



Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana



Mestna občina Ljubljana
City of Ljubljana



Gospodarsko razstavišče
Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre





The Velo-city conference series and ECF

1. Velo-city: The annual world cycling summit

The Velo-city conference is the annual flagship event of the European Cyclists' Federation (ECF). Since the Velo-city conference series took off in 1980 in Bremen, Germany, it has established itself as the annual world cycling summit, attracting thousands of high-level participants each year.

IN A NUTSHELL



1400+
participants



300+
speakers



60+

Countries represented by
participants



70+

exhibitors

Like no other event, Velo-city offers a knowledge exchange and policy transfer platform where advocates, cities, decisionmakers, academics and industry leaders meet to shape the future of cycling.

Each conference lasts four days with a programme of 6-7 plenary sessions and more than 55 parallel sessions. Velo-city also offers an exhibition, technical visits, social events and a bike parade. Velo-city conferences attract a growing number of 1,400 delegates, the so-called Velo-citizens.

Taking place on **14-17 June 2022** under the theme **Cycling the Change**, **Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana** will be jointly hosted by the European Cyclists' Federation (ECF), Gospodarsko

razstavišče d.o.o (GR), Dekon (PCO) and the City of Ljubljana.



Velo-city Goals

Spread high quality knowledge about cycling and sustainable transport planning at international level.

Give international visibility to the latest cycling innovations

Grow the recognition of cycling as an efficient, healthy, green mode of transport and promote its greater use.

Encourage the integration of cycle planning into wider transport, climate, land-use, health, social, economic and other relevant policies.

Seek involvement of all relevant stakeholders (policy makers, cycling advocates, associations, academia, industry, experts).

Involve and support local cycling associations and civil society organizations.

than to fly to the conference. However, we promote and offer information on sustainable alternatives by bike (EuroVelo), train and bus.



Values

Programme excellence. We set up a high-quality conference programme with selected international speakers.

Gender balance. We are committed to enhancing gender balance in our conferences and have a no 'manel' policy.

Geographical diversity. We believe cycling voices from all over the world should be heard and represented.

Environmental responsibility. We strive to make our conferences paperless and produce as little waste as possible

Sustainable transport. We are aware that sometimes our delegates have no other option



2. ECF – the European Cyclists’ Federation

Founded in 1983, the European Cyclists’ Federation (ECF) is a Brussels-based independent non-profit association dedicated to achieving more and better cycling for all in Europe. ECF is the single European umbrella organisation for cycling for both transportation and leisure.

With more than 70 member organisations in over 40 countries, ECF unites the European cycling movements as the only civil society voice at the pan-European level, and as the world’s largest and best-known cyclists’ advocacy organisation



 ECF Associate Member

 ECF Full Member



Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana

Cycling the Change

Meet the host city: Ljubljana, the hidden gem of Europe

The City of Ljubljana is one of the most successful recent examples of a city that decided to push sustainable mobility by closing its city centre to cars and prioritise pedestrians and cyclists over individual motorised traffic. As a result, the ambitious cycling city has received multiple awards in recognition of its sustainable urban development policies, including European Green Capital 2016, European Mobility Week 2003 and 2013, Prize for Urban Public Space 2012, Access City Award 2015 and 2018, European Best Green Capital in 2021 and Best European Destination 2022.

IN A NUTSHELL



16%

Cycling modal share



800+

Bike sharing bikes



300+

Km of bike lanes implemented



6

Bike parks

Over the past decade, the City of Ljubljana has implemented many measures for more cycling: **Revamping public space:** In 2015, under the flag of reclaiming public space for people, the City of Ljubljana closed Slovenska cesta, one of its main traffic arteries connecting the city from north to south, to motorised traffic. Slovenska cesta, a street that until 2013 did not even have a bike lane, is now a shared space for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.

Infrastructure: Ljubljana has a cycle network of more than 300 km of cycle lanes, which continues to grow every year. In 2021, the Slovenian capital built several 10 kilometres of

cycle lanes. Ljubljana also boasts 17 ha of pedestrian zone where cycling is allowed and motorised traffic restricted.

Cycling is also allowed in opposite direction in more than 120 one-way streets. Ljubljana also has three bike parks for mountain biking and BMX bikes.

Safe parking: In 2021 and 2022, the City of Ljubljana installed around 300 new bike racks to sustain the rapid increase in the number of cyclists. This year, the city plans to establish an underground bicycle garage for over 100 bicycles.

Bike sharing: Ljubljana's bike-sharing scheme, Bicikelj, is one of the most successful schemes in the EU. Each bike is rented out

eight times per day on average. With more than 80 stations and 800 bicycles, 17% of Ljubljana's residents use it regularly. In 2022 Ljubljana will establish an e-bike sharing system.

Promotion: The City of Ljubljana regularly informs the public about the latest cycling development through campaigns and events such as the European Mobility Week.

3. The Velo-city Programme

From national cycling strategies to beating the bikelash, creative campaigns for more cycling and innovative placemaking practices, this year's Velo-city programme will once again host a variety of voices from the sustainable mobility scene.

IN A NUTSHELL



60+
Sessions



350+
Speakers



5
Technical visits & outdoor sessions



1
Bike parade, networking dinner party and welcome reception

Main Theme: Cycling the Change

Cycling plays a key role in driving and maintaining the increase in active mobility beyond the COVID-19 crisis and is crucial to achieving our global climate goals. It offers a great solution to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels and represents the "wind of change", also in urban development. It reveals itself in infrastructural redesign, the reallocation of public space and the development of new sharing concepts. It aims at building cities for people and finding innovative

approaches to provide services to citizens and bring people closer together. Cycling improves our quality of life and, therefore, has to be part of the "new normal".

Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana's main theme covers the following five subthemes:

- **Rethinking urban space**
- **Focus on citizens, stakeholders and community**
- **Policies for more cycling**
- **Green tourism, green economy**
- **Urban mobility innovation**

Plenary sessions overview

Plenary 1: Cycling the Change

Cycling plays a key role in driving and maintaining the increase in active mobility beyond the COVID-19 crisis and is crucial to achieve our global climate goals. It offers a great solution to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels and represents the "wind of change", also in urban development. It reveals itself in infrastructural redesign, the reallocation of public space and the development of new sharing concepts. It aims at building cities for people and finding innovative approaches to provide services to citizens and to bring people closer together. Cycling improves our quality of life and, therefore, has to be part of the "new normal".

Speakers:

- **Jan Gehl**, Architect and Professor of Urban Design from Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Jean-Francois Decaux**, Chairman & Co-CEO of the Executive Board of JCDecaux SA, France
- **Violeta Bulc**, former European Commissioner for Transport and Mobility, CEO, Vibacom, Slovenia
- **Heather Thompson**, CEO, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy -ITDP, USA
- **Emmanuel John**, President, Africa Urban Cycling Organization, Nigeria

Plenary 2: Policies for More Cycling - from National Strategies to Traffic Reducing Measures

Cycling answers to many of the world's most complex challenges on the local, regional, national, European and global level is long. In recognition of these benefits, cycling, as well as the development and implementation of an integrated cycling policy, is put high on the political agenda. From international declarations to national cycling strategies and traffic reducing policies, there are many different ways to foster #MoreCycling.

Speakers:

Moderator: Karen Vancluysen, Secretary General, Polis

Introductory speakers:

- **Georges Gilkinet**, Vice Prime Minister and Federal Minister for Mobility, Belgium
- **Oliver Luksic**, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Digital and Transport, Germany
- **Robert Thaler**, Austrian Head of Department on Active Mobility and Mobility Management and Vice-Chair of Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), Austria

Panel discussion:

- **Line Barfod**, Deputy Mayor, Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Prof Kozelj**, Deputy Mayor, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Filip Watteuw**, Deputy Mayor, Ghent, Belgium
- **Simona Larghetti**, Bologna City Councilor and Metropolitan City Councilor in charge of mobility/cycling policy, Bologna, Italy

Regional Plenary 3: Political Courage for Breakthrough Decisions

Bringing together Mayors of Balkan cities and members cities of CIVINET Slo, Cro and SE Europe, the regional plenary will highlight the kind of breakthrough decisions that are needed to develop a cycling mentality amongst citizens. In a region that is very car-oriented, taking such decisions can prove very difficult. We will hear about the different challenges these cities encountered and how they overcame them. The plenary session will also put the spotlight on the importance of knowledge transfer between cities.

Speakers:

- **Zoran Janković**, Mayor, City of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Miloš Vučević**, Mayor, City of Novi Sad, Serbia
- **Dražko Stanivuković**, Mayor, City of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Dr. Ivan Vuković**, Mayor, City of Podgorica, Montenegro
- **Mato Franković**, Mayor of Dubrovnik, Croatia
- **Benjamina Karić**, Mayor of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Plenary 4: Focus on Citizens, Stakeholders and Community

People's opinions and responses to new solutions are important. The cycling community and the necessary infrastructure are growing and gaining importance. How can we bring citizens, policymakers and businesses on board? On one hand, aligning the public opinion with expert and political perspectives can be challenging, on the other hand, ideas and suggestions from citizens and various stakeholders help decision-makers to find better solutions for all. This plenary session will explore how advocates are working hard to build programmes and initiatives to grow the acceptance for positive change in our cities. It is time to shift towards more resilient, inclusive and healthy urban landscapes for all!

Speakers:

Moderator: Saskia Kluit, Senator, The Netherlands

- **Introductory presentation: Edwin Heesakkers**, Managing Director of the Innovation Hub West of EIT Urban Mobility
- **High-level Panel Discussion**
 - **Jenn Dice**, President and CEO, People for Bikes, USA
 - **Jill Warren**, CEO, European Cyclists' Federation
 - **Ana Carboni**, Director, Brazilian Cyclists' Union, Brazil
 - **Sarah Mitchell**, CEO, Cycling UK, United Kingdom
 - **Ann-Kathrin Schneider**, CEO, ADFC, Germany

Plenary 5: The Growing Economic Benefits of Cycling Tourism

In recent years, cycling tourism has moved into the mainstream. According to data from ADFC, 42 million Germans took at least one day trip by bike in 2021. That's eleven million more than in the previous year! This growth has significant benefits for the wider tourism sector and the European society more generally. In this session we will be exploring why cycling tourism is a perfect tool for a green transition of the tourism sector and how it brings us closer to a zero carbon future while supporting local economies. We'll also consider how it can introduce more people to everyday cycling.

Moderator: **Henk Swarttouw**, President, European Cyclists' Federation

Speakers:

- **Alessandra Priante**, Director Europe, United Nations World Tourism Organisation – UNWTO, Italy
- **Petra Stuček**, CEO at Ljubljana Tourism and President of The Board at European Cities Marketing ECM, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Alex Crevar**, journalist, editor and consultant dedicated to responsible tourism, USA
- **Blaz Kurnik**, Head of the EEA, Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation group, European Environment Agency.
- **Camille Thome**, CEO, Vélo & Territoires, France
- **Thomas Larsen Schmidt**, President of IMBA, Denmark

Plenary 6: **Urban Mobility** **Innovation**

There are many available solutions to meet today's urban mobility challenges, some requiring important technological developments others less. What will the future of urban mobility look like and what innovations will influence the way we move in our cities? Depending on the regulatory framework that our urban mobility systems operate in, this future can go in various directions. During this session, different stakeholders will confront their visions and discuss the latest urban mobility innovations. How will active mobility fit in?

Speakers

- **Philippe Crist**, Advisor Innovation and Foresight at the International Transport Forum
- **Matthew Baldwin**, Deputy Director General, DG Move, European Commission
- **Dr Vassilis Agouridas**, Head of EU Public Co-Creation & Ecosystem Outreach, Airbus
- **Bronwen Thornton**, CEO, Walk 21, UK
- **Victoria Markewitz**, Partnerships Director, Via Transportation, Germany
- **Kevin Mayne**, CEO, Cycling Industries Europe
- **James Lancaster**, Head of European Mobility Innovation, Partnerships & Policy, Enterprise Holdings, UK
- **Mette Granberg**, Transport Planner, HSL Helsinki Region Transport, Finland

Plenary 7: **Rethinking** **Urban Space**

Planning public space is just as important as implementing it. The pandemic brought new ideas, challenges and opportunities for cities. Moreover, it shed light on the need to give even more attention to a healthy lifestyle. We need greater accessibility also beyond city centres without depending on fossil fuels. Many cities are therefore rethinking their urban mobility systems and streetscapes are being redesigned with better walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure to allow people to re-connect. Cycling is a key solution for a more liveable and resilient urban future. Join this prestigious session to hear from elected officials around the world how they are rethinking urban space and creating accessible, safe, clean, shared and functional spaces for people.

Speakers

- **Mojca Mavec**, TV presenter and travel journalist, Slovenia
- **Burkhard Jung**, Mayor, Leipzig, Germany
- **Corine Mauch**, Mayor, Zurich, Switzerland
- **Rodney Ellis**, Harris County Commissioner, Texas, USA
- **Sigrid Z. Heiberg**, Deputy Chair of the Urban Development Committee, Oslo, Norway
- **Karl Falkenberg**, former Director-General for Environment, European Commission, consultant, Germany

The Velo-city Exhibition

Where cities and regions discover the latest cycling innovations!

Bringing together stakeholders from the **public sector** with actors from the **private sector**, Velo-city's exhibitions aim to **accelerate the building of bike friendly cities and beyond!**

Key areas:

- Cycling infrastructure & safety
- Smart cycling, ITS & AI
- Bike-sharing and micromobility
- Urban mobility
- Cycling expertise
- Cycle logistics

The Velo-city 2022 exhibition will host more than 50 exhibitors coming from all over Europe. The delegates will be able to discover the latest cycling innovations showcased in more than 3000 m² of exhibition halls. The exhibition will be located at the heart of the conference and will be a unique space to learn, network, and foster new partnerships. An outside test track will offer Velo-cityizens the possibility to test the latest bicycles!

The exhibition area will also include the Freewheel Stage - a new stage that will highlight initiatives and experiences that contribute to more cycling.

Lastly, all coffee breaks and lunch breaks during the event will take place on the exhibition, as well as the very first social event of the Velo-city conference: the Welcome Reception (Tuesday 14 June, 17.30 - 19.30).

The Velo-city 2022 exhibition will be the meeting point between the industry and cities looking to better equip their streets for safer and more cycling.

Find out about the organisations exhibiting at Velo-city 2022 Ljubljana here:

<https://www.velo-city2022.com/en/SPONSORS-AND-EXHIBITORS.html>

Technical visits

During the Velo-city conference every day delegates will have the possibility to discover Ljubljana's cycling developments by taking part in technical visits led by experts in small groups on a bike.

Discover the 5 tours here below:

TOUR 1:

THEMATIC CYCLING ROUTES TOUR – 120min

TOGETHER ON A 11-KILOMETRE-LONG MIX OF THEMATIC WAYS

The aim of the thematic cycling paths is to establish attractive cycling links between various parts of Ljubljana along less busy streets for daily commutes by bicycle. Since 2014, we have marked four thematic cycling paths: Waterside path (12km), Plečnik's path (14km), Forest path (7km), and the path around Ljubljana along the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship (32km). In this tour we are going to see the mix of all 4 of them.

TOUR 2:

THE OLD CITY TOUR – 60min

HOW HAVE WE TURNED OUR CITY CENTRE, CONGESTED WITH MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC, INTO A PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING FRIENDLY PUBLIC SPACE?

We gradually completely renovated the city centre and redesigned it into a pedestrian area with a size of more than 13 ha. One of the most visible measures for introducing a high-quality public space in the city centre is the rearrangement of a part of the main traffic axis - Slovenska cesta - into an area dedicated to pedestrians, cyclists and city bus users (shared space). By building or renovating 13 bridges over the Ljubljanica, we linked the embankments and shortened the distances.

TOUR 3:

"WATERSIDE CYCLING TOUR" TOUR – 120min

TOGETHER ON A WATERSIDE CYCLING ROUTE

With its numerous interesting bridges and picturesque embankments, the river Ljubljanica gives the old centre of Ljubljana an unmistakable air. The river served as the city's principal commercial artery and supply route from Roman times until the arrival of the railway in the mid-nineteenth century. The architect Jože Plečnik left a decisive mark on the city with his arrangement of the river embankments in the old town centre, designing tree-lined promenades and creating or renovating a series of bridges over the river and its tributaries. The Ljubljanica embankments are today a lively gathering place with numerous outdoor cafés. The Waterside Cycling Route links the urban environment with some of the less well known areas of Ljubljana and the surrounding countryside. The entire route runs along the banks of the Ljubljanica, the river that gives the city its special charm.

TOUR 4:

CYCLING AS PART OF INTERMODALITY TOUR – 90min

HOW ARE WE REDUCING THE NUMBER OF CARS IN THE CITY CENTRE WITH THE P+R SYSTEM?

The P+R system (P+R stands for park and ride) is a combination of private and public transportation, which allows users to reach the main points on the city outskirts or the radial roads with their cars and continue their journey to the city by bus or a bicycle from the BicikeLJ bike-sharing system. The bicycle is accessible by a 7-day ticket or an annual subscription. By paying a parking fee of 1.30 euros, the P+R system users are entitled to two bus rides on the same day. This way, the number of cars in the city centre is reduced. In Ljubljana, there are six P+R facilities that operate within the P+R system.

TOUR 5:

LEISURE CYCLING TOUR – 60min

HOW ARE WE TRANSFORMING BROWNFIELD SITES INTO PUMP TRACKS OR GREEN SURFACES?

Since the bicycle parks caused such widespread thrill, we have decided to keep turning some degraded areas into pump tracks. At the intersection of the streets Linhartova and Topniška cesta, we have arranged the new bicycle park KoloPark Bežigrad within the European Mobility week 2017. Like KoloPark Šiška it also offers free-of-charge fun and practice with all kinds of self-propelled vehicles, from bikes, kick scooters, skateboards, inline skates, to roller skates and foot-propelled bikes.

Social events

Velo-city is as much about exchanging knowledge and getting inspired by best practices as having fun while networking with like-minded fellow Velo-citizens! Check out Velo-city 2022's social events:

VELO-CITY 2022 BIKE PARADE

Join the bike parade and celebrate cycling with all Velo-city participants and the citizens of Ljubljana!

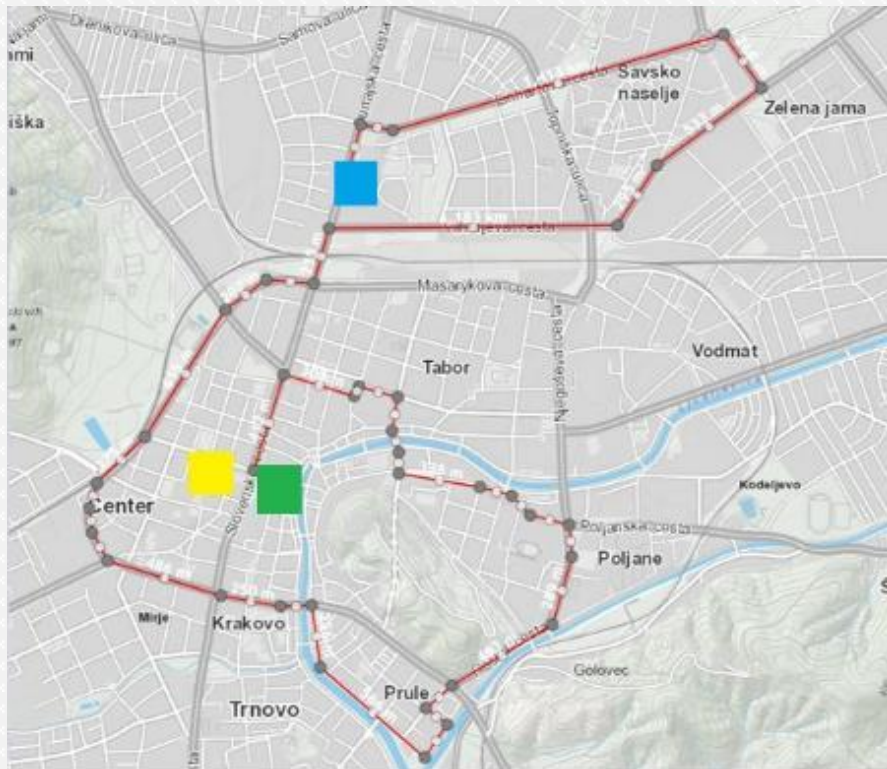
The Bike Parade is a highlight for many conference participants. It is a giant bike tour through the main streets of the city, open to all citizens. Bicycles will be provided to all registered Velo-city delegates at GR just beforehand. To end the parade in a relaxed and festive atmosphere everyone is invited to join the cycling festival afterwards with drinks and food trucks (at own cost), concerts, an open-air party and other surprises at the Congress Square.

When: Wednesday, 15 June 2022

Start: 7 p.m.; in front of GR – Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre at Dunajska Street (<https://www.ljubljanafair.com/>; Gospodarsko razstavišče, Dunajska cesta 18) (see blue square on the map)

Finish: between 7.45 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.; at the Congress Square in the city centre (Kongresni trg) – the location of the open-air cycling festival until 10.00 p.m. (see green square on the map)

Length: The cycling parade track is approx. 10 km long and will take you through the city: (see red line on the map)



BIKE FESTIVAL: “Cycling the change”

Join the bike festival where more than 20 organisations, associations, institutions and interest groups working in the field of cycling and other forms of sustainable mobility, traffic safety, urban planning, environmental protection, sports, health, culture, are actively shaping and co-creating the programme of the cycling festival. Discussions, creative and staging activities, workshops, cycling tours, presentations of various bicycles, traffic safety games and courses will be at the heart of the festival and a stage in Congress Square will offer musical, theatrical and other cultural performances.

Food and drinks will be available at food trucks at own cost and in the evening after the bike parade there will be concerts and an open-air party! Are you ready?

Wednesday, 15 June 2022

Start: 10 a.m.; End: 10 p.m.

Location: Congress Square in the city centre (Kongresni trg) (see green square on the map)



Photo: cycling festival at the Congress Square (2012)



Photo left: European mobility week 2019 – street festival

Photo right: concert at the Congress Square (event Junij v Ljubljani)

NETWORKING DINNER PARTY – LJUBLJANA CASTLE

On the green hill in the middle of the city, behind ancient walls, is a rich world full of history and culture. Whenever you want to get closer to the sun, or when you need a different view of the world, food for your soul or a delicious meal, it is a good time to climb to the Ljubljana Castle.

This year's Velo-city networking dinner will take place in the magnificent courtyard of the Ljubljana castle. Musical performances and a special atmosphere thanks to “enlightening **cycling**” will make this evening unforgettable. If after the dinner you still have some energy, a DJ set will make sure you hit the dancefloor!

When: Thursday, 16 June 2022, starting at 8 p.m.

Location: Ljubljana castle, Grajska planota 1, 1000 Ljubljana

<https://www.ljubljanskigrad.si/en/>

How to get to the castle ? <https://www.ljubljanskigrad.si/en/plan-your-visit/how-to-get-to-the-castle-en-us/>; bus transfers for Velo-city participants will also be organised.



Photo left: Ljubljana Castle (panorama)

Photo right: example of an event in the Ljubljana castle courtyard (Cinema under the stars event)

European Cyclists' Federation asbl

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