

SLOVENIA

Slovenia is national state in southern central Europe at the crossroads of main European cultural and trade routes. It borders Italy to the west , Austria to the north, Croatia to the south and southeast and Hungary to the northeast. It covers 20273 km² and has a population of 2.05 million. It's a parliamentary republic and a member of the European Union and NATO. Its capital and largest city is Ljubljana with population of 275000 Longest river in Slovenia is Sava - 947km, 225km are in Slovenia.

Slovenia was first called Carantania, later it was besieged by Franks. From the year 975 up till the 15th century it was a part of Roman Empire. Slovenes lived under the rule of Habsburg dynasty from 15th century until the end of first world war. After the end of first WW Slovenians joined a new south Slavic state called the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians. It was later renamed to Yugoslavia. In the WW 2, Slovenia was occupied by Germans, Italians and Hungarians. After the end of war Slovenia joined to Yugoslavia. In 1991 Slovenia became independent. Later in May 2004, Slovenia joined the EU.

Famous places to visit in Slovenia are Lake Bled, mount Triglav, Postojna cave and many more. In Postojna cave you can see olm. Other popular tourists destinations include the historic cities Ptuj, Škofja Loka, Brežice, Piran and several castles, such as the Predjama Castle.

Slovenia has some very good sportspeople: Tina Maze (a very good skier), Peter Prevc (ski jumper - he is getting better from last season), Dejan Zavec (is the best fighter in the world), Filip Flisar (is one of the best ski crossers) and others. Jurij Vega was a very good mathematician and he was born in Slovenia, there are some funny comedians, Vid Valič, Peter Poles (they have their own show, it's called Vid & Pero show) and Denis Avdič.