

Alpinizem, planinstvo, Češka koča in slovensko-češka vzajemnost

Ladislav Jirásko

Zgodovina planinstva in alpinizma na Slovenskem je tesno prepletena s češko-slovenskim prijateljstvom. Ljubezen do gora je že v 19. stoletju povezala naroda, ki sta v hribih prepoznala prostor svobode, lepote in sodelovanja.

Slovensko planinsko društvo (SPD) je bilo ustanovljeno leta 1893 v Ljubljani, k njegovemu nastanku pa so pomembno prispevali tudi Čehi, ki so takrat živeli v Sloveniji. Prvi predsednik je postal prof. Fran Orožen. V Pragi so leta 1897 člani Kluba čeških turistov ustanovili Češko podružnico SPD (ČP SPD), njen predsednik je postal prof. Karel Chodounský.

Simbol te povezave je Češka koča pod severno steno Grintovca, ki jo je leta 1900 zgradila prav Češka podružnica. Po prvi svetovni vojni je društvo prenehalo delovati, a koča je ostala. Leta 1949 jo je prevzelo Planinsko društvo Jezersko. Med številnimi skrbniki je izstopal legendarni Andrej Karničar, ki jo je kot upravnik vodil kar tri desetletja (1960–1996).

V sedemdesetih letih 20. stoletja je prišlo do ponovnega oživljanja slovensko-čeških planinskih vezi. Vrhunec tega sodelovanja je bilo praznovanje 90-letnice Češke koče leta 1990, ko se je na planini zbralo okoli 2500 obiskovalcev iz Slovenije in Češkoslovaške. V tem obdobju so se razvijale tudi prijateljske izmenjave: slovenski planinci so obiskovali Visoke Tatere in Češki raj, češki gorniki pa slovenske Alpe.

Povezovanje se nadaljuje tudi v novem tisočletju. Ob 110., 115. in 120. obletnici koče so pri njej potekala skupna srečanja. Leta 2015 je bil v vasi Jezersko odprt Park slovensko-čškega prijateljstva, dve leti kasneje pa je v Pragi znova zaživela Češka podružnica SPD, ki nadaljuje dejavnosti ČP SPD, ustanovljene leta 1897. Pobudnik tega projekta je dolgoletni zagovornik obnovitve češko-slovenskih vzajemnosti na področju turizma in alpinizma, inženir Ladislav Jirásko.

Posebno mesto ima tudi dokumentarni film Češka koča in češko-slovenska vzajemnost, ki je bil premierno prikazan leta 2022 in spremlja zgodbo sodelovanja od začetkov alpinizma do sodobnosti.

Avtor filma in razstave inž. Ladislav Jirásko je osrednja osebnost teh vezi. Že več desetletij neutrudno gradi mostove med narodoma, za kar je bil decembra 2024 odlikovan z redom za zasluge Republike Slovenije.

Veleposlaništvo Češke republike v Ljubljani je v sodelovanju s Planinsko zvezo Slovenije, občino Jezersko in avtorjem razstave gospodom Ladislavom Jiráskom razstavo ob 125. jubileju pripravilo v želji, da počasti simbolni in zgodovinski pomen Češke koče kot kraja srečevanja dveh narodov v objemu gora ter spodbudi nadaljnje medsebojno razumevanje, prijateljstvo in sodelovanje v planinskem duhu.

Alpinism, Mountaineering, The Češka Koča Hut, and Czech–Slovenian Relations

Ladislav Jirásko

The history of mountaineering and alpinism in Slovenia is closely intertwined with Czech–Slovenian friendship. As early as the 19th century, the love of the mountains united the two nations, who recognised the mountains as a place of freedom, beauty and cooperation.

The Slovenian Mountaineering Society (SPD) was founded in Ljubljana in 1893, with significant contributions from the Czech community living in Slovenia at the time. The Society's first president was Prof Fran Orožen. In 1897, members of the Czech Tourists' Club founded the Czech Branch of the SPD (ČP SPD) in Prague, with Prof Karel Chodounský as president.

A symbol of this connection is the Češka Koča hut, which was built by the Czech branch in 1900 below the north face of Grintovec. After World War I, the society ceased to function, but the mountain hut remained. In 1949, it was taken over by the Jezersko Mountaineering Society. Among its many caretakers, the legendary Andrej Karničar was particularly notable, having managed the hut for three decades (1960–1996).

The 1970s saw a revival of Slovenian–Czech mountaineering ties. The highlight of this collaboration was the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Češka Koča hut in 1990, when around 2,500 visitors from Slovenia and Czechoslovakia gathered on the mountain. During this period, friendly exchanges also developed: Slovenian mountaineers visited the High Tatras and the Bohemian Paradise, while Czech mountaineers visited the Slovenian Alps.

These connections continue into the new millennium. Joint meetings were held to celebrate the 110th, 115th and 120th anniversaries of the hut. In 2015, the Slovenian–Czech Friendship Park was opened in the Jezersko village, and two years later, the Czech branch of the SPD was revived in Prague, continuing the work of the SPD Czech Branch, founded in 1897. This project was initiated by Ladislav Jirásko, an engineer and long-time advocate of renewing Czech–Slovenian relations in the field of tourism and mountaineering.

The documentary film The Češka Koča Hut and Czech–Slovenian Relations, which premiered in 2022, also plays a special role. It tells the story of cooperation from the beginnings of alpinism to the present day.

Eng Ladislav Jirásko, the author of the film and exhibition, is the central figure in these connections. He has tirelessly built bridges between the two nations for decades, for which he was awarded the Order of Merit of the Republic of Slovenia in December 2024.

To honour the symbolic and historical significance of the Češka Koča hut as a meeting place of two nations in the embrace of the mountains, and to encourage further mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation in the spirit of mountaineering, the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ljubljana, in cooperation with the Alpine Association of Slovenia, the Municipality of Jezersko and Mr Ladislav Jirásko, the author of the exhibition, has prepared the exhibition to celebrate the mountain hut's 125th anniversary.



Veleposlaništvo České republiky v Ljubljani

