

TOUR OPERATOR **HAPPY TOURS**

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# HAPPY TOURS SLOVENIA



**SLOVENIA**

**CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

**CROATIA**

**THE BALKANS**

**ITALY**



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## SLOVENIA

8 nights

One of Europe's best-kept secrets. Mountains and lakes, castles and alpine forests, vineyards and meadows, the mysterious Karst, Mediterranean beach resorts. Lying at a natural hub of European routes at the eastern tip of the Alps, its lovely baroque capital, Ljubljana, is just a three-hour drive from Venice and a three-and-a-half-hour drive from Vienna.

### Highlights:

**Ljubljana** - decorative footbridges over a willow-shaded river lined with cafes and funky bars, topped by a medieval Castle, with candy-coloured baroque and ornate Art Nouveau architecture.

**Postojna Cave** - one of the most beautiful underground caves in the world.

**Lipica Studfarm** - the original stud farm of the Lipizzaner horses.

**Piran** – an ancient Venetian port town.

**Bled** – a mountain lake with an island, castle and a nearby gorge.

**Karst** – the original Karst, with famous prosciutto, underground caves and much more.

**Soča** - one of the most enchanting European mountain rivers.

### Proposed Itinerary: A TOUR OF SLOVENIA

#### DAY 1 ARRIVE TO LJUBLJANA

Upon arrival to Ljubljana you will be met and taken to your centrally located hotel. For the rest of the day relax or begin your exploration of the Slovenian capital.

#### DAY 2 LJUBLJANA-OTOCEC-KOSTANJEVICA-MOKRICE

Depart Ljubljana around noon and drive along the deep green Krka River to Otocec, an island in the middle of the river. Continue to Kostanjevica to visit the castle, with an art gallery, and on to Mokrice for a candle-lit dinner in a castle hotel.

#### DAY 3 MOKRICE-OLIMLJE-ROGATEC-ROGASKA SLATINA

Drive north through the Bizeljsko wine region. Enjoy wine tasting at one of the many wineries. Continue to Olimlje and visit one of Europe's oldest pharmacies, and in Rogatec visit the open-air heritage museum.

#### DAY 4 ROGASKA SLATINA-PTUJ-ZRECE

Free morning to explore the lovely parks and trails of this well known health resort. Continue to Ptuj, the oldest town in Slovenia. Visit the well preserved town center and its medieval castle.

#### DAY 5 ZREČE-KAMNIK-BLED-KRANJSKA GORA

Morning drive to Logar-Valley, a lovely national park. Visit the Rinka Waterfalls and continue through the picturesque Tuhinje Valley to Kamnik, a romantic little town surrounded by the Alps. Afternoon drive to Bled, the pearl of the Alpine region. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel Kompas in Kranjska Gora, a well-known ski resort near the Austrian-Italian border.

#### DAY 6 KRANJSKA GORA-VRSIC-NOVA GORICA

After breakfast, drive over the Vrsic Pass (1611 metres) into the Trenta Valley through which one of the most beautiful European river flows. enjoy the Alpine vistas and visit the WWI museum in Kobarid, holding an impressive collection of the largest Alpine battle in history. On the way to southward through the Soča Valley a short stop at Most na Soči, a lake on the emerald green alpine river. Dinner with wine tasting in Goriška Brda, one of the most popular wine growing regions in Slovenia.

#### DAY 7 NOVA GORICA-STANJEL-SKOCJAN CAVES-LIPICA-PIRAN-PORTOROZ

This morning is reserved for the Karst region. Walk through a typical Karst village, Stanjel, to visit a farm and see how the famous Slovenian prosciutto (dried ham) is prepared, and taste the regional Teran wine. Continue to Lipica and visit the stud farm, then on to Skocjan to visit the wonders of the Karst underworld, the caves a part of the Unesco heritage since 1986. Afternoon drive to the Slovene coast. Walk through the narrow streets of the picturesque town of Piran, with its strong Venetian influence.

#### DAY 8 PORTOROZ-LJUBLJANA

After breakfast, you will be driven back to Ljubljana. The rest of the day is free for last-minute shopping or to visit one of the city's many museums.

#### DAY 9 LJUBLJANA-END OF TOUR

After breakfast transfer to the airport, or continue the tour to one of the neighbouring countries.



## SLOVENIA – FROM ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC SEA

3 nights



### DAY1 LJUBLJANA

Arrival in Slovenia and first visit the capital city of Slovenia. Some time for exploring the **Ljubljana Old Town** with its incredible baroque buildings and lively centre. By famous funicular we'll visit **Ljubljana Castle** overlooking the City of Dragon and optional river cruise sail along river Ljubljanica. Free or time at leisure in the capital of Slovenia. In the afternoon drive to Lake Bled. A sightseeing tour of Bled features the charming town with the lakeshore and imposing **Bled Castle**, perched on a cliff high above the lake. We'll continue the tour



to the other Alpine beauty – **Lake Bohinj**. You will visit the Sheppard's museum and taste the best Slovenian cheese. Overnight in Bled.

### DAY2 BLED - KRANJSKA GORA - VRŠIČ PASS – SOČA RIVER CANYON – BRDA

From Bled we drive through Radovna River valley towards the largest Slovenian ski resort – **Kranjska Gora**. We take a short brake. We continue towards the mountain pass Vršič (1611 m), which is located at the center of Triglav National Park. From Vršič, we ascend into the **Trenta Valley**, home of the well known Soča River. We will visit the **spring of the river Soča**, which with the blue-green color enchants even the most exacting visitors. Optionally we propose rafting on one of the most beautiful Alpine rivers. Or mount the cable to Mount Kanin and enjoy the scenic views. For history buffs there's an award winning museum of the WW1 in Kobarid, featuring a very vivid exhibition of the events that took place during the biggest mountain battle in human history. Overnight in Brda, the well known wine growing region located on the border with Italy.



### DAY3 KARST REGION – ŠKOCJAN CAVES - PIRAN

After breakfast drive through the heart of Karst region, passing Komen, Dutovlje and Tomaj, the birth place of our famous poet Srečko Kosovel. Through Sežana we will continue to the Region Park of **Škocjanske jame** (Caves of Škocjan). After the visit of this world famous karst wonder, which is on UNESCO's World Heritage List, we will drive over Črni Kal to Slovenian Istria. We will visit a small village of **Hrastovlje** and the Church of Holy Trinity with the famous fresco of the Dance of the Death. We will have some more free time in the seaside city of **Piran**, where you can walk through the mystic streets or visit one of the numerous coffeehouses that this medieval city offers. This pleasant break will follow the drive (for additional payment by boat Solinarka) to the Nature Park **Sečoveljske Soline** (The Sečovlje Salina). In the Ethnographical Museum we will get to know, how the salt has been produced since



the early beginnings till today. In the nearby village **Sveti Peter** we will visit the remarkable Tonina-house, which owns the original oil press from the beginnings of the last century. We will conclude this evening with a dinner in a famous tourist farm. Overnight in Piran.



### DAY4 PIRAN-ZAGREB

Drive past Ljubljana to Sticna monastery, to check one of the finest gothic monuments in Slovenia. Then on to Otocec, to admire the beautiful river island. From here it's merely half an hour more and you will reach Zagreb, the capital of Croatia.



## SLOVENIA FAMILIARITY TOUR

3 nights

### DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO LJUBLJANA



Morning arrival to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. Lunch. Afternoon sightseeing tour of the city including a funicular ride to the Castle and its tower. Visit the new and interesting virtual museum of Slovenia. Evening boat ride along Ljubljanica river. Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in one of the city hotels.



### DAY 2 LJUBLJANA – LAKE BLEED – LAKE BOHINJ - LJUBLJANA

Morning departure to Lake Bled. Boat ride to the island famous for its wish-fulfilling bell. Visit to the Castle. Inspection of Bled, ex President Tito's mansion, two best afternoon visit to Lake Bohinj already in the the cable car to Mount Vogel (1533m) to enjoy right in front and the Bohinj Lake below.



the island famous for its wish-Grand Hotel Toplice5\* and Vila hotels at the lake. Lunch. Then Triglav National Park. Ride with the wonderful view of the Alps Overnight in Bled.



### DAY 3 LAKE BLEED – POSTOJNA CAVE – PORTOROSE

After breakfast departure to Postojna cave to examine this number 1 attraction in Slovenia. Slovenia has some 10.000 caves and is also the the home territory of the Karst region. The beautiful Postojna cave is touristically most visited receiving over half a million tourists every year. Lunch in a typical karst village with the inspection of the prosciutto drying place. Afternoon visit of the original Lipizza stud farm with the performance of High dressage school. In the afternoon descent to Slovene coastline, short visit of the Venetian town of Piran and overnight in Portorose (LifeClass hotels5\* boast the most comprehensive wellness and spa resort in Europe).



### Day 4 DEPARTURE

End of services.  
(Optionally morning departure to the airport (either Ljubljana, Zagreb or Venice).



## A DELIGHTFUL SLOVENIA

4 nights

### DAY 1 MARIBOR

Arrival to Maribor and sight-seeing of this second largest town in Slovenia (the European Cultural Capital of 2012), nestled along the river Drava, with visits to the world's oldest, more than 400 years old wine tree, a ride with a wooden raft on the Drava river and a ropeway visit to the nearby Pohorje mountain (popular winter resort) to enjoy the vistas of Maribor and the vicinity. Overnight in the hotel in Maribor

### DAY 2 MARIBOR – ŽIČE MONASTERY – SLOVENSKE KONJICE – SKOMARJE - MARIBOR



We depart from Maribor and drive to St. John The Baptist Valley with its mighty **Žiče Carthusian Monastery**, offering a mysterious serenity that allows visitors a retreat from civilization. The monastery from 1165 is a unique monument to the history of the life of monks. It was closed in the 18th century, but the monks' houses, dining room, kitchen, and church remained. After the visit of St. Mary's Church we go to nearby **Gastuž** that through the centuries welcomed travellers who were not allowed to enter the monastery into its safe shelter. In **Gastuž we enjoy a delicious "monasteries" snack and drink** the so-called "Elixir of Long Life". We admire the remnants of once mighty monastic architecture and the fascinating herbal garden. In the town of **Slovenske Konjice** we will visit a renowned winegrower and have a degustation of his esteemed wines. The nearby village **Skomarje** is a remarkable monument of ethnological heritage and offers an interesting insight into rural architecture. Excellent dinner **is prepared for us at the tourist farm** with interesting deer breeding grounds. Full of impressions we return to the hotel in Maribor.

### DAY 3 MARIBOR – KOROŠKA REGION – DRAVA RIVER - LJUBLJANA

Morning departure to Koroška region. We will visit the exciting **church of Legen**, where through the glass floor we will be able to see the remains of an early Slavic settlement. From here we will continue upstream the Drava river and embark on a **floss**. Musicians and good food will accompany us during the descent of the river. Having mastered the river, a visit to the local **brewery** is going to be well deserved. The departure towards Ljubljana. Check-in in the hotel and departure for the typical Slovene evening including a delicious dinner.



### DAY 4 LJUBLJANA – ŠTANJEL – NOVA GORICA – GOČE - LJUBLJANA

After breakfast departure past Postojna (optional visit of the cave) to a small but amiable town of Štanjel, probably the oldest settlement on Karst, with Renaissance-Baroque castle, late Gothic church and numerous stonemasonry elements that make the impression even more interesting. In the neighbouring village of Kobjeglava we will **visit the ham curing plant and taste the delicious "pršut" with teran**, a specific red wine from Karst region. After a stroll through the town we will continue to Nova Gorica and visit the **monastery**, where the last French king is buried. After the visit of the Monastery and its interesting **old library** we will finish the evening in **Goče**, known for its numerous wine cellars. Of course, we will also visit one and try their best wines. In the mean time a **delicious dinner in a typical local restaurant** will already be ready. In a good mood we



shall return to our hotel in Ljubljana.

### DAY 5 DEPARTURE

Check-out from the hotel. Morning sight-seeing of Ljubljana (optional). Transfer to the airport and departure.



**A DELIGHTFUL SLOVENIA - IN-DEPTH**

6nights



**DAY 1 LJUBLJANA**

Evening arrival to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. Check-in the hotel, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 2 LJUBLJANA – VELIKA PLANINA (OR SKOFJA LOKA) - LJUBLJANA**

Morning city tour of Ljubljana with the visit of the castle and its museum (new interesting interactive museum on the history of Ljubljana) and the tower. We will ride with an interesting funicular to get to the castle and back. Walk through the old town (option boat ride along the river or visit some of the museums or art galleries) with the

visit of the Cathedral. Free for shopping or at leisure.

In the afternoon depart to Velika planina plain (lift by cable) for a walk in the beautiful nature where shepherds have some very interesting and authentic cottages Ring a bell at the church of Mary of the Snow (Marija Snežna). Alternative is the visit of the medieval Skofja Loka with its castle and nearby Crngrob church with very important medieaval frescoes in Slovenia. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 3 LJUBLJANA – MARIBOR – PTUJSKA GORA -LJUBLJANA**



Morning drive to the second biggest town in Slovenia, Maribor and sightseeing of the town (incl. visit of the Cathedral, Plague monument, one of the two Synagogues in Slovenia, the eldest wine tree in the world). After lunch drive to nearby Ptuj. Walk around the old town and up to the castle. Visit of the interesting wine cellars and degustation of delicious wines. Then on to Ptujaska gora, the beautiful gothic church (with multi-media presentation). Return to Ljubljana, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 4 LJUBLJANA – BLED – KRANJSKA GORA – KOBARID – IDRİJA - LJUBLJANA**

Departure to Gorenjska region and visit Bled (with castle and boat to the island with the church and wish-fulfilling bell). On to Kranjska gora and across the mountain pass of Vrsic ( ) at the scenic mountain trek down to the Soča valley. In Kobarid visit of the very informative and well constructed Museum on 1st world war (in the first world war Soča valley was a sight of the biggest mountain battle in the world history, with Hemingway and Rommel being some of the participants). On the way back we can check Idrija, the mining town (candidate for UNESCO), then back to Ljubljana late in the evening. Dinner and overnight.



**DAY 5 LJUBLJANA – STIČNA – OTOČEC – KOSTANJEVICA NA KRKI – OLIMJA MONASTERY - LJUBLJANA**

Morning drive to the south-eastern part of Slovenia, Dolenjska region. Stop in an old cisterian abbey of Sticna. Then on to the beautiful river island Otočec, with a medieval castle now converted to a 5\* hotel. A bit further down along Krka river are Slovene Venice, Kostanjevica on Krka. Walk around the castle and the open-air museum. Optional degustation of champagne in the Bizeljsko region. Then on to the spas Olimje to check out the old monastery and its old pharmacy (the third eldest in Europe). Next to it is a chocolate production, a brewery (optional) and the farm of deers (possibilities of having dinner there). Return to Ljubljana.



**DAY 6 LJUBLJANA – POSTOJNA CAVE – ŠKOCJAN – LIPICA – PIRAN - LJUBLJANA**

Departure to Postojna with a visit of world-famous cave. Then on to Skocjan, the beautiful stone town and through the Karst region to Lipica (if visit to the original stud farm of Lipizza horses with maybe the presenation of the "spanish riding school technique" is interesting. On to the Seaside and the visit of the venetian town of Piran. Return to Ljubljana in the evening, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 7 DEPARTURE**

**TOUR OF SLOVENIA FOR LADIES**

5 nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO LJUBLJANA**

Arrival to Ljubljana airport. Drive to Ljubljana for a panoramic city tour before hotel check-in. A short coffee break in the city center and a taste of traditional cake with coffee. Sight-seeing of the old town nestled between the river and the Castle hill. Funicular will take us up to the Castle, where we will have a nice view from the Tower and also visit an interesting 3D museum of the country. Return to the hotel in the centre of Ljubljana.

**DAY 2 LJUBLJANA – POSTOJNA – NOVA GORICA**

After breakfast departure to the Postojna cave. A train will take us to the underground kingdom where a curious animal “human fish” lives. After the visit souvenir hunting is almost a must. Then on to a visit of the nearby Predjama Castle. We will stop in the small village Goče where a lunch in the traditional peasant house with wines and cognac tasting will make a day even brighter. Afternoon drive to Nova Gorica, a bordering town between Slovenia and Italy, a town famous for its casinos and quite rightly nicknamed “Slovene Las Vegas”. Overnight in Perla hotel.

**DAY 3 NOVA GORICA – MIRAMARE CASTLE - TRIESTE – PORTOROSE**

Drive to Italy and visit the romantic castle of Miramare in Trieste. Free for shopping in the famous centre square known as Ponte Rosso (or if the group so wishes in the big shopping mall Il Tori del’Europe – Gates of Europe). Continuation to the Slovene coast and accommodation in Portorose.

**DAY 4 PORTOROSE – PIRAN - RADOVLJICA – LAKE BOHINJ - LAKE BLEED**

Morning drive to Piran, a small venetian town next to Portorose offering a perfect opportunity for morning coffee break or even more typically Slovene herbal tea with honey. Drive past Ljubljana to the hilly region of Gorenjska. Stop in Radovljica to taste the local speciality, lectar sweet. On to Bohinj Lake and a walk around the lake. Then back to Bled lake, where we will jump into the boat to be taken to the Island. Climb up the stairs towards the church with the wish-fulfilling bell. After the return to the shore we will visit the Castle atop the cliff from where a beautiful view over the lake and the surrounding mountains is possible. Overnight in Bled.

**DAY 5 LAKE BLEED – TOPOLSICA – LJUBLJANA**

After breakfast drive to Topolsica for thermal break possibility with indoor thermal pools or massage therapy . Lunch in between. In the afternoon return to Ljubljana. Dinner in a restaurant with a traditional Slovene evening with music and dance.

**DAY 6 DEAPRTURE FROM LJUBLJANA**

Transfer to the airport at noon and farewell.





## ACCOMMODATION

### LJUBLJANA

#### AUSTRIA TREND HOTEL\*\*\*\*



Let us accommodate you in a modern and upscale hotel located in business centre of city Ljubljana. 3,5 km out of the city centre (but with organised shuttles free of charge) the hotel is renowned for its spa facilities and casino beneath the building.



#### CITY HOTEL3+\* (but accommodation in Superior rooms of 4\* standard)



The City Hotel is situated in the historic centre of Ljubljana. Despite the fact that it is a middle-sized European city, it maintains the friendliness of a small town, and at the same time all the characteristics of a metropolis.



A few steps from the hotel you will find bus stops and the train station, offering a quick and easy access throughout the city. In addition to

comfortable guestrooms, the property features three meeting rooms, a restaurant and a bar.

The reception, open 24 hours a day, is at your disposal for useful information on the city and its events. You can also ask for free bicycle to venture out in the city and an Internet Point with wireless internet connection in the lobby.

### NOVA GORICA

#### HOTEL PERLA\*\*\*\*



The stylish and exclusive Perla Casino & Hotel features live entertainment, a huge variety of cuisine and beverages and deluxe suites for ultimate comfort. Internet access is free of charge. Guests of the Perla will receive free admission to the casino, the discotheque and the swimming pool, saunas and gym of Spa Perla upon prior reservation. The Perla also provides 3 different restaurants, the Calypso, Mediterraneo and Oceanis. Each restaurant serves unique specialities,

inspired by local and international dishes, as well as a wide range of fine wines. The Arena & Dream Bar serves a wide range of hot and cold drinks, snacks and bruschette, alongside Perla's delicious pastries. The modern town of Nova Gorica is located directly at the Italian border and hosts one of the four national theatres in Slovenia.





**LAKE BLED**

**VILA BLED\*\*\*\***

The Vila Bled is in an idyllically peaceful part of Bled, the jewel in the crown of the lovely Slovenian Alps. It reigns directly on the shores of Lake Bled, embraced by a magnificent park. This former presidential residence is nowadays a synonym for warm hospitality, selected comfort, timeless elegance, top-end gastronomy and unforgettable experiences. We



invite you to entrust your

most precious moments to our care and become part of our story.



Loyal to its architectural layout, the Vila Bled offers accommodation in various room types. Its spacious suites and superior suites, equipped in a style typical of the 1950s, are a special feature of the villa. You may select a classic double room with balcony and lake view or opt for a stay in our most luxurious Presidential Suite. All-round comfort and services of the highest standard are constants in our rich offer and a solemn promise to our guests.

**HOTEL RIBNO BLED \*\*\*\***



The Ribno Hotel is very close to the Slovenian Alpine pearl of Bled, in the idyllic village from which it takes its name. Its location - on the fringes of a spruce forest with abundant birdsong - delights all those who long for peace and relaxation in close contact with nature. The hotel is an excellent starting point for hiking and cycling tours, fishing, adrenaline experiences and other sporting challenges in the nearby area.

The pleasant ambience of the restaurant, the panoramic terrace and the lawn adjacent to the hotel beckon you towards culinary delights at merry gatherings, may the occasion be a family lunch, anniversary, picnic or even wedding reception.

Due to it being set apart from the hustle and bustle and the positive energy with which it charges its visitors, the Ribno Hotel is also a popular venue for training sessions, seminars, business meetings, teambuildings and incentives.

**PORTOROSE**

**Grand Hotel Portorož\*\*\*\*\***



It is an exclusive five-star hotel situated in the very heart of Portorož, right by the sea, offering all the comforts of a five-star hotel. It embodies all the best qualities of a genuine Mediterranean nature, unequalled charm and enchanting temperament. Its hospitality is woven out of its undivided attention to details and its guests' needs, kindness, spontaneity and creativity.





SLOVENIA AND THE VICINITY

## **FIVE COUNTRIES IN SEVEN DAYS** (Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Croatia, Italy)

5nights

### **DAY 1 LJUBLJANA AIRPORT-LAKE BLEĐ**

Arrival to Ljubljana Airport and transfer to Lake Bled.

### **DAY 2 LAKE BLEĐ-LJUBLJANA-LAKE BLEĐ**

After breakfast, sightseeing around the magnificent alpine resort of Bled, the only lake in the Alps with a small island in the middle. A traditional wooden boat called "pletna" can take you there and on the island you can climb the 99 stairs to the church to ring the "wishing bell". From Bled castle, located atop of a cliff, you can admire the amazing panoramic alpine view. In the afternoon departure to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, with a medieval town core and rich baroque architecture. Return to Lake Bled in the evening.



### **DAY 3 LAKE BLEĐ – KOENIGSEE - SALZBURG - LAKE BLEĐ**

After breakfast, departure for a full day's excursion to Salzburg (Austria), Mozart's birthplace. En route stop in Germany in the national park of Koenigsee. In nearby Salzburg visit to the Altstadt (old town), on the south bank of the river there is a Baroque fiesta of churches, plazas, courtyards and fountains, oozing charm as you would expect from this Mozart centre. Museums, souvenir shops, coffee houses and liqueur stores are all part of one great homage to the composer. Christmas shopping will be in full swing. Return to Bled.



### **DAY 4 LAKE BLEĐ – POSTOJNA CAVE - PORTOROZ**

Morning drive past Ljubljana towards Postojna cave to check out the most visited cave in the World. The train will take us in the most amazing maze of stalagmites and stalactites one could possibly imagine. Departure to the Adriatic Sea and a lively coastal town Portoroze (Port of Roses). The hotel is a delight per se as it contains the most comprehensive wellness and spa resort in Europe (with the biggest thai massage center anywhere outside Thailand, the first international originally licensed Shakti Ayurveda centre, the local Thalasso centre among others).

### **DAY 5 PORTOROZ – ROVINJ – PULA – PORTOROZ**

Whole day excursion to Croatia's Istria peninsula. Walk around Rovinj, quite rightfully considered one of the most beautiful little towns of the Mediterranean. Further down, at the tip of the peninsula lies Pula, the main town of the area. We will admire one of the biggest and best preserved Roman amphitheatres. Optionally we can visit Brioni, the archipelago islands famous as once president Tito's summer residence. Evening return to the hotel.



### **DAY 6 PORTOROZ-VENICE-PORTOROZ**

In the morning departure for Venice (Italy), the floating city. La Serenissima, the Queen of the Adriatic, city of canals, bridges and palaces... On the way back to Slovenia, stop at the venetian glass factory. Late in the afternoon, leave Venice and depart for Portoroz, the most popular Slovene coastal resort.

### **Day 7: PORTOROZ-LJUBLJANA AIRPORT**

Transfer from Portoroz to Ljubljana Airport and departure.



**Highlights:**

- **Lake Bled** - considered as probably the most beautiful Alpine lake
- **Salzburg** - Mozart's birth place, hometown of The Sound of Music, with a fairy-tale castle
- **Ljubljana** – capital of Slovenia, the word means »the beloved one«, a charming Central European city
- **Koenigsee** – a beautiful national park just across the border already in Germany
- **Pula** – the Roman amphitheatre
- **Venice** - the enchanting and unique it is certainly one of the most spectacular sights in the world.

**FOUR COUNTRIES IN SIX DAYS**  
(Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Italy)

5nights

**DAY 1 LJUBLJANA AIRPORT-LAKE BLEED**

Arrival to Ljubljana Airport and transfer to Lake Bled.

**DAY 2 LAKE BLEED-LJUBLJANA-LAKE BLEED**

After breakfast, sightseeing around the magnificent alpine resort of Bled, the only lake in the Alps with a small island in the middle. A traditional wooden boat called "pletna" can take you there and on the island you can climb the 99 stairs to the church to ring the "wishing bell".

From Bled castle, located atop of a cliff, you can admire the amazing panoramic alpine view. In the afternoon departure to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, with a medieval town core and rich baroque architecture. Return to Lake Bled in the evening.



**DAY 3 LAKE BLEED – KOENIGSEE - SALZBURG - LAKE BLEED**

After breakfast, departure for a full day's excursion to Salzburg (Austria), Mozart's birthplace. En route stop in Germany in the national park of Koenigsee. In nearby Salzburg visit to the Altstadt (old town), on the south bank of the river there is a Baroque fiesta of churches, plazas, courtyards and fountains, oozing charm as you would expect from this Mozart centre. Museums, souvenir shops, coffee houses and liqueur stores are all part of one great homage to the composer. Christmas shopping will be in full swing. Return to Bled.

**DAY 4 LAKE BLEED – POSTOJNA CAVE - PORTOROZ**

Morning drive past Ljubljana towards Postojna cave to check out the most visited cave in the World (optional entry). The train will take us in the most amazing maze of stalagmites and stalactites one could possibly imagine. Departure to the Adriatic Sea and a lively coastal town Portoroze (Port of Roses). The hotel is a delight per se as it contains the most comprehensive wellness and spa resort in Europe (with the biggest thai massage center anywhere outside Thailand, the first international originally licensed Shakti Ayurveda centre, the local Thalasso centre among others).

**DAY 5 PORTOROZ-VENICE-PORTOROZ**

In the morning departure for Venice (Italy), the floating city. La Serenissima, the Queen of the Adriatic, city of canals, bridges and palaces... On the way back to Slovenia, stop at the venetian glass factory. Late in the afternoon, leave Venice and depart for Portoroz, the most popular Slovoene coastal resort.



**DAY 6 PORTOROZ-LJUBLJANA AIRPORT**

Transfer from Portoroz to Ljubljana Airport and departure.

**Highlights:**

- **Lake Bled** - considered as probably the most beautiful Alpine lake
- **Salzburg** - Mozart's birth place, hometown of The Sound of Music, with a fairy-tale castle
- **Ljubljana** – capital of Slovenia, the word means »the beloved one«, a charming Central European city
- **Koenigsee** – a beautiful national park just across the border already in Germany
- **Venice** - the enchanting and unique it is certainly one of the most spectacular sights in the world.

**EIGHT DAYS IN SLOVENIA & AUSTRIA**

7nights

**DAY 1 AIRPORT-LJUBLJANA**

Ljubljana, is the capital of Slovenia and a very charming small city, nestled between the Castle hill and the river of the same name. It is of Roman origin, but most of the buildings are from baroque and art deco era. It is a vivid place and also boasts the biggest shopping mall in Central Europe.

**DAY 2 LJUBLJANA-LAKE BLEDE-LAKE BOHINJ-LJUBLJANA**

Lake Bled is a true Alpine pearl. The lake with a castle atop the cliff and an island with a church, famous for its wish-fulfilling bell is a perfect setup for those who want to enjoy some tranquility. Nearby Lake Bohinj is even more pristine as it is already a part of the National park.

**DAY 3 LJUBLJANA-POSTOJNA CAVE-STANJEL-PIRAN-PORTOROZ**

Postojna cave is the most visited cave in the world and the only one where a train takes you in. It is also the site where a very unusual amphibian called »human fish« lives. Stanjel or Stone town is where the Karst region starts (this is the original Karst, after which all similar types of terrain around the world got its name – here in a small area of Slovenia there are over 10.000 caves). A walk through the Venetian looking town of Piran is a must and nearby Portoroz (Port of Roses) is a touristic village. We will sleep in the hotel at the coast where you will be able to enjoy the most comprehensive spa and wellness facilities in Europe.

**DAY 4 PORTOROZ-MIRAMARE CASTLE-LIPICA STUD FARM-PORTOROZ**

Just a stone-throw away from Portoroze is Italian port of Trieste. Here we will admire the Miramare castle, an expression of love constructed by Austro-hungarian prince. Back in Slovenia we will enjoy the performance of high dressage techniques in Lipica, a 430 year old stud farm, which is the original stud farm of lipizzaner horses (these are the horses that perform in a Spanish Dressage school in Vienna). Overnight in Portoroz.

**DAY 5 PORTOROZ-SOCA VALLEY\*-KRANJSKA GORA-VILLACH (AUSTRIA)**

Drive to the Soca valley. An azure coloured mountain river is famous for fly-fishing and white water rafting. It is here that the biggest mountain battle in human history took place in the First World War. A visit to the award winning museum will show the battle where Hemingway and Rommel were also present. We will cross the picturesque mountain pass and later cross into Austria and have an overnight in the centre of the typical south-Austrian village Villach.

**DAY 6 VILLACH -SALZBURG**

Drive along the highway up north towards Salzburg. We will visit the salt mines. The city of Mozart, The Sound of Music is full of music and has a beautiful old town. Famous landmarks are Mozart's house, the biggest castle in Europe and the trick fountains of Hellbrunn palace.

**DAY 7 SALZBURG-LINZ-VIENNA**

Drive past the Salzburg to Linz and visit of the old town. From here we will follow the path of Danube river and visit an interesting Monastery of Melk before arriving to Vienna. Walk in the old town around St. Stephen's cathedral. In the evening a visit to the typical concert as a combination of Strauss, Mozart and Beethoven music.

**DAY 8 VIENNA**

Morning sightseeing of the city including Schoenbrunn palace, Hundertwasser house and Prater amusement park.

**EIGHT DAYS IN SLOVENIA & HUNGARY**

7nights

**DAY 1 AIRPORT-LJUBLJANA**

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**DAY 5 LJUBLJANA-ABBEY ZICE-MARIBOR-BALATON LAKE (HUNGARY)**

Drive to Maribor, the second biggest town of Slovenia (Maribor has the oldest wine tree in the world, over 400 years old and still producing grapes and will be a European capital of culture in 2012). En route stop at Zice abbey where next to it is supposedly the oldest inn (restaurant) in Europe. Let's try the elixir of life, a typical medieval lunch. The day will finish in Hungary, at the Lake of Balaton.

**DAY 6 LAKE BALATON-BUDAPEST**

Visit to Heviz, the biggest natural spa resort in the world. Walk around Tihany peninsula and then continuation towards Budapest, the capital of Hungary.

**DAY 7 BUDAPEST**

Sightseeing tour of Budapest with the visit to the Castle, St. Matthias church. Cruise on the Danube river. Free for shopping or optional a visit to the famous Hungarian bath. In the evening a traditional evening in a czarda is a good idea.

**DAY 8 BUDAPEST**

Drive to the airport (possibly some time for shopping) and farewell from Europe.

**EIGHT DAYS IN SLOVENIA & CZECH**

7nights

**DAY 1 AIRPORT-LJUBLJANA**

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**DAY 5 LJUBLJANA-VIENNA-BRATISLAVA**

Drive past Maribor, the second biggest town of Slovenia and Graz, the second biggest town in Austria, to Vienna. Sightseeing of the once emperial city with many palaces and museums, such as Hofburg, Schoenbrunn and possibly shopping in the centre. In the evening a boat ride (from May to October only) along the Danube river to a nearby capital of Slovakia is a nice experience. Overnight in Bratislava.

\*alternatively it is possible to fly from Ljubljana straight to Prague OR drive there directly (in this case a stop could be in Cesky Budjeovice and then the next day on to Cesky Krumlov and/or Hluboka castle before arriving to Prague)

**DAY 6 BRATISLAVA – BRNO - PRAGUE**

Morning sightseeing of Bratislava then on via Brno to Prague. Stroll in the old town, dinner (possibly in a typical pub or on the boat floating on the Vltava river).

**DAY 7 PRAGUE**

Visit of Hradcany castle and Old Town with famous Clock tower, Karl's Bridge, etc. Free for shopping in the evening.

**DAY 8 PRAGUE**

Departure to the airport.

**EIGHT DAYS IN SLOVENIA & CZECH (3N) – WITH FLIGHT**

7nights

**DAY 1 AIRPORT-LJUBLJANA**

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**DAY 2 LJUBLJANA-LAKE BLED-LAKE BOHINJ-LJUBLJANA**

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**DAY 5 LJUBLJANA-VIENNA-BRATISLAVA**

Drive to the airport for the flight to Prague. Afternoon arrival to Czech capital, transfer and accommodation in the hotel.

**DAY 6 PRAGUE**

Whole-day sightseeing of Prague with the visit of Hradcany castle and Old Town with famous Clock tower, Karl's Bridge, etc. Free for shopping in the evening.

**DAY 7 PRAGUE**

Excursion to Kutna Hora with the famous church, where Czech kings were burried. Free afternoon in Prague.

**DAY 8 PRAGUE**

Departure to the airport.



CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

**CZECH – POLAND - HUNGARY**

7nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO PRAGUE**

Arrival in Prague where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Dinner with folklore at a local restaurant.

**DAY 2 IN PRAGUE**

After breakfast we will take a tour to the old part of the city to view the Old Town Square, the famous Astronomical Clock, the Jewish Quarter, St. Nicholas Church, Charles Bridge and more. Cross the Vltava River to the **Royal Castle of Hradcany** and **St. Vitus Cathedral**. Lunch at a local restaurant and rest of the day free for shopping. Dinner in the restaurant on Vltava river. Return to the hotel and overnight.

**DAY 3 PRAGUE – BRNO – KRAKOW**

Breakfast then depart Prague for Krakow. Along the way we will stop in Brno to take a tour of the city. Lunch enroute and continue to Krakow. After arrival dinner at a local restaurant and overnight.

**DAY 4 IN KRAKOW**

After breakfast a halfday Krakow City tour – among other also the famous Kazimierz Jewish district, visit to Remuh synagogue and cemetery, walking tour of Kazimierz – Krakow's old Jewish Quarter. Lunch at a local restaurant and afternoon free. After dinner optional visit to the theatre or opera. Overnight.

**DAY 5 KRAKOW – AUSCHWITZ – CZESTOCHOWA - KRAKOW**

Breakfast. Travel to Auschwitz - Birkenau and guided tour to Aushwitz - Birkenau Extermination Camp. Then on to Czestochowa to visit the famous Black Madonna, one of the holiest sites for christians in Europe. Late afternoon return to Krakow, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 6 KRAKOW – BANSKA BYSTRICA – BUDAPEST**

After breakfast we will depart Krakow and drive to the historical city Banska Bystrica. Tour of the city and its monuments. Visit the City Castle. Lunch and afternoon dedicated to shopping. Continue to Budapest, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 7 BUDAPEST**

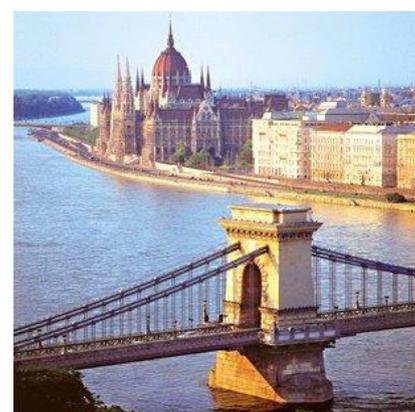
Breakfast followed by a tour of the city. Situated on the opposite banks of the Danube River, the former cities of Buda and Pest are linked by a series of graceful bridges. During the tour we will see the decorative Parliament building, seat of the National Assembly; Vaci Utca, a pedestrian street lined with shops and restaurants; Heroes' Square with the Millennium Memorial, 118 foot high Corinthian column dedicated to the Roman Catholic Church and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Lunch. Afternoon free for individual sightseeing or shopping. Walk through the streets of old Budapest to the southern tip of Castle Hill. Tour of the medieval-era Buda Castle, the historic home to Hungarian kings.

Dinner at a typical local restaurant Czarda with the performance of gypsy music. Overnight.

**DAY 8 BUDAPEST**

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your departure flight.





## VIENNA – SALZBURG – PRAGUE

6 nights

### DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO VIENNA

Arrival to Vienna airport in the afternoon hours. Meet and greet then transfer to your hotel in Vienna. Dinner and overnight.



### DAY 2 VIENNA

After breakfast a bus tour of the city, including the palaces on the Ring, City Hall, Vienna State Opera and many other. We will take a walk through Hofburg and Graben to Stephansdom. In the afternoon a visit to the summer residence of the Austrian emperor's Schönbrunn, the wonderful baroque palace and a walk in the beautiful park behind it. Rest of the evening free. Dinner in the hotel and overnight.

### DAY 3 VIENNA – SALZBURG

After breakfast depart Vienna and travel by train to the city of music, Salzburg. Upon arrival to Mozart's birthplace a walking tour of the historic city center. After visiting one of the few fully preserved castles in Central Europe overlooking the city (Hohensalzburg Fortress) afternoon free for lunch and shopping. Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight.



### DAY 4 SALZBURG

Breakfast in the hotel. Visit to the nearby Hellbrunn castle, famous for its beautiful water fountains. In the afternoon free time for shopping and individual sightseeing. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

### DAY 5 SALZBURG – PRAGUE

After breakfast depart Salzburg and take a train to the capital of Czech Republic, Prague. After late afternoon arrival panoramic bus tour of the city and a drive by the Parliament, Opera House, Vaclav Square and Karl Square. Transfer to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

### DAY 6 PRAGUE



Breakfast, followed by a visit to Pragues famous castle, Hradcani. We will take a walk through the palaces, churches and other Prague architectural masterpieces, pass the St Nicholas Church to the bank of Vltava. Afternoon walk through the old city square, to the famous Prague clock, City Hall, Karl's University and many other. Rest of the day free. Dinner and overnight.

### DAY 7 DEPARTURE FROM PRAGUE

After breakfast transfer to the airport and departure for home.





## PRAGUE-BUDAPEST-VIENNA

6nights

### **DAY 1, PRAGUE**

- Arrival to Prague
- Accommodation in the hotel
- Introductory tour of the city
- Dinner in a typical pub, return to the hotel and overnight

### **DAY 2 PRAGUE**

- After breakfast whole day tour of Prague
- Visit to the Prague Castle (Hradcany) with St. Vitus Cathedral and Golden Lane
- Lunch
- Walk through Prague's Old Town Square and famous Astronomical Clock
- Tour of the Prague Castle
- Possibility of some shopping
- River cruise dinner
- Return to the hotel and overnight

### **DAY 3 PRAGUE-CESKY KRUMLOV-VIENNA**

- After breakfast departure towards Vienna
- Stop at the Bohemian village of Krumlov en route to Vienna (alternatively possible visit to Hluboka castle or Cesky Budjeovice famous brewery – Budweiser)
- Lunch
- Afternoon arrival to Vienna, accommodation in the hotel, dinner and overnight.

### **DAY 4 VIENNA**

- After breakfast whole day city tour: St. Stephen's Cathedral, Hofburg, Museums Quartier, Ring street, Prater, Hundertwasser Haus
- Lunch
- Tour of Schoenbrunn Palace – Home of the Hapsburg Empire
- Explore Vienna's Belvedere Gardens
- Free for shopping on the main pedestrian area
- Dinner and return to the hotel (optional visit to the classical musical concert – Vienna is the home of Mozart, Strauss and Beethoven among others)

### **DAY 5 VIENNA-BRATISLAVA-BUDAPEST**

- After breakfast departure to the nearby Bratislava
- Visit of the Bratislava centre
- Then on towards Budapest
- Lunch on the way
- Late afternoon arrival to the capital of Hungary
- Check-in in the hotel, dinner and overnight.

### **DAY 6 BUDAPEST**

- Whole day tour of Budapest - from the streets of old Budapest to the southern tip of Castle Hill
- Tour of the medieval-era Buda Castle – Historic home to Hungarian kings
- Explore the Castle Caves labyrinth by candlelight underneath the city
- Evening river cruise along Danube river
- Dinner in a traditional Hungarian restaurant
- Overnight

### **DAY 7 BUDAPEST**

- Morning free for last minute shopping, followed by transfer to the airport.



## CROATIA AND SLOVENIA

8nights

**DAY 1 DUBROVNIK**

Arrival to Dubrovnik. Dubrovnik is one of the world's best preserved walled cities and therefore under UNESCO protection. It will welcome you with a typical Dalmatian hospitality.

**DAY 2 DUBROVNIK**

Morning sightseeing tour will focus on the beautifully preserved medieval town with its imposing city walls. Among the highlights is the Rector's Palace, Franciscan Monastery, which houses one of the oldest pharmacies in Europe. Afternoon free at leisure to explore the narrow cobbled streets of old city on your own.

**DAY 3 DUBROVNIK-SPLIT**

Heading north along the Adriatic to Split to explore the massive palace built by the 4th century Roman emperor Diocletian as his retirement home which is also on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Over time the city has encroached into the corners and crannies of the palace; shopkeepers and tiny restaurants now make their home within its massive walls.

**DAY 4 SPLIT-TROGIR-PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK**

After breakfast, head north along the Dalmatian coast to Trogir, originally founded as a Greek colony in the 3rd century BC. Here we walk along the marble-covered streets to see the portal of the St. Lawrence Cathedral. Then it's on to the beautiful Plitvice Lakes National Park.

**DAY 5 PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK**

Walking through the natural splendor of the Plitvice Lakes National Park, one explores the breathtaking scenery of this natural wonder of 16 terraced lakes surrounded by thickly wooded mountains and lush vegetation. Each of the falls is at a different elevation and feeds into the next through a series of spectacular cascades and frothing waterfalls. Afternoon at leisure, to explore the wonders of the national park.

**DAY 6 PLITVICE-POSTOJNA-BLED**

A return to the coast to the beautiful Bay of Kvarner and its popular resort Opatija. Then on North to Postojna, home of the largest caves in Europe. A fantastic subterranean world will be toured by miniature electric train and on foot. Afterwards continuation to Bled in the Julian Alps.

**DAY 7 BLED – LJUBLJANA - BLED**

Morning drive to Slovenia's capital to enjoy tour of the city that is filled with churches and fin-de-siecle palaces – reminders of the town's baroque Austro-Hungarian days. Ljubljana's castle and Roman ruins speak of even earlier rulers. The charming old town nestled between the castle hill and the Ljubljanica River is reached by the Tromostovje "the triple bridge." In the afternoon we return to Bled to tour this lake resort with included visit to the Castle, perched on the cliff high above the lake.

**DAY 8 BLED-ZAGREB**

Morning departure to Zagreb with a short photo stop in Otocec, the picturesque island with the castle in the middle of the river. Afternoon sightseeing tour of Zagreb with Gornji Grad (Upper Town), the well-preserved historical core of the city, see St. Mark's Church, the Parliament, the Government Palace and the Cathedral.

**DAY 9 DEPARTURE HOME****Highlights:**

- Walk on the city wall in Dubrovnik
- Explore the cascades and waterfalls in Plitvice
- Visit to the Europe's largest cave in Postojna
- Experience the picturesque Lake Bled
- Compare the two idyllic European capitals: Ljubljana and Zagreb



## SLOVENIA-CROATIA AND DAY TOUR IN MONTENEGRO

6nights

### **DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO LJUBLJANA**

Arrival to Ljubljana in the evening. Meet and greet by guide and transfer to the hotel in Ljubljana.

### **DAY 2 LJUBLJANA – BLED - LJUBLJANA**

After breakfast a tour of Slovenia's capital, which is filled with churches and fin-de-siecle palaces – reminders of the town's baroque Austro-Hungarian days. Ljubljana's castle and Roman ruins speak of even earlier rulers. The charming old town nestled between the castle hill and the Ljubljanica River is reached by the Tromostovje "the triple bridge." Lunch at Ljubljana Castle. In the afternoon drive to Lake Bled and take the hand peddled boat ride to the island with the wish fulfilling bell. Return to the hotel and overnight.

### **DAY 3 LJUBLJANA – POSTOJNA - SIBENIK**

After breakfast half an hour drive to Postojna to check one of the most amazing underground caves in the world, where a train will take us in. Drive towards the croatian seaside. Stop en route for lunch. Afternoon arrival to Sibenik. Evening stroll in the old town and to check-out its famous cathedral (UNESCO site). Accommodation in the hotel in Sibenik.

### **DAY 4 SIBENIK – SPLIT - DUBROVNIK**

Drive towards Split, where we will visit the famous Diocletian palace (another UNESCO site). Lunch. In the afternoon drive to the Pearl of Adriatic, the city of Dubrovnik, accommodation in the hotel and overnight.

### **DAY 5 DUBROVNIK – MONTENEGRO - DUBROVNIK**

Morning departure to Montenegro and visit of the Europe's southern most fjord Bay of Kotor, Lovcen mountain and Cetinje monastery. Then back to the coast and past Budva to the famous island Sveti Stefan. Evening return to Dubrovnik.

### **DAY 6 DUBROVNIK – ZAGREB**

City tour of the old town of Dubrovnik. Free afternoon for shopping or at leisure. Evening flight to Zagreb. Short panoramic drive through the town on the way to the hotel will give us the impressions of Croatia's capital.

### **DAY 7 DEPARTURE**

Early morning drive to the airport for a flight to Manila.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TOUR

### LAKE BLED



### POSTOJNA CAVE



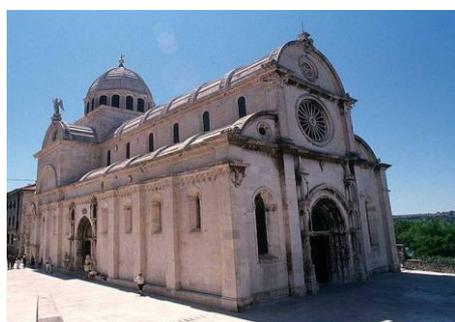


**LJUBLJANA**

**SPLIT (and its Diocletian palace - UNESCO site)**

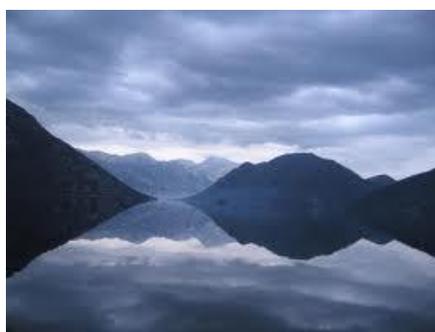


**SIBENIK (and its cathedral)**



**DUBROVNIK (UNESCO site)**

**MONTENEGRO: KOTOR BAY (UNESCO Site), LOVCEN MOUNTAIN, CETINJE and its monastery, SVETI STEFAN ISLAND/PENINSULA**





## CROATIA TOURS

### DUBROVNIK PANORAMA & SIGHTSEEING (HALF DAY)

Program:

This tour will reveal the finest sites of the old walled City as well as give you an opportunity to view it from above at the spectacular panoramic spot.

The walking portion includes visits to the Dominican Monastery with its fine collection of medieval paintings and the Cathedral with its famous Treasury. Our expert guide will lead you through the narrow streets of the Old Town introducing you to the history and culture of this magnificent city. Other splendid buildings will be viewed along the way.

"... those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik" (George Bernard Shaw)

Dubrovnik is the Pearl of the Adriatic - find out why!



Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees.

### DUBROVNIK COUNTRYSIDE (FULL DAY)

Program:

Glimpses of life the way it used to be.

The Konavle valley is a fascinating region in the hinterland of Dubrovnik. Known for its traditional way of living, pure olive oil, green honey, sweet-smelling herbs and embroidery it is a real ethnographic and natural jewel of Croatia. Begin your day by attending the well-known folk dances in the village of Cilipi. The folklore performance shows the beautiful national costumes and thus all the richness of culture and tradition. Be sure not to miss out on the opportunity to stroll around the "open market" set up in the village. Lunch is served in the most attractive restaurant in the Dubrovnik region - Konavoski Dvori. Enjoy a typical meal in an unforgettable setting by the cascading Ljuta river. The day is rounded off with a visit to the home/gallery of Mijo Sisa Konavljani - the only primitive painter in the region. Finally, to crown this eventful day we will make a stop at the Gray Falcon viewpoint, which offers an exquisite view over the whole area including the surrounding islands.



Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees, lunch and welcome drink.

### CILIPi FOLKLORE TOUR (HALF DAY)

Program:

Cilipi - a village with a touch of the past, marked by charming rural landscapes.

Folklore has always been an important aspect of traditional culture - it is a combination of all the phenomena in life, which are passed from one generation to another. Join us for a visit to the village of Cilipi and the traditional folk dances held every Sunday. Experience the richness in culture, folklore traditions and beautiful national costumes. Take a stroll among the many stands where the locals offer their home made products, visit the local Wine Cellar, attend Mass in the local church and finally enjoy the very attractive folk dances.



It will certainly be the morning you will remember!

Included: transportation, guide, welcome drink, entrance fees.

## TOUR OPERATOR **HAPPY TOURS**

Družina Krumpak d.o.o., Ljubljanska cesta 106a, 1230 Domžale, SLOVENIJA  
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### **BIKING TOUR (HALF DAY)**

Program:

Come join us in a trip to the untouched nature of the Konavle valley. You start the ride from the small town of Gruda and immediately upon leaving it you will find yourself on non-trafficated village roads that will take you through orchards, corn fields, vineyards, blackberry bushes and peach groves. On the route are a couple of small rivers that will be crossed before stopping at a small beach to enjoy some fresh fruit. Don't miss this opportunity to discover the region from a completely different perspective.



Included: transfer, instructor, helmet, 1/2 l bottled water, fresh fruit.

### **CANOE SAFARI (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Grab your paddles and let's go! Experience one of the most beautiful rivers in Herzegovina - Trebizat. In this case when we say "experience" we really mean it. Embark our canoes and start the spectacular ride along this intact natural jewel. It is easy and safe even for the beginners who will easily acquire this skill. Crystal clear water, waterfalls, birds, fish and especially the picnic lunch served halfway will make this a day you will not soon forget.

Included: transportation, guide, instructor, canoes & equipment, lunch.

Recommended: sports and swimwear. This excursion is not recommended for non-swimmers.

Note: passport required.



### **EVENING PARTY (EVENING PROGRAM)**

Program:

Join us for an evening in a typical local atmosphere with food, wine and music. We invite you to taste the local grape brandy and dried figs before continuing to the wine cellar where a typical meal of veal and potatoes made under the iron bell will be served. As you enjoy the food you are welcome to help yourself from the wine barrels with local wine. Our musicians will add to the atmosphere of this evening with their local songs. You'll love the way we do it. "Memories last for a lifetime!"

Included: transportation, guide, welcome drink, dinner, music.



### **ISLAND CRUISE (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Just like the streets of Dubrovnik were not built to be seen by carriage but by foot it is certain that the best views of the Dubrovnik region are from the sea. The historical Galleon is certainly the best stage for such a scenery. During this cruise you





will see the three most beautiful islands of the Dubrovnik archipelago - Koločep. Lopud and Sipan commonly known as the Elafiti islands. The old legend of the islands is hidden in it's name-about the old Greeks hunting for deer and subsequently naming the islands the Deer islands.

Green islands, with gardens full of oranges and lemons and lovely seashore landscapes, charming and picturesque villages with harmonious architecture of summer manors; old seaman's houses and little votive churches.

Visit all the three Elaphite islands and enjoy your lunch of grilled fish and wine while being entertained by our local musicians.

Come on board!!!

Don't just visit ... experience it!

Included: transportation, guide, music, lunch, wine.

Note: sportswear recommended.

### **KONAVLE JEEP SAFARI (FULL DAY)**

Program:

This is a unique opportunity to see the spectacular scenery of the Konavle valley from a completely different perspective.

Driving in our high quality vehicles, you will have the chance to get in touch with the nature in your own way. Start the drive by going up to the viewpoint "Gray Falcon" in the hills, which offer a magnificent view of the valley and the Adriatic coast. Continue driving through the valley before reaching the charming seaside village of Molunat where you have a chance to swim and relax in the sea.

The lunch of traditional local specialties will be served in a typical old mill.

Far from the crowds - closer to nature!

Included: transportation, instructor, lunch.

Note: drivers license required, sportswear recommended.



### **ISLAND OF KORCULA (FULL DAY)**

Program

Marco Polo is the property and inheritance of the whole world! Other explorers before him had changed the geography of the world - Marco Polo changed its history. ... and Korcula is his hometown!

The island of Korcula undoubtedly holds a privileged position among the Croatian islands. Here are perhaps even more legends, tales and monuments than anywhere else. Being famous stonemasons, shipbuilders and seafarers the people of Korcula left their marks all over the world, but they saved their best works for their own city. Experience the narrow streets, beautiful churches and magnificent palaces in one of the best preserved Medieval towns in the Mediterranean. Our walking tour of the town will take you to the Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace. After sightseeing free time for lunch or even swimming.

Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees, wine tasting.





### **MEDUGORJE (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Medugorje is a unique phenomenon in the modern world.

It is believed that Our Lady appeared in front of a group of children in 1981. As a result of these apparitions, this simple village parish has become a place of gathering of a multitude of pilgrims from all over the world, and it is nowadays one of the biggest prayer centers. Innumerable witnesses say that they have found faith and peace here. You will have the opportunity to visit the Hill of Apparition and attend Mass in the local church.



Included: transportation, guide.

Note: passport required.

### **ISLAND OF MLJET (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Could the island of Mljet be Homer's Ogygia?

Some people say that Homer, while describing the enchanted island of Ogygia, Ulysses and the nymph Calypso, was actually referring to the island of Mljet. True or not - this island is a real paradise for all those who enjoy intact nature and absolute tranquility.

The main attractions of the island are the two saltwater lakes, surrounded by a lovely thick forest. Enjoy a boat ride from the lakes to the islet of Melita and visit the Benedictine monastery of St. Mary dating from the 12th century. There will be plenty of free time for sunbathing, strolling around the lakes or having a lunch in one of the charming local restaurants.



Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees.

### **MONTENEGRO (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Montenegro is one of the last undiscovered secrets, the country whose vast natural and spiritual assets refuse to fit into any commercial pattern.

Exotic landscapes are not always distant and unapproachable. Only one hour car drive from Dubrovnik, Montenegro offers an unforgettable experience, exceptional natural beauty in combination with a rich history and culture.

This is a land where the mountains descend almost directly into the sea creating a surreal atmosphere. Enjoy the drive around the Kotor Bay with its numerous small settlements; make a stop in the Medieval Kotor to soak in the typical Mediterranean lifestyle; proceed up towards the mountains to visit Cetinje, (which once used to be the center town of the Montenegrin rulers); stroll around in Budva, (the ancient town which is today a lively tourist resort.)

Montenegro is all this and much more!



Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees.

Note: passport required.



### **MOSTAR (FULL DAY)**

Program:

The City where the north meets the south and the west meets the east.

This is a city of poetry, stone and narrow streets, the city where the traveler from the north feels the first breeze of the Mediterranean air, imbued with the scents of citrus and sea whereas the traveler from the south reaches the first glimpses of the continent beyond.

The town is exceptional for its dwellings and monuments assembled harmoniously over the centuries thanks to the favorable geographical conditions and the sound economic climate.

Visit the city sights, which include the Old Bazaar, the Turkish House and one of the many old Mosques.

After the guided tour of the town you will have some free time for a stroll among the many old craft shops or for lunch in one of the picturesque local restaurants.



Included: transportation, guide and entrance fees.

Note: passport required.

### **RAFTING (FULL DAY)**

Program:

For rafting one needs some adventure spirit and love for the untouched nature.

This is the best way to discover the green and blue Neretva river which is perfect for a great family rafting adventure. During the whole time you will be accompanied by our experienced skippers making sure everything runs smoothly. It is easy and safe and even beginners will get the hang of it very quickly. Return in the afternoon hours.



Included: transportation, guide, lunch, skippers.

Note: passport required, sportswear recommended.

Note: during high water levels rafting may take place on the Trebizat river.

### **SAILING (FULL DAY)**

Program:

Enjoy the force of the wind and spend a wonderful day on the water.

The coastline of Croatia is perfect for sailing holidays. With so many islands and small ports, you can stop as many times as you like or sail for as long as you wish. And there is no better way to experience its dramatic beauty than under the sail.

To take part in this unique sailing adventure doesn't crave any knowledge from your side. You will have the possibility to become a crew member, set sails and steer the ship together with experienced sailors.

No holiday to Dubrovnik is complete without spending a wonderful day kicking back, with the Adriatic sun topping up your tan, and the warm winds keeping you cool.



Included: transfer, skipper, refreshment.

**TASTE OF DALMATIA (FULL DAY)**

Program:

This excursion really gives you the chance to TASTE Dalmatia.

In the charming village of Ora'ac take part in the production of olive oil in the old fashioned way, where the 'mill' is driven by a horse. This trip through time will certainly delight you. Here you will also have the opportunity to taste some home made cheese, smoked ham and wine.

All this in an old house which has not changed much through the ages.

In the times of the Dubrovnik Republic, Ston was the second most important town. It's wealth was derived from the salt works that are still in function today. Although being known for the spectacular city walls, that are considered to be the second longest in the world, today this region is predominantly known as the 'oyster capital' of Croatia. Here you will be served a nice sea food platter (octopus, mussels, small fish and an oyster).

Finally we will pay a visit to one of the best known wine producers of the region. The Pelje'ac peninsula has for ages been known for it's excellent wines. And the Milo' family wine cellar is today certainly one of the foremost representatives of this production. During the visit to the cellar a pleasant wine tasting will be organized.



Included: transportation, guide, entrance fees, snack, wine, demonstration of olive oil production, oysters, wine tasting.

THE BALKANS

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Bosnia and Herzegovina is the heart-shaped land that lies in the heart of South-East Europe. It is here that eastern and western civilizations met, sometimes clashed, but more often enriched and reinforced each other throughout its long and fascinating history. It is a stunningly beautiful country, with a vast array of landscapes, cultures, traditions and people. And as the old cliché goes, »people make the place« and Bosnia and Herzegovina prides itself of its hospitality and treating guests as if they were family members. And family they take to heart.

**Highlights:**

**Sarajevo** – a melting-pot city, where Bosnians, Serbs, Croats and Jews managed to live together peacefully for centuries. Bascarsija has been a trading and melting place since the 15th century, as caravans from Asia Minor, Dubrovnik and the West met here to trade their wares.

**Mostar** – famous for its sold bridge, which has become a symbol of the crossroads of Eastern and Western civilizations.

**Travnik** – famous for its Nobel Laureate, writer Ivo Andric, this Ottoman town still best represents what was once called »the european Istanbul«

**Medjugorje** – in the early 1980's several teenagers saw a vision of the Virgin Mary. Since then this sleepy Herzegovina village has been transformed into one of the largest Catholic pilgrimages in the world

**Jajce** – known for the massive waterfall that blesses the heart of the city, it is also extremely important historically

**SERBIA**

Serbia, a country of the future, situated in the heart of the South-East Europe, is worth visiting again, just as it was before the conflict in the Balkans in 1990s. At the crossroads between Slavic civilization and Central Europe, Serbia represents a palette of traditions and cultures unique in Europe. No less than 26 nationalities and four great religions, each and every one of them preserving their customs and folklore, are present here. That gives numerous and variously coloured traditional feasts, as well as the music and dance surrounding you.

**Highlights:**

**Belgrade** – the capital of Serbia bears the name, which could be translated as »the white city«. It will surprise with its cultural identity and its positive party atmosphere

**Novi Sad** – folded on the Danube, with the cultural riches of its monuments and of its many festivals.

**Nis** – the second largest city, also called »The gates between East and West«.



**Studenica monastery** – the most prestigious (out of many) Orthodox monasteries in the country.

**Vrnjačka banja** – the best known spa in Serbia, with a venerable tradition.

## MONTENEGRO

The pearl of the Mediterranean, unique in many ways, is situated in the south of the Adriatic. There is nowhere else that you can find, in such a small place, so much natural wealth, beauty, mild beaches, clear lakes, fast rivers and gorgeous mountains as you can in the small country of Montenegro. In the morning you can wake up along the beautiful Adriatic coast, have lunch on the banks of Skadar Lake, and enjoy evening walks in the Montenegrin mountains. Montenegro is a place that cannot leave you indifferent.

### Highlights:

**Kotor** – the southernmost fjord of Europe, and also a town with rich history.

**Sveti Stefan** – hotel island – a favourite of the European aristocracy.

**Budva** – old town with extremely vibrant night life.

**Tara Canyon** – rafting down one of the deepest gorges in the world, probably the only rival to Colorado.

**Lake Skadar** – the last resort of the pelicans.

**Cetinje and Lovcen Mausoleum** – a visit to the greatest poet and ruler of Montenegro.

## FYR MACEDONIA

»There, where the sun shines forever – there is Macedonia« is from an old popular song. Macedonia is exactly that – a small country where the sun always shines, in the scenic heart of the Balkans. From their savory cuisine to their love of music, dance and general merrymaking, Macedonians know how to make their guests feel at home. Combining these qualities with the country's dramatic mountain and canyons, its deep lakes and rivers, Macedonia has something for everyone.

### Highlights:

**Skopje** – Macedonia's capital is a synthesis of old and new, of antiquity and modernity, attesting to a long history of great civilizations and turbulent events.

**Ohrid** – Set along the north-eastern shore of the lake for which it is named, Ohrid is undoubtedly the most beautiful and unique of all Macedonian towns.

**Bitola** – lying in Macedonia's southern heartland, is the country's second city, and the most stylish one, too.

**Galicnik wedding** – held every year on 14th and 15th of July, this is probably the most famous ceremony of its kind in the world.

## ALBANIA

In the heart of the Mediterranean, on the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, Albania is fast becoming one of the world's most interesting gateways. Still relatively unspoiled by globalization, tourists will notice and inspiring mix of civilizations and cultures, making this European country truly unique.

### Highlights:

**Tirana** – the capital of Albania, has both Italian as well as Turkish monuments, lying as it does exactly between Rome and Istanbul.

**Shkodra** – a very old city (about 2400 years) that has managed to keep its characteristic appearance.

**Durres** – one of the most important harbour towns.

**Kruja** – perched high in the mountains, this is the home town of the Albanian national hero and famous rebel against the Turks, Skanderbeg.

**SERBIA, CROATIA AND MONTENEGRO**

10nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO BELGRADE**

Arrival to Belgrade Airport in the afternoon hours, transfer to the hotel within the city, check in and refresh. Stroll through the streets of Belgrade, located on the conflux of Sava and Danube rivers. Dinner in a traditional local restaurant in the Skadarlija bohemian quarter.

**DAY 2 BELGRADE**

After breakfast a full day sightseeing of the former Yugoslavian capital, including the visits to the famous Kalemegdan fort, the largest orthodox church Saint Sava, the museum of ex-yugoslav president Tito and many other. Dinner at one of the famous restaurants floating on Danube river and party.

**DAY 3 BELGRADE – ZAGREB**

After early breakfast transfer to the main station for a ride to Zagreb by train. Upon arrival to Croatian capital, transfer to the hotel and check in. After refreshing a walk through the city's well preserved historical centre with St. Mark's Church, the Parliament, the Government Palace and the Cathedral, followed by a dinner at one of the local restaurants.

**DAY 4 ZAGREB**

After breakfast an excursion to the most beautiful Croatia castle, the Trakošćan Castle. Then visit to Krapina prehistoric men museum and the village of Kumrovec, where our ex-president Tito was born. The whole village has been converted into an open-air museum. Afternoon return to the capital.

**DAY 5 ZAGREB – DUBROVNIK – HERCEG NOVI**

After breakfast transfer to the Zagreb airport for a flight to Dubrovnik. Upon arrival, city tour of Dubrovnik, inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. Visit to the Cathedral and Franciscan Monastery with Europe's third oldest pharmacy. A stroll on the 25 metre high wall on the coastal side of Dubrovnik is an option. In the late evening hours transfer to the hotel in Herceg Novi (Montenegro) and overnight.

**DAY 6 HERCEG NOVI – KOTOR – LOVČEN - CETINJE – HERCEG NOVI**

After breakfast a tour of the Europe's southern most fjord Bay of Kotor, with the fortified town of Kotor. Continue to Lovčeni to visit King Njegoš's Mausoleum and enjoy the wonderful view of the Kotor Bay. Followed by a visit to Cetinje, the old capital of Montenegro. In the evening return to Herceg Novi.

**DAY 7 HERCEG NOVI – TARA RIVER – DURMITOR NATIONAL PARK – OSTROG MONASTERY – HERCEG NOVI**

Free time at the beach or optional tour:

Whole day excursion to Tara river gorge and Durmitor national park. Tara is the deepest canyon in Europe with the beautiful river very popular for white-water rafting. Visit to the monastery Ostrog, perched in the mountain cliff on the way back. Overnight at the coast side.

**DAY 8 HERCEG NOVI – BUDVA – ST. STEFAN ISLAND - HERCEG NOVI.**

In the morning visit to Budva then to the luxury island resort St. Stefan. Afternoon free to relax and enjoy the sun and beach and the crystal clear sea water.

**DAY 9 HERCEG NOVI – PODGORICA – ZLATIBOR - BELGRADE**

After breakfast transfer to Podgorica, the capital of Montenegro. After a short stroll through the city centre continuation by train via the Zlatibor mountains to Belgrade. Evening arrival to the Serbian capital.

**DAY 10 BELGRADE**

Free to enjoy the sights of Belgrade. Optional a boat trip through Sava and Danube river.

**DAY 11 DEPARTURE**

After breakfast transfer to the Belgrade Airport for a flight back home.





## BELGRADE

Once the capital of former Yugoslavia, now of Serbia, once a barrier of the West on the Balkans peninsula, now a party town that welcomes young people and those who feel young from all over the world. The locals, cosmopolitan and famous for their hospitality, unparalleled in Europe would be happy to welcome you and show you the best that this city on the conflux of Sava and Danube has to offer

### DAY 1

Landing / Arriving in Belgrade

Group welcoming by the local tourist guide

Transfer to the hotel in Belgrade and check-in

Sightseeing tour of Belgrade by bus in duration of three hours with local licensed tourist guide

(incl. the visit to the famous Kalamegdan fort, the largest orthodox church Saint Sava, the mausoleum of ex-yugoslav president Tito, etc.)

Dinner in a typical local restaurant in Skadarlija bohemian quarter

Return to the hotel and overnight



### DAY 2

Breakfast in the hotel followed by the whole day cruise along the longest European river, the Danube, toward Belegis's isles. Arrival and preparation for the picnic (fish stew or barbeque), guitar music, swimming, fishing, sports and games and competitions would be organised. Afternoon departure back to Belgrade with activities continuing aboard the ship  
Dinner in the restaurant on the raft on the Danube river.



### DAY 3

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by a half day excursion to Sremski Karlovci

Lunch and wine degustation during the tour, go-kart races.

Award winning ceremony in one of the best restaurants in town. Animation throughout the evening.

Return to the hotel and overnight.



### DAY 4

Breakfast at the hotel

Departure to the airport and farewell to Serbia



## CROATIA, BOSNIA, SERBIA AND HUNGARY

6nights



### DAY 1 VIENNA – ZAGREB

Morning departure to Zagreb from Vienna. Upon arrival sightseeing of Zagreb, Croatian capital city, including the fortified Upper Town, the city's historical centre, St Mark's church with multi-coloured roof, the Cathedral, Croatian National Theatre and University. Dinner and overnight in Zagreb.



### DAY 2 ZAGREB – PLITVICE – DUBROVNIK

Morning departure for Plitvice National Park, inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. Tour of the 16 crystal - blue lakes cascading into 92 spectacular waterfalls. Walk on the wooden promenades to view majestic waters where every turn leads to a breathtaking scenery and yet another waterfall. Surrounded by dense woods Plitvice lakes are a natural phenomenon of rare and unique beauty. Departure to Dubrovnik. Dinner and overnight in Dubrovnik.

### DAY 3 DUBROVNIK – MOSTAR – SARAJEVO

After breakfast at the hotel city tour of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. We will visit the Monastery with Europe's third oldest pharmacy. Mostar, city of bridges, where the travellers from of the continent beyond. After the Mostar city Capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Dinner and



Dubrovnik, inscribed on the List of Cathedral and Franciscan In the afternoon departure to the south reach the first glimpses tour departure for Sarajevo, the overnight in Sarajevo.

### DAY 4 SARAJEVO – BELGRADE

After breakfast city tour of Sarajevo. Sarajevo is one of the most historically interesting cities in Europe. It is the place where the Western & Eastern Roman Empire split; where the people of the Eastern Orthodox east, the Ottoman south and the Roman Catholic west, met, lived and warred. It has been an example of historical turbulence and the clash of civilizations, as well as a beacon of hope for peace and tolerance through multi-cultural integration. In the afternoon free time to shop on the interesting Baščaršija. Dinner and overnight in Sarajevo.



### DAY 5 BELGRADE

In the morning drive to Beograd, the capital of Serbia and once the capital city of Yugoslavia. This day in magnificent Belgrade can be dedicated to strolling on the city's beautiful boulevards or visiting some of the its fine museums and art galleries, or you can enjoy guided sightseeing tour of Belgrade: morning sightseeing tour of Belgrade, founded in the 6th century, includes the imposing Kalemegdan Fortress, at the confluence of the Sava and Danube Rivers, Republic Square and Mihajlova Street. Also see the Orthodox Cathedral of St. Sava and Tito's Memorial, dedicated to Yugoslavia's former leader. Enjoy dinner in a

traditional Serbian restaurant in the bohemian quarter of Skadarlija. Take the boat and stream down the river Sava. Overnight in Belgrade.

### DAY 6 BELGRADE, NOVI SAD, BUDAPEST

After breakfast a short morning walk and some free time in the city for shopping. Then head to Budapest the capital of Hungary. A short stop in Novi Sad. Arrive in Budapest in the afternoon. Walking tour of Buda, including visits to the Royal Palace, Matthias Church, and the Fisherman's Bastion. Admire the evening view from Castle Hill on the Buda side of the river over the Parliament and the Chain Bridge on the Danube River. In Pest, visits to Heros' Square, Parliament, St. Stephen's Basilica, the synagogue. Dinner with gypsy music and overnight.



### DAY 7 BUDAPEST

Free for shopping and optional the Buda castle tour. Departure.

**FROM SOFIA TO BELGRADE, SIBIU, BRASOV AND BUCHAREST**

8 nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO SOFIA**

Arrive in Sofia. You will be met at the Airport and transferred to the hotel. Refresh and relax before the welcome dinner.

**DAY 2 SOFIA**

Half day Sofia city tour. The highlights of the tour will be visits to the National History Museum where the gold and silver Thracian treasures are displayed, the Alexander Nevski Cathedral and Alexander Nevski Crypt. Evening at leisure to relax. Overnight.

**DAY 3 SOFIA-NIS-BELGRADE**

After breakfast departure to Nis. On the route visit Studenica Monastery, one of the largest and richest Serb Orthodox monasteries. In 1986 UNESCO included Studenica monastery on the list of World Heritage. In the evening, arrival to Belgrade. Enjoy dinner with local live music in a typical national restaurant in the old bohemian quarter of Skadarlija. Overnight.

**DAY 4 BELGRADE**

Your morning sightseeing tour includes the city's main attractions: the imposing Kalemegdan Fortress dramatically situated at the joining of the Sava and Danube Rivers; the Republic Square and Knez Mihajlova street; Saint Sava Temple, the largest Orthodox Church in the city, and Tito's Memorial.

**DAY 5 BELGRADE – TIMISOARA – HUNEDOARA - SIBIU**

After breakfast departure to Sibiu. A short visit of Timisoara, the city where Romanian revolution started in 1989. Lunch en route is included. On the way to Sibiu, we will visit the fortress of Hunedoara, that became the castle of the most pre-eminent king of the medieval - Matia Corvin. The monument has a special glamour due to its different construction styles, the presence of military and civil innovations as well as for the impetuous court life that animated it for more than 400 years. Arrival to Sibiu and accommodation with dinner.

**DAY 6 SIBIU - SIGHISOARA - BRASOV**

After breakfast, sightseeing tour of Sibiu, once the richest town in Transylvania. During the tour you will see the Huet Square, the Large Square, the Evangelical Cathedral, the Liars' Bridge and others. Continue towards Sighisoara, the best preserved medieval city in South-Eastern Europe, for sightseeing tour including entrance to the famous Clock Tower Museum. Continue to Brasov, walking tour of Brasov including the visit of the First Romanian School with an impressive collection of rare books. Accommodation and dinner in a local restaurant.

**DAY 7 BRASOV - BUCHAREST**

Following breakfast departure towards Bran. Visit of the Bran Castle made famous by Bram Stoker's novel as the residence of the vampire count, Dracula. Continue to Bucharest and stop in Peles Castle built as the summer residence of King Carol I. Afterwards continue to the 17th century Sinaia Monastery and to Bucharest. After arrival accommodation at your hotel and dinner.

**DAY 8 BUCHAREST**

Get acquainted with the Romanian capital, once nicknamed "Little Paris". During the tour you will visit the Parliament Palace, the second largest building in the world after the Pentagon and the National Treasure. Listen how the Romanian people finally succeeded to topple the last communist dictator in Eastern Europe in the Revolution Square. Your tour will bring you also to the Romanian Athenaeum, the Opera House, the National Military Club, the Military Academy, Triumphal Arch and The Village Museum. Farewell dinner with folklore show.)

**DAY 9 DEPART BUCHAREST**

After breakfast you have some time at leisure until the departure transfer to the airport for your flight home.

**FROM ATHENS, KALAMBAKA, OHRID AND TIRANA TO DUBROVNIK**

9 nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO ATHENS**

You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner in a traditional Greek tavern in Plaka, the old part of Athens.

**DAY 2 ATHENS**

See the highlights of Athens this morning on a sightseeing tour. This cosmopolitan and bustling capital city is set amidst reminders of a long and glorious past: graceful temples, centuries-old monasteries, and ornate Byzantine churches. Visit the immortal Acropolis, the Parthenon, the Erechtheion with the Porch of the Maidens, the Temple of Athena Nike and the Wingless Victory. Below the Acropolis lies the ancient Agora and the Theaters of Dionysus and Herodus Atticus. Your afternoon and evening are free.

**DAY 3 ATHENS – DELPHI - KALAMBAKA**

Your first stop this morning is Delphi, where the famous oracle foretold the destiny of men. The Temple of Apollo, in which the oracle functioned, was built in the 6th century B.C. Also see the Sacred Way, the Stadium and the Castilian Fountain, where pilgrims cleansed themselves in preparation for consulting the oracle.

Visit the Archaeological Museum of Delphi, which contains an impressive collection of finds from the site, including the beautiful "Bronze Charioteer," before continuing on to Kalambaka.

**DAY 4 KALAMBAKA – OHRID**

After breakfast, admire the fantastic landscapes of Meteora, known as "the rocks that fell from the sky." Here monks built their rock-top monasteries, far away from civilization. Of the 13 large and 20 small monasteries and hermit's cells, only 4 are now active. The most important is Megalo or Great Meteoro, of peculiar architecture with its tall and intricate dome, 12 sides and fine frescoes. Continue across the border to Macedonia, and on to Ohrid.

**DAY 5 OHRID – TIRANA**

The lakeside resort of Ohrid is an important cultural and spiritual center, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Start your morning sightseeing tour with a walk through the cobblestone streets of the old town. Visit the Cathedral of St. Sofia, containing some magnificent frescoes from the 10th century. In the early afternoon, travel to Tirana, the capital of Albania.

**DAY 6 TIRANA**

On the morning sightseeing tour, see the Skanderbeg Square, the Mosque of Et'hem Bey, the Clock Tower, and the statue of G.K. Skanderbeg, Albania's national hero; the Palace of Culture, built with Soviet assistance; and the National History Museum, with a mosaic on its facade portraying Albanian history. Your afternoon is free to continue exploring on your own, shop, or just relax.

**DAY 7 TIRANA - DUBROVNIK**

After breakfast, depart Tirana and travel to the town of Shkodra, a cultural center and one of Albania's oldest cities. See the ruins of Rozafa Castle, set on a hill high above the city, then cross the border into Montenegro and on to Croatia and beautiful Dubrovnik.

**DAY 8 DUBROVNIK**

There is a walking tour of "Old Dubrovnik" this morning; the Rector's Palace, Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column and the Sponza Palace. You will also see the Dominican Monastery and Franciscan Monastery with its pharmacy, one of the oldest of the world. The rest of the day is at leisure.

**DAY 9 DUBROVNIK**

Today, full day is at leisure to relax, shop or explore on your own.

**DAY 10 DEPARTURE FROM DUBROVNIK**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your departure flight.



ITALY

**ROME- FLORENCE**

5 nights

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO ROME**

Arrival to Rome and transfer to the hotel. After check-in some time for refreshment. Dinner in the restaurant.

**DAY 2 ROME**

After breakfast whole day tour of Rome: Colloseum and Forum Romanum, up to the Capittol Hill and Vittorio Emmanuel II Square, then on to Panteon. Lunch. After lunch exploration of the baroque centre of the city: Fontana di Trevi, Piazza Navona, the Spanish stairs. Return to the hotel for refreshment. Dinner in the restaurant. Overnight.

**DAY 3 ROME**

Morning visit of Vatican with St. Peter's cathedral and Vatican museum (Rafael's chambers and the Sistine Chappel). Lunch. In the afternoon free for shopping. Dinner in the restaurant. Overnight.

**DAY 4 ROME - FLORENCE**

After breakfast check-out from the hotel and transfer to Florence. Midday arrival to the capital city of Tuscany and check-in the hotel. Lunch. In the afternoon visit to Uffizi gallery. Dinner.

**DAY 5 FLORENCE**

After breakfast half day city tour with Ponte Vecchio, Cathedral and Baptistry, David monument, tombs of the Medici family in San Lorenzo church, past Pitti and many other palaces. Lunch. Afternoon for shopping. Dinner.

**DAY 6 DEPARTURE FROM FLORENCE (via ROME)**

After breakfast check-out from the hotel and transfer to the airport

**VENICE – ROME**

5 nigts

**DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO VENICE**

Arrival to Venice. Meet and greet and transfer from the airport to the Venice directly by boat straight to your hotel. Check-in. Free or at leisure. Dinner. Overnight

**DAY 2 VENICE**

Whole day tour of the magnificent Venice. We will start the day at St. Mark's Square where we will visit the St. Mark's Basilica and its famous Palo d'Oro. Next to it is the Doge's Palace and behind it is the well known Bridge of Sighs, where Casanova and others were taken to the prison. Walk past many churches and canals towards Rialto, the most famous bridge above the Canal Grande. Lunch. After that we will admire the presentation of the Venetian glass blowing and then head to the private gondola ride through the canals. Free for shopping or souvenirs hunting. Dinner and return to the hotel for overnight.

**DAY 3 VENICE-ROME**

Whole day drive from Venice to Rome. Inbetween stop in an Outlet store village near Florence. Continuation to Rome, accommodation and check-in.

**DAY 4 ROME**

We will start the day by leaving the hotel by bus to get to the Saint Callixtus catacombs. There are more than sixty catacombs in Rome with hundreds of miles of galleries and tens of thousands of tombs and they were formed by the early Christians as underground cemeteries. Among them Calixtus catacombs near the famous ancient roman path Via Appia are considered one of the most interesting. We will visit and explore some of its chambers and tunnels. Then we will head to Vatican for Sunday' mass in St. Peter's Cathedral. Lunch in the Vatican area. In the afternoon we will head to the tour of the Vatican's museums, where among else we'll check the famous Rafael's stanzas and the Sixtine Chappel, painted with Michelangelo's most famous frescoes. Return to the hotel area, dinner and overnight.

**DAY 5 ROME**

After breakfast walk into the Colosseum, the biggest amphitheatre in the Roman world that could sit an enormous crowd of 50.000 people. From here we will continue past Forum Romanum, ancient Rome's main square. On the other side there is the smallest of seven Roman hills, Capitoline and beneath the Monument of Vittorio Emanuele, the king who united Italy. Lunch. Not far away is one of the most famous structures of the roman architecture, Pantheon. Walk to Piazza Navona and Campo di Fiori nearby. Then on to the Fontana di Trevi, known for a song »Three coins in a Fountain«. Not far from here are Spanish Stairs and nearby there is a lot of shopping opportunities to spot world famous brands, many of which are of Italian origin. Dinner and return to the hotel afterwards.

**DAY 6 DEPARTURE FROM ROME**

Morning transfer from the hotel to Fiumicino airport for the flight to Manila.

**LEARN HOW TO COOK ITALIAN FOOD**

**Learn to cook delicious Italian pasta in the enchanting environment of the Italian villa less than an hour drive from Venice.**

**We are offering one-day cooking classes, three-day classes with full-board accommodation or we can spice your existing itinerary with a half-day cooking class.**

Choose hands-on cooking classes to create an unforgettable holiday that combines Italian food, art, and culture. Programs are offered in April, May, June, September and October. Our daily classes begin at 10:30 and end around 2:00, allowing you time to explore the art and culture of Veneto on your own. Your accommodations will be in the lovely Italian villa near Rovigo (80 km from Venice). You will enjoy the great care to detail that the owners, Ms. Maria give to the hotel, the restaurant, and, most importantly, to their guests. Under their watchful eyes, Maria has transformed the medieval aged villa into one of Veneto's finest hotels, all the while keeping its original old style, charm, and ambiance.

In the summer the garden is cool and green and guests can relax in our swimming pool or can enjoy sipping a cool glass of Prosecco under the roof terrace. For lovers of Italian food, we offer a unique hands-on opportunity to participate in small groups in a cooking experience. The local women of Veneto will share their techniques, special ingredients, and family recipes. Our classes are ideal for cooks at all experience levels. And you'll join them a "tavola" to enjoy what you've prepared.

For wine lovers, we're situated not so far from Valpolicella where the famous Amarone is produced. Lets you explore Venice on your own. Our staff can help with museum and dinner reservations, guided tours, outlet shopping, and



additional days in and around Venice with car and driver. You are invited to explore the surrounding area and make the program as structured or unstructured as you wish.



## Programs

### ONE DAY COOKING CLASS



If you don't have time for a full culinary week or weekend, the best option is to choose the **one-day cooking class**, which always includes the meal with wine after the lesson. You can discover step-by-step how to make a satisfying, full Italian meal from appetizers to dessert, including the art of **making pasta fresca**.

You'll learn to create such pastas as ravioli, tagliettli, gnocchi in this fun, hands-on pasta-making adventure. Recipes vary according to the season, utilizing only the freshest ingredients available and providing you with a deeply individual Italian experience.

The best part is the conclusion: indulging in the success of your creations.

Classes are on request, based upon availability, for a **minimum of two people**, when a booking is confirmed for two people, it does not guarantee a private class, only that you will have a guaranteed space in that class.

**Program: 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Hands-on and demonstration cooking lesson which are available from Monday to Friday.

### THREE DAY COOKING CLASS



Our cooking vacations will allow you to immerse yourself in the culture and lifestyle of Veneto and learn to cook authentic Italian dishes in an informal and friendly environment.

Classes are limited to 8/10 participants. The classes are small enough to accommodate cooks of all levels and are ideal for small groups of family and friends.

It is also possible to bring along a non-participating partner who can spend the day enjoying the surroundings, sightseeing or playing golf and could then join the group at dinnertime.

### MONDAY ARRIVAL, 1ST COOKING CLASS, AND CHEESE TASTING

Arrival at the villa. Time to mingle with the other guests!

This day we're going to start making pasta using techniques and recipes handed down through generations of local women. Lunch at the villa. In the afternoon you will meet our cheese expert **Mario Piccinin** for a culinary excursion to Borgoforte.

**Our guided tour introduces you to the art of cheese making:** step by step, you will follow



## TOUR OPERATOR **HAPPY TOURS**

Družina Krumpak d.o.o., Ljubljanska cesta 106a, 1230 Domžale, SLOVENIJA  
T: +386-(0)590-78-200 F: +386-(0)590-78-205 E: info@happytours.eu



[www.happytours.eu](http://www.happytours.eu)

the entire course of cheese production, from the fermentation process to the maturing techniques and final refinement with local herbs and spices. The tour can be combined with a guided cheese tasting.

### **TUESDAY**                      **2ND COOKING CLASS AND WINE TOUR TO BAGNOLI DOC**

Hands-on cooking lesson on meat, fish and herbs or vegetables and starters. Lunch at the villa.

After lunch we'll have a wine tasting at *Il Dominio di Bagnoli* where you'll taste the famous Friularo (red dry wine), will be back at 6.30 pm.

Dinner at the villa.

### **WEDNESDAY**                      **: 3RD COOKING CLASS AND CULINARY TOUR TO MONTAGNANA**

Hands-on cooking lesson on meat, fish and herbs or vegetables and starters. At the end, we sit down and enjoy the meal together.

In the afternoon you are going to tour the *Montagnana* which is famous for the Prosciutto (ham). This experience includes a sampling of the finest prosciutto and not only will you taste amazing food, but we'll share the secrets behind how these favourites are made, give you the chance to meet the owners, and learn what to look for in truly great food.

Dinner at the villa.

### **THURSDAY**                      **DEPARTURE**

Breakfast, transfer to airport or train station, departure.

**WISHING YOU a PLEASANT STAY,  
Your Happy Tours!**





MORE ABOUT SLOVENIA



## SLOVENIA ACTIVE HOLIDAYS

**We've all been on holiday and seen others participating in outdoor pursuits and felt like having a go ourselves. Whether it's a new experience that you wish or that you want to broaden your current knowledge or experience a challenge in new environment...**

We can now offer you an active and educational breaks in Slovenia, Austria and Italy. With us you can:

- experience the satisfaction of the amazing sceneries
- share the excitement of photo - hunting
- enjoy the peace and remoteness of the mountains
- embrace the cultural and culinary richness of the Alpine valleys, the kindness of its people and the magic of rivers, waterfalls, canyons and caves.



Our goal is to show you the countries in the Alps all the way to the Adriatic sea. Whether you are looking for a relaxing gateway into the wild, to enjoy the natural beauty of the unspoiled nature, participate in interesting workshops of traditional crafts, hunt for pictures on an exciting photo safari, or if you want to arrange an active, safe and educational holiday for your children. And in between you will get the opportunity to challenge yourself through either adrenalin sports or your own physical capabilities.



Whether you are a family - with little children, adults seeking for real adventure, an athletic individual seeking for a challenging adventure or just looking for a chance to empty your mind and leave your worries behind for a few days... Our active holidays are suitable for everyone.



**Our goal is to provide an interesting and unforgettable experience for you, to provide you a safe and challenging break, that will leave a trace of satisfaction and self confidence and a chance to rest your troubles for a while....**

**Our offer:**

Tailor made activities for groups or individuals

Summer activities:	Water sports:	Winter activities:	Theme activities :
Hiking Trekking Nordic walking Photo safari Cycling Ballon, aircraft and parachute Paragliding Cave trekking Cave cycling Horseback riding Golf Tresure hunting	Rafting Canyoning Kayaking Swimming Hydrospeeding Water skiing Wake boarding Old - style rafting Canoeing Diving Boating	Skiing Snowboarding Cross-country skiing Skating Sleding Ski touring Ice - climbing Sledding Night sledding Snowshoeing Night snowshoeing Snowrafting Dog sledding	Igloo villlage Indian village Alpine village Thematic and sightseeing trails Old-craft workshops Fotosafari Culinary cycling Tresure hunting Traditional food and cultural heritage Dog rescue search

Our packages involve: accommodation, transfer, professional guides, activities organisation.



**MULTI ACTIVE HOLIDAY IN SLOVENIA**

FROM THE ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC SEA

**Length of stay:** 10 days  
**Type of services:** coach, accommodation, local guide  
**Type of holiday:** Active holidays suitable for smaller groups  
**Type of accommodation:** Sleeping in huts, farm houses, pensions.  
**Level of difficulty:** Moderate  
 (basic condition, ability to walk for three to four hours/day, healthy, cycle to 30 km per day)  
**Point of arrival:** Possible pick-up in Ljubljana or nearby airport (Venice, Vienna, Munich,...)



**DAY 1 LJUBLJANA, LOGARSKA VALLEY**

Arrival to Ljubljana – the capital city. After arriving we will take a quick look at the Slovenian capital city. You will learn something about the locals and local habits, take some time for exploring the **Ljubljana Old Town** with its incredible baroque buildings and lively centre. With a funicular we'll visit Ljubljana Castle overlooking the City of Dragon and optional river cruise sail along river Ljubljanica. Afterwards we will drive to Logarska valley. Dinner and overnight at one of the tourist farms in this wonderful surroundings.



**DAY 2 LOGARSKA VALLEY - AN ACTIVE DAY**

Today we will enjoy one of the most beautiful Alpine valleys.  
 Morning: sightseeing, walking along the thematic trail in Logarska valley. A walking path (2–3 hours) through the valley leads past a number of points of interest: the source of Črna creek, wooden logging chutes, a burl-covered ash tree, a charcoal-maker's hut, all the way to the Rinka waterfall.  
 Afternoon: optional - a trip to the Sv. Duh village – panoramic route, with amazing view, for more adventures we can organize paragliding experience, horse riding experience or a try out at rock climbing...



**DAY 3 LOGARSKA VALLEY – KRANJSKI RAK – VELIKA PLANINA – KAMNIK (4 – 5 HOUR WALK – THE WHOLE DAY)**



After breakfast a drive to Kranjski rak where we will start day trip up to Velika Planina, ( 1 hr 35 min easy walk) where we will visit a herdsmen village. Afterwards we will return on the other path that will take us to Kamniška Bistrica where the bus will be waiting to take us to Bled. Accommodation in nice hotel with small spa.  
 (optionally it is possible to climb Velika Planina with the cable as well).



**DAY 4 - BLED – DAY FOR REST, SIGHTSEEING**

Today we have a day of rest in famous spa resort Bled. We recommend to visitors, who are interested in learning something more about Bled, to take a sightseeing tour around this resort. Bled was discovered by the tourists in the middle of the 19th century, after a Swiss doctor Arnold Rikli built a climactic health centre there.



Bled is often mentioned as the pearl of the Alpine region. It is unique with its emerald-green lake, a church on the island in the middle of the lake and a medieval castle from the 11th century, perched on a cliff above the lake.

After a bus ride around the lake a guided tour of Bled castle will start. Then you will be taken by Bled's typical "pletna" boat to the island.

**DAY 5 LAKE BOHINJ - SAVICA WATERFALL – KOMNA – TRIGLAV LAKES (5 H WALK)**

First we take a look at Savica waterfall, Sava Bohinjka's spring that is the source of Lake Bohinj. Then we will use a gravel path made by soldiers in WW1 to climb Komna and from here on over a few solitary mountains to the mountain hut near Triglav lakes, where we will spend the night in the mountain hut.

Altitudes: Savica waterfall (653m), Komna (1520 m), Triglav lakes (1685 m)



**DAY 6: TRIGLAV LAKES – ŠTAPCE – ZELNARICA – PLANINA OVČARIJA – PLANINA NEAR THE LAKE –BLATO MOUNTAIN: 5 H**



*The only difficult spot of this trip are a few meters of ladder (steps), near the peak of Štapce pass. Then we take an easy path across mountains to Blato Mountain, where transport awaits.*

Altitudes: Triglav Lakes: 1685 m (Mountain hut near Triglav lakes), Štapce: 1851 m, Planina Ovčarija: 1660 m, Planina pri jezeru: 1453 m (Planina near the lake mountain hut), Blato Mountain: 1147 m.

Followed by transfer to Bled and overnight.

**DAY 7 VRŠIČ PASS – SOČA RIVER CANYON – BOVEC – CYCLING TOUR**



From Bled we drive through Radovna River valley towards the largest Slovenian ski resort – Kranjska Gora. After a short break we continue towards the mountain pass Vršič (1611 m), which is located at the center of Triglav National Park. From Vršič, we ascend into the Trenta Valley, home of the well known Soča River. Our bicycling tour for today starts here. The tour takes us through the idyllic alpine surrounding of the Trenta Valley, from the spring, along the river-bed, past Kluže Fort, all the way to Bovec. We spend the night in Bovec.

Bicycle track length: approximately 30 km, approximate time of duration: 3 – 4 hours



**DAY 8 SOČA RIVER VALLEY**

**Bovec**, where in a well-known sports centre the experienced masters of “rafting” will already wait for us. Dressed in special clothes and equipped with life jacket, helmets and informed about the river and “rafting” we will set out on our entertaining journey. After the last descent the instructors will reward us with special recognition.



You can chose canyoning as an optional tour.

If you prefer heights to the river rapids you will have a wonderful opportunity to climb on Mount Kanin. With a cable car we will ascend on the height of approximate 2.400 m and in good weather we will enjoy the pure mountain air and breathtaking view. Full of beautiful impressions we will turn back to the valley where we will join to the rest of the group having a diverting picnic at the emerald river. If we won't be too tired of all these adventures, we will visit also the **spring of the river Soča**, which with the blue-green color enchants even the most exacting visitors.

For history buffs in the nearby village of Kobarid you can check the award winning WW1 museum – this area witnessed the largest mountain battle in human history with Rommel and Hemigway being present.

**DAY 9 KARST REGION – ŠKOCJAN CAVES - PIRAN - SIGHTSEEING**



After breakfast drive through the heart of Karst region (the original Karst, after which all such terrain types around the world got their name), passing Komen, Dutovlje and Tomaj, the birth place of our famous poet Srečko Kosovel. Through Sežana we will continue to the Region Park of **Škocjanske jame** (Caves of Škocjan). After the visit of this world famous karst wonder, which is on UNESCO's World Heritage List, we will drive over Črni Kal to Slovenian Istria. We will visit a small village of **Hrastovlje** and the Church of Holy Trinity with the famous fresco of the Dance of the Dead. We will have some more free time in the seaside city of **Piran**, where you can walk through the mystic streets or visit one of the numerous coffeehouses that this medieval city offers. This pleasant break will follow the drive

(for additional payment by boat Solinarika) to the Nature Park **Sečoveljske Soline** (The Sečovlje Salina). In the Ethnographical Museum we will get to know how the salt was produced since the early beginnings till today. (optional). In the nearby village **Sveti Peter** we will visit the remarkable Tonina-house, which owns the original oil press from the beginnings of the last century. On your request we will conclude this gathering with a dinner in a famous tourist farm.

**DAY 10 PIRAN – FIESA – SCUBA DIVING OR RIDING THE HYDROFOIL**



In the morning we drive to the Slovenian coast, where we dress into diving-suits, put on masks and breathing devices and perform intro dive in Fiesa or ride the hydrofoil. If the water is warm, there will be plenty of time also for sunbathing and swimming.





**OPTIONAL OFFER FOR ACTIVE DAY IN LOGARSKA VALLEY:**

**Horse riding**



For all who love animals, horse riding is the perfect sport to choose. Mount a horse with a help of our horse riding instructor or go for an individual horse riding trip.

**Nordic walking**



Becoming more and more popular, nordic walking is the activity of walking for fitness using specially designed poles which help unweight your knees and hips. With the help of an experienced instructor you will learn the right nordic walking technique.

**Skydiving**



Experienced skydivers will take you to the sky where you will be able to see the Upper Savinja Valley from another perspective – pure relaxation for your body and mind.

**Archery**



This is a sport for beginners as well as for professionals. We can teach you how to handle a bow and arrow and you can rent the archery equipment and try it on the 3D archery targets.

**Caving**



The Upper Savinja Valley is known for its cliffs and karst caves, among which Snezna jama (the Snow Cave) is the most well known.

**All adventurers are welcome to come and discover secluded caves with us!**



## FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN SLOVENIA

### 2012

EVENTS	CITY	DATES
EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE	MARIBOR	All year
GOLDEN FOX – FIS ALPINE SKI WORLD CUP	MARIBOR	21th – 22th January 2012
5. INTERNATIONAL HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL	BLED	3rd _ 5th February 2012
CARNIVAL – »PUST«	PTUJ	End of February
51th VITRANC CUP	KRANJSKA GORA	10th – 11th March 2012
PLANICA SKI FLIGHTS	PLANICA	15th – 18th March 2012
FOLK-STYLE MUSIC EVENING »ALPSKI VEČER«	BLED	12th May 2012
CHERRY FESTIVAL	BRDA	June
OBERKRAINER WURST FESTIVAL	SORA	24th – 26st August 2012
HARLEY DAVISON WEEK	FAAKER SEE - AUSTRIA	September
FESTIVAL OF OBERKRAINER MUSIC	BLED	17th November 2012
MERRY DECEMBER	BLED	December
NEW YEAR'S EVE IN MARIBOR	MARIBOR	31th December 2012
NEW YEAR'S EVE IN LJUBLJANA	LJUBLJANA	31th December 2012
FESTIVAL OF THE OLD VINE – TRADITIONAL CULINARY, WINE, FRUIT AND CULTURE	MARIBOR	End of September 2012



#### GOLDEN FOX – FIS ALPINE SKI WORLD CUP

21th – 22th January 2012

Experience the unforgettable atmosphere that accompanies the annual Golden Fox event, a classical women's competition for the World Cup! In the Snow stadium below Mariborsko Pohorje excitement grabs each and every one in the crowd of some 20.000 spectators when the world's best women skiers compete in the slalom and giant slalom races.

#### 5. INTERNATIONAL HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL BLED

Lake Bled, 3rd \_ 5th February 2012

Bled is the leading alpine tourist resort in Slovenia, world renowned for its beautiful lake with an enchanting island and mysterious ancient cliff-top castle. The idyllic location on the sunny side of the Alps, gives Bled a unique setting for Hot Air Ballooning. It is our great pleasure to have hosted this event for several years now and we aspire to make this festival grow to extend its international participants. Join us in this winter fairytale world and fly.





### CARNIVAL – »KURENTOVANJE«, PTUJ

End of February

A proud national tradition, Pust (Slovenia's Carnival) at face value looks much like halloween, except it's steeped in history. Going back to ancient Slavic customs in Ptuj (one of the oldest Slovenian towns) and the surrounding villages, it continues to rejoice in the beginning of spring, the new farming season, and chase away the harsh winter.

### 51th VITRANC CUP 2012

10th – 11th March 2012

It is due to the **Alpine ski world cup** that the winter resort of Kranjska Gora has become so famous far, far away from our borders. Every winter the steep slopes of Vitranc are the venue for **slalom and giant slalom competitions** where top skiers from all over the world compete against time and against each other. In addition to the skiing competition, visitors can enjoy the concerts and animations organised as part of the XL Party event.



### PLANICA SKI FLIGHTS

15th – 18th March 2012



Many people have called the week of flights at Planica a national holiday, a festival of sport and the peak of winter sports. In recent years Planica has hosted the conclusion of the World Cup seven times, and in this valley below Mt. Ponca one more sports sub-discipline has been born – team ski flying competitions. At Planica every sports person is welcome, especially those who hurtle down the inrun and launch themselves at speeds of over 100 km/h, rising around 8 metres above the ground and landing on the outrun at speeds of more than 115 km/h. Those who have flown off the Planica jump were always thrilled, many describing their flights as the high point of ski jumping and flying.

### FOLK-STYLE MUSIC EVENING »ALPSKI VEČER« BLED

12th May 2012

This celebration of Oberkrainer music, a traditional Slovene folk style that is akin to the polka and waltz, will feature performances by various internationally renowned ensembles, and is guaranteed to liven up the town for at least one late spring weekend.





### **CHERRY FESTIVAL, GORIŠKA BRDA**

June



The Cherry Festival in Brda is the biggest and most widely known cultural and tourist event in Goriška Brda, dedicated to the delicious local fruit and attracting more than 30.000 visitors from Slovenia, Italy and Austria every year. The program of the festival is rich and varied, covering ethnological and cultural events, entertainment and commercial activities.

The traditional program of the festival: parade, Queen of Cherries contest, bicycle marathon and hike in the Brda hills . There is also a rich program of accompanying events: sports tournaments, competitions, exhibitions, raffle, program for children and fun games.

### **OBERKRAINER WURST FESTIVAL, SORA**

24th – 26st August 2012

A unique event for enjoying the widely acknowledged, delicious Slovenian dish and the ever green tunes of the Avsenik brothers. Organised by renown gastronomic professionals in the beautiful surroundings of Gorenjska Region, home of this typical Slovenian sausage, the Oberkrainer Wurst Festival will offer also the following events

- The Most Beautiful Melodies of the Avseniks
- Exhibition of culinary specialties
- Expert judging of Oberkrainer (Carniolan) sausages



### **HARLEY DAVISON WEEK, FAKKER SEE - AUSTRIA**

September

This event continues to attract dealers and traders from all across Europe who will occupy the Dealer Mile and provide shopping enthusiasts with plenty of choice. With food, drink, entertainment and some of Europe's best biking roads, what more could you ask for?

### **FESTIVAL OF THE OLD VINE – TRADITIONAL CULINARY, WINE, FRUIT AND CULTURE, MARIBOR**

End of September 2012



The Old Vine Festival is a top tourist culinary-wine-cultural festival in Maribor, the biggest tourist event in autumn. Over 500 participants. An opportunity for meeting experts and amateurs, for entertainment and learning, and for the body and soul.

The Old Vine Festival is the main happening in the cycle of events From Vine to Wine, from pruning to St Martin's Day celebrations, which in Maribor we prepare in the honour of the Old Vine, the oldest vine in the world. The Old Vine is Maribor's greatest ethnographic sight, which symbolises the rich wine culture of Maribor and Štajerska region and is at the same time a starting point and finishing point wine roads, which intertwine the hilly town wine growing district.



### FESTIVAL OF OBERKRAINER MUSIC, Bled

17th November 2012

The dreary autumn mood in Bled distributes the - now already traditional event in November - the Oberkrainer festival, which is successfully organized by the Tourism Bureau in Bled. This popular music event that occurs every year, each time presenting eight world-renowned ensembles, offers plenty of fun and entertainment and is a unique opportunity for all the fans of popular music or Oberkrainer music. The excellent food served there is just an enrichment to the event which will attract several thousand visitors from Austria, Germany, Italy and Hungary in the sports hall of Bled, this year for the seventh time.

A two-or three-day visit organized by Bled offers you a lot of music and entertainment as well as the possibility of many excursions and visits of many sights.

So, all fans of music Oberkrainer: Welcome to Bled!



### MERRY DECEMBER, BLED

December

Not content with a mere 12 days, Slovenia likes to celebrate the holiday season for a whole month. Merry December, however you take 'merry' (inebriated or not), is a national institution, and splendid Bled is no exception to the rule. Bled's traditional winter events calendar kicks off with the St Nicholas/Christmas fair and market, perfect for seasonal gifts and handmade crafts.



### NEW YEAR'S EVE IN MARIBOR

31th December 2012

The New Year's Eve celebrations at the square Trg svobode in Maribor are a unique experience in the old town core. The event, which is extremely well visited, brings together the best Slovene ensembles and soloists. A special experience of the evening is the midnight firework display from the General Maister Square.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE IN LJUBLJANA

31th December 2012

For **New Years Eve**, visitors to the city can wander the streets or take a boat ride on the river and take advantage of the jubilant locals who will be milling about. Prešernov Square is the traditional center of **New Years Eve Slovenia** as midnight strikes; just do not forget to dress warmly. Many visitors choose to view a folklore event on this holiday, and celebrate as the locals do. Slovenians are very proud of their polkas and lively dancing, and this is a great way to step back in time while surrounding yourself with holiday mirth.





**MEDICAL CONGRESS**

**2012**

**EUROPE**

<b>Dates:</b>	<b>Congress:</b>	<b>City:</b>
ESA	PARIS	9. – 12.6.2012
EBCC	VIENNA	21.- 24.3.2012
WONCA	VIENNA	4.- 7.7.2012
EASD	BERLIN	30.9. – 4.10.2012
CINP	STOCKHOLM	3. – 7.6.2012
EBMT	GENEVA	1.- 4.4.2012
HFA	BELGRADE	19. – 22.5.2012
ERS	VIENNA	31.8. – 5.9.2012
EAU	PARIS	24. – 28.2.2012
EHA	AMSTERDAM	14. – 17.6.2012
ISH	CANCUN	25. – 28.4.2012
EURO PCR	PARIS	15. – 18.5.2012
WCIM	SANTIAGO	11. – 15.11.2012
UEGW	AMSTERDAM	20. – 24.10.2012
CARDIOSTIM	NICE	12. – 16.6.2012
EURETINA	MILAN	5. – 9.9.2012
EURO CARDIOLOGY-ESC	MUNICH	25. – 29.8.2012
EFNS	STOCKHOLM	7. – 12.9.2012
ESH	LONDON	26. – 30.4.2012
ESMO	VIENNA	28.9. – 2.10.2012
ECTRIMS	LYON	9. – 13.10.2012
ECNP	VIENNA	13. – 17.10.2012
EULAR	BERLIN	6. – 9.6.2012
WCA/WFSA	BUENOS AIRES	25. – 30.3.2012
ECR	VIENNA	1.-5.3.2012
ECCMID	LONDON	21.3. – 3.4.2012
ECE	FLORENCE	5. -9.5.2012
EBCOG	TALLIN	9. – 12.5.2012
EAS	MILAN	26. – 29.5.2012
EAACI	GENEVA	16.-20.6.2012
ESPEN	BARCELONA	8. – 11.9.2012



**AMERICA**

<b>Congress:</b>	<b>City:</b>	<b>Dates:</b>
AHA	LOS ANGELES	3. – 7.11.2012
ADA	PHILADELPHIA	7. – 12.6.2012
APA	PHILADELPHIA	4. – 9.5.2012
AIDS	WASHINGTON DC	21. – 27.7.2012
PAS	BOSTON	27.4. – 1.5.2012
ADC	SAN ANTONIO	25. – 28.2.2012
ASA	WASHINGTON DC	12. – 16.10.2012
SABCS	SAN ANTONIO	4. – 8.12.2012
ACC	CHICAGO	23. – 28.3.2012
ACS	CHICAGO	29.9. – 3.10.2012
ENDO	HOUSTON	23. – 28.6.2012
GASTRO-DDW AGA	SAN DIEGO	18. – 23.5.2012
HEMATOLOGY-ASH	ATLANTA	7. – 12.12.2012
ICAAC	SAN FRANCISCO	7. – 11.9.2012
NEPHROLOGY-ASN	SAN DIEGO	29.10. – 4.11.2012
NEUROLOGY-AAN	NEW ORLEANS	21. – 28.4.2012
ONCOLOGY-ASCO	CHICAGO	1.-5.6.2012
OPHTALMOLOGY-AAO	CHICAGO	8. – 13.11.2012
ORTHOPAEDIC-AAOS	SAN FRANCISCO	7. – 11.2.2012
RADIOLOGY/RSNA-RSNA	CHICAGO	25. – 30.11.2012
RHEUMATOLOGY-ACR	WASHINGTON DC	9. – 13.11.2012
THORACIC SURGERY-AATS	SAN FRANCISCO	27.4. – 2.5.2012
TRANSCATHETER CARDIO-TCT	MIAMI	22. – 26.10.2012
UROLOGY	ATLANTA	19. – 24.5.2012



**2012 FAIRS IN GERMANY**

<b>Fair:</b>	<b>City:</b>	<b>Dates:</b>
ACHEMA	FRANKFURT	18. – 22.6.2012
AMBIENTE	FRANKFURT	27.1. – 1.2.2012
AUTOMECHANIKA	FRANKFURT	11. – 16.9.2012
BUCHMESSE (BOOKFAIR)	FRANKFURT	10. – 14.10.2012
CEBIT	HANNOVER	6. – 10.3.2012
CHILLVENTA	NÜRNBERG	9. – 11.10.2012
DOMOTEX	HANNOVER	14. – 17.1.2012
DRUPA	DÜSSELDORF	3. – 6.5.2012
EISENWARENMESSE	KÖLN	4. – 7.3.2012
FACHPACK	NÜRNBERG	25. – 27.9.2012
FRUIT LOGISTICA	BERLIN	8. – 10.2.2012
HANNOVER MESSE	HANNOVER	23. – 27.4.2012
HEIMTEXTIL	FRANKFURT	11. – 14.1.2012
IAA NUTZFAHRZEUGE	HANNOVER	20. – 27.9.2012
ISM	KÖLN	29.1. – 1.2.2012
ITB	BERLIN	7. – 11.3.2012
LIGHT & BUILDING	FRANKFURT	15. – 20.4.2012
MEDICA	DÜSSELDORF	14. – 17.11.2012
ORGATEC	KÖLN	23. – 27.10.2012
PAPERWORLD	FRANKFURT	28. – 31.1.2012
PHOTOKINA	KÖLN	18. – 23.9.2011
R + T	STUTTGART	28.2. – 3.3.2012
REHACARE	DÜSSELDORF	10. – 13.10.2012
SECURITY	ESSEN	25. – 28.9.2012
SHK	ESSEN	7. – 10.3.2012
SPIELWARENMESSE (TOY FAIR)	NÜRNBERG	1.2. – 6.2.2012
WIRE + TUBE	DÜSSELDORF	26. – 30.3.2011