

PRONUNCIATION KEY TO THE SLOVENIAN ALPHABET

Slovenian alphabet has 25 letters: *A B C Č D E F G H I J K L M N O P R S Š T U V Z Ž*

Ō, Ū and sometimes *Č* (pronounced as Č) and *Đ* (pronounced as DŽ) are used only in proper names.

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Phonetic value</u>	<u>As in</u>
a	<a>	riba /'ri:ba/
	<a:>	mati /'ma:ti/
	<ʌ>	čas /tʃʌs/
b		biti /'bi:ti/
	<p> before voiceless consonants	robca /'roptsa/
c	<ts>	pica /'pitsa/
	<ɟ> sometimes before voiced consonants	Kocbek /'kɔɟbek/
č	<tʃ>	peč /peʃ/
	<ɟʃ> sometimes before voiced consonants	učbenik /'uɟbenik/
d	<d>	dete /'de:te/
	<t> before voiceless consonants	sladka /'slatka/
	<ɟ> before z (dz)	odzadaj /ɔ'ɟa:daɪ/
	<ɟʃ> before ž (dž)	pidžama /pi'ɟama/
e	<e>	med /med/
	<e:>	peti /'pe:ti/
	<i>	smer /smir/
	<i:>	vera /'vi:ra/
	<ɛ>	odslej /ɔts'lɛɪ/
	<ɛ:>	Vera /'vɛ:ra/
	<æ>	kmet /kmæt/
	<ə>	pes /pəs/
	<ɜ:>	temen /'tɜ:mən/
f	<f>	fant /fant/
g	<g>	goba /'go:ba/
	<k> before voiceless consonants	krogca /'kroktsa/
h	<x>	prah /prax/
	<h> usually before consonants and i	nevihta /ne'vihta/
i	<i>	sami /'sa:mi/
	<i:>	piti /'pi:ti/
	<ɪ>	siv /sɪu/
	<j>	ion /jɔn/
j	<j>	jasno /'jasnɔ/
	<ɪ> after vowels	moj /mɔɪ/
k	<k>	kod /kod/
	<g> sometimes before voiced consonants	kdaj /gdaɪ/
l	<l>	lep /lep/

	<λ> sometimes when followed by j ⁽¹⁾	poljski /'pɔλski/
	<u> usually at the end of a word ⁽²⁾	rekel /'re:keu/
	<ɱ> between a vowel and a consonant	tkalca /'tkaɱtsa/
m	<m>	mesto /'mestɔ/
	<ɱj> before f and v	nimfa /'niɱfa/
	<ɱm> between consonants	filmski /'filɱmski/
n	<n>	nos /nɔs/
	<ɱj> before g, h and k	sinko /siɱko/
	<ɱj> sometimes when followed by j ⁽³⁾	sanjski /'saɱski /
	<ɱn> between consonants	himnski /'hiɱnɔski/
o	<o>	kod /kod/
	<o: >	moda /'mo:da/
	<ɒ>	snop /sɒp/
	<ɒ: >	voda /'vɒ:da/
	<ɔ>	odraz /ɔ'dra:z/
p	<p>	pet /pet/
r	<r>	red /red/
	<ɚ> when r follows a consonant	prst /pɚst/
s	<s>	sin /sin/
	<z> sometimes before voiced consonants	glasba /'glazba/
š	<ʃ>	še /ʃæ/
	<ʒ> sometimes before voiced consonants	vešda /'veʒda/
t	<t>	tat /tat/
	<d> sometimes before voiced consonants	svatba /'svadba/
u	<u>	rum /rum/
	<u: >	ura /'u:ra/
	<w> sometimes before vowels	suita /'swita/
v	<v>	voz /voz/
	<ɱ> sometimes before consonants	sivka /'siɱka/
	<w> sometimes before vowels, j ,l and r	v enem /'wɛnɛm/
	<u> sometimes before consonants	avtor /'autɔr/
z	<z>	zid /zid/
	<s> before voiceless consonants	nizko /'niskɔ/
	<ɖ > after d (see: d)	izšolan /iʃʃ'olan/
	<ʃ> before š	izžeti /iʒʒ'e:ti/
	<ʒ> before ž	jež /jeʒ/
ž	<ʒ>	težko /'tɛ:ʃko/
	<ʃ> before voiceless consonants	
	<ɖʒ > after d (see: d)	
ö	<ø>	Šömen /ʃømen/
ü	<y>	Küzmič /kyzmiʃ/

<'> denotes stress placed on the next vowel; <:> denotes long vowel
Pronunciation of vowels is mostly arbitrary.

- (1) lj are pronounced lj save before consonants, <i> and at the end of a word when λ
- (2) l is pronounced as u in past participles and rarely in other words
- (3) nj are pronounced nj save before consonants, <i> and at the end of a word when η

Slovenian r is always rolled as in Italian or Spanish.

Double characters are always pronounced double though they do not necessarily have the exactly same phonetic vowel value or contain the same letter (the latter is so-called voicing or consonantal assimilation), e.g.: priimek /pri'i:mek/, junij /'juniI/, vseeno /msæ'ε:nɔ/, izza /'izza/, petdeset /'peddesət/, razstava /rΛ'ssta:va/, izsek /iss'ek/.

ASPIRATION

G and K are aspirated in short interrogations and imperatives:

Glej! /g^hlɛI/

Kam? /k^ham/

DIPHTHONGS IN SLOVENIAN

<aε>	aeroklub
<aI>	maj
<au>	prav
<eI>	dejstvo
<εI>	poglej
<əu>	prišel
<eu>	bel
<εu>	lev
<Iu>	iskriv
<oI>	soj
<ɔI>	vojna
<ou>	stol
<uI>	ujčkati