

FOR GROUPS: "THE 8 DAYS CROATIA AND SLOVENIA"

YOUR ITINERARY



Sveta Ana d.o.o.

Pojice 26, 20215 Gruda (Dubrovnik), Croatia - OIB : 23937903437

Tel : 00 385 (0) 99 33 33 002

Web : www.sveta-ana-travel.com – email : info@sveta-ana-travel.com

PROGRAM

Day 1: Arrival in Zagreb – overnight in Zagreb

Arrival at Zagreb airport in Croatia.

Meeting with your English-speaking tour leader.

Transfer by bus (tourist bus reserved for the group) to Zagreb.

Travel time: 30min

Check in at hotel Central 3*. Dinner in hotel restaurant.

The hotel is of modern design located near the Zrinjevac park; a pleasant 10-15 min walk from the city-centre.



Day 2: Zagreb and Kumrovec, the birthplace of Marshall Tito – overnight in Ljubljana

Breakfast.

Walk through the Zrinjevac park to the main Jelačić square. Walking time: 10-15min

Walking tour of Zagreb with a local guide. The tour includes the entrance to the cathedral and the Museum of Naive Art. You will also see St. Mark's Square where the Croatian Government and Parliament are located, the Grič district abounding in old palaces, the stone gate, the miraculous chapel, the old Lotrščak tower, the old craftsmen quarter with beautiful cafes and typical restaurants, the flowers market, the Kaptol hill with the astonishing cathedral which was fortified as it was the easternmost episcopal seat of Catholic Europe. The Cathedral shelters the relics of Saint Alojzije Stepinac, victim of the Tito's communist regime.



Lunch in a traditional restaurant near the cathedral:

Menu

Starter: štrukle soup (puff pastry with fresh cheese)

Main dish: duck with mlinci (typical Zagreb pasta)

Seasonal salad

Dessert: vanilla ice cream

Road to Kumrovec through the Klanjec canyon where you will see a unique monument to the Croatian anthem.

Travel time: 1h

Visit Kumrovec.



Sveta Ana d.o.o.

Pojice 26, 20215 Gruda (Dubrovnik), Croatia - OIB : 23937903437

Tel : 00 385 (0) 99 33 33 002

Web : www.sveta-ana-travel.com – email : info@sveta-ana-travel.com

Kumrovec is an ethnographic village displaying traditional crafts with real size mannequins dressed in national costumes. You will also see the house which was the birthplace of Tito, a politician who marked the 2nd half of 20th century. After the Second World War Tito became life president of the Yugoslav federation which had a very special political system.



Continue to Ljubljana in Slovenia by the "Kozjanski park", a magnificent natural landscape.

Travel time: 1h45

Check in at the hotel Park 3* located near the historic centre of Ljubljana. Accommodation in superior rooms.

The Park Hotel is 200m away from Prešeren Square, the heart of Ljubljana built in Slovenian Baroque style.

Dinner in hotel restaurant.



Day 3: Ljubljana, the Vintgar gorge and Bled – overnight in Bled

Breakfast.

Walking tour of Ljubljana with a local guide including the Saint Nicholas Cathedral, the cable car and the Ljubljanski Grad castle with the National Museum of Contemporary History and the Museum of Puppetry. From the castle you will enjoy a beautiful view on the city. During the walking tour you will also see the monument to Napoleon, the Prešeren square and the town hall.



Ljubljana during history was an important commercial crossroads and during Napoleon it became the capital of Slovenia. The emperor declared Ljubljana the seat of the Illyrian provinces of Croatia and Slovenia.

During the Napoleon period the city was embellished, and the town hall was built. When Austria took over the rule of Slovenia, the baroque became the main building style, the Saint Nicholas Cathedral being the most beautiful example.

Time at leisure.



Lunch in hotel restaurant.

The Vintgar gorges are a narrow and mysterious canyon with a series of waterfalls dug by the Radovna river. The canyon ends with the beautiful 13m high Šum waterfall. The walking path takes you through the forest to a belvedere offering a splendid view on the town of Bled and the Bled castle overlooking the lake.

Distance: 7km - Effective walking time: 2h15 - Hiking time with breaks: 2h30 – level: easy 2/5 – difference in elevation: 380m



Continue to the hotel Lovec 4* located in the centre of Bled, featuring a wellness centre and spa.

Travel time: 20min

Dinner in hotel restaurant.

In Bled you will find one of the most beautiful walking paths of Slovenia, a 3 km long promenade around the lake. In the middle of the lake there is an island with a 15th century monastery, one of the most beautiful and romantic settings of Slovenia. The town is renowned for thermal waters and the medieval castle perched on a cliff above the lake.

Free discovery of Bled.



Day 4: The Škocjan caves (UNESCO) and Poreč (UNESCO) in Croatia – overnight in Buzet

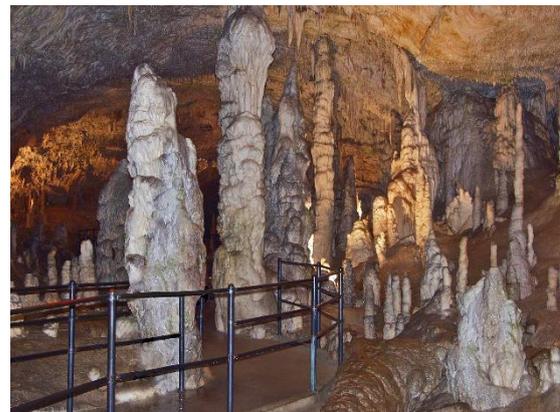
Breakfast.

Road to Škocjan.

Travel time: 1h45

Visit the caves.

The Škocjan Caves are the only UNESCO World Heritage site in Slovenia and are still, compared to other tourist attractions, uncrowded. The caves are an exceptional natural phenomenon where a river disappears in the soil of the plateaus and forms intermittent lakes which dry up in summer (RAMSAR classified wetland). The river then goes even deeper and forms a maze of underground caves. The karstic soil creates stalactites and stalagmites shaping a real underground organic cathedral. In the Škocjan caves we have the largest underground canyon in Europe. The river emerges from the ground thus creating a waterfall and a canyon you can explore.



Lunch in the restaurant at the entrance of the caves.

Menu

Starter: mushroom soup

Main dish: breaded pork cutlet with local Slovenian cheese and smoked ham with fried potatoes

Seasonal salad

Dessert: Slovenian cake

Road to Poreč via the Novigrad lagoon. Travel time: 1h30

Visit Poreč with a local guide. The entrance to the Euphrasius Basilica is included.

Poreč is a picturesque coastal town with long history, dating back to Roman Antiquity. Poreč harbours the famous basilica of Bishop Euphrasius, one of the finest examples of pre-Christian architecture of the 3rd century AD with magnificent mosaics. The basilica is part of the UNESCO World Heritage. During the visit you will discover different areas of this dynamic and rich complex.



Sveta Ana d.o.o.

Pojice 26, 20215 Gruda (Dubrovnik), Croatia - OIB : 23937903437

Tel : 00 385 (0) 99 33 33 002

Web : www.sveta-ana-travel.com – email : info@sveta-ana-travel.com

Continue to Buzet by following the Mirna river.

Travel time: 45min

Check in at Fontana hotel.

Dinner in hotel restaurant.

Buzet is the finest example of fortified hilltop villages in Istria. The ascent towards the town offers splendid views on the Istrian peninsula bringing detachment and inciting dreams of past times. According to local legends, once upon the time giants lived with men in Istria. The giants helped the villagers in building and fortifying their towns, they also brought water by digging the canyon where the Mirna river flows today. However, an impossible love between the children of the giant and villagers' leaders made the giants disappear forever. Standing on the Buzet's ramparts and overlooking the river valley, indeed gives you the impression of being a giant.

The forests of the Mirna valley abound in truffles. The biggest truffle in the world weighing 1.3 kg was found in these forests by a local truffle-hunter. The village has kept its medieval character with twisted alleys offering a vast choice of specialty stores including truffle specialties and other original products.



Day 5: Pula, Rovinj and the discovery of the truffle world – overnight in Buzet

Breakfast.

Road to Pula. Travel time: 45min

Walking tour of Pula with a local guide. You will see the Roman amphitheatre, the triumphal arch and the Roman forum.

Pula is a Roman city with one of the best-preserved amphitheatres in the world dating back to the 1st century AD. The amphitheatre is still in use for concerts and theatre performances. The nearby old town has also beautiful monuments from the Roman past. You can enter the old town through the Roman triumphal arch, the main square is a Roman forum with the temple of Augustus, now converted into a museum. You can also visit the 17th century Austrian fort in the upper part of the city.

Time at leisure.

Continue to Rovinj. Travel time: 45min



Lunch in a restaurant on the coast facing the old town.

Menu

Starter: seafood risotto

Main dish: grilled fish and steamed potatoes with chard

Dessert: ice cream

Walking tour of Rovinj with a local guide.

Rovinj developed on a peninsula dominated by the bell tower of a church dedicated to Saint Euphemia. According to a legend, her tomb appeared on the beach and despite all efforts nothing and nobody could move the sarcophagus. Only a shepherd's child managed to push the tomb to the top of the peninsula where today stands the church. Rovinj's narrow and twisted alleys are crowded with life, shops, stalls of artists and craftsmen. The architecture is a nice example of Venetian heritage. The market is one of the liveliest in Istria. Rovinj is a city full of colours and surprises. Time at leisure.



Continue your journey to the small village Vrh. Travel time: 45min

Vrh means "the peak" - it offers magnificent views on the undulating Istrian interior.

Visit a family who lives of truffles for more than 4 decades.

Get acquainted with the family and their dogs with a short introduction to dog training.

After a drink, the group goes for a walk in the forest accompanied by the dog for a demonstration of truffle hunt which lasts about 30 minutes (avoid shoes with high heels). After the hunt the family will prepare a dinner of truffle specialties: cheeses and sausages with truffles, truffle mousses, olive oil with truffles, and the typical truffle kajgana (truffle omelette), truffle cakes, two kinds of wine and water.



Enjoy the friendly local atmosphere and good wine!

Return to the hotel. Travel time: 30min

Day 6: Opatija and the island of Krk – overnight in Korenica

Breakfast.

Road to Opatija. Travel time: 1h

Stroll with your tour leader on the Lungomare (the longest seaside promenade in Croatia) connecting the old abbey, the Imperial hotel and the villa Angiolina.

Opatija was one of the first cities to develop tourism in Croatia and on the Adriatic Sea. Austrian secession architecture is the predominant building style, a reminder of the mid-19th century when the main visitors were Central European upper class and political elite. Opatija remains a synonym for a stylish travel destination.



Time at leisure.

Continue to the island Krk by the scenic seaside road offering splendid views on the Kvarner bay. The island of Krk is connected to the mainland by a spectacular bridge. Travel time: 1h10

Lunch in Krk old town.

Menu

Starter: fish soup

Main dish: fried calamari with grilled vegetables

Dessert: homemade cake

Free time in Krk.

Krk is the largest island of Croatia, it was home of the Frankopans, the most powerful Croatian family. The town of Krk is built in stone with ancient lush palaces next to simple fishermen's homes.

Continue to Korenica passing through the coastal town of Senj before climbing on the Dinaric mountains of the Lika region. During the ascent toward the Vratnik saddle you will enjoy beautiful views of the Kvarner bay. Travel time: 2h30

Check in at hotel Macola 3*. Dinner in hotel restaurant.



Day 7: Plitvice lakes national park (UNESCO) – overnight in Zagreb

Breakfast.

Road to the Plitvice lakes national park. Travel time:
20min

Visit the national park with the Upper lakes, the travertine waterfalls, the electric boat on the central lake Kozjak and the Lower lakes with the Big waterfall and the road train.

Walking distance: 8 km, walking time: 4h30, level: easy
2/5

Lunch in a restaurant of the national park



Menu

Starter: mushroom soup

Main dish: grilled trout with steamed potatoes and chard

Dessert: apple puff pastry

Continue to Zagreb. Travel time: 2h30

Check in at hotel Central in the city-center.

Dinner in hotel restaurant.

Day 8: Departure from Zagreb airport

Breakfast.

Transfer to the Zagreb airport. Travel time: 30min

Departure flight.



TOUR PRICE

THE PRICE INCLUDES :

- Accommodation for 7 nights in hotels of category 3* and 4* on half-board basis. Namely: 1+1 nights in hotel Central 3* in Zagreb, 1 night in hotel Park 3* in Ljubljana, 1 night in hotel Lovec 4* in Bled, 2 nights in hotel Fontana 3* in Buzet (1 dinner), 1 night in hotel Macola 3* in Korenica
- transport by tourist bus with all associated costs (tolls, parking fees, ferries, etc.)
- English-speaking tour leader
- English-speaking local guides in Zagreb, Ljubljana, Poreč, Pula and Rovinj
- tickets to the monuments mentioned included in the program
- 6 lunches in restaurants in Zagreb, Ljubljana, Škocjan, Rovinj, Krk and Plitvice
- A truffle specialties dinner in the village Vrh
- Assistance, insurance and organization costs of Sveta Ana travel agency

NOTES

- Sveta Ana travel agency checks the availability of hotels before writing the offer but does not guarantee the availability of the hotels prior to the definitive confirmation from the customer. If at the time of confirmation, the hotels are no longer available, Sveta Ana travel agency will undertake necessary steps to find similar accommodation, nearby the hotels listed in the initial offer. The prices listed above are subject to change and will be confirmed upon request for specific dates.
- Travel distances and times are given for regular driving conditions and for reference only. They can vary depending on random factors such as road work, accidents, traffic jams, bad weather ...

CANCELLATION TERMS

Cancellations must be written and sent by email to the local agency. Cancellation fees vary depending on when the cancellation occurs:

- more than 30 days prior to departure: 25% of the price of the trip,
- from 30 to 7 days prior to departure: 50% of the price of the trip,
- from 7 days prior to departure to the day of the departure of the trip: 100% of the price of the trip