

*Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities
and
Adventure International Travel Service, Inc.
presents*



*20th Slovak Heritage Tour
July 10 - 24, 2018*

*Escorted by: Jim & Kay Bench
with over 17 years for travel
experience to Slovakia*

**Staying in: Bratislava (3) Trencin (2)
Tatry Mountains (2),
Levoca/Spiska Nova Ves (2),
Kosice (2), & Sliac (2), (# of nights)**



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

(Subject to changes and adjustments)

JULY 10-TUE – PITTSBURGH – NEWARK/CHICAGO/TORONTO - VIENNA (Flights/times to be announced.)

JULY 11-WED – VIENNA - BRATISLAVA Early morning arrival in the city of music, Vienna, Austria. Transfer to Slovakia, visit Devin Castle perched above the confluence of Moravia and Danube rivers. Walk along Danube river, see monument and explore castle ruins. Visit Sad Janka Krala for short walk. Transfer to Bratislava, Slovakia, the largest city & capital of Slovakia. Dinner & overnight in Bratislava. (B, D)

JULY 12-THU - BRATISLAVA Visit Bratislava Castle, which hosted Empress Maria Theresa when she was crowned in 1741 and enjoy a beautiful panoramic view, walking tour of Bratislava, walk through the Old Town, see Old Town Hall, the medieval St. Michael's Towergate, visit St. Martin's Cathedral, the coronation church of the Hungarian kings from 1563-1830, where 11 Hungarian Kings and their 8 consorts were crowned. Free time to relax in one of the charming street cafes. Welcome dinner in Svaty Jur with wine tasting. Overnight in Bratislava. (B, D)

JULY 13-FRI – BRATISLAVA – TRENCIN Travel to Sastin, visit Basilica of the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patron Saint of Slovakia. Travel to eastern slope of the Little Carpathians mountains visit Smolenice castle, visit grave of Stefan Banic, the inventor of the parachute. Attend a mock wedding, dinner and visit museum in Krakovany. Travel to Trencin and stay at Hotel Elizabeth, where you can see the inscription on the Castle rock from 179AD left there by the Roman soldiers under Trencin Castle. Dinner & overnight in Trencin. (B, D)



JULY 14-SAT-TRENCIN Walk square of Trencin, see Renaissance & Baroque burgher houses from 16th/17th century, visit castle. Afternoon enjoy cruise on Vah river scenic valley. Unique evening with goulash, wine, dancing and Slovak cultural performance in a local village. Overnight in Trencin. (B, D)

JULY 15-SUN – TRENCIN - SPISSKA NOV VES/LEVOCA. Visit Cicmany, see historic decorated houses and folk art. Visit Terchova, home of the famous highwayman and defender of the poor, Juraj Jánošík. Travel through Low Tatra Mountains, visit Svaty Kriz, continue to historic medieval walled city, Levoca. Dinner & overnight in Levoca (B, D)



JULY 16 – MON - SPISSKA NOV VES/LEVOCA Walk main square lined with one-story gothic, renaissance & baroque houses. See the Town Hall, the majestic Cathedral of St. Jacob with the world's largest gothic wooden altar (60' high/20' wide) carved by Master Pavol in 1506. Transfer to sister city, Spisska Nova Ves. Enjoy official reception with the mayor at Town Hall. Dinner & overnight in Levoca (B, D)

JULY 17-TUE - SPISSKA NOV VES/LEVOCA -TATRY MOUNTAINS See Spissky Hrad, the ghostly, sprawling ruins of the largest fortified castle in Central Europe and a designated Unesco World Heritage Site. Visit Pieniny National Park, travel down the Dunajec River which winds its way across bizarre limestone rocks shrouded in legend. The long canyon is admired for its extraordinary beauty as you glide down the river on wooden rafts. Travel to majestic High Tatras which are one of the world's smallest range of high mountains, soaring to heights of 8,711 feet. Overnight in the Tatry Mountains. (B, D)



JULY 18-WED – TATRY MOUNTAINS Ride cog railway up to Hrebienok, see cascading waterfalls. Visit museum, see movie of Tatra Mountains. Visit small folk village in the mountains at end of road, Tichy Potok. Participate in folk dancing singing, crafts, experience warm Slovak hospitality. Stop in Kezmarok to visit wooden church. Dinner in Koliba, a shepherd's cottage with Slovak cooking & music. Overnight in Tatry Mountains. (B, D)

JULY 19- THU– TATRY MOUNTAINS - KOSICE Travel through Stara Lubovna, stop in medieval town of Bardejov. Travel to DUKLA PASS and visit memorial and battlefield where Germans and Russians fought in WW II. Dinner and entertainment in local village or Koliba. Arrive in Kosice the 2nd largest city in Slovakia. The picturesque medieval town square has a creek running through the middle of the pedestrian zone, a dancing water fountain, horse carriages and many colorful buildings, shops and boutiques on each side. Dinner & overnight in Kosice. (B, D)



JULY 20-FRI – KOSICE Optional day off to visit friends or relatives in Eastern Slovakia or tour. For those who want to do genealogy research, visit ancestral villages, or visit relatives, English speaking guides/drivers will be available for hire with advanced reservations. Visit Europe's eastern-most gothic cathedral, the majestic St. Elizabeth, visit Miklus Prison, stroll down the square, lined with refurbished historical buildings. Remaining afternoon free to shop in the many boutiques and shops. Dinner & overnight in Kosice. (B, D)

JULY 21-SAT-KOSICE-SLIAC. Visit Andrassy Mausoleum and Domica Cave. Stop in Halic, visit Castle Galicia Nueva Arrive at SPA hotel Kaskady. Dinner and overnight in Sliac, (B, D)

JULY 22-SUN - SLIAC Optional day off to visit friends or relatives in Central Slovakia or free day to enjoy thermal waters at SPA in Hotel Kaskady. Visit Banska Bystrica, the third largest city in Slovakia; best known for its heroic struggle against the Germans during World War II. Walk the beautifully restored medieval marketplace, now called Square of the Slovak National Uprising. Relax in café around the square. Evening in Tajov, birthplace of Murgas and dinner at Cerveny Roc in Banska Bystrica. Overnight in Sliac. (B, D)

JULY 23-MON – SLIAC – PEZINOK/BRATISLAVA Visit Chateau Topolcianky, where Czechoslovak President Masaryk spent his summer holidays. Walk the gardens and park and famous Horse Museum. Visit Nitra. In the castle complex is Nitra Cathedral, the first church in the country and possibly in all of central Europe, see its frescos and modern stained glass as well as the niches. Farewell dinner in Pezinok a village noted for its wineries. Overnight in Bratislava. (B, D)

JULY 24-TUE – VIENNA – NEWARK - PITTSBURGH (Flights & times to be announced.)

Tour Includes:

- ❖ **Group Airfare from Pittsburgh - Newark -Vienna & Chicago –Vienna, Toronto-Vienna, roundtrip on United & Austrian Airlines, with fuel charge and taxes included. Both airline fuel charge and taxes are quoted as of Dec. 01, 2017 and are subject to change until final tour payment made and tickets issued. Holding total of 56 air seats. Only 16 seats from Pittsburgh, 20 seats from Newark, 10 seats from Chicago and Toronto. Seats held until April 01, 2018 and sold on first deposit basis.**
- ❖ **Thirteen (13) nights first class & deluxe hotel accommodation (with private bathroom and shower) two (2) meals breakfast (B), lunch (L) or dinner (D) daily.**
- ❖ **Air-conditioned bus transportation throughout Slovakia, with Slovak/English-speaking guide, sightseeing and admissions as listed in day by day itinerary.**
- ❖ **Pre-trip lunch meeting in Youngstown area prior to trip for travel documents, trip discussion.**

TOTAL TOUR COSTS (AIRFARE & LAND ARRANGEMENTS):

\$3,473* per person from Toronto (Airfare included \$1,174)

\$3,830* per person from Chicago (Airfare included \$1,531)

\$3,986* per person from Newark (Airfare included \$1,687)

\$4,179* per person from Pittsburgh (Airfare included \$1,880)

**Includes \$300 Airline fuel charge & Air taxes of \$114 Toronto, \$136 Newark & Chicago, \$150 Pittsburgh*

Passenger can make their own airline reservations and meet group in Bratislava

Land only price is \$2,299.00 per person! Lower than other tours, averaging \$178 per night per person.

**Both airline fuel charge and taxes are quoted as of Dec.1, 2017*

and are subject to change until final tour payment is made and tickets are issued!

- **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Prices are per person based on double occupancy, based on minimum of 20 passengers booked on tour. Single occupancy is \$599.00 additional. Baggage handling & Gratuities are not included. (\$) Airfare add-ons from other cities at additional costs. Prices are subject to change.

Please make checks payable to AITS, Inc. and Mail to:

Adventure International Travel Service, Inc.

P.O. Box 770410, Lakewood, Ohio 44107-0024

☎ (216) 228-7171 ☎ (800) 542-2487 Fax: (216) 228-7174

Contact International Travel Consultants: Paul Hudak or Marta Kocian

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Youngstown- Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Contacts:

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E-mail: jmbench@yahoo.com, or skbench@gmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Prices: All rates are quoted in US dollars and are based on tariffs and rates of exchange effective December 1, 2017. Costs of all arrangements are subject to change. If exchange rate US Dollars vs. foreign currency increases over 5% from the above date, the final billing at 75 days (APRIL 26) will reflect a currency exchange service fee. Also, airline fuel charges, & ticket taxes will be calculated & billed on April 26, due May 07, 2018.

Not included in tour price: The tour price does not include charges for passports, visas, vaccinations, meals not indicated, optional sightseeing, tour guide gratuity, bellman, driver and local guides gratuity, gratuity at meals, excess baggage, personal & accident insurance, (airline tickets U.S. and overseas departure tax, PFCs, custom fees, airport taxes), alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, telephone, laundry and items of a personal nature.

Reservations and payment: A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required at the time of booking to hold space on a package or tour. Final billing will be sent after all travel arrangements are made. Final payment will be due 64 days (May 07) prior to departure.

Cancellation fees: Full refund less \$100 administrative fee per person for any cancellation received up to 64 (May 07) days prior to departure. In addition, the following cancellation charges will be charged if cancellation is received within:

<u>Within</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Within</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
63- 46 days (MAY 8 - 25)	\$300.00	30 – 0 days (JUNE 10 - July 10)	NO REFUND
45 -31 days (MAY 26 - JUNE 9)	50% tour+ airfare		

Travel insurance: We strongly suggest the purchase of travel insurance to protect against cancellation fees and unforeseen travel expenses. Optional insurance application will be provided at the time of booking and with final billing. ***If insurance is not purchased, a waiver form must be signed and sent with final payment!***

Responsibility and Claims: Adventure International Travel Service, Inc., S-Tours of Slovakia, TatraTrip sro, SAD Dunajska Streda as, and/or their agents/tour operators act only in the capacity of agents for the passengers in the plane, rail, motor car, steamer or any other means of conveyance. They shall not be liable for any injury, damage or loss occasioned by neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conducting the tour, or any hotel proprietor or other persons supplying services or material in connection with the tour. Reserved is the right to withdraw a tour, to retain or to refuse to accept any person as a member of the tour at any time or to make changes in the published itinerary, whenever their sole judgment of conditions warrant, or if it is deemed necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the passengers. Refunds for canceled portions (less expenses incurred in the handling) will be made in accordance with rules of the respective carriers. United & Austrian Airlines, ARC and IATA are not responsible for any act, omission or event while passengers are on board for their travel as per the passage contract between airlines.

I/we are interested in the Youngstown Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Tour. Enclosed is the deposit of \$500.00/per person along with a copy of my/our passport information page(s). I understand tour price does include airlines taxes of \$150 from Pittsburgh, \$136 from Newark & Chicago or \$116 from Toronto. Both airline fuel charge and taxes are quoted as of Dec. 1, 2017 and are subject to change until final billing issued on April 26, 2018. I understand that final payment is due May 7, 2018.

NAME (First, Middle, Last Name as listed on passport): _____

NAME (First, Middle, Last Name as listed on passport): _____

PASSPORT# _____ EXPIRE DATE: _____

PASSPORT# _____ EXPIRE DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (_____) _____ E-MAIL _____

I WILL SHARE ACCOMMODATIONS WITH _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

I PREFER TO DEPART FROM _____ AIRPORT 12/07/17