

# PRIVATE TOUR - WOODEN CHURCHES OF SLOVAKIA 2024





## ABOUT THIS TRIP

7 DAYS / 1 COUNTRY / UNESCO SIGHTS / LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: EASY

Enjoy the special private tour – Wooden Churches of Slovakia. This tour is focused on the wooden churches located in Central and Eastern Slovakia. Immerse to an interesting history of these unique churches, hear the fascinating stories from the local guides, see their interiors, take pictures and of course, enjoy Slovakia.

Enjoy gastronomical delights in Koliba restaurants full of traditional Slovak meals, drinks and desserts. Try excellent Slovak wine. Get familiar with Slovak customs, arts and local crafts.

Our top priority is the exclusive customer care. From the very first email, through the entire booking process, during your lovely tour and up to your departure – we will always take care of your highest comfort, the attention to details, your safety, your special requests and that your tour is enjoyable and memorable.

As it is essential to have a top tour guide while you are enjoying your lovely holiday, our guide-drivers are native Slovaks, highly qualified, licensed experts with vast knowledge of the history of Slovakia with excellent English skills, driving skills, a strong personal touch with sense of humor. They are friendly and always ready to help you and make your stay a lovely and unique experience.

Our vehicles are new, fully equipped luxury vans Mercedes Benz V class, for up to 7 travelers. They offer the highest possible comfort. Enjoy our luxury suites on the wheels. For larger groups, our partner agency offers Setra 30 seaters and 50 seaters.



Peter & Jane Blazicek / Best Slovakia Tours – Travel Team

# YOUR TOUR ITINERARY

Slovakia has unique wooden churches, located mostly in the eastern part of the country. On this tour we'll see not only the must-to-see (such as Hronsek, Hervartov), but also the „out-of-the-beaten track“, the hidden churches in the remote villages.

Eight wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2008. On the list, there are two **Roman Catholic**, three **Protestant** and three **Greek Catholic** churches built between the 16th and 18th centuries.

Enjoy!

## DAY 1

### BANSKA STIAVNICA

We'll pick you up from Bratislava (airport, port or train station) or Vienna Schwechat, Austria and drive to Banska Stiavnica (2 hours drive), - one of the most beautiful and most romantic towns. It is like to step in the past centuries. Get an overview of the rich history of this town connected with the mining of copper, silver and gold. Visit the Old castle – a majestic fortress, 16<sup>th</sup> century New castle and the heart of the Old town – the Holy Trinity square with beautiful sights such as the gothic 15<sup>th</sup> century St. Catherine church, admire Renaissance buildings and the baroque Holy Trinity column.

Overnight in Banska Stiavnica

## DAY 2

### WOODEN CHURCH HRONSEK and LESTINY



The first wooden church we'll visit today is the 18th century **Hronsek Articular Church** located in a small village near Banska Bystrica (30min drive), the church is on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

It is a unique articular church with Scandinavian architecture elements. In 1681, the emperor allowed to built also churches other than Roman-Catholic, but according to the article 25 (therefore „articular church“) the evangelicals could build a church, but, under certain conditions.



The church had to be built within 1 year, made completely of wood and without using metal elements, built outside of the village, built with no tower, the entrance could not be directly from the

street and built on the marshes. The inhabitants fulfilled all of these conditions and could build the church. We'll enter the church, take a short tour and relax (it is allowed to take pictures).

We'll continue to village Lestiny to see **Lestiny Articled Church**. The main attraction is the altar from the beginning of the 18th century, church pews with coats of arms and a Renaissance baptisptery. We'll stay an overnight in a picturesque Orava region.

Overnight in Zuberec

### DAY 3

#### WOODEN CHURCH ALL SAINTS and CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY



We'll visit a spectacular **open-air Museum of Orava village** to see the day life from 19th-20th century. On a relatively small area, you can find peasants as well as farmer's houses, mills, barns, churches.

We'll drive to Tvrdosin and its oldest preserved building – **the Gothic wooden Roman-Catholic**

**All Saints church** situated in the local cemetery. Visitor's attention is drawn by the paintings of the Apostles, the Late Renaissance pulpit with figures of the Evangelists from 1654, and a painting of St George mounted on a horse fighting a dragon (a distemper painting on wood from 1653).



We'll visit one of the best-preserved Slovak wooden sacral buildings – **the articulated Evangelical Church of the Holy Trinity** in Kezmarok built-in 1717 next to an older sacral stone building from 1593, which today is a sacristy. This unique wooden building made of yew and red spruce wood was built without using a single metal.

Overnight in Kezmarok

### DAY 4

#### WOODEN CHURCH – ROMAN CATHOLIC - ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



We'll drive through Eastern Slovakia's beautiful landscape until we reach **the Roman Catholic wooden church of St Francis of Assisi**, in a village Hervartov. It is the oldest and best-preserved wooden church in Slovakia dated back to 1500. The Gothic pictures and wall paintings from 1655 and 1805 are the most valuable parts of its interior.

We'll give you the history overview and details  
We'll continue to Bardejov, one of the most beautiful medieval towns, still surrounded by fortification walls, bastions and gates. We'll visit **Basilica St. Egidius**, and relax in this

Overnight in Bardejov

## DAY 5

### WOODEN CHURCH - MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL and ST. NICOLAS



Drive to see another gem – the **Greek Catholic wooden church of St Michael the Archangel** in a village Ladomirova, built in 1742 without a single metal nail. Continue to see another – the **Greek Catholic wooden church of St Nicolas in Bodruzal**, built in 1658. The log building consists of three parts with three little towers.

Drive to Snina - a gate to the originally volcanic Vihorlat protected landscape area and the National Park of Poloniny.

Overnight in NP Poloniny

## DAY 6

### WOODEN CHURCHES - GREEK-CATHOLIC



On the way to Kosice we'll stop in to see these churches: **St. Michael Archangel church** (village Topola), the **Greek-Catholic church of St. Michael Archangel** (Rusky Potok), **Greek-Catholic church of St. Michael Archangel** (Ulicske Krive) and **Greek-Catholic church of the relics of St. Nicholas** (Ruska Bystra).

Time to relax in Kosice, one of the most beautiful cities located in the Eastern Slovakia. A must-to-see is **St. Elizabeth's Cathedral**, considered to be one of the most beautiful Gothic structures in the world. Enjoy the magical atmosphere on the square, it's green, peaceful and relaxing.

Overnight in Kosice

## DAY 7

### DRIVE TO BRATISLAVA & FAREWELL

We'll drive you to Bratislava airport (included in price) or on request to Vienna Schwechat, Krakow or Budapest airport).

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS TOUR

UNESCO World Heritage sights

- ✓ Articular wooden churches in villages Hronsek and Lestiny
- ✓ Greek-catholic wooden churches
- ✓ Roman-catholic wooden churches
- ✓ Kosice city
- ✓ Banska Stiavnica town and Bardejov town / UNESCO
- ✓ Taste all gastronomical delights in traditional Slovak Koliba restaurants
- ✓ Enjoy first class Guide-driver services

## WHAT IS ALWAYS INCLUDED

- ✓ Meals: 6x breakfast
- ✓ Accommodation: 3x overnight in 3 star costly pensions, 3x overnight in 4star hotels
- ✓ Including VAT (value added tax)
- ✓ City tax (mandatory local tax charged per person per night)
- ✓ Tour guide: professional, licensed Guide-driver-translator
- ✓ Transportation: for 1-7 travelers, a new model 2019 luxury van Mercedes Benz V-class, fully equipped with adjustable, comfortable leather seats and A/C in all zones, fridge on board, for 8-18 travelers we use from our partner agency Mercedes Benz Sprinter, groups of 19+ will enjoy spacious buses Setra 30 or 50 seaters
- ✓ Refreshment on board - mineral water sparkling and still, fuel, parking, motorway fees, map of Bratislava, information material, brochures, photos of Your Holiday
- ✓ Entrances to the top sights:  
All wooden churches, Museum of Orava village, Bardejov – St. Egidius church, Kosice – St. Elisabeth Cathedral, Old and New Castle in Banska Stiavnica

## WHAT IS EXCLUDED

Flights to/from Slovakia

Return airport transfers (ask to get the special rate)

Travel insurance, Personal expenses, Meals and drinks for clients (unless stated otherwise)

Cable car tickets, souvenirs, gratuities to Guide-driver (optional), Anything not mentioned in included

## AVAILABILITY AND PRICES - TRAVEL SEASON 2024

Our price policy is to offer fair and attractive prices for high quality travel services.

<b>Group of 2 travelers:</b>	<b>€ 1990.00 per person</b>
<b>Group of 4 travelers:</b>	<b>€ 1590.00 per person</b>
<b>Group of 6 travelers:</b>	<b>€ 1490.00 per person</b>

Price is per person with minimum of 2 travelers / groups 6+ get special discount

## IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- \* Minimum of 2 travelers
- \* Some tourist attractions might be temporarily closed due to reconstructions or due to bad weather (cable cars), alternative program will be offered
- \* All prices are per person sharing twin/double room
- \* Extra bed possible for a surcharge
- \* Single supplement for a surcharge of €425.00
- \* Generally, this tour is available for travelers on wheelchair (and with other physical limitations), however, some sights might not be accessible (castles)

## TOUR REVIEWS

Read about us on the world's largest travel site – the Tripadvisor.  
Best Slovakia Tours is dedicated to the best service quality and this is reflected year after year when TripAdvisor awards us with their Certificate of Excellence.



**Tripadvisor's Certificate of Excellence Awards**

## WE ARE TRUSTED, RELIABLE AND RECOGNIZED



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Operators.

Best Slovakia Tours, s.r.o. – Incoming Travel agency and Tour operator is a member of Slovak Association of Travel Agencies and Tour



Best Slovakia Tours, s.r.o. – Incoming Travel agency and Tour operator is fully insured against insolvency. It is a mandatory insurance for every tour operator in Slovakia.



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