



**SLOVAKIA  
EXPLORER**



# High Tatras Hut-To-Hut Trek

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Hut to hut trekking in the High Tatras.

**Holiday code:** THH

**Countries included:** Slovakia

**Activity level:** 4

**Themes:** Walking and Trekking

**Tour type:** Self-Guided

**Minimum age:** 16

**Duration:** 7 days

**Available in:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct

## Overview

Get into the heart of the Tatra Mountains on a hut-to-hut trek in Slovakia. One of Eastern Europe's most adventurous and beautiful walking destinations, this area promises a walking holiday to remember. You'll stay in remote mountain huts, which provide the perfect opportunity to appreciate the tranquillity of the landscape in the shadow of the mighty mountain peaks. And you'll follow diverse walking routes that take you across the Tatras from east to west via mountain lakes, wildlife-rich valleys, cascading waterfalls and two summits – including the highest point in Poland, Rysy.

Over seven days you will experience:

- Hut to hut Trekking in Slovakia's highest mountains.
- Stays in mountain huts located by glacial lakes in the middle of nowhere.



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- A trek to Rysy Poland's highest peak.
- A visit to Strbske Pleso Slovakia's highest village.
- Magical sunrises and unforgettable sunsets.
- Spectacular views of majestic mountain peaks.

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Welcome to Slovakia!

Meet your host in Krakow and take a scenic drive over the border into Slovakia, then on to your hotel in Tatranska Lomnica, a charming village nestled in the shadow of the majestic Lomnický Peak in the High Tatra mountains. Check-in, unwind and then review the plan for the days ahead.

Accommodation: Hotel Slalom (or similar)

### Day 2: Walk through the Valley of the Seven Springs to Zelene Pleso hut.

After breakfast, you transfer by public bus to Tatranska Kotlina, the official start of today's route.

Your route begins in dense forest near to the famous Belianska Cave. Continuing to Plesnivec Hut, you can take a rest, re-fuel and enjoy the forested surrounds, before arriving at Zelene Pleso, a glacial lake overlooking the majestic peaks of the Belianske Tatras.

Mountain huts are a great way to experience the majesty, solitude and might of the mountains. The huts are located in the middle of nowhere so you can soak up the views from dusk to dawn. They are also steeped in history and tradition, and usually have a story to tell. Locally-run, you'll be assured of a warm and hospitable stay.

Tonight's hut dates back to 1876. A traditional wooden cottage, it's wedged right next to a crystal-clear glacial lake and nestled in the shadow of 2,500m peaks. You'll be accommodated in multi-share rooms with bathrooms on each floor. There is a small restaurant and bar.

Walking: 6hrs, 12km / 7,5mi, 935m up, 859 m down

Accommodation: Zelene Pleso

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch, dinner

### Day 3: Follow the Tatranska Magistrála Trail to Velka Svistovka Peak (2,037m), then onto Zamkovskeho hut.

Leaving the beautiful hut of Zelene Pleso behind, it's time for a summit challenge. Following the famous Tatranska Magistrála path, you head to Velka Svistovka peak (2,037m).

The first part of the climb is on an easy, stony trail, past streams and waterfalls. As you head higher, the route turns rocky and you'll need to clamber over boulders and along little ridges. The more difficult sections are secured by chains. The route evens out as you get near to the top, where you'll be rewarded with stunning panoramic views of the Belianske and High Tatras with Zelene Pleso Lake (your starting point) below you.

The area around Velka Svistovka is also well-known for its high concentration of the Tatra chamois. Continue to Skalnaté Pleso Mountain Lake (1,751m), home to an observatory and weather station. There may be time to look around it, before the gentle descent down to Zamkovského Chata Hut at the bottom of the Studená Dolina (Cold) Valley.

Zamkovského Chata Hut is located in the shadow of Lomnický Peak, which, at 2,634m, is the second highest mountain in Slovakia. The hut was built in 1943 to house partisans and their families. The hut has been recently renovated and provides cosy accommodation and has a restaurant.

Total walking: 0hrs, 8,5km/0mi, 548m up, 630m down

Accommodation: Zamkovského Chata

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch, dinner

## **Day 4: Trek to Studený Potok Waterfalls, then continue to Rainerova Chata and Sliezsky Dom.**

Your first stop is Studený Potok (Cold Stream) Waterfall. They are among the High Tatras' top ten attractions because the cascading waters are beautiful as they tumble down the mountain into crystal-clear pools below. As this trip is self-guided, you can stay at the waterfalls for as long as you wish, maybe dabbling your feet into the refreshing water!

You continue to Rainerova Chata, the oldest hut in the Tatras. Built-in 1863, it's a traditional stone hut serving drinks and snacks. Then continue to Sliezsky Dom, the highest hotel in Slovakia and your home for the night; beautifully located in the foothills of the Gerlachovský Peak, the highest summit in Slovakia, near the Veľký Waterfall, which is home to Tatra marmots, an endemic subspecies of the alpine marmot. They're often spotted playing on the rocks by the falls.

Walking: 5 hrs, 10km/6,2mi, 529m up, 344m down.

Accommodation: Mountain hotel Sliezsky Dom

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch

## **Day 5: Trek along the Tatranská Magistála Trail to Popradské Pleso, rewarded with stunning views all day**

This hiking tour from Sliezsky Dom to Popradské Pleso Hut is an unforgettable adventure through some of the most beautiful landscapes in the Tatras. Along the way, we'll experience the stunning beauty of glacial lakes, soaring peaks, and rugged mountain passes.

As we continue along the trail, we'll soon arrive at Batizovské Pleso, a crystal-clear mountain lake nestled in a stunning cirque beneath the towering Batizovský peak. This idyllic spot is the perfect place to rest and enjoy the spectacular views of the surrounding peaks and valleys.

Our next destination is Sedlo pod Ostrvou, a high mountain pass that offers breathtaking panoramic views of the Tatras. As we climb up the rocky path towards the pass, we'll pass by towering cliffs and rocky outcrops, with awe-inspiring views around every turn.

Finally, we'll reach Popradské Pleso Hut, our ultimate destination for the day. This cosy mountain lodge is situated on the shore of the tranquil Popradské Pleso Lake, surrounded by the stunning peaks of the

Tatras. Here, we can rest and refuel with a hearty meal and a warm drink before continuing our journey deeper into the mountains.

Walking: 5,5hrs, 10km/6,2mi, 475m up, 623m down.

Accommodation: Popradske Pleso mountain hotel

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch

## **Day 6: Summit Rysy Mountain (2,053m) Poland's highest peak.**

Today, you'll attempt to summit Poland's highest mountain, Rysy (2,053m). It's a popular route because it's perfectly achievable without any technical expertise and has beautiful views into Slovakia and Poland from the top – the mountain forms the natural border between the two countries.

Starting out from Popradske Pleso, you follow easier trails next to forested hills and lakes, before heading up onto more difficult terrain with boulders to negotiate. As you get higher, the route turns into a very steep climb with numerous sections secured by chains.

You'll head to the highest of the three summits, the middle summit, which is renowned for offering one of the widest panoramas in the Tatras. If the weather's kind, you'll be able to see the highest peak in Slovakia, Gerlachovský Štít (1,654m), the Western Tatras and, on the Polish side, the biggest glacial lake in the range, Morske Oko (Sea Eye).

You'll return to your mountain hotel via the same route.

Walking: 8hrs, 11,5km/7mi, 1031m up, 1031m down.

Accommodation: Popradske Pleso mountain hotel

Meals included: breakfast, packed lunch

## **Day 7: From Popradske Pleso hike to Strbske Pleso, then transfer to Krakow.**

From Popradske Pleso, follow an easy route to Strbske Pleso (1,347m), the highest village in the Tatras with a glacial lake that's surrounded by forested hills and tall peaks. The village is one of the most popular destinations in Slovakia as it provides many kilometres of hiking routes and the chance to admire the lake itself.

Then, take the mountain tram back to Tatranska Lomnica (your starting hotel) to collect your main luggage and return to Krakow in time for your flight.

Walking: 2hrs, 5km/3,1mi, 93m up, 248m down.

Accommodation: Penzion Jesensky (or similar)

Meals: breakfast

## **Essential Holiday Information**

### **Is this trip right for you?**

This physically challenging holiday is for those who love trekking and great scenery. There will be some

exposed sections of the trek that are secured by chains, so you need a head for heights, and there will be some scrambling over rocks.

## What's Included

### Included

#### Accommodation

6 nights in mountain huts and hotels

#### Meals

6 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners

#### Transfers

From and to the airport and everything in-between

#### Permits

All permits and entry fees

#### Others

Maps and detailed routing description

### Not Included

x Flights

x Some meals as described

x Travel insurance



## Food & Accommodation

### What is the food like?

Enjoy a combination of buffet and continental breakfast each morning at the mountain huts and hotels, featuring a wide variety of options. In addition, the mountain huts and hotels can accommodate various dietary restrictions, including vegetarian and gluten-free diets.

Packed lunches typically include a sandwich or baguette, a piece of fruit, and a biscuit.

Two dinners are included in the first two mountain huts. Mountain huts offer delicious home-cooked meals.

Mountain hotels on days 4, 5, and 6 provide a restaurant with a wide selection of local specialties to choose from à la carte.

### What is the accommodation like?

This tour includes a variety of accommodations, from a simple mountain hut to a four-star mountain hotel.

Destination	Accommodation
Tatranska Lomnica	Hotel Slalom ***
Zelene Pleso lake	Hut Chata pri Zelenom Plese
Mountains	Hut Zamkovskeho chata
Mountains	Hotel Sliezsky Dom ****
Popradske Pleso lake	Hut Popradske Pleso

## Getting there & Logistics

### Starts

Krakow Airport, Poland

### Ends

Krakow Airport, Poland

### Group Transfers

On Day 1, you'll be picked up by our driver upon arrival at Krakow Airport at 16:30, then transferred (approx. 2 hours) across the border into Slovakia directly to your starting hotel in Tatranska Lomnica in the Tatra Mountains.

On Day 7, the transfer back to Krakow is planned for noon and will be dropped off at the Krakow Airport by 15:00 for any flights departing after 17:00.

### Private Transfers

If our scheduled group transfer times do not work with your preferred flights, we might be able to provide private airport transfers at times that suit you best (subject to availability). Please check with us at the time of booking.

### **Travel options**

Krakov Airport offers a wide selection of international flights. However, it is also possible to provide transfers from other airports, including:

- Poprad Tatry Airport: located at the foothills of the Tatras  
Advantage: you will land at the Tatra Mountains, with only a 15-minute transfer to your starting hotel in Tatranska Lomnica.  
Disadvantage: limited selection of flights.
- Kosice Airport: located in the eastern part of Slovakia.  
Advantage: only 134km / 1,5 hours transfer to your starting hotel in Tatranska Lomnica.  
Disadvantage: limited selection of flights.

### **Optional Extras**

Single room supplement: 20 EUR (starting hotel on day one)

### **Kit List**

We recommend you pack as light as possible. Below you will find a recommended packing list. There is no specialist walking or climbing equipment, such as harnesses etc., needed for this trip.

What you decide to do about luggage transfers (see below) will dictate the size of backpack/s you take for the trip and each day's trekking. What you will need is a secure bag to leave at the starting hotel. If you're in any doubt about what to pack, or the size of bag to take, please don't hesitate to get in-touch with us and our specialist walking team will be happy to advise.

- Walking boots
- Trainers
- Shorts and t-shirts
- Walking trousers and tops
- Fleece or warm jumper
- Waterproofs
- Water bottle
- Small first-aid kit
- Sun cream, sunglasses and sunhat

### **Group size**

Normally 1 – 16 people.

### **Guided option**

This holiday is also available as guided for private groups, allowing you to experience the tour with a professional local guide. Choose a date that suits you best, and we'll take care of the rest.

Contact us for details.

## **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!

## **Ready to go? Signing up is quick and easy!**

1. Secure your place/s online by clicking the BOOK NOW button or contact us by email/phone. Your place is secured with a 25% deposit per person and can pay by bank transfer.
2. Once the deposit is received a confirmation email will be sent to your email automatically, and your place/s will be officially confirmed.

## **Why book with Slovakia Explorer**

On this tour we will take you safely along perfectly marked trails through the most beautiful parts of the High Tatras, the highest mountains in Slovakia. By staying in different mountains huts you'll get a completely different and authentic experience during this trek. Add in an exhilarating trek to Poland's highest peak, Rysy, (2,503 m), and this really is an experience of a lifetime.