

Slovenia's Castles

Those seeking an insight into Slovenia's fascinating history need look no further than its countless castles, manors and fortresses. Discover Slovenia's Medieval, Baroque and Renaissance past during the Slovenian Year of Culture, 2019. From exhibitions and concerts to weddings and unforgettable accommodation, here are some of the country's 'must visit' castles.

Ljubljana castle, the castle above the capital

Towering high above Ljubljana's streets and spaces is the city's eponymous castle. Dating back some 900 years, the majority of Ljubljana castle was largely rebuilt during the 16th century following a devastating earthquake.

- Take the funicular to the top

Make the journey via the three main walking routes or the short funicular railway that leaves regularly from the Old Town. Visitors can wander the castle's Outlook Tower and ramparts which offer some of the finest views of the city and its surrounding areas.

- Get hands on with an interactive exhibition

Visitors can enjoy the interactive Slovenian History exhibition, which looks at the country through the ages, stretching from the very earliest Roman times, through the Middle Ages, the 19th century, WWI and WWII and ending with socialist Yugoslavia and independence. Visitors can also enjoy one of the 90-minute 'time machine' tours led by costumed guides.

- Taste traditional Slovenian cuisine

Aside from offering an insight into Slovenia's past, Ljubljana Castle is home to Strelec Restaurant. The menu reflects the culinary crossroads of the Alps, the Adriatic and the Pannonia. This is one of Slovenia's most romantic and iconic wedding venues with the opportunity to make your engagement vows at the Viewing Tower, the city's highest point.

Bled Castle, The castle on a cliff overlooking Lake Bled

While many visitors rush directly to the crystal clear waters of Lake Bled, those opting instead to wander Bled Castle will be rewarded with the beauty of the castle chapel, Knight's Hall and Renaissance and Baroque architecture, not to mention stunning views of the lake below and some fantastic Slovenian food and wine.

Celje Castle, Slovenia's largest medieval castle

Slovenia's largest Medieval Castle is sat atop a hill dominating the town. This castle was once home to one of Slovenia's most powerful families, the Counts of Celje, who maintained the most influential dynasty in Slovenia. The castle's views stretch out across the Alps and Posavje Hills. Combine a trip to the castle with the museums and galleries of the town itself.

Predjama Castle, the castle in the cave

A truly dramatic Renaissance castle built within a cave mouth in south-central Slovenia over 800 years ago. Once an impregnable fortress, the castle includes a dungeon, 16th-century treasure chest and Erazem's Nook, an eerie hiding place right at the top. The cave below the castle is part of the 14km Predjama cave system.

Unique Castle accommodation

Otočec is the only castle on water in Slovenia. Outside it is encircled by a strikingly beautiful green park and the banks of the River Krka. Inside, as a member of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux group, it offers luxury boutique style rooms and suites. At the foot of the Karavanke Mountains near the town of **Radovljica, Lambergh, Châteaux & Hotel** combines historic charm with modern comfort as well as world-class wellness services and excellent cuisine - all to the magnificent backdrop of the Julian Alps.

The Baroque **Kendov Manor** near Idrija has been renovated and revived in the spirit of times past, while **Mokrice Castle** near Brežice offers deluxe accommodation and an adjoining golf course. Just a few minutes away are the thermal pools of Terme Čatež. **Strmol Castle** is amongst the oldest and best-preserved in Slovenia. It belongs to the renowned Schlosshotels & Herrenhäuser hotel and castle group and boasts many original furnishings.

To visit the castles of Slovenia:

AM+A Marketing and Media Relations will be managing a range of media group and individual trips in 2019, with special support for freelancers, bloggers and vloggers.

To register your interest in a trip please email AM+A with the subject line 'WTM Press Trip Opportunity' - slovenia@alexandramarr.com

Tourism contact: Mladen Ljubisic, Head of Slovenian Tourist Board for UK & Ireland. P: +44 20 7227 97 13 | E: mladen.ljubisic@slovenia.info

Slovenia UK PR Contact: slovenia@alexandramarr.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Slovenian Tourist Board

Dimičeva 13, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone no: 00386 (0)1 5898 550, fax: 00386 (0)1 5898 560

Maša Puklavec, Global Public Relations
press@slovenia.info | www.slovenia.info/press

Website: www.slovenia.info
Facebook: feelslovenia
Twitter: @sloveniainfo
Instagram: @feelslovenia
Hashtag: #IfelsLOEnia

