

EXCURSION DESCRIPTIONS

JOIN US ON SOME OF OUR EXCURSIONS FROM PORTOROŽ

1. PIRAN SIGHTSEEING

Duration:	half day
Departure dates:	May 11, May 13
Departure time:	9:00 (return time: 14:00)
Departure place:	Hotel Emona
Included:	English-speaking guide, walking tour through Piran
Note:	camera, walking shoes
Price:	10 EUR per person (minimum 10 persons)

Take a walking tour to the oldest and most beautiful Slovenian coastal town Piran, where you can admire its charming Venetian architecture. A 45-minutes-walk takes you along promenade from Portorož to Piran and once you are in Piran, the sightseeing starts. You are taken through town's numerous narrow streets, passing churches, houses with stone portals, curved out balconies to St. George cathedral, from where you get a magnificent view over the town and its surroundings.

2. TASTE OF COUNTRYSIDE

Duration:	half day
Departure dates:	May 12
Departure time:	9:00 (return time: 13:30)
Departure place:	Hotel Emona
Included:	bus transfer, English-speaking guide, entrance fees to museums, wine tasting, snack
Note:	passport, camera
Price:	37 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

Images keep following in: hilly countryside, stonewalled pastures, green valleys, small towns, sweet-smelling flowers, vineyards and olive plantations, old stone houses, villages on the top of neighbouring hills, pine-trees and friendly people.

"Tonina hiša" is a special museum, which shows you old items and proofs illustrating the life of Inhabitants of Istria in ancient times. After this we take you to the salt pans of Sečovelje, where salt has been produced for 700 years. There you can see the first salt crystals building forms similar to flowers on the surface.

You visit an Istrian village with its characteristic littoral houses, court yards, stables and barns, and hospitable inhabitants. Afterwards you make a toast with a glass of home – made brandy, visit a wine cellar, taste excellent wines of the region and have a dinner in a typical »kantina« at tourist farm Krkavče.

3. TO TRIESTE BY BUS

Duration:	half day
Departure dates:	May 14
Departure time:	8:00 (return time: 15:30)
Departure place:	Hotel Emona
Included:	bus transport, English-speaking guide, walking tour in Trieste
Note:	passport, camera
Price:	24 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

Trieste, the largest of the Adriatic ports and the marketing point of the European path to the South, is known for its numerous cultural and historical monuments, palaces and churches and is also known as a shopping centre.

There is something of interest for everyone in Trieste: the magnificent architecture, the comfortable restaurants, the typical Italian cafeterias and the exceptionally wide choice offered by the shops of Trieste.

On a guided walking tour you are taken through the town's old streets, to an ancient Roman theatre, to some of the churches and to beautiful squares. In your free time you have a chance to explore the town by yourself, to do some shopping and have a break for lunch.

4. POSTOJNA CAVES & PREDJAMA CASTLE

Duration: half day
Departure dates: May 11, May 13
Departure time: 9:30 (return time: 16:00)
Departure place: Hotel Emona
Included: bus transport, English-speaking guide, entrance fees to the cave & castle
Note: warm clothing, camera, comfortable shoes
Price: 50 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

On this day we take you to the biggest and worldwide known Slovenian cave system – Postojna caves. A two million years old and 27 km long system of subterranean caves is one of the most easily accessible networks of underground caves in the world. A ride by electrical train is followed by a guided walk through a series of cave halls with dripstones, pillars and translucent curtains that create unforgettable impressions. The underworld system is a home of the mysterious, unique and rare amphibian Proteus Anguinus, or human fish as it is popularly called here.

Only 9 km away stands one of the most interesting baroque castles of Slovenia, Predjama castle. It hangs dramatically in the middle of 123 m high rocky cliff.

5. LJUBLJANA

Duration: full day
Departure dates: May 12
Departure time: 9:00 (return time: 17:00)
Departure place: Hotel Emona
Included: bus transport, English speaking guide, sightseeing by bus, walking tour, entrance fee to Ljubljana castle
Note: camera, comfortable shoes
Price: 35 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

Take a trip to the capital of Slovenia, to the city where old meets new. Discover the baroque old town with its bridges, churches, palaces, open squares and pavement cafes. The open air market around the St. Nicholas cathedral is just like the city itself, colourful and full of life.

You visit the castle, situated on the hill dominating the city, offering you a splendid view over the whole town. After that a 1, 5-hour-break for lunch or for strolling along the old town's streets follows.

6. NATIONAL PARK PLITVICE LAKES (PLITVIČKA JEZERA)

Duration: full day
Departure dates: May 15
Departure time: 05:45 (return time: 22:00)

Departure place: Hotel Emona
Included: bus transport, English-speaking guide, entrance fee to Plitvice lakes' park, lunch
Note: passport, camera, comfortable shoes
Price: 100 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

The National Park Plitvička jezera (Plitvice Lakes) is one of the most beautiful natural values in Europe. It covers an area of a bit less than 30.000 ha. In a valley between high forested mountains lie, one below another, and 16 beautiful lakes of crystal blue-green colour. Over the millennia, the waters of these lakes have dissolved the limestone rock and carved out the valley in which they now lie. Through the sedimentation of calcium and magnesium carbonates and the work of special kinds of algae and moss, tufa or travertine has been deposited, and is still deposited to form the natural dams that separate the lakes. Since the process is going on today, just as it always has, new travertine barriers, curtains, stalactites, channels and cascades are being built and existing ones are changing.

Due to their unique evolution and beauty, in 1979 the Plitvice Lakes entered in the UNESCO Register of World Natural Heritage.

The exceptional beauty of the lakes and waterfalls, rich plant and animal life, contrasting colours, forests and the pure mountain air attract nearly one million of nature lovers every year.

7. ISTRA TOUR POREČ – LIM FJORD - ROVINJ

Duration: full day
Departure dates: May 14
Departure time: 8:30 (return time: 18:00)
Departure place: Hotel Emona
Included: bus transport, English-speaking guide, lunch & wine
Note: camera
Price: 45 EUR per person (minimum 25 persons)

One of the most interesting places in Istria is Poreč, a small harbour with a turbulent past, lying on the western side of Istrian peninsula.

Poreč (Parentium) was inhabited 6000 years ago by the Illyrians, became later a Roman legionary fort and was after the fall of Roman Empire successively ruled by the Goths, Germans, Byzantines, Venetians, Napoleon, Austria and Italy. Today Poreč is one of the largest tourist centres of Croatia.

Of special importance is the extraordinary 6th century Byzantine Basilica of Euphrasius with its magnificent mosaics.

A journey takes us to the 6, 5 miles long Lim Fjord, the most beautiful natural wonder of Istria, where a short photo stop takes place. Afterwards we proceed to Rovinj, one of the most attractive spots on the Adriatic, renowned by its medieval architecture, remains of fortification, labyrinth of streets, stairways and picturesque squares. Thirteen islands surround the town.

On the way back we stop on a small farm to try some good home-made-brandies and different sorts of Istrian wine.

8. TO VENICE BY CATAMARAN "PRINCE OF VENICE"

Duration: full day / departures possible: 14th, 15th & 16th of May 2004
Departure dates: May 14, May 15, May 16
Departure time: 07:15 (return time: 20:15)
Departure place: Hotel Emona
Included: bus transport, catamaran "Prince of Venice", English-speaking guide, guided sightseeing tour of Venice, Murano glass factory workshop

Note: passport, camera, drinks
Optional: lunch, gondola, water taxi
Price: 60 EUR per person*

It's certainly one of the most attractive excursions from the Slovenian coast.

In Izola you board the catamaran "Prince of Venice". After 2, 5 hours you arrive to Venice where an English-speaking guide leads you through the streets of the "floating city", situated in a lagoon with 118 islets. You are shown San Marco's square, the mighty Doge's Palace, Rialto Bridge, some other interesting sights of the city and visit a Murano glass factory workshop. After the guided city tour you have the rest of the afternoon free for individual enterprise.

In late afternoon you board the catamaran again and return to the Slovenian coast, where your bus is waiting for you to take you back to your accommodation.

* Russian citizens: 80 EUR per person due to additional administration costs