



Apicultural excursion to Slovenia

September 2020

Slovenia lies in the centre of Europe, where the Alps meet the Mediterranean area and the Karst changes into sumptuous forests; you will be captivated by the blue Adriatic Sea and the mysterious Karst with its subterranean caves.

Beekeeping is part of the fabric of Slovenian culture, being one of the oldest and most traditional rural activities. It is therefore no surprise that many internationally renowned beekeepers were born on Slovenian soil. Slovenia offers and examines some of the extensive beekeeping heritage enriched by beekeepers' activities today. Friendly beekeepers throughout Slovenia will be happy to open the doors of their bee farms, where you can get to know our Carniolan bee and the secrets of how it lives, as well as learn why the products of Slovenian beekeepers achieve such high quality.

Day 01

Arrival to Slovenia – Guided tour in Ljubljana



- Arrival to Slovenia. Pick up at Ljubljana airport.
- Drive to **Ljubljana** and guided tour through the capital of Slovenia, with its medieval old town, rich Baroque and Renaissance architecture, museums, galleries, etc. You enjoy a walk through the old city centre, across the Triple Bridge designed by the well-known Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik, follow the path down to the cathedral, past Francesco Robba's fountain and the town hall. Boat cruise on the Ljubljanica river to have an opportunity to see Ljubljana and its numerous famous buildings and bridges from a different angle.
- Dinner and overnight in the hotel in Ljubljana.
Visits on arrival day depend on flight schedule.

Day 02

A visit to a beekeeper – Carnica mating station – Bled Lake – Ljubljana



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- A visit to a **beekeeper** with very long tradition. Introduction to his beekeeping and degustation of bee products, especially their famous honey brandy and honey with red beet.
- Next is visit to Brane Kozinc beekeeping & **carnica mating station** in valley Krma.
- Drive to magnificent **lake Bled** - one of Europe's most beautiful Alpine resorts in Europe. Optional: boat ride with the traditional wooden boat "pletna".
- Dinner and overnight in hotel in Ljubljana.

Day 03

Slovenian Beekeepers' Association – A visit to a beekeeper specialised in bee pollen – Ljubljana (free time)



- **Slovenian Beekeepers' Association** was established 140 years ago comprises 200 beekeeping societies. A significant part of their efforts are dedicated to informing the general public about the importance of beekeeping. Introduction with the activities of the Center, multivision presentation, visit of plantation of nectar producing plants and bee hives, built in unique Carniolian style. Discussion.
- Proceed to visit a **beekeeper specialized in bee pollen**. Introduction to his apiary and lecture on bee pollen collection techniques followed by discussion. (Hands-on training if the time and weather permits).
- Return to Ljubljana, **free time** for visiting museums, shopping.
- Dinner in restaurant in the city centre. Overnight in hotel.

Day 04

Styria region: Visit to a biodynamic beekeeper – Herbal & Beekeeping farm – Maribor guided tour – Ljubljana



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Drive to **Styria region** – green and hilly winegrowing region is rich in tradition, folklore and cultural heritage.

- Visit to **biodynamic beekeeper** and innovator that works with apitherapy and information API labels (bee venom information). He practices also honey massage in authentic Slovenian apiary and traditional beekeeping in a hive scape.
- A visit of **herbal and beekeeping farm**, set in unspoiled nature. Walk through their honey plants garden. Introduction to some of the herbs along with their effects to human body. At the end of the visit we are served with tea and delicious home-made baked goods.
- Guided tour through **Maribor**, the second-largest city in Slovenia with cosy central streets buzz with cafes and the Drava riverside. Maribor is famous to be home of the oldest vine in the world.
- Dinner and overnight in hotel in Ljubljana.

Day 05

Ljubljana – Karst village & Piran



- Visit to a typical karst village of **Pliskovica** and a beekeeper specialized in bee hives transport system.
- Visit a wine cellar and taste some **excellent wines and typical dry ham** of the region.
- Next is visit to a **bee farm** in Vipava valey, known for its collection of miniature bee houses and photographic gallery. Introduction with the beekeeping and visit of plantation of nectar producing plants.
- Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 06

Coastal/Karst region – Postojna cave & Predjama castle – airport



- After breakfast a visit to **Secovlje Saltpans**, the largest of the coastal marsh wetlands (650 hectares) and at the same time, the most important Slovenian locality from the ornithological point of view. The variety of bird species in this area, from the aspect of nesting and wintering, is much larger than in any other comparable locality of its kind.
- Departure for **Postojna cave**, the largest cave is the “classic karst” and the most visited show cave in Europe with 20 kilometres of passages, galleries and chambers. Ride with electrical train through the marvellous underground world.
- Drive to Ljubljana airport, departure.
Visits on that day depend of flight schedule.

from 770 EUR

(30-34 Person)

Package price (appr) for programme 2020:

from 820 EUR

(25-29 Person)

Price is per Person in double room, calculated in November 2017.

from 890 EUR

(20-24 Person)

Price includes:

- ✓ Transportation in Air-Conditioned Coach per Itinerary
- ✓ 5 nights in hotel 3* on twin rooms
- ✓ Tourist tax
- ✓ buffet breakfasts
- ✓ dinners in hotel (no drinks) and restaurants (day 03)
- ✓ Entrances and fees as per program
- ✓ Slovenian - English speaking guide specialised in beekeeping
- ✓ Organisation and assistance

Price does not includes:

- ✓ **Flight ticket**
- ✓ Supplement for single room 140 EUR
- ✓ Lunches and drinks
- ✓ Boat Pletna in Bled
- ✓ Assurance in case of sickness before departure
- ✓ Travel insurance
- ✓ Everything not listed in «Included»

Have a good journey!

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