

**Classic Slovenia**  
**8 days, 7 nights**  
**Ljubljana, Postojna, Piran, Portoroz, Nova Gorica, Kobarid, Bled, Skofja Loka, Bohinj**  
**Discovery, Culture, History**

**This program may be operated for individuals or for groups**  
**This is a suggested itinerary**

*European ecotourism leader, this destination, said to be the treasure of the Balkans, whose emblematic green dragon is said to be the standard deserves to be better known! It is. This small European country at the crossroads of the Mediterranean and the Alps, Slovenia is a green, natural destination with lakes, mountains, rivers and forests.*

#### **Day 1: Ljubljana**

After your arrival at Ljubljana airport you'll be met by our representative and transferred to your chosen hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. [D]

#### **Day 2: Ljubljana**

A guided walking tour of Ljubljana is a great way to get to know the city. You will pass by the most popular sites while learning more about history, architecture and culture from your guide. Explore the well-preserved medieval buildings and atmosphere and perfectly safe narrow lanes leading to charming little squares and buildings at the same time learning stories about the history of Ljubljana with your local guide. The tour ends with a visit to the medieval Ljubljana Castle where you can climb to the top of the castle tower for panoramic views of the city. The rest of the day is at leisure for you to continue discovering the city on your own. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/D]

#### **Day 3: Ljubljana, Postojna, Piran**

This morning we'll drive to Postojna to visit the most captivating cave in the world with magnificent sculptures of concretions and a very varied fauna. Enjoy an unforgettable journey underground with the little train and experience a majestic underground paradise, built by tiny drops for millions of years. Only the Postojna cave allows you to see so closely the most precious column-shaped shine and also discover the real baby dragons. In the Postojna cave, as on the surface, rise mountains, bubble rivers and huge open caves. The cave is a challenge for explorers and the cradle of biospeleology around the world. Continue to Predjama Castle that has the particularity of being built above an abyss but also on underground caves. The castle visit extends over 6 floors. Passing from floor to floor you can admire many pieces dating from one of the following three eras: Gothic, Renaissance or Romanesque. During your visit, you will live an experience that will transport you through history thanks to the staging established in each room. You can admire different period objects and furniture as well as very realistic wax figures. Continue to Piran for dinner and overnight. [B/D]

#### **Day 4: Piran, Portoroz, Nova Gorica**

Have a walk in Piran, which is probably the most beautiful of Slovenia's coastal towns. Explore the fortified walls of Piran, visit the charming Monastery, climb to the top of the bell tower and admire the Izola peninsula from the vantage point. Then, drive to Portoroz or "Port of Roses", one of Slovenian most popular beach resorts and continue to Secovlje Salt pans, a protected natural area with the largest salt marsh in Slovenia. It is called "Sečoveljske Soline", and is one of the last salt marshes in Europe, where manual salt harvesting is still practiced, an activity which represents the whole life of these dedicated workers in the area. In the afternoon drive to Nova Gorica. Visit the vineyard region of Goriska Brda, the most beautiful wine region of Slovenia with beautiful landscapes leading to its surname of Slovenian Tuscany. This region where vines and orchards mix, is unlike any other in Slovenia. During your tour taste some local wines. We continue to Nova Gorica for dinner and overnight. [B/T/D]

#### **Day 5: Nova Gorica, Kobarid, Bled**

Continue to Kobarid, known for the famous Battle of Caporetto, an Italian military disaster of the First

World War. Italian soldiers retreated from an Austro-German offensive on the Isonzo front, northwest of Trieste, where Italian and Austrian forces had clashed without success for two and a half years. Enjoy a spectacular view of the Julian Alps and Napoleon's bridge. The bridge got its glorious name following the Napoleonic conquests where it was placed in the gorges of the Nadiža river. Despite its modest size, this small stone bridge played an important strategic role. In the afternoon, continue to Bled enjoying the romantic scenery along the way. Dinner and Overnight in Bled. [B/D]

### Day 6: Bled (Skofja Loka)

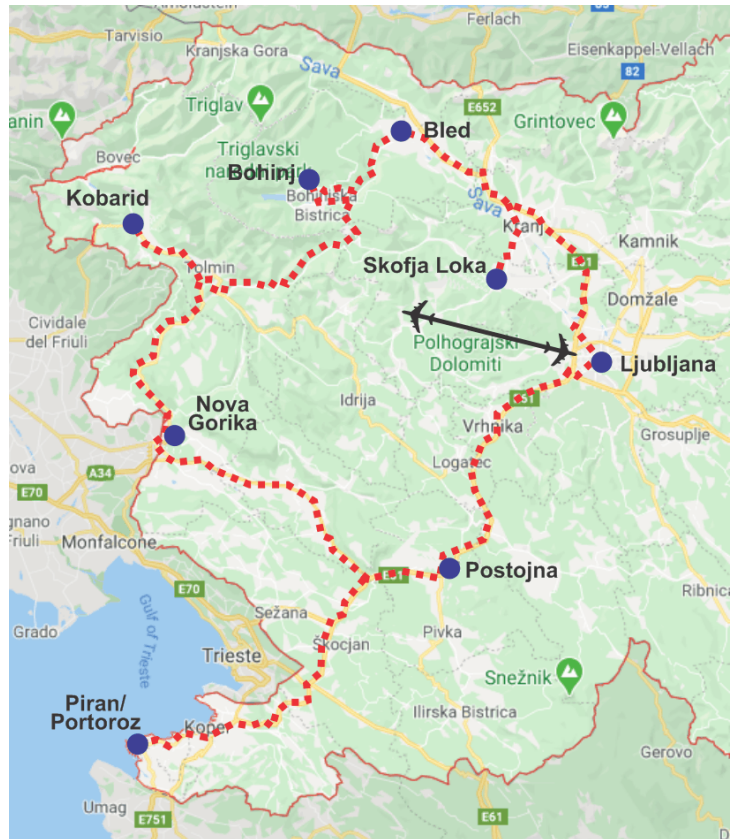
A lake with bluish waters, forests of intense green all around, the snow-capped peaks of the Julian Alps in the background, a medieval castle on a promontory not far from there and a small baroque church on the island in the middle Lake. Exactly like in dreams! Bled Castle is an 11th century medieval castle built on a 425-foot cliff overlooking Lake Bled. It is known to be the oldest castle in all of Slovenia. Its oldest part is the Romanesque tower. Subsequently, the tall towers were added in a Renaissance style. Bled Castle also has splendid fortifications. The 1,700 frescoes that decorate the chapel are worth a look. In the afternoon, a short drive will take you to Skofja Loka, the medieval town with a castle that rises above the confluence of the two Soca rivers. Near the pretty medieval town of Skofja Loka, the castle dates back to the 13C. It was then the seat of the episcopal administration. Almost totally destroyed by the earthquake of 1511, it was quickly rebuilt by Bishop Filip. The building with three wings, a large courtyard and two large cylindrical towers is connected to the Church of the Immaculate Conception by a wall and a covered gallery. The castle now houses a museum. After the visit take a walk in the medieval town and return to Bled for dinner and overnight. [B/D]

### Day 7: Bled, Bohinj, Ljubljana

After breakfast we start our drive to the largest lake in Slovenia, Lake Bohinj, a piece of paradise in the middle of the mountains. Ideally located south of the Triglav Park, it is a must for anyone wishing to discover Slovenia. Certainly, less glamorous than its neighbor Bled, it nevertheless seduces with its wilder and more authentic side. At the edge of the banks, you will admire the blue green water and the surrounding mountains. Suffice to say right away that the decor is idyllic! Visit the Sheppard's museum dedicated to herdsmen, shepherds and shepherdesses living up there on the mountain from mid-June until the end of October. It is established in an old cheese dairy active until 1967 and highlights a reconstructed sheepfold, old photographs that have become ethnographic treasure, wooden butter molds, snowshoes as well as beautiful sculpted swells. We discover the strong dairy identity of the region, which has considerably decreased in intensity in recent decades. Taste the best Slovenian cheese before heading to Ljubljana for dinner and overnight. [B/T/D].

### Day 8: Ljubljana, USA

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. At the appointed time you be met and transferred to the airport to board your flight back home. [B]



[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/D] = Breakfast and Dinner | [B/T/D] = Breakfast, Tasting and Dinner

**Your Tour Includes:**

- Round-trip airfare USA-Ljubljana
- Arrival and departure transfers at all airports
- 7 nights' accommodation:
  - Ljubljana 3 nights
  - Piran 1 night
  - Nova Gorica 1 night
  - Bled 2 nights
- Meals
  - Breakfast Daily
  - Dinner daily
- Visit Ljubljana Castle
- Ride the underground train in Postjna Cave
- Tour Predjama Castle
- Discover Scovelje Salt Pans
- Taste local wine at Goriska Brda

- See Kobarid & Napoleon's Bridge
- Tour Bled Castle & lake
- Visit Medieval Skofia Loka
- Enjoy Lake Bohinj
- English-speaking local guides
- English-speaking driver-guide
- A/C vehicle adjusted to party size
- Local taxes

**Tour does not include:**

- Taxes or surcharges related to airline tickets
- Travel insurance
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out
- Expenses of personal nature

**Hotels in your Tour:**

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
<b>Tourist Class</b>		
Ljubljana	Barbo Palace	5
Piran	Guest House Primaz	4.5
Nova Gorica	Tourist Farm Gregoric	n/a
Bled	PR Matjon	5
<b>First Class</b>		
Ljubljana	Hotel Cubo	5
Piran	Zala Piran	5
Nova Gorica	DAM Boutique Hotel	5
Bled	Penzion Mayer	5
<b>Deluxe</b>		
Ljubljana	Urban Boutique Hotel	4.5
Piran	Memento B&B Piran	5
Nova Gorica	DAM Boutique Hotel	5
Bled	Adora Luxury Hotel	5

Hotel will be confirmed at time of booking

**Tour Prices:**

**From: 1,205 including airfare**

Add-ons available from all US gateways.

Prices are per person and may change without notice

These programs can be customized for individuals and for groups

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

• **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

• **Program**

You may add or remove;

- Trip days
- Cities and sites

o Meals

• **Other options**

- o The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
- o If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.

• **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

**Tour Code:** SI01LJU21VT

**Options:**

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

**Group Quotations**

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.