

Slovenia-Austria, Slovenia-Hungary and Slovenia-Czech itineraries

Itinerary 1: SLOVENIA (4N) –AUSTRIA (3N)

Day 1: Airport-Ljubljana (28 km)

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 Bled-Lake Bohinj-Ljubljana (161 km)

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 (170 km)

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 (132 km)

Just a throw-stone 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).

Day 5: Portoroz-Soca valley*-Kranjska Gora-Villach (Austria) (251 km)

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 we will cross to Austria and have an overnight in the centre of the typical south-Austrian village Villach.

Day 6: Villach -Salzburg (181 km)

Drive along the highway up north towards. We will visit the salt mines Salzburg. 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 Hellnbrunn palace.

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Day 7: Salzburg-Linz-Vienna (326 km)

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 optionally 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.

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enjoy the most comprehensive spa and wellness facilities in Europe.

Day 4: Portoroz-Miramare castle-Lipica stud farm-Ljubljana (155 km)

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Day 5: Ljubljana-Abbey Zice-Maribor-Balaton lake (Hungary) (421 km)

Drive to Maribor, the second biggest town of Slovenia (Maribor has the oldest wine plant 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



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Matična št.: 1561855, ID za DDV: SI98007262, TRR pri SKB: 03138-1000024491

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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 (148 km)

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. River cruise on Danube river. Free for shopping or optionally a visit to the famous Hungarian bath. In the evening a typical evening in a czarda is a good idea.

Day 8: Budapest

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

Itinerary 3: SLOVENIA (4N) – CZECH (3N)

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Hluboka castle before arriving to Prague)

Day 5: Ljubljana-Vienna-Bratislava (461 km)

Drive past Maribor, the second biggest town of Slovenia and Graz, the second biggest town in Austria, to Vienna. Sightseeing of the once imperial city with many palaces and museums, such as Hofburg, Schoenbrunn and possibly shopping in the centre. In the evening a boat ride (from May-October only) along 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

Day 6: Bratislava – Brno - Prague (343 km)

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 on Vltava river).

Day 7: Prague

Visit of Hradcany castle, then free for last minute shopping, before departure to the airport.

