



**SLOVAKIA
EXPLORER**



Bratislava and Beyond

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Discover charming Bratislava and Moravian Versailles.

Holiday code: DBB

Countries included: Slovakia, Czech Republic

Activity level: 1

Themes: Cultural discovery

Tour type: Guided Groups

Minimum age: 16

Duration: 4 days

Available in: Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct

Overview

Bratislava, located on the River Danube, has been an important hub of Central Europe for centuries. In the 20th century, it was perhaps a little bit in the shadow of nearby Vienna or Budapest, but nowadays charming Bratislava has been rediscovered by travellers from all over the world.

Thanks to its location, in the 16th century, Bratislava became the capital and coronation town of the Hungarian Kingdom. The most important and most famous monarch who was crowned in Bratislava was Maria Theresa.

After the separation of Czechoslovakia in 1991, forming two independent countries of Slovakia and the Czech Republic, Bratislava yet again naturally became the capital of Slovakia, and deservedly so.

This tour is the super way to explore the highlights of Bratislava and several hidden gems beyond Bratislava, including Lednice UNESCO grounds and the nearby winegrowing towns of Mikulov and Skalica,



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experiencing the real Slovakia.

Over four days, you'll discover:

- **Bratislava**—the gem of the Danube River.
- **Danube cruise**—a cruise to Devin Castle.
- **Mikulov**—a winegrowing town in southern Moravia.
- **Lednice-Valtice**—on UNESCO grounds, known as Moravian Versailles.
- **Skalica**—a winegrowing town in western Slovakia, famed for its rich folklore and winemaking tradition.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Bratislava.

Welcome to charming Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia beautifully nestled on the Danube River between Vienna and Budapest. On arrival you will be met by your tour guide who will brief you about the programme about the next four days. The meeting time is scheduled for 4 pm. Depending on your arrival time, there might be time for a stroll around the old town.

Meals included

None

Accommodation

Bratislava, Hotel Devin (or similar)

Day 2: Sightseeing in Bratislava.

Located on an ancient European trade route, Bratislava has always been a busy and flourishing town. Only a 65-km distance from Vienna made Bratislava a popular summer residence of Queen Maria Theresa.

Bratislava, often called the pearl of the Danube, along with the High Tatras, is naturally Slovakia's top destination. Today we'll follow the coronation route of Hungarian kings that is marked out in plaques with gilded crowns hammered into the cobblestones.

The dominant feature is Bratislava Castle towering majestically above the Danube. During our guided tour, you will also see Michalska Brána Gate, Primate's Palace and the President's Palace, St. Martin's Cathedral, and more.

Afternoon is free for further exploration and an optional cruise on the Danube River to the Devin Castle, one of the iconic symbols of Slovakia.

Meals included

Breakfast

Accommodation

Bratislava, Hotel Devin (or similar)

Day 3: Discover the Lednice-Valtice UNESCO grounds, known as Moravian

Versailles, then travel to Skalica.

This morning we'll cross the Czech-Slovak border and travel 1 hour north by a private bus to explore the most attractive part of southern Moravia, an area known as Moravian Versailles. The first stop on today's list is the winegrowing town of Mikulov dating back to the Stone Age.

Its many historical sites, including the dominate hilltop castle where Napoleon Bonaparte stayed during battles in Bohemia, make this town a destination that should not be missed. We'll have a guided tour around the town before we move to the next jewel of southern Moravia, the Lednický chateau.

The Lednický chateau was a representative summer residence of the Lichtenstein family and is the crown of the Lednice-Valtice UNESCO grounds, one of the most beautiful complexes in the English Neo-Gothic style in Europe.

In the afternoon, we'll cross the Czech-Slovak border once again and travel 40 minutes to the royal town of Skalica, the jewel of western Slovakia. Dating back to 13th century, Skalica is known for its preserved historical centre and extensive vineyards that surround the town.

For a short period of time, Skalica was also the capital of Slovakia, but the real glory of Skalica is especially linked to two local specialities: pastry "Trdelník" made from dough wrapped around a wooden stick and baked over an open fire before being topped with sugar and walnuts and the red wine "Skalický Rubín" (Skalica's Ruby).

During our visit to a family-run wine cellar, accompanied by a local vinedresser, you'll have the opportunity to taste both Trdelník and Skalica's Ruby as well as many other locally produced wines, while finding out about the spectacular folklore that is very much still alive in and around Skalica.

Meals included

Breakfast, dinner

Accommodation

Skalica, Hotel sv. Ludmila

Day 4: Tour ends.

After breakfast, we'll travel 1 hour back to Bratislava where your tour ends. Alternatively, an extra transfer can be organized to Vienna, Prague, or Budapest.

Meals included

Breakfast

Essential Holiday Information

Is this trip right for you?

This well-thought-out trip is a great choice for people who like cultural discovery holidays. This trip is classified as easy with no demanding walks, so it can be managed by people with an average level of fitness.

What's included

- Three nights in two four-star hotels
- Three breakfasts and one buffet dinner at wine tasting
- All activities as per itinerary
- Transportation by a minivan or bus
- Professional driver
- English-speaking tour guide from start to finish

What's not included

- International flights
- Arrival and departure airport transfers
- Travel insurance
- Any optional activities mentioned in the itinerary

Optional

Single room supplement: 115 EUR

Max group size

Normally 16 max.

Start point

This tour starts in Bratislava.

End point

This tour ends in Bratislava.

Flights & Airports

To enhance flexibility our holidays do not include flights. This gives you the freedom to choose a local airport that works for you and shop for the best deal.

List of airports with distances to the first hotel in Bratislava:

Bratislava Airport – 14 km / 20 min

Vienna Airport – 64 km / 45min

Getting there & Airport transfers

Once you have decided which airport works for you best you will need to choose the way how to get to the starting hotel / joining point. There are two options:

Public transport

You can reach Bratislava by public transport (bus, train). Using the public transport is another way of experiencing your destination, which puts you right in the centre of the action. If you prefer to travel by public transport we can help you find the best option.

Private transfers (door to door service)

Book your private airport transfers directly with us. Our fast, reliable and affordable private transfers are the best way to reach your starting hotel quickly and comfortably. For up-to-date prices of Airport private transfers [click here](#).

Accommodation

During this tour, you'll stay in comfortable four-star hotels.

Extra Nights

If you need to arrive or leave on a different date, please contact us and we'd be more than happy to arrange extra pre- or post-tour accommodations for you.

Packing

We recommend you pack as light as possible, with suitcases or backpacks that are easy to lift and carry. A daypack for activities is also useful. Below you will find a recommended packing list. It is by no means exhaustive, so if you're in any doubt, please contact us.

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- T-shirts and shorts
- Long-sleeved tops and trousers
- Jacket/coat/fleece
- Swimwear
- Walking boots
- Strong trainers
- Water bottle
- Small first-aid kit
- Sun cream, sunhat, and sunglasses

Itinerary disclaimer

Please note: We want to run this trip following the day-to-day itinerary on the trip notes. However, sometimes operational circumstances may sometimes prevent us from doing this. Your tour leader will keep you fully informed of any alternative plans that are necessary on-the-ground. Also, based on feedback from past travellers, occasionally our itineraries are amended. The final version of your trip notes will be emailed to you prior to travel.

Ready to go? Signing up is quick and easy!

1. Check availability online or contact us by email or phone.

2. Secure your place/s online by clicking the BOOK NOW button or contact us by email/phone. Your place is secured with a 99 EUR deposit per person and can pay by bank transfer.
3. Once the deposit is received, a confirmation email will be sent to your email automatically, and your place/s will be officially confirmed.

Need more information?

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions at all. Our knowledgeable and helpful team is here to help, and we look forward to welcoming you to our spectacular country soon!

Why book with Slovakia Explorer

This holiday is operated by our expert, in-country team at Slovakia Explorer. By booking with us, you'll benefit from our unrivalled local knowledge and have 24/7 support during your trip.

Our holidays offer unique experiences, which give you an unparalleled insight into Slovakia. During the planning and booking process, we pay attention to every detail of your holiday to ensure your trip is perfect.

Slovakia Explorer offers great value, high-quality holidays.