

SLOVENIA & CROATIA, two neighbouring Carnica-bee countries

Api Carnica Tour

Slovenian & Croatian Istria

Through combining the highlights of two neighboring 'carnica' countries on the Adriatic coast you may experience a very unique tour, which includes the visits of local beekeepers, queen breeders and beekeepers' association, but most important of all – enjoying the most beautiful beaches, amazing national park, lovely city atmosphere and Mediterranean culinary, such as olive oil and wine.



Day 01 Arrival to Ljubljana – Guided tour in Ljubljana

Arrival in Slovenia. Guided tour in Ljubljana, Slovenian capital city with its medieval old town, rich Baroque and Renaissance architecture, museums, galleries, etc. We enjoy a walk through the old city centre, across the Triple Bridge designed by the well-known Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik, follow the path down to the cathedral, past Francesco Robba's fountain and the town hall, from where we will take the funicular up to the town castle. Drive to Ljubljana. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 02 Slovenian Beekeepers' Association – Visit to a beekeeper – Bled – Ljubljana

Our first visit is Slovenian Beekeepers' Association, which was established 140 years ago, and comprises 200 beekeeping societies. A significant part of their efforts are dedicated to informing the general public about the importance of beekeeping. Introducing with the activities of the Center, multivision presentation, visit of plantation of nectar producing plants and bee hives, built in unique Carniolian style. Next, we make a stop to our first beekeeper. Introduction to their activities followed by a tasting of their products, particularly the famous honey brandy and innovative beetroot honey, which has medicinal uses. Continuing the trip to magnificent lake Bled - one of the most beautiful Alpine resorts in Europe. Optional: boat ride with the traditional wooden boat "pletna" to the small island on Lake Bled. Ring a "good luck bell" at St. Mary's. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 03 Ljubljana – Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle – Typical Karst village – Visit to a beekeeper, specialized in migratory beekeeping – Slovenian coast

Departure to Postojna cave, the largest cave in the "classic karst" and the most visited show cave in Europe with 20 kilometers of passages, galleries and chambers. Ride with electrical train through the marvellous underground world. Next stop is at nearby Predjama castle with dramatic setting in the gaping mouth of a cavern halfway up a cliff. Drive to the Karst, a picturesque region, which is covered with olive trees and vineyards and more than 11.000 karst caves, sinkholes, and solution valleys, which makes it very unique. Visit one of the most beautiful authentic Karst village. Visit to a beekeeper, specialized in migratory beekeeping with tasting of bee products and sharing experiences. Dinner and overnight in hotel on the Slovenian coast.



Day 04 Piran – Salt pans of Sečovlje – Croatian Istria : Motovun – Wine & olive oil tasting with other Istrian delicacies – Rovinj

Piran is a very special city. It is the best preserved cultural monument of Slovenian Istria and the closest neighbour of Portorož, the luxurious city of flowers. Throughout time, Piran maintained the clustered medieval structure narrow winding streets; houses huddled close together, rising in cascades, the contact with the sea, numerous squares and churches. Visit to the Sečovlje saltworks with a tour of the Museum of Salt Making. The Salt pans of Sečovlje is a nature park and an open-air museum in one. It is the only surviving salt works where sea salt is still harvested using a traditional method first used in the 14th century. Croatian Istria, one of the most popular destinations for foreign visitors. With a strong Italian influence this certainly is a beautiful region with its pretty hilltop towns. Our first stop will be in Motovun, the most famous medieval hilltop towns in Istria, overlooking splendid Mirna River Valley. We'll visit a winery there. Istrian wine is nowadays unique symbol that truly defines the Istrian identity. You will taste some great wines and enjoy them combined with Istrian delicacies, such as Istrian ham, extra-virgin olive oil, truffles. Short drive to Rovinj. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 05 Rovinj – Pula – Visit to a beekeeper & wine producer – Opatija

Rovinj is well known for its Venetian baroque architecture with narrower, cobbled streets, and famous for the St Euphemia cathedral, the highest church tower in Istria at 61 metres high. We proceed to Pula with numerous monuments of Roman architecture. Visit to the famous Roman Forum, Hercules' Gate and Twin Gates, the Temple of Augustus,... in the town centre. Next stop will be at the beekeeper and wine producer. Presentation of his beekeeping with honey & wine tasting. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Opatija, Croatia's first true resort town famous for its grand neo-baroque and rustic Italian-style villas on every side, a multi-cultural collage of pink walls, fluted columns, fading red tiles, grand staircases, and tiny balconies facing the sea. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 06 Opatija – Visit to an eco-beekeeper – Company for production of beekeeping products – Zagreb

A visit to eco beekeeper. Demonstration of his beekeeping technique, visit of the beehives, honey bottling room... tasting of their products. Visit to a social responsible and innovative company, specialised in beekeeping, that grew out of a family tradition of beekeeping beginning in 1930, thus making it the oldest private bee and apitherapy product producer in Croatia. The wealthy tradition and innovative practices in beekeeping are interwoven into each one of their products, and the knowledge obtained is constantly invested into the quality, research and development of new products. Introduction to the activities of the company and visit of the beehives, located nearby. Tasting of their products. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Zagreb.

Day 07 Sightseeing in Zagreb – Departure

Walking tour in Zagreb with local guide, including the fortified Upper Town, the city's historical center, St. Mark's Church with its multi-coloured roof, the Cathedral, the Croatian National Theatre and the University... City is full of enjoyable architecture, nature and charming history.

Departure.

Package price from:

599 EUR

Price calculated in December 2015. Price is per person,
based on twin room.

Included in the price:

- ✓ Transportation in air-conditional coach in Slovenia & Croatia
- ✓ Tourist tax
- ✓ 6 nights in hotel 3* on twin rooms
- ✓ 6 buffet breakfasts
- ✓ 6 dinners in hotel (no drinks)
- ✓ Entrances and fees as per program
- ✓ English speaking guide
- ✓ Organisation and assistance

Not included:

- ✓ Transportation to and from Slovenia
- ✓ Transfer to and from airport
- ✓ Supplement for single room
- ✓ Lunches
- ✓ Drinks
- ✓ Entrances and fees: Boat «pletnea», funicular to the town castle in Ljubljana
- ✓ Assurance in case of sickness before departure
- ✓ Everything not listed in «Included»

* Final price depends on the number of passengers, on the confirmed date, hotels and services.

* Specialised beekeepers visits are made upon your request and interests.

Have a great Api tour!