

## - SLOVENIA – ISTRIA & ITALY TOUR -

BLED-PETNA BOAT TRIP - LIPICA STUD FARM – POSTOJNA – PULA – VODNJAN – LIM CANAL  
ROVINJ – JULIAN ALPS – SOCA VALLEY – TRIGLAV – CERKNO – SKOFJA LOKA – VINTGAR GORGE –  
TRIESTE – LJUBLJANA

### DAY 1: IN - COMING SLOVENIA BLED ISLAND - PORTOROŽ

UPON ARRIVAL AT BLED LAKE LUNCH AT RESTAURANT .( SLOVENIA ONLY HAS ONE ISLAND,BUT THIS IS MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN MANY ARCHIPELAGOS.IT REIGNS IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ALPINE LAKE,EMBARCED BY A NECKLACE OF MAJESTIC PEAKS.IT CHARM IS A CENTURIES-OLD SYMBOL OF A PLACE WHICH HAS BEEN FREQUENTED BY CURIOUS TRAVELLERS FOR DECADES).

AFTER THE LUNCH AN ENJOYABLE AND RELAXING RIDE TO THE ISLAND OF ST.MARY ON THE LAKE OF BLED BY TRADITIONAL BLED PLETNA BOAT.WHEN YOU ARRIVE ON THE ISLAND , A GUIDED TOUR WILL FOLLOW,ACCOMPANIED BY MEDIEVAL LEGEND OF THE WISHING BELL AND A SPECIAL MUSICAL PROGRAMME(SNIGING LADY) IN THE ISLAND CHURCH,FOR WHICH IS SAID TO HAVE THE BEST ACOUSTIC AMONG ALL THE SLOVENIAN CHURCHES.BACK TO HOTEL , DINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

ACCOMODATION IN HOTEL NEPTUN 4\*PORTOROŽf WELCOME DRINK , DINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

### DAY 2: PORTOROŽ, LIPICA STUD FARM – POSTOJNA CAVE - PORTOROŽ.

AFTER THE BREAKFAST LEAVING TO VILLAGE LIPICA STUD FARM WHICH IS SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF SLOVENIA – REGION KARST.OVER THERE FOR MORE THAN 400 YEARS BEAUTIFUL WHITE HORSES CALLED LIPIZZANERS HAVE BEEN BRED.A SPECIAL FEATURE IS A SHOW –PROGRAM OF STAR LIPIZZANER STUDS PERFORMING THE EXCELLENCE OF WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNT IN THEIR SCHOOL OF TRAINING.LUNCH AT LIPICA LEAVING LIPICA IN ANOTHER CURIOSITY OF THE REGION KARST POSTOJNA CAVE .SIGHTSEEING TOUR INCLUDES A RIDE BY ELECTRICAL TRAIN,TAKING VISITORS INTO THE WORLD OF DROP STONES AND OTHER CAVE FORMATIONS.SHOWING OF MYSTERIOUS AND RARE CAVE AMHIBIAN PROTEUS ANGUINUS OR HUMAN FISH.BACK TO HOTEL ,DINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

### DAY 3: PORTOROŽe- PULA – VODNJAN (MUMIES OF SAINTS) – LIM CANAL -ROVINJ - PORTOROŽ:

BREAKFAST.VISITING PULA WHICH IS SITUATED AT SOUTHES END OF THE ISTRIAN PENISULA AND HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE 3 THOUSAND YEARS. IT REPRESENTS A VERY FINE COMBINATION OF THE OLD AND MODERN CITY WHERE MANY FAMOUS WRITER AND COMPOSERS HAVE FOUND INSPIRATION FOR THEIR MASTERPIECES....VISIT OF FAMOUS "ARENA"ROMAN AMPHITHEATAR.LUNCH AT PULA.GOING TO VISIT VODNJAN , A LITTLE TOWN WICH IS SITUATED IN SOUTH – WEST OF ISTRIA 11,7 KILOMETERS FROM PULA . THE MAIN ATTRACTION IS ST.BLAŽ CATHEDRAL , THE SACRED ART COLLECTION AND THE BODIES OF SAINTS RELIQUIARIES FROM MURANO . HABITS OF SAINTS AND VALUABLE OLD BOOKS.

GOING FURTHER TO ROVINJ , ANCIENT SETTLEMENT (FROM 3TH-CENTURY),ANONYMOUS OF RAVENA AT BEGINNING.VISIT OF BAROQUE TOWN HALL(17<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY),CHURCH OF ST.EUPHEMIA(18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY),CHAPEL OF HOLY TRINITY,ETC...GOING FURTHER AT POREC PLEASANT TOWN OF SUN AND WARM SEA ALSO TOWN OF MANYCULTURAL MONUMENTS(EUPHRASIUS BASILICA FROM VI ST CENTURY,THE TEMPLE OF NEPTUN,ROMANESQUE HOUSE AND MANY OTHER).BACK TO HOTEL,DINNER AND OVERNIGHT ON THE WAY TO ROVINJ SHORT SIGHTSEEING OF LIM CANAL, WHICH IS WITH ITS EMERALD GREEN SEA AND VARIED VEGETATION ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FJORDS ON THE ADRIATIC COAST.AFTER CONTINUING OF ROVINJ VISIT,THE CHURCH OF SAINT EUPHEMIA WHICH IS BUILT IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY IN VENETIAN –BARQUE STYLE.

VISITING OF ROVINJ , A WONDERFUL TOWN , THE PEARL OF ISTRIAN PENINSULA WITH TEMPESTUOUS HISTORY AND BEAUTIFUL PRESENT.THE OLD PAT OF THE SETTLEMENT IS LYING ON A PENINSULA.THE OLD TOWN NUCLEUS,PROTECTED HISTORICAL WHOLE AND IT IS BEAUTIFUL TO EXPERIENCE THAT PART WITH RICH NUMEROUS ROMANESQUE – GOTHIC,RENAISSANCE,BAROQUE....ETC.LUNCH AT RESTAURANT,BACK TO HOTEL DINNER ON THE WAY TO HOTEL . BACK AND OVERNIGHT.

### DAY 4: PORTOROŽK– JULIAN ALPS – SOCA VALLEY – TRIGLAV –PORTOROŽK

BREAKFAST.THE WHOLE DAY EXCURSION BY BUS TO THE HEARTH OF JULAIN ALPS .AFTER THE JOURNEY THROUTH THE UPPER SAVA VALLEY AND A SHORT STOP IN KRANJSKA GORA (SKI RESORT)GOING TO SERPENTINE ROAD TO THE VRŠIÆ MOUNTAIN PASS(1611 METER)WHERE ADMIRE MARVELLOUS VIEW ONTO THE SUMMITS OF JULAIN ALPS.GOING FURHER TO THE VALLEY TRENTA AND COUTINUING ALONS THE RIVER SOCA WHERE THE BEAUTIES OF THE TRIGLAV NATIONAL PARK ARE CONJURED TO THE GROUP. LUNC IN BOVEC. SHORT STOP AND BACK TO PORTOROŽdDINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

### DAY 5: PORTOROŽ± CERKNO – IDRIJA – FRANJA – SKOFJA LOKA – PORTOROŽ±

BREAKFAST. GOING TO KNOW THE THOUSAND YEARS OLD HISTORY OF SLOVENE PEOPLE BY VISITING MEDIEVAL TOWN SKOFJA LOKA , THE OLD CENTER OF THE TOWN AND MAGNIFICENT CASTLE OF FREISING BISHOPS.NEXT VISIT IS THE HOUSE OF UVAN TAVCAR , SLOVENE WRITER IN VISOKO AND AFTERWARDS THE VISIT OF THE LITTLE TOWN CERKNO.IN THE NARBY GORGE OF THE RIVER PASICA VISIT OF UNFORGETABLE MOUNMENT COMEMORATING THE RESISTANCE OF SLOVENE NATION DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, THE PARTISAN HOSPITAL FRANJA WHICH WAS OPERATING THE MOST CRUCIAL POINTS IN THEIR HISTORY.LUNCH IN

RESTAURANT. IN NEARBY ILIDRIJA VISIT OF ONE OF THE BIGGEST MERCURY MINES AS WELL AS TO SEE HOW THE FAMOUS IDRIJA HANDMADE LACCS ARE BEING MADE BY WIVES OF THE LOCAL MINERS. BACK TO HOTEL DINNER AND OVERNIGHT

**DAY 6 PORTOROŽ – VINTGAR GORGE - PORTOROŽ**

BREAKFAST. FREE MORNING IN PORTOROŽ. LUNCH AT HOTEL. HALF DAY EXCURSION TO VINTGAR GORGE WHICH HAS BEEN SCULPTURED BY THE RIVER RADOVNA INTO A REAL CANYON THROUGH THE AEONS AND IS ACCESSIBLE BY BRIDGES AND GALLERIES SURROUNDED BY NUMEROUS RAPIDS AND WATERFALLS. BACK TO HOTEL DINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

**DAY 7: PORTOROŽ – TRIESTE (MIRAMARE CASTLE, DUINO CASTLE) - PORTOROŽ**

BREAKFAST. GOING TO VISIT OF MIRAMARE CASTLE WHICH IS NEARBY TRIESTE. MIRAMARE CASTLE IS THE FAMOUS RESIDENCE OF MAXIMILIAN OF HABSBURG AND HIS CONSORT, CHARLOTTE OF BELGIUM. THE CASTLE, WHICH WAS BUILT BETWEEN 1856 AND 1860 BY CARI JUNKER, IS FACED WITH BRIGHT ISTRIA STONE. THE INTERIOR CONTAINS NUMEROUS WORKS OF ART, AND CLEARLY REFLECTS THE TASTE AND HABITS OF THE VIENNA COURT. THE ARCHDUKE TOOK GREAT CARE ON IMPROVING THE CASTLE, WHICH IS SURROUNDED BY A BEAUTIFUL PARK WITH SECLUDED CORNERS AND RARE EXOTIC TREES THAT RENDER IT ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE. THE CASTLE HOSTED DUKE AMEDEO OF AOSTA AND IN 1945 IT BECAME THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ALLIES' MILITARY COMMAND. THE HYDROLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL CONDITIONS OF THE STRETCH OF SEA SURROUNDING THE CASTLE SUPPORT AN EXCEPTIONAL HABITAT. IN FACT, THE AREA IS POPULATED BY EVERY SPECIES OF SEA ORGANISM EXISTING IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE ADRIATIC SEA. FOR THIS REASON, THE MIRAMARE SEA PARK WAS CREATED IN 1973. LUNCH IN NEARBY RESTAURANT

GOING TO TRIESTE VISIT OF DUINO CASTLE WHICH WERE BUILT IN DUINO IN ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SPOTS ON THE GULF. THE OLDER CASTLE, OF WHICH THERE ARE STILL SOME REMAINS ON A ROCKY SPUR, WAS BUILT IN THE XI CENTURY AND WAS THE FIRST RESIDENCE OF THE *DUINATI* - FEUDAL VASSALS OF THE PATRIARCH OF AQUILEIA. IT WAS PROBABLY THE LAST MEMBER OF THE FAMILY, UGONE VI, WHO ORDERED THE NEW CASTLE TO BE BUILT. IN THE COURTYARD THERE IS AN OLDER TOWER, PROBABLY DATING BACK TO ROMAN TIMES. THE TORRIANI FAMILY TURNED THE FORTRESS INTO A PRINCELY RESIDENCE, WHICH LATER BECAME THE PROPERTY OF THE PRINCE OF HOHENLOHE AND IS NOW OWNED BY HIS HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF TORRE E TASSO. PARTS OF IT ARE USED AS THE SEAT OF THE UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF THE ADRIATIC. MANY FAMOUS PEOPLE HAVE STAYED IN THE CASTLE, ALLEGEDLY INCLUDING DANTE ALIGHIERI. RAINER MARIA RILKE COMPOSED THE *DUINO ELEGIES* DURING ONE OF HIS STAYS AND HIS NAME WAS GIVEN TO THE BEAUTIFUL FOOTPATH EXTENDING FROM THE CASTLE TO THE BAY OF SISTIANA. WALKING ALONG ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING PARTS OF THE TRIESTE COASTLINE, THE VISITOR FINDS HIMSELF IN A UNIQUE NATURAL HABITAT. THE LANDSCAPE IS FULL OF SHADY WOODS AND SUNNY MAQUIS. SOME OF THE LAST REMAINING EXAMPLES OF THE PEREGRINE FALCON BUILD THEIR NESTS IN THE STEEP CLIFFS RISING ABOVE THE SEA. BACK TO HOTEL DINNER AND OVERNIGHT.

**DAY 8 PORTOROŽ – LJUBLJANA – HOME**

BREAKFAST. VISIT OF THE CAPITAL OF SLOVENIA, LJUBLJANA WITH ITS NUMEROUS CULTURAL – HISTORICAL MONUMENTS, THE OLD MEDIAEVAL CITY BY THE RIVER LJUBLJANICA AND ITS DOMINATING CASTLE. LUNCH, BACK TO HOME.

PRICE PER PERSON IN ½ HALF BOARD:

GROUP - NOT LESS THAN 30 PERSONS. . . . . 645 EURO

GROUP - NOT LESS THAN 40 PERSONS . . . . . 625 EURO

SINGLE PREPAYMENT : 100 EURO

EXTRA FOR LUNCHES : 90 EURO

ONE (1) GRATIS ON EACH 25 PERSON

PROGRAM INCLUDES :

- HOTELS : 7 HB IN LIFE CLASS 4\* (SLOVENIJA, RIVIERA, APOLLO, MIRNA, NEPTUN)
- LUNCHES : 6 EXTRA LUNCHES (EXTRA ON PRICE)

TICKETS FOR: BOAT IN BLEDE (PETNA), POSTOJNA WITH PEDJAMSKI GRAD, LIPICA WITH SHOWING OF HORSE RIDING SCHOOL, PULA CITY WITH ARENA, ROVINJ CHURCH OF SV. EUFEMIJA, MUMIES OF SAINTS, MUSUM DOM TRENTA IN SOCA VALLEY, MUSEUM OF SECOND WAR, MIRAMARE & DUINO CASTLE IN TRIESTE, CASTLE OF FREISING BISHOP, HOUSE OF UVAN TAVCAR, VINTGAR GORGE -

GUIDINGS: LAKE BLEDE, ISTRA TOUR - PULA & ROVINJ, TRIESTE, SOCA VALLEY WITH JULIAN ALPS, LJUBLJANA

SPECIAL GUIDE SPEAKING DUTSCH DURING THE WHOLE TOUR

THE TOUR ORGANISATION AND ALL RESERVATIONS

PROGRAM NOT INCLUDES : COACH TRANSFER & DRINKS AT LUNCH AND DINNER, LUNCHES