

Based on the Cave Conservation Act, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 2/2004 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act'), and in accordance with the Decree on the Concession for Utilisation of Valuable Natural Features of the Postojna and Predjama Cave Systems, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 77/2002 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Decree'), the management of Postojnska jama d.d. (hereinafter referred to as 'the cave manager') herewith adopts the following

RULES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION REGULATIONS IN THE POSTOJNA AND PREDJAMA CAVE SYSTEMS

I. Contents

The aim of the Rules is to make sure the Postojna and Predjama Cave Systems (hereinafter referred to as 'caves') are used in a suitable manner and to ensure visitors' safety in a way that is in compliance with the legislation and the cave manager's concession contract.

All cave visitors, employees, cavers, explorers and other participants in activities taking place inside the caves shall observe the provisions of these Rules, provisions of the Act and the Decree.

II. Cave Tours

Visitors are only allowed to enter and visit the caves if accompanied by a trained cave tour guide and other persons authorised to accompany tours by the cave manager.

There are three different types of cave tours: regular tours, special adventure tours and attendance of events. Cave tours shall be conducted in accordance with the published timetables, advance arrangements or at the time of events.

Cave tours are conducted on foot, by the cave manager's regular transport means or by boat.

The use of appropriate clothing, such as overalls, rubber boots, hard hats and suitable lamps, is required for special adventure tours. The use of carbide is not allowed. All attendees of special adventure tours and alternative tours shall sign a consent that they have been made familiar with cave tour conditions. The consent is an integral part of the Rules.

During regular cave tours or events, visitors shall inside the caves only be allowed to walk and stand inside designated walking areas and in groups. Every visitor shall follow the tour guide's instructions.

Visitors shall refrain from touching or breaking stalagmites and stalactites, throwing coins in rimstone pools and puddles inside the caves, smoking inside the caves, bringing in or consuming food or from polluting them in any other way.

Pets are not allowed inside the caves.

Visitors are prohibited from carrying rucksacks that might present an obstacle to other visitors moving around.

No tripods or flash photography is allowed during the tours.

The use of toilet facilities inside the cave is allowed only if this is absolutely necessary.

III. Other Restrictions

Inside the caves, visitors are prohibited from:

- making noise;
- storing or discarding objects, substances or waste;
- destroying, damaging or removing any natural formations in the cave; taking any natural formations out of the cave, being involved in acts of trading or exporting them, in particular flowstone formations and other sediments, minerals, crystals, formations in mud and clay, as well as landforms on the walls, the ceiling and the ground (cave formations);
- polluting the cave walls, the cave ceiling or the cave ground, the air inside the caves, or the waters flowing through them;
- making fire or smoking;
- using naked flame lamps, with the exception of acetylene lamps and other gas lamps;
- hunting, killing, carrying around the cave, taking out of the cave, poisoning, holding in captivity inside the cave, or intentionally disturbing cave animals in any stage of life that live inside the subterranean caves or in subterranean waters permanently, or those that inhabit them periodically (cave life);
- taking out of the cave dead animals that live inside the subterranean caves or in subterranean waters permanently or inhabit them periodically, or parts of dead animals;
- preventing animals from migrating and plants from growing naturally;
- digging out or turning over sediments, archaeological or palaeontological strata, as well as taking out, carrying around or damaging palaeontological or archaeological objects;
- changing, damaging, taking away or destroying anything that is part of the cultural heritage;
- destroying, damaging, collecting or taking away any plants or their parts in the entrance parts of caves reached by daylight;
- performing activities or taking action that might threaten the cave, cave formations or the cave life.

IV. Special Cases of Cave Use

The competent Ministry may allow or grant its consent to the performance or attendance of certain activities inside the cave. These activities are as follows:

- for reasons of scientific research or educational work, the ministry shall allow a natural person or a legal entity to carry out palaeontological excavations, take samples of rock, minerals and fossils, collect specimens of plant species and individual animal species in the caves in accordance with regulations from the field of nature conservation;

- archaeological research conducted inside the caves in compliance with the regulations governing the fields of protection of cultural heritage, and pursuant to a prior consent of the ministry, whereby conditions concerning the activities in the cave shall be determined;
- filming and video recording; the ministry shall determine conditions in compliance with which filming in open caves is allowed, so that the caves, cave features and cave life forms will not be harmed;
- cave rescue practice sessions carried out inside the caves by the cave rescue service; the ministry shall determine the conditions under which the rescue practice sessions may be carried out in such a way that the impact on the caves, cave features and cave life forms is as negligible as possible;
- organisation of events that are in compliance with the conservation regime and regulations concerning nature conservation.

Based on the permission/consent, an agreement shall be concluded with the cave manager for the performance of these activities.

All other persons who are not visitors but enter the caves by prior arrangement in addition to the employees shall be provided with suitable badges by a responsible person on duty, in order to make it clear whether they are journalists, photographers, explorers, performers, etc.

V. Other Exceptions

The conservation regime provisions do not apply in the event of people being rescued from the cave.

All activities, investment maintenance works and rehabilitation works inside the cave are to be conducted in compliance with the previously adopted Utilisation Programme, which is part of the Concession Contract.

All outsourced contractors performing the aforementioned works shall upon signing the Contract sign a consent that they have been made familiar with the conservation regime in the caves and that they assume material liability for any consequences resulting from failure to comply with the provisions. The consent is an integral part of the Rules.

VI. Supervision and Penal Provisions

Immediate supervision of compliance with provisions of these Rules shall be exercised by the cave manager's employees, cave tour guides and guards who guide and give directions to visitors inside the caves. They shall all wear uniforms and badges with the cave manager's logo and their full names.

Immediate supervision of implementation of Cave Conservation Act provisions shall be exercised by inspectors of the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for the Environment and Spatial Planning responsible for the field of nature conservation.

In the event of visitor's violation of the rules, the guides and guards shall warn the visitor in question. In the event of serious violations by visitors or activities inside the cave that have resulted in damage to the cave environment, cave features and cave life forms, the cave manager's employees shall notify the responsible police station.

The following fines laid down in Article 49 of the Cave Conservation Act have been prescribed for violations:

- between EUR417 and EUR125,188 for legal entities;
- between EUR417 and EUR62,595 for responsible legal entities / responsible persons of sole proprietors / individuals;
- between EUR209 and EUR4,173.00 for individuals.

VII. Final Provision

The amended Rules come into effect on 27 May 2013.

Postojna, 27 May 2013

Chairman of the Management
Board of Postojnska jama d. d.
Marjan Batagelj