

Slovenia

Radovljica

Visit the sweetest Slovenian town,
just a stones' throw from Lake Bled
& Triglav National Park

Life begins each morning

Greetings dear guests seeking the real and green Slovenia!

You probably don't know Radovljica yet since it is modestly hidden in the shadow of neighbouring Bled. You will find Radovljica and its quaint medieval old town centre just a stone's throw from Lake Bled. Thanks to its traditions of apiculture and chocolate, Radovljica is known as the 'sweetest' town in Slovenia. Bathed in sunshine and surrounded by lush nature, the town lies on a promontory above the Sava river. The old town centre is one of the most beautiful in Slovenia while in the countryside there are numerous stories of Slovenian creativity.

Experience Radovljica's wealth of cultural heritage, exceptional events, excellent cuisine and wonderful nature. Discover Radovljica and its surroundings and head off on excursions in the Julian Alps and central Slovenia. The choice is so vast that sometimes even we don't know what to recommend first! A trip to Bohinj, to Ljubljana, or to one of the magnificent waterfalls?

Browse through the catalogue to find out why Radovljica is an excellent choice for your holiday in Slovenia.



01 CULTURE & HISTORY

Take your time. Discover. Experience history.

The riches and diversity of cultural heritage are our identity. You are invited on a journey from the Middle Ages to modern times. Castles dating from the 12th century, 15th century village and town centres, magnificent manors and rural paintings from the 18th century, and works of the greatest Slovenian architect of the 20th century – all of this and more can be found here. Experience the authenticity of the Slovenian countryside and the heritage of bygone centuries which are revealed along every step of the way.

THE SWEETEST SLOVENIAN TOWN

Radovljica has one of the most beautiful old town centres in Slovenia, which features a range of colourful houses and buildings dating from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Stroll among them and visit the museums, galleries, craft and coffee shops housed within them. Take a seat in the picturesque square and soak up the views of the Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings.

THE CRADLE OF IRON FORGING

Some of **Kropa**'s houses date back over 500 years. Up to the 20th century Kropa was the centre of Slovenia's iron forging industry. In the past nails were made and sold throughout Europe, while today contemporary wrought ironwork is produced. Learn about the history of the trade at the Iron Forging Museum and, to best experience the spirit of the past, visit the old blacksmith's forge.

THE RUINS OF CASTLES

Visit the preserved **ruins of Lipnica Castle and Kamen Castle**. The latter, with its picturesque setting and preserved castle tower, offers a genuine insight into the past. Between the 12th and 18th centuries, the keys to the castle passed between well-known families of counts from the territory of today's Slovenia and Austria, while their inhabitants inspired numerous legends.

SLOVENIAN BIGGEST PILGRIMAGE CENTRE

The **Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Brezje** is a special place for Slovenians. Thanks to acclaimed architects, both its exterior appearance and park, together with the internal central Chapel of Mary, are inspirational. Mary Help of Christians is the patron saint of the Slovene nation, while Brezje is the country's biggest pilgrimage centre. The Nativity Museum adjoining the basilica contains nativity scenes from all over the world.



Kropa



Kamen Castle



Brezje



Radovljica

ANTON TOMAŽ LINHART
(1756-1795) was the founder of Slovenian theatre. Radovljica's central square, Linhartov trg, is named after him. Linhart was born in Radovljica and later lived in Vienna and Ljubljana. He wrote the first Slovenian drama and, together with friends, also staged it. The Radovljica Manor houses a museum dedicated to Linhart, and visitors can explore the town in his 'company' through the use of a mobile app.

02 TRADITION

Creativity every step of the way. Be inspired.

Radol'ca maintains, upgrades and respects the skills that were developed and fostered by our ancestors. Knowledge and love for creativity and for harmony with nature, has been handed from generation to generation. This is our heritage, which we are delighted to demonstrate and share with visitors.

APICULTURE

Radovljica is regarded as the centre of Slovenia's apiculture heritage, which is presented in the Museum of Apiculture. The area is also home to the Beekeeping Education Centre of Gorenjska in Lesce, as well as numerous beekeepers, who are invaluable in preserving the tradition and providing us with locally produced honey, pollen, propolis and royal jelly.

LECTAR HONEYBREADS

The tradition of shaping small biscuits from honey dough ('lect'), is among the oldest trades in Slovenian towns and squares. Radovljica's Lectar Inn houses a honeybread workshop with a tradition dating back to 1766. In the workshop you can observe how the coloured items from honey dough are made using an entirely traditional method. The most recognisable products are the decorated red hearts, on which you can also have your name written.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRONWORK

The forging of iron has been practiced for centuries in Kropa and Kamna Gorica. After almost 500 years of nailmaking, in the 20th century Kropa became Slovenia's centre of artistic wrought ironwork. Tradition, innovative designs and authentic handiwork create the best products, which can be admired while strolling through Kropa, Radovljica and Kamna Gorica.

POTTERY

The village of Ljubno was once one of the largest centres of pottery in the Gorenjska region. The pottery tradition continues in Radovljica. One of the houses in Radovljica's old town is being turned into a museum, while another combines old and new practices in the Manufaktura shop and workshop. Handmade ceramicware is also available at local tourist information centres.



Bees in a modern hive



A local blacksmith in Kropa



Manufaktura workshop



ANTON JANŠA

(1734-1773), a beekeeper born near Radovljica, was the greatest Slovenian beekeeper. Beekeepers and researchers still turn to his teachings and insights today. As proof of his legacy, his birth date, 20th May, has been proclaimed by the United Nations as World Bee Day. You can find out more about Anton Janša in the Museum of Apiculture in Radovljica.

Honeybread Workshop and Museum

03 MUSEUMS

Learn about the past. Understand the present.

Fourteen museums, galleries and museum collections give an insight into the history, way of life and creativeness of Radovljica's towns and villages and their inhabitants. See an exhibition of Slovenian folk art depicted on beehive frontal panels, admire contemporary art exhibitions, and learn about the history of beekeeping, iron forging and national folk music. By visiting local museums you can go back in time to witness life in Slovenian towns and villages in the past.

MUSEUM OF APICULTURE

Enter the world of the Carniolan grey bee and learn about the history of Slovenian beekeeping, which has an important role in Slovenian cuisine and culture. Painted beehive panels, which are testament to the special relationship that Slovenians have with bees, represent a unique form of folk art. Radovljica's Museum of Apiculture houses the largest collection.

AVSENIK MUSEUM

A visit to the Avsenik Museum is a must for all lovers of national folk music. Through music and video the museum leads visitors into the world of the creative work and popularity of the Avsenik Brothers Ensemble, famous in Slovenia and throughout Europe. It was in the same building – the birth house of Slavko and Vilko Avsenik – that the ensemble created a new genre of music, which today resounds on stages and at events throughout the world.

ELAN ALPINE SKI MUSEUM

Located adjacent to the Elan ski factory, the museum offers an insight into the milestones of alpine skiing and the production of skis. Elan has launched countless products onto the market, the design and technology of which has changed the history of skiing, and many a global alpine skiing champion has been victorious using Elan skis. Find out about the way they are made and test your skiing ability on the ski stimulator.

VIGENJC VICE FORGE

This modest blacksmiths' workshop is a reminder of the rich Kropa tradition of nailmaking. In the past - as recently as 100 years ago - blacksmiths, assisted by their children, forged nails here. You can visit the workshop, which is part of the Kropa Iron Forging Museum, and see a demonstration of nailmaking, once a week during summer, or at other times for larger groups by prior arrangement.



Vigenjc Vice Forge



Elan Alpine Ski museum



Avsenik Museum



SLAVKO AVSENIK
(1929-2015), from Begunje na Gorenjskem, was, together with his brother Vilko, the founder of Slovenian national folk music – a special genre of music, which was first played by the Avsenik Brothers' Ensemble. Its distinctive sound is a combination of the accordion, clarinet, guitar, contrabass or baritone and vocals. The Avsenik Ensemble has recorded more than 800 tracks and sold 36 million albums, the most well-known song is 'Na Golici'. You can listen to national folk music at various music evenings and festivals in Begunje throughout the year.

Museum of Apiculture

04 GASTRONOMY

Eat well. Taste. Pamper your taste buds.

Radovljica's gastronomy is based on tradition, local ingredients and top-notch preparation. The range of cuisine on offer is high quality and authentic. You are invited to restaurants and inns with centuries of tradition, as well as modern restaurants where chefs create exquisite meals using locally produced and sourced ingredients.

TASTE RADOL'CA RESTAURANTS

Taste Radol'ca unites the best restaurants and inns in Radovljica and its surroundings. They have pledged to ensure the highest quality food with an emphasis on using local ingredients, whilst at the same time each establishment has its own story and delights guests with their diversity and authenticity. Every year in November they also offer promotional menus created using local ingredients. A list of the participating restaurants can be found at www.radolca.si.

STREET FOOD

Local cuisine is an important part of events in Radovljica. Ever new combinations of local ingredients, prepared and served outdoors, add to the enjoyment and atmosphere of concerts and festivals. At the summer and festive December musical evenings, Taste Radol'ca cook up street food in the picturesque old town centre, whilst at April's Chocolate Festival you can enjoy lunch too!

GIFTS OF NATURE

Healthy products come from the lush environment of sunny woodlands and countryside. They are grown and produced by farmers, fruit farmers and beekeepers. Carefully tended herbs, vegetables and fruit trees are the norm in gardens of houses. Every Saturday morning you can buy direct from local farmers at the market close to the Beekeeping Education Centre of Gorenjska in Lesce, while every first Saturday morning in the month a farmers market is held at Vila Podvin.



Slovenian cuisine



Traditional restaurant



Local ingredients



Modern Slovenian cuisine

U

UROŠ ŠTEFELIN

is head chef at Vila Podvin. He is a member of Jeunes Restaurateurs and one of Slovenia's top chefs. Uroš strives to revive forgotten Slovenian dishes and drinks and, in doing so, uses seasonal ingredients from the restaurant's garden and surrounding farms. Through his desire to use local ingredients, Uroš encourages local farmers to grow traditional types of grain and fruit trees.

When honey meets chocolate

Slovenia is a land of honey.

But it's not just honey, numerous other products are available that are collected and produced by hard-working bees. You can find Slovenian honey awaiting you for breakfast, and it is used in the cuisine of many restaurants and inns. Enjoy the full-flavoured taste of Slovenian honey and why not take a jar of 'health' home too.

Is there anyone who doesn't like chocolate?

Radovljica, with its Chocolate Festival and local master chocolatiers, is the 'capital' of Slovenian chocolate. Seek out delicious chocolate and treat yourself to cakes, cake pops, and the other tempting chocolate delights made by our restaurants and patisseries.



05 OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Nature is our playground. Relax and enjoy.

We invite you to get outdoors. Explore nature on foot, by bike or on horseback. Raft on the Sava river or play a round of golf. For the ultimate experience why not take a panoramic flight and see the Julian Alps from above, or head down into a dark Karst chasm. In the destination of Radol'ca you can choose to pursue your favourite pastime or, instead, why not try something new.

HIKING

Set off on easy, culturally themed trails in pristine nature. You will be in awe of the amazing views from the slopes surrounding the Radovljica plains. Those seeking more demanding hiking trails will enjoy conquering the peaks of the Karavanke range and nearby Triglav National Park.

TOP 3 viewpoints:

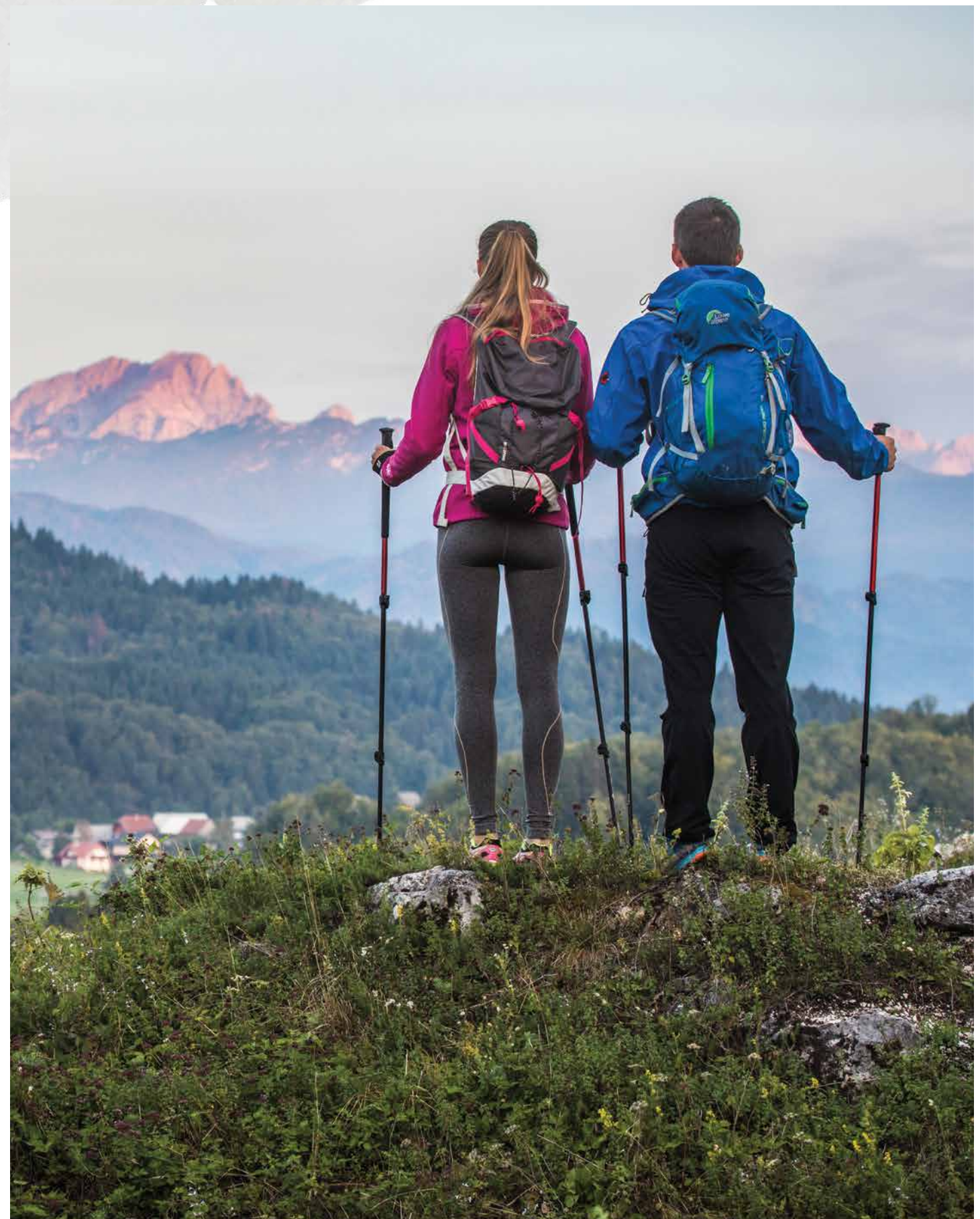
- St. Peter's church above Begunje
- Lipnica Castle
- Jamnik above Kropa

CYCLING

Radovljica is an excellent base for discovering the countryside and attractions by bike. Riding along quiet country roads through wonderful nature and traditional villages and hamlets, you can visit castles, quaint churches or the famous Lake Bled. Before setting off pick up a map of cycling routes at the Radovljica Tourist Information Centre.

TOP 3 circular half-day trips:

- Radovljica – Ribno - Bled – Žirovnica - Radovljica
- Radovljica – Kamna Gorica – Kropa – Mošnje – Radovljica
- Radovljica – Begunje – Leše – Brezje - Radovljica



Outdoor Activities in Radovljica Area

HIKING

Throughout the year you can set off into the hills and mountains or take a stroll on scenic paths in the surroundings of Radol'ca's towns and villages.

SKIING

7 ski resorts lie within less than an hour's drive from Radovljica. A number of smaller ski resorts are even closer.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

The cross-country skiing centres on the Pokljuka plateau and in Planica are less than an hour's drive away, while, when snow conditions permit, there are also cross-country ski trails in Radol'ca.

CYCLING

Discover the attractions of Radol'ca and Bled by bike or set off on a long(er) cycle tour of Gorenjska.

SNOWSHOEING

Strap on your snowshoes and set off with a guide for a walk through the wonderful snowy countryside.

PHOTOGRAPHY

You will find beautiful and photographic wonders of nature and culture everywhere in Slovenia, including here in Radol'ca.

HORSE RIDING

5 horse riding centres offer horse riding courses, and offer experienced riders guided horseback rides through forests and meadows.

ARCHERY

The Parkour archery course attracts experienced archers year-round whilst also offering a special experience for beginners.

MINI GOLF

A family adventure on the edge of the forest with a view of the Julian Alps.

PARAGLIDING

Enjoy a thrilling guided flight above Bled and the Radovljica plains from take off spots in the surrounding hills.

FISHING

The Sava river offers fishing in unspoilt nature throughout the year.

PAINTBALL

A 'battle' of fun and adrenaline in the forest.

CAVING

An exploration of Turk's abyss on Jelovica accompanied by an experienced guide is an opportunity for a real experience of the hidden wealth of nature.

HIKING

A vast number of hiking trails, with something to suit everyone, can be found in the countryside and in the Julian Alps and Karavanke mountain ranges.

PANORAMIC FLIGHTS

Take a panoramic flight from Lesce sports airfield and enjoy a bird's eye view of Triglav National Park and Gorenjska.

WATER SPORTS

A descent along the Sava river, the Sava Dolinka, or the Sava Bohinjka in a raft, miniraft or kayak or thrilling canyoning in the Julian Alps.

BATHING

Take a dip and cool off in the summer in three outdoor swimming pools: two outdoor pools and the Šobec natural lake. Bled and Bohinj lakes are both nearby.

GOLF

Royal Bled is one of the most beautiful golf courses in Europe. It has a total of 27 holes and exceptional views of the surrounding mountains.

SWIMMING

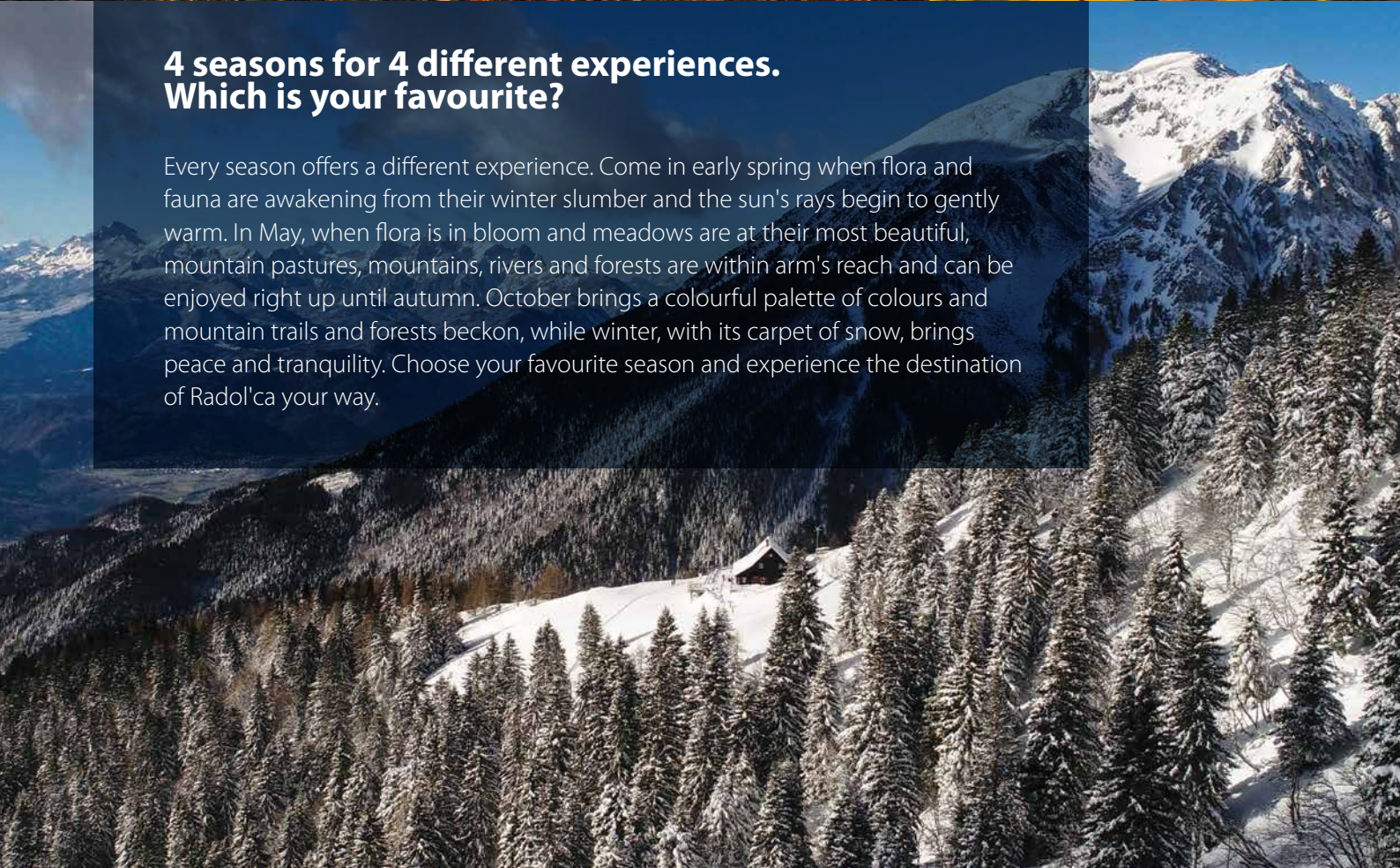
Radovljica's Olympic-size swimming pool offers recreational swimming throughout the year.

06 NATURE 365



4 seasons for 4 different experiences. Which is your favourite?

Every season offers a different experience. Come in early spring when flora and fauna are awakening from their winter slumber and the sun's rays begin to gently warm. In May, when flora is in bloom and meadows are at their most beautiful, mountain pastures, mountains, rivers and forests are within arm's reach and can be enjoyed right up until autumn. October brings a colourful palette of colours and mountain trails and forests beckon, while winter, with its carpet of snow, brings peace and tranquility. Choose your favourite season and experience the destination of Radol'ca your way.



07 SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Be yourself. Come alone, as a couple, or with your whole family!

To make your stay in the destination of Radol'ca as pleasurable as possible, we have prepared a list of the most interesting activities and the finest experiences, with something for everyone. Take a look, pick your and your travelling companions' favourite, and enjoy the surprises in store along the way.

FAMILIES

Take your kids somewhere where you can all relax, enjoy gentle outdoor activities and spend quality time together outdoors.

- Learn about bees on a family adventure through Radovljica
- Play a round of mini golf and pan for gold in a gold mine
- Set off on a descent of the Sava river by raft
- Visit the Elan Alpine Skiing Museum
- Get active and have fun at the Parkour archery course

CULTURE AND HISTORY

If your idea of travel is exploring historical places, visiting museums and learning about traditions try these charming meetings with the past.

- Explore Radovljica's old town centre; every Tuesday morning you can also take part in a FREE guided tour
- Take a walk along the Lamberg Trail to Kamen Castle
- Visit Kropa – the cradle of Slovenian iron forging
- Learn about bees in the Museum of Apiculture in Radovljica
- Visit the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians and the adjoining park in Brezje

LIFE OUTDOORS

If you are an active person looking for new adventures outdoors, you will find joy in the diverse range of outdoor activities.

- Take a hike on the Shepherds' Trail to the Roblek mountain hut
- Treat yourself to a panoramic flight above the Julian Alps
- Admire the view of Triglav from Lipnica Castle or St. Peter's church, or from the viewpoint in Radovljica's old town centre
- Visit famous Bled by bike or mountain bike through forests to the Vodiška planina mountain pasture
- Take a walk from Kropa up to the church at Jamnik



Adventure Mini Golf Panorama



The medieval defence trench in Radovljica



St. Peter's church above Begunje



08 TOP EVENTS

Experience even more. Coincide your visit with our top events.

You will be tempted by Radol'ca's range of exceptional events which are renowned for their diverse programme and pleasant atmosphere. International festivals as well as authentic local events in charming villages take place throughout the year. Numerous events are culinary-related or are inspired by local stories and centuries-old traditions.

SPRING

St. Gregory's Eve

A traditional celebration of the start of spring / Kropa and Kamna Gorica / 11th March at dusk

Chocolate Festival

The biggest chocolate festival in Slovenia / Radovljica / weekend in mid-April

Thursday Evenings in the Square

Summer entertainment with live music and street food in Radovljica's delightful old town centre / Linhart Square, Radovljica / Every Thursday from 30th June to 10th August

Hop-On Hop-Off Bus

Tourist bus with guided tours of attractions / Bled – Radovljica – Begunje – Kropa – Bled / July and August

Medieval Market

A market with products made by Slovenian crafts and tradespeople featuring street shows / Linhart Square, Radovljica / Last Sunday in July

Radovljica Festival

A festival of early music with concerts and workshops / Radovljica Mansion / Two weeks in August

Avsenik Festival or National Folk Music Weekend

A festival of national folk music / Begunje na Gorenjskem / End of August

SUMMER

AUTUMN

Month of Taste Radol'ca

A month of menus featuring local ingredients in Radol'ca's finest participating restaurants / November

St. Nicholas Fair

Switching on of the Christmas lights with a concert and street food / Linhart Square, Radovljica / first weekend in December

Festive December

Outdoor events to mark the end of the year / Linhart Square, Radovljica / Last 10 days of December

Podvin Market

Farmers and craft market / Vila Podvin / Every first Sunday in the month

Flea Market

A flea market in Radovljica's old town centre / Linhart Square, Radovljica / Every first Sunday in the month

National Folk Music Evenings

Concerts by national folk music ensembles / Begunje na Gorenjskem / twice per week from April to November

WINTER

ALL YEAR AROUND



R

RADOVLJICA CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

This international festival is the largest chocolate-related event and one of the biggest culinary events in Slovenia. The festival is renowned for its excellent entertainment programme, atmosphere, and the wide range of chocolate treats which are brought to Radovljica from all over Slovenia as well as further afield. Tasting coupons are a special feature of the festival and make the event even sweeter. The festival takes place every year in April.



When silence makes perfect sense

We are not big fans of crowds and crowded places.

In fact, other than at times of superb events, Radovljica doesn't get crowded at all. And that is why we love it! Sure, more and more people are discovering its beautiful old town, yet there is always enough space for everyone. So feel free to come and enjoy all the colours and sounds it has to offer. Not to mention the views!

We love the views from the old town and from the many hills that surround it.

They may not be the most Instagramable thing in Slovenia, but they will certainly fill your lungs with fresh air and leave you speechless. And you don't need to spread the word about them (of course, you may if you wish). And, dear guest, having read all about Radol'ca, we now invite you to visit the secret corners of our countryside and experience one of the best views for yourself.

09 SLOVENIA WITHIN ARM'S REACH

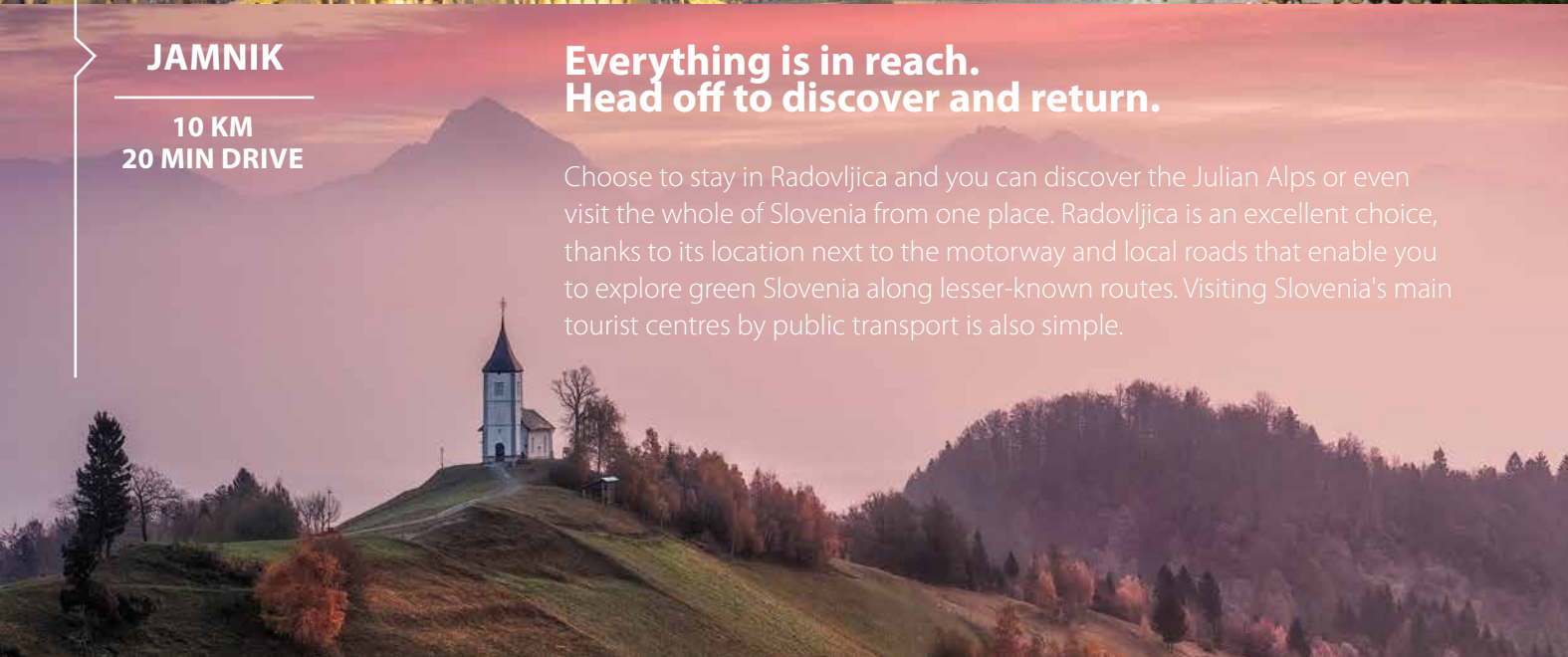
LJUBLJANA

50 KM
40 MIN DRIVE



JAMNIK

10 KM
20 MIN DRIVE



**Everything is in reach.
Head off to discover and return.**

Choose to stay in Radovljica and you can discover the Julian Alps or even visit the whole of Slovenia from one place. Radovljica is an excellent choice, thanks to its location next to the motorway and local roads that enable you to explore green Slovenia along lesser-known routes. Visiting Slovenia's main tourist centres by public transport is also simple.

POSTOJNA CAVE

100 KM
60 MIN
DRIVE



BLED

5 KM
10 MIN DRIVE



TRIGLAV NATIONAL PARK

20 KM
20-40 MIN DRIVE



10

ACCOMMODATION

Welcome

Boutique. In town or in the country. Contemporary or traditional.

Those who choose to stay in Radovljica or its surroundings can choose from a wide range of local accommodation. Some are permeated with Slovenian tradition and soul whilst others are more contemporary in style. All of them have something in common – contact with the local population.

In the destination of Radol'ca you can breathe in the fresh alpine air at one of Radol'ca's camps - one of which is among the best in Slovenia - or stay in a wooden hut in the midst of pristine nature. If you prefer the convenience of staying in a town, opt for accommodation in one of the beautiful bourgeois houses in Radovljica. Lesce is the best choice for easy access and mobility, while those looking to escape the daily hustle and bustle of life can choose to stay in the countryside where time goes by at a different speed.

Enjoy being woken up by birdsong and be charmed by the simplicity of life which is all around.



Guided tours and tailor made programmes

Local stories, anecdotes and hidden corners are what make our towns and villages even more authentic. Why not hire a local guide for a tour of Radovljica, Kropa, Kamen Castle or Begunje. Let us know what you are most interested in and we can enhance your guided tour with tasting sessions, visits to local beekeepers or tours of other attractions.

More information: turizem@radolca.si



Meetings, incentives, conferences, and events

Why not hold your special event in Radovljica's picturesque old town centre, accompanied by excellent cuisine and music. Though small, Radovljica packs in a wealth of idyllic boutique backdrops – medieval houses, the imposing Radovljica Mansion with its Baroque Hall, and the quaint square in front of St. Peter's church with its magnificent linden trees that provide shade. Let your guests experience the real Slovenia, taste Slovenian honey, and meet characters dressed in Baroque style, a chocolate queen or Lectar honeybread makers.

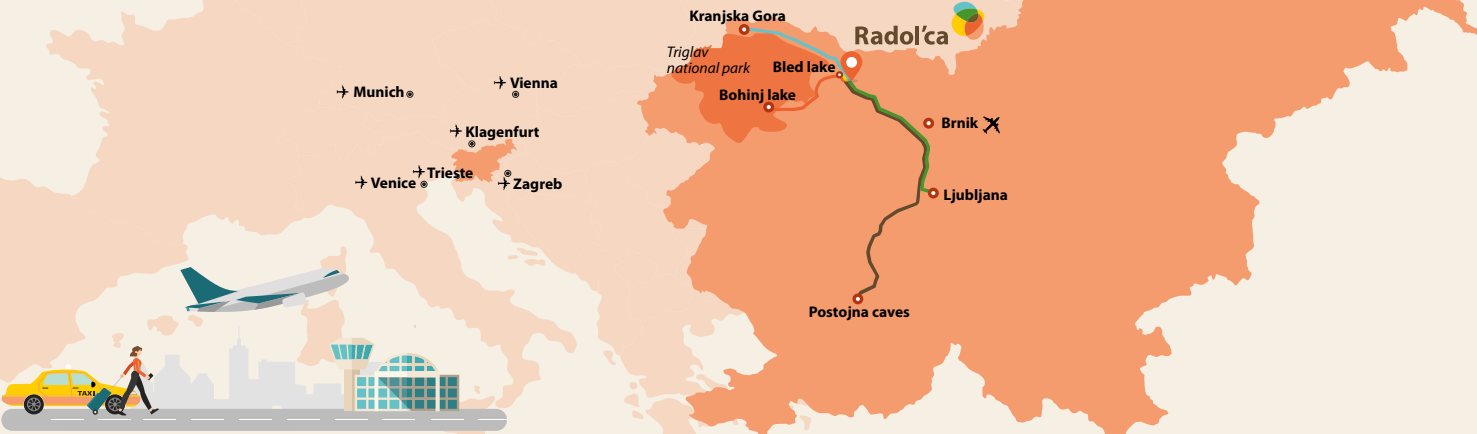
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This is Radol'ca

Radol'ca is an easily accessible destination ideal for discovering Slovenia's gems and for authentic experiences of nature and tradition.



Distance from airports:

30 KM	→ LJUBLJANA	275 KM	→ VENICE
60 KM	→ KLAGENFURT	375 KM	→ VIENNA
165 KM	→ TRIESTE	390 KM	→ MUNICH
190 KM	→ ZAGREB		

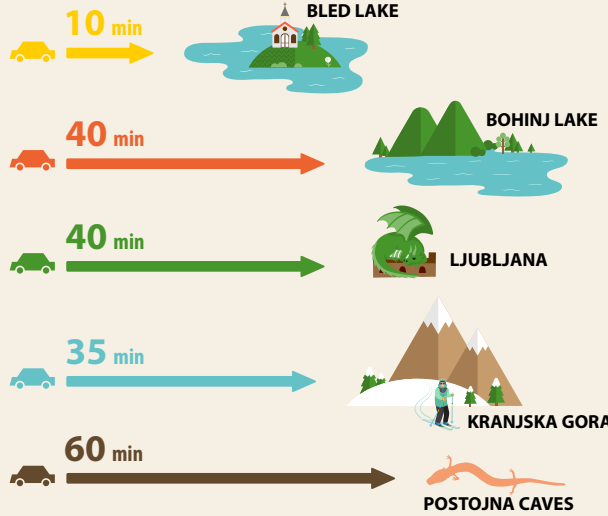
Public transport:

- Scheduled direct bus routes from Radovljica: Bled, Bohinj, Ljubljana, Kranj, Kranjska Gora
- Railway line: Ljubljana – Jesenice – Villach with four local and one international train station.

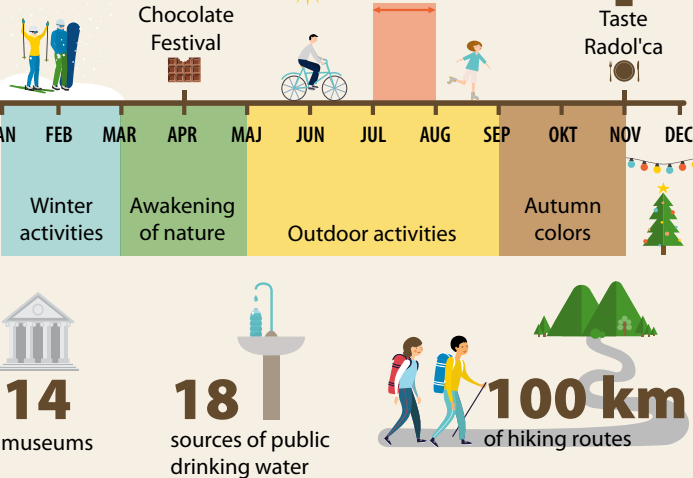
Tourist figures and capacity:

270,000 visitor nights per year	1560 tourist beds
248 beds in hotels	500 campsite pitches
9 guest houses offering 9 to 20 rooms	30 pet-friendly accommodation

Distance from other tourist attractions:



When to visit:



I FEEL SLOVENIA

Looking for hidden gems, quaint towns and a touch of Slovenian tradition? Radol'ca offers all this and more, including top-notch restaurants, beautiful views and homely accommodation.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

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