nearly 100 Scout Groups we follow a co-education programme, which encourages young people to develop into responsible individuals, aware of their roles in the community. The ZTS is an open and truly independent organization that strongly encourages and supports individual's spiritual development. Members of Scout Association

of Slovenia, the National Scout Organization are organized in the following programme age groups:

- Bears and Bees (Cubs) - 6-10 years
- Woodcraft Scouts (Scouts) - 11-15 years
- Venture Scouts – 16-20 years
- Explorers – 21-27 years
- Seniors - older than 27 years

The programme for each age group is based on a different **principle.** This principle for the Cubs is play, for the Scouts it is adventure, for the Venture Scouts it is challenge, and for the Explorers and the Seniors it is service. The ZTS also developed a programme for children younger than 6, who are called the Crickets.





The educational activities are performed in **patrols**, which consist of 7 to 12 young boys and girls of approximately the same age. Young people become acquainted with themselves, others, and the nature by acquiring badges and skill badges on patrol meetings, trips, hikes, summer and winter camps, expeditions and travelling. The basic principle behind our programmes is learning by doing.

Patrols are run by **patrol leaders**, who are only a few years older than the patrol

members. Patrols of the same age group form a **family or troop**, which is led by a **troop leader**.

The culmination of patrol work is the **Scout summer camp**, which every true Scout attends. Therefore, each year more than half of the organization's members attend a summer camp in the intact nature of Slovenia or abroad.

**Special attention is paid to educating and training** young people, who work with the youth – patrol and troop

leaders. They lead the activities and educational programmes in the local Scout Groups. Our high quality woodbadge programme is also attended by numerous trainers and participants from abroad.

Slovene Scouts are active members of the International Scout Movement. As organizers and participants of **international activities** (Jamborees, Moots) we are usually one of the relatively strongest contingents – taking into account size of Slovenian country and population.

**Scout Foundation  
– Foundation of Scout  
Association of Slovenia,**

supports the growth and development of The Scout Association – National Scout Organization, by raising funds used strictly for the realisation of the following goals:

- Purchasing and arrangement of Scout camp sites
- Co-funding of education and training for the ZTS members
- Co-funding of publishing Scout publications



**The Scout Shop** operates with the intent to provide the equipment for programme execution and personal equipment for outdoor activities to Scout Groups and individual Scouts. The shop also offers Scout literature, manuals, equipment for camping and programme activities, and Scout philately. It also offers all necessary parts for a complete Scout uniform.





The **National Training Centre ZTS »Gozdna Šola«** is located near lake Bohinj in the very heart of the Triglav National Park. The beautiful site can be used for training courses, Scout camps, school trips and research camps, seminars, courses, workshops, and other educational events.

The **campsite** in front of the building accommodates 80 campers in the summer time. Besides Scout camps, the ZTS organizes courses for unit

leaders, patrol leaders, nature survival courses, orienteering and topography courses, archery courses, and other activities.

In the **winter**, centre can also be used as a base for wintertime activities, such as skiing, ice-skating, sledging, and excursions. The Scout Centre offers a warm and cosy shelter during the cold months.

<http://gs.rutka.net/>





Area: 20,273 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 2,008,516  
Capital city: Ljubljana  
Language: Slovene; additionally Italian and Hungarian in nationally mixed areas  
Currency: euro (since 1 January 2007)  
Religions in Slovenia: 57,8% Catholic, 0,8% Protestant, 2,4% Islamic, 2,3% Orthodox Christian

The **Republic of Slovenia** lies at the heart of Europe, where the **Alps** face the **Pannonian plains** and the **Mediterranean** meets the mysterious **Karst**. To the north is Austria; Hungary is to

the east; Croatia to the south and Italy to the west.

**Slovenia can be characterized by the colour green**, since there are many woods and forests covering more than half of the country. There are also numerous preserved and protected plant and animal species.

The highest mountain is called **Triglav** – the name meaning “three-heads”. It is 2864m high. The mountain is a true national symbol.



[www.slovenia.info](http://www.slovenia.info)