

A visit of IVV walkers from Iowa (USA) in Slovenia

The »family« of IVV world walkers is really big. Together we can show that the World is »small« for us by visiting different World IVV clubs and making friendships.

Our club in september had honour to prove the hospitality to a group from for us distante Iowa, state in USA.

Iowa is situated between two rivers Mississippi and Missouri. It borders on Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Its capital is Des Moines,. The state flower is Wild Rose which decorates the country as the Rose is symbol of Nova Gorica and decorates our town. Iowa is flat covered with fields and rich with water. So the landscape of Iowa is much different as in our country, Slovenia. Our little Slovenia with 20.273 metres squares is partly hilly and rich of vineyards and fruit gardens, partly mountainous (Julian Alps with the highest Triglav -2864m) rich with large forests, partly flat (Panonic land) rich of fields. We have the Adriatic Sea beach (47km long) with hotels too. The country is rich of pure water: lakes, rivers (as in our region smaragd Soča river), with rich supply of drinking water in underground... The Iowans are warmth and friendlies people as we are. It's the truth that we found out during this brief meeting.

The question is: How the IVV Iowa association »Greater Des Moines« found out our club Društvo pohodniki Nova Gorica?

The answer is easy: IVV walkers we are world travellers too. On our expeditions we are discovering the lands, natural and cultural heritage »in streth contacts with people like we are«! The IVV organisation offers us this possibilities.

The wish of Triglav club was to make the Iowa walkers the best image of for them new country. So we guided them on a walk on the hill of Holy Mountain in hope that the overlooking will be good. This trail is the best to show our history and landscape. But the weather was no good. It was foggy and rainy. (Many times this is the destiny of walkers!).

In the next days the group from Iowa was making walks around the Lakes of Bled and Bohinj.

To remember the walks in Slovenia our group was giving to each of them the diplome with symbols of the group, the town of Nova Gorica and of the State of Slovenia. Sure they received the stempels »IVV SLO« on their record books.

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Tour hostess Ardith Orgies (on the left) with Mirjam Silič (in the club Društvo pohodniki Triglav Nova Gorica the responsible for the public relations)



Tourist guide Peter Kupfer with Mirjam