

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



*presents  
13<sup>th</sup> Annual Tour  
Slovak Heritage  
Tour*



*July 3 - 17, 2007*

**Escorted by:  
Jim & Kay Bench**

**Staying in:  
Kosice(2), Levoca (2),  
Tatry Mountains (2),  
Spa Stay (3), Chateau Stay (2),  
& Bratislava (2) (# of nights)**



**DAY BY DAY ITINERARY**  
(Subject to changes and adjustments)

**JULY 03-TUE-PITTSBURGH-JFK-PRAGUE-KOSICE**(Flights/times to be announced.)

**JULY 04-WED- KOSICE** 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 05-THU-KOSICE** Visit the Golden Treasury and Europe's eastern-most gothic cathedral, the majestic St. Elizabeth. Stroll down the square, lined with refurbished historical buildings including the Eastern Slovak State Theater. Afternoon free to shop in the many boutiques and shops. Travel to the Tokaj wine region of Mala Trna for wine tasting and dinner with home made specialties. Overnight in Kosice. (B, D)



**JULY 06-FRI - KOSICE-LEVOCA (SPIS REGION)** Stop in Presov. See Spissky Hrad, the ghostly, sprawling ruins of the largest fortified castle in Central Europe and a designated Unesco World Heritage Site. Visit Spisská Kapitula, this one-street walled village has been the seat of the Spis bishop and Holy See officials since the mid 13th century. Arrive in Levoca the historic medieval walled city. The main square is lined with one-story gothic, renaissance and early baroque houses. See the Town Hall, the majestic Cathedral of St. Jacob with the world's largest gothic wooden altar (60' feet high/20 feet wide) carved by Master Pavol in 1506. Dinner & overnight in Levoca. (B, D)



**JULY 07–SAT – LEVOCA (SPIS REGION) (SPIS PARTY)** 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. Attend the annual festival in Kezmarok, with local entertainment, exhibits, local artisans and musicians. Visit the well-preserved Old Town of Kezmarok, see a historical 17th century wooden Protestant church built without nails, with seating for 1500 with a wooden pipe organ. Attend a special “Spis” party with dinner with entertainment and dancing. You can invite friends and relatives for an additional cost and reservations required. Overnight in Levoca. (B, D)

**JULY 08–SUN- LEVOCA-TATRY MOUNTAINS (SPIS REGION)** The majestic High Tatras are one of the world’s smallest range of high mountains, occupying only 100 square miles, and soaring to heights of 8,711 feet. Full day tour of breathtaking High Tatras National Parkland. Visit the Red Monastery in 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. Dinner in Koliba, a shepherd's cottage with Slovak cooking & music. Overnight Tatra Mountains. (B, D)



**JULY 09–MON- TATRY MOUNTAINS (SPIS REGION)** Morning transfer to sister city of Spisska Nova Ves for reception with the mayor at Town Hall. Back to scenic Tatra mountains, take cog railway up to Hrebienok, see cascading waterfalls or gondola lift ride to breathtaking Skalnaté Pleso. Dinner and overnight in the Tatra Mountains. (B, D)

**JULY 10–TUE-TATRY MOUNTAINS-SPA STAY** Travel through Low Tatra Mountains to the folk village of Vlkolínec, the only inhabited village in Slovakia wholly untouched by modern development and provides a glimpse of what everyday life was like in traditional settlements of central Slovakia. The 45 log houses (with outhouses) from the 16-19th centuries, a log bell tower and functioning covered well for drinking water are all in use by the 20 residents. Visit Banská 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 one of the many cafés around the square. Check into Spa (Kupele) Bojnice with thermal springs and the charming landscape. Dinner and overnight in Bojnice. (B, D)



**JULY 11–WED-SPA STAY** Full day to relax from the daily hectic way of life and attain peace for both the body and the soul and enjoy the Spa of Bojnice. Spa features Balneotherapy (baths in 7 hyperthermal and isothermal pools & hydrotherapy in bath tubs), Reflex Treatment Massages (classical, reflex, underwater, vibrating, manipulative treatment of the backbone) and Thermo-therapy (packs & compresses/ parafangal/paraffin). The basis is the natural, curative, hydrogen-carbon-sulphate, calcic-magnesium hypotonic acrothermal water with the temperature ranging from 82F to 125 °F. It springs from 9 wells with the spring-discharge of 10 gallons per second from the depth of 3600-4500 feet. Dinner and overnight in Bojnice. (B, D)

**JULY 12–THU-SPA STAY.** Full day tour to visit Kremnica, the oldest continually operating gold mint in Europe, using ore from the richest gold mines in medieval Europe. Founded in 1320 by Hungary’s King Charles Robert, the mint still produces commemorative coins and medals. Visit Banská Štiavnica, protected by the UNESCO designation, with cobblestone streets and beautifully preserved buildings from gothic, renaissance, baroque periods and neo-classical periods. Dinner and overnight in Bojnice. (B, D)

**JULY 13–FRI-SPA STAY-CHATEAU** Visit the fairytale-like appearance Bojnice Castle, with fortifications that date back to the 12th century, reconstructed by its aristocratic owners in the late 19th century to resemble a chateau in France’s Loire Valley. The castle has a museum with weaponry, furniture and paintings. Visit the historic town of Prievidza, with a baroque church and monastery. Visit one of the oldest fortified sites in Slovakia, Nitra. In the castle complex is Nitra Cathedral, the first church in the country and possibly in all of Central Europe, worth seeing for its frescos and modern stained glass. Arrive at the Chateau, built in baroque style in 1767, Château Šalgovce has been lovingly restored and transformed into luxurious accommodations, reminiscent of its hey day of a by gone era. The Château, with French and Habsburg period furniture, Venetian crystal chandeliers, antique mirrors, and decorated with silks from India, provides elegant and refined surroundings. Dinner and overnight in Chateau. (B, D)



**JULY 14-SAT- CHATEAU** Visit Slovakia's best-known spa, Piestany located on a wooded island filled with gardens and sculpture. The spa has several historic buildings dating from the 19th century, including the Secessionist-style (Viennese Art Nouveau) Thermia Palace. One of the springs is named after Beethoven, just one of the many illustrious patients to take the water at Piestany. Attend dinner and cultural performance in a local village. Overnight in Chateau. (B, D)

**JULY 15-SUN-CHATEAU-BRATISLAVA** -Visit Cerveny Kamen castle which has rugged medieval-style bastions and torture chamber on the one hand and more refined neo-classical living quarters, formal gardens and a wild bird show. Arrive in Bratislava, the largest city & capital of Slovakia. Dinner & overnight in Bratislava. (B, D)

**JULY 16-MON BRATISLAVA** Visit Bratislava Castle, which hosted Empress Maria Theresa when she was crowned in 1741 and enjoy a beautiful panoramic view. Walk through the narrow, winding Old Town streets and lanes, and see the Old Town Hall, the medieval St. Michael's Towergate. Visit St. Martin's Cathedral, the coronation church of the Hungarian kings from 1563 to 1830 where 11 Hungarian Kings and their eight consorts were crowned. Free time to shop or relax in one of the charming street cafés. Farewell dinner at local restaurant. Overnight in Bratislava. (B, D)

**JULY 17-TUE-BRATISLAVA-PRAGUE-JFK-PITTSBURGH** (Flights & times to be announced.)

## **Tour Includes:**

- ❖ Airfare from Pittsburgh-JFK on Delta Airlines and from JFK on Czech Airlines to Kosice with connection in Prague. Return from Bratislava (excluding airline taxes & fuel surcharge, of \$267.00 as of December 31, 2006.)
- ❖ Thirteen (13) nights first class hotel accommodation, two (2) meals (breakfast (B), lunch(L) or dinner (D) daily.
- ❖ Air-conditioned bus transportation throughout Slovakia, with English-speaking guide, sightseeing and admissions as listed in day by day itinerary.

**TOTAL COST: \$2,849.00\* PER PERSON**

**\*\$2,799.00 per person (Departing from JFK)**

- **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Single occupancy is \$550.00 additional. Gratuities are not included. (\$) Airfare add-ons from other cities at additional costs. Prices are subject to change without notice.

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

**Adventure International Travel Service, Inc.**

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## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

**Prices:** All rates are quoted in US dollars and are based on tariffs and rates of exchange effective December 31 2006. Costs of all arrangements are subject to change. If exchange rate US Dollars vs. foreign currency increases over 5% on above date, the final billing at 75 days (APRIL 19) will reflect a currency exchange service fee.

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

**Reservations and payment:** A deposit of \$300.00 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 60 days (MAY 04) prior to departure.

**Cancellation fees:** Full refund less \$75 administrative fee per person for any cancellation received up to 60 (JUNE 18) 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>
59- 45 days (MAY 5-19)	\$300.00	4 days (JUNE19-29)	80% of tour+airfare
44 -15 days (MAY 20-JUNE 18)	50% tour+ airfare	3 - 0 days (JUNE 30-JULY 03)	No refund

**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 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. CSA, 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 \$300.00/per person along with a copy of my/our passport information page(s).**

**I understand that final payment is due May 01, 2007.**

**NAME (as listed on passport):** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME (as listed on passport):** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE ( )** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**I WILL SHARE ACCOMMODATIONS WITH** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**I PREFER TO DEPART FROM** \_\_\_\_\_ **AIRPORT** \_\_\_\_\_ **01/03/07**