



**SLOVAKIA
EXPLORER**



High Tatras Family Winter Adventure

Last updated: 25/03/2024

Action-packed family winter holiday in the High Tatras.

Holiday code: FWT

Countries included: Slovakia

Activity level: 2

Themes: Family, Winter

Tour type: Guided Groups

Minimum age: 7

Duration: 8 days

Available in: Jan, Feb, Dec

Overview

Explore the largest mountains in Slovakia – the High Tatras. In just one week you will experience:

- **Snowshoeing** – walk on snowshoes along the former smuggler's paths, with beautiful views of the snow-capped peaks of the Belianske Tatras and the Pieniny National Park.
- **Dog sled and Thermal pools** – you'll take an adventurous ride on a dog sled followed by swimming in outdoor thermal pools in the foothills of the High Tatras.
- **Mountain huts and waterfalls** – discover the beauty of your surroundings.
- **Skiing and sledding** – on the longest slopes of the High Tatras.



**SLOVAKIA
EXPLORER**

Slovakia Explorer, Skalica, 90865, Slovakia
00421 908 021 469 • www.slovakia-explorer.com • booking@slovakia-explorer.com

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Smokovec

Welcome to the Tatras! Today you and your family will arrive in the mountain village of Smokovec, which will be your home for the next seven nights.

Smokovec is the oldest, and one of the biggest villages in the High Tatras, located at the foot of the famous Lomnický peak. It will be the starting point for your family adventures.

When you get to the hotel, you will be welcomed by your guide who will tell you about the plans for the following days. Dinner is included in the price of the holiday and will be served in the hotel's restaurant with a choice of three dishes.

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Meals included

Dinner

Day 2: Take the Tatra tram to Strbské Pleso, then go on a winter walk to Skok – a frozen waterfall

This morning you'll take a ride on the famous Tatra tram from Tatranská Lomnica to Strbské Pleso. During this sightseeing tour we will pass through several Tatra spa villages, including Starý Smokovec. The guide will tell you a lot about each of them while driving.

After an introductory tour of Štrbské Pleso, we will head to Mlynická dolina. Our goal is the Skok waterfall. Hiking to this waterfall, which is frozen in the winter months, is a good choice for families with children and the route can be managed even by less able tourists. Our guide will take you safely up to this 30m. high waterfall. For easier movement in the snow, we use hiking poles, snowshoes or cats.

We'll keep an eye out for the Tatra chamois in the wilderness and have a picnic directly under the waterfall. Then, following the same route, we will return to Strbské Pleso and take the tram back to Tatranská Lomnica.

Total walking: 10,5km, ascent/descent 430m, time 4.5h.

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Meals included

breakfast, packed lunch

Day 3: Go dog sledding and relax in outdoor thermal pools

This day is always a firm favourite with children. We will take a tour bus to the Tatra meadows to go dog sledding, with some incredible views on the way.

After an introductory briefing and driving with a professional musher, our instructors will explain the basic

principles of safe driving, and then it's your turn! You'll be able to call yourself a masher after the experience, which is unlike any other.

After that, we'll transfer to a traditional cottage for lunch. Then it's time for a spot of relaxation in the healing hot thermal springs in the Besenova aqua park. There are many indoor and outdoor pools with water temperatures up to 38 C, and many other attractions like waterslides. In the late afternoon, after our three-hour entry to the park, we will transfer back to Smokovec.

Meals included

Breakfast

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Day 4: Go snowshoeing along the smuggler's path

After a hearty breakfast, another adventure awaits us. We will take the tour bus to the Bachledova Valley, 16 km away. Here we will arm ourselves with snowshoes and hiking poles, and from here we will take a cable car directly to the ridge of the hill, which will be our starting point for today's walking.

The route will take us along a former smuggler's trail with beautiful views of the Pieniny National Park and the snow-capped peaks of the Belianske Tatras. The area is full of tales and legends, which our guide will tell you about.

After a packed lunch, our final part of today's walking will be the descent to the Goral village of Ždiar. We'll head back from here to the hotel in our tour bus.

Total walking: 7,5km, ascent 113m, descent 394m, time 4 hours.

Meals included

Breakfast, packed lunch

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Day 5: Take a cable car ride to ice sculptures, winter walk to Rainerova hut and transfer to Zdiar for down-hill sledding and visit to outdoor museum.

This morning we'll take a cable car to the popular tourist resort, Hrebienok, which is at an altitude of 1285m.

Once we're here we'll visit the Tatra Ice Dome, where we will be able to admire the incredible beauty of ice sculptures created by masters from around the world. This will be followed by an easy walk to Rainer's cottage - the oldest in the Tatras, with an interesting history. Then transfer to Zdiar to visit an outdoor museum and enjoy down hill sledding.

Meals included

Breakfast

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Day 6: Go downhill skiing or snowboarding in Tatranska Lomnica

We'll spend today on the ski slopes of Tatranska Lomnica. First we'll head to the local ski rental for skis, or snowboard if you prefer. Then we will move to the ski lifts where your guide will help you buy a ski pass (this is not included in the tour price).

After that there's nothing to stop you from enjoying real Tatra skiing on the sunny side of the Tatras, which has slopes for beginners and experienced skiers. You can take the cable car to the popular Skalnaté Pleso at 1754m, or even to Lomnický štít at 2634m, which was for many years considered to be the highest peak of the High Tatras.

A trip to Lomnický štít is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and therefore popular, so we recommend booking a ticket a few days in advance. Of course, there is also a ski school for complete beginners.

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Meals included

Breakfast

Day 7: Enjoy a free day

Today is free for activities of your choice. You can go skiing again, go hiking with your family to some of the other mountain huts, try the basics of cross-country skiing around Strbské Pleso, grilling on open fire, horse and carriage ride or go for a ride on the longest toboggan run in the Tatras.

If you'd prefer something less physically demanding, we recommend a visit to the Belianska Cave, or AquaCity Poprad water park with its many attractions and water pools.

If you're a history lover, we recommend a visit to the ancient UNESCO town of Levoca, or a visit to the very interesting museum of the High Tatras National Park TANAP. There are many options, and your guide will be happy to advise and help you organise your day.

Meals included

Breakfast

Accommodation

Three star hotel

Day 8: Head back home

This morning we transfer back to Krakow airport. We wish you a pleasant journey home and look forward to seeing you on one of our other family tours.

Meals included

Breakfast

Essential Holiday Information

What's Included

Airport transfers
Seven nights in a three-star, family-run hotel
Seven breakfasts, two packed lunches
All activities as per itinerary
Tour leader

What's not Included

Activities on free day
Ski pass
Ski school

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

This holiday starts in Krakow. We recommend flying to Krakow Airport with a wide selection of international flights.

Airport Transfers

Airport transfers are included in the price of your holiday.

Accommodation

List of hotels:

Hotel Villa Siesta

Support Staff & Group Leader

The group will be led by a professional and qualified tour leader. They will be there to assist you with anything you might need.

Group size

Normally 4 – 16.

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 accommodation for you.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with Slovakia Explorer that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the

event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

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 feedbacks from past travellers, occasionally our itineraries are amended. Final version of your trip notes will be emailed to you prior to travel.

Need more information?

Have a look at our detailed trip notes or please 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

Slovakia Explorer is a pioneer in adventure travel in Slovakia. Since 2003, we have been organising tours surrounded by beautiful Slovak nature, including this multi-activity winter trip for families. Over the course of a week, accompanied by a knowledgeable guide, you'll experience a new adventure every day. Your guide will take care of all activities, daily transfers and will always be there to help so that you can focus on one thing – enjoying the beauty of the Tatras.