

## About us

One of the most well-known dormitories in Slovenia, Dijaški Dom Drava, is located in the heart of Maribor. A 20-minute walk through the center and over the Old Bridge separates it from II. gimnazija Maribor. The Old Town, where the majority of cultural monuments, cafes, shops and night clubs are, is only a 10-minute walk away.

DD Drava is a four-level building, where study-classrooms, dining room, library, music room, gym, outside playground, “youth” room (designed especially for students and their time together spent through watching television, chatting, relaxing), bicycle shed, billiard room, and many more are interconnected and easily accessible through any part of the dorm.

There are about 360 students in the dorm, each sharing a room with one to two other students of the same sex. Probably one of the most convenient aspects of the dorm, according to students, is the fact that only two rooms share one bathroom, which separates the two rooms. In that way, living is much more comfortable.

Educators are members of the staff, and each of them is responsible for a different group of students. Their offices are on the floors where the rooms of the students belonging to their groups are situated. The educators’ role is to create a healthy bond with the students through regular conversations and in that way be aware of students’ mental and physical condition, always be there for them, and provide them with the sought help regarding studying or any other aspect. Educators are well-informed about each student’s success at school, since they are directly connected to school. It is crucial for every student to feel safe, respected, valued and listened which is exactly what the educators are trying to accomplish. In such way, our experience has shown, students are much more productive at school and socially

We will not hesitate to mention how valuable we find the ethnic and national differences between students. Therefore, our tendency is to bring together students who are seemingly different, and in such way create a holistic society that helps every student constantly learn even outside the classroom. However, we also leave students the possibility to choose the roommate, primarily according to their wishes.

The mission of our dorm is to establish a positive, productive, and creative atmosphere in a dynamic environment that would encourage students to become actively involved in various extracurricular activities, and share their thoughts and experiences with other fellow students and educators. Our goal is to create stronger-

willed individuals who will be able to “take the reins of the future,” and subsequently change the mentality for the better.

## **Life**

Life at the dorm is fun. Someone is always there to hang out, help regarding schoolwork, or watch a movie. We try to make living at the dorm similar to living at college -- there is a roommate, a shared bathroom and space, the responsibility of doing one’s own laundry. Our experience has shown that students who manage to deal with these kinds of “challenges” are usually those who never encounter any problems while living with others at college.

The dorm mates become great friends, and the dorm educators, or often referred to as “parents” will always be there to support every step of the way. The fact that students start referring to the dorm as “second home” never fails to surprise, and at the same time delight us, since that means that we managed to accomplish our goal of providing the best possible experience for each student.

## **Food**

It is sometimes hard to find a free table. Food at the dorm is great! Having a meal in the dining hall often becomes a smaller social event, since chatting with friends is usually what students need to relax after hard-working day. There is a variety of tasty, healthy choices, and the food menu never gets old. Should one have any food preferences, it is always possible to notify the educator, and the menu will be changed accordingly. Furthermore, the food slots are active anytime if there is interest.

## **Where to find us?**

## ZEMLJEVID

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### **Thoughts of our students about living in Dijaški dom Drava Maribor**

**“Living in the Dorm Drava for two years has been a great experience. I have had the opportunity to meet various new people and also to enjoy my free time at the Dorm's piano room as well as the gym.”**

**Kristina Vasić**

**“I will never forget my educator Simona Lešnik who was my “second mother” while I was living at the dorm. She was always there to listen, assist, support, advise, care, understand, and truly be proud and happy whenever I made an achievement. I will not hesitate to mention my roommate, who allowed me to study with the lights on during the night, and who was incredibly patient with me. I made some wonderful friends here, whom I will never forget. This is not an empty talk, for it would not be possible for me to achieve everything I did if it was not for the wonderful staff members who were always friendly, polite and helpful. They never insisted but rather asked, they never got mad but rather understood, and they never turned their backs but rather helped. I loved it here.”**

**Jana Jelušić**