



Mladinska komisija pri Planinski zvezi Slovenije
Youth Commission of the Alpine Association of Slovenia

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**INTERNATIONAL
SKI TOURING CAMP IN SLOVENIA**

~ YC UIAA CAMP ~

Komna, JULIAN ALPS

26 January – 2 February 2008



REPORT

International Ski Touring Camp in Slovenia found a pleasant base-location in the mountain hut »Majerca« (1500 m), situated at plateau "Planina na Kraju" in Komna region (Beautiful Komna), Julian Alps.



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The peaks surroundings our mountain hut is a very beautiful environment for ski touring and the Beautiful Komna is a perfect starting-point for ski touring tours. Most of the surrounding peaks are over 2000 metres in height and they are very varied in difficulty for ascent or descent. Our big family included participants from Austria (2), Slovenia (7) and of course Slovene leadership team (guides, doctor). Everybody in the group was in good physical and skiing condition, and considering opinions of the participants and guides hope everybody really enjoyed in this camp. We skied a lot and had also course with lectures, demonstrations and practical part of winter mountaineering, skiing, avalanches etc.



List of tours and activities:



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Saturday, 26. 1. 2008

We gathered with all participants and leadership team at 10.00 a.m. at the meeting place at Savica (the hut »KOČA PRI SAVICI«, 653 m). We put our luggage on the transport cable car and hiked to the hut »DOM NA KOMNI« (1520 m) on Komna. When we reached the "DOM NA KOMNI", we took our backpacks, skies etc. and carried all to our hut "MAJERCA", 15 min away. After the lunch we have social afternoon, we get to know each other, played some games etc. The participants were acquainted with house order. We checked all the technical equipment, which we would need in next days, then followed the lecture, course about the avalanche rescue beacon, how to use it, what is the meaning of it etc. Then we explained about the next day tour, what we would do and what to take with.



Sunday, 27. 1. 2008

The first tour was through LEPA KOMNA (on skies) and pasture POLJANICA (1681 m) to MALA VRATA (1855 m) and to the top of KAL (2001 m). After the descent and nice skiing from the top of KAL, we had had longer time for resting on the pasture POLJANICA. We also demonstrated how to test the stability of snow cover. First we demonstrated the Norway method and then the participants from Austria demonstrated to us, how they do the test in Austria. We returned to our home for this week☺, hut MAJERCA. We realized that we had had the visit from Zdenka Mihelič, representative of MK PZS in YC UIAA; unfortunately we were too late by returning.

After the dinner we analysed together the first tour and the whole day. The guides introduced and explained the plan for the next day.



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Monday, 28. 1. 2008

This day we skied through LEPA KOMNA and POLJANICA and then we turned to the saddle (1875 m) between VRH NAD GRACIJO and LANŽEVICA. We climbed the LANŽEVICA (2003) and skied to east side. Then we climbed the VRH NAD GRACIJO and skied to GRACIJA and from there to our hut. Through all day we observe and checked the stable of snow cover and how it is changing, depending on position of mountain slopes.

In the afternoon we had the lecture, course about the snow avalanches and we discussed about the weather conditions

After the dinner we analysed the day, the tour, course, explained the plan for next day and prepared everything necessary.



Tuesday, 29. 1. 2008

Our tour led us through GRACIJA to the saddle BOGATINSKO SEDLO (1803 m). Because of snow conditions we were longer in the valley GRACIJA, the guides checked the conditions of snow cover, stability, and they decided to change the direction of the today tour – instead of ascent to the peak to VELIKA BABA (2016m), we choose LANŽEVICA (2003 m). From the top of LANŽEVICA we skied to the south side. Then we climbed (on skies of course) back to the saddle between VRH



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NAD GRACIJO and LANŽEVICA. Then we descended, skied to the north side to POLJANICA and from there through LEPA KOMNA to our hut.

In the evening we had an analyse of the day, preparation for the next day and some social games.



Wednesday, 30. 1. 2008

Because of not so good snow conditions and the fog the leaders team decided to make tour to KAL again, but from another approach. Through LEPA KOMNA we continued to pasture PLANINA POD KALOM. The fog was pretty thick and the weather conditions were not so good, so just 200 height-meters under the top we decided to turn. We skied to our hut the same way like we ascended. In the hut se were earlier, so we have enough time. We decided to have the course just there, instead on the tour. We divided the group in three groups on different terrain and with different subject/theme of the course. All three groups went through all three themes. We demonstrated, had practically exercises, exchanges of our experiences, opinions. In the first theme we exercised the movement and stopping with ice-axe (demonstration and practice), on the second we rescued a person under avalanche, probed in the avalanche (demonstration and practice), on the third spot we exercised how to search for person under the avalanche with the avalanche rescue beacon (demonstration and practice). All participants practiced all subjects.

After the dinner we analysed the day, the tour, course, explained the plan for next day, prepared everything necessary and played some games.



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Thursday, 31. 1. 2008

From the hut we went through GRACIJA to the saddle between MAHVAŠČEK (2008 m) and BOGATIN. We reached the saddle, but to the BOGATIN we didn't climb because of the fog and strong wind. We skied to SPODNJA KOMNA, pasture PLANINA GOVNJAČ (1470 m). Then we're ascending again the peak ZA GRADIČEM (1637 m) and skiing to our home. But on the ZA GRADIČEM fog became really thick, so we had to find right crossings to our hut. We found right way and came to the hut for really delicious lunch, which the cook Vinko prepared every day (and for breakfast, dinner) so gooOOood.

In the afternoon had had participants some free time, then in the evening followed the analyse of the day and the plan for the next day.



Friday, 1. 2. 2008

In Friday instead of going to the tour, we had to descent to the valley and carried our luggage to our cars. So we did the descent from the KOMNA to KOČA PRI SAVICI and then again ascent the same way till our hut. We had to do that because the managers of the hut DOM NA KOMNI



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cancelled the agreement to transport our luggage also back at the end of the camp to the valley. That unfortunately happened; it was first time in our history of 20 years of our Ski Touring camps.

In the evening we realized that this was the last evening together in this camp. So we talked about the whole week, made an analysis, the plan for the last day and then were following some games.

Saturday, 2. 2. 2008

That was our last day of our camp and great gathering, new friends, nice slope, a lot of practice and demonstration in the course...

We packed our backpacks, cleaned the hut and hiked to the valley, back to our starting point at the hut KOČA PRI SAVICI and said goodbye.

The camp was really successful.

The program, which we perform, was adjusted to participants, their abilities and weather conditions.

Everybody in the group really enjoyed in this camp and was satisfied with the program. We skied a lot and had also course with lectures, demonstrations and practical part of winter mountaineering, skiing, about avalanches, movement and stopping with ice-axe, rescuing, probed in the avalanche etc.



With our best mountaineering regards,



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Ljubljana, 30 May 2008
of

Jure Cencelj, the leader

the International Ski Touring Camp (YC UIAA camp)

(Photos: Andrej Kranjc and Lene Wolny)