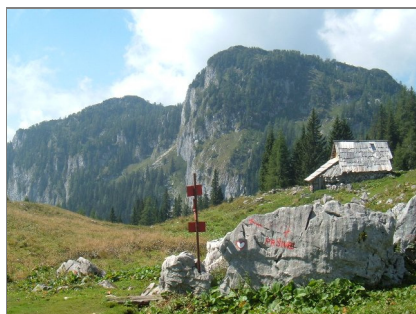




Julian Alps Forest Hut Tour (Self-Guided)

Please email us at info@alpineexploratory.com or call us on +44 (0)1729 823 197 to chat about this holiday. You'll find all the latest information at www.alpineexploratory.com/holidays/julian-alps-forest-hut-tour.html.



Planini Visevnik, a clearing in the Julian Alps

About these Holiday Notes

These Holiday Notes help you decide whether this holiday is right for you. Before your trip we send you final detailed information.

Details

Start Bohinj
Finish Bohinj
Region Julian Alps
Country Slovenia
Length 4 days' trekking and 2 valley walks
Typical day 10km (6 miles), 400m ascent (First trek day has 950m ascent)
Highest altitude 2,071m
Grade Intermediate

Introduction

The Julian Alps are a mountain range mostly within Slovenia, at the Eastern end of the Alpine chain.

Limestone mountains rise above dark green forests to create some quite enchanting scenes. The hills rise to a high point of 2,864m at Triglav, a bold summit that is a beacon for Slovenes.

The aim of this holiday is to explore the lower hills, mid-level forests and the beginnings of the high mountains, through both a 4-day trek and 2 days based in the valley.

A network of mountain huts lets us plan an excellent trek, leaving flexibility to explore to the side. Tempting paths and reachable summits are all around. One marvellous feature of the Julian Alps is the type of tranquil, beautiful meadow that you suddenly meet on the trail.

The base for the trip is Bohinj, the name for the group of villages at the Eastern end of Lake Bohinj. This deep lake sits among steep

hillsides on the Southern edge of the mountains.

The principal villages for us are Ribčev Laz and Stara Fužina. The traditional way of life is much in evidence here, with old barns next to the roadside, tiled with shingle. The traditional Slovenian hay racks are often to be seen in fields.

Our approach

Your route

Start with a daywalk in the Bohinj area before starting the trek. Your trekking route travels through the forests of the South side of the Julian Alps above Lake Bohinj, to reach the famous Triglav Lakes Valley. The high point of the trek is a hut in a wild upland setting. Stay in 3 huts in total. At the end of your trip, enjoy a last daywalk or some cultural exploration.

Routecards and maps

Each day's route is explained in detail on your routecards, to bring you to your night's accommodation. For your valley days you have a choice of routecards to follow. We give you the real maps for you to follow, not printouts or photocopies.

Getting there and back

Your holiday starts and ends in Bohinj. Travel to and from Bohinj is not included in the holiday price - we leave it to you to make the arrangements that suit you best. Ljubljana is the most convenient airport with several transfer options available. Other airports can work well and we can advise before booking. Full information on flight and transfer options will be sent to you on booking.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Bohinj

Evening arrival in Bohinj. It's enjoyable to wander along the shore of Lake Bohinj or to go out for dinner at the local restaurants.
Hotel in Bohinj

Day 2: A first valley walk

Take a day-walk today, to find your legs and to get your bearings in this countryside. Our routecards describe some local walking routes of a moderately gentle nature. For example, make the circuit of a small wooded peak, climb the hill itself, or visit a beautiful waterfall. During the day, take the chance to stock up on snacks and equipment ready for setting off on trek tomorrow. **Hotel in Bohinj**

Day 3: First day on trek

For the first day on trek your route climbs up through the forests to a hut beautifully sited in

a clearing. A lake is just below while high mountains show themselves above the trees. There is much interest along the route including the Kosijev hut in traditional style serving good food. Once at the hut, there is the option to climb the wooded hill Pršivec (1,761m). **Mountain hut**

Day 4: Second day on trek

Today, set off for what is sometimes called the most scenically sited hut in the Julian Alps. This hut is perched on rocks at the edge of the deep Trenta valley. The route makes a way through gentle forests then up through the famous Triglav Lakes Valley which is contained by steep limestone ridges on both sides. Finally break out into the mountains to reach the hut, with limestone peaks all around. **Mountain hut**

Day 5: Third day on trek

Your third day of trekking involves first descending through the Triglav Lakes Valley. There follows a twisting course through woods and over the Karst plateau to the Bogatin area. The col underneath Bogatin is a good out-and-back objective from here, with views out to the West. Descend, then finish the day at a hut with high views of the Bohinj basin. **Mountain hut**

Day 6: Fourth day on trek

Both short and long options are given for the descent to Lake Bohinj, for your last day on trek. Drop straight down from the hut for a chance to see waterfalls, or make it a full day by visiting the rocky peak Vogel (1,922m). **Hotel in Bohinj**

Day 7: A last valley walk

Lots of things are possible on this last day - choose one to suit your mood! Another full day's walk can be had around the Lake Bohinj area. You might like to climb Vogel if you didn't manage it during your trek, for the superb views to the South. Alternatively, Bled is easily reached and gives options for urban exploration as well as lakeside walks. **Hotel in Bohinj**

Day 8: Departure from Bohinj

Morning departure from Bohinj

Our usual schedule of accommodation might not be available, especially if there is not much time between booking and your trip starting. We will book accommodation as closely as possible to this itinerary and present you a schedule for you to check before we proceed.

Accommodation

This holiday stays in mountain huts for the 3 nights of the trek and in a friendly 4-star hotel in Ribčev Laz for the first two and last two nights.

Our **4-star hotel** is a good way to see some of the local tradition while enjoying a high level of comfort in a handy location.

Your trek involves staying at 3 different **mountain huts** each with its own character. The huts offer basic accommodation, usually on alpine-style sleeping platforms and sometimes on bunk beds. The higher huts are more basic still and one hut does not have running water; bottled water can be bought, however.

If you would like single accommodation, this is possible for your nights in the hotel; in the huts, accommodation is in dormitories or shared rooms. Full details of your accommodation will be sent in your info pack.

While we book your places in the huts, it is not possible for us to pre-pay your hut fees. Full instructions are given in your joining notes on how much currency to take with you.

The walking

Terrain

The terrain on your walks comprises steep zig-zagging paths, narrow woodland and mountain paths, wide tracks through forests, and the odd country lane.

The route generally avoids particularly steep, rocky or loose mountain paths, but on occasion these will be met. The short alternative on the last trek day skips one tricky section. Of course, you are always able to explore off our routecards and in doing so might also meet such harder terrain.

This trip has no *via ferrata* or climbing sections and is a walking trip throughout.

Your own routes

While your routecards make up the walking for the trip, you are of course free to walk wherever you choose, taking side trips or going by a different route of your own choice. Please note that if you follow your own route you will have left the holiday for the duration.

Food

Meals included are breakfasts on each morning in your hotel.

For lunches, dinners and all food while on trek, there is opportunity to stock up in the villages and at the huts, and your routecards and notes give information about these places.

For evening meals, the hut food is good and there are good options in the villages.

Insurance

Clients must have insurance to cover themselves for helicopter search & rescue, medical expenses and repatriation.

We recommend, but it is not compulsory, that you also have cover for personal liability, cancellation and your baggage and money.

You might find that your annual multi-trip travel insurance covers these items already.

We will send you details of suitable insurance policies on booking.

Passports and visas

UK passport holders do not need a visa to enter Slovenia for stays of up to 90 days. Please check that your passport is in date.

Weather

The weather in the Julian Alps between July and September is generally highly suitable for Alpine walking.

While snowfall is possible on higher ground all year round, it is unlikely in July and August. Higher up, snow patches might remain at the start of the summer but should not pose problems.

July and August are commonly the hottest months but with greater amounts of rain and greater risk of afternoon thunder storms; and September will again be a quieter time as the season winds down, with some beautifully clear days.

Thunderstorms are a particular danger in high summer, occurring most often in the afternoons.

Equipment

You will need the usual equipment for mountain walking in the Alps. Especially important are good walking boots, waterproofs and sun protection. Bedding is provided by the huts.

We will send you an equipment list on booking. Please also see the Equipment page of our website for more information.

Local expenses

Local expenses include food and drink other than breakfasts in the hotel, hut fees, plus any local transport, attractions and extras.

Guided days

Hire a professional mountain leader to join you on this self-guided holiday, for one or more days. A leader helps plan and carry out each day's walking and adds interest to your holiday by pointing out local features. Please contact us for prices and more information.

Groups

Walk by yourself or in your own group, or see if we can match you up with other like-minded walkers on the same holiday. Any group will be a maximum of 8 people.

Hazards

Health

Slovenia does not require tourists to take any vaccinations. However, it is recommended to keep tetanus vaccines up to date.

Safety

This is adventure travel! This holiday takes you to some wild and remote areas, in particular some areas of upland mountains where navigation can be difficult in poor weather. The weather can also be a hazard in itself. During any walking, whether following a routecard or making your own route, you are responsible for your own actions and safety and you should join the trip with suitable skills, experience and equipment.

Further information

Please email us with any questions at info@alpineexploratory.com.

Disclaimer

This information is given in good faith and is believed to be correct at the time of issue. Alpine Exploratory cannot be liable for any loss or injury incurred.