MEETINGS & INCENTIVES SLOVAKIA

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Incentive Travel
Meetings and Events
Conferences
Special Interest Group Travel

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BY AIR

Vienna Airport (VIE) is forty-five minutes by coach from central Bratislava. The airport is a favorite port of entry for both cities, which are the closest national capitals in Europe.
Bratislava Airport (BTS), just fifteen minutes' drive from central Bratislava, is served mainly by low-cost airlines and charter flights.

BY RAIL AND ROAD

Bratislava is Slovakia's main rail hub, with frequent, direct train services to and from Vienna, Budapest and Prague. The city also has excellent motorway connections.

BY DANUBE RIVERBOAT

The fast Twin City Liner catamaran will take you from Vienna to Bratislava, via the River Danube, in 1 hour 15 minutes.

WHY HOLD YOUR EVENT IN SLOVAKIA?

Slovakia, with its capital Bratislava, is a growing presence on the meeting industry scene. It's a safe and politically stable destination with excellent accessibility, located in the heart of Europe. Slovakia today is fully integrated into European institutions and uses the euro as its currency, making it the ideal place to plan your event well in advance.

Boasting time-honored Central European charm, it has retained an authentic local character and unique heritage. Bratislava is one of the best connected cities in the CEE region, served by two international airports, extensive rail links, and a major motorway hub. The Small Carpathian wine region, the Danube region and nearby Vienna provide a broad array of opportunities for organizing a successful event. In the Slovak mountains, just a few hours' drive from Bratislava, you will find numerous national parks, among them the beautiful Tatra National Park.

Enjoy Slovakia DMC is a leading Slovak Destination Management Company that works solely to ensure your satisfaction and that of your customers. Our inventive, high-value products, organized with attention to detail, are the keys to our success. We maintain good relations with local, top-quality suppliers and work with excellent hotels and other venues that provide the highest standards of service.

So, please be our guest – and Enjoy Slovakia!

BRATISLAVA

Bratislava is the gateway to Slovakia, strategically located on the border with Austria and Hungary. The vibrant Slovak capital boasts a long and proud history, embodied in its striking hilltop castle and its painstakingly restored Old Town. The city's Central European charm, lively but laid-back atmosphere, compact size and its dozens of outdoor cafés and restaurants make it an ideal destination for inspiring getaways. The city lies on the River Danube, which plays a big part in its character, and is also famous for its excellent food and wine. Bratislava is one of the centers of Slovakia's intellectual life, and home to several universities and research centers. It is also the hub of the country's economy, which has recently benefited from the growth of the local car industry: car production in Slovakia is now among the highest, per capita, of all European countries.

Bratislava is a compact and safe city, making it extraordinarily "user friendly".

SAMPLE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Day One

Arrival at Bratislava/Vienna airport and transfer to hotel by private coach. After lunch, enjoy our interactive digital Bratislava Treasure Hunt game in the historic, pedestrian-only Old Town district of the city. Then comes an evening ride on the Old Timer coach to Bratislava Castle, before dinner is served at a gourmet restaurant, prepared by a leading chef.

Day Two

Bicycle ride along the Danube River to Čunovo. Visit the Danubiana art museum, and engage in a sports day at the water sports center. The highlight will be rafting in the artificial whitewater course. Lunch is served on-site. Afternoon return by speedboat to the hotel. The evening gala dinner will be the social highlight of your stay in Bratislava.

Day Three

Morning check-out from hotel, and visit to the VW plant, where you will inspect the car production process. Test your driving skills on the VW Touareg off-road driving course. Enjoy a farewell lunch at a typical local restaurant with wine-tasting of the best vintages from the Small Carpathian wine region. Afternoon transfer to airport for homebound flight.

Follow in the footsteps of Olympic champions and enjoy rafting at the artificial whitewater course!

HERITAGE

During more than 2,000 years of history, Bratislava has come under Celtic, Roman, Germanic and Slavic rule, and for more than two centuries it was Hungary's royal capital and coronation site. All these influences – and more – have left their mark on the modern Slovak capital. Communist rule also changed the face of the city, and today Baroque architecture rubs shoulders with the sometimes jarring relics of the post-World War II communist era.

Bratislava has a rich musical tradition – excellent opera and classical music are an inseparable part of the city. Would you like us to arrange the Kaiser Quartet or a Slovak folk music band for you? Or would you prefer a falconry show at Červený Kameň [Red Stone] Castle or a knights' tournament at Devín Castle?

WINE

The tradition of winemaking in Slovakia dates back to Roman times. Winemaking is part of our heritage, and charming wine towns dot the countryside near Bratislava. Since the collapse of the communist regime, Slovak winemaking has experienced a renaissance, and our winemakers now score very well at international wine competitions. The Small Carpathian wine region is the largest of Slovakia's six winemaking regions, and is located right next to Bratislava. Here you can find small, family wineries and large estates with high-volume production.

Our wine-themed programs include: Wine Tasting, Wincentive, the Day of Open Cellars and "Be the Winemaker". We organize specialized wine tours to leading producers around Slovakia. We can also arrange a private event for your guests at a wine estate.

Elesko is a modern winery concept that combines wine production with fine dining and a high-profile art gallery.

WATER

Water is an essential element in the character of Bratislava. Located on the Danube, the city center opens onto the mighty river. As much as the castle and the cathedral are icons of the city, it is impossible to think of Bratislava without the Danube. The river also links the city with Vienna and Budapest.

Many of our activities include water: from Water Tasting to Rafting at the Artificial Whitewater Course. Venues in Bratislava include the Waterfront Club and the Floating Brewery. Speedboats on the Danube are a thrilling experience. You can sail to ancient Devín Castle, on the Slovak-Austrian border, or to the attractive Danubiana art museum, built on an artificial peninsula in middle of the Danube.

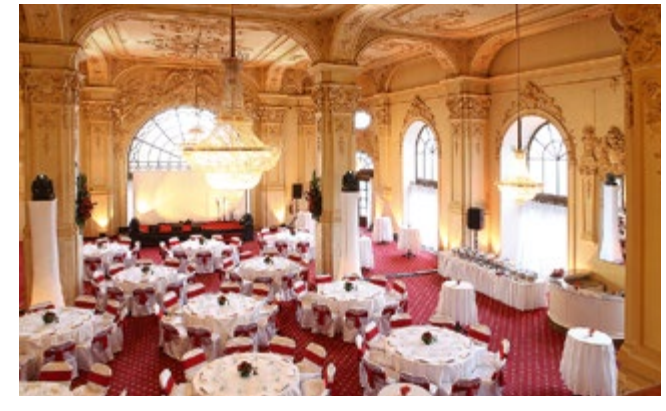
AUTOMOTIVE

Slovakia is a European leader in car production. Three major automobile plants – Volkswagen, PSA/Peugeot and KIA – form a core part of the country's economy. You can visit these as part of an excursion to see the assembly lines filled with modern robots – but have you ever thought about a car plant as a conference venue? Fans of fast cars will appreciate the Slovakia Ring racing circuit near Bratislava.

One of our major attractions is off-road driving with four-wheel-drive VW Touaregs. This flagship Volkswagen model is assembled at the company's plant in Bratislava and you can test your driving skills on a special off-road course with various surfaces and obstacles purpose-built to showcase the car's qualities.

VENUES

Bratislava offers a broad selection of stunning venues recalling the fin-de-siècle glory of the city. You can entertain guests at a gala dinner held in the Art Nouveau hall of the former Imperial and Royal army headquarters, or at the elegant Reduta concert hall. The Slovak capital also possesses many converted heritage buildings that once housed industrial facilities, and which we love to use for our events. In addition, some of our venues are alongside the River Danube, lending a dramatic setting to events held here.



The Reduta hall prepared for an event.

DINING

What is the food like in Slovakia? As befits a country in the heart of Central Europe, Slovak cuisine represents a flavorful mixture of influences from neighboring Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic. The Bratislava region is famed for its meat dishes with savory sauces, while hearty potato dishes and *halušky* [gnocchi] served with sheep's cheese and bacon provide the classic taste of the mountains. Local restaurants, of course, also feature excellent international cuisine.

We can take you to a family-run restaurant that serves traditional cuisine in a century-old vaulted wine cellar, or to a classy restaurant offering the finest dining by a celebrity chef. If you haven't seen him on TV, prepare to meet him in person as he comes to entertain you with his creative cuisine, which has become legendary in Bratislava.

Why not sample a menu consisting of spicy Hungarian soup, a Viennese main dish and a traditional Slovak dessert? And don't forget to try the superb wines of the Small Carpathian wine region!

MATYŠÁK
ANNO 1991

Established by Slovakia's leading family-owned winery

Specialities of Small Carpathian and Slovak regional cuisine

Extraordinary wine cellar with 45,000 bottles

Expert wine tastings for groups

Attractive venue in a historic wine cellar

VIENNA

Bratislava and Vienna are the two closest capital cities in Europe. It takes just one hour by car to reach the Austrian capital from Slovakia, making it perfectly feasible to combine both cities in a single program. You can also include Vienna as an add-on to your stay in Bratislava.

Indulge yourself in Vienna's Imperial charm and explore the Ringstrasse Boulevard, with its grand architecture. The Schönbrunn Palace, the Hundertwasserhaus or the Viennese Giant Ferris Wheel at the Prater amusement park are among the many must-see attractions of the city. While in Vienna enjoy a famous Wiener schnitzel at a typical restaurant, or treat yourself to the heavenly chocolate Sacher cake. Alternatively, perhaps you would enjoy a biking tour of Vienna?

The best access to the Tatra Mountain Region is via Poprad-Tatry Airport (TAT) or Kraków Airport (KRK). The journey by coach or IC train from Bratislava takes about four and a half hours.

TATRA MOUNTAINS

Slovakia has another side worth exploring – the Tatra Mountain Region – considered the pride of the country. Here you will find a pristine natural environment, modern but tasteful mountain resorts, medieval castles and towns, and wooden folk architecture. Some of these are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites. The Tatra Mountain Region provides numerous opportunities for meetings and incentive trips. You can even enjoy an event at the very top of the second highest peak in the mountain range, Lomnický štít, 2,634 meters above sea level. Rafting on the Dunajec River, across the Pieniny National Park, is one of the most popular activities in this region.

You may choose as a conference venue the environmentally friendly AquaCity resort, built over a natural hot spring. It has a modern conference hall with two hotels, an extensive water park, a wellness center and an Olympic-sized swimming pool. Slovakia's first whisky distillery, Nestville, offers a rare opportunity to inspect the production process and sample the local whisky on-site. The GrandCastle is a restored historic mansion suitable as the location for an inspiring event.

SLOVAKIA FACT FILE

Official name	Slovenská republika (Slovak Republic)
Area	49,035 km^2
Population	5.4 million inhabitants
Capital	Bratislava (420,000 inhabitants)
Language	Slovak
Currency	Euro (EUR)
Time	GMT + 1 hour (GMT + 2 hours during daylight saving time)
Voltage	220 V, 50 Hz
Calling code	+421
Internet country code	.sk

FAQs

When is the best time of year to visit? What is the weather like?

Slovakia has a central European climate, with hot summers and cold winters. Most events take place in April-June and September-November. However, we are happy to provide suitable programs for events at any time of the year.

What are the main airports for the Slovak capital?

The best access to Bratislava is via Vienna (VIE) or Bratislava (BTS) airports.

What are the entry requirements for Slovakia?

Slovakia is an EU member state and part of the Schengen zone; entry requirements are similar to other EU countries.

What is the currency in Slovakia?

The euro has been Slovakia's currency since 2009.

What is the local food like?

Local cuisine is a blend of traditional local dishes, with Viennese, Czech and Hungarian influences. We have special types of cheese and you can also enjoy excellent locally-produced wine and beer in Slovakia.

YOUR
UNSURPASSED
GATE TO BRATISLAVA

- Unique location on the banks of the river Danube
- Repeatedly awarded The Best Hotel in Slovakia
- **Luxury of space, views and tastes**
  – 231 rooms and suites,
  – 11 function rooms
- The highest comfort and daylight in all of the conference rooms with state of the art AV equipment

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- 700 sq m of flexible function space, 8 function rooms, 209 rooms and suites
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- all function rooms with natural daylight
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- located by the river Danube only 10 minutes walking distance from the Bratislava historical city center

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