

A KEY TO **LJUBLJANA**

MANUAL FOR TRAVEL TRADE PROFESSIONALS



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Ljubljana

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City of
Ljubljana



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DEAR PARTNERS

Ljubljana Tourism is proud of our beloved Ljubljana and its achievements. Through more-than-6,000-years of its history, it developed into a creative, passionate and lively city with a youthful pulse, where the harmonious co-existence of tradition and modern creation is reflected in its diverse architectural styles, rich cultural production and culinary arts. If we add the unique combination of central European charm and Mediterranean ease, and of course the energy of the people who live here, then it will come as no surprise that we pride ourselves on living in the most beautiful city in the world.

In just over a decade, Ljubljana's city centre has been visibly renovated and reborn. Along the embankments of the Ljubljanica, winding romantically through the old city centre, there are several well-arranged promenades, lovely green areas and reading spots, and the streets resonate with the buzz of café culture. We say that Ljubljana is like an open-air living room with an exceptionally positive energy which its residents enjoy, and, consequently, visitors can feel it, too, in a very special way.

In recent years Ljubljana has been attracting attention from the general and business public on an international scale due to winning numerous prestigious titles and rankings on various lists of the most popular European city destinations, including winning the title of European Best Destination 2022, and being among the leading sustainable and regenerative destinations. Such acknowledgements are a confirmation of our hard work, and at the same time they justify our commitment to try our best every day, so that your experience, respected partners, and the experience of your guests in Ljubljana, will really be the best. Together with our partners we are developing new offer at this destination, working on improving the quality of the existing ones, and Ljubljana Tourism is connecting all the many experiences of the Slovenian capital into diverse and attractive organised and guided experiences with local licensed guides. All of which is designed to make the experience of Ljubljana and its broader region more authentic and more easily accessible.

In the **A Key to Ljubljana - Manual for Travel Trade Professionals** we have collected all the key information on Ljubljana and the region with everything the destination has to offer and, at the same time, we direct you to the visitljubljana.com web portal, the official umbrella tourist web platform of the Slovenian capital, for more detailed information on the main aspects of what we can provide. There you will also find current, interesting and authentic stories of Ljubljana, in which the city is described by local writers who live in Ljubljana and present it through their own experiences. Find them at www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/stories

The Ljubljana Tourism team is happy to help you with any additional information and support that you may require in your work. Welcome to Ljubljana, a city that has love woven into its name. A city with a big heart, with which you'll simply fall in love.

Petra Stuček, M.Sc. and her team at Ljubljana Tourism



Why Ljubljana?

Why visit our beloved Ljubljana?

The charming old town, picturesque banks of the Ljubljanica River, medieval castle looking out at Alpine peaks, and abundance of lush greenery at every turn... Visitors cannot help themselves but to feel captivated by the city's romantic imagery.

Ljubljana is also a city with a youthful, sparkling spirit, permeated by a relaxed and lively atmosphere, a city with a green soul, an exciting mix of different cultural traditions, one of Europe's top new culinary destinations, the perfect conference and congress city, and well known for its unforgettable events and venues.

It's no wonder, then, that Ljubljana has become increasingly popular in recent years – it was, for example, selected by travellers from all over the world as number one on the list of European Best Destinations 2022, and is already one of the world's leading destinations in sustainable development.

The vision for the future development of tourism in the city is bold: by 2027, Ljubljana will be the world's leading and most creative urban destination for sustainable lifestyle.

Ljubljana makes you feel good

The high standard of living and general relaxed feeling contribute to the prevailing feel-good atmosphere. Both residents and visitors also experience Ljubljana as a city built on an accessible, human scale. Despite the fact that it ranks among the mid-sized European cities, it has preserved its small-town friendliness and, at the same time, it has everything that all large capitals have. And, on top of all that, Ljubljana is a city that respects diversity, a city that is accessible and inclusive.

Ljubljana stands for sustainability

Ljubljana has long been committed to sustainable development, and is already one of the world's leading sustainable destinations, as evidenced by the prestigious international awards the city has received in recent years. In 2022, for example, Ljubljana was named the European Best Green Capital by European Best Destinations. It was the first capital city to commit to the Zero Waste Goal back in 2014, followed by the honour of being declared as the European Green Capital in 2016. Ljubljana is a city that lives and breathes sustainability.

Ljubljana is creative

The city is distinguished by the harmonious co-existence of tradition and a modern pulse – it is a lively centre of creativity, where culture is a way of life. As the Slovenian cultural capital, Ljubljana has diverse architecture and a rich heritage, but at the same time it is modern and creative, as well as avant-garde and provocative. Every year, Ljubljana hosts over 10,000 cultural events, including prestigious musical, theatrical and artistic events, as well as alternative events, among which everybody will surely find something for themselves.

Ljubljana is on the UNESCO World Heritage list

Ljubljana's cultural and architectural heritage has been decisively marked by the architect Jože Plečnik, who gave the city its unique character. Plečnik's selected works are UNESCO Natural and Cultural Heritage Site, and Plečnik's Ljubljana is recognised as one of the most important integrated works of art of the 20th century.

The remnants of the piledwellings on the Ljubljana Marshes are entered on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In 2015 Ljubljana has been awarded a UNESCO City of Literature.

Ljubljana is full of flavours

The influences of different culinary worlds have always intermingled in this area – from Mediterranean, Alpine, and Pannonian, to Balkan and some international cuisines, but Ljubljana has managed to preserve its unique culinary heritage. The city's gastronomy has experienced a remarkable boom in the last decade: from the increasing diversity and quality of the gastronomy with top restaurants and prestigious international awards, such as Michelin, to a lively street scene and popular city market, as well as the growing importance of local, fresh and seasonal food on guests' plates.

Ljubljana has amazing surroundings

Ljubljana is also a great place for exploring its green and hilly surroundings and further afield, with many attractions worth visiting: from the scenic plateau Velika planina, one of Europe's few surviving high mountain herdsmen's villages, to Slovenia's highest spa, historic castles, charming towns and villages... There are also a lot of possibilities for active holidays, especially hiking and cycling, and of course the excellent local gastronomy.

Ljubljana is a great city for discovering Slovenia

Based in Ljubljana, visitors can experience many of the varied and beautiful places to be found in Slovenia – the only European country combining the Alps, Mediterranean, Karst, and Pannonian Basin – and all in just one day. In the very heart of Slovenia, connecting these diverse geographic landscapes, lies Ljubljana. As the distances in Slovenia are short, Ljubljana presents an excellent starting point for exploring the diverse wonders of our beautiful country.



Relax and enjoy is the motto of our city.

Testimonials

Ljubljana leaves a lasting impression

Our beloved city, the country's capital has love at the heart of its name. Ljubljana boasts a romantic soul and a fairy-tale image that endear it to the visitor in a very special way, offering a beguiling blend of Central European and Mediterranean atmosphere.

“Featuring a lovely historic centre around a Venetian-like canal, lined with bars and restaurants, Ljubljana is a real gem of a city. Acknowledged as Europe's first ‘green’ city for adopting a pedestrianised centre, the Slovenian capital Ljubljana is also so culturally rich it's no surprise that it was voted number one in European Best Destinations 2022.”

Joanne Shruvell, Forbes

“A layer cake of fascinating history and architecture, the real appeal of Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital, is its green approach to city life. The pedestrianised centre is home to a future-facing sustainable food scene, an urban beekeeping trail and streets that vie for the title of cleanest in Europe. Cutting through the heart of the old town, the Ljubljanica River is dotted with grand bridges designed by the likes of famed local architect Joze Plečnik, whose /.../ buildings shaped the charming yet creatively edgy city you see today.”

Lucy Grace, The Sunday Times

“Ljubljana is the city of the architect Jože Plečnik, who played an important part in the reconstruction that followed the devastating earthquake of 1895. His most important work is the National and University Library, built between 1936 and 1941. Ljubljana is traversed by the river Ljubljanica, with wonderful bridges such as the Dragon Bridge, designed by Josef Melan and built in 1901. The dragon is a symbol of Ljubljana and appears on the municipal coat of arms. ‘Dragon balls’ are delicious chocolate treats.”

Gloria Ciabattoni, Quotidiano

“Stock up on the cured meat products and local cheeses for which the region is justly famous. But Ljubljana is also a little stronghold of agriculture: market gardens are to be found even within the old city walls, fresh fruit and vegetables are available at the market /.../ and there are more than 450 beehives in the city.”

Camilla Rocca, Il Giornale

“In Ljubljana's pedestrianised city centre, Prešeren Square is buzzing with activity on this late September afternoon. A group of tourists are taking a guided tour of the Slovenian capital, friends are having a drink on one of the terraces along the River Ljubljanica, and the centre is alive with a constant stream of bikes, scooters and Kavalirs – small electric cars with drivers that take onlookers and the elderly from one part of the historic centre to another for free.”

Hélène Bienvenue, Le Monde

“More and more visitors are coming to Slovenia to discover its cuisine, which is beginning to gain an international reputation. In the wake of a new generation of chefs who swear by locavorism and respect for the seasons, many of Ljubljana's restaurants offer original food with unusual experiences. This creativity has attracted the Michelin Guide, which has published a red guide to the country since 2020.”

Jean Tiffon, Le Figaro

Awards

Ljubljana officially acknowledged and rewarded

Ljubljana received many accolades in the last decade and more. It proudly holds the title of European Green Capital 2016. Ljubljana won the digitalization award in the European Capital of Smart Tourism 2020 competition.

In 2016, Ljubljana was the first in Slovenia to receive the Slovenia Green Destination GOLD label, awarded by the Slovenian Tourist Board. In 2022, it was upgraded to the PLATINUM label, proving that it is one of the most successful destinations in the Green Scheme of Slovenian Tourism.

It won the coveted title of European Best Destination 2022, as chosen by travellers from all over the world.

In 2022, Ljubljana was included in the list of Top 100 Destination Sustainability Stories and has become the only city in the world to receive this title for the eighth time.

These are just some of the most prominent international awards Ljubljana and Ljubljana Tourism have received in recent years.



Ljubljana's history

In the midst of turbulent historical events

Ljubljana's character is mainly due to a unique and felicitous mixture of two very different but complementary features: on the one hand, the city is famed for its historical heritage and tradition, but on the other, it is a relatively young city with a modern lifestyle.

The history of the earliest population on the territory of Ljubljana goes back 5,000 years. **Emona** - a Roman colony dating from 14 A.D. is considered as the foundation for today's city. **Medieval Ljubljana** developed under the shelter of Castle Hill, spreading alongside the banks of the Ljubljanica River in the area which we call the **Old Town** today. The historic growth of Ljubljana can be traced through the still preserved elements of medieval, **Baroque**, **Art Nouveau** and **modern architecture**. The ultimate touch was bestowed on his native city by **Jože Plečnik**, who designed unique architectural projects and landmarks, and reshaped the urban tissue of Ljubljana by connecting all these styles.



The legend of the origin of Ljubljana

Legend has it that Ljubljana was founded by the mythological **Greek hero Jason** and his companions, **the Argonauts**, who had stolen the **Golden Fleece** from **King Aetes** and fled from him across the **Black Sea** and up the **Danube, Sava** and **Ljubljanica** rivers.

At a large lake in the marshes near the source of the Ljubljanica they stopped and disassembled their ship so they could carry it to the **Adriatic Sea**, put it together again, and return to **Greece**. The lake was the dwelling place of a monster, which Jason fought, defeated and killed. The monster, now referred to as the **Ljubljana Dragon**, found its place atop the castle tower depicted on the Ljubljana coat of arms.

3000 BC: The earliest lake dwellings appear on the Ljubljana Marshes.

1000-700 BC: Illyrian and Veneti tribes settle the area.

400 BC: Celtic tribes arrive.

50 BC: A Roman military stronghold is built in the area.

14 AD: The Roman city of Emona (Iulia Aemona) begins to be constructed in the south western part of today's Ljubljana.

600: The Slavs arrive and Emona falls into ruin.

1112-1125: Ljubljana is first mentioned in written records.

1200: City rights are granted to Ljubljana, called Laibach at the time.

1243: Ljubljana is first mentioned as a city.

1270: The Czech King Premysl Otakar II conquers Ljubljana.

1278: Following the fall of King Premysl Otakar II, Ljubljana passes into Hapsburg rule.

1335: Ljubljana becomes the capital of the Duchy of Carniola under direct Hapsburg rule.

1415: A Turkish invasion is successfully repelled.

1461: The Ljubljana Diocese is founded and the Church of St. Nicholas becomes a cathedral.

1504: The first mayor of Ljubljana is elected.

1511: The city is struck by a devastating earthquake for the first time.

1701: The Academia Philharmonicorum musical society is established.

1809-1813: Ljubljana is the capital of the Illyrian Provinces.

1821: A Congress of the Holy Alliance is held in Ljubljana.

1849: The construction of a railway connecting Ljubljana and Vienna is completed.

1857: Ljubljana is connected by railway with Trieste.

1895: Following a devastating earthquake, Ljubljana assumes a more modern appearance.

1918: The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes is established.

1919: The University of Ljubljana is founded.

1941: The Italian army occupies Ljubljana.

1942: The city is surrounded by a barbed wire fence.

1943: Ljubljana is occupied by the Germans.

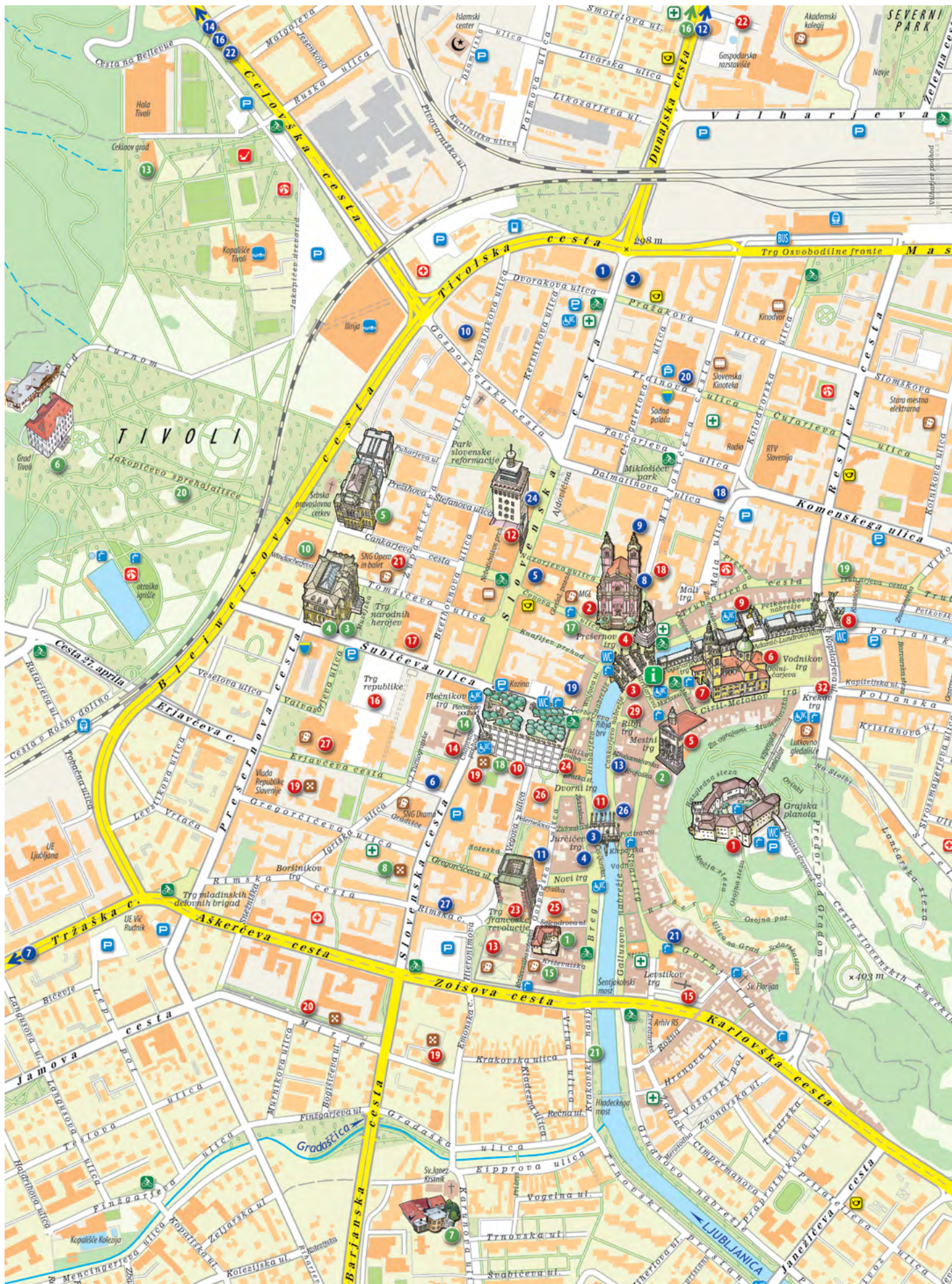
1945: Liberated Ljubljana becomes the capital of the People's Republic of Slovenia as part of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia.

1991: Ljubljana celebrates the declaration of Slovenian independence.

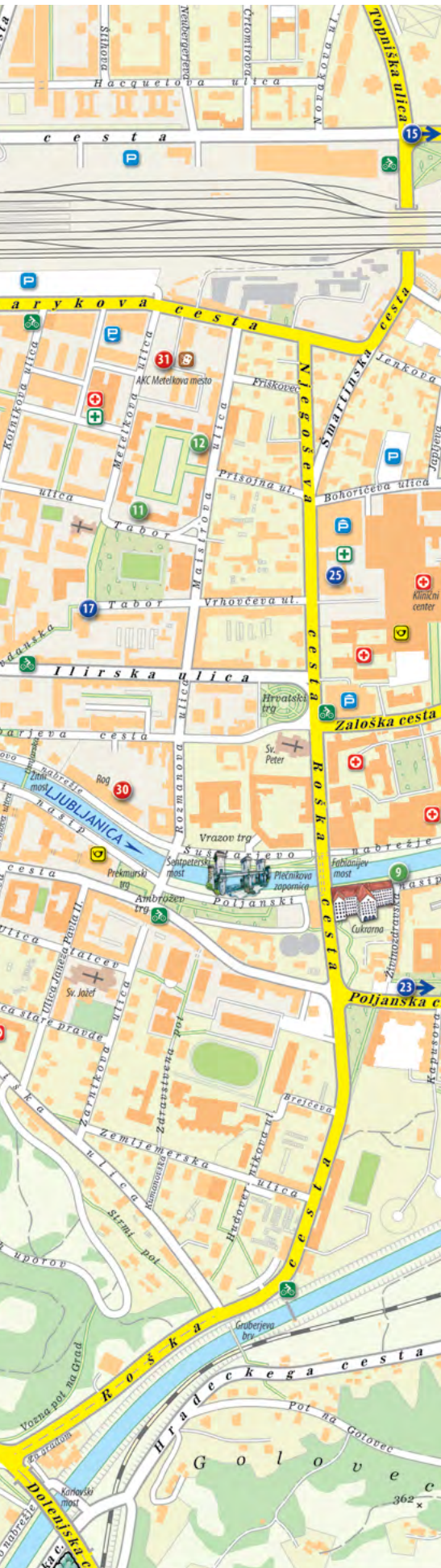
2004: Slovenia joins the European Union.

2010: Ljubljana named World Book Capital.

2016: Ljubljana named European Green Capital.



Map of Ljubljana's city centre



Sights

- 1 Ljubljana Castle
- 2 Franciscan Church
- 3 Triple Bridge
- 4 Prešeren Square
- 5 Town Hall
- 6 Central Market
- 7 Cathedral (Church of St. Nicholas)
- 8 Dragon Bridge
- 9 Butchers' Bridge
- 10 Congress Square
- 11 Cobblers' Bridge
- 12 Skyscraper
- 13 Križanke Summer Theatre
- 14 Ursuline Church of the Holy Trinity
- 15 Church of St. James
- 16 Republic Square
- 17 Parliament
- 18 Art Nouveau Miklošič street
- 19 Archaeological parks
- 20 Roman wall
- 21 Ljubljana Opera House
- 23 National and University Library
- 24 Slovenian Philharmonic
- 25 Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- 26 University of Ljubljana
- 29 Trubar's House of Literature
- 30 Rog centre (opening in 2023)
- 31 Autonomous Cultural Centre Metelkova mesto
- 32 WOW photo point

Congress Centres

- 22 Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre
- 27 Cankarjev dom, Cultural and Congress Centre



Hotels

- 1 Hotel Intercontinental Ljubljana 5*
- 2 Grand Plaza Hotel 5*
- 3 Zlata Ladja Boutique Hotel 5*
- 4 Hotel Heritage 4*
- 5 Best Western Premier Hotel Slon 4*
- 6 Hotel Cubo 4*
- 7 Four Points by Sheraton Ljubljana Mons 4*
- 8 Grand Hotel Union Eurostars 4*
- 9 Eurostar uHotel 4*
- 10 Hotel Exe Lev 4*
- 11 Antiq Palace Hotel&Spa 4*
- 12 Austria Trend Hotel Ljubljana 4*
- 13 Vander Hotel 4*
- 14 Hotel Nox 4*
- 15 Radisson Blu Plaza Ljubljana 4*
- 16 ONE 66 Hotel 4*
- 17 B&B Hotel Ljubljana Park 3*
- 18 City Hotel Ljubljana 3*
- 19 Hotel Emonec 3*
- 20 Ibis Styles Ljubljana Centre 3*
- 21 Lesar Hotel Angel 3*
- 22 M Hotel 3*
- 23 Wud Hotel 3*
- 24 Urban Hotel 4*
- 25 Hotel Meksiko 3*
- 26 The Hotel 4*
- 27 Hotel Mrak 4*



Museums & Galleries

- 1 City Museum of Ljubljana
- 2 City Art Gallery
- 3 National Museum of Slovenia
- 4 Slovenian Museum of Natural History
- 5 National Gallery of Slovenia
- 6 International Centre of Graphic Arts
- 7 Plečnik House
- 8 Jakopič Gallery
- 9 Cukrarna Gallery
- 10 Museum of Modern Art
- 11 Slovene Ethnographic Museum
- 12 Museum of Contemporary Art
- 13 Contemporary History Museum
- 14 Slovenian School Museum
- 15 Jewish Cultural Center Ljubljana
- 16 Railway Museum
- 17 Bankarium, Slovenian Banking Museum
- 18 House of Illusions
- 19 House of Experiments
- 20 Outdoor Gallery Tivoli
- 21 Outdoor Gallery Krakovski nasip Embankment

Top sights

Ljubljana is a picturesque city boasting a wealth of amazing attractions. This short guide includes timeless gems – those that you simply cannot afford to miss, along with some of the most notable sights in its surroundings.

Ljubljana Castle

The Ljubljana Castle has been a distinctive symbol of the city for as many as 900 years. At first it was a fort, then the seat of the regional governor, later on a barracks and even a prison, and today it is the main city attraction and a stunning cultural landmark with a rich content. The castle's Viewing Tower (1848) and ramparts offer the most beautiful views of the city, but also of the green Ljubljana surroundings with the Alpine peaks in the background. The castle features the permanent exhibition Slovenian History, the Museum of Puppetry, several historically significant premises and interactive special experiences. It houses two top restaurants (Gostilna na Gradu and Strelec with a wine bar and a wine shop) and serves as a venue for cultural events, family entertainment, dance evenings, and summer open-air cinema. The castle can be easily accessed by funicular, tourist train or on foot.



Ljubljana's Old Town

The old city centre or Ljubljana's Old Town is comprised of the area between the castle hill and alongside of Ljubljanica River. The visitors stroll through the picturesque and vibrant squares and narrow paved streets, while admiring the façades of different architectural styles and with the story behind them.



Prešernov trg square

Most popular Ljubljana's square, with the monument of the greatest Slovenian poet, France Prešeren (his poem, Zdravljica/A Toast is the Slovenian anthem), with the ornamented façade of the Franciscan Church that dominates the square, with the Triple Bridge, the masterpiece of the greatest Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik, and with Ljubljanica River flowing under the bridge, is the heart of the city for the locals, always vibrant.



Ljubljanica River

Another icon that indelibly marks Ljubljana. Due to its extraordinary features, it has been declared a cultural monument of national importance from its springs to the Špica area, nowadays a popular meeting spot in Ljubljana. With its green embankments, arranged promenades and diverse bridges, the river winds through the old part of Ljubljana and gives it a distinctive character. Visitors also like to explore it by tourist boat, kayak, canoe and SUP.



Central Market - Plečnik's covered market

Ljubljana's Central Market is so much more than just a place to shop. Traditionally, it has also been a place for the locals to meet and enjoy themselves together. It consists of an open-air and a covered market and a series of small food shops along the Ljubljanica River, which are referred to as Plečnik's Covered Market as they are located in a colonnade designed by Ljubljana's famous architect Jože Plečnik.



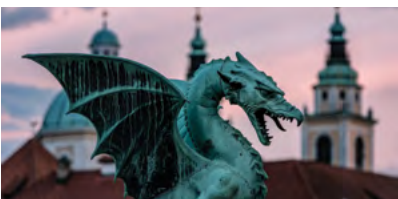
The Cathedral - Church of St. Nicholas

The cathedral, with frescoes by Giulio Quaglio and built to the plans of the Roman Jesuit Andrea Pozzo, was erected at the beginning of the 18th century. The new main bronze door was created in 1996 by sculptor Tone Demšar to mark 1250 years of Christianity in our country and in honour of the Pope's visit to Ljubljana, while sculptor Mirsad Begić carved the history of the Ljubljana Diocese on the side door.



Town Hall

The first building erected on this site in 1484 was rebuilt in 1718 to the plans of local master builder Gregor Maček. It has preserved a number of memorials to Ljubljana's past, including the Hercules and Narcissus fountains. Today it is the seat of the Ljubljana Municipality. Close by stands the famous Fountain of the Three Carniolan Rivers, masterpiece by Francesco Robba.



Dragon Bridge

The Dragon Bridge, adorned with its famous dragon statues, appears in the most recognizable images of Ljubljana. The bridge is a unique creation considered to be an extraordinary piece of technical heritage and a superb example of Art Nouveau. Constructed on the threshold of the 20th century, it was Ljubljana's first reinforced concrete structure and one of the largest bridges of its kind to be built in Europe.



Butchers' Bridge

The Butchers' Bridge is Ljubljana's bridge of love, constructed in 2010. Countless lovers have symbolically padlocked their love on it. Its design is artistically-oriented to some extent, as the bridge is adorned with unique, almost peculiar statues by the renowned Slovenian sculptor Jakov Brdar.

Cobblers' Bridge

The site of the present Cobblers' Bridge, built by the architect Jože Plečnik almost a century ago, was formerly occupied by a covered wooden bridge connecting the Mestni trg and Novi trg squares, two major parts of medieval Ljubljana. The bridge provided space for cobblers' workshops – hence the name.



National and University Library

The magnificent building of the library, which archives contain, among other things, a rich collection of medieval manuscripts, incunabula and Renaissance prints, was built between 1936 and 1941 to designs by Jože Plečnik. It is considered to be the architect's most important work in Slovenia.



Trg francoske revolucije square

The Trg francoske revolucije square (French Revolution Square) features a monument to Napoleon's Illyria. However, the square is most notable for Križanke, a former monastery complex of the Knights of the Cross and today a popular summer theatre – another work on which Plečnik left his mark. It also hosts the shows of the prominent Ljubljana Festival.



Kongresni trg square

The square was thoroughly reconstructed for the Congress of the Holy Alliance in 1821, after which it was also named. Today it is one of the most important squares of Ljubljana, surrounded by some amazing architectural gems. In the summertime, the square hosts several prominent events. The park, which extends over the central part of the square, is a popular green city shelter for the locals.



Art Nouveau Miklošičeva ulica street

Art Nouveau was established in the city more than a decade after the devastating earthquake of 1895. The majority of the Art Nouveau buildings was constructed along the Miklošičeva ulica street, between the Ljubljana railway station and the old city centre. Especially typical are the picturesque façades of the buildings, particularly their ornamentation; the most famous ones are the work of Maks Fabiani.



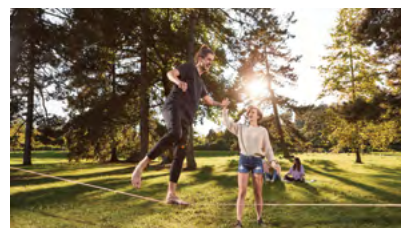
Roman Wall and Roman Ljubljana

In Mirje, the southern side of the Emona walls has been preserved for almost its entire length. Starting in 14 and 15 AD, these walls surrounded Emona, a Roman settlement that stood where the centre of Ljubljana is today, in the shape of a rectangle, and which had twenty-six towers and four main doors. The Roman Wall was renovated in the 1930s according to the plans of the architect Jože Plečnik.



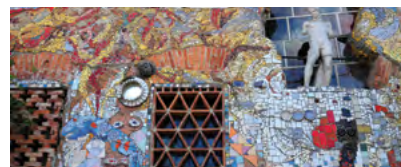
Tivoli Park

Tivoli Park is Ljubljana's largest and most beautiful public park, stretching right into the city centre. Tivoli Park's scenic Jakopič Promenade (Jakopičevo sprehajališče), designed by the architect Jože Plečnik which ends in front of the Tivoli Mansion (International Centre of Graphic Art), has become a well-known outdoor venue for photographic exhibitions. The park is the part of the wider The Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park which is a popular spot for relaxing outdoor activities among the locals.



Autonomous Cultural Centre Metelkova mesto

The Autonomous Cultural Centre Metelkova mesto or just Metelkova, developed from a squat in a former army barracks, is one of the largest and liveliest cultural, artistic, social and intellectual urban areas in Ljubljana. As the heart of the alternative scene in Ljubljana it brings together a variety of different artistic practices and events.





Ljubljana Botanical Garden

Established in 1810, the Ljubljana Botanical Garden is one of the oldest of this kind in Europe. The Garden contains more than 4500 different species and subspecies. In this verdant oasis you can relax while wandering through the garden or in the attractive Primula tearoom in the shelter of the majestic trees.



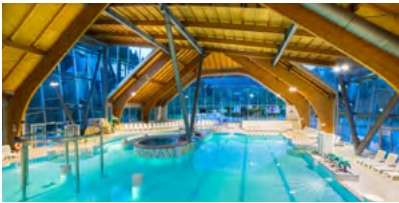
The Ljubljana ZOO

The Ljubljana Zoo, part of a protected nature park situated only a 20-minute walk from the centre of Ljubljana, has a collection of animal species from all continents focusing on animals typical of the area lying at the intersection of the Alpine, Pannonian and Mediterranean worlds. What is most special about the Ljubljana Zoo is that visitors and children in particular have an opportunity to take part in several different family-oriented workshops during which they can be in close contact with animals.



Velika planina

Velika planina is the site of one of Europe's few surviving high mountain herdsman's villages where traditional Alpine herdsman's culture is still alive. This scenic high mountain plateau, part of the Kamnik-Savinja Alps, is famous for its stunning natural beauty. Its landscape, characterized by vast pastures and numerous karst phenomena, is crisscrossed with an extensive network of hiking routes. Throughout the year, Velika planina is accessible also by aerial cable car. Just about 30 km from Ljubljana.



Terme Snovik Thermal Spa

Terme Snovik is the highest altitude spa in Slovenia, an ideal tourist destination for families during the holiday season and a great place to relax throughout the year. The pool complex, the wellness centre, as well as outdoor recreation areas in the beautiful nature, offer the perfect place to unwind. The rooms and apartments, built of natural materials, are comfortable and environmentally friendly, as everything else in the spa. Just about 30 km from Ljubljana.



Bistra Castle: Technical Museum of Slovenia

The Technical Museum of Slovenia, well known for its extensive collections and presentations of technical heritage, is located at the estate of Bistra Castle, formerly a monastery, with a scenic garden, a fish pond, and a forest nature trail. The Museum's collections and presentations are numerous, with the most popular collection of the rare and prestigious cars used by the former Yugoslav president Tito. Just about 25 km from Ljubljana.



Bogenšperk Castle

Bogenšperk Castle is considered to be one of the most beautiful castles in Slovenia. It is most well known as a home of the famous Slovenian polyhistor and scientist Janez Valvasor (1641-1693), who wrote his epic work, The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola (1689), while living there. Apart from Valvasor's study, printing workshop and Slovenia's main geodetic collection, visitors can view a collection of mineral rocks and several collections dedicated to superstition, Slovenian national costumes and hunting. Just 54 km from Ljubljana.



The Carniolan Bee House in Višnja Gora

This unique house tells the story of Slovenia's native Carniolan honey bee, the second most widespread bee breed in the world. Why in Višnja Gora? Because the first queen bees were sent to the world by the entrepreneur Emil Rothshütz from this nowadays picturesque town. In addition to the interactive experience of the Carniolan honey bee with live beehives and the digital experience of the Rothschild family, the most exciting part is sleeping in the beehive - there are rooms in the shape of wooden honeycomb cells on top of the house. Just 27 km from Ljubljana.

Plečnik's Ljubljana

Masterpieces that left a permanent mark on Ljubljana and shaped its character. The wide-ranging work of the great architect Jože Plečnik (1872-1957) left an important mark on the architectural image and character of Ljubljana. Plečnik's Ljubljana ranks among the most important comprehensive artworks of the 20th century, and his most important works in the Slovenian capital are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Plečnik's works in Ljubljana are an outstanding example of the arranging of public spaces. In line with his personal, deeply human vision the architect transformed the city into a dialogue with older arrangements, while at the same time responding to the needs of a modern 20th century society. His carefully considered interventions in the urban fabric of Ljubljana, his bridges, street and park arrangements changed what had thus far been a provincial Habsburg city with Baroque and Art Nouveau accents into the Slovenian capital. A familiarisation with Plečnik's works will captivate anyone, since extraordinary concepts and stories are woven even into the tiniest details of his creations.

Plečnik on the UNESCO List

The selection of Plečnik's work placed on the UNESCO List comprises seven pieces: the aquatic axis of the city (the River Ljubljanica embankment and bridges from Trnovski pristan to the Zapornice lock) and the Trnovo Bridge, the land axis (Vegova Street and the National and University Library, Kongresni trg square and Zvezda Park), the arrangement of the archaeological park (Roman Wall), the city of the dead complex (Plečnik's Žale cemetery - All Hallows Garden) and churches in the rural (St. Michael in Črna vas) and blue-collar suburbs (St. Francis of Assisi in Šiška). Plečnik's most important works in Ljubljana also include the Križanke summer theatre and the central city market.



Plečnik House

In Trnovo, a quiet district of Ljubljana by the River Ljubljanica and Gradaščica stream, stands Plečnik House, now a museum open to visitors where the architect lived from 1921 until his death in 1957. Preserved within it is the architect's home, featuring all the original interior and exterior furnishings and the permanent museum exhibition. The exhibition familiarises visitors with Plečnik's full range of work and his life path. The exhibits include plans, models and photographs of what he created, and the house also reveals Plečnik's less known, personal side.



unesco

150th anniversary of Jože
Plečnik, architect (1872)
Celebrated in association
with UNESCO

Exclusive experiencing of Plečnik's Ljubljana

The works of Jože Plečnik are an unmissable part of any tour of the city, and Ljubljana Tourism has designed original experiences that draw on the comprehensive album of stories relating to Plečnik's work and (equally fascinating) life. For detailed information and booking see page 57.

Master Builder Plečnik

The unique guided experience takes visitors on an epic journey along the traces of Plečnik's plans and visions. Visitors can learn all about them through his extensive opus, from the best-known architectural masterpieces to the lesser known, hidden or not generally accessible exclusive locations. They can also hear stories and anecdotes from Jože Plečnik's life, and the journey takes them both over land and along the River Ljubljanica. The experience leads visitors into the world of the great master in an innovative, interactive way: they are transformed from observers into active participants. Slovenia Unique Experiences label.



The Moustache Tour

A unique guided experience of Ljubljana through the stories of three moustachioed gentlemen – audacious masters of their trades and great visionaries: Jože Plečnik, the greatest Slovenian writer Ivan Cankar and the outstanding painter Rihard Jakopič. The Moustache Tour takes visitors on a journey of simmering creativity involving a disciplined Architect, a Bohemian Writer and charismatic Painter, in which they explore the most picturesque points of the Slovenian capital by bicycle.

Plečnik's Visions

A gamified experience, which takes the visitor by means of the mobile app Nexto on a stroll through the city, revealing projects that the architect designed but never made real: Mesarski most (the Butcher's Bridge, which was erected much later, in 2010, and is now known as the 'lovers bridge'), the Cathedral of Freedom, the City Hall access to Ljubljana Castle and the City Hall in Vodnikov trg square. Journeying in a time that reveals the bold ideas of the great visionary!

Plečnik at First Sight

A pleasant guided walk through the centre of Ljubljana, during which visitors encounter the majority of the greatest masterpieces designed by Jože Plečnik: the central city market, the most authentic culinary 'station' in the city, the Three Bridges, a unique architectural feature of Ljubljana, the noble National and University Library, the picturesque Križanke summer theatre, the historic Kongresni trg square, the green embankments along the Ljubljanica and Čevljarski most (Shoemakers' Bridge) with its fascinating history.





Art & culture

The city is distinguished by the harmonious co-existence of tradition and a modern pulse – it is a lively centre of creativity, where culture is basically the way of life.

Every year, Ljubljana hosts over 10,000 cultural events, including prestigious music, theatre and art events, and alternative and avant-garde events. The Ljubljana Festival with a programme of top artistic events has been making a distinct mark on the cultural scene for 71 years, the distinguished ensemble of the Slovene National Theatre Opera and Ballet has been successfully performing for more than 110 years, the Slovenian Philharmonic boast a rich history and is one of the world's oldest institutions of its kind. There are also the traditional Jazz Festival, the oldest continuously running jazz festival in Europe, the International Biennial of Graphic Arts, the Summer in Ljubljana Old Town festival, Film Under the Stars, Music on the Ljubljana, several traditional street festivals, and Ljubljana is also one of the more important centres of theatre in this part of Europe – in recent times in particular it has demonstrated a modern, extravagant and provocative creativity. An important part of the city's modern cultural identity is the Metelkova mesto centre, which developed from a squat in a former army barracks and today is the alternative culture centre.

As the capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana is also the seat of numerous art museums, which bear witness to the diverse history of the city and the territory of our country. The central art institutions are the National Gallery and the Museum of Modern Art, alongside contemporary art and creativity exhibited in Cukrarna Gallery and ROG Center. In addition, Ljubljana also boasts a large number of smaller art shops and galleries. In Ljubljana, the proud bearer of the UNESCO City of Literature title, you can simply indulge in books in numerous green spots in the warmer months, in the Library under the Treetops.

Musical tradition and contemporary musical life

The scope of musical events held in Ljubljana reflects both a rich musical tradition and a burgeoning contemporary music scene.

One of the world's oldest philharmonic societies

The present Slovenian Philharmonic is one of the world's oldest musical institutions of its kind, being the successor to the **Academia Philharmonicorum**, established in 1701. It has a rich history and a long list of distinguished members, including, among others, Gustav Mahler, who began his career as a conductor in Ljubljana.

Music festivals

The **Ljubljana Festival**, with its long history and tradition of presenting premier artistic events, contributes significantly to the cultural life of Ljubljana in the summer. Ljubljana hosts **Druga Godba**, one of the oldest world music festivals in this

part of the world. Another highly acclaimed music festival is the **Ljubljana Jazz Festival**, which brings together the greatest names in the genre. **The selection of the most important traditional music and culture festivals can be found on pages 22 and 23.**

Opera and ballet

Music lovers can attend regular opera and ballet performances staged by the **National Opera and Ballet Theatre**, concerts performed by the **Slovene Philharmonic Orchestra** and the **RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra**, who have shared the stage with world famous soloists and conductors, or concerts of excellent vocal and instrumental groups who perform Slovene and foreign works, ranging from the classics to contemporary works by various composers.

Contemporary musical creativity

Ljubljana has a lot to offer in terms of rock, jazz, electronic music and other contemporary musical styles. It is included in the tour dates of the world's most sought-after artists.

The city's major contemporary music events are held at the **Kino Šiška Centre for Urban Culture**, one of the most progressive venues of its kind in this part of Europe, and at a number of club venues such as **Klub K4**, **Cvetličarna** and the **Metelkova mesto**.

Open-air music events

In the summer, a large number of free festivals are held on open-air stages, city streets, in the atria, squares and streets of the Old Town. Among the major festivals of the season are **June in Ljubljana**, **Summer in Ljubljana Old Town** and **Night in Ljubljana Old Town**. At the end of the year, the centre of Ljubljana hosts a festive fair and countless entertainment events as part of the **December in Ljubljana festival**.

Concerts by international music stars

Ljubljana's concert life is vibrant, particularly due to the **Arena and Stadium of the Stožice Sports Park**, which host large concerts by international music stars.

Performing arts

Apart from having a rich tradition of classical theatre and ballet, Ljubljana is one of the most important centres of contemporary theatre and dance in this part of Europe.

Theatre, opera and ballet

Ljubljana has a rich and successful tradition of performing arts. Its major performing arts institutions – the **Ljubljana City Theatre**, the **Slovene National Drama Theatre of Ljubljana**, the **Slovene National Opera and Ballet Theatre of Ljubljana** and



Mladinsko Theatre – keep pace with the times and boast fine repertoires. Both local and visiting productions are regularly hosted by the **Cankarjev dom cultural and congress centre**.

A large number of world-class performing artists also appear at the Ljubljana Festival, held annually in the summer, and its winter edition, Ljubljana Winter Festival.

Modern visions and distinctive approaches

New trends in contemporary theatre, dance and multimedia art are both presented and created at a large number of annual festivals held in Ljubljana. Some of the best known are **Young Lions** and **City of Women**.

Ljubljana, a city of dance

Ljubljana has for many years now had a vibrant dance scene. The internationally renowned production company **En-Knap** has introduced and established its trademark aesthetics inside the European space, attracting an array of acclaimed international co-producers.

Street Festivals

Each summer, the streets of Ljubljana are flooded with eccentric entertainers, daring acrobats and spectacular fire performers brought together by the **Ana Desetnica** international street theatre festival.

Puppet shows and other children's entertainment

Ljubljana's puppet artists are among the very best in Europe. The city's most awarded puppet theatres are the **Ljubljana Puppet Theatre** and

the **Ljubljana Mini Theatre**, and its most acclaimed puppet events are the **Lutke** and **Mini Summer festivals**.

Film Ljubljana

In Slovenia, all films are shown in their original language in cinemas so visitors can also attend screenings. Apart from the regular programme of mainstream productions, the city also boasts an art cinema (Kinodvor).

Two open-air film festivals in attractive locations (**Open-air Cinema Congress Square** and **Ljubljana Castle – Film Under the Stars**) and three international film festivals (**Ljubljana Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, International Documentary Film Festival, and LIFFE**) prove that Ljubljana really is a city for film lovers.

Literary trails of Ljubljana

In Ljubljana, the UNESCO City of Literature and the World Book Capital 2010, there are a number of memorial houses where visitors get an insight into the lives and minds of the creators who lived there.

Ljubljana Tourism organises a tour, on which a tourist guide takes visitors on the routes of poets, writers, national awakers, and bohemians that left their mark on the collective memory and life of Ljubljana. The

exciting story reveals the history of Ljubljana and the life and work of the most important Slovenian creators. www.visitljubljana.com

Art museums and galleries

In addition to the three central galleries, **the National Gallery**, which houses the works by Slovene and foreign artists from the Gothic period to Impressionism, **the Museum of Modern Art**, which holds a collection of artistic works created by Slovenian artists of the 20th century, and **the Cukrarna Gallery** as the newest and most remarkable space for modern art, there are numerous other galleries and exhibition areas that round out the fine arts scene in Ljubljana.

National Gallery

Displaying Slovenian art from the end of the 12th century to the first decades of the 20th century and also European painters, furthermore, hosting numerous temporary exhibitions. www.ng-slo.si

Museum of Modern Art

The Museum of Modern Art houses the national collection of 20th century Slovene art and a collection of works from the former Yugoslavia. The national collection presents the basic stages in the development of the Slovene tradition of modern and contemporary art from the beginning of the 20th century onwards. www.mg-lj.si





Cukrarna Gallery

19th century sugar factory turned into a special venue and a gallery space of over 2,500 square metres that serves as a new space for the production and presentation of contemporary art. This architectural gem opened its door in 2021. www.cukrarna.art

Museum of Contemporary Art Metelkova (MSUM)

This impressive museum displays selected works of contemporary art from the Artest 2000+ international collection and the MG+MSUM national collection. It also houses a library containing 66,000 books and other publications devoted to contemporary art. www.mg-lj.si

Museum of Architecture and Design

The main Slovenian institution operating in the fields of architecture, urban planning, industrial and graphic design and photography. www.mao.si

International Centre of Graphic Art

Specialised art shows, exhibitions of individual artists, often in collaboration with international institutions. Organiser of the International Biennial of Graphic Art (every odd-numbered year). Located in Tivoli Mansion. www.mglc-lj.si

Museums

National Museum of Slovenia

The most valuable items related to the archaeological and historic



periods of our national territory. The world's oldest musical instrument – the flute can be seen here. www.nms.si

Slovenian Museum of Natural History

Zoological, botanical and geological collections, temporary exhibitions. www.pms-lj.si

City Museum of Ljubljana

Get to know Ljubljana's past – presentation of Ljubljana's history through various themes and interactive experiences. The world's oldest wooden wheel can be seen here. www.mgml.si

Ljubljana Castle

The castle features the permanent exhibition Slovenian History, the Museum of Puppetry, several historically significant premises and interactive special experiences. It also serves as a venue for cultural events, family entertainment, dance evenings, and summer open-air cinema. www.ljubljanacastle.si

Slovenian Ethnographic Museum

Permanent exhibition: Between Nature and Culture – the treasure house of Slovenian and non-European heritage of the everyday and the festive; Images of my World is an exhibition about a man and his place in the world. www.etno-muzej.si

National Museum of Contemporary History

Dedicated to the heritage of recent Slovenian history. Permanent

exhibition: Slovenians in the 20th Century and temporary exhibitions. www.muzej-nz.si

Center Rog

Center Rog will be serving as a production space providing creators, organizations and the general public with a supportive environment of innovative and socially beneficial projects. It is opening its doors in autumn 2023. www.center-rog.si/en/

Railway Museum

Collection of vehicles (steam locomotives, coaches, wagons and other historic rolling stock) and an exhibition related to various fields of railway history and technology. www.zeleznikimuzej.si

UNESCO Heritage Site of the pile-dwellers, Ig

A new top attraction near Ljubljana, in the settlement of Ig. An interpretation centre and open-air museum on the life of the legendary pile-dwellers who lived in the Ljubljana Marshes thousands of years ago. The remains of the oldest pile-dwellers sites in the Marshes have been discovered here, and the most famous one is the fired clay idol from around 2000 BC, which is preserved by the National Museum of Slovenia, 12 km from Ljubljana.

Technical Museum of Slovenia

Exhibits related to forestry, woodworking, agriculture, hunting, fishing, traffic and transportation, located in Bistra Castle near Vrhnika (23 km from Ljubljana). www.tms.si

Museum of Post and Telecommunications

Museum in Polhov Gradec (20 km from Ljubljana) shares the stories about times when the people eagerly waited for the postman bringing some fresh news and when mobile phones were not yet a part of our everyday life. www.tms.si

Art Nouveau Ljubljana

The Municipality of Ljubljana is a member of the international Réseau Art Nouveau Network (RANN), whose key tasks are to study, protect and value art nouveau which at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries influenced bourgeois society. Ljubljana is celebrating World Art Nouveau Day on 10 June. Cultural institutions in the city are organising a number of attractive Art Nouveau-related events, from guiding tours to creative family workshops.

The list of all museum and galleries, also in the broader region of Ljubljana, with detailed descriptions and opening hours can be found at www.visitljubljana.com



Unique artistic Ljubljana

In the wonderful surroundings of the central city marketplace, designed by world famous Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik is located **DobraVaga**, an exhibition and project space, gallery and open studio of various artistic languages, styles and content. The programme places an emphasis on the aesthetic reflections of the younger generation of artists. In the summertime, the artistic flavour in Ljubljana Old Town is provided by **ARTish**, a creative festival where the exhibited works are available for purchase, and the **Art Market Ljubljana**, on the Breg embankment every Saturday, where Slovenian artists sell their works and often produce new creations at their stands.

The **Sunday Flea Market** at Breg Embankment has a special reputation. Here can be found antiques, works of art and various other collectable objects and vintage items. This presents an excellent opportunity for an unusual outing and an experience with a difference and is certainly a great way to spend a leisurely Sunday.

There's a number of talented designers living, working and running their shops in Ljubljana, such as Katja and Jure Bricman, Urška Draž, Almira Sadar, Matjaž Vlah, Barbara K. Germ and many others that are putting Slovenia on the international fashion map.

There are still a few artisans in Ljubljana who are skilled in trades that most people believe have died out. **Creative handicraft workshops** provide an opportunity to see these trades up close, and to have a go at the art of crafting items by hand. www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/explore/things-to-do/art-and-culture/article/creative-handicraft-workshops/

Main festivals in Ljubljana

International Biennial of Graphic Arts

MGLC (International Centre of Graphic Arts) and other venues

The Ljubljana biennial is the largest and at the same time one of the worlds most high-profile events of graphic arts, boasting a tradition of more than half-a-century.

BIO - Biennial of Design

Museum of Architecture and Design, other locations

The Biennial of Design is set to strengthen its role as an interdisciplinary collaborative platform where design is employed as a catalyst for change.

LUV fest

Various venues in the city

LUV fest is an umbrella festival starting on 8 February, Slovenia's Culture Day when we remember France Prešeren, the country's greatest poet, and ending



symbolically on 12 March, St. Gregory's Day, Slovenia's own day of lovers, when according to folk tradition the "birds marry". Think love, art and dancing, wanderings through the charmingly decorated city, every culinary delight Ljubljana has to offer, and more.

November Gourmet Ljubljana

Various restaurants and venues in the city

November Gourmet Ljubljana is a culinary festival that brings together the best in gastronomy in the city and its surroundings. In November, Ljubljana is the gastronomic capital of Slovenia. The festival programme is rich and diverse: from unique experiences to themed events and workshops.

Lighting Guerrilla international festival

Match Gallery and city centre

The festival presents and popularises the aspects of modern art where the main form of expression is light – exciting light installations, objects and projections in the city centre.

Ljubljana Festival, international summer festival

Križanke summer theatre, Cankarjev dom cultural and congress centre

It hosts internationally renowned artists and provides the audience with exceptional artistic experiences of music, opera, dance. It celebrated its 70th edition in 2022.

Ljubljana Jazz Festival

Cankarjev dom cultural and congress centre

The Ljubljana Jazz Festival is the oldest jazz festival in Europe. Each year, it features some of the world's biggest names in jazz, attracting music lovers from home and abroad. It celebrated its 63rd edition in 2022.

Ana Desetnica international street theatre festival

Various venues in the city centre of Ljubljana

The city centre will turn into one big festival venue, presenting more than 100 street artists and modern trends in street theatre creativity.

Film Under the Stars

Ljubljana Castle

A summer cinema event in the Ljubljana Castle's courtyard with a selection of the most notable films of the past cinema season.

Open-Air Cinema Congress Square

Kongresni trg square

Three free screenings of the finest attainments of the seventh art. The films shown in the central city square are dedicated to important anniversaries and events in the city or in film.

International Festival of Contemporary Arts – City of Women

Various venues in Ljubljana

10 days of numerous meetings, encounters, reflections, experiences

and networking that are worth joining, participating, receiving and giving.

LIFFe

Cankarjev dom cultural and congress centre and other venues

The LIFFe festival diversifies the city's autumn cultural life by presenting the best and the latest in European and international film production.

LGBT Film Festival

Slovenian Cinematheque (Slovenska Kinoteka)

This is the oldest festival of its kind in Europe. It played an important role both in the emancipation of new social movements and in raising awareness.

December in Ljubljana

Various venues in Ljubljana

In December, the festively decorated old centre of Ljubljana hosts a varied programme of events intended for people of all ages and tastes. The festive atmosphere culminates in the New Year's Eve celebrations held in the city's main squares.

See also the Calendar of Events on page 26-27 and detailed list of events at visitljubljana.com



The Ljubljana Tourist Card makes the culture in Ljubljana more accessible.

The Ljubljana Card is the best way to experience as much of the culture and the museums and galleries of Ljubljana as possible. The card allows free admission to as many as 20 museums and galleries.

More information:
www.visitljubljana.com

A new festival to warm up Ljubljana in the winter months

Festival of Love, Art and Wandering

The city is decked in special decorations, guided experiences reveal unique tales of love-struck Ljubljana, at select locations you can capture photos of unforgettable memories, there are concerts, exhibitions and other cultural events and creative workshops, the restaurants spoil guests with culinary surprises, hotels offer romantic packages – and all of this is infused with love. Not just romantic love, but a love of culture, art, heritage, creativity, nature and of course travel and new experiences.

LUV Fest begins on 8 February, Slovenia's Culture Day when we remember France Prešeren, the country's greatest poet, and ends symbolically on 12 March, St. Gregory's Day, Slovenia's own day of lovers, when according to folk tradition the "birds marry".

LUV

FEST

FEB 8

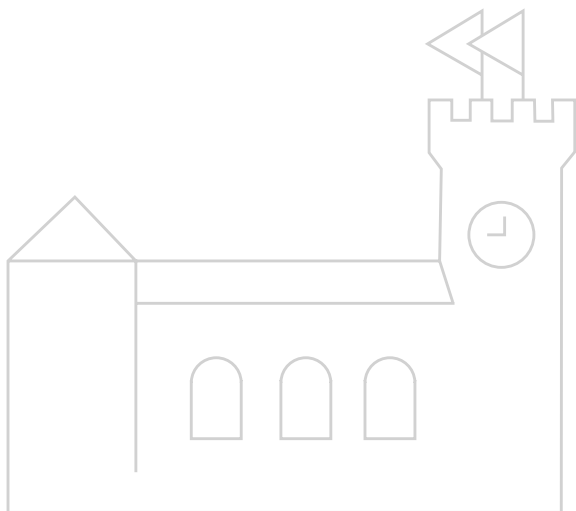
MAR 12



#luvfest

Events calendar

Ljubljana hosts many attractive events throughout the year. Which ones in particular are not to be missed?



CATEGORIES:

- LITERATURE
- PERFORMATIVE ARTS
- FILM
- VISUAL ARTS / EXHIBITIONS
- MUSIC
- GASTRONOMY
- FAMILY EVENTS
- SPORTS
- FESTIVE EVENT
- CARNIVAL
- FASHION
- NATURE
- ETHNOGRAPHY

January

BIO - BIENNIAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA



DECEMBER IN LJUBLJANA



February

BIO - BIENNIAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA



LUV FEST



DRAGON FESTIVAL



WINTER FESTIVAL



GIBANICA



COUCH FESTIVAL



March

BIO - BIENNIAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA



LUV FEST



THE OPEN KITCHEN



WINTER FESTIVAL



KONSEKVENCE



DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL



MENT



NIGHT OF SLOVENE COMPOSERS



April

BIO - BIENNIAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA



FESTIVAL OF TULIPS



THE OPEN KITCHEN



SONICA X MENT



SLOVENIAN MUSIC DAYS



May

LJUBLJANA ART WEEKEND

LIGHTNING GUERRILLA

THE OPEN KITCHEN

PIVO & BURGER FEST

DRUGA GODBA

CASTLE DAYS

June

FESTIVAL LJUBLJANA

LIGHTNING GUERRILLA

THE OPEN KITCHEN

FESTIVAL JUNE IN LJUBLJANA

SUMMER IN LJUBLJANA OLD TOWN

ANA DESETNICA

SPIDER FESTIVAL

KLOVNBUFF

MARATHON FRANJA - BARJANKA

TOUR OF SLOVENIA

FESTIVAL BRINA

LITERARY AND MUSIC FESTIVAL LITERATURE ALIVE

July

FESTIVAL LJUBLJANA

FILM UNDER THE STARS

THE OPEN KITCHEN

JAZZ FESTIVAL

SUMMER IN LJUBLJANA OLD TOWN

LET'S MEET IN FRONT OF ŠKUC

SUMMER IN TIVOLI

August

FESTIVAL LJUBLJANA

FILM UNDER THE STARS

THE OPEN KITCHEN

OPEN-AIR CINEMA AT CONGRESS SQUARE

SUMMER IN LJUBLJANA OLD TOWN

FEKK FESTIVAL

NIGHTS IN OLD LJUBLJANA TOWN

YOUNG LIONS FESTIVAL

SUMMER ON THE SILVER SCREEN AND BETWEEN THE BOOK COVERS

September

SONICA

LJUBLJANA BIENNALE OF GRAPHIC ARTS

THE OPEN KITCHEN

TO)POT SOUND WALKS FESTIVAL

PIVO & BURGER FEST

VRHNIKA COFFEE FESTIVAL

DAYS OF NATIONAL COSTUMES AND CLOTHING HERITAGE

October

VOLKSWAGEN LJUBLJANA MARATHON

LJUBLJANA BIENNALE OF GRAPHIC ARTS

THE OPEN KITCHEN

CITY OF WOMEN

INDIGO FESTIVAL

LJUBLJANA FASHION WEEK

REMIX COMIX

November

BIO - BIENNAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA

LJUBLJANA BIENNALE OF GRAPHIC ARTS

AN EVENING WALK AMONG THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

NOVEMBER GOURMET

COFESTIVAL

ANA PLAMENITA

LIFFE

ANIMATEKA

SLOVENIAN BOOK FAIR

December

BIO - BIENNAL OF DESIGN LJUBLJANA

LJUBLJANA BIENNALE OF GRAPHIC ARTS

AN EVENING WALK AMONG THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

DECEMBER IN LJUBLJANA

ANA MRAZ

LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

ILLUSTRATION FAIR

Green Ljubljana

Ljubljana as a green, open-air living room

Ljubljana is a city with a green image and a green commitment – a city where green is the way of life.

Ljubljana, the proud holder of the title European Green Capital 2016, is a world-leading destination in the sustainable tourism field. It is also a leading destination at national level, holding the Slovenia Green Destination Platinum label, certifying it as a green destination in the highest (platinum) category.

The development of sustainable tourism is our overarching focus. With its green image and sustainable development strategy, Ljubljana offers excellent opportunities for sustainable tourism. Ljubljana Tourism aims to develop Ljubljana as an attractive, green, environmentally friendly destination distinguished by a high quality of life both for citizens and for visitors to the city.



Sustainable Ljubljana

- In 2022, Ljubljana received the Slovenia Green Destination PLATINUM label (the highest category), awarded by the Slovenian Tourist Board.
- In 2022, Ljubljana Tourism received certificate Socially Responsible Employer.
- Ljubljana was included 8-times (in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2014) in the SustainableDestinations Top 100 list by global organization Green Destinations.
- In 2019, Ljubljana was among the finalists of the European Capital of Smart Tourism initiative for the second time.
- Ljubljana has been named the European Green Capital 2016.
- Ljubljana is the first capital in the European Union to adopt a Zero Waste strategy.

Ljubljana's green image

Green, anywhere you look! Ljubljana is a city boasting excellently preserved green spaces. Countless pleasant green nooks and crannies can be found even in the heart of the historical city centre. The per capita green space provision in Ljubljana stands at 542 square metres. The Ljubljana area boasts four nature parks. A number of the city's neglected spaces have been turned into green oases for enjoyment and recreation.

Car free zone - the largest in Europe

You can explore Ljubljana city centre on foot or by bike, without being blocked by traffic. Citizens and visitors have a lot of space available for walking, cycling and admiring lively Ljubljana. The area is 17 hectares, the largest in Europe.

Ljubljana, accessible to all

We are dedicated to making Ljubljana an accessible city for everyone, an excellent example being our Ljubljana by Wheelchair app which covers the needs of tourists on wheelchairs. We have also implemented tactile signs in the city center, built more ramps for

persons with physical disabilities to enable access to numerous objects, and equipped city buses with them as well. Our city is known for being inclusive and supportive of all communities including the LGBTQ+ community, migrants, and people with disabilities who can, e.g., find employment in restaurants such as Druga Violina.

Rich biodiversity and urban beekeeping

Urban beekeeping has a long tradition in Ljubljana which is highly linked to biodiversity. We care a lot that the bees have enough food at all times and that is why we systematically plant honey trees around the city. Some buildings have even beehives on their roofs. Honey is also an important ingredient of the Ljubljana Breakfast.

The longest green path around Ljubljana

One of Ljubljana's unique features is the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship, a 34-kilometre circular recreational route running along the course of the barbed wire fence that surrounded Ljubljana during the Second World War. The path is lined with more than 7,000 trees. Each year for the past six decades, the Path has hosted the Recreational

March around Ljubljana in celebration of Victory Day, 9 May.

Water and drinking fountains

While strolling around Ljubljana, you can quench your thirst at drinking fountains dispensing clean natural water that has not undergone any technological treatment. This is a luxury rarely found in capital cities. During the warm months, you can drink from your hands or refill your bottle at more than 50 drinking fountains across the city.

Ljubljana Regional Waste Management Centre (RCERO Ljubljana)

In Ljubljana there is the most modern facility for waste treatment in Europe, processing waste from more than a third of Slovenia which is the biggest environmental project in Slovenia supported by the Cohesion Fund. In the city centre you can also find underground collection units for waste which are also an example of good waste management. This is also often seen as a tourist attraction.

Green Supply Chain

The project connects local food producers with restaurants and hotels, bringing quality, local, tasty and environmentally friendly ingredients to the plates of Ljubljana dishes. At Ljubljana Tourism, we are working to shorten supply chains through various initiatives; this is also how we support sustainable development.



Popular green points of Ljubljana

Castle Hill

The hill rising above the historical city centre of Ljubljana, often referred to as 'the castle hill' for being the site of Ljubljana Castle, is covered with well-maintained woods and criss-crossed by walking paths. It takes about 20 minutes to reach the top, starting from the historical city centre. It can be quickly reached also by funicular. At the top of the castle hill there are scenic tree-lined walks and lookout points offering stunning views across the entire cityscape and of the Kamnik-Savinja Alps to the north. The most special of the hilltop paths leads along the fortifications in the Šance area of the hill - it was redesigned by the architect Jože Plečnik. Ljubljana Castle is a holder of the Green Key (eco-label certificate), a leading standard of excellence in environmental responsibility and sustainability in the tourism industry.

Tivoli Park, Rožnik and Šišenski hrib Landscape Park

A treasure in the middle of the city. Ljubljana's largest green space and a green entrance to the city centre. Green lungs, local playground, sports ground, a place of inspiration and culture - these are just few of the metaphors with which we can describe the Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška Hill Landscape Park. It comprises 459 ha, which is a huge area, especially if you compare it with New York City's Park which encompasses 341 hectares or London's Hyde Park with 140 hectares. The entire park boasts of extremely rich biodiversity, with more than 3,000 different plant and animal species. Visitors can enjoy Tivoli Rosarium, a rose garden, with a white rose named after Ljubljana, the park's fountains, playgrounds, flowers, Library under the Trees (open during the warm months), fish pond, and Jakopič Promenade, where ladies with parasols used to stroll in the past and where now you can view open-air photographic exhibitions on your way to the Tivoli Mansion.

Tivoli Park blends seamlessly into the woodlands of the north-western part of Ljubljana. A network of recreational paths winds from the park across the Cankarjev vrh peak

and the 429-metre-high Šišenski hrib hill, the highest hill in this area, to the picturesque red church and restaurant at the top of the Rožnik hill, where fires burn in the hearts of lovers on a date and a huge bonfire is traditionally lit on the eve of 1 May. You can go for a walk along the Rožnik hill's Jesenko Trail, lined by trees of more than 30 different species.

Ljubljana Marshes Landscape Park

The Ljubljana Marshes is a natural area of wetlands and peat bogs, known for its rare animal and vegetal species and for the remains of the prehistoric pile dwellings, which have been entered on the UNESCO World Heritage List. You can find many thematic footpaths on the Ljubljana Marshes, and it is also popular for cyclists. The Church of St. Michael, built between 1937 and 1940 belongs among the architect Jože Plečnik's most original creations. From 2023, you can learn more about the heritage of pile dwellings in Ig, where an open-air museum was created.

Green experiences

Ljubljana Bike Tour

The tour gives the visitors an opportunity to see both the city's major sights and its hidden nooks and crannies, known only to the locals. At the end of the tour, they will pedal to Tivoli Park to take a

rest, have a drink, and immortalize their experience by taking a group photograph.

Unique creative handicraft workshops

There are still a few artisans in Ljubljana who are skilled in trades that most people believe have died out. Creative and unique handicraft workshops provide an opportunity to see these trades up close, and to have a go at the art of crafting items by hand. We invite our visitors to discover the crafts and special stories of our artisans: a weaver, a ceramic designer, an umbrella-maker, a printer, and a goldsmith. You can choose from the following workshops: Mend your umbrella, Print your own poster in an old print shop, A printmaker for a day, Weaving from A to Z, A »Golden Fleece« experience, The power of the ring, A game for two, Open wheel.

Yummy Market Walk

A good breakfast sets you up for a day of exploration and fun in the city. The day starts with a delicious local Ljubljana breakfast and continues by enjoying the always-lively vibe of the Central Market.

Ljubljana beekeeping trail

Visitors learn about the tradition of beekeeping in Ljubljana and taste Slovenian honey on this »sweet« guided tour.





Green mobility

Kavalir

Visitors can take a ride in a Kavalir, an environmentally friendly electric vehicle whose name translates as 'old school gentleman' and is there to lend a helping hand to those in need of a ride within the pedestrianized city centre. As Kavalir rides are free, this mode of transport is very popular with locals and visitors alike. You can either hail a vehicle on the street or book a ride by telephone. Gentlemen would not be gentlemen if they turned down anyone's request, but priority is given to elderly and persons with physical disabilities.

Park and Ride

At Ljubljana's P+R (park-and-ride) facilities, you can leave your vehicle and transfer to a city bus for a journey to the city centre. With the purchase of a parking ticket, you get two bus tickets

valid for the day of the parking ticket purchase. Parking fees are paid at an Urbanomat for the current day in cash, Moneta or with an Urbana card.

Cycling in Ljubljana

The Bicikelj bicycle-sharing system gives you an opportunity to hire bikes from self-service terminals located across the wider Ljubljana city centre. Bicikelj bikes are particularly suitable for shorter, up to an hour-long ride as hire is free if you return a hired bicycle to the nearest docking station within an hour and wait for five minutes before hiring a new one. To use the Bicikelj network one simply completes his/her registration with the Bicikelj network online (www.bicikelj.si). Visitors can also hire a bicycle from our Tourist Information Centre, next to the Triple Bridge. Bike parks are also becoming a very popular meeting place for all generations. They have been set up in degraded areas and can be used by people on bicycles,

roller skates, etc. They are free to use. In the immediate vicinity of the city centre is the wooded area of Golovec, where various recreational areas are located, including trails for MTB bicycles.

Electric and charging points

If you arrive in Ljubljana by electric car, you will easily find charging points. There are already more than 400.

100% electric car sharing system

Car-sharing scheme Avant2Go enables the shared use of electric vehicles which is part of our commitment to greener mobility.

Circular ride with the urban electric train

Take a ride on a unique and environment-friendly train called Urban along an attractive circular trail around Ljubljana, which will take you to all the main tourist attractions. Starting point is at the Town Hall.

Socially responsible Ljubljana

Discover some of the socially and environmentally responsible initiatives that not only provide solutions to social and environmental challenges, but also authentic local experiences. In Ljubljana, you can find restaurants where you can taste excellent local food prepared and served by people who are difficult to employ or have special needs, cafés where you can enjoy truly delicious fair-trade coffee, and shops where you can buy highly original recycled products and lovingly restored second-hand objects.

Ljubljana is also a very open society, and we support equality. Ljubljana is the only city in Europe where part of the City Hall is dedicated to the LGBTQ+ community.

Sport & outdoor

Ljubljana is a city with active and sporting spirit

The green image of Ljubljana and the active, sporting spirit of its inhabitants contribute to the special sports atmosphere of the Slovenian capital. Talking about the high-profile sport events or about discovering the city and its surroundings by hiking, cycling, stand up paddling, playing golf etc. – Ljubljana is a dynamic city, which fills you up with energy, and visitors just have to take a glimpse of its surroundings to know they have arrived into an outdoor paradise.

There are numerous easily accessible paths that stretch out to green hills above the city with stunning views: the castle hill, Rožnik and Golovec are almost the part of the city centre; Šmarna gora, Rašica, Polhov Gradec Dolomites and Ljubljana Marshes are popular hiking spots for locals on the outskirts of the city; further you go, more widespread is the network of hiking trails.

Same goes for biking; the city is cycle-friendly with a network of cycle paths and there are numerous possibilities for road and mountain biking in Ljubljana and its green hinterland.

Visitors can also discover Ljubljana by playing golf, on a SUP, in a kayak ... And after an active day they can relax in many modern wellness facilities.

Ljubljana is also a sporting city with a modern sports infrastructure for championships and trainings of top athletes. It has already proven itself in providing excellent organisation of important sports championships at both the European and global levels. The city also hosts outstanding outdoor spectacles, which attract worldwide interest.

Visitors can choose among many activities and Ljubljana Tourism has also prepared a series of active guided tours of the city.





Active experiences in the very centre of Ljubljana

Guided cycling tours

Ljubljana Tourism offers several cycling tours of Ljubljana. From the city centre, which is closed to motor traffic, visitors take a ride on the Ljubljanica embankments, admire the picturesque images of the city and get some fresh air in the Tivoli Park. www.visitljubljana.com

Ljubljana jogging tour

Our jogging tour leads the runners through the old centre, through the Tivoli Park and back. Accompanied by a tourist guide they are also being introduced to the main city sights. www.visitljubljana.com

Guided Nordic walking tour of Ljubljana

The Nordic walking tour takes us along a 7-kilometre-long route, on which we discover Ljubljana with all its main sights and stories in a dynamic, yet still relaxing way. www.visitljubljana.com

Stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking along the Ljubljanica

Why not treat us to a green experience that will be enjoyable not only for us, but also for our audience sipping coffee on the river embankments? Visitors can take a stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) or kayaking tour along the Ljubljanica river and view the city from a different angle. Adventure begins at the Špica café with an introductory SUP lesson and continue by paddling through the historical city centre.

www.visitljubljana.com (SUP);
www.kajak-ljubljana.si (kayak)

Running in Tivoli Park

Running fans can join runners of all generations making their way through Tivoli Park, the city's green lungs, and further on to the fragrant forests of the Tivoli, Rožnik, and Šišenski Hrib Landscape Park.

Waterside cycle path from Špica to Fužine Castle

This nice and flat waymarked cycle path along the Ljubljanica River, from the Špica embankment in the Prule area of Ljubljana to Fužine Castle, is perfect especially for a romantic trip!

Traditional sporting events

Recreational March around Ljubljana

The traditional march around Ljubljana is one of the largest recreational events in Slovenia, attracting more than 30,000 participants each year. The march emphasizes universal values such as comradeship and solidarity as well as healthy lifestyle.

The Three-Member Team Run

Held along the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship each year at the beginning of May (the weekend closest to 9 May), traditionally opens Ljubljana's running event season. What is special about this unique event aimed at promoting friendship is that its entrants are groups of three runners and the group's time is that of the last member of the group to cross the finish line. www.pohod.si

Franja Marathon

The BTC City Franja Marathon is the largest international recreational road cycling competition in Slovenia. Traditionally taking place in June, it is intended for both the best cyclists and average recreational cyclists and families. Part of Franja Marathon is the Barjanka, a cycling event that takes you through the picturesque landscape of the Ljubljana Marshes. www.franja.org

Ljubljana Marathon

Major celebration of running in Slovenia, held annually in the last weekend in October. It

brings together nearly 30,000 runners from close to 40 different countries. It is held in the streets of Ljubljana, with the starting line in the Slovenska cesta road and the finishing line in the Kongresni trg square.

www.vw-ljubljanskimaraton.si

Activities in Ljubljana and in Ljubljana Region

Hiking and biking

Ljubljana Region offers a wealth of opportunities for scenic trips. The entire region is crisscrossed with hiking and biking trails. Apart from taking short trips to spots popular with local walkers and cyclists, such as Šmarna Gora, Katarina, Kurešček and Zaplana, visitors can go on lengthy explorations of the region as individual trails, generally well waymarked, can be combined into longer ones.

Ljubljana Region is also the crossing point of two European long-distance paths, the E6 path from Finland to the Adriatic Sea and the E7 path from the Spanish-Portuguese border to Hungary.

Apart from road cycling routes, Ljubljana Region also offers off-road mountain bike trails. Mountain bikers are advised to keep to waymarked biking trails and ride with caution. Particularly interesting for hikers and bikers are the circular path around Ljubljana, known as the Path of Remembrance and Comradeship; the Velika Planina high mountain plateau, well known for its unusual landforms and Europe's oldest herdsman's village (easily accessible from nearby medieval town of Kamnik); and Ljubljana Marshes. A selection of biking and hiking tours is organised. www.visitljubljana.com

Golf

The country boasts 13 golf courses, including three in the immediate vicinity of the capital. Region offers two large 18-hole golf courses, the Golf Arboretum in the village of Volčji Potok (www.golfarboretum.si) and the Diners Club Slovenia Golf Course in the village of Smlednik. Golfers can also play at the Trnovo Golf Course (www.golfrnovo.com), which is a smaller, 9-hole course situated on the edge of Ljubljana, or visit one of the region's several practice facilities.



Skiing and winter sports

Ljubljana is a perfect base for day trips to Slovenia's winter sports resorts. The nearest to Ljubljana is the Kravavec ski resort, boasting 26 kilometres of ski runs. The country's other large and popular ski resorts such as Kranjska Gora, Vogel, and Cerklje ob noči are not far away from Ljubljana either. Slovenia's Alpine and other ski resorts excel with their well-groomed runs, top quality skiing schools and easy accessibility from the country's larger towns and cities. Ski equipment can be rented in the ski resorts if needed.

Adrenalin sports and special experiences

The largest number of different outdoor adventure activities in one place are available at the Kravavec Summer Park (www.rtc-kravavec.si). Those seeking unforgettable experiences can also enjoy white water sports, pleasure flights in hot-air balloons, sightseeing aircraft and helicopters, hovercraft rides and much more.

Kayaking is available in Tacen (7 km from Ljubljana) on the rapids of the Sava River, at the site of the World Championships (lessons available). Skok Sport, Sava River, (www.skok-sport.si).

The Geoss Adventure Park in the village of Slivna, close to the geometric centre of Slovenia (GEOSS) and just a 30-minute drive

from Ljubljana, offers five different tree-top climbing routes, 72 climbing obstacles set up at heights ranging from one to 11 metres above ground, and an 800-metre-long rope slide (www.pustolovski-park-geoss.si).

Fishing

The wider Ljubljana area offers excellent opportunities for freshwater fishing in beautiful natural surroundings. On the rivers and streams of Ljubljana Region, it is possible to fish for huchen, chub, brown trout, and grayling, and on Ljubljana Region lakes and ponds for sheatfish, common carp, and pike. But one of the best destinations for angling is the Ljubljanica River, which flows right through the capital. In its upper reaches, this unique »River of Seven Names« disappears into the karst underground several times. Before disappearing for the last time and reappearing on the surface as the Ljubljanica, it is called the Unica and is one of the best Slovenian rivers for fly fishing.

Pump tracks and bike parks

In Ljubljana and its surroundings, a number of pump tracks and bike parks have been built in recent years: from asphalt pump tracks to dirt parks, great for learning skills that come in handy when cycling in traffic and anywhere else in the countryside, and great for fun, mostly for kids and youngsters, but also for adults!

Sports halls and stadiums

Stožice Sports Park Stadium & Arena

Ljubljana's football stadium for around 16,000 spectators and indoor arena for around 12,000 spectators, which opened in 2010, are both remarkable for their state-of-the-art design, created by the renowned Slovenian architectural studio Sadar Vuga arhitekti. Apart from football matches, the stadium occasionally hosts other large-scale events. The arena is mainly intended for basketball and handball events, but it also hosts concerts and events.

www.sport-ljubljana.si

Dvorana Tivoli Sports Hall

The Tivoli Sports Hall, also known as a venue for concerts and other events, consists of two middle-sized sports halls. The bigger of the two, intended mainly for hockey games, can hold around 6,000 spectators, and the smaller around 4,000.

www.sport-ljubljana.si

Kodeljevo Sports Park

The Kodeljevo Sports Park is situated at the foot of the Golovec hill, in the green

surroundings of a former park located next to Kodeljevo Castle. Apart from Ljubljana's largest outdoor swimming pool complex, it includes an athletic and football stadium, a sports hall, several tennis courts, outdoor courts for basketball and seven-a-side football, and a table tennis hall. It is also home to the University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Sport.

www.sport-ljubljana.si

Ljubljana Sports Park

The Ljubljana Sports Park is one of the city's largest sports training and recreational centres, and a popular venue for various sporting events, particularly athletic competitions. It includes an indoor athletic arena, an athletic stadium, a stadium with five football pitches, a handball and basketball hall, several tennis courts, a covered pétanque court, and a sand volleyball court. www.sport-ljubljana.si

Water fun

Atlantis Water Park

Located in the BTC City shopping centre, this park offers a total water surface area of 1,800 m². Atlantis is the first urban wellness in Slovenia. It features a total of 17 indoor and outdoor pools with many water and light effects, 14 saunas and an Asian Massage Centre.

www.atlantis-vodnomesto.si

Laguna Spa

This outdoor swimming pool and relaxation centre set within the Ljubljana Resort tourist complex includes three pools with more than 60 water attractions, a playground, sports activities, wellness treatments, and more.

www.laguna.si

Kolezija, City Swimming Pool

Kolezija stands on the site of an older swimming pool complex built in the 19th century, and includes an Olympic and a children's swimming pool, a paddling pool, a massage pool, and a poolside area to relax and sunbathe on. Other facilities include sports and recreation areas intended for playing table

tennis, basketball, and beach volleyball.

www.sport-ljubljana.si/kopalisce-kolezija

Terme Snovik

Close to the historic town of Kamnik, just a 30 minute drive from Ljubljana, Terme Snovik was the first tourist establishment in Slovenia to be awarded an ecological certificate. The pool complex, various saunas, the wellness centre, as well as outdoor recreation areas, offer the perfect place to unwind.

www.terme-snovik.si

Wellness

Spa and wellness programmes are offered by many top hotels, which often have in-house wellness centres. In addition to the previously mentioned Atlantis Water Park at the BTC City shopping centre, Ljubljana also has a number of other places to relax and take care of your mind and body.

Sense Wellness Club

Located at the Grand Hotel Union Business, this club features an attractive and relaxing environment and offers a holistic approach to body care and revitalisation, combining elements of both traditional and modern massage.

www.sense.si

Sunny Studio

Sunny is an elegantly designed top-class centre for a healthy lifestyle, featuring a spacious fitness area with organised exercise programmes, as well as a host of wellness, spa and beauty treatments and a sauna.

<https://www.sunny.si>

Serenity Wellness and Spa

Located on the 18th floor of Intercontinental Hotel this wellness offers a swimming pool with counter-current, three types of saunas, massage rooms, rooms for beauty treatments, a relaxation corner and stunning views of Tivoli Park and the Julian Alps.

www.intercontinental-ljubljana.si

Outdoor fun

Pump track polygons

In recent years, Ljubljana and its surroundings have been home to a number of pump track polygons, ideal for learning basic cycling skills, from better balance to building speed using coordinated arm and leg movements. Located in Šiška (Celovška Street 41), Bežigrad (Linhart street 41) and Nove Fužine (Rusjanov trg). Also suitable for users of skateboards, rollerblades, roller skates and scooters, that will find skate parks in Tivoli Park and near Cukrarna Gallery.

Woop!

At 4 different locations you can be entertained with 8 different attractions: Glow Golf, Karting, Challenges, Laser Tag, Escape Rooms, VR, Bowling and Trampoline park.

<https://woop.fun/en/ljubljana/>

Aerodium Logatec

Join an exciting experience of a free fall in a wind tunnel.

<https://www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/plan-your-visit/tours-and-trips/indoor-skydiving-in-aerodium-logatec-wind-tunnel/>



Gastronomy

Ljubljana is full of taste

Ljubljana loves food! Ljubljana is a delicious explosion of flavours, aromas, textures, sounds and images. The food scene is like the city itself – traditional but youthful, refined but lively, local but cosmopolitan.

The culinary charm of Ljubljana lies in its refusal to follow the rules: in its diversity, colourfulness and multifaceted nature. It can be traditional and it can be exclusive. It can be punk. It is the many tastes of a vibrant, shimmering city that attracts and entrances with its manifold gastronomic charms.

Ljubljana's culinary scene has undoubtedly experienced a renaissance over the last decade. There are several new culinary offer, projects and events, and the renowned Ljubljana chefs, restaurants and traditional local dishes are becoming increasingly recognised worldwide. Guests can choose anything from traditional Slovenian and Ljubljana dishes to classic international cuisine and the special dishes offered by more exotic cuisines, while the selection of restaurants and price options are also extremely diverse.

In addition, we see green supply chains forming in many food establishments, running from nearby fields or local producers straight to the tables.

Let us also mention the significant contribution to the culinary experience made by the concept of a gostilna, which is a traditional restaurant where convivial company and good food and wine can be enjoyed. They often serve dishes that are prepared according to old recipes and from local ingredients. Ljubljana features many gostilnas, both in the city centre and in its outlying areas. While discovering the green surroundings of Ljubljana, visitors can enjoy Slovenian cuisine in its authentic environment, in traditional village gostilna-type restaurants, homesteads, open door farms and mountain cabins. Many of them boast a tradition passing from one generation to another, and a reputation reaching beyond local boundaries.



Taste Ljubljana

Visitors love to try the traditional dishes of Ljubljana, which are made from local ingredients, prepared by using modern cooking methods and seasoned with a pinch of creativity from the best chefs.

The man behind the Taste Ljubljana project, renowned Slovenian ethnologist Janez Bogataj, selected dishes which were popular among Ljubljana's citizens in the 19th century and in the first half of the 20th, but which were later increasingly replaced by international cuisine in restaurants – such as beef soup, one of the fundamental terms and dishes in Slovenian cuisine, and “flying žganci” (žganci being a kind of crumbly porridge or polenta, an everyday staple), which actually consists of fried chicken drumsticks and wings and was a favourite dish of workers in the city's harbour along the Ljubljanica River in the 17th century.

Ljubljana Quality Mark (LQ)

A complete culinary exploration of Ljubljana would take several months, if not a year. The variety of flavours, choices and approaches offered by Ljubljana cuisine is practically limitless. One easy way to navigate the bewildering array is to seek out establishments displaying the Ljubljana Quality (LQ) mark, which Ljubljana Tourism has been awarding since the year 2000. The establishments and providers awarded the LQ mark are those that best express the sustainable mission of Ljubljana as a destination, relentlessly pursue quality and are recognised as the best even by locals.

Ljubljana, the city of wine and beer

It comes of no surprise that Ljubljana is a city of excellent wine and hosts many wine festivals and events. For over 30 years, it has held the title of “the City of Vine and Wine”. It even has its own vineyard – on Castle Hill, where 1,050 grapevines of the white Chardonnay and red Rdečegrajc variety were planted some years ago. But most of all the choice of Slovenian wines in bars and shops and the range of wine-related events on offer in Ljubljana are very wide and varied. Slovenia as a whole has three wine-growing regions divided into 14 wine-growing areas, and some of its wines are ranked among the best in the world in terms of quality.

And when talking about beer... We are not talking about mass-produced beers. This is about truly special beers that are made in boutique, artisan workshops, where the best varieties of hops, malt and yeast go hand in hand with what really counts – passion, love and commitment.

Ljubljana Central Market

Ljubljana's central market is the pride of the city and a social promenade, where tourists' excited exclamations are mixed with chatter coming from nearby cafés. Nestled in the very centre of the city, it's full of architectural heritage and buzzing with life, a place where the countryside meets the urban environment. In addition to all of the above, it's the last link in the green supply chain. The Ljubljana Central Market is the city's living, beating heart.

Street food

The true pulse, spirit and essence of a city are best found on the street, where people from all walks of life – from office workers grabbing a quick lunch to students on tight budgets and curious passers-by – queue at the stalls and serving windows of cooks specialising in one type of food. The streets of Ljubljana do not disappoint in this regard,



with an authentic atmosphere and interesting range of food, from the popular burek, a dish of Turkish origins and made from puff pastry, to fish, Asian cuisine and others.

Green supply chains

The Green Supply Chains project links local food producers with hotels and restaurants, bringing top-quality, tasty and environment-friendly local ingredients to the plates of diners around the city. The simple, well-organised supply of locally or regionally produced foods at good prices is enhancing the city's culinary life, while shorter supply chains contribute to sustainable development and also promote the local economy.

For demanding gourmets

Those with a more demanding taste can enjoy top restaurants - they can certainly find the best when they choose from among the recipients of the Ljubljana Quality Mark. There are the highest-rated restaurants in the city, Grič and Strelec Restaurant with Michelin stars, but there are also numerous delicatessens offering regional Slovenian dishes with quality certificates, and wine shops with a selection of top Slovenian wines. Besides, in Ljubljana and its region visitors can taste an immensely varied choice of delicious, sweet treats, from superb cakes and other confections available from the renowned cake shops to sweet delights typical of the area. In the old city centre, the relaxing Ljubljana embankments offer an invitation to taste various indulgences in numerous cafés - the best of them also bear the Ljubljana Quality Mark.



Culinary guided tours

Visitors can choose among different guided culinary tours of the city, on which they can taste typical Ljubljana dishes and discover the most popular culinary spots with the help of connoisseurs on tasting sessions.

Yummy Market Tour

Visitors can immerse themselves in Ljubljana's vibrant central market, touring the stalls of local vendors offering fresh produce and unique goods. At the end of the tour, they are treated to the Ljubljana Breakfast, prepared from ingredients that they learned about at the market.

Ljubljana Beer Experience

This guided culinary tour gives the visitors an opportunity to taste various local beers while learning about the rich history of brewing in Ljubljana.

Culinary events

There are many culinary events in Ljubljana and the wider region all year round. We've made a selection of some of the most popular ones.

November Gourmet Ljubljana

In November, Ljubljana is the gastronomic capital of Slovenia. November Gourmet Ljubljana is a culinary festival that brings together the best in gastronomy in city and its surroundings. The festival programme is rich and diverse: from unique experiences to themed events and workshops. Part of the festival is the European Food Summit, one of Europe's most important culinary events that brings together the greatest minds in culinary, art and the media, whose stories aim to motivate listeners to engage in a more progressive thinking and work toward a brighter and more sustainable future. We should also mention the Ljubljana Wine Route, when the streets, squares and bridges of the old city centre are full of stands and stalls presenting the providers of excellent wine and culinary delights from all parts of Slovenia.

Odprta kuhna (Open Kitchen)

On Fridays from mid-March to October, the Ljubljana Central Market (in Pogačar Square) hosts a street food market that visitors cannot miss. They can experience the delights of freshly cooked food prepared by different Slovenian chefs right there in front of them, on the market stalls.

Pivo & Burger fest (Beer & Burger Fest)

Beer and burgers make an ideal combination that never goes out of fashion. This festival gives the visitors the opportunity to get to know both classic and regular Slovenian offerings along with new flavours and ways of preparation that push the boundaries of the everyday. In May and October, at Ljubljana's Central Market.

Čokoljana

At the end of October, Pogačar Square, home of the Central market, hosts a large number of master confectioners, gostilnas, restaurants, and shops, which invite chocolate enthusiasts to partake of more than a thousand chocolate delights.

Gin & Brin Festival

A two-day event for expanding knowledge and culture of enjoying gin and brinjevec (juniper spirit) from Karst region of Slovenia. The festival offers tastings, masterclasses and workshops, and is accompanied with good music. Every year on the first weekend in July, at village Dutovlje.

Culinary souvenirs

Slovenia's cuisine has long been defined by local, high-quality, organic ingredients. The best place to find them, for local people and top chefs alike, is at one of the city's food markets. In addition, visitors will find a number of specialist shops in the city centre dedicated to typical traditional products such as cured meats, local oils, wine and other good things. More than enough to take a tasty piece of Ljubljana with them.

There are plenty of opportunities to buy exceptional culinary souvenirs in the city centre. One of them is definitely "potica", one of the most famous Slovenian dishes. Try Butik LePotica, in Ljubljana's Old Town. This boutique specialises in adorable little poticas, cutely named 'LePoticke', and also bakes the more traditional variety with a walnut or tarragon and cottage cheese filling, prepared using a traditional 'protected' recipe for Slovenian potica, for which the boutique was the first to receive a certificate.

For more culinary stories visit www.visitljubljana.com.



40 November brings the best in gastronomy

Every November, Ljubljana is the gastronomic capital of Slovenia. November Gourmet Ljubljana, the most delicious festival, brings together the best in gastronomy in Ljubljana and Ljubljana Region. It's a feast of new flavours, innovative dishes, fresh approaches, unusual experiments, new contacts and fruitful collaborations. Visitors can enjoy unique events, such as tasting fine cuisine in cultural sites, or experience the chefs' masterpieces at special dinners, they can take part in culinary workshops of all kinds and choose between different culinary guided tours of the city, they can taste special menus in the restaurants, learn about excellent wine, and more.

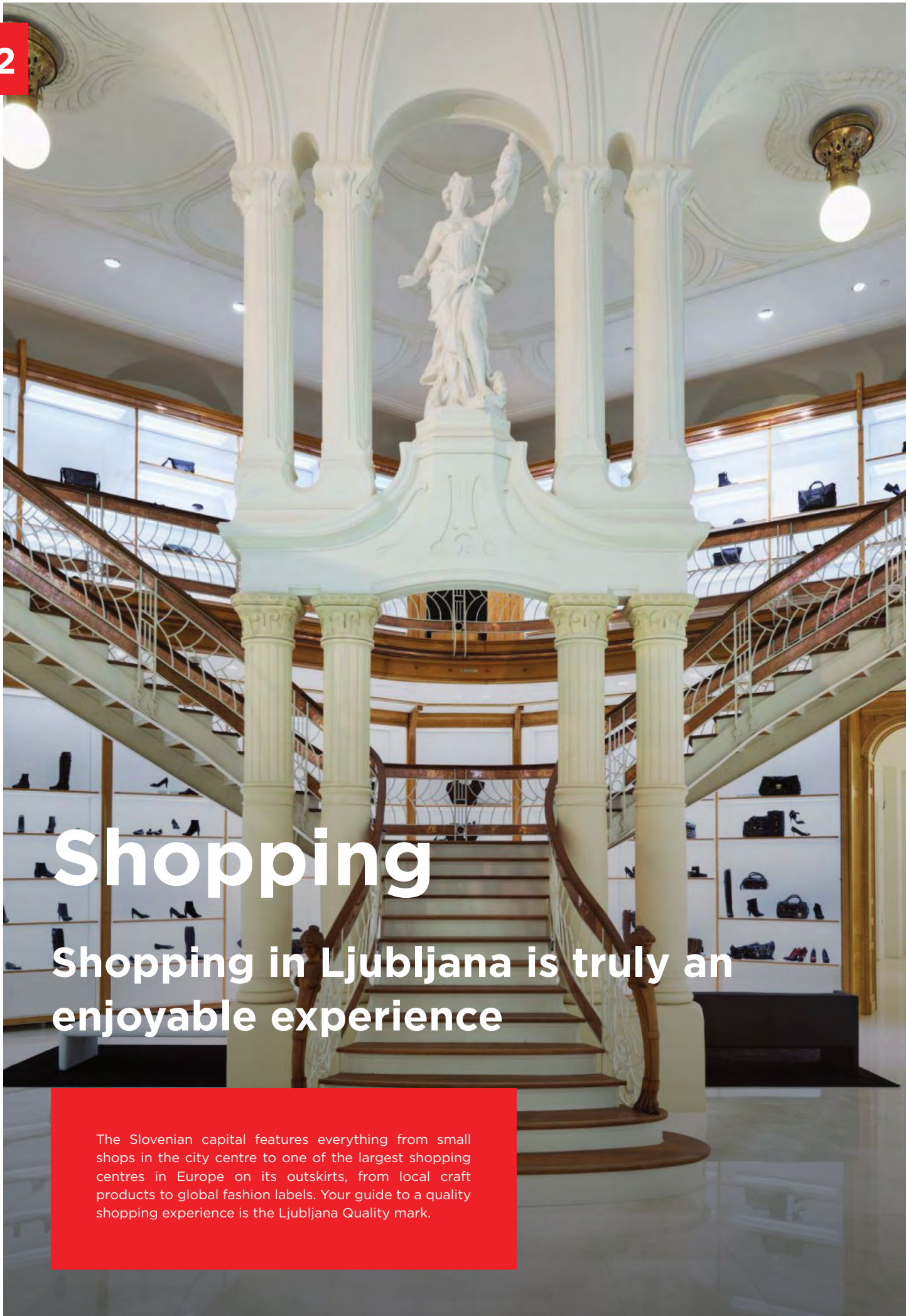
A part of the festival is the European Food Summit, one of Europe's most important culinary events that brings together the greatest minds in culinary, art and the media, whose stories aim to motivate listeners to engage in a more progressive thinking and work toward a brighter and more sustainable future.



novemmmber gourmmmet

LJUBLJANA

2. - 30. NOVEMBER



Shopping

Shopping in Ljubljana is truly an enjoyable experience

The Slovenian capital features everything from small shops in the city centre to one of the largest shopping centres in Europe on its outskirts, from local craft products to global fashion labels. Your guide to a quality shopping experience is the Ljubljana Quality mark.



Ljubljana Quality Mark

The Ljubljana Quality Mark (LQ) identifies the shops that were rated as the best in a carefully prepared assessment process using the mystery shopper method. When investigating stores, the mystery shopper assesses the diversity or variety of the offerings, their authenticity and originality, and at the same time the choice and accessibility of goods. You will notice the LQ mark at the entrances of these selected stores.



Souvenirs of Ljubljana

The TIC Ljubljana Shop, located just by the Triple Bridge, offers a wide choice of high quality souvenirs of Ljubljana. The most popular lines are presented on pages 46 and 47. You can shop online here: <https://shop.visitljubljana.com/en/>

Tips on where to shop

Shopping in Ljubljana city centre

Ljubljana's city centre is not only picturesque but it also offers some great shopping possibilities, and this is where surprises await you! Some of the small shops are owned by people known in the Slovenian world of design.

Slovenian design has established itself with a number of talented designers such as Katja and Jure Bricman, Urška Draž, Almira Sadar, Matjaž Vlah, Barbara K. Germ and many others, who live, work and sell their products in Ljubljana. A wide and varied choice of products from well-known international brands is also available in the city centre from several department stores, such as Galerija Emporium, Maxi and Nama, and countless boutiques. After an interesting day of shopping, visitors can relax in one of the numerous coffee shops scattered all around the city centre.





Traditional Slovenian foods

Traditional Slovenian food products, the best known being the Carniolan sausage, Karst prosciutto, Prekmurje layer cake, Istrian olive oil, and homemade schnapps, are available from a number of delicatessens specialising in Slovenian products. Most of them are located right in the city centre. Numerous shops also sell Slovenian honey and a varied selection of honey products, and there are numerous chocolate shops to tempt you.

Central Market

A perfect place to shop for 'homemade' Slovenian foods is Ljubljana's Central Market, where you can get anything from vegetables grown on small local farms to dry-cured meat products, bread, sweet baked goods, wine, and spirits. An essential spot for all lovers of food and local culture, especially on Saturday, while on Fridays from mid-March to October there's a street food market that simply should not be missed. At this weekly event, called Open Kitchen, visitors can experience the delights of freshly cooked food prepared by different Slovenian chefs right there in front of them, on the market stalls.

Wine shops

Many wine shops offer an entire assortment of wines from Slovenia's three wine-growing regions. A bottle of top Slovenian wine is a nice souvenir or gift, or perhaps you'd prefer a bottle of Slovenian beer, choosing from one of the most famous names or the many microbreweries.

BTC City Ljubljana shopping centre

BTC City Ljubljana is one of the largest shopping centres in Europe, where you can have a one-stop shopping experience, enjoy excellent food, recreation, and entertainment, and even treat yourself to a visit to a water park. Located just 3 km from the city centre and 200 m from the Ljubljana ring road, this is a must-visit destination on anyone's trip. It features 120,000 m2 of shopping area with over 450 stores, 10,000 brands, and 60 restaurants and bars. www.btc-city.com



Shopping Centre Rudnik

Shopping Centre Rudnik is located on the south-eastern edge of Ljubljana, has grown into a vast and still expanding shopping area. Several shopping halls offer mainly furniture, white goods and other household furnishings, cosmetics and food. <https://www.supernova-ljubljana.si/en/>

Shopping Centre ALEJA

In ALEJA you will find more than 80 brands to choose from. On the second floor of ALEJA, you will smell freshly prepared dishes from all over the world, which are just calling for you to try them. <https://aleja.si/en/>

Gifts and Souvenirs

The most interesting of the gifts and souvenirs that visitors can take home to remind them of their visit to Ljubljana and the surrounding region are those connected to the tradition of local arts and crafts. Among the typical Slovenian products are Idrijan lace, Rogaška glass, the painted front boards of beehives, skilfully painted and decorated Easter eggs, gingerbread cookies and gingerbread hearts, wooden items from Ribnica and more. Some ideas for culinary souvenirs are presented on page 39.

Arts and crafts

The city centre features many galleries offering paintings, prints, drawings and more, and visitors can also find different Slovenian arts and crafts products in various outlets – from folk motifs and typical Slovenian products of practical household use, such as potica baking moulds (called potičnice), to high quality decorative products.

During the warmer months there is an Art market and the Artish fair every Saturday, where visitors can buy beautiful and original paintings along part of the Ljubljanica riverside at the former, or visit the latter in Gornji trg square for jewellery or ceramics. Every Sunday there is an antique flea market where visitors can admire interesting objects with historical significance of value to collectors, and find something unique to take home.

Opening times

Shops in Ljubljana are mostly open between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. during the week, and from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays, without lunchtime closing (except for small private shops). All shops are closed on Sundays and public holidays.

A more detailed list of specialised shops is given on www.visitljubljana.com where visitors can also search ideas for shopping according to different categories of products.

Souvenirs

Selected souvenirs of Ljubljana

For those wishing to take a little something of the city home with them, the TIC Ljubljana Shop offers a wide choice of high quality souvenirs of Ljubljana.

The souvenir collections available at the TIC Ljubljana Souvenir Shop are inspired by the symbols and typical features of Ljubljana, along with its history and art. They are made from quality materials and carefully designed, some of them by renowned names in Slovenian design.

The TIC Ljubljana Shop also sells official souvenirs of Slovenia from the 'I Feel Slovenia' collection.

The Little Dragon Ljubo

The souvenirs from this collection, printed with the image of a cute little green dragon, include, short-sleeved T-shirts, magnets, magnetic and wooden puzzles, shopping bags, cups, cereal bowls, kitchen items (microfibre cloth, and an apron) and a school bag. You can also choose a soft, cuddly dragon holding a heart or suitcase, or a key ring with a little dragon.



Makalonca

The souvenirs from the Makalonca collection are quality practical items made using traditional materials such as wood, leather, linen and enamel, as well as modern materials such as polypropylene, which is biodegradable and safe for human health. The collection consists of three lines of products: stationery (pencils, erasers, notebooks, leather pencil cases, etc.), kitchenware (mugs, rustic bowls, table mat and coaster sets, etc.), and daily use items (umbrellas, leather bags, shopping bags, etc.).





Ljubljana with Love

The name Ljubljana sounds very similar to the Slovenian word 'ljubljen', meaning 'the loved one', and many believe that this is not a coincidence. This wordplay has found an expression in the Ljubljana with Love souvenir collection.

The collection includes keychains, ballpoint pens, water bottles and coffee-to-go mugs. Ljubljana is beautiful even in the rain, so the Ljubljana with Love souvenir collection also includes a choice of rain capes and umbrellas, which may come handy when exploring the city on a rainy day.



The scented products of the Ljubljana line

The scented products of the Ljubljana line are natural, aromatic products developed in perfect harmony with the green orientation and sustainable attitude of the city itself. They include 100% natural scent, crafted at Aroma Atelier, using local aromatic plants and the nourishing gifts of nature. The collection consists of three products: home fragrance, body essence and hand cream.



Shop here: <https://shop.visitljubljana.com/en/>

LJUBLJANA CARD

Experience more and save more with Ljubljana Card

The Ljubljana Card offers free entrance to nearly 30 of the main attractions in Ljubljana and several in the surrounding area. It is available in three versions: 24-hours, 48-hours and 72-hours. Card holders are offered free transport: bus rides from/to Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport, city bus trips, the funicular up to Ljubljana Castle and the Urban, electric-powered miniature train around the city. The card also allows visitors to ride for free on boats on the Ljubljanica River, as well as free bicycle rental. The regular scheduled tours of Ljubljana are also free for card holders. The same applies to visiting the best museums and galleries, as well as the Zoo and House of Illusions. In the surrounding area the card offers free entry to the Volčji Potok Arboretum, free all-day soaking at the Terme Snovik spa, and free admission to the Polhov (Dormouse) Adventure Park. By taking advantage of all the benefits, adult cardholders can save up to €190!



PRICES:**24 h**

€36 (adults),

€22 (children 6-14 years)

48 h

€44 (adults),

€27 (children 6-14 years)

72 h

€49 (adults),

€31 (children 6-14 years)

SALES OUTLETS

Ljubljana Tourist Information Centre, major hotels in Ljubljana, Ljubljana Airport and www.visitljubljana.com

INFO

Ljubljana Tourist Information Centre (TIC)
Adamič-Lundrovo nabrežje 2,
SI-1000 Ljubljana,
T: +386 1 306 12 15
E: tic@visitljubljana.si

Entertainment

Ljubljana is lively

Ljubljana is a relaxed city with a leisurely atmosphere where people still know how to sit down and take the time to meet friends and enjoy the beauty of their surroundings.

Few cities of comparable size anywhere in the world have such an intense and eclectic cultural and social life as Ljubljana. As soon as the first warm rays of spring sunshine reach the streets, the locals begin to get together in large numbers at the city's countless cafés and bars with outdoor seating and cool shade. Especially during spring and summer, when the tables don't just line, but actually fill the narrow streets and squares of the Old Town, and street musicians entertain passers-by along the pedestrian areas.

But Ljubljana is lively in the winter months, too! To beat the cold winter days, gas heaters are installed in front of the cafés and bars and it is fascinating to see the banks of the Ljubljanica packed with people drinking mulled wine or mead late into the evening in December.

We invite our visitors to experience Ljubljana the way the locals do when they have a moment to spare, and to sip a cup of coffee or a glass of wine after a busy day. To sit down at one of the numerous cafés and bars or go out on the town at night, when party people of all ages occupy the city's trendy late-night bars and clubs. Those searching for a more alternative scene, featuring club music nights or artistic performances and exhibitions, will also not be disappointed by what the city has to offer.



Let's head out for a drink first

Going out for a drink after dinner or to beat the jet lag is not a problem. There are a lot of small bars all throughout the city centre, often tucked away from direct view from the street. Those looking for a more lively atmosphere should check out the several bigger pubs and clubs in and outside the city centre, with a variety that can accommodate any musical preference.



Clubs and nightlife

Most of the parties and late-night entertainment in Ljubljana take place at the end of the week. The most popular night to hit the town is Friday, when people of all ages visit the city's late-night bars and clubs. At night, even a number of peaceful daytime cafés turn into vibrant party venues hosting DJs and welcoming dancers. Some of the venues where the crowd is big and the atmosphere always lively include Klub Cirkus and Square Club in Kongres trg square. Rock music fans should take a walk to the Orto bar. Those who enjoy electronic dance music should visit Klub K4 on Fridays and Saturdays, which has been delighting clubbers for over 25 years. Genre-specific musical entertainment is also provided by Ljubljana's jazz and ethnic music clubs. Check the entire nightlife offer at www.visitljubljana.com

Metelkova mesto, an alternative culture centre

The place where visitors can get the fullest picture of Ljubljana's underground scene is Metelkova. Once the city's largest squat, it has since developed into one of Europe's best known centres of independent artistic activity. Its numerous clubs, which the locals hit at around midnight, give you an opportunity to party until early in the morning. Interesting concerts featuring of all styles of underground music, club nights with Slovenian and international DJs, LGBTQ clubs, and reasonably priced drinks attract large crowds, especially on days with good weather, when a lot of socialising is done outside the clubs, all across the Metelkova complex. Definitely a unique experience for any visitor to Ljubljana, whatever time of day. www.metelkovamesto.org



Festivals of all kinds and sizes

Ljubljana hosts a rich programme of events, including a large number of well-established open-air festivals, which occupy squares, streets and the Ljubljanica embankments in the summer. See more on page 23.

Social and club dancing in Ljubljana

Ljubljana is a city with a highly developed dance culture, and dancing is a popular way of spending free time. Dance nights with DJs or live music are regularly held at several popular bars, cafés, and other venues, including dance evenings at Ljubljana Castle, Friday 'Let's Dance Together' dance evenings in the Festivalna dvorana hall, dance evenings in Svetovna dvorana Sputnik, or swing dance evenings in the Kavarna Union café (within the Grand Hotel Union Eurostars), which first opened in 1905.

What about a beer?

Ljubljana has a huge amount to offer beer lovers. The choice ranges from renowned international brands to Slovenian brews based on local brewing knowledge. Those who would like to take a selection of their favourite beers home with them and lay in a stock to enjoy later should visit a beer shop and buy a crate or two.

For quite some time Slovenia has had two large breweries. The judgement as to which of the two is better, Union or Laško, is left entirely to you. When exploring local brews, make sure not to miss those from Slovenia's growing number of microbreweries, which produce small amounts of excellent craft beers. Human Fish Brewery, Tektonik, Kratochwill, Pelicon, and Bevog are just a few of the names to look out for if you want to taste some of the must-try brews from Slovenian producers.

Visitors can also go on a guided tour of Ljubljana's beers. www.visitljubljana.com

Casino night

The city's gambling offer is also rather varied. Casino Admiral Ljubljana Center, in the city centre, offers three electronic roulette tables for eight players each and 200 gaming machines, where players can try their luck at blackjack, poker and various slot and video games (<https://www.admiral.si/si/ljubljana-center>).

Another option in the city centre is Casino Rio Central. The casino offers two electric roulette tables and 139 gaming machines, and is open 24 hours a day (www.casino-rio.si). The Casino Admiral, just south of Ljubljana, in Grosuplje, offers three electronic roulette tables seating 28 players, a blackjack table seating seven players, and 165 different gaming machines (www.admiral.si/grosuplje).



Fun activities and games in Ljubljana

Popular escape rooms, which are among the best in the world, treasure hunt games, the House of Illusions, a trampoline centre (Woop) and a hands-on science centre (Hiša eksperimentov) are only some of the fun things not to be missed on your visit. Of course, like any capital Ljubljana also boasts a pleasant, modern Zoo, which is a part of a protected nature park situated just a 20-minute walk from the centre of the city. www.visitljubljana.com



December in Ljubljana

When the city puts on its festive glitter

**From Friday before the first Sunday of Advent
until the beginning of the New Year**

Ljubljana is a wonderful city any day of the year, but in December it takes on an especially magical guise, radiant with festive lights woven into surprising forms that always enchant both residents and visitors. At this time the city squares, streets, bridges and embankments come alive in a truly special atmosphere you won't want to miss.

With a festive fair, where visitors mingle over mulled wine and buy Christmas gifts, numerous events, including concerts by renowned music groups, and special guided tours in the romantic atmosphere, the Old Town becomes the city's main gathering place.

Ljubljana puts on its festive clothes every Friday before the first Sunday of Advent, and only takes them off at the beginning of the New Year.



City tours & experiences

Ljubljana Tourism offers various activities and diverse thematic guided tours and trips, all of which share interesting stories about the city.

Sightseeing tours and a variety of other sightseeing programmes, including special interest itineraries, can be arranged throughout the year at Ljubljana Tourism. In addition to this, a range of regular city tours, which are intended mainly for individual visitors, are also available.

Ljubljana Tourism carries out all prearranged guided tours according to two schedules: between 1 April and 30 September in line with the summer schedule, and between 1 October and 31 March in accordance with the winter schedule. We regularly update the programme and add new contents, so please check our current offer at www.visitljubljana.com

All Ljubljana Tourism guides are professionally qualified and have a valid licence to run tours in Ljubljana. They are also qualified to guide people with special needs.

Ljubljana Tourism team is happy to help any visitor to experience Ljubljana in an authentic and memorable way.



Guided tours and experiences

We offer different guided tours and experiences with licensed guides to introduce and share our city and its stories with you.

Culture and history

- Ljubljana Old Town Walking Tour
- Guided Tour of the Old City Centre and Ljubljana Castle
- City Tour and Boat Cruise along the Ljubljanica
- Ljubljana from the Surface of the Ljubljanica to the Stars above the Castle Hill

Architecture and art

- Walking Tour of Plečnik's Ljubljana
- Bicycle Tour through Plečnik's Ljubljana
- Walking tour of Art Nouveau Ljubljana
- Exploring the Cultural Heritage of the Žale Cemetery

Experiences

- Master Builder Plečnik
- Tourist Boat Cruise

Food and drink

- Ljubljana Beer Experience
- Yummy Market Walk

Green, active and healthy

- Exploring Ljubljana by Bicycle
- Treasures of Tivoli Park
- Green Ljubljana
- Ljubljana Beekeeping Trail Guided Tour

Languages

Guided tours* are available in 15 languages: Slovenian, English, German, Italian, Spanish, French, Croatian, Serbian, Czech, Polish, Hungarian, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Ukrainian and Japanese.

*Depending on availability.

Prices

The price depends on the type and duration of the tour and the size of the group (for a more detailed price list, please contact us).

Daily group tour visitors can sign up for:

Historical City Centre & Ljubljana Castle

Walk through the historical city centre and take a funicular ride to Ljubljana Castle.

Major sights and experiences:

- Historical city centre with its streets and squares
- Ljubljana Castle
- Farmers' market area
- Dragon Bridge

Private and group tours on demand:

Ljubljana Old Town Walking Tour Walk through the historical city centre

Major sights and experiences:

- Historical city centre
- Town Hall and Town Square
- Prešernov trg square
- Plečnik's Cobblers' Bridge

Historical City Centre & Ljubljana Castle

Walk through the historical city centre and take a funicular ride to Ljubljana Castle.

Major sights and experiences:

- Historical city centre with its streets and squares
- Ljubljana Castle
- Farmers' market area
- Dragon Bridge

Sights of Ljubljana & Boat Ride

The perfect combination of learning about the city and enjoying a tourist boat ride along the River Ljubljanica.

Major sights and experiences:

- Historical city centre, bridges, and the works of the architect Jože Plečnik
- A round-trip boat ride with the opportunity to experience the city from a different perspective

Walking Tour of Plečnik's Ljubljana

Learning about the life and work of the greatest Slovenian architect, Jože Plečnik.

Major sights and experiences:

- Plečnik's Covered Market, Cobblers' Bridge, Kongresni trg square, Šance at Ljubljana Castle, National and University Library (NUK)
- A stop for coffee and something sweet
- A visit to Plečnik House

Guided tours

Bookings and enquiries

Detailed information on itineraries, seasonal schedules and rates can be obtained from **Guided Tours Department**
+386 1 306 12 30
info@visitljubljana.si





Custom private tours:

We can create a custom tour according to your guests' preferences, in terms of both content and duration, to make their experience of Ljubljana unique and just for them.

Guided tours and experiences:

Master Builder Plečnik

An epic tour with the architect behind UNESCO's Ljubljana. An intimate experience of the visionary master and his great mind.

Major sights and experiences:

- A lesson in Plečnik's office at the Faculty of Architecture
- Coffee and a snack at the Križanke Outdoor Theatre
- Plečnik sketchbook and pencil
- Picnic in the garden of the Plečnik House
- Small gift for following the all-black dress code



Yummy Market Walk

Enjoying the always lively rhythms of Ljubljana market. Trying some fresh seasonal delights, and starting the day with a proper Ljubljana breakfast.

Major sights and experiences:

- A tasting of local foods
- A tour of the market's hidden corners
- The making of a bouquet of dried flowers
- A Ljubljana breakfast of local ingredients
- A gift

Ljubljana Beer Experience

Exploring the city through beer and learning about the tradition of brewing in Ljubljana and Slovenia.

Major sights and experiences:

- Getting to know Ljubljana's vibrant scene of bars and pubs in the city center
- Tasting sessions of beers and snacks
- Learning about the history of brewing in Slovenia and Ljubljana



CREATIVE HANDICRAFT WORKSHOPS

There are still a few artisans in Ljubljana who are skilled in trades that most people believe have died out. Creative handicraft workshops provide an opportunity to see these trades up close, and to have a go at the art of making items by hand.

Mend your umbrella

Exploring the craft of making and mending umbrellas, a rare and disappearing profession.

Major experiences:

- Meeting Ljubljana's last umbrella maker
- Demonstration of an umbrella maker's profession
- Working on a broken umbrella

Print your own poster in an old print shop

Learning about the work in an old-fashioned print shop and trying your hand at mixing printing inks.

Major experiences:

- Visit to the only relief printmaking studio in Slovenia
- Testing manual skills and printing a poster by using historical printing devices
- Creating a special product, a lasting memento of the experience

A printmaker for a day

Get to know the work process of an old-fashioned print shop using 60-year-old printing presses.

Major experiences:

- Visit to the only relief printmaking studio in Slovenia
- Learning from the master about the traditional equipment, the printing skills and the process of printing
- Making a special product, a lasting souvenir of the experience



Weaving from A to Z

Getting to know the basics of hand-weaving, one of the oldest and most widespread crafts in Slovenia.

Major experiences:

- Experiencing the art of hand-weaving through a demonstration of techniques
- Weaving on a loom, assisted by an experienced weaver
- Making a special souvenir: a woven purse

"Golden Fleece" experience

Learning about the intricate work of a master goldsmith and silversmith.

Major experiences:

- Get to know the craft of goldsmithery from up close, and try your hand at precious metalwork
- Demonstration of silver processing
- Making your own piece of silverwork

The power of a ring

Enjoying the memorable experience of creating unique rings as a symbols of love.

Major experiences:

- Learning about the materials and the processes used in making rings
- Demonstration and assistance with making rings
- Creating unique souvenirs

Open wheel

A crash course for complete beginners, introducing both the

material and process of kneading clay.

Major experiences:

- Learning the steps and processes used in pottery
- Working on a pottery wheel under the guidance of a trained sculptor and ceramic designer
- Making a special souvenir: a bowl

Game for two

Discovering the world of traditional pottery with the loved ones.

Major experiences:

- Learning about pottery and clay modelling on a potter's wheel
- Joining efforts with loved ones to create a clay cup together
- Making a special souvenir as a memory of an unforgettable experience

Creative Handicraft Workshops

Bookings and enquiries

Detailed information on schedules and rates can be obtained from Danijel Omerzel

+386 1 306 45 28;
danijel.omerzel@visitljubljana.si



Ljubljana region trips

Ljubljana's enticing surroundings – so diverse, so amazing and so close!

Ljubljana offers a lively urban atmosphere – but the countryside begins almost within the city, and the further you go from the centre, the more captivating it is. An urban pulse can still be felt in a handful of smaller but charming towns, while the rest of the surrounding area is dotted with villages and hamlets, little hills with churches, wide-open fields and a hilly, forested landscape, bordered to the north by the Kamnik-Savinja Alps.

The city's surroundings offer numerous enticing experiences that are easily and quickly reachable from Ljubljana: there are encounters with cultural and historical features, including ancient stilt-house remains that are on the UNESCO World Heritage list, or the straw hat heritage in Domžale and the birth house of the greatest Slovenian writer Ivan Cankar in Vrhnika, the colourful Volčji Potok Arboretum, the delightful Velika planina in the lap of the Alps with its unique mountain herding tradition, Terme Snovik, the highest-lying thermal spa in Slovenia, castles such as Bogenšperk, Polhov Gradec Manor and Turjak, the famous beekeeping tradition, natural features such as the health-giving Rakitna, the picturesque Pekel gorge and more.

In addition to all this the surroundings of Ljubljana offer numerous options for being active, especially walking and cycling. The area is interlaced with a dense network of hiking trails, and cyclists can choose from among the attractive options for easy or more challenging tests.

For families with children the area offers the exceptionally appealing Fantasy-Adventure Transversal across Slovenia, and the Ljubljana area offers many other such opportunities.

And of course there's the cuisine, which draws on family traditions – the surroundings of Ljubljana feature outstanding family restaurants that will thrill the most demanding foodies.



Some ideas to discover the region

Velika planina

Visitors can experience the Alpine world, herdsmen's traditions and local cuisine on Velika planina, one of the few still functioning high-mountain herdsmen's settlements in Europe, and the largest mountain pasture in Slovenia. It's a great place for hiking and tasting local cuisine.



Velika planina

Sveti Jakob

There are so many options for hiking and biking in the region! Sveti Jakob, an attractive hill topped with the little church, is one of the most popular hiking and biking destinations on the edge of the capital. It is especially attractive in spring and summer, when the meadows below are carpeted with colourful flowers.



Sveti Jakob



Polhov Gradec Mansion

Polhov Gradec Mansion

There are some attractive castles and mansions in the region, including a charming manor house surrounded by the green hills of the "Slovenian Dolomites". The Polhov Gradec Mansion has a beautiful garden, surrounded by old walls. It also hosts the interesting Museum of Post and Telecommunications.

Marsh Pixies Trail to Mali Plac, Ljubljana Marshes

There are some excellent family experiences in the region, such as the Marsh Pixies Trail to Mali Plac. This is a magical place full of unusual flora and fauna. For thousands of years it has been covered by moss that stretches deep into the forest, into the kingdom of the marsh pixies, who are cunning and playful. The "swampiest adventure for the whole family", a fantasy-adventure trail in the boggy, marshy wetland.



Marsh Pixies Trail to Mali Plac



Grič Restaurant and chef Luka Košir

Grič Restaurant and chef Luka Košir

This log cabin restaurant in the village of Šentjošt nad Horjulom is one of Slovenia's finest gastronomic destinations, where the young chef Luka Košir delights connoisseurs of haute cuisine with his modern variations on dishes from the Slovenian countryside, and has won a Michelin star (2021, 2022) and awards for sustainable cuisine.

Slovenia trips

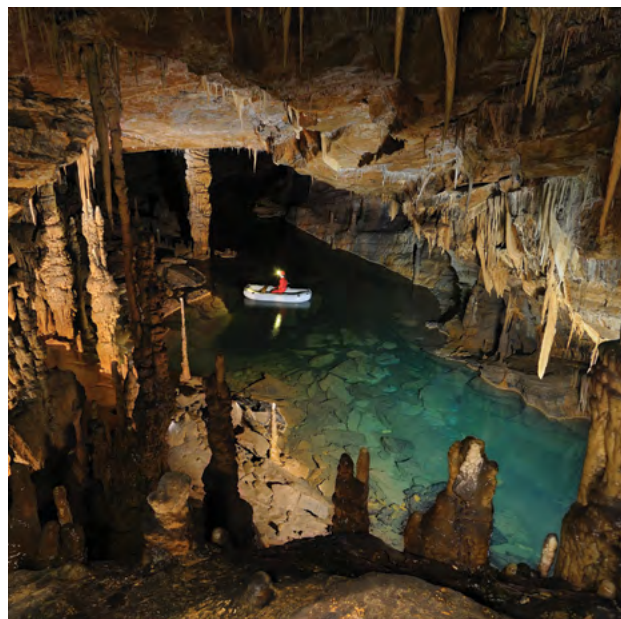
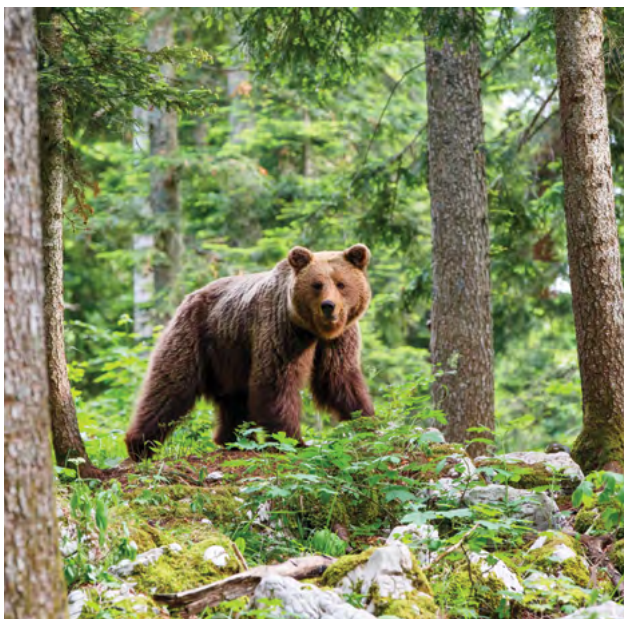
Slovenia at your fingertips

Based in Ljubljana, you can experience many of the varied and beautiful places to be found in Slovenia, the only European country combining the Alps, Mediterranean, Karst, and Pannonian Basin – all in just one day. In the very heart of Slovenia, connecting these diverse geographic landscapes, stands Ljubljana. As the distances in Slovenia are small, the city presents an excellent starting point for exploring the diverse wonders of this beautiful country. Just a short ride to discover the immense diversity of Slovenia – its rich cultural heritage, natural beauty and delicious local gastronomy.

Several organised trips from Ljubljana are available daily – they include most famous pearls of Slovenia, but also some lesser-known, but equally attractive places.

After returning to the city, visitors can take a walk around lively Ljubljana in the evening. Perhaps they will choose a special culinary experience with local flavours, or they can opt for one of the street or prestigious cultural events, or just sit in one of the numerous bars, which also spill out into the streets even during the colder months.

Tourist Slovenia consists of four macro regions: Ljubljana & Central Slovenia, Alpine Slovenia, Mediterranean & Karst Slovenia and Thermal Pannonian Slovenia.



Ljubljana & Central Slovenia stretches from the capital to the south parts of the country. It is a mosaic of urban areas, Alpine landscape, deep forests with their famous inhabitants, brown bears, and traditions, from shepherding heritage to UNESCO World Heritage site of the second largest mercury mine in the world.

Alpine Slovenia is breath-taking – with the mountain ranges, deep forests, alpine lakes, emerald rivers and amazing views. Here you'll find some of the brightest Slovenian gems, such as Bled, Soča Valley and Triglav National Park. But the region offers so much more, from lovely villages and delightful towns, to the vast Pohorje forests.

Mediterranean & Karst Slovenia boasts the coast, a mysterious underground world and some of Slovenia's most well-known wine regions. The journey here will take you from postcard-perfect coastal towns, such as Piran, to the world-famous Postojna Cave and UNESCO's Škocjan Caves with their astonishing underground beauty, to the oldest stable of white Lipizzaner horses and picturesque wine regions, such as Goriška Brda and Vipava Valley.

Thermal Pannonian Slovenia is a paradise of healthy waters with modern spas that include a variety of well-being products and services, and plenty of fun for children. The region is also well known for its old charming towns, castles and convents, traditional tourist farms, great wineries and more.



Accommodation

Ljubljana has a large choice of places to stay

Ljubljana provides a good range of accommodation facilities of all categories and types, with a total of around 3,400 hotel rooms as of 2023. Additional units are available in pensions, bed & breakfasts, short-let apartments, youth and student hostels, and private rooms.

Most hotels are centrally located and either within walking distance or 3 km of the Old Town, top city sights, key institutions, as well as the major meeting and conference facilities.

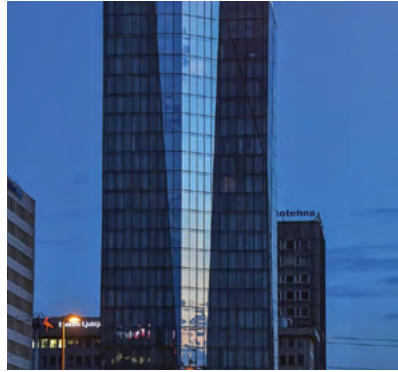
The metropolitan area, with a radius of 20 km from the centre of Ljubljana, offers a further choice of accommodation – from family-run and small business hotels to guesthouses, pensions, motels, short-let apartments, tourist farms, eco resorts and private rooms.



Hotels in Ljubljana



Hotel Intercontinental Ljubljana****
Rooms: 165 / Bed places: 330
 Slovenska cesta 59
 P: +386 1 231 77 72
 E: ljuha.info@ihg.com
www.ihg.com



Grand Plaza Hotel****
Rooms: 354 / Bed places: 354
 Slovenska cesta 60
 P: +386 1 243 01 00
 E: info@grandplazahotel.si
www.grandplazahotel.si



Zlata Ladjica Boutique Hotel****
Rooms: 15 / Bed places: 42
 Jurčičev trg 1
 P: +386 1 421 11 11
 E: hotel@zlataladjica.com
www.zlataladjica.com



Hotel Heritage****
Rooms: 20 / Bed places: 35
 Čevljarjska ulica 2
 P: +386 1 4211 400
 E: welcome@hotelheritage.si
www.hotelheritage.si



Best Western Premier Hotel Slon****
Rooms: 170 / Bed places: 312
 Slovenska cesta 34
 P: +386 1 470 11 00
 E: sales@hotelslon.com
www.hotelslon.com



Hotel Cubo****
Rooms: 26 / Bed places: 60
 Slovenska cesta 15
 P: +386 1 425 60 00
 E: reception@hotelcubo.com
www.hotelcubo.com



Four Points by Sheraton Ljubljana Mons****
Rooms: 236 / Bed places: 500
 Pot za Brdom 4
 P: +368 1 470 27 00
 E: info@fourpointsljubljana.com
www.fourpointsljubljanamons.com

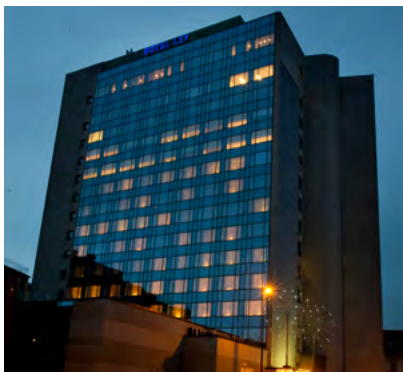


Grand Hotel Union Eurostars****
Rooms: 111 / Bed places: 186
 Miklošičeva cesta 1
 P: +386 1 308 12 70
 E: reservations@grandhotellunioneurostars.com
www.grandhotellunioneurostars.com



Eurostar uHotel****
Rooms: 222 / Bed places: 338
 Miklošičeva cesta 3
 P: +386 1 308 1170
 E: reservations@eurostarsuhotel.com
www.eurostarsuhotel.com

Hotels in Ljubljana

**Hotel Exe Lev********Rooms: 231 / Bed places: 358**

Vošnjakova ulica 1

P: +386 1 308 70 00

E: reservations@exelev.com

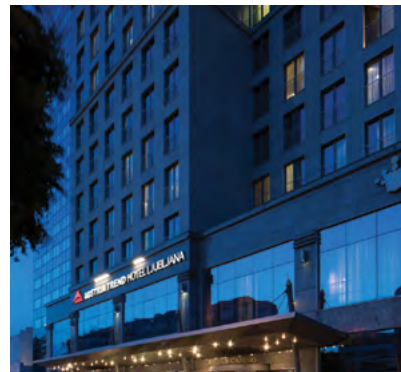
www.exelev.com**Antiq Palace Hotel & Spa********Rooms: 23 / Bed places: 89**

Gosposka ulica 10

P: +386 8 389 67 00,

+386 40 638 163

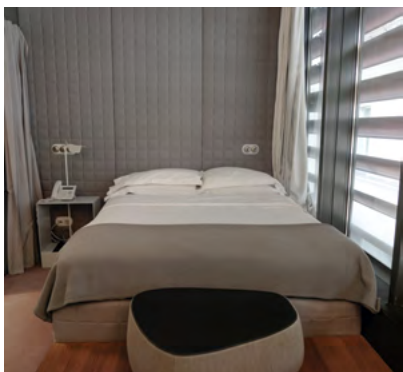
E: reception@antiqpalace.com

www.antiqpalace.com**Austria Trend Hotel Ljubljana********Rooms: 214 / Bed places: 520**

Dunajska cesta 154

P: +386 1 588 25 00

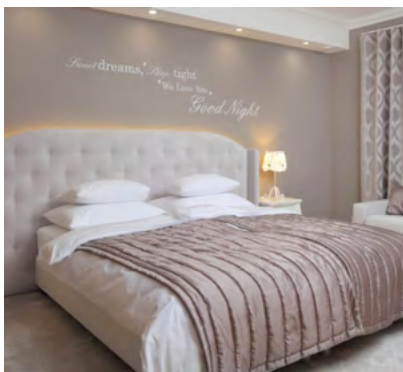
E: reservations.ljubljana@austria-trend.at

www.austria-trend.at/en/hotels/ljubljana**Vander Hotel********Rooms: 20 / Bed places: 40**

Krojaška ulica 6-8

P: +386 1 200 9000

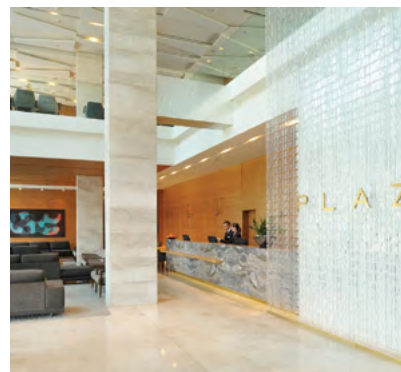
E: reception@vanderhotel.com

www.vanderhotel.com**Hotel Nox********Rooms: 34 / Bed places: 67**

Celovška cesta 469

P: +386 1 200 95 00

E: info@hotelnnox.com

www.hotelnnox.com**Radisson Blu Plaza Ljubljana********Rooms: 237 / Bed places: 474**

Bratislavška ulica 8

P: +386 1 243 00 20

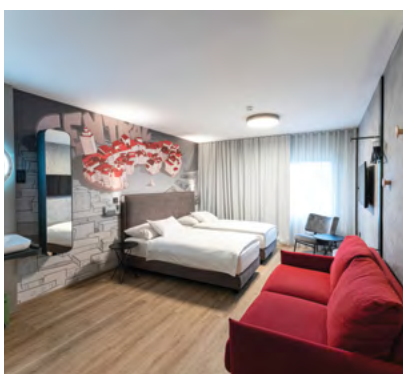
E: info.ljubljana@radissonblu.com

www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-ljubljana**ONE 66 Hotel********Rooms: 95 / Bed places: 192**

Celovška cesta 166

P: +386 1 513 4700

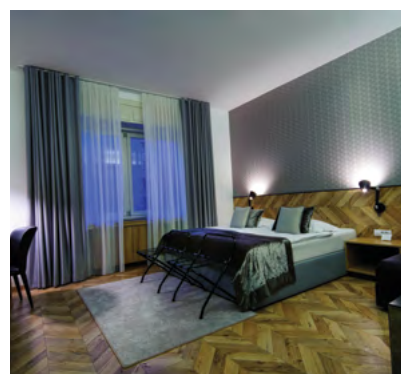
E: info@one66hotel.com

www.one66hotel.com**ibis Styles Ljubljana Centre********Rooms: 90 / Bed places: 180**

Miklošičeva cesta 9

P: +386 31 395 869

E: ch0e6@accor.com

<http://www.centralhotelljubljana.com/>**Urban Hotel********Rooms: 33 / Bed places: 90**

Štefanova 4

P: +386 70 355 000

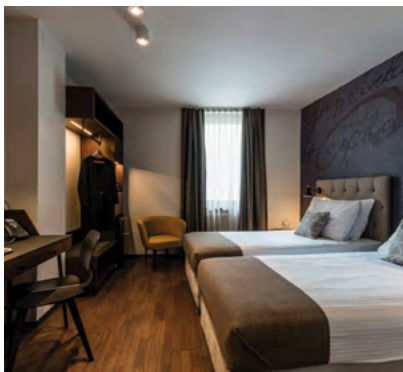
E: info@urbanhotel.si

www.urbanhotel.si

Hotels in Ljubljana



The Hotel ****
Rooms: 39 / Bed places: 78
 Cankrajevo nabrežje 29
 P: +386 1 588 32 00
 E: info@thehotel.si
www.thehotel.si



Hotel Mrak****
Rooms: 33 / Bed places: 72
 Rimska cesta 4
 P: +386 1 421 96 50
 E: info@hotelmrak.si
www.hotelmrak.si



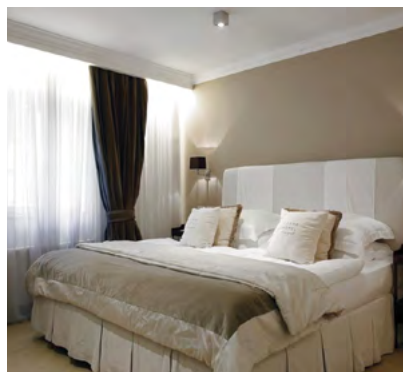
B&B Hotel Ljubljana Park***
Rooms: 215 / Bed places: 390
 Tabor 9
 P: +386 1 300 25 00
 E: ljubljana@hotelbb.com
www.hotel-bb.com



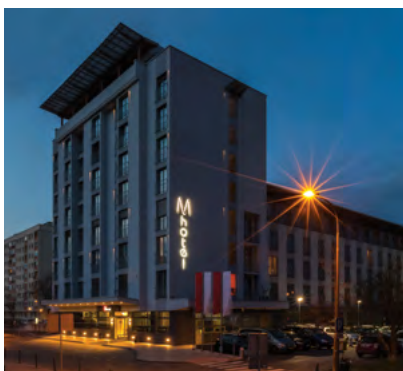
City Hotel Ljubljana***
Rooms: 207 / Bed places: 403
 Dalmatinova ulica 15
 P: +386 1 239 00 00
 E: info@cityhotel.si
www.cityhotel.si



Hotel Emonec***
Rooms: 54 / Bed places: 102
 Wolfova ulica 12
 P: +386 1 200 15 20
 E: hotelemonec@siol.net
www.hotel-emonec.com



Lesar Hotel Angel**
Rooms: 15 / Bed places: 30
 Gornji trg 7
 P: +386 1 425 50 89
 E: info@angelhotel.si
www.angelhotel.si



M Hotel***
Rooms: 137 / Bed places: 240
 Derčeva ulica 4
 P: +386 1 513 70 00
 E: info@m-hotel.si
www.m-hotel.si



Wud Hotel***
Rooms: 25 / Bed places: 59
 Litijska cesta 57
 P: +386 1 548 00 55
 E: info@wudhotel.si
www.wudhotel.si



Hotel Meksiko***
Rooms: 50 / Bed places: 96
 Njegoševa cesta 6k P: +386 1 200 90 90
 E: info@hotel-meksiko.si
www.hotel-meksiko.si

Hotels in Ljubljana region

**Hotel Pok*******Rooms: 16 / Bed spaces: 46**

Podpeška cesta 3, 1351 Brezovica

P: +386 1 365 74 10

E: info@pripoku.com

www.hotelpok.com**Hotel Grosuplje*******Rooms: 39 / Bed spaces: 73**

Ljubljanska cesta 65, 1290 Grosuplje

P: +386 1 781 02 00

E: info@hotelgrosuplje.si

www.admiral.si/si/grosuplje**Hotel Mantova*******Rooms: 22 / Bed spaces: 54**

Cankarjev trg 6, 1360 Vrhnika

P: +386 1 755 75 24

E: info@mantova.si

www.mantova.si**Hotel Rakitna******Rooms: 10 / Bed spaces: 26**

Rakitna 150, 1351 Preserje

P: +386 41 761 756

E: effekt.simenko@siol.net

www.hotelrakitna.com**Ambient Hotel*******Rooms: 73 / Bed spaces: 168**

Aškerčeva cesta 6a, 1230 Domžale

P: +386 8 200 20 00

E: booking@ambienthotel.si

www.ambienthotel.si**Hotel Baron******Rooms: 13 / Bed spaces: 45**

Smlednik 5, 1216 Smlednik

P: +386 1 292 60 80

E: recepcija@hotel-baron.si

www.hotel-baron.si**Hotel Krona*******Rooms: 23 / Bed spaces: 44**

Ihanska cesta 2, 1230 Domžale

P: + 386 1 724 06 00

E: hotel.krona@siol.net

www.hotel-krona.com**Hotel Bistra*******Rooms: 16 / Bed spaces: 35**

Bistra 2, 1353 Borovnica

P: +386 1 750 57 42

E: info@b-bistra.si

www.b-bistra.si**Terme Snovik****Apartments: 65 / Rooms: 31 /
Bed spaces: 329**

Snovik 7, 1219 Laze v Tuhinju

P: +386 1 834 41 00

E: info@terme-snovik.si

www.terme-snovik.si

Useful information

Time zone

Central European Time (GMT+1)

Currency

Euro

Language

Slovenian, and many people speak English, German and / or Italian.

Public holidays

1 and 2 January, 8 February, Easter Monday, 27 April, 1 and 2 May, 25 June, 15 August, 31 October, 1 November, 25 and 26 December

Weather

Slovenia has three distinct climate types: continental, Alpine and sub-Mediterranean. A good part of the country, including Ljubljana, is characterised by a typical European continental climate with warm, dry summers and fairly cold winters, while the coastal areas and the lowlands in the south have a milder climate. Average temperatures: July 21°C, January 0°C.

Electricity

Slovenia uses the so-called European plug with the official designation CEE 7/16. This is the plug with two round pins used in most other European countries.

Units of measurement

Metric - metres, kilometres, grams, kilograms. Temperatures are given in degrees Celsius.

Telephone codes

- Country code: +386
- Ljubljana city code: 1

Credit cards

Major credit cards are widely accepted in all stores.

Important telephone numbers

- Police: 113
- Emergency Reporting Centre (fire and rescue stations): 112
- Ambulance & First Aid: 112
- Medical assistance: +386 (0)1 232 30 60

- Slovene Automobile Club (AMZS): +386 (0)1 530 53 00
- Road emergency and towing service: 1987

Airport

Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport (25 km from Ljubljana),
Phone: +386 (0)4 206 10 00, www.lju-airport.si

Airlines flying to/from Ljubljana

The airlines flying to and from Ljubljana all year are Air France, Air Montenegro, Air Serbia, Brussels Airlines, easyJet, Flydubai, Lot Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Swiss Airlines, Transavia, and Wizz Air. Check the Ljubljana Airport website (www.lju-airport.si) for timetable, destinations and airline details.

Car hire

- ABC Rent a Car d.o.o., Europcar Slovenia, Celovška cesta 268 and City Hotel Ljubljana, Dalmatinova 15, www.europcar.si,
T: +386 (0)59 070 500 also represents National-Alamo
- Atet, www.atet.si, Devova ulica 6,
T: +386 (01) 320 82 30
- Avis Car Rental, www.avis.com, Miklošičeva cesta 3,
T: +386 (01) 421 73 40
- Budget Car Rental, www.budget-slovenia.com,
Miklošičeva 3 (Grand Hotel Union),
T: +386 (01) 421 73 40
- Hertz Car Rental, www.hertz.si, Trdinova 9,
T: +386 (01) 434 01 47
- National Car Rental, www.nationalcar-slovenia.com,
Dunajska 140,
T: +386 (01) 589 08 50
- Sixt, www.sixt.si, Trg OF 6,
T: +386 (01) 234 46 50

Note: all the above car rental companies also have offices at the Jože Pučnik Ljubljana Airport.

Parking in Ljubljana

Parking spaces are marked with a white line. Each street

has a signboard denoting the permitted duration of parking. The parking fee is paid with a parking ticket, which can be obtained from parking machines that are found in many places in the downtown area. Parking is restricted to a maximum of two hours in the inner city centre. You can pay for parking via Urbana app or EasyPark app.

Coaches and tour buses

Coaches and tour buses carrying groups of visitors to Ljubljana can make use of the city's network of drop-off and pick-up points and bus parking areas for day parking. After the passengers have been dropped off in the city centre and taken on a sightseeing tour, the tour bus can park for several hours at the Tivoli I car park or the covered bus parking area at the Stožice Sports Park.

List of coach drop-off and pick-up points (free parking):

- Miklošičeva cesta (N 46° 03' 20.4" / E 14° 30' 27.6"): up to 2 coaches, parking limit 5 minutes
- Dalmatinova ulica (N 46°03'13.1" E14°30'27.5")
- Vilharjeva cesta (N 46° 03' 35.1" / E 14° 30' 34.7"): up to 4 coaches, parking limit 5 minutes

List of coach parks:

- Center Stožice P+R (N 46° 04' 45.9" / E 14° 31' 27.9"): up to 40 coaches, parking fee €2.40 per hour (7:00 a.m.– 7:00 p.m. daily), free at night
- Tivoli I (N 46° 03' 33.0" / E 14° 29' 54.5"): up to 7 coaches, parking fee €4.80 per hour (6:00–20:00 daily), free at night
- Bratislavška cesta (N 46° 04' 13.1" / E 14° 32' 59.6"): up to 17 coaches, parking is free
- P+R Dolgi most (N 46° 02' 11.6" / E 14° 27' 50.7"): up to 7 coaches, parking is free
- Ljubljana Bus Station (N 46° 03' 28.1" / E 14° 30' 28.5"): up to 7 coaches, parking fee €30 per day,



advance booking is required, phone +386 (0)1 23 44 625, prometna@ap-ljubljana.si

Emergency medical services

- For rescue and emergency services call 112

- 24-hour emergency GP services for adults are provided by the Emergency Unit of the Ljubljana University Medical Centre, entrance from the Bohoričeva ulica street, Phone: +386 (0)1 522 46 46

Duty dentist

Day hours

- 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday (all Ljubljana Community Health Centres)

- 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Sunday and public holidays, Central Ljubljana Community Health Centre, Metelkova ulica 9.

Late-night hours

Central Ljubljana Community Health Centre, Metelkova ulica 9, T: +386 (0)1 472 37 18 (21:00–4:00 daily)

Duty pharmacy

The Lekarna pri Polikliniki duty pharmacy is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Njogoševa cesta 6k, T: +386 (0)1 230 61 00

Petrol stations

Petrol stations open 24 hours a day: Dunajska 130, Tivolska 43, Šmartinska 130, Celovška 226, Tržaška 130, Cesta dveh cesarjev 71, Zaloška 60 a

Public transport

Those wishing to travel on Ljubljana city buses, operated by the Ljubljanski potniški promet (LPP) public utility company, should purchase an Urbana public transport card. An Urbana card is available from LPP ticket offices, tourist information centre and most of the city's newspaper kiosks, newsstands and post offices.

The card is priced at €2 and can store up to €50 of credit to be spent on city bus fares. A single journey fare is €1.30. It covers an up to 90-minute journey regardless of the number of bus changes required to reach the destination. The LPP bus service network is divided into three zones. The entire city area is within the LPP Zone 1.

Visitors to Ljubljana who purchase their Urbana card from a Tourist Information Centre and keep the

receipt can return the card to the place of purchase when they no longer need it and claim a €2 refund.

Ljubljana Card

The Ljubljana Card entitles the card holders to free admission to almost 30 attractions, unlimited free travel on city buses, a regular guided tour of the city, use of the city's wireless internet network, a free tourist boat cruise, and a free funicular and tourist road train ride to Ljubljana Castle.

Public toilets

Public toilets at the Ljubljana Railway Station and within the city centre are free. You can find public toilets below most of Ljubljana's bridges and in a number of other locations. Most of the toilets have access for persons with limited mobility.

Value added tax refund

Numerous shops advertising "Tax-Free Shopping" in their windows make it possible for visitors from non-EU countries to receive a refund of value added tax paid on a minimum of €50 worth of goods purchased in a single shop within a single day on the condition that the goods are taken outside the country within three months from the purchase date.

Bringing in cash

There are no restrictions on bringing cash into Slovenia for citizens of an EU Member State, but citizens of another country may bring a maximum of €10,000 in cash. Larger amounts must be declared to customs officials.

Banks opening times

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Some banks close their offices at noon for one hour.

ATMs

Visitors can withdraw cash 24 hours a day from most of the ATMs around Ljubljana and Slovenia using the MasterCard, Visa, Maestro, Cirrus and Visa Electron Plus cards. In addition to cash withdrawals, many ATMs offer other services.

Changing money

Changing money is possible at banks, exchange offices, hotel receptions, tourist agencies, petrol stations and major shopping centres.

Mobile network

The most developed networks are those of Telekom, Telemach and A1. These are also Slovenia's largest mobile operators. Slovenia has 4G mobile coverage with 5G network expanding quickly. Mobile networks can be unavailable in more remote areas, such as mountains and caves.

Purchase of a SIM card and mobile telephone

For those coming from a country outside the EU, where their mobile operator charges a high price for calls to and from Slovenia, it may be a good idea to buy a Slovenian SIM card. The offer is wide, and visitors can buy a SIM card for as little as €5.

Radio channels

Current information in English and German is broadcast by Radio Si - Radio Slovenia International (FM 91.1, 93.4, 102.8), the first and only foreign language radio channel operating as part of RTV Slovenia. Information in foreign languages is also sometimes broadcast by all three channels of Radio Slovenia, which is a national public radio station. They are Radio Slovenia 1, Radio Slovenia 2 - Val 202, and Radio Slovenia 3 - Ars.

Getting to Ljubljana

Ljubljana is in the heart of Europe

Ljubljana lies halfway between Vienna and Venice, at the crossroads of different geographical regions. Its location within a convenient two-hour flight from the major European airports makes it an easily accessible destination.

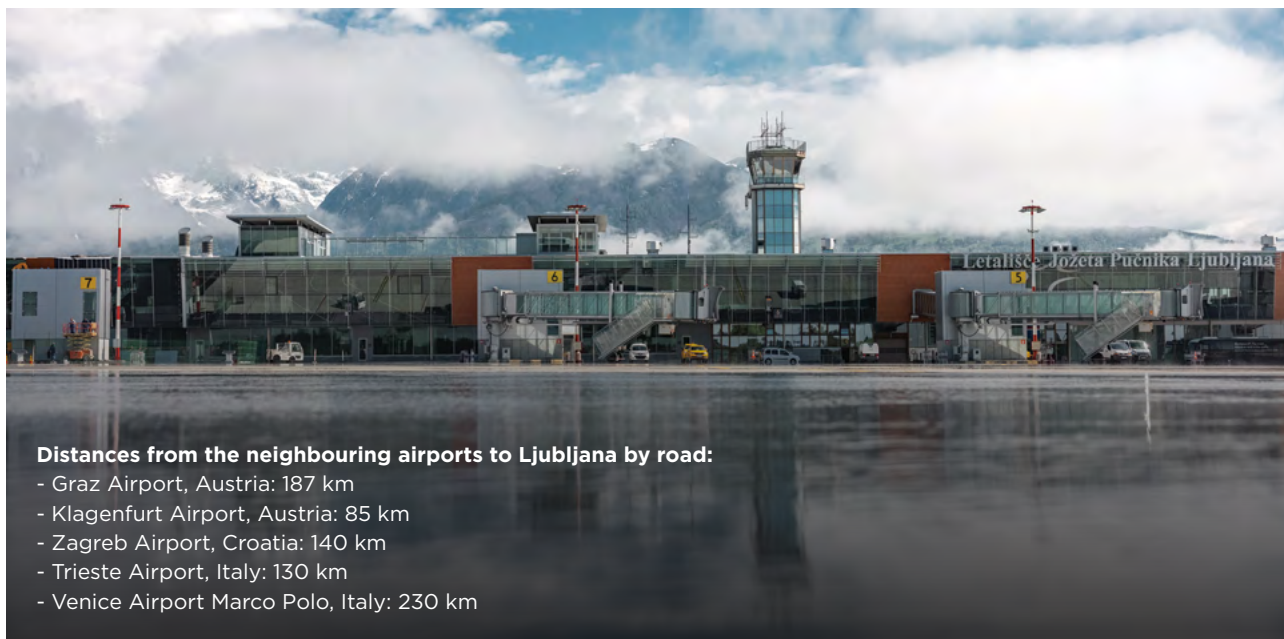
By airplane

Jože Pučnik Ljubljana Airport

All flights to and from Ljubljana are operated through the Jože Pučnik Ljubljana Airport, which is located 25 km north of the city centre. Connections to Ljubljana Airport are operated all year round by the following regular and low-cost airlines: Air France, Air Montenegro, Air Serbia, Brussels Airlines, easyJet, flydubai, Lot Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Swiss Airlines, Transavia, Turkish Airlines, and Wizz Air. The following airlines offer seasonal connections to Ljubljana Airport: Aegean, British Airways, Finnair, and Isirair. The airport facilities include: two restaurants, information and meeting points, a bank and a post office, two conference rooms, the business lounge, two souvenir shops, a duty-free shop, tourist information desk, medical service, and several bars and cafés. Visit the website to check information on all currently available scheduled flights. www.lju-airport.si

Connections from Ljubljana Airport to the city of Ljubljana

Good public transport connections to Ljubljana and nearby towns are available from Ljubljana Airport. Numerous rent-a-car, taxi and shuttle services are also available. For contact numbers and details of all options check www.lju-airport.si. Any location in the city of Ljubljana is easily accessible from Ljubljana Airport, as well as all neighbouring international airports via GoOpti buses and shuttles (www.goopti.com). Visitors can also check MNJ shuttle (www.mnj.si), Markun shuttle (www.markun-shuttle.com) or ZUP prevozi (www.zup-prevozi.eu) and Nomago Shuttle (info@nomago.si).



Distances from the neighbouring airports to Ljubljana by road:

- Graz Airport, Austria: 187 km
- Klagenfurt Airport, Austria: 85 km
- Zagreb Airport, Croatia: 140 km
- Trieste Airport, Italy: 130 km
- Venice Airport Marco Polo, Italy: 230 km

By car

Slovenia has an efficient road system. The motorway hub enables swift access from the border crossings with Italy, Austria and Hungary towards Ljubljana. Motorways are complemented by a good network of main roads and regional roads.

By rail

Railway travel is convenient and inexpensive. There are regular train connections to several countries around Europe. For more information about international and local train timetables and the museum train please visit the Slovenian Railways website. www.slo-zeleznice.si

By bus

It is convenient to travel by bus to all over the country. The Ljubljana Bus Station also offers regular services to all neighbouring countries and the most popular tourist destinations within Slovenia, such as Bled and Bohinj, Postojna Cave, the coastal towns of Portorož and Piran, and more. The city's public transportation network is complemented by more than 30 suburban buses, which link Ljubljana to its close surroundings. www.ap-ljubljana.si

Visa Information

Foreign citizens must enter Slovenia with a valid passport and a visa or residence permit, unless otherwise stipulated by law or international agreement. Slovenia has been a part of the Schengen zone since 2007, and thus EU/EEA citizens do not need a passport to enter the country, only a valid identity card. Any foreign citizen who does not have a special permit to enter the country may stay for not more than 90 days within a period of 180 days. More information on how to obtain a visa is available at the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia. www.mzz.gov.si

Moving around

The public city bus network makes it easy to travel within Ljubljana. You can purchase Urbana Smartcard before using public transport (available from LPP ticket offices, tourist information centre and most of the city's newspaper kiosks, newsstands and post offices). An alternative is simply downloading the Urbana+ app (available for Android and iOS), which allows using public transport, as well as street parking, and Ljubljana Card. A single journey fare covers a trip of up to 90 minutes, regardless of the number

of bus changes needed to reach the destination.

<https://www.lpp.si/en>

Holders of the Ljubljana Card are entitled to use the city bus network free of charge.

<https://www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/travel-information/ljubljana-card/>

The BিকেLJ public bicycle system is available across the wider Ljubljana city centre. Bicycles can be hired very cheaply, and for short journeys, of less than an hour, for free.

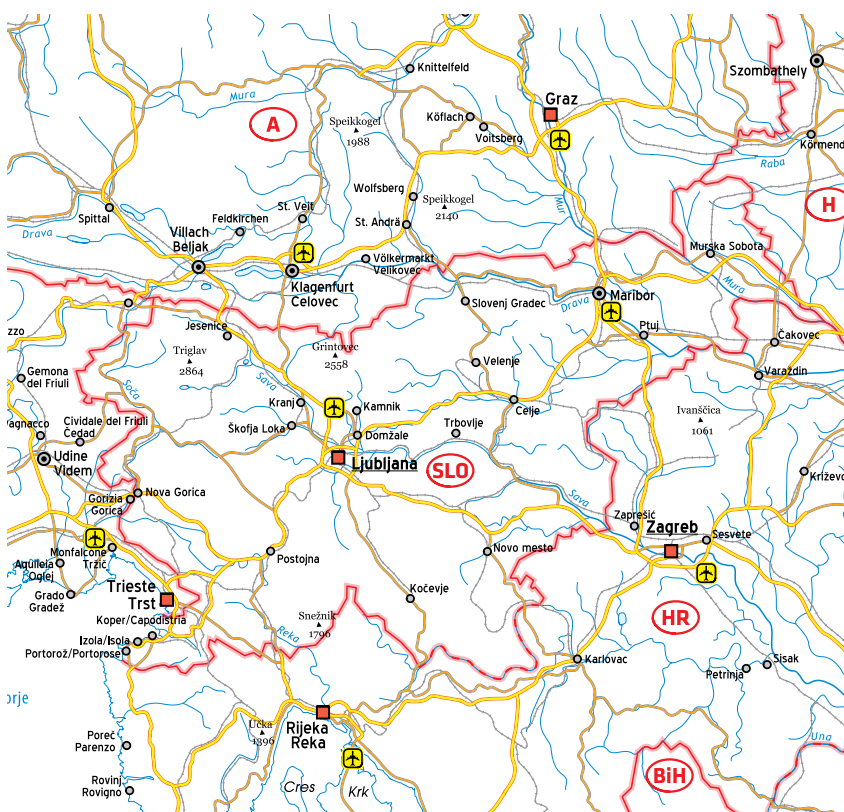
www.bicikelj.si

Urban electric train

A unique and environmentally friendly electric train called Urban will take you on an attractive circular tourist trail, which connects the main city attractions. An audio guide is available in English, German, Italian, Croatian, French, Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, Mandarin Chinese and Slovene.

Ljubljana also has a well-organised taxi service. There are various fixed taxi rank locations in the city, but the fare is cheaper if you order a taxi by phone.

www.visitljubljana.com



From	
Villach (A)	E 651
Klagenfurt (A)	E 652/E 61
Graz (A)	E 57/E 59
Trieste (I)	E 61/E 70
Zagreb (Hr)	E 70
Budapest (H)	E 57/E 71

Distances	
Amsterdam	1,230 km
Budapest	570 km
Belgrade	540 km
Berlin	995 km
Brussels	1,180 km
Frankfurt	800 km
London	1,490 km
Madrid	2,040 km
Milan	500 km
Moscow	2,290 km
Munich	400 km
Paris	1,250 km
Prague	650 km
Rome	750 km
Stockholm	2,080 km
Venice	245 km
Vienna	375 km
Zagreb	135 km
Zürich	710 km

TIC, TOs & DMCs

Tourist Information Centre in Ljubljana, managed by Ljubljana Tourism

Ljubljana Tourist Information Centre - TIC

Information and tourism publications (brochures, maps, tourism literature) on Ljubljana and Slovenia • Ljubljana Card
 • Regular and pre-booked sightseeing tours, tourist train rides, boat tours • Booking of tours/ excursions • Tickets for cultural, entertainment, sports and other events • TIC Ljubljana Souvenir Shop - specialised shop within the TIC premises (more on page 44).

Opening hours

- 1 October - 31 May: daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 - 1 June - 30 September: daily from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adamič-Lundrovo nabrežje 2, SI-1000 Ljubljana

+386 1 306 12 15

tic@visitljubljana.si

A selection of incoming specialists - Tour Operators and DMCs

Argonavt

Sinja Gorica 11, SI-1360 Vrhnika
 +386 1 750 43 64
info@argonavt.si
www.argonavt.si

Ekorna Travel

Litijska 43, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 40 935 093
info@ekorna.net
www.ekorna.com

Happy Tours

Breznikova 15, SI-1230 Domžale
 +386 5 907 82 00
info@happytours.eu
www.happytours.eu

Imperial Luxury Travel Solutions

Tavčarjeva 5, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 888 85 00
luxuryslovenia@imperial.si
www.luxuryslovenia.eu

Kompas d.d.

Dunajska 117, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 200 63 00
info@kompas-online.net
www.kompas-online.net

M&M Turist

Šmartinska 152, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 244 25 30
info@mm-turist.si
www.mmturist.si

Palma

Verovškova 55a, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 513 36 71
incoming@palma-travel.eu
www.palma-travel.eu

Renee Tours Incoming & DMC

Rožna dolina c. XVII/15, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 423 57 42
info@renee.si, info@slovenia-dmc.si
www.reneetours.si

Roundabout

Pražakova 8, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 51 601 601
info@travelroundabout.com
www.travelroundabout.com

Promet T&T

Celovška 73, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 519 35 11
info@promet-tt.si
www.smarteuropetravel.com

Slovenia Explorer

Celovška 69c, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 40 555 656
info@slovenia-explorer.com
www.slovenia-explorer.com

Intours DMC

Breg 10, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 430 35 50
info@intours-dmc.si
www.intours-dmc.com

Liberty Adriatic

Dunajska 109, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 232 11 71
slovenia@liberty-int.com
www.liberty-adriatic.com

DT Slovenia

Bravničarjeva 13, SI-1000 Ljubljana
 +386 1 620 96 54
info@dt-slovenia.com
www.dt-slovenia.com

Ljubljana Tourism

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Your professional destination contact

Ljubljana Tourism is the top source of objective and qualified information on the tourism offer and services available in the greater Ljubljana area.

Ljubljana Tourism, established in 2001 by the Municipality of Ljubljana, is the official DMO encompassing the territory of the capital and its wider area (the Ljubljana Region). It is the top source of neutral and qualified information on the tourism offer and services available in the greater Ljubljana area.

Ljubljana Tourism's tasks include investment in tourism infrastructure, operation of guided city tours, tourist guide training, event management, publication of tourist brochures and leaflets, presentation of Ljubljana and its region at tourism trade fairs and other marketing events, and the maintenance of the Visit Ljubljana tourism website, the official guide to Ljubljana and Ljubljana Region. Tourism Ljubljana also runs the city's Tourist Information Centre and Ljubljana Tourism Convention Bureau.



Do not hesitate to contact us for any assistance needed, and we will be pleased to present you with all the qualities Ljubljana has as a leisure travel and convention destination:

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There is also a manual for meeting planners available (A Key to Ljubljana – For Meeting Planners)

Ljubljana Tourism

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Facts & figures

Slovenia & Ljubljana

Slovenia in summary

Population:	2,108,732
Position:	Slovenia is a Central European country
Area:	20,273 km ²
Government:	Slovenia is a democratic republic, founded on the principle of the separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial branches.
Capital city:	Ljubljana
Other major cities:	Maribor, Kranj, Celje, Koper, Novo mesto, Velenje, and Murska Sobota
International affiliations:	Slovenia has been a member of the European Union since 1 May 2004, and of NATO since 7 April 2004. It is also a member of many other international organisations.
The Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (WEF):	Ranked 36th out of 136 countries.
Global Peace Index (2021):	Ranked as the 5th safest country in the world out of 163 countries.
Global Terrorism Index (2022):	Ranked 93rd, in last place, with no impact of terrorism.
Time:	Central European Time, GMT+1, in summer GMT+2
Average annual temperature (2022):	0.8°C
Average January temperature (2022):	0.6°C
Average July temperature (2022):	21.6 °C
Administrative division:	12 statistical regions, 58 administrative units, 212 municipalities.
Official language:	Slovenian, plus Hungarian and Italian in their respective ethnically mixed areas.
Religion:	The majority of the population is Roman Catholic, but Slovenia also has 63 other officially registered religious communities.
Currency:	The euro (EUR), valid since 1 January 2007.
GDP per capita (2021):	EUR 24,770
Registered unemployment rate:	7.1%
Average age (2020):	43.8 years
Life expectancy:	Men 78 years, women 84 years
Average number of children born per woman (2021):	1.6
Universities:	Ljubljana, Maribor, Primorska and Nova Gorica
Length of borders:	330 km with Austria, 280 km with Italy, 102 km with Hungary and 670 km with Croatia – in total 1,382 km.
Length of coastline:	46.6 km
Highest peak:	Triglav, 2,864 m
Longest tourist karst cave:	Postojna Cave, 24 km
Largest surface area natural lake:	Lake Cerknica (intermittent), 26 km ²
Largest protected area:	Triglav National Park, 83,982 ha
Geometric centre of Slovenia:	Vače

Tourist sights on the UNESCO World Heritage Lists:

Natural heritage: Škocjan caves, ancient and primeval beech forests of the Carpathians and other regions of Europe – Krokavci and Snežnik-Ždrecle. Cultural heritage: Heritage of mercury – Idrija, prehistoric pile dwellings around the Alps – Ljubljana Marshes, the works of Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana – human centred urban design. Intangible Heritage of Humanity: Škofja Loka Passion Play, bobbin lacemaking in Slovenia, three door-to-door rounds of Kurenti, and dry-stone walling.

Slovenian EDEN (European Destinations of Excellence) sites:	Soča Valley (2008), Solčavsko (2009), Kolpa River (2010), Idrija (2011), Laško (2013), Brda (2015), Koper (2017), Podčetrtek (2019), Kranj (2023).
Average height above sea level:	556.8 m
Number of tourist overnight stays (2021):	11,251,158
Number of tourists (2021):	4,003,682
Number of tourist beds (2021):	182,136



LJUBLJANA IN NUMBERS

1,336,600	Tourist overnight stays (2021)
293,218	Residents (2022)
137,280	Length of the City of Ljubljana boundary (in m)
8	Certificates for sustainable tourism
37,509	Students at the University of Ljubljana (2022/2023)
10,000+	Number of events per year
16,376	Tourist beds (2021)
42.6	Average age (2020)
542	The per capita green space provision (in m ²)
298	Metres above sea level
275	Square kilometres (surface area)
117	Mayors
47	Diplomatic missions
68	Bridges
820	Bicycles in the BicikeLJ system
42	Area (in %) of the Municipality of Ljubljana covered by forests
37	Galleries
30	Fountains
26	Member institutions of the University of Ljubljana
20	Dragons on the Dragon Bridge
15	Museums
12.0	Average annual temperature (°C) (2022)
24.4	Average July temperature (°C) (2022)
0.8	Average January temperature (°C) (2022)
1,257	Average annual rainfall (in mm) (2021)
9	Theatre groups
4	Nature parks
4	Symphony orchestras
2	Rivers
01	Telephone code

More interesting information can be found on the website of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia: www.stat.si



Ljubljana on social networks

Connect to Ljubljana Tourism
via social networks and
follow our activities on the internet.

Follow us on:

www.facebook.com/visitljubljana
www.twitter.com/visitljubljana
www.youtube.com/user/TourismLjubljana
www.instagram.com/visitljubljana
www.tiktok.com/discover/Visitljubljana



Ljubljana