



TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Slovenia

Slovenia Bike Tour

Unexpected Europe: Slovenian Vineyards + Villages at the Crossroads of Italy

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Move effortlessly between the borders of Slovenia and Italy while immersed in the Collio-Brda wine region
- Retrace the history of both World Wars, riding through regions that offered refuge to the Resistance in World War II and exploring bunkers that remain from World War I
- Develop an intimate understanding of the wine grown between Italy and Slovenia at winery visits and tastings with local sommeliers and acclaimed winemakers
- Spend an evening at our friend Davorin's family farmhouse and share in a homegrown feast of local, seasonal flavors
- Meet our friend Alessia, a local chef, who hosts us for dinner at a stunning Slovenian winery
- Spend two nights on the shores of beautiful Lake Bled in a boutique villa hotel



ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Venice or Trieste, Italy
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**
Trieste airport and train station
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**
9:30 am

Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**
Ljubljana Airport
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**
11:00 am

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

Travelers Take Note

Rooms at the Kendov Dorec, the Day 1 hotel on this tour, include bathtubs rather than showers.



TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY
1

Welcome to Slovenia

Meet your guides at the Trieste airport train station for a transfer to our castle hotel in the heart of the Collio-Brda—a prestigious cross-border wine region that straddles Italy and Slovenia. Get fitted to the bikes and set out on a warmup ride through the vineyards, winding into Slovenia. Climb through a series of small hilltowns to a ridgeline offering panoramic views of the undulating landscape below. Lunch awaits at a boutique winery, where we'll meet the family that has been producing biodynamic wines for five-generations. After, opt to tack on some extra miles or hop in the van for a ride back to the hotel. This evening, we'll gather for cocktails before a relaxed welcome dinner at the estate.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: San Floriano, Smartno, Dobrovo

Accomplished: 24 miles / 38 km, elevation gain: 2,198 feet / 670 meters

Longer Option: 30 miles / 49 km, elevation gain: 2,788 feet / 850 meters

Accommodations: [Castello di Spessa](#)

DAY
2

The Wine Frontier

From our castle hotel, the views of Italy and Slovenia are seriously moving—be sure to take a moment to appreciate it all over your morning coffee. The shared scenery of the two countries sets the tone for our ride today as we cross back and forth over their borders. Pedal along the vine-clad ridges that lead to Cividale on the Italian side. This town can trace its roots back to Julius Caesar, and the main piazza is a perfect place to stop for a mid-ride espresso and a little people-watching. Then it's back towards Slovenia for a picnic lunch. We'll return to the hotel for some downtime this afternoon. This evening we'll head to another stunning Slovenian winery, this time for an unforgettable dinner hosted by our friend Alessia, an Italian chef—the perfect homage to our day of duality.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Cividale, Prepotto, Ceglo

Accomplished: 37 miles / 59 km, elevation gain: 2,020 feet / 616 meters

Shorter Option: 20 miles / 33 km, elevation gain: 1,414 feet / 431 meters

Accommodations: [Castello di Spessa](#)

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY
3

Echoes of the Great War

Begin the day riding through an area that saw some of the most intense fighting of World War I. Between 1915 and 1917, Italy and Austria-Hungary engaged in no less than 12 battles along the Isonzo River until the eventual collapse of the Italian Front (immortalized in Hemingway's *Farewell to Arms*). To illustrate the impact, we'll explore an intact section of tunnels and bunkers that changed hands in those two years. From there, continue cycling across the Carso—or Karst—the striking limestone plateau that gives the region's wines their distinct minerality. We'll stop at a family-owned inn for lunch with our friend Ago, a brilliant young chef who crafts refined Karst cuisine using ingredients grown onsite. Bike or transfer to our dreamy forest hotel, a collection of sleek wooden cabins perched above the clustered village of Vrhpolje with beautiful Vipava Valley views. Relax in your private hot tub or take a stroll to the sauna. Later we'll regather for an evening of timeless Slovenian hospitality during dinner with our winemaker friend Davorin and his family in the courtyard of their inviting farmhouse.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: San Martino del Carso, Komen, Vipava

Accomplished: 25 miles / 40 km, elevation gain: 1,991 feet / 607 meters

Longer Option: 41 miles / 66 km, elevation gain: 2,995 feet / 913 meters

Accommodations: [Theodosius](#)

DAY
4

Scenes From a Storybook

Start your morning with breakfast at the hotel followed by a one-hour transfer to the Sava Valley, where our ride begins from a fairytale church. From there, the route traces the foot of the mountains, meandering through fertile farmland and deep forests with impressive views of the Julian Alps rising dramatically toward Austria. After lunch at a charming country inn, we'll pedal the final kilometers to the shores of Lake Bled, home to Slovenia's most storied sight: a church-crowned island rising from the blue-green waters. So captivating is the setting that Marshal Tito chose it as his summer residence during the Communist period. Check into our lakefront villa hotel, then spend the afternoon as you wish—glide across the water in a traditional wooden pletna to explore Bled Island or relax in the gardens with a glass of wine. Tonight you're free to dine on your own in town; your guides are happy to recommend their favorite local restaurants.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Destinations: Golnik, Radovljica, Bled

Accomplished: 30 miles / 48 km, elevation gain: 2,854 feet / 870 meters

Shorter Option: 25 miles / 40 km, elevation gain: 2,381 feet / 726 meters

Accommodations: [Villa Adora](#)

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY
5

Lake Bohinj and the Julian Alps

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast before setting off on a scenic loop around the shores of Lake Bled. Take in the spring-fed waters, weathered boathouses, and exquisite scenery before leaving the lake behind for an even more spectacular stretch—a bike path that follows the crystal-clear Sava Bohinjka River and climbs into Triglav National Park. Our destination is Lake Bohinj, the largest natural lake in Slovenia, where a local chef treats us to a spectacular lunch. The reward for our efforts this morning is a gradual descent all the way back to Bled. This evening we'll regather for a farewell dinner to remember, held in a medieval castle perched high above the shimmering lake.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Bohinjska Bela, Bohinjska Bistrica, Lake Bohinj

Accomplished: 40 miles / 64 km, elevation gain: 3,205 feet / 977 meters

Shorter Option: 22 miles / 36 km, elevation gain: 1,922 feet / 586 meters

Accommodations: [Villa Adora](#)

DAY
6

Srečno, Slovenia!

Sleep in and enjoy a leisurely breakfast or take a final spin or stroll along the lake. There's no wrong way to enjoy your final morning in Slovenia. Your guides will transfer you to the Ljubljana airport later this morning as you head to your next destination.

Meals: Breakfast

Destinations: Ljubljana

YOUR TOUR DETAILS

Preparing for Your Tour

Travel Services

DuVine can assist with extended reservations at the first and final hotels on your scheduled itinerary, or with private transfers to and from your bike tour. DuVine's travel advisor partners are happy to assist with flight reservations. If you are not already working with an agent, please request a referral from your **Tour Coordinator**.

Travel Protection

DuVine offers a **Travel Protection Plan** to help protect your travel investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The offered Travel Protection Plan is non-refundable, but it is strongly recommended in the unfortunate event that you have to cancel or leave your trip.

NOTE: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state or jurisdiction. In order to receive full benefits, Travel Protection must be purchased within 21 days of initial tour deposit. This plan is available to citizens of the U.S. and Canada only.

Gratuities

Gratuities are much appreciated to thank DuVine guides for exceptional service, support, and expertise. The industry standard is for each guest to tip 10-15% (U.S. tours and Cycle + Sail tours) or 7.5-10% (all other tours) of their trip price. The recommended per-traveler amount is an appropriate gratuity for your guide team as a whole. (It is not necessary to tip this amount *per* guide.) Tips are customary at the end of your tour, and local currency is always preferred. We recommend bringing extra cash or visiting the ATM at the beginning of your trip.



Share Your Experience

f fb.com/duvine
@duvine
#DuVine #DuVineStyle



YOUR TOUR DETAILS

Bikes

DuVine's top-of-the-line bikes are tuned to perfection and fit specifically to you. Our performance bikes from premier manufacturers feature light frames, smooth-rolling tires, comfortable seats, and wide gear ranges for the best ride possible. Please [see our website](#) for the exact bike models offered on tour. E-bikes are available in most destinations on a first-come, first-served basis. Electric assist provides an extra boost to your own pedal power, so you can ride longer distances, tackle tougher climbs, and maintain a faster pace. Contact your Tour Coordinator if you are interested.

Electrical Overseas

If you're traveling abroad, you will most likely need an [adapter](#), which allows your device's plug to fit into foreign outlets. North American devices run on 110/125V electricity while the majority of the world runs on 220/240V. Converters and transformers change the voltage of electricity to match your device.

Training

First and foremost, get out on your bike and start logging some miles. Experience with the elements and terrain will help with your comfort level (balance, unexpected conditions, etc.) on tour. Nothing compares to the real thing, but if you can't cycle outside, consider spin classes. Always remember, training is a gradual process—don't try to overdo it or push yourself when you aren't ready. However, the most important part of training is to enjoy your ride! [Download a training guide](#) based on your Tour Level.

Travel Sustainably

DuVine is committed to sustainable travel and has been a 100% carbon neutral company since 2022. While cycling is an inherently eco-conscious mode of travel, we continuously seek ways to lessen our footprint, whether it be biodegradable water bottles or compostable gear mailers. [Read more](#) about sustainability at DuVine.



YOUR PACKING LIST

On The Bike

Cycling jerseys or athletic shirts
Cycling shorts
Cycling shoes (if you bring your own pedals)
Sneakers (if you don't bring your own pedals)
Cycling sunglasses
Athletic socks
Arm/leg warmers
Lightweight, waterproof, wind-resistant jacket or vest
Bike gloves
Bike saddle/cover (if you prefer your own)

Off The Bike

Walking shoes
Hiking shoes (if required)
Long + short-sleeved shirts
Sweater/jacket for evenings
Dinner attire (dressy casual) + dress shoes
Swimsuit

Travel Items*

Travel confirmations + tickets for air, rail, etc.
Passport, including photocopy
Local currency
DuVine Tour Itinerary (with meeting + departing info)
Health insurance information
Medications
Cycling gear (+ pedals) if riding on Day 1

*We recommend keeping these items in your carry-on

Additional Items

Cell phone + charger
Photography gear + charger
Power/plug adapter
Toiletries
Sunscreen, hat, + other sun protection gear
Insect repellent

What We Provide

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Bike saddle | • Helmet |
| • GPS (where available) | • Water bottle |
| • Flat pedals | • Snacks/nutrition |
| • DuVine t-shirt and jersey | • Drawstring bag |

Order DuVine Gear

Want DuVine bike shorts to match your complimentary jersey? To order, contact tourcoordinators@duvine.com. Gear is shipped free of charge to DuVine guests in the U.S. and Canada. For expedited shipping and guests outside of the U.S. and Canada, additional shipping fees will apply.

Do I need to bring special gear?

- Cycling shorts are designed to provide extra padding when spending the whole day in the saddle. Don't forget the chamois cream!
- If you bring your own cycling shoes, you must bring your own pedals. If you've never used clip-in pedals before, we don't recommend using them on tour.
- Arm and leg warmers are essential for cooler weather. Wear them with your short-sleeve jersey and shorts for lightweight, easy-to-pack, and effective warmth.
- Bike gloves are a preference, but are recommended for Level 3 and 4 tours. The padding in gloves can ease arm, shoulder, and joint fatigue.

Dressing for the Weather

- The location and time of year of your tour can bring all kinds of weather, from extreme heat to relentless rain. Check extended forecasts before your trip and pack accordingly.

Before You Go

- Ensure your passport is valid for 3-6 months after return date.
- Call your bank/credit cards to notify them of upcoming travel.
- Please limit your luggage to one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on.

BIKE SAFETY

We strongly suggest you read these simple safety instructions and watch our [brief safety video](#). They will help you bike safely before and during your tour!

- Wear a helmet—this is mandatory on tour!
- Familiarize yourself with traffic laws and obey them. Bikes do not have the right of way, but most drivers are respectful to cyclists on the road. Always ride in the direction of traffic.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Knowing what is in front of and behind you may help prevent an accident.
- Alert other riders around you by announcing the presence of traffic ("car up") or pot holes ("pot hole").
- When riding as a group, maintain distance between yourself and other cyclists
- Learn the hand signals to indicate when you are stopping or turning.
- Operate your bike consistently and predictably—avoiding erratic movements.
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
- Primarily use your rear brake.
- Always be aware of weather and road conditions and how they may affect your ability to brake.
- Never wear headphones or use speakers during rides.
- Always listen to additional instructions from your guides on tour.

If you have chosen an e-bike, be aware that it is slightly heavier, faster, and more powerful than a non-electric bike. Therefore, you should anticipate a different reaction when riding downhill, braking, or dismounting from an e-bike. Your guides can offer further instruction during your bike fitting and safety review.

