

## Klavže

The Klavže barrages are water dams behind which the water has accumulated. With the help of the Klavže barrages the Idrija miners regulated the inconstant flow of the Idrija river thus enabling the lumber rafting of the wood all the year round. At first the barrages were made of wood and stone in the form of the so-called “kašte”. After the year 1770 these were replaced by properly constructed Klavže barrages. The Klavže barrages have been built on selected locations in order to be able to be tightly embedded into the riverbed of the water course.

The first and also the biggest as well as the most powerful barrages are the **Idrijske Klavže barrages located** on the Idrijca River (constructed in the year 1595). At the construction of the Small HPP Mrzla Rupa on the Idrijca River these have been refurbished by the company Soške elektrarne together with the museum “Mestni muzej Idrija”.

### Photos:



Photo 1: Idrijske Klavže barrages



Photo 2: Idrijske Klavže barrages



Photo 3: Idrijske Klavže barrages



Photo 4: Idrijske Klavže barrages



Photo 5, 6: Idrijske Klavže barrages

The youngest barrages, however, are the **Kanomeljske Klavže barrages**. These were left to their gradual decay after the operating in the 20ies of the past century terminated. Only smaller maintenance works were carried out until a possible reutilization of the Klavže barrages for economic purposes was discussed.

The refurbishment of the Kanomeljske Klavže barrages, which started in the Autumn of the year 2001 and terminated in the year 2005, was closely connected to the construction of the Small HPP Klavžarica. The barrages after having regained their original appearance, serve as the dam of the accumulation lake for the HPP Klavžarica. The refurbishment was carried out by the company Soške elektrarne Nova Gorica, the Ministry of Culture and the museum "Mestni muzej Idrija". Thus an important part of the Slovenian cultural heritage has come to life again.

**Photos:**



Slika 7: Kanomeljske Klavže barrages



Slika 8: Kanomeljske Klavže barrages