

Bike Slovenia Green Route

From the Alps to the Adriatic



Ultimate Challenges

T: 020 7386 4680

events@theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk

www.ultimatechallenges.co.uk

Bike Slovenia

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From the soaring peaks of the Julian Alps, the sparkling emerald-green lakes and rivers to the short but sweet coastline along the Adriatic Sea, tiny Slovenia really does have it all.

Our 300km Slovenia Bike challenge is a 5-day adventure connecting a number of destinations that have obtained 'Slovenia Green Certificate'. Destinations receive this certificate when they show sufficient efforts directed towards the sustainable development.



Our journey starts at the alpine village of Kranjska Gora, in the heart of the Julian Alps and ends at the Adriatic Sea and the picturesque historical coastal town of Portorož.

We pass the famous Alpine lakes of Bled and Bohinj after travelling through the beautiful Radovna valley and across the densely forested Pokljuka Plateau. After hopping aboard one of the world's most scenic railways, our ride continues along the emerald green Soca River.

Our cycling continues through the fascinating karstic topography, before the road joins the abandoned Paranzana railway track, slowly descending towards the town of Portorož and our finish line on the Adriatic coast.

Detailed itinerary

Day 1: Depart London for Ljubljana

Upon arrival we have a short transfer to the picturesque Kranjska Gora, with its alpine scenery and abundance of outdoor activities. Once we arrive at this scenic mountain resort we will prepare for our bike challenge, fit out our bikes, relax and rest our legs before our ride begins. After dinner in our hotel, we will meet our guides and have a full bike briefing.

If time permits on arrival: Extra activities could include hiring a mountain bikes and taking the gondola up into the mountains and riding the epic downhill trails. There is also a monorail.

Day 2: Kranjska Gora to Lake Bled 59km - 690m elevation

An asphalt cycle path leads from Kranjska Gora to Mojstrana with a gentle descent. Riding along the Sava river towards the Zgornja Radovna Valley. A steep descent takes us down into the Krma Valley with gorgeous views of the surrounding meadows. After a short gravel section, our ride continues to Radovna. We then climb uphill to the plateau above Zgornje Gorje.

The stage comes to a perfect end with a descent down to the shore of the Lake Bled, with its picture-postcard church on an islet, a medieval castle clinging to a rocky cliff and some of the highest peaks of the Julian Alps and the Karavanke as backdrops. Bled is one of Slovenia's highlights.

Optional evening tour to visit the Church of the Mother of God on the island. Dinner and overnight hotel.



Day 3: Lake Bled to Lake Bohinj 44km – elevation 920m

Another day of stunning views. Our ride starts at the southern shore of Lake Bled. Passing the railway station, we start with the long ascent towards Pokljuka. We ride through the deep forests of Pokljuka and continue along the asphalt road to Goreljek and after that, we follow in the direction of Podjelje and Jereka. Next, we descend to Srednja vas and Studor in Bohinj. From here we cycle along scenic bike paths across pastures in the direction of Lake Bohinj, with beautiful views.

Bohinj is a paradise valley embraced by the Julian Alps, the most extensive and highest mountain range in Slovenia. Its most recognizable natural site is the gorgeous Lake Bohinj, which invites for various water activities.

Upon arrival at our hotel, we will have lunch and prepare for our afternoon of optional adrenaline activities: Zipline/ SUP or rafting.

Dinner and overnight hotel

Detailed itinerary - continued

Day 4: Train Bohinj to Most na Soči Ride Most na Soči to Šmartno 51km - elevation 1360m

This morning we have a 45min scenic train ride out of the valley to Most na Soči. From here, its back on the bikes to continue our incredible Slovenian adventure.

We ride on the bank of the Soča river, following local asphalt roads. Soon after passing Plave, we switch to a beautiful bike path, which runs high above the right bank of the Soča, all the way to the Solkan bridge. After crossing the famous bridge, we follow a cycle path and then cross the state border with Italy. A short gravel ascent takes us to the village of Znorišče (Conigo). Descending on a winding road, we cycle in the direction of Sabotin and soon cross back to Slovenia. During the last part of the stage, we cycle through pretty villages of Hum, Kojško and Gonjače. A short descent brings us to Šmartno, the final destination of the day.

Dinner and overnight hotel.



Day 5: Ride Šmartno to Lipica 75km – elevation 860m

Today's ride begins with cycling through the typical hilly landscape of Goriška Brda. On the way through Kozana and Vipolže, we can admire the surrounding vineyards. Short ascents and descents take us to Italian Gorizia with lovely plazas, streets and cafes. Cycling through a tunnel under the Gorizia castle, we soon return to Slovenia.

The following part of the stage is relatively flat and includes both asphalt roads and dedicated bike paths. After passing Šempeter, we reach Miren, where we cross the gleaming Vipava River, and we begin to get views of the typical Karst landscape opening up. We finish the day in Lipica, close to the border with Italy and one of the main areas of Slovenia's karst region and is also known for the Lipica Stud Farm, the origin of the Lipizzan horse. Overnight guesthouse/hotel.



Day 6: Ride Lipica – Portorož 70km – elevation 900m

The final days riding of our incredible Slovenian adventure! An early start for our final push to our finish line at the Adriatic Sea and the picturesque historical coastal town of Portorož.

The classic stage takes us from Lipica across the Italian border to Bazovica. The route continues on local asphalt roads to the tiny village of Drage, where we switch to the picturesque bike path along the old railway route from Trieste to Kozina. We follow the beautiful gravel road through the tunnels and above the Glinščica Valley, eventually arriving to the village of Boršt. From here we descend to the main road which leads to Boljunec. From here, it's mostly flat asphalt route all the way to Portorož, Slovenia's Adriatic seaside resort and spa town. Tonight, we celebrate our achievement with a special gala dinner. Overnight 4 * hotel for 2 nights.

Detailed itinerary - continued

Day 7: Departure

Transfer back to Ljubljana airport for flight back to London.

Grade

Moderate - tough

Best time of year

June to October



© Ultimate Challenges Itinerary complex and subject to change

Breakdown of Costs

What is included

- Return flights from London
- Transfers upon arrival and departure and all internal transfers
- Hotel accommodation based on twin share
- Full board throughout unless specified including celebratory dinner
- Local leaders and support staff
- Back up vehicles
- Bikes

What is not included

- Lunch on arrival & day 7
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities for local staff
- Personal expenses
- Single supplements

Our pricing policy

We believe that we are very competitive and offer excellent value for money. However, it can be confusing when comparing prices, as small differences in an itinerary, can make a substantial difference. We would be happy to review proposals you may have received from other tour operators, as we are confident that we can beat any genuine quote.