

WELCOME TO THE SOCA RIVER



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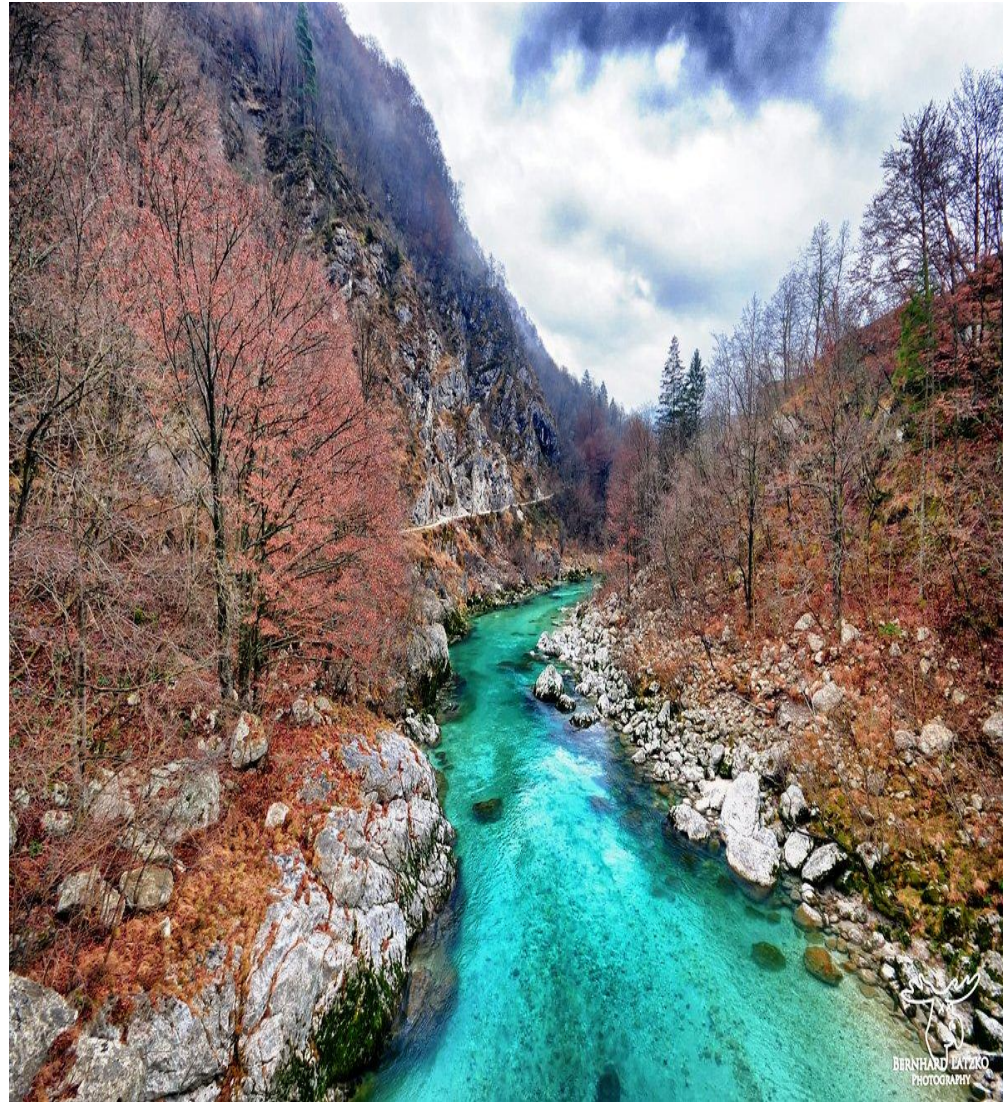
The river **Soča** ([Italian Isonzo](#)) is a river in West [Slovenia](#) and North [Italy](#). An Alpine river in character, Soča has its source 1100 m high in the [Julian Alps](#), west from Mt. [Triglav](#). Flowing south past Bovec, [Kobarid](#), Tolmin, Nova Gorica and [Gorizia](#), it enters the [Adriatic Sea](#) near Monfalcone in Italy. The valley of Soča was the stage of major military operations (*The Isonzo Front*) in the [First World War](#), which took over 500,000 human lives on both Austrian and Italian side. The famous and unique is the Soča [trout](#) ([Slovenian Soška postrv](#)), [*Salmo trutta marmoratus*], also named the Marble trout, who lives in the upper stream of crystal-clear river and is the endemic fish species of the river basin of the [Adriatic Sea](#).



Major changes in the watershed

The present course of the river is the result of several dramatic changes that occurred during the past 2,000 years. According to the [Roman](#) historian [Strabo](#), the river named Aesontius, which in Roman times flowed past [Aquileia](#) to the Adriatic Sea, was essentially the [Natisone](#) and [Torre](#) river system.^[6] In 585, a landslide cut off the upper part of the Natisone riverbed, causing its [avulsion](#) and subsequent [stream capture](#) by the Bontius River. The original subterranean discharge of the Bontius into the [Timavo](#) became obstructed, and another avulsion returned the new watercourse into the bed of the lower Natisone.

During the next centuries the estuary of this new river—the Soča—moved eastward until it captured the short coastal river Sdobba, through which the Soča now discharges into the Adriatic Sea. The former estuary (of the Aesontius, and the early Soča/Isonzo) in the newly formed lagoon of [Grado](#) became an independent coastal rivulet. [7]





Name

The river was recorded in antiquity as *Aesontius*, *Sontius*, and *Isontius*. Later attestations include *super Sontium* (in 507–11), *a flumine Isontio* (1028), *in Lisonçum* (1261), *an die Ysnicz* (1401), and *an der Snicz* (ca. 1440). The Slovene name *Soča* is derived from the form **Sq̄ta*, which was borrowed from Latin (and Romance) *Sontius*.



Prior to the [First World War](#), the river formed part of the border between [Kingdom of Italy](#) and the [Austro-Hungarian Empire](#). During World War I, it was [the scene of bitter fighting](#) between the two countries, culminating in the [Battle of Caporetto](#) in 1917.

Due to its [emerald](#) green water, the river is also known under the name "The Emerald Beauty". It is said to be one of the rare rivers in the world that retain such a colour throughout their length. ^[2] The Soča inspired the poet [Simon Gregorčič](#) to write his best-known poem *Soči (To the Soča)*, one of the masterpieces of





The Soča is also well known for its unique [trout](#) species [Salmo marmoratus](#) (known as the marble trout), which lives in the upper course of the crystal-clear river. This species is endangered due to the introduction of other non-indigenous trout species sometime between World War I and World War II. [\[3\]](#) This region served as a film location for the 2008 [Disney](#) film *Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*. [\[4\]](#)

This river is listed by UNESCO.



A photograph of a window covered in raindrops. The word "Goodbye" is written in a dark, cursive font across the center of the glass. The background is a blurred, colorful scene, possibly a sunset or a city street at night, with warm tones of red, orange, and yellow. The raindrops are of various sizes and are scattered across the entire surface of the window, creating a textured, slightly out-of-focus effect.

Goodbye