



Festivals unite the village

A new bridge over the Vipava river was constructed in the year 2005.

Due to this bridge the old one, which is already quite old and in bad condition, there will be less heavy trucks, that transport bricks and clay for Goriške opekarne, through the centre of the village. Renče will be spared from a lot of traffic in rush hours.

According to the last count of the population the number of people living in Renče was 1924 - 980 were women. The majority of adult population were occupied but almost every family also made a living by gardening, agriculture, viniculture and fruit growing. Many families also had horses.

At Renče there is a primary school, a health service, some shops, a post office, a bank, a hotel and some pubs or cafes as well as many contractors or tradesmen. But Renče is mostly known for Goriške opekarne (the industry of building materials) and Šampionka Renče (a factory that produces cleansers and vinegar). There are many performances on the stage of the Cultural hall which is already quite in need of repair.

The view of the hotel and the school



Every year on April 27th, that is the date of OF formation, it is a tradition that people gather on Trstelj.

Some years ago the people in Renče restarted to celebrate the Mohor feast, when the way of life from the past is symbolically presented in the procession showing the past customs, folklore, dance...exhibition of this region's home baking and hand-made things.

We are proud to say that Renče cannot do without sport. There have always been good sportsmen specially in gymnastics and water polo.

Water polo started to develop in 1952. Trainings and matches were held above the dam under the bridge. However, later in consequence of industrial development, the water became more and more polluted so this sport was eventually not played in Renče anymore.

Today Renče is well known for outstanding successes in skating, gymnastics, bowling, football, fishing, hunting, kayaking... All sport trainings and significant competitions can be performed here because there are: a gym, a skating and a bowling hall and a football stadium... and Renče often hosts significant sports competitions.



Come and see us or visit our web site www.rence.si and you will learn more about our village.

Pupils from primary school / Osnovna šola Lucijana Bratkoviča Bratuša Renče found and presented these information about Renče from the web site presentation.



PRIMARY SCHOOL
Lucijan Bratkovič Bratuš
RENČE



RENČE

A VILLAGE WITH TRADITION

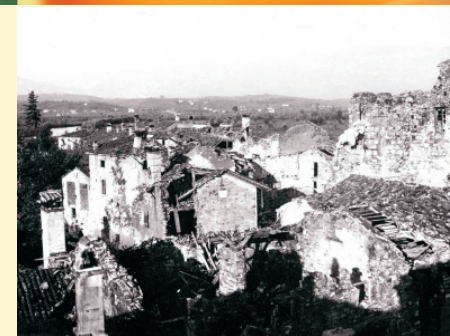
The tourist guide was formed as a part of the project TREASURES OF OUR HOME PLACE and at the 750th anniversary of the first written evidence of Renče.

I FEEL SLOVENIA



The Renče castle once and today

In the year 1815 the first public school was formed. (according to some informal sources the village already got its first school in the year 1799). The bricklayers' craft school for bricklayers, joiners, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers and salesmen started to educate its students in 1897. Many of them continued their studies in Ljubljana. Builders became well known masters of their professions, foremen and prospective workers.



The consequences of the war

Renče is a village situated in the lower part of the Vipava valley on the left bank of the river Vipava. It lies about 10 km south of Nova Gorica, not far from the Italian border. The inhabited area spans from 52 m to 100 m above sea level. There are many hills around Renče and the highest is Trstelj (643 m). It has got a mediterranean climate. It is not known for sure since when this village has been inhabited. People first inhabited only the surrounding hills and hidden valleys because of safety. The village consists of many hamlets / streets: Arčoni, Lukežiči, Mohorini, Martinuči, Merljaki, Žigoni, Vinišče, Podkraj, Tureli, Trg, Oševljek.

The Renče castle or manor by the old square got its name after the village. The towers of the castle are supposed to be from the 12th or 13th century. They were probably built for military protection and tax collection of tyrannic Gorica counts. In the year 1645 the county was taken over by the aristocratic family Strassoldo, who restored and enlarged the castle. Bricklayers, sawyers and leather craftsmen started to develop their workshops. People built a mill, a sawmill and a bridge over the river. Later they also constructed a dam. They used stones and logs for this purpose.

At that time it was difficult to find work so bricklayers had to earn their money in other countries (Bosnia, Switzerland, America). The number reached 450 houses and 600 bricklayers. Everywhere they knew them as good and precise workers.



The monument dedicated to bricklayers in Renče. This craft became a symbol of our village.

The war period left a significant trace in this area. During the 1st world war "the soška fronta" (front line) took place here. Many people had to leave because the village was completely destroyed. The strong presence of labouring class and their ideas, particularly bricklayers, who were in touch with revolutionary movement in many European countries, was the reason why the village was under special fascistic control. Nevertheless, in summer 1941, there was the first meeting of Osvobodilna fronta - OF (Liberating front) to organize the liberatin front and preparation for armed resistance. Enemies often ravaged, imprisoned and tortured people in Renče, but they couldn't suppress their resistance and national consciousness. It is all because



Above the hamlet Podkraj there is another manor called Špinjolišče. It was built on a hill and it served as a refuge and a camp. Its original name was changed after the arrival of Spanish aristocracy. On German military maps from the year 1760 we can find this place with a name Ölberg. (Olive tree hill)

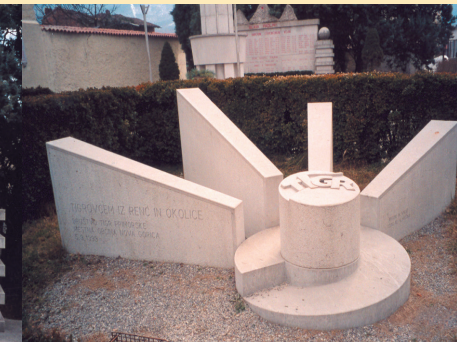
According to a legend there is a golden coach buried under the manor

By the river Vipava

The Vipava river, which has also given the name to the Vipava valley, reaches the highest point of water level in November and April. Life by the river used to be very vivid: villagers took their cattle to drink, women did the washing, while in summer people spent their free time swimming there.



The church in Renče has an interesting history too. In Ozrenj the so-called white monks built a little church and a monastery, which ruins can still be seen nowadays. The first parish church is supposed to have been built on "Tomaški hrib" near Martinuči in the 15th or 16th century. Further on there is a monastery in Polinišče from the year 1651. Later on in the year 1700 Pavlinci also built a church on Mandrija. At present there is a parish church of St. Mohor and St. Fortunat in the centre of the village. It was finished in 1770. During the first and second world war it was demolished, but people rebuilt it both times.



of the big role of the village and its people during the war that there are many monuments and other memorials in Renče: the monument for the killed soliders from the NOB (national liberating war) and the monument for Tigrovci in the village square and the monument on the cemetery, the monument near Martinuči, the monument dedicated to the partisan hero Marij Pregelj-Darko (near the kindergarten), the monument on Kremance and there are memorial tablets on the houses' fronts in Žigoni and Merljaki. The Renče primary got its name after the local national hero Lucijan Bratkovič Bratuš. The three cemeteries from the first world war at Lukežiči, Oševljek and Žigoni remind us of some hard battles that took place in this area.