

## TENATIVE - HIKING TOUR SLOVAKIA& POLAND

DATE: September 10 to 21, 2019

### Day 1, TUE, 10th Sept 2019, Krakow airport – Krakow (D)

\_\_\_\_\_ arrival to the Krakow airport, meet our ENG speaking touristic guide. transfer to Krakow downtown  
Check-in to your hotel Wyspianski 3\* (from 1500hrs)  
Dinner together in hotel restaurant (3-course, no drinks)  
Overnight Krakow

### Day 2, WED, 11th Sept 2019, Krakow – High Tatras/ Slovakia (B, L, D)

Breakfast, check-out  
0900 meet your English speaking guide, departure and transfer to Slovakia/High Tatras area  
On the way, stop in Zdiar, beautiful local settlement with regional architecture, possible to visit the local museum (not in price incl.)  
Lunch together (3-course, no drinks)  
Continue transfer to hotel Grand Stary Smokovec\*\*\*\* in Stary Smokovec village (cca 30-45 min)  
After check in to your hotel, guide will leave  
Time to refresh, possible to use hotel wellness center (swimming pool, whirlpool, finnish sauna, steam sauna, infra sauna, tepidarium, Kneipp bath, massage shower and cooling pool)  
Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks) and overnight

*High Tatras national park is the oldest national park in Slovakia, founded in 1949 and covers a 741-square-kilometer area of the Slovak part of the Zapadne Tatry and Vysoke Tatry (West and High Tatras), also including the entire Belianske (White) Tatras. The tallest and best-known part of this range are the High Tatras, the tallest peak being Gerlach, spiking to a summit at 2655 meters above sea level (m a.s.l.). These mountains, the only of alpine character in Slovakia, stretch their 32 valleys over a mere 26 kilometers, making the range one of the smallest of its kind. The sharp, stony peaks owe their shape to glaciers, which shaped the High Tatras many thousands of years ago.*

### Day 3, THU, 12th Sept 2019, High Tatras – hiking (B, packed L, D)

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, get the packed lunch  
Meeting English speaking mountain guide, walk together to Stary Smokovec ground cable car which will take you to Hrebienok, starting point of this tour

#### **TOUR: STARY SMOKOVEC - HREBIENOK – GREAT COLD VALLEY**

*Official tour starts in Stary Smokovec center. Instead of opening 45 min walking uphill you take the ground cable car which will transfer you to Hrebienok (1285m) – starting point of today walking tour within few minutes. From Hrebienok you take red path for 20 min in order to get crossroad by the Cold creek waterfalls. From this point you will follow blue path. Once you leave the forest area you will have great views into the Great Cold Valley which is one of the most picturesque valleys in whole Tatra mountains. On right handside you will admire massif of Prostredny Hrot and on left handside you will see dales of Slavkovsky peak. The path is on one spot secured by the chains. End of the tour by the end of valley under the final ascent to Zbojnicka Chalet. Return back to hotel same way.*

**Altitude difference: approx. 600 m up, 600 m down**

Possible to extend trek and continue 45 min-1hr walking in order to get in to Zbojnicka chalet (1960 m)

The path is on one spot secured by the chains.

**Total distance incl. chalet: 12.6 km, up 815 m, down 815 m**

Afternoon return back to hotel and free time to use hotel wellness

After return back to hotel, mountain guide will leave

Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks) and overnight

### Day 4, FRI, 13th Sept 2019, High Tatras – hiking (B, packed L, D)

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, get the packed lunch  
Meeting the English mountain guide and walk to close by train station  
Get in train which will take you to Strbske pleso center

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## **TOUR: ŠTRBSKE PLESO - POPRADSKE MOUNTAIN LAKE – GREAT HINCOVO MOUNTAIN LAKE (DEEPEST AND LARGEST MOUNTAIN LAKE IN SLOVAK HIGH TATRAS)**

Tour starts in Strbske pleso center - a tourist and sanatory settlement with the highest elevation in the High Tatras 1355m. It is situated in the southern bank of the mountain-lake with same name. You take the the main red path „Tatranska magistrála“ which will bring you after 1:20 min to Popradske muntain lake 1494m where you find a chalet offering board and lodging and a Symbolic Cemetery devoted to those (mostly professional) who died in the High Tatras mountains. Continue directly to blue path and you enter the Mengusovská Valley - 8 km long branched valley, very attractive for tourists. After 35 min walking moderately easy tour continue up to the Hincova kotlina (Hincova Basin) which is surrounded by the Kôprovský Štít (Kôprovský Peak), Čubrina and breathtaking ridge of the Mengusovské peaks. The Veľké Hincovo Pleso (Great Hincovo Mountain-lake, 1944m) dominates at the end of the Mengusovská Valley. It is the largest (200 800 m<sup>2</sup>) and the deepest one (53,7m) in the Slovak part of the High Tatras. By its bank you can enjoy your lunch, get refreshed for return walk

**Total distance: 16.8 km, up 872 m, down 872 m**

Return back to hotel by train

After arrival back to hotel, mountain guide will leave

Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks) and overnight

### **Day 5, SAT, 14th Sept 2019, High Tatras – Levoca – Spisske Podhradie – High Tatras (B, L, D)**

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, get the packed lunch

Meet English speaking touristic guide and transfer to **UNESCO Spis region**

**1000 Guided tour of medieval town of Levoča with visiting of Church of St. James – highest wood carved altar in the world**

*The pilgrimage starts in the medieval town of Levoča. The town has a historic centre with a well preserved town wall, a Renaissance church with the highest wooden altar in Europe, carved by Master Paul of Levoča, and many other Renaissance buildings.*

1130 lunch together in Levoca (3-course, no drinks)

Cca 1300 departure to Spiš Castle

**1400 Tour of Spis castle – UNESCO**

*Spišská Kapitula is a unique urbanistic-architectonic complex encircled by fortified walls. It is a small clerical town that was founded in the Middle Ages, and is sometimes called the Slovak Vatican. On a dolomite rock 200 m above the surrounding land, at the elevation of 634 m, there is one of the most precious cultural monuments in the Spiš region that reigns over the Spiš basin - the Spiš Castle. It is not just an evidence of architectural development from the 12-th to the 18-th century. With its area of 41 426 m<sup>2</sup> it is at the same time one of the largest castles in the Central Europe.*

Cca 1545 departure and transfer back to High Tatras

After arrival back to hotel, guide will leave

Free time to use hotel wellness

Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks), overnight

### **Day 6, SUN, 15th Sept 2019, Dobsinska Ice cave – Slovak Paradise national park (B, packed L, D)**

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, get the packed lunch

Meet English speaking touristic guide

Morning departure and approx 1 hr bus transfer to Dobsinska Ice Cave settlement

Arrival and approx 1 km/25 min easy walk through forest to get in to the cave entrance

**1100 tour of the UNESCO Dobsinska Ice Cave**

*The cave is located on the south-western edge of the Slovak Paradise National Park in the Spiš-Gemer karst. Dobšinská ice cave belongs among the most important ice caves in the world. Since 2000 it is inscribed on the world heritage list. As compared with known high-mountain ice caves Eisriesenwelt and Dachstein-Rieseneishöhle in Austrian Alps or with the Romanian Scărișoara Cave in Bihor Mts., which has the glaciated part at elevations of 1,100 to 1,120 m n. m., the monumental glaciation of the Dobšinská Ice Cave persist for thousands of years at elevations only 920 to 950 m.*

1215 departure and transfer to Cingov/Slovak Paradise National Park

1315 easy trek in Slovak Paradise National Park incl. beautiful Tomasovsky view

**Total distance: 6,4 km, up 200 m, down 200 m**

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Afternoon return back to hotel  
After arrival back to hotel, guide will leave  
Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks), overnight

### **Day 7, MON, 16th Sept 2019, High Tatras – hiking (B, packed L, D)**

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, get the packed lunch  
Meeting the English mountain guide and walk to close by train station  
Get in train which will take you to Tatranska Lomnica center

#### **TOUR: TATRANSKA LOMNICA – ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAKE – COLD CREEK WATERFALLS – HREBIENOK – STARY SMOKOVEC**

*Official tour starts in Tatranska Lomnica center*

*Tour starts on green path (2hrs 45min) which will lead you up to Rocky mountain lake (1751,1m) which lies on the main and most frequent tourist path called "Tatranska magistrála" - 70 km long and traverses southern slopes of Western, High Tatras and Belianske Tatras. To avoid this walking you will use cable car which ends directly by Rocky mountain lake (ride takes 20-30 min). After break for pictures you will turn left and walk via Tatranska Magistrála (Red Path) to Hrebienok. After few minutes of walking you will pass first chalet on this tour so called Rocky chalet. This chalet (1751 m) is situated at the threshold of the Skalná dolina (Rocky Valley). Trek will continue and after 50 min walking you will arrive to second chalet on this tour so called Zamkovskeho chalet where you can stop for short refresh. Tour will continue down to Hrebienok. On the way you will be able to admire Cold Creek Waterfalls (Huge waterfall, Small and Great waterfalls and Long waterfalls). From Hrebienok you will take a ground cable car which finishes just behind your hotel*

**Total distance: 6,7 km, up 130 m, down 610 m**

Return back to hotel  
After arrival back to hotel, mountain guide will leave  
Dinner in hotel 3-course (no drinks), overnight

### **Day 8, TUE, 17th Sept 2019, Pieniny national park/Dunajec river floating – Zakopane/ Poland (B, L)**

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, check out  
0900 meet English speaking touristic guide and departure to Pieniny national park

**1000 floating on the river Dunajec in Pieniny National Park from Červený Kláštor up to Lesnica with 1 drink and small cold refresh on board incl (beer or soft drink + sheep cheese, bacon and sausage, vegetable, bread)**

*The river Dunajec – natural border between Slovakia and Poland, relaxing adventure in the clear water and virgin beautiful nature on the wooden rafts with traditionally dressed rafters telling stories (this activity is subject of weather).*

**IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER: Tour of beautiful town Kežmarok and its wooden heritage church built without any metallic parts.**

1230 lunch (3-course, no drinks) in Slovak styled restaurant „Koliba“ – Goralský dvor with traditional meals and music

Cca 1400 departure and transfer to Zakopane in Poland

Cca 1600 arrival to Zakopane, check in hotel Belvedere 4\*

**Orientation tour of Zakopane with your guide**

Free time for dinner on the own

Overnight Zakopane

### **Day 9, WED, 18th Sept 2019, High Tatras (Polish side) – hiking (B, packed L, D)**

Breakfast in hotel  
Meet English speaking touristic guide and transfer by bus to parking lot under the Morskie Oko (Sea Eye) mountain lake (transfer up to 1 hr)

**TOUR: PALENICA BIALCZANSKA – MORSKIE OKO – PALENICA BIALCZANSKA  
POSSIBLE TO TAKE HORSE CARRIAGE RIDE IN BOTH WAYS**

The hike takes about 2 hours, a little more there than back because it is uphill. The terrain is easy, its mostly paved unless you take the short cut through the stairways. Upon arrival, eat the packed lunch, walk around the lake, get relaxed and return back same way.

*Morskie Oko is the largest and fourth-deepest lake in the Tatra Mountains. It is located deep within the Tatra National*

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Park, Poland, in the Rybi Potok (the Fish Brook) Valley, of the High Tatras mountain range at the base of the Mięgoszowiecki Summits, in Lesser Poland Voivodeship. The peaks that surround the lake rise about 1,000 meters above its surface; one of them is Rysy (2,499 meters), the highest peak in the Polish Tatras. In the past, Morskie Oko was called "Rybie Jezioro" ("Fish Lake") due to its natural stock of fish, which are uncommon in Tatra lakes and ponds. In the clear depths of the water, one can easily notice trout - so called "famine" trout - that live in the lake. The name "Morskie Oko" ("Sea Eye", "Eye of the Sea") is derived from an old legend, according to which the lake was connected to the sea via an underground passage. The hut of the Polish Tourism and Local Lore Society (PTTK) stands on the moraine that closes the lake from the north. The hut is situated 1,405 meters above sea level and belongs to the oldest Tatra chalets. Morskie Oko is one of the most popular destinations in the Tatras, often receiving over 50,000 visitors during the vacation season.

**Total distance: 16,2 km, up 411 m, down 411 m**

Return back to Zakopane

Dinner together in local restaurant (3-course, no drinks)

Overnight Zakopane

### **Day 10, THU, 19th Sept 2019, Zakopane – Krakow (B, L)**

Breakfast in hotel, check out

0830 Meet English speaking touristic guide and departure to Krakow

#### **Cca 1100 arrival and 1,5hr walking tour of Krakow (Wawel castle area, no entry)**

*You'll arrive to Krakow's must-see attraction and the symbol of the nation, Wawel Hill. Follow your guide to the top, where you'll see stately Wawel Royal Castle, a magnificent Renaissance palace built by Italian architects. It was the kings' seat for more than 500 years until the end of the 16th century, when the seat of power moved to Warsaw."*

*From Wawel we continue walking down hill to city center via Royal road passing interesting sights as church of Saints Peter and Paul which is biggest of the historic Churches of Kraków in terms of seating capacity.*

1230 lunch together in city center (3-course, no drinks)

#### **Continue by walking tour cca 1 hr (Rynek Główny area)**

*Rynek Główny, the city's main square and the largest medieval town square in Europe at 10 acres (4 hectares). Short stop by Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady (St Mary's Basilica), better known in these parts as the Mariacki located in the northern corner of the square.. During the tour you will be passing the church of St. St. Adalbert, one of the oldest stone churches in Poland and Sukiennice - Cloth Hall, originally designed for the medieval rag trade.*

Cca 1500 arrival to hotel and check in hotel INX 4\*

Rest of the day at leisure, dinner on the own

Overnight Krakow

### **Day 11, FRI, 20th Sept 2019, Krakow – Wielicka salt mine – Krakow (B, D)**

Breakfast in hotel

**Departure and transfer to Schindlers Factory Museum - best museum in Krakow!**

**Guided tour of museum in English**

<http://www.mhk.pl/branches/oskar-schindlers-factory>

Transfer back to city center and lunch on the own

Cca 1400 meet guide and transfer to Wieliczka salt mine

**1500-1800 visiting unique salt mine in Wieliczka with English speaking guide**

*The Salt Mine Wieliczka is the oldest salt enterprise on Polish land dating back to the Middle Ages. For centuries it was the source of the country's wealth and the material foundation of its culture. Today it is the most popular Polish tourist attraction. Several hundreds of years of rock salt exploitation have shaped the spatial arrangement of its excavated structure. Lying on nine levels, concealed under the town, the mine reaches down to the depth of 327 metres. Subterranean Wieliczka consists of nearly 300 kilometres of corridors and almost 3,000 chambers. The tourist route accessible to visitors includes a 3.5-kilometres section located from 64 to 135 metres below ground level*

Transfer back to Krakow

**1900 farewell dinner together in Jewish area restaurant with Klezmer music (3-course, no drinks)**

Overnight Krakow

### **Day 12, SAT, 21st Sept 2019, Krakow – Krakow airport (B)**

Breakfast in hotel, check out

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\_\_\_\_\_meet guide and transfer to Krakow airport  
\_\_\_\_\_return flight back home

*If the number of participants changes we have to check the prices accordingly.  
The price is subject to change until all services are reserved and confirmed.  
Program is not confirmed yet and is subject of availability*

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