

**SLOVENIA**, the land of excellent beekeeping practices

## Short Api Slovenia Tour

### The Carniola Region

Slovenia lies in the centre of Europe, where the Alps meet the Mediterranean area and the Karst changes into sumptuous forests. You will be captivated by the blue Adriatic Sea and the mysterious Karst with its subterranean caves. The beautiful world of the mountains, nature parks, ravines, plateaus and crystal clean waters which pour in picturesque lakes will amaze you. Picture the wealth of the thermal and mineral wells – a source of health and relaxation, picturesque vineyards on the spurs of hills, quality wine and excellent food, attractive cities, medieval monasteries and castles, illuminated churches on hilltops and hospitable people with open arms and a smile.



#### Day 01 Arrival to Ljubljana

Arrival in Slovenia. Dinner and overnight in Ljubljana.

#### Day 02 The beekeeping centre – Lake Bled – Visit to a beekeeper – Apicultural museum

Our first stop is at The beekeeping centre of Gorenjska. The main tasks carried out at the centre involve the preservation of the indigenous Carniolan bee as well as raising awareness of its significance and of the close link between bees and a clean environment. Its own production facilities provide for a high quality of honey products. Presentation of the activities, a visit to api wellness facilities, typical Slovenian bee house and a shop with different bee products. Drive to Bled, a natural treasure, one of the most beautiful Alpine resorts in Europe with the legendary island in the middle of the lake. You can reach the island by taking a ride in a large covered boat, called “pletna” especially if you would like to make a wish by ringing the bell at the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on the island. Our next stop is visit to a beekeeper. Introduction with the beekeeping, a visit to the bee hive with plantation of nectar producing plants and escaped swarm (also short multivision). Tasting of their api products. Slovenian beekeeping heritage is presented in Apicultural museum in Radovljica, with a special emphasis on the 18th and 19th centuries. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

#### Day 03 Slovenian Beekeepers' Association – Visit to a queen breeding station – Ljubljana

The Slovenian Beekeepers' Association 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 Centre, multivision presentation with emphasis of latest activities, visit of plantation of nectar producing plants and bee hives, built in unique Carniolian style. Next stop is dedicated to a young beekeeping family that carries on the long beekeeping tradition. They produce honey, pollen, royal jelly and propolis, but rearing queens has become their main activity. Most of 4.000 mated queens per year are sold abroad, even to Japan. We will take a tour of their bee farm and queen-rearing station, observe the rearing procedures and sample their products. Possibility to buy the products.

**Day 04 Ljubljana – Departure**

Breakfast and departure.

*Specialised beekeepers visits are made upon your request and can include: visiting Carniolian queen breeding station with possibility of buying queens, specialized beekeeping equipment store, professional trainings in field of beekeeping and meetings with professionals, observing master beekeeper at work, honey massage, learn honey-inspired baking, join beehive front panel painting, visiting store with bee products and api cosmetic, ...*

*A special care for the creativity and relaxation of the ladies accompanying men beekeepers on Api excursion: during the professional visits ladies can treat themselves with spa treatments, by visiting a herb farm, different workshops, such as making products of honey dough, pottery, bread-making, shopping, ...*

Package price from:

**309 EUR**

Price calculated in February 2016. Price is per person, based on twin room.

**Included in the price:**

- ✓ Transportation in air-conditional coach in Slovenia
- ✓ 3 nights in hotel 3\* on twin rooms
- ✓ Tourist tax
- ✓ 3 buffet breakfasts
- ✓ 3 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 «pletna», 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.*

**Have a great Api tour!**