

CROATIA & SLOVENIA

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

10 DAYS / DESIGNED FOR PARTY OF 2



LEONIDASTRAVEL

Summary 15/10 – 24/10 (9 nights)

Bale, Croatia 3 nights (15/10 – 18/10)

4* Hotel

- 15/10 TBD Private car & driver transfer Venice airport to your hotel in Rovinj (*approx. 3h*)
16/10 10:00AM Private sightseeing of Pula and Rovinj with olive oil tasting (*approx. 6h*)
17/10 09:00AM Private excursion to Motovun with truffle hunting and lunch (*full day*)
18/10 10:00AM Private car & driver transfer Rovinj to Ljubljana (*approx. 2h30min*)

Ljubljana, Slovenia 3 nights (18/10 – 21/10)

4* Hotel

- 19/10 10:00AM Private sightseeing of Ljubljana with cream workshop (*approx. 3h*)
20/10 10:00AM Private excursion to Postojna cave & Predjama Castle (*approx. 5h*)
21/10 10:00AM Private car & driver transfer Ljubljana to Bled (*approx. 45min*)

Bled, Slovenia 3 nights (21/10 – 24/10)

4* Hotel

- 22/10 10:00AM Private excursion to Bled with Bled Castle and Plenta boat ride (*approx. 5h*)
23/10 10:00AM Private sightseeing of Nova Gorica including a visit to a local craft brewery and beer tasting (*approx. 8h*)
24/10 TBD Private car & driver transfer your hotel to Ljubljana airport (*approx. 1h*)

Included in price:

Taxes

Cellphone with Croatian number (working in Croatia and Slovenia only)

Premium Documents sent to USA or to the first Hotel in Croatia with final PDF and vouchers

Not Included in price:

Air fares

Meals (unless stated otherwise in our tour description)

For car rental refill fuel, parking, road tolls and fines are not included

Always in Touch

October 15th You will be provided with one android cellphone with Croatian number.

While in Venice (Italy), Croatia or Slovenia you will be able to use the cellphone. For emergencies, we will be available 24/7.

Cellphone service includes:

- free calls and text messages in Croatia & Slovenia
- 5gb high speed internet in Croatia
- receive free calls without roaming
- free hotspot for other devices



October 24th Today you will leave the cellphone at your hotel while checking out. Please leave the cellphone and all additional accessories at the reception.

** You will be able to create a Hotspot for all your devices (up to 8) by using our device*

** You will also be able to use our internet with your mobile by simply inserting our SIM card in your device, using our universal SIM adapters*

** More information upon arrival or under request*

** If you lose or damage the cellphone, extra charges may be applied*

BALE 4* HOTEL



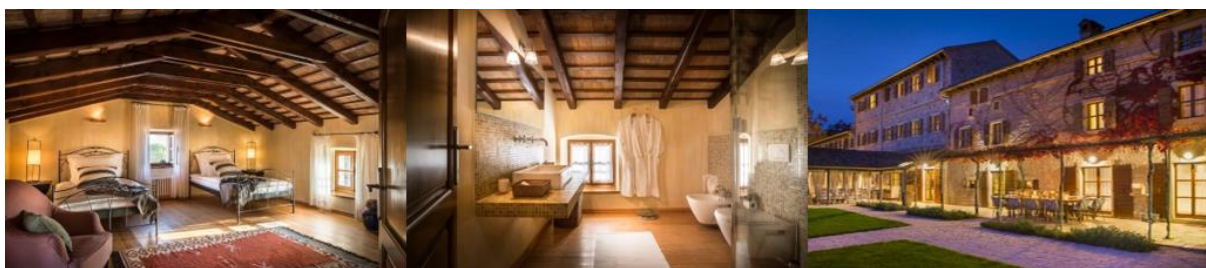
Vintage room (452 ft) / Breakfast

Spreading on 29 acres, among Istrian vineyards and olive groves, this luxurious Hotel and Restaurant provides an oasis of nature. The elegant rooms and villas are combined with the ultimate Wine & Dine experience. An outdoor and indoor swimming pool are at guests' disposal. This authentic Istrian property is an ideal place for jogging, bike tours, long walks or lounging by the pool. A sauna, both indoor and outdoor swimming pools, as well as an onsite fitness center can be used free of charge.

Vintage rooms will charm you with interiors that offer a mixture of modern and antique, featuring a view of olive groves, vineyards and swimming pool. Free Wi-Fi, LED satellite TV, air conditioning and the elegant touch of Frette sheets add luxury and comfort. In the tastefully decorated bathrooms guests will find the finest Croatian toiletries, enriched with the scents of Mediterranean herbs and oils.

Check-in 03:00pm – midnight Check-out until noon Approx. 13.5 miles from Rovinj

Facilities Outdoor pool (seasonal) / Indoor pool (all year) / Spa and wellness / Fitness / Sauna



LJUBLJANA 4* HOTEL



Deluxe room (301 - 441 ft²) / Garden view / Breakfast

The luxuriously equipped 4-star Hotel boasts a prime location at the very foot of the Ljubljana Castle Hill, offering spacious and bright accommodation. The property is surrounded by a charming garden which reaches up to the castle itself. Hotel resides in a large medieval house, where tradition and a classic look join the modern trends and approaches of topmost hospitality. It comprises a Modern Classic Style section and a Trend Style section with 12 rooms and suites. Hotel features an inviting lounge area and is also associated with a nearby restaurant where hotel's guests can enjoy mouth-watering international and local cuisine. The central location of the hotel makes it a great starting point to explore Ljubljana and its surroundings.

A luxury room with a double bed in classic modern style with a marvelous view of the garden.

Check-in 02:00pm – 09:00pm

Check-out 07:00am – noon

In the city center

Facilities Grounds / Terrace / Sun Deck / Free Wi-Fi / Golf Course (within 2 miles) / Massage / Bar / Restaurant / Hypoallergenic room available / All Spaces Non-Smoking / Air-condition



BLED 4* HOTEL



Luxury king room (484 ft²) / Lake view / Balcony / Breakfast

This hotel is positioned right next to Bled Lake and provides unique views of the lake, the island and Triglav Mountain. It is one of those places where you can really live your dream. The charming villa originally constructed in 1878 has undergone complete renovations over the years and was reopened in 2012 as a design hotel. Boasting direct access to the lake with stunning views, and interiors thoughtfully decorated, this hotel provides guests with an unforgettable stay in one of the most romantic settings in eastern Europe. As the unique view, location and traditional architecture of this Luxury Hotel, the hotel's interior will also melt your heart and inspire you to return soon. Free parking is available for the guests, while guests can also rent bikes or enjoy walks along the lake and hiking in nature. The town's center can be reached within a 10-minute walk from the lake shore, while restaurants, shops and bars can be found just a couple of steps from the villa.

This double room features air conditioning, electric kettle and satellite TV.

Check-in from 02:00pm Check-out 07:00am – 11:00am

On the shore of Lake Bled

Facilities Beachfront / Free parking / Bar / Free Wi-Fi / Restaurant / Nonsmoking rooms



October 15th / Arrival in Venice with immediate transfer to Istria

TBD Your personal English speaking driver will be waiting for you in Venice for the transfer to your hotel in Rovinj. He will be holding a sign with your name on it.

Istria is the heart-shaped peninsula reaching deep into the clear blue waters of the Adriatic Sea. The peninsula is a true gem, a hidden garden of beauty which opens the door to the sunny and warm Mediterranean. Come and travel through it without hesitation, and the holiday of Your dreams will become reality.

On the magnificent coast of Istria, right below the Lim Fjord, is the most romantic place in the Mediterranean! In the Mediterranean, you can find it here, in the town that has begun its romantic life on an island, its restricted area resulting in crowded houses, narrow streets and small squares, still untouched by modern urbanism.

** Total travel time is approx. 3h*

Arrival at the hotel in Bale



October 16th / From Romans to modern times

Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / 6h tour

Your day will start with a transfer to Pula where with your private guide you will have the opportunity to explore this historic city and its numerous monuments of Roman architecture.

While strolling through Pula you will come across numerous monuments of Roman architecture. Some of the most important monuments are the Triumphal Arch of the Sergi from the 1st century B.C., Hercules' Gate and Twin Gates, the Temple of Augustus and famous Arena.

The most famous and important monument, the starting and ending point of every sightseeing tour is the Amphitheater, popularly called **the Arena of Pula**, which was once the site of gladiator fights. It was built in the 1st century AD during the reign of Emperor Vespasian, at the same time as the magnificent Colosseum in Rome.

Afterwards you will also have time to relax on the main town square, which has managed to retain its role as the meeting place since the Augustan Age.

After sightseeing of Pula, you will continue to Vodnjan and visit one of the best olive oil producers in the world - Chiavalon.



Olive oil has been marking these regions since the time of the Roman Empire. Get to know more about the **Chiavalon** family history and their cultivation philosophy. You will be introduced to all the production stages of extra virgin olive oil and through a guided tasting you will learn how to recognize the characteristics of a premium extra virgin olive oil on the market. In addition to the tasting of olive oil, you will have the opportunity to taste salami and other products from the pigs they breed right on the farm, local cheese and wine characteristic for the region.

Following the olive oil tasting, your private driver will transfer you back to Rovinj.

Rovinj is a unique town with a restricted old town area resulting in crowded houses, narrow streets and small squares, still untouched by modern urbanism. You will see the lower town, the upper town, the Carera street, one of the most picturesque on the Mediterranean, the Bridge Square, the Balbi Arch testifying to the Venetian presence through the centuries, the historical Montalbano street, artist's Grisia street, the imposing church of Saint Euphemia with the Saint's sarcophagus that miraculously approached Rovinj harbor in the 9th century.

** Included: private transfers, private guide, tickets and olive oil tasting*

** Not included: gratuities and items purchased for personal use*

** Travel time: approx. 45min from Rovinj to Pula; 25min from Pula to Vodnjan; 25min from Vodnjan to Rovinj*



October 17th / Truffle experience

Meeting point 09:00AM / Hotel lobby / Full day

Prepare yourself to get the real feel of Istria's countryside on this full day truffle experience.

This tour will start with a transfer to village Paladini where you will meet Karlic the family. Friendly hosts will tell you all about truffles, truffle hunting and their hunting dogs. Tasting of truffle products will be prepared for you in beautiful surroundings, followed by truffle hunting with the hosts.

The truffle business of the **Karlic family** from Paladini near Buzet was established last century by Mr. Ivan Raspolic, in 1966 to be exact. Back then Motovun forest was quite bigger than today. Both white and black truffles found in that area were considered to be among the best quality truffles in Istria. However, one of the richest truffle fields now lies at the bottom of the Butoniga lake! A rush of adrenaline that you will experience together during the truffle hunting certainly will not leave you indifferent, because truffles are their love and their way of life.

Next stop will be Motovun – unique hilltop town known among other things for a film festival.

In the northern part of Istria, overlooking the Mirna River valley, lies surely the most famous and attractive Istrian medieval town of Motovun.



This captivating hilltop town is one of the characteristic symbols of the Istrian interior. The Romanesque-Gothic bell tower with a crenulated crown from the 13th century, standing next to the Parish Church of St. Stephen from the 17th century, dominates the town's historic core.

Today half the size it once was, **Motovun Forest** covers about one thousand hectares of land along the Mirna River. It differs completely from the karst forests that surround it. While the occasional traveler might associate the forest with fairies and magical experiences, in the gourmet world it is known as a site for harvesting truffles, expensive underground mushrooms that some believe have aphrodisiacal powers.

After sightseeing of Motovun you will continue to charming family owned tavern Agritourism Tikel where you will try some traditional cuisine for lunch (*lunch is included*).

Istrian gastronomy mainly consists of fresh fish and seafood, prepared with aromatic herbs and spices, and quality Istrian olive oil. In the inland part of Istria, you will find excellent lamb under *ceripnja*, sausages with sauerkraut and traditional pastas named *pljukanci* and *fuzi* that go well with wild meat stew.

** Included: private guide, round transfers, breakfast and truffle hunting in Paladini, lunch in agritourism Tikel*

** Not included: gratuities and items purchased for personal use*



October 18th / Transfer to Ljubljana

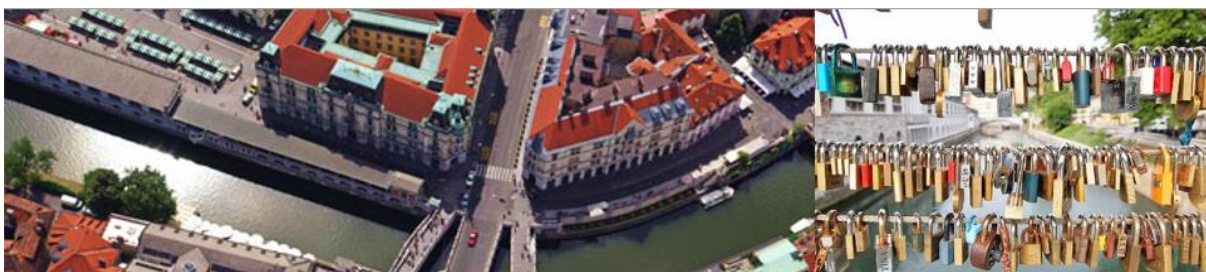
Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / Approximately 2h30min (without stops)

Feel free to ask your friendly driver suggestions for the best stops and restaurants on the way.

Ljubljana is one of Europe's best-kept secrets; the ancient walled city of Ljubljana lies at the very heart of Slovenia and boasts a vibrant history that traces 3,000 years of Roman, Medieval, Baroque and Italian influences. While during winter it is its dreamy central European character that prevails, during summer it has a relaxed Mediterranean feel to it. It is remarkable for its rich tradition, youthful vibrancy, cultural creativity, feel for entertainment, and numerous green spaces. Ljubljana has preserved evidence of all the five millennia of its history, including, among others, the remains of the Roman city of Emona and the old city center with its medieval castle and beautiful buildings with Baroque façades, decorative portals and uneven roofs. Other significant bits in the mosaic of Ljubljana are its picturesque bridges across the river Ljubljanica and its vast Tivoli park.

** Please note: the traffic depends on the season and if there are a lot of people crossing the border, delay is possible; need to show the passport*

Arrival at your hotel in Ljubljana



October 19th / Sightseeing of Ljubljana and beauty cream workshop

Meeting point 10:00AM/ Hotel lobby / 3h tour

Learn to make a homemade cream and discover the capital city of Ljubljana.

The European Green Capital of 2016 is a city with a green soul and a sustainable vision of development. It boasts excellently preserved green spaces and nature even in the heart of the city center. It also offers several experiences that are difficult to imagine anywhere else.

Today your tour will start with an easy walk to the Preseren Square from where you will go on a relaxed walking journey around downtown Ljubljana. This central square is part of the old town's pedestrian zone and a major meeting point, where festivals, Ljubljana carnival and other events take place. The square has a funnel shaped hub of streets that run from it into different directions.

Afterwards you will continue to a workshop where you will learn how to make a homemade cream.

** Included: private guide and homemade cream workshop*

** Not included: food, drinks, gratuities and items purchased for personal use*



October 20th / Discover underground world of Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle

Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / 5h tour

This private tour will combine exploring Postojna cave and Predjama castle – two of the most interesting attractions in Slovenian region.

Discover underground world of Postojna Cave, most popular karst cave in the world. The Postojna Cave is a complex of 20 kilometers of tunnels filled with stalactites, galleries and halls, into which experienced guides have led more than 31 million visitors during the 185 years. The world's first railway in an underground cave was opened in Postojna Cave in 1872. The tour will consist of a ride by electrical train and followed by a walk through beautiful passages and chambers with spectacular drop stones, pillars, limestone curtains and other unforgettable forms. Continue to the idyllic village of Predjama where you will be amazed by fairy tale medieval Predjama castle with dramatic setting in the gaping mouth of a cavern halfway up a hillside. While strolling in the beautiful setting you will learn about the legend of Erasmus – ‘Slovenian Robin Hood’.

Return back to Ljubljana.



In addition to the two world-famous attractions, the Postojna Cave Park offers a number of other experiences, perfect for an all-day trip that you will remember for years to come. Postojna Cave and its exciting interior will take you on a fantastic journey beneath the surface of the Earth. Between May and October, cave tours are held every hour, and in the off season three to four times daily. Tours take about an hour and a half, which gives you a perfect opportunity to see other sights within the Postojna Cave Park during the rest of the day. Pivka Cave and Black Cave are the final two caves along the subterranean River Pivka, before it finally disappears and resurfaces in Planina Cave. There is more life in the complete and eternal darkness than we think.

The castle perched up in the middle of a vertical cliff above the cave and its underground tunnels used to offer a refuge to a number of inhabitants, including the famous knight Erazem of Predjama. Nowadays, the castle is featured among the Guinness World Records as the largest cave castle in the world. The impregnable medieval marvel has been perched in the middle of a 123-metre-high cliff for more than 800 years. Arrival in Ljubljana.

** Please keep in mind: the ride by electrical train is with other people*

** Included: private guide, round transfers entrance to Postojna Cave and Predjama castle*

** Not included: food, drinks, gratuities and items purchased for personal use*

** Please note: the guide is also your driver; the car that will be used is WW Golf or similar. Let us know if you prefer separate guide and driver or Mercedes car!*



October 21st / Transfer to Bled

Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / Approximately 45min (without stops)

Feel free to ask your friendly driver suggestions for the best stops and restaurants on the way.

Bled with immense natural beauty, together with its surroundings, ranks among the most beautiful alpine resorts, renowned for its mild, healing climate and thermal lake water. The beauty of the mountains reflected on the lake, the sun, the serenity and the fresh air arouse pleasant feelings in visitors throughout the year, guaranteeing an ideal base for a relaxing break or an active holiday. Lake Bled came into existence when the Bohinj glacier moved away after the last Ice Age, deepening the natural hollow, as the ice melted into the basin and filled it with water. The island on lake Bled is not only the most popular island in Slovenia, it is the only island in the country, with church of Assumption of Mary whose bell makes wishes come true.

Bohinj is one of the most beautiful places in the heart of the Julian Alps. The natural beauty of high mountains, green forests, beautiful mountain pastures and meadows, the cultural and historical monuments, also friendly villages and towns guarantee visitors a pleasant stay in Bohinj.

Arrival at your hotel in Bled



October 22nd / Bled tour

Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / 5h tour

Your tour will include beautiful boat ride with pletna which is traditional wooden boat to the Bled Island.

On the island you will visit the St. Mary Church and ring the bell of wishes from the legend of the Sunken Bell. Afterwards visit of Bled Castle which is a symbol of Bled and Slovenia. From the castle terraces you can enjoy spectacular views of the lake and the island, down the Dezela area and over to the mountain ranges of the Karavanke and the Julian Alps. Don't forget to take your photo camera! To visit St. Mary Church you will have to climb on the stairs and they are not easy.

Lake Bled came into existence when the Bohinj glacier moved away after the last Ice Age, deepening the natural hollow, as the ice melted into the basin and filled it with water. 2.120 meters long and up to 1.380 meters wide, the lake is of the tectonic origin. The island in Lake Bled is not only the most popular island in Slovenia, it is the only natural island in Slovenia.

** Included: private guide, round transfers, Bled Castle and Pletna boat ride*

** Not included: food, drinks, gratuities and items purchased for personal use*



October 23rd / Nova Gorica with visit to a local craft beer brewery

Meeting point 10:00AM / Hotel lobby / 8h tour

Join your guide for a private tour in the heart of the sunny Goriska region, Nova Gorica. Explore interesting remains of the past and experience the beauty of the landscape covered with vineyards and orchards. This guided tour will include sightseeing, visit to a local craft brewery and beer tasting.

At the flowering of Craft Breweries and brewers, it is a real art to decide which beer and which brewery is the best. Looking into the region and the city of Nova Gorica with its incredible story, get to know the secret of the cultivation of this precious drink. Taste different types of beer and let one of the best craft breweries in Slovenia guide you through the process of creating this liquid gold. After the sightseeing of Nova Gorica you will be expected in the local craft brewery for a tour of a brewery and beer tasting. This craft brewery was founded by four dedicated brewers that joined forces and combined their knowledge and love for beer to create a truly special and memorable brand. They now produce high quality beer and have already gained recognition on the local and international level. Taste eight different types of beer and learn how to drink it like a local.



Nova Gorica, a small town in Vipava valley right at the border with Italy, has been the heart of the sunny Goriska region for seven decades. It is a town with a mild climate, green and blooming all year round. Young, lively and friendly to the local people and visitors from all over the world. This is a gaming town where two centers and several casinos offer entertainment with the most modern gaming equipment. A pleasant atmosphere is complemented by excellent cuisine, accommodation and wellness services. Nova Gorica is the right place to experience sights and attractions, with its surroundings in a genuine way.

After the sightseeing of Nova Gorica you will enjoy beer tasting in a local craft brewery. Maybe someone might be wondering what beer production has in common with a country that is famous for its millennial tradition of winemaking. It has a lot in common, in fact. The wine tradition has shaped a high culture of wine cellars, thoughtful processes at all stages of production and maturing of wines, as well as the culture of bottling, tasting and food pairing. With high-quality home-made wines, which the Vipava valley has in abundance, a high culture of drinking has also been developed. From this culture, microwave production has developed in the Vipava valley in recent years. Domestic breweries carefully select ingredients, take care in providing superior quality and creatively create new flavors. That's why beer in the Vipava Valley is different and worth the taste.

** Included: private guide, round transfers, beer tastings*

** Not included: gratuities and items purchased for personal use*



October 24th / Departure from Ljubljana airport

TBD You will meet the personal English-speaking driver at the lobby of your hotel for the transfer to the airport.

Flight time and details: TBD

** It is recommended to arrive to the airport two hours before departure.*

We wish you a wonderful journey

LEONIDASTRAVEL

Transfers

Land

Mercedes E class or similar

with private English speaking driver

Venice airport / Rovinj

Rovinj / Ljubljana

Ljubljana / Bled

Bled / Ljubljana airport



Please note:

Our services are private unless stated otherwise

All tours are with English speaking guide unless stated otherwise

We cannot guarantee the tours or the hotels until the deposit is taken

Some group tours may be subjected to cancellation with short notice

The pictures in the itinerary are examples, the reality may differ from them

All sea excursions and transfers are subjected to weather and sea condition

LT reserves the right to reschedule tours due to circumstance beyond its control

Travel times for transfers are approximate according to traffic, weather condition and security check at borders

LT highly recommends clients to purchase travel insurance

Contact technical support for emergencies:

E-mail info@leonidatravel.com

Office number +385 51 553 334 (Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm)

After hours emergency number +385 99 8266 198*

** service fee may apply for non-emergency calls*