



**SLOVAKIA
EXPLORER**



Family High Tatras Winter Adventure

Last updated: 26/04/2022

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, Mar, Dec

Overview

This exclusive winter adventure is a great opportunity for families to get to know the largest mountains in Slovakia – the High Tatras. Over eight days you will visit some of the most popular Tatra villages – like Strbske Pleso, Tatranska Lomnica and Smokovec – as well as exploring more remote areas. 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.



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- **Skiing and sledding** – on the longest slopes of the High Tatras.
- **Horse-drawn carriage** – experience riding a horse-drawn carriage, and eating a traditional meal cooked on an open fire.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Tatranska Lomnica, or Smokovec.



Family winter holiday

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

Tatranska Lomnica is one of the biggest villages in the High Tatras, located at the foot of the famous Lomnický peak and Skalnaté Pleso. It will be the starting point for your family adventures. Tatranska Lomnica is one of the most popular ski resorts, with a complete range of services for experienced skiers and beginners as well as families.

Tatranska Lomnica is also a popular destination for filmmakers, and one of the best comedies of the Czech-Slovak film industry – *Andel na Horach* (Angel on mountains) – was filmed here. When you get to the hotel, you will be welcomed by our 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.

Meals included: dinner

Accommodation: Pension Paula

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 Tatranska 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 Tatranska Lomnica.

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

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch

Accommodation: Pension Paula

Day 3: Go dog sledding and swim in 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 musher 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 Tatranska Lomnica.

Meals included: breakfast

Accommodation: Pension Paula

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: Pension Paula

Day 5: Take a cable car ride to ice sculptures, and enjoy a horse and carriage ride and picnic cooked on an open fire.

This morning we'll take the Tatra tram to Stary (Old) Smokovec, where we will get to know the centre of the oldest village in the Tatras. From here 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 we will return to Stary Smokovec and head again to the distinctive Goral village of Ždiar.

A local carriage will be waiting for us, which will take us around the village and then deeper into the forest, where the local Goral Jozef will prepare a real Goral grill in a pretty setting above the stream. In the late afternoon, we will take the tour bus back to the hotel.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch

Accommodation: Pension Paula

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.

Meals included: breakfast

Accommodation: Pension Paula

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, 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: Pension Paula

Day 8: Head back home.

Today your family adventure in the largest mountains of Central and Eastern Europe ends. 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

Is this trip right for you?

This well-thought-out trip is a great choice for families who like active holidays or would like to try something new. The snow determines the difficulty of movement in the Tatras, but in general this family trip is designed so that it can be managed by active children from the age of 8.

What's Included

- Seven nights in a three-star, family-run pension
- Seven breakfasts, three lunches, one dinner
- All activities and transfers that are part of the itinerary
- Tour leader

What's not Included

- Arrival/airport transfer on day one
- Departure/airport transfer on day eight
- Ski pass
- Ski school
- Activities on free day

Supplements

Single room: 70 EUR

Discounts

- **New Year departure:** Children 11 years old or younger on extra bed: - 224 EUR OFF the child price on proper bed.
- **February departure:** Children 11 years old or younger on extra bed: - 140 EUR OFF the child price on proper bed.

Group size

Our groups usually consist of 2 – 5 families, allowing children the chance to make new friends while adults can relax in the beauty of their surroundings.

In order to guarantee our brochure price, the minimum group size for this trip is usually 6. Smaller groups are welcome, but the price may be amended accordingly.

Please contact us if you'd like to arrange a private group for just you and your friends.

Start point

This tour starts in Tatranska Lomnica.

End point

This tour ends in Tatranska Lomnica.

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 Tatranska Lomnica:

- Poprad Airport – 17 km / 20 min
- Kosice Airport – 134 km / 1h:30min
- Krakow Airport – 144 km / 2h:30min
- Bratislava Airport – 329 km / 3h:40min
- Vienna Airport – 394 km / 4h:20min
- Budapest Airport – 328 km / 4h:30min

Getting there & Airport transfers

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

Public transport

You can reach Tatranska Lomnica 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](#).

Transport

During this tour all transport will be provided and you will use:

- Tour bus/mini bus
- Tatra tram
- Cable cars

Accommodation

During this tour you'll stay in a comfortable three-star, family-run hotel in a quiet part of Tatranska Lomnica within walking distance to restaurants.

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.

Packing

We recommend you pack as light as possible, with a suitcases or backpacks that are easy for parents to lift and carry, because you will be expected to carry your own bag during travelling, taking it to your hotel room etc.

You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water and a camera etc for day trips. Below you will find a recommended packing list. It is by no means exhaustive, so if you're in any doubt, please contact us.

- A thick coat or ski jacket
- Thermals
- Waterproof trousers
- Fleece and warm jumpers
- Gloves, hat and scarf
- Walking boots
- Strong trainers
- Water bottle
- Small first-aid kit

- Sun cream and sunglasses
- Swimwear, beach towels and flip flops for thermal pools

Group Leader

This trip is accompanied by one of our local group leaders. All the organisation, including transfers and activities, is managed by your leader. Our experienced guides are some of the best in the country. They will be there to assist you with anything you might need, giving you advice and organising your activities on a daily basis so you can fully focus on one thing – enjoying the beauty of the High Tatras.

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.