

ABOUT THE HOST

The Institute of Information Science (IZUM) is a public institution based in Maribor and established by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia as an information infrastructural service for Slovenian science, culture and education. The activities of IZUM are mainly engaged in the development and operation of the COBISS system and services (Co-operative Online Bibliographic System and Services), which represents the core of the library information system in Slovenia and library information systems in the COBISS.net network that connects almost 1,500 libraries in Slovenia and Western Balkan countries.

IZUM is a member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and holds the UNESCO status of a regional centre for library information systems and research information systems.

IZUM also hosts the VEGA Supercomputer, which is a driving force in innovation, helping Europe to compete globally in strategic areas, such as artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics (HPDA), personalized medicine, bioengineering, fighting climate change, and the development of medicine and new materials.

TRAVEL INFO

AIRPORTS

All listed airports are serviced by <u>GoOpti</u>, a transport service that offers different transfer types to and from airports. You can choose between shared transfer and private transfer, depending on your flexibility and other wishes. Be advised that you must book this transfer service in advance.

Graz Airport

The closest international airport to Maribor is in Graz, Austria. It lies 60 km from Maribor and is about an hour's drive away. It's a smaller and easily manageable airport with good flight connections to Munich, Frankfurt, Wien, Zurich, Düsseldorf, etc. Apart from the GoOpti transfer service mentioned above, you can get from Graz Airport to Maribor by train. You can plan you trip here by entering "Graz Airport" as the starting point and "Maribor" as the destination. The trip takes around an hour and you will have to change trains at Leibniz or Spielfeld.

Ljubljana Airport

Ljubljana Airport is 130 km and an hour and a half by car from Maribor. It has regularly scheduled flights to most major European cities. Apart from the GoOpti transfer service mentioned above,



you can get from Ljubljana Airport to Maribor by public transport. First, you'll have to take a <u>bus</u> from the airport to the centre of Ljubljana, where you can take a <u>bus</u> or <u>train</u> to Maribor.

Zagreb Airport

Zagreb Airport in Croatia is 130 km and an hour and a half by car from Maribor. It has regularly scheduled flights to most major European cities. Apart from the GoOpti transfer service mentioned above, you can get from Zagreb Airport to Maribor by bus. First, you'll have to take a bus from the airport to the Zagreb bus station, and from there a different bus to Maribor.

Vienna Airport

Vienna Airport in Austria is by far the biggest and most well-connected airport from the four included in the list, but it's a bit further away, being some 250 km or almost 3 hours by car from Maribor. The GoOpti transfer service offers regular service between Maribor and Vienna Airport.

TRAVELING BY CAR

If you decide to travel by car, there are several rent-a-car agencies that operate in Slovenia: Hertz, Avantcar, Europear, etc. There is also an electric car-sharing company Avant2Go with which you can get from Ljubljana to the Ljubljana Airport for a reasonable price, use it as a regular rent-a-car service or use it as a car-sharing service once in Maribor (or Ljubljana or other cities where the company operates), where you can pick-up and drop-off the car at multiple locations across the city.

If you're travelling by car, don't forget you need a vignette for the <u>Slovenian</u> and <u>Austrian</u> highways.

The following roads lead to Maribor from different directions:

- from the direction of Ljubljana, the A1/E57
- from the direction of Graz, the A9/E57/E59
- from the direction of Zagreb, the E59

ONCE IN MARIBOR

ACCOMODATION

There's a diverse range of <u>hotels</u> in Maribor and its surrounding areas. The closest hotels to IZUM are <u>Hotel Orel</u>, <u>City Hotel Maribor</u>, <u>Hotel Piramida</u> and <u>B&B Hotel Maribor</u>, which are all located in the city centre less than 15 minutes on foot from our Institute building.



GETTING AROUND

Maribor city centre is best experienced on foot and most points of interest are within walking distance of each other. If you're a fan of cycling, you can rent a bicycle at one of over 30 stations of the mbajk service that operates 24/7. The service offers a weekly subscription for just 1 EUR and enables you free rides up to 60 minutes.

There's also a network of <u>public buses</u> with more than 20 lines operating in Maribor. If you hop on an electric bus of line 6, you can ride to the Vzpenjača <u>cable car</u> station at the foot of the majestic Pohorje hill just a few kilometres from the city centre. In 10 minutes, the cable car will take you to the upper station at 1042 m above sea level from where you can set off on hiking trails, cycling tracks, ski slopes, or simply enjoy a unique view of the city.

SIGHTS

Despite its small size, there's lots to see and do in Maribor. Its most famous "resident" is probably the Old Vine, the oldest grapevine in the world, which has been growing in the city centre on the bank of the Drava river since the second half of the 16th century and which has its own museum. As a city of wine, Maribor also boasts one of the largest and oldest classical wine cellars in Europe, the Vinag wine cellar with more than 2 km of underground tunnels and a unique wine archive with 85 thousand bottles of top-quality archival wine.

Right next to the wine cellar is the <u>Maribor Castle</u>, which hosts the <u>Maribor Regional Museum</u>, where you'll learn all about the city's history from the Neolithic period to the beginning of the 20th century. To learn about Maribor in the 20th and 21st centuries, visit the <u>National Liberation Museum Maribor</u> right on the edge of the beautiful <u>City park</u> with its three ponds.

These are just a few tips for things to see in the city centre. For more things to explore and do in and around Maribor, please check out the <u>Visit Maribor</u> website.