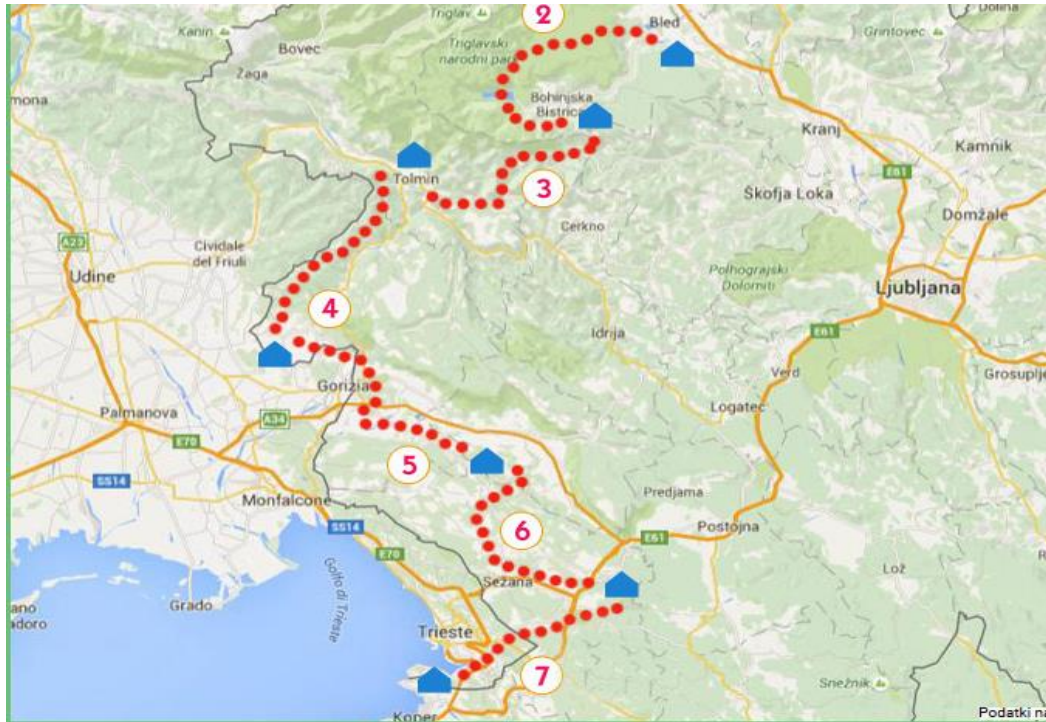


Cycling Safaris

Slovenia Vistas & Wine 2024

Self Guided Tour

min 243 / max 292 km | 8 days / 7 nights



From alpine lakes to a sun-drenched coast packed with mountain views, immense bodies of water and flowing wine. Starting at the fairytale world of Lake Bled, a glacial lake famed for its beautiful island church and cliff top castle, your ride will take you first through alpine Slovenia's most beautiful mountain vistas, over a high pass, along thundering rivers and out into a valley laden with vineyards. Castles and hilltop churches will be in abundance, along with great local wine and food in the Karst region (a beautiful Limestone plateau). Finally, the sunny coast awaits you with lazy promenades and beautiful Venetian architecture. This is the perfect cycling holiday for lovers of diverse landscape, good food and great local wine, and people who want to soak their feet in the warm sea after a long journey by bike.

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 ARRIVAL AT LAKE BLEĐ



To begin with, you can dip your feet in the beautiful glacial Lake Bled. This shimmering body of water is famous for its distinctive island church and the cliff top castle all backed by the beautiful Karavanke Mountains. Bled is one of Slovenia's most popular tourist attractions.

You can take a stroll around the western side of the lake for some of the best views and photographs, and then have lunch and enjoy the locally famous cream cake (Kremšnita) on the eastern lakeside while watching the sunset over the mountains.

DAY 2: BLED – BOHINJSKA BISTRICA

27 KM / 43 KM

A short transfer drops you off on the high plateau at Pokljuka. From here you will cycle through alpine villages to Lake Bohinj, the jewel of the Triglav National Park. Encircled by tall mountain peaks, Bohinj is the largest and deepest lake in the national park. Savica Waterfall is the source of the lake and the Sava Bohinjka River. A cable car runs up to Vogel Mountain, where you can get a spectacular view into the Bohinj Valley and of Mount Triglav, the highest peak in the Julian Alps.



DAY 3: BOHINJ –TOLMIN

56 KM; OR 35 KM (If taking train to Podbrdo)

In the morning you will have two options. Your route will take you via the Sorica Pass over the Julian Alps, but if you want to save some climbing you can take a short train ride through the Bohinj tunnel to Podbrdo. Then you cycle through a narrow valley and follow the beautiful emerald-green Soča River as it rushes out of the mountains and into the western side of the Julian Alps. Just before reaching your destination you'll have a chance to dive into its supernatural waters or visit the only monument in the world dedicated to military cooks.

DAY 4: TOLMIN – ŠMARTNO / DOBROVO

34 KM / 46 KM (without lift up)

You will be transferred to Kolovrat Saddle – an amazing viewpoint high above the Soča Valley. Once the site of heavy fighting during WW1, it's now a very interesting open-air museum. Reaching the first village, Mrs. Josephine, who lives all alone in an intact old-fashioned pub, will welcome you in her garden!. Cycling along the upper reaches of the two valleys, you will reach your day's destination - Šmartno v Goriških Brdih, amid an abundance of lush vineyards. A recent and beautifully restored medieval village of narrow streets with Mediterranean houses, you can stretch your legs here, sip cool white wine and chat with locals in an authentic village pub.



DAY 5: ŠMARTNO / DOBROVO - KODRETI / ŠTANJEL

53 KM,



After leaving the Brda wine region you'll reach "Southern Berlin". The Iron Curtain once split the town of Gorizia between Italy and Yugoslavia. At the railway station that stands right on the border, you can visit the very interesting Curtain museum.

Cycling further along the border you'll come to the smallest military museum in the world - a historic Yugoslav border outpost. Overlooking the border is the ancient Kostanjevica Monastery, where the last French King is buried. Turning inland, you'll soon reach the vineyards of the Vipava region.

Your host Vid will be happy to provide you with samples of the best wines in the beautiful rural setting of his small karst village.

DAY 6: KODRETI / ŠTANJEL - DIVAČA

48 KM

Today you will cycle to the stud farm of Lipica, where you can visit beautiful thoroughbred Lipizzaner horses, whose gentle, graceful dancing have amazed many a visitor. You can take a tour in a traditional carriage, and visit them close up in their stables. You can also visit the unusual but nonetheless interesting "War Museum" set inside a lovely Venetian tower - see what a collector's passion can really mean. Your small town hotel belongs to a butcher's family, but the young master is a wine expert too and he'll offer you the best red wines of the karst region.

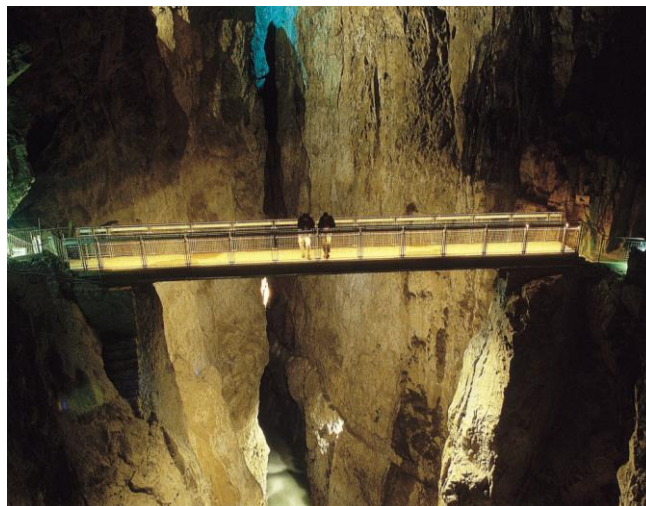
DAY 7: DIVAČA – TRIESTE / MUGGIA

46 KM,

In the morning you can visit the fascinating UNESCO Škocjan Caves.

Then it's one final descent with magnificent views of the Adriatic Sea before reaching the southern outskirts of Trieste - the old seaside village of Muggia, where your cycling day and tour end.

Park your bike and take the city shuttle boat to the worldly port city of Trieste and visit Miramare Castle, the cathedral or Piazza Unita central square, where you can relax with a cappuccino or a gelato with Trieste Bay in full view.



DAY 8: DEPARTURE FROM TRIESTE / MUGGIA.

After breakfast, your tour ends.

2024 TOUR PRICE

Low season (23 rd March - 3 rd May & 21 st Sept - 12 th Oct)	€915 per person sharing
High season (4 th May - 20 th Sept)	€975 per person sharing
Single Supplement	€460
Touring bike	€90
E-bike	€230
Helmet rental	€12

2024 TOUR DATES

Any day from 23rd March - 12th October

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Accommodation in 3 & 4 star hotels in two bedded room, on basis of bed & breakfast.
- Luggage transport between hotels ; one piece per person max 20kgs each additional item charged €10
- Information package including detailed text route description and maps one per booking additional information package is €20.
- GPS route details
- Welcome meeting
- Backup service (hotline) during the trip.

Not included:

- Bike Rental is not included in the basic package

WHAT TO BRING

- Comfortable cycling clothing - shorts, shoes, gloves, etc
- A set of light waterproof clothing
- Hat, sunglasses and bathing suit
- Casual clothes for evening. You may be grateful for something warm with long sleeves.
- If you wish to use toe clips we advise you to bring your own pedals with toe clips, as the pedals on our bikes do not accommodate them.

ACCOMMODATION - *(subject to availability)*

If you require additional accommodation and would like us to book it on your behalf:

Additional nights:

€85pps / €135 single room:	4* Hotel in Bohinj
€110pps / €180 single room:	4* Hotel in Bled
€80pps / €120 single room:	4* Hotel in Muggia Beach
€70pps / €100 single room:	4* Hotel in Stanjel

BIKE RENTAL

Level of difficulty: Medium – low level due to the low mileage (30 – 40 km per day) and relatively flat cycling. Suitable for cyclists of basic fitness.



Aluminium frame
Shimano gear system with “rapid-fire” shifters 21 speed
Lock, Rack on back, 1 rear pannier, Repair kit

ELECTRIC BIKES:



Frame types unisex and low step
Sizes 17,19 in / 44,48 cm
Front suspension Stand
Mud guards
Luggage rack
Bottle holder
Computer meter
Front gear set 3 (48,38,28)
Back gear set 7 (28,14)
E-gears Brakes V-brake
Motor in mid section
Battery authonomy 80 km at 50% use

Helmets are not included (available upon booking for €12 per week).

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

Starting / finishing point of this trip is **Lake Bled** in North - East Slovenia.

By Plane:

Closest airport is Ljubljana (LJU). Several airlines serve it. From the airport you can travel to Bled by bus (change once, takes about two hours) or book our transfer: see prices below

By Bus:

Several Flixbus lines stop at Lake Bled.

By Train:

Bled has two railway stations: Lesce Bled station on the Villach - Ljubljana mainline, 4 km away from town centre, need to take a bus. The other is station Bled Jezero on the Jesenice - Nova Gorica sideline only a few trains a day. Two km away from town centre.

By Plane:

Trieste airport (TST) or Ljubljana (LJU). Several airlines serve them. You can book our transfer: see prices below

By Train:

Several trains go daily from Trieste to Venice, one per day to Ljubljana.

Transfers: Price per transfer, one way. No pooling permitted.

Route	1-3 Persons	4-8 Persons
Ljubljana Airport to Bled	90 EUR	120 EUR
Ljubljana City to Bled	120 EUR	160 EUR
Villach to Bled	160 EUR	180 EUR
Klagenfurt Airport to Bled	200 EUR	240 EUR
Lesce Bled Railway Station to Bled	30 EUR	40 EUR
Trieste AP to Bled	250 EUR	320 EUR
Muggia to Trieste AP	160 EUR	190 EUR
Muggia to Trieste Centre	100 EUR	130 EUR