



Maja Kovač

Biology teacher and beekeeper

hello@example.com · +386 40 555 0199 · Ljubljana, Slovenia · example.com

I teach biology to fourteen-year-olds on weekdays and keep fourteen hives on two Ljubljana rooftops and a school garden the rest of the time. Six years of beginners' courses, sixty-two graduates, three harvests a year and a newsletter about all of it.

WORK

Biology teacher

2014-09 – Present

Gimnazija Vič · Ljubljana

Years 8 to 10 biology, the Thursday apiary club and the school garden. Wrote the school's first beekeeping module.

Beekeeper

2017-05 – Present

Own apiaries · Ljubljana

Fourteen hives across three sites, three harvests a year, a market stall, courses, talks and swarm collection.

Field assistant

2012-06 – 2014-08

National Institute of Biology · Ljubljana

Pollinator surveys on the Ljubljana marsh, which is where the meadow hives are now.

EDUCATION

Master of Biology Education

2010-10 – 2014-06

University of Ljubljana · Ljubljana

Thesis on pollinator diversity in urban gardens.

Beekeeping certificate

2016-10 – 2017-04

Slovenian Beekeepers' Association · Brdo

The 60-hour course, then the mentor year on a colleague's apiary.

SKILLS

Queen rearing

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Swarm control

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Honey extraction and jarring

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Teaching mixed-age groups

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Frame building and hive carpentry

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Pollinator surveys

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LANGUAGES

Slovenian

Native

English

Fluent

German

Conversational

CERTIFICATES

Beekeeping mentor licence

2021

Slovenian Beekeepers' Association

Honey sensory assessor

2023

Apimondia regional panel

TALKS

What a city can do for a bee

2022 to 2025

Ljubljana City Library, autumn series

Eleven talks last winter with the observation hive.

Keeping bees on a school roof

2024

National biology teachers' conference

How the Thursday club runs and what it costs.