

## DR. Slivo Tour – Slovenia 2017

**Slovenia, tiny small green country between Budapest and Venice.  
This is where the Alps meet Mediterranean and the Pannonian Plain meets the  
Karst. Slovenia is like Europe in small.**

Slovenia surprises with good wine, good food and good views.

### Day 1: Mon, June 12, 2017: depart USA

### Day 2: Tue, June 13, 2017: arrival in Budapest

**D**

Welcome to Hungary, welcome to Budapest, the Queen of the Danube and the capital of Hungary. Unique in Europe for its language and culture. Transfer to hotel in center of town for relaxing afternoon before Welcome reception and dinner with wine.



### Day 3: Wed, June 14, 2017: Budapest

**B, D**



After breakfast join local expert for a drive up to Gellért's Hill to gaze over the Danube dividing Buda from Pest – the two sides linked by many bridges. Admire the immense Parliament building from the Fisherman's Bastion. Then visit Heroes' Square. The afternoon is yours to hit the shops of bustling Vaci Utca. In the evening enjoy private cruise with dinner on Danube River to admire the illuminated city. The Danube was once a long-standing frontier of the Roman Empire and today flows through 10 countries, more than any other river in the world. The Danube Banks in Budapest are a part of Unesco World Heritage sites.

### Day 4: Thu, June 15, 2017: Budapest – Maribor, Slovenia

**B, D**

Drive alongside tranquil Lake Balaton, the largest fresh water lake in central Europe "The Hungarian Sea". Stop at Tihany peninsula with two inner lakes, a bird reserve, fields of lavender, unique red wine, a thousand year old abbey. Free time for lunch before drive to Slovenia. Short stop in Prekmurje most eastern Slovenian municipality in town Lendava. New tourist attraction is 53 m high tower from where you can view four countries (weather permitting) Continue to Maribor, the second largest city in Slovenia. Overnight and dinner in hotel in Maribor.



### Day 5: Fri, June 16, 2017: Maribor - Ptuj – Maribor

**B, D**



Morning sightseeing of interesting sights, Pyramid hill, 13 century Gothic Cathedral, Water tower and the oldest vine in the world. Continue to nearby Ptuj, one of the oldest town in Slovenia. Its history reaches back to the Stone Age, but the city experienced its greatest flowering in the Roman period. It is a city of fairs, wine cellars and thermal springs. Visit Ptuj Wine cellar and sample some wine before visiting Ptuj Castle Museum. Return to Maribor for dinner and overnight.

### Day 6: Sat, June 17, 2017: Maribor – Celje - Zalec - Bled

**B, D**

First stop this morning will be in Ptuj'ska Gora, best known for its parish church and the statue of Relief of Mercy - the mantled Virgin Mary the Protector (around 1410) is one of the greatest masterpieces of that time. Next stop will be in Zalec in the center of traditional hops and brewing. To strengthen the image of Zalec as a centre of hops Europe's first "beer fountain." was build. Green Gold Fountain in the park in center of town. Taste some good beer from the fountain. Next is the jewel of the Julian Alps, the idyllic Lake Bled. Relax for the rest of the day before dinner in hotel.



### **Day 7: Sun, June 18, 2017: Bled**

**B, D**

Morning dedicated to Bled and the lake. A spectacular view of the landscape from the mighty castle with Romanesque walls that dominates the area from a high cliff above the lake. Then visit the postcard island by the traditional Pletna boat rowed by Pletna oarsman. Tradition was handed down from generation to generation and the profession remained in individual families. The rest of the day go at your own pace to enjoy the tranquility of the place.

Dinner in the evening in a local restaurant with Slovenian food and wine.

### **Day 8: Mon, June 19, 2017: Bled - Triglav National Park (Bohinj)**

**B, L**

Get deeper in-to Triglav National Park arriving at Lake Bohinj. The largest permanent lake in the valley of the Julian Alps, will greet us in all its glory, a picture of peace and serenity. It's brooding and mystical feel are encouraged by the steep mountain faces that rise out of the lake on the northern side, with mountain peaks also dominating the background to the west and south. Fantastic view, easy access with the cable that takes you directly from Lake Bohinj to a panoramic plateau. It is just opposite of the central Julian Alps, which you will admire along the entire trip. Your lunch will be a taste of local tradition in a local restaurant. After learn about the way mountain people lived by visiting The Alpine Dairy Museum. Life in Bohinj mountain pastures is presented through various artefacts which reveal a wealth of ethnological heritage in this area. Free for dinner tonight



### **Day 9: Tue, June 20, 2017: Bled – Planica – Kobarid – Brda**

**B, D**

Mountain climbing and skiing are the most popular sports in Slovenia. And this morning the first stop will be in Planica, on the other side of Triglav NP. Planica is the origin of ski flying which started in 1936, when 18-year-old Austrian Josef Bradl become the first man in history to land a ski jump of over 100 metres (330 ft). Admire the biggest ski jumping table in the world and learn about Nordic skiing. Across Predil pass descend in to the valley of Soča River. Both the emerald stone and the Soča river are characterised by their colour, which is a symbol of revival and new life. In addition to a wealth of natural beauty, the valley of the most beautiful Slovenian river also preserves the shocking heritage of WWI Kobarid museum. Overnight in wine country of Brda hills, near Gorica. Dinner in the local winery restaurant.

### **Day 10: Wed, June 21, 2017: Gorica – Venice – Portorož**

**B, D**

Morning drive will take you across Veneto Plain to the unique city of Venice. Cruise along Grand Canal with Vaporetto boat to St. Mark's Square. Step out to see the Bridge of Sighs which connects the Doges' Palace to the prisons and the dazzling domed basilica. Visit an Art center to watch craftsmen hand blow Venetian glass. Free time to explore Venice on your own before departing along the Adriatic coast to Portorož, (Port of the roses) Slovenian summer resort, for dinner and overnight.



### **Day 11: Thu, June 22, 2017: Portorož – Piran**

**B, L**



Explore Piran the most typical of Slovenia's coastal towns. Get to know its rich history and culture, and listen to the stories of our people. In Piran, you will feel as though you have stepped right into a picture postcard. You will be charmed by the narrow streets within the old town wall. Short boat cruise will take you for a fish picnic at the Secovlje saltworks. A seven hundred year old tradition of salt production is carried on in order to preserve natural and cultural heritage. You learn of salt production in the Museum of Salt Making. In 1993, the saltworks were put on the list of

Ramsar wetlands of international importance. The rest of the day at your own pace free for dinner. Overnight in Portoroz

### **Day 12: Fri, June 23, 2017: Portorož – Lipica - Postojna – Ljubljana**

**B, D**

Drive from the coast to Slovenian Karst region to Lipica. Enjoy a relaxing walk in the grounds of the Lipica Stud Farm. Get to know the cradle of the Lipizzaners - one of the oldest stud farms in the world with a tradition dating back to 1580. After guided tour you continue to visit another Karst wonder, the most visited cave in the world, the Postojna Caves. More than 5 km of breathtaking underground halls and natural tunnels can be explored on foot and partly on electric train. Dinner and overnight in Ljubljana, Slovenia's Capital City.



**Day 13: Sat, June 24, 2017: Ljubljana**

**B, D**

Ljubljana, the capital city of Slovenia, is one of the greenest cities in Europe, and it has been rated as one of Europe's most liveable cities. It serves as the cultural, political, economic, administrative and educational centre of Slovenia. Morning dedicated to explore the city with local expert who will tell you stories and legends about the Ljubljana dragon, three bridges, old town and the castle. Explore the city on your own in the afternoon. Dinner tonight in a local restaurant with wine and folklore show.



**Day 14: Sun, June 25, 2017: Ljubljana – Dolenjska – Brežice**

**B, D**

Head south to Dolenjska region and stop on the way to visit Sticna Monastery. Sticna Abbey is the only operating Cistercian monastery and one of the oldest spiritual and cultural centres in Slovenia. After visit continue to Trska Gora for lunch on the local farm and learn about famous Cvicek wine. Overnight in Catez Thermal Spa near Brezice. The biggest water park in Slovenia, offers a complex of indoor and outdoor pools, as well as restaurants, a spa and wellness therapies... Čatež thermal water is a source of health and wellbeing. Free afternoon to experience thermal paradise before dinner in hotel.

**Day 15: Mon, June 26, 2017: Brežice - Transfer to AP in Zagreb**

**B**

Morning transfer to Zagreb airport for your homebound flight.



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