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Grand Cycling Tour of Slovenia

Tour Description

FROM THE JULIAN ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC COAST

6/27/20 to 7/6/20

Cycling in Slovenia is truly paradise. This cycling program offers the very best of its dynamic Landscapes. You will start in the gorgeous **Julian Alps**, pass by one of the world's most beautiful lakes (**Lake Bled**), spend the night in the elegant and leafy city of **Ljubljana**, cycle to world class attractions – the mighty **caves of Postojna and Škocjan**, before arriving to the charming Slovenian Adriatic coast. This is a fantastic **10 day cycling holiday**. You will see the most important and beautiful places Slovenia has to offer.

Trip highlights:

Capital city of **Ljubljana** (European Green Capital 2016)

Triglav National Park with Lake Bled, one of world's most beautiful glacial lakes

Visit of the **Queen of Caves**, Postojna, which celebrated its 200th anniversary in April 2018 (entrance fee included in the program)

Visit to the unique and interesting **Predjama Castle** (entrance fee included in the program)

UNESCO World Heritage site, beautiful **Škocjan Caves** (entrance fee included in the program)

See the romantic **Slovenian Adriatic Coast**

Tour Outline

Day 1

Individual arrival to Kranjska Gora.

Kranjska Gora is nestled in the Julian Alps at the triple border of Slovenia, Italy and Austria. Kranjska Gora is an attractive and popular tourist resort throughout the year. In the winter it is famous for its ski jumping and excellent winter sports opportunities. In the warmer months cyclers and hikers enjoy its great natural beauty. It is appreciated for its scenic cycling, walking and trekking routes. You will meet with the tour guide in the evening at a group dinner. (Hotel 4*, meals included: dinner).

Day 2

Kranjska Gora – Bled (Approx 25 miles, 390 Elevation M).

The first cycling day takes you from one Alpine town to the next. Lake Bled is known for its immense natural beauty and is one of the most beautiful alpine resorts. Visit the Pilgrimage Church of the Assumption of Maria on an island in the middle of the lake! Don't forget to taste the world-famous Bled cream cake, one of the symbols of Bled. (Good 3* Hotel or Hotel 4*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).

Day 3

Bled – Kranj (Approx 30 miles, 535 Elevation M).

Today's winding cycling route passes through typical Slovenian rural villages before you arrive in Kranj. Kranj is the capital of the Slovenian Alps. They say that in Kranj you stand with one foot in the city and the other one in nature. It is also considered the cultural heart of Slovenia because of the great Slovenian poet France Prešeren. The special feature of the town is a river canyon in the town center. (Hotel 3*, meals included: breakfast and dinner)

Day 4

Kranj – Ljubljana (Approx 22 miles, 336 Elevation M).

You will leave the small village of Kranj and cycle towards Slovenia's capital and largest city, Ljubljana. Ljubljana is one of Europe's greenest cities. You will enjoy strolling through its attractive city center. The city center is free of cars and has a variety of cafes along the emerald green Ljubljanica River. (Hotel 3*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).

Day 5

Ljubljana – Bistra (Approx 20 miles and 240 Elevation M, optional detour adds Approx. 6 miles).

Leaving the capital, you will ride through idyllic and quaint villages. You will cycle on quiet roads, surrounded by fields, green hills and farms. Just next to your accommodation, is Slovenia's largest museum, the Technical Museum of Slovenia. It is located in a former Carthusian monastery and is known for its permanent and occasional collections from agriculture, fishing, wildlife and hunting to electricity, wood working, forestry, water driving machinery, textiles and printing. (Private Guesthouse 3* or smaller and simple Hotel 3*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).

Day 6

Bistra – Postojna (Approx 25 miles, 745 Elevation M).

Another meandering cycling day which will take you to Postojna, a place with two world class attractions; Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle. The world-famous Queen of the Caves is breathtaking. The cave was formed over thousands of years and has become one of the most visited places in Slovenia. (Hotel 4*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).

Day 7

Postojna – Divača (Approx 25 miles, 560 Elevation M).

Today you will see the second of Postojna's popular attractions, Predjama castle. The castle is one of the most picturesque castles in Slovenia. It is built into an overhanging rock in front of a karst cave that is connected to an intricate cave system underneath the castle. After visiting the castle, the cycling route continues through the fascinating Karst landscape. The ride is through small settlements and vineyards, which give Slovenia its glorious Teran wine and the well-known Karst prosciutto. (Hotel 3*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).



Day 8

Divača – Škocjan Caves – Muggia (Italy) (Approx 24 miles, 350 Elevation M).

Only a few countries can boast of such natural phenomenon of exceptional global value, you cycle to the beautiful Škocjan Caves (more caves!). The Skocjan Caves are an UNESCO World Heritage site and a little less touristy than the Postonja Caves. After visiting the caves, you cruise around the beautiful

landscape. You will cross the Slovenian-Italian border to arrive to your accommodation for tonight, in the beautiful Bay of Muggia. This is the only Istrian town in Italy. (Hotel 4*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).

Day 9

Muggia (Italy) – Piran - Strunjan (Approx 26 miles, 500 Elevation M).

This is a scenic and glorious cycling stage from the Italian to Slovenian coast - a perfect finish to the magnificent Grand Cycling Tour of Slovenia! The route will take you through three Slovenian picturesque and historic Mediterranean towns which will not leave you indifferent. (Hotel 4*, meals included: breakfast and dinner).



Day 10

Departure or Extension. (Meals Included: Breakfast).

price:

Price per person (sharing a double room): \$2500.00

Price includes:

9 overnights with breakfast in good Hotels 3* and 4* with on suite facilities

9 dinners in hotels or sometimes in local restaurants outside hotel

English speaking tour guide escorting the group on bike throughout the tour (starts with welcome meeting and dinner on Day 1 and ends after group dinner on Day 9)

Quality classic trekking bike Sub Cross 30 with one bike (back) pannier

Luggage transfers between the hotels

Entrance to Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle

Entrance to Škocjan Caves

Preparation, organization and VAT

Optional supplements:

Single accommodation \$225

Helmet \$25

Electric bike \$335 (Scott E Sub Active Unisex plus one bike (back) pannier).

Airport & city transfers (prices are per person, minimum number two people sharing a transfer):

– Airport Ljubljana – Kranjska Gora \$65

– Ljubljana City – Kranjska Gora \$70

– Klagenfurt airport, Austria – Kranjska Gora \$55

Minimum and maximum number of participants: 8 and 14

What's not included;

Arrival / departure to / from first / last hotel

Flight tickets

Travel insurance

Gratuity

Lunch's, drinks

All other expenses that are not mentioned in what's included description

Accomodations;

Mixture of 4* and 3* hotels & private guesthouse's with on suite facilities

Category:

Moderate cycling holiday, mostly on tarmac roads (approx. 10 % is on gravel road) with some climbs

Key information;

This guided tour is designed for a smaller group (max 14 pp). We strongly believe that smaller number of guests creates best group dynamic; you'll get to know people from different countries and different backgrounds with a shared interest in travel. One of our local guides will be with you throughout the program, this way you get a unique insight into local life. They know the stories behind the sights you'll see, plus they are famous for going the extra mile to make sure your holiday is the best it can possibly be!

Date;

6/27/2020 -7/6/2020 (9 nights / 10 days)

*Extra nights before / after tour on request. We would be happy to assist you with booking extra nights.

**This program is also available as a self-guided tour.