

Postcards from the Triglav National Park (1)

Description

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Composting toilet Triglav National Park covered with stickers from appreciative visitors

My original plan for this summer was to start walking the Via Alpina, which traverses the arc of the Alps from Trieste to Nice or thereabouts. The first part through Slovenia, however, did not sound that much fun so I decided to spend a week instead wandering through the Triglav National Park. Having skirted the honeypot of Bled by bus, we walked to the road end and the boundary of the National Park below the wonderful Pokljuka Gorge. Without any song or dance there was a composting toilet, just where visitors might need to go.

The contrast with the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority (LLTNPA)'s approach to public toilet provision was striking. The LLTNPA turned its back on composting toilets, falsely claiming they don't work in winter, and has gone for flushing toilets. Away from sewerage systems, these are very expensive to construct due to regulations on the disposal of waste water and, as a result, toilet provision in the National Park is completely inadequate. To rub salt into the public wound the few public toilets the LLTNPA does provide have been beset with problems and are often closed.

We saw no crap or toilet paper on the ascent of the Pokljuka gorge, a contrast to the main path up the Cobbler, for example, and many of the permit areas where camping is allowed under the camping bylaws. Composting toilets would provide a relatively cheap and sustainable solution, but there is no mention of either the problem or the solution in the LLTNPA's consultation on their statutory 10 year review of the camping bylaws ([see here](#))

Category

1. Loch Lomond and Trossachs
2. National Parks

Tags

1. Camping bye laws
2. LLTNPA
3. visitor management

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