

EXPERIENCE SLOVENIA IN ITS BEST

Slovenia in a flash from 5 to 7 July 2013

Slovenian Convention Bureau with SPIRIT Public agency, Intours DMC and selected members hosted fam trip for clients coming from **eight European countries**. The two and a half day trip included the major Slovenian meetings industry destinations. In search of its favorite locations and country's diversity participants were able to experience three geographic and three climate regions over a weekend.

The participants had a chance to meet with local providers of meeting services who were accompanying the group all weekend. The whole fam trip was organized as an incentive without hotel site inspections but with the idea to experience Slovenian services and FEEL the vibe of the country.

The fam trip programme started with welcome lunch at the enchanting **Brdo Estate** surrounded by old parks and forests. Guests had a chance to taste typical Slovenian dishes at beautiful **open air Duck's island**.

After lunch we continued to the Slovenian coast, where our first stop was old **Mediterranean town of Izola**. The spirit of the Mediterranean was felt with every step on clustered medieval streets, with the view of the rocking boats, with a relaxing chat with the locals, and with the aroma of specialty seafood dishes accompanied by good wine.

After short stop in one of the local restaurants participants had a chance to explore Slovenian coast from the sea. **On the boat** they discussed with Slovenian suppliers about their properties and different destinations.

Next stop was **Piran**, the medieval fisherman town with narrow streets and rich cultural heritage.

The coastal host was **Kempinski Palace Portoroz**, one of the finest in the region. The dinner followed with wine tasting at one of the finest wine cellars in the coastal region, **Santomas**. Breathtaking sea view and sunset enriched by Slovenian live music made the evening unforgettable. The cuisine was prepared by one of the best Slovenian catering companies **Jezeršek**.

Next morning the action continued underground. **Postojna caves** belong to the largest underground cave system but are easy accessible by an electric train. The highlight of the second day was the capital of Slovenia, **Ljubljana**. Guests had a chance to experience the city by bike. Everyone was amazed how easy you can explore and enjoy one of the safest European cities, internationally awarded and marked by architect Joze Plecnik. Ljubljana succeeded in maintaining the relaxed atmosphere of a small but picturesque and vibrant city full of surprises.

Ljubljana is a walkable city and therefore the participants could enjoy it even more when returning to the hotel from the dinner in local Restaurant **Špajza**.

The day was completed by a warm welcome of **The Art Nouveau Grand Hotel Union**, who was overnight host.

On Sunday the fam trip headed to the **Alps. Lake Bled** is the flagship of Julian Alps in Slovenia. It is just a perfect place for lovers of nature. With over 1000 years of history the place is filled with stories and scenery that took breath away from participants. Before returning home the participants had a chance to enjoy Slovenian culinary in Grand hotel Toplice in Bled and shortly present their thoughts on 2 and half days in Slovenia. Fam finished with warm thanks to all European clients by Slovenian team and Sava host.

Some thoughts from participants:

"I really appreciate the organization and the concept of the fam trip with Europeans participants and suppliers staying in touch 3 days long. BRAVO

Further to my "Sovenian experience" I would say that I sincerely trust in the MICE potential of the destination for the French market: eco-friendly geography, quality of food and wines, top class hotels and last but not the least, I observed great professionalism: Slovenian Convention Bureau, Ljubljana Convention Bureau and all the suppliers we met: DMC, hotels, team building, activities... I'll do my best for turning back to you with good business."

Didier J.Andrieu
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"I would like to thank you for the very nice and well organized trip. It was a very good opportunity to see so much in such a short time frame. I have a very good impression of all possibilities in the country. Thank you again and it was a pleasure meeting you all!
Best regards,"

Dennis Valk
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"Big thank you for the perfect organization and for guiding us around your beautiful country. It was a pleasure meeting all of you! I'm sure we will meet again in the near future!

Grtz, Ilse
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"First of all it was a truly pleasure to meet you all. I thank you and all your providers very much for this beautiful and highly interesting familiarization trip. I appreciated a lot your concept of educational tour with partners. Everything was perfect! Congratulations for you high professionalism, your warm welcome and your kindness. You show us that Slovenia is a wonderful destination for both Incentive and convention. And perfectly adapted to the French market.
I hope to have the opportunity to working with Slovenia in the very near future...
Kindest regards,

Pascale,
who feels S-love-nia!
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