

# IDRIJA

## SLOVENIA

### GEOLOGY

The geological record spans over 300 Ma, from the Carboniferous to the Paleogene and was marked by the formation of the Alps, when the Adriatic microplate collided with Europe. This complex history gave form to one of the most outstanding examples of mercury ore deposits in the world and 500 years of mining activity. The Geopark features an incredible network of caves, sinkholes and hidden streams.

### HIGHLIGHTS

1) Diving and trout fishing in the crystal-clear waters of the Idrija River in the Upper Idrijca Landscape Park. 2) Walking *Anthony's Mine Road* and visiting the interactive Hg Visitors Centre dedicated to mercury. In 2012, the mercury mining heritage was listed as UNESCO World Heritage. 3) Local bobbin lace is a UNESCO World Heritage-listed tradition and has its own festival. 4) Sample *Idrijski žlikrofi*, a Slovenian dish made from noodle dough with a potato filling.

### ABOUT THE PARK

Area: 294 km<sup>2</sup>

When to visit: Apr.–Oct.; Dec.

Geopark since: 2013

(RIGHT) THE GEOPARK USES THE AREA'S HERITAGE AND HISTORY TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS, IN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES.

