



Lake Bled & the Julian Alps

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Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Garden Village Bled (p91)
- ➔ Rustic House 13 (p98)
- ➔ Pr' Gavedarjo (p104)
- ➔ Natura Eco Camp (p104)
- ➔ Kekčeva Domačija (p108)
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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Finefood – Penzion Berc (p92)
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- ➔ Gostilna Repnik (p74)
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Why Go?

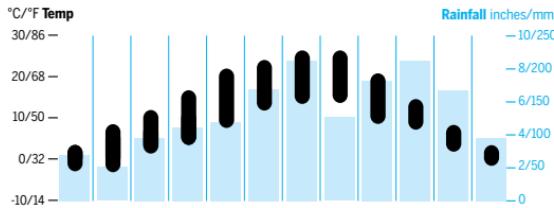
*This is the Slovenia of the tourist posters: mountain peaks, Alpine meadows, postcard-perfect lakes. Prepare to be charmed by Lake Bled (an island *and* a castle!), and surprised by Lake Bohinj (how does Bled score all that attention when down the road is Bohinj?). Mt Triglav's lofty peak may dazzle you enough to prompt an ascent.*

This region, known as Gorenjska (Upper Carniola in English), is home to the country's one and only national park – and it's a beauty. Hiking and biking are high on many travel itineraries, but a leisurely outing on the lakes also delivers fresh air and inspiring panoramas. Winter brings its own rewards, with snowy peaks and plentiful ski slopes.

Mother Nature has blessed the region with ample treasure, but human effort deserves praise too: historic towns like Kamnik, Škofja Loka and Radovljica are architectural treasures, while the road over the spectacular Vršič Pass represents a remarkable wartime legacy.

When to Go

Bled



May & Jun River rafting, waterfalls and wildflowers at their peak.

Jul & Aug Swimming season is short and sweet (and draws the crowds) at lakes Bled and Bohinj.

Dec–Apr Decent skiing conditions can last through to spring.



Lake Bled & the Julian Alps Highlights

1 Enjoy **Lake Bled** (p84) with a shoreline cycle or walk, a swim, a *pletne* (gondola) ride or from the castle terrace.

2 Climb to the top of **Mt Triglav** (p101), Slovenia's tallest peak.

3 Drive or bike over the hair-raising (and spine-tingling) **Vršič Pass** (p107).

4 Paddle a kayak or an SUP surrounded by the immense natural beauty of **Lake Bohinj** (p93).

5 Spend an unforgettable day canyoning, rafting or ballooning, starting from **Bled** (p83).

6 Ride the cable car to the photogenic Alpine pastureland of **Velika Planina** (p74).

7 Investigate bees, beers, *lectar* (gingerbread) and fine food in **Radovljica** (p79).

8 Walk the easy, super-scenic trail through **Vintgar Gorge** (p90).

9 Test out glamping, from tree-pod tents at **Natura Eco Camp** (p104) in Kranjska Gora to treehouses in Bled.