

Razmišljanja o slovenskih geoloških poteh

Reflections about the geologic trails in Slovenia

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Ključne besede: gološke poti, Slovenija

Key words: geologic trails, Slovenia

Kratka vsebina

V Sloveniji je več daljših in krajših geoloških poti. Avtor meni, da so primernejše krajše, vendar temeljiteje obdelane. Takšne zanimajo posameznike, koristne so tudi za šolske ekskurzije in naravoslovne dneve.

Abstract

In Slovenia exist several longer or shorter geologic trails. The author prefers shorter, but better prepared geologic trails. Such trails are more interesting to individuals, and they are useful also for school excursions and natural science days.

V tujini že dalj časa poznajo poti, ki vodijo po geološko zanimivih terenih, nahajališčih fosilov, mineralov in kamnin. Nekateri se odločijo za krajše poti pa te pripravijo zelo podrobno, drugi za daljše, morda bolj pregledne za večje pokrajine. Pred leti so tudi v Sloveniji začeli urejati takšne poti. Danes jih je že nekaj, ki so bolj ali manj uspele. Nekatere so temeljito pripravljene, druge so preveč dolge in nimajo pravega uspeha ali pomena, tretje niso dovolj pretehtane in do-delane. Poglejmo nekaj dobrih in slabih strani!

Najobsežnejši načrt ima osrednja tako imenovana slovenska geološka pot. Začel jo je pripravljati prof. dr. Stanko Buser. Najprej je bil urejen prvi odsek od Jezerskega do Jesenic in ta ima edini spremljevalno knjižico iz leta 1984. Načrt je bil nadvse obsežen, saj naj bi potekala od severovzhodne Slovenije preko Karavank, Julijskih Alp, skozi osrednjo Slovenijo poti Hrvaški. Nekateri so se celo navduševali o nadaljevanju po vsej takratni Jugoslaviji. Na prvem delu poti je vrsta geoloških zanimivosti, med drugim znamenita Dolžanova soteska z mladopaleozojskimi in triasnimi kamninami ter fosili. Svečana otvoritev drugega dela je bila pred leti v Ajdovščini pri Hublju, do kamor je bila speljana čez Julijske Alpe. Točke so bile označene, vendar spremljevalnega vodnika še danes nima.

In kaj se dogaja s to potjo? Društvo prijateljev mineralov in fosilov v Trzinu je s pomočjo geologov pripravilo načrt za pot, za-

njo pa naj bi skrbel Geološki zavod Slovenije. Kasneje so deloma zaradi reorganizacij in drugih vzrokov na obljube bolj ali manj vsi pozabili in danes ni nihče zadolžen zanj, da bi vsaj popravljaj poškodovane table. Glavna pomanjkljivost pa je, da po tolikih letih nima opisa v obliki knjižice ali vsaj morebitnih perspektiv celo do Ajdovščine ne, do koder je bila uradno odprta. Obiskovalci poti tako ne vedo, kaj pomenijo posamezne številke na tablah z napisom Slovenska geološka pot ter prekrizanimi kladivi. Poleg tega številni zbiralci fosilov, kamnin in mineralov kar hlatajo po novih najdbah ne samo ob geoloških poteh, ampak povsod, kjer dobijo podatke o tem. Morebitna pisna opozorila jih dobesedno vabijo in nekaj nahajališč je že močno opustošenih.

Osrednji slovenski geološki poti jih je sledilo več, med katerimi so celo kombinirane z drugimi zanimivostmi, tako da nekatere nimajo posebne geološke vrednosti. V Savinjski dolini je gozdno geološka učna pot okrog in skozi jamo Pekel. Bila je dovolj premišljena pripravljena in že od začetka jo spremlja drobna knjižica, namenjena predvsem šolski mladini. Točke so označene in celotna pot ni dolga. Vključuje vrsto geoloških zanimivosti, kot so fosili, tektonski pojavi, preperevanja, kraško polje s požiralniki, vrtače, na koncu pa obisk manjše, vendar prijetne in poučne kraške jame Pekel. Gozdarji so pripravili svoj del, ki obravnava predvsem izkoriščanje gozdov. Pot je dober primer kompleksnega pristopa. Pojav-

ljajo pa se drugi problemi. Odkar so v novi državi gozdarske službe reorganizirane, visi v zraku, kdo bo vzdrževal to in druge gozdne učne poti. Zaenkrat okrog Pekla še ni težav, saj so tamkajšnji turistični in drugi delavci dovolj zagnani.

Jeseni leta 2001 so odprli Vertovčevo pot od Ustja do Šmarij in nazaj do Ustja v Vipavski dolini. V prvi vrsti je posvečena velikemu pospeševalcu vinogradništva duhovniku Matiji Vertovcu, poteka pa mimo kulturnih spomenikov in nahajališč fosilov. Začne se pri Ustju, kjer je znano nahajališče numulitin z dvema novimi vrstami. Obiskovalci poti se srečajo še z alveolinami in drugimi foraminiferami. Spremljevalne knjižice sicer nima, tiskana pa je skromnejša zloženska, ki na kratko opozarja na geološke in druge zanimivosti. Škoda le, da niso pri pripravljanju poti bolj intenzivno sodelovali geologi, ker bi bilo sicer na tej zelo zanimivi in prijetni poti mogoče pokazati še marsikaj.

V okolici Velenja so geološke poti, namenjene predvsem šolam. Pod mentorstvom geologov so jih deloma pripravili učenci. Tudi te nimajo tiskanih napotkov. Ne vodijo pa po geološko posebno zanimivih krajih in zato niso najbolj privlačne.

Več poti in urejenih objektov je v Beli krajini. Deloma je poudarek na geoloških in speleoloških zanimivostih, deloma na prazgodovinskih, zgodovinskih, opozarjajo pa tudi na zanimivo floro in favno. Te poti niso dolge in so privlačne tudi za skupine mlajših in starejših obiskovalcev.

Po teh nekaj primerih lahko zaključimo naslednje. Geološke poti so zelo koristne za poglobljanje znanja in večanje zanimanja za geologijo ter za spoznavanje geološke zgradbe Slovenije. To je še posebno pomembno, ker so geološke vsebine v naših šolah slabo zastopane. Vsako pot ne glede na njeno dolžino pa je treba temeljito pripraviti in se odločiti za najprimernejšo traso. Zanimivost in privlačnost poti povečajo opozorila na vse dragocenosti in posebnosti, bodisi naravoslovne kakor tudi zgodovinske, umetnostno-zgodovinske in druge. Slovenska geološka pot ponekod dalj časa vodi po terenu, ki geološko ni posebno zanimiv in obiskovalec tam ne izve ničesar. V takšnem primeru je nevarnost, da se spremeni v običajno turistično ali plansko pot brez geološkega učinka.

Druga stvar je naslednja. Ob odprtju mora imeti pot jasne oznake in tiskan vodnik. Če

tega ni, so brez pomena celo deli, ki so geološko zelo zanimivi. Kot primer naj navedem planinsko kočo na Poreznu, na kateri je označena ena od točk slovenske geološke poti. Vprašal sem oskrbnika koče, kaj številka pomeni. Odgovoril mi je, da opozarja na kočo!

Omenimo še ropanje in uničevanje nahajališč fosilov in mineralov. Manj so v nevarnosti kamnine. Opozorila na ta nahajališča so enako problematična kot opozorila na zaščitene rastline ali živali. Zbiranje samo po sebi ni slaba stvar, če zbiralec najdbe pravilno shrani, zapiše podatke in podobno. Velika nevarnost pa je, da se čez leta naveliča svoje zbirke, jo zavrže ali vsaj zanemari. Še huje je, če zbiralec umre. Največkrat njegovi nasledniki za fosile in minerale nimajo nobenega smisla, zbirka ostane zanemarjena in počasi propade. Edina rešitev proti takim pojavom je vzgoja in nenehno opozarjanje na pomembnost naše naravne dediščine. Noben kodeks ali ohlapni zakon ne bosta preprečila negativnih pojavov zbiranja.

Premisliti bi bilo tudi treba, ali so koristnejše krajše poti s številnimi zanimivostmi in dobrim tiskanim vodnikom, ali obsežne skozi večje dele Slovenije, ki se kaj kmalu spremenijo v še eno od preštevilnih planinskih poti. V tujini imajo pogosto krajše pa zato res zanimive geološke poti. Za mnoge geološke ali drugačne poti vemo, da planinci po njih sicer radi hodijo in nabirajo pečate, vendar se pogosto ob tem za naravne in kulturne zanimivosti ob poti kaj malo zanimajo. Geološka pot na višji stopnji bi bila tista, ki se ne bi osredotočila samo na geologijo, ampak bi opozarjala še na rastlinstvo in živalstvo, na umetnostnozgodovinske, zgodovinske, etnografske in druge posebnosti.

Zaključimo z naslednjo ugotovitvijo. Geološke poti so brez dvoma koristne. Vendar je treba k načrtovanju pristopiti zelo premišljeno, se povezati z drugimi strokami, predvsem pa izdati spremljajoči vodnik ali prospekt (zloženko). Po mojem prepričanju so koristnejše krajše in vsestransko obdelane poti. Dogovoriti se je treba tudi za stalnega vzdrževalca poti, najbolje za kako ustanovo ali zavod.

Reflections about the geologic trails in Slovenia

Abroad exist already for a long time geologic trails that lead through geologically

interesting terrains with fossil, mineral and rock localities. Some visitors prefer shorter trails for which they get detailed information, and others longer trails that give insight into geology of wider areas. Several years ago also in Slovenia projecting of such trails was started. At present there are quite a number of them, some more and others less appropriate. Several of them are quite well designed, others are too long and not very successful, and some are not sufficiently well projected. Let us have a look at their good and bad sides!

The most ambitious project was the so-called Slovenian geologic trail. It was prepared initially by Prof. Dr. Stanko Buser. First its starting section from Jezersko to Jesenice was arranged, and only for it the accompanying guide-book from 1984 exists. Its scheme was the most extensive. It was planned to lead from northwest Slovenia along the Karavanke mountains across the Julian Alps and central Slovenia towards Croatia. Some geologists even proposed its continuation along entire former Yugoslavia. The first part of the trail contained a number of famous geologic points of interest, among others the world famous Dolžan gorge with Younger Paleozoic and Triassic rocks and fossils. The solemn inauguration of the second part of the trail was years ago at the Hubelj karst spring near Ajdovščina, to where the trail was lead across the Julian Alps. The trail stops were marked, but the accompanying guide-book was never written.

What is the present state of this trail? The project of the trail was prepared by the Society of friends of minerals and fossils in Tržič with assistance of several geologists. The trail should be maintained by the Geologic Survey of Slovenia. However, owing to reorganizations and other reasons the promises were largely forgotten, and at present not even the damaged plates at trail stops are repaired. The main disadvantage after so many years is the lack of an accompanying description in the form of a booklet or at least of folders for the part to Ajdovščina, to where the trail was officially established. The visitors of the trail therefore do not know the meaning of stop numbers on the plates bearing the inscription Slovenian Geologic Trail and the crossed hammers mark. On the other side, numerous collectors of fossils, rocks and minerals greedily search for new

finding localities not only along the geologic trails, but wherever they could get hold of any information on their existence. They are literally drawn to them by the eventual written information, which already lead to devastation of some localities.

The establishing of the principal Slovenian geologic trail was followed by arrangement of a number of other trails. Some of them were combined with other elements, so that their geologic value is not very high. In the Savinja valley exists the forestry and geologic trail to the Pekel karst cave and environs. The trail is sufficiently well designed and it is accompanied from its beginning by a thin booklet designed especially to the school children. The stops are marked and the trail is not long. Covered is a number of points of geologic interest, as fossil localities, tectonic phenomena, weathering features, a karst field with sinkholes and dolines, and at the end the small but pleasant and instructive Pekel water karst cave. The forestry experts prepared for their part a presentation mainly of the cultivation and exploitation of forests. The trail is a good example of a complex approach. Some other problems arose, however. After the reorganization of the forestry service in the new Slovenian state it is not clear yet who should be responsible for this and other forestry trails. At present there are no problems for the Pekel trail only thanks to the enthusiasm of local touristic and other workers.

In fall 2001 the Vertovec trail in the Vipava valley from Ustje to Šmarje and back was opened. The trail is principally devoted to the promotor of viticulture priest Matija Vertovec. Its course comprises cultural monuments and fossil localities. It starts at Ustje where there is a known nummulitic locality from which two new species were determined. The visitors can observe also alveolinas and other foraminifers. There is no printed guide-book but a modest folder that gives short information on geologic and other points of interest. It is a pity geologists did not cooperate more in the project, since on this very instructive and pleasant trail also other interesting features could be presented.

In the Velenje environs exist geologic trails designed mostly for schools. They were prepared in part by the pupils themselves under supervision of geologists. Also these trails are not accompanied by printed materials.

They, however, do not contain features of higher geologic interest, and are therefore not especially attractive.

A number of trails and natural objects were arranged in White Carniola. Their accent is in part on geologic and speleologic features, and in part on prehistoric, historic, floral and faunistic points of interest. These trails are not long, and they are attractive also to groups of younger or older visitors.

After these few examples the following conclusions could be made. The geologic trails are very useful for increasing the knowledge and arouse interest for geology in general, and geology of Slovenia in particular. This is even more important because of insufficient geologic education offered by our schools. However, each trail regardless of its length must be carefully prepared and its course placed most appropriately across the terrain.

The value and attraction of the trail is increased by including of various features, either of natural science or historic, artistic and other character. The Slovenian geologic trail in places crosses terrains of no appreciable geologic interest, and there the visitor cannot learn much. In such a case the geologic trail might turn into a usual touristic or mountaineering track without much geologic effect.

The other point is the following. At its inauguration the trail must be furnished with clearly marked stops and with a printed guide-book. If these are not available, even geologically extremely interesting features might be meaningless. An example is the alpine hut on Mt. Porezen that bears the plate with the number of the corresponding Slovenian geologic trail stop. I asked the alpine hut manager about the meaning of the number. He told me it denotes the hut!

Let us mention also the robbing and destroying of fossil and mineral localities. Less endangered are rocks. Making public the data on such localities is of the same dubious value as the data on protected plants and animals. Collecting them as such is not harmful if the collector duly conserves the find, notes the observations etc. A great danger, however, are collectors that some time later become disinterested in the collection and start to neglect it, or discard the collected materials. Even worse may happen after collectors' death. The descendants most usually do not have understanding for fossils and minerals, the collection becomes neglected and it slowly

disintegrates. The only help is education and incessant drawing attention to the importance of natural heritage. No regulations nor loosely written laws could prevent the negative aspects of amateur collecting.

Further it should be reconsidered what trails are more useful, whether shorter trails with numerous interesting points and good printed guide-books, or long trails across larger parts of Slovenia. The latter might soon turn to one more of the so many mountain tracks. Abroad there are frequent shorter, but more interesting geologic trails. And it is well known that many geologic and other trails are eagerly frequented by tourists who collect stamps on them but do not pay much attention to natural and cultural features along the trails. And a higher level geologic trail would not be concentrated on geology only, but also on flora and fauna, as well as artistic, historic, ethnologic and other features.

The following might be said at the end. The geologic trails are by all means useful. But it is important that they be planned very carefully, in association with other disciplines, and especially, be furnished with explanatory guide-books or folders. Also steady maintenance must be assured, the best by an institution.

The printed material of geologic trails

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