

Trekking the Julian Alps

May 23 – June 3, 2019

Price includes all lodging: including 4 nights airbnb, 6 nights mountain home, 1 night hostel. Includes all city and trail meals; overnight trip to Villach, Austria; ground transportation, group equipment, and permits.

\$1,850.00



Trip Overview

Why should a breathtaking day of hiking through European Alps end with a bus ride back to a hotel? Instead, why not experience the heat of a roaring fire in a warm, wooden home surrounded by hearty, alpine cuisine and pleasant company! Experience Slovenia as a second home as we embark on a journey from one of Europe's greenest and most charming cities before exploring the beautiful Slovenian countryside.

Get a picturesque view of the mountainside at the magnificent Lake Bled before we begin on our trek through the Julian Alps. After our first days of hiking, we will be taking a small excursion to Villach, Austria to experience another array of culture, cuisine and scenery before returning to the alpine wilderness of Slovenia. We will spend the rest of our time backpacking in the South Bohinj range of the Julian Alps. Come join us to visit a "home away from home" as we hike the famed Julian Alps by day and rest in Slovene *planiski domovi* "Mountain Homes" by night.

General Schedule of Trip

Thursday, May 23rd: Arrive in Ljubljana, Slovenia

May 24: Walking tour of Ljubljana

May 25: Recreational kayaking on Lake Bled. Shuttle to our hotel in Kranjska Gora.

May 26-May 28: Hike in the Julian Alps and basecamp at a Slovenian Mountain home (pictured right)

May 29: Excursion to Villach, Austria

May 30-June 1: Hike in the South Bohinj range of the Julian Alps—don't forget a cable car up to the ski lodge!

June 2: Transfer back to Ljubljana and enjoy a closing dinner with friends!

Monday, June 3rd: Return home or continue traveling on your own.



Facilitators

This program will be facilitated by **Liz Rose '19**, who is a mathematical economics major from Los Angeles,

Jimmy Hickey '20, a Spanish and Economics double major, who is often found behind the Science Center slacklining, and alumna

Rachel Loughran '18, who works as an experiential educator in Vermont.

Liz Rose
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Jimmy Hickey
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Slovenia and Austria: The Julian Alps

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Registration and Payment: Registration is at www.gettysburg.edu/grab. A \$150 non-refundable deposit is due at time of registration to secure a place on the trip of your choice. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, e-checks or cash. The final payment will be required at least 60 days prior the trip departure date. To register, please fill out the online form or call the Office of Experiential Education at 717.337-6319.

Not Included in the Price: Hospitalization, individual evacuation costs, insurance, meals in destination cities prior to and at the conclusion of the trip, souvenirs, alcohol, excess baggage charges, or other personal expenses incurred outside the scope of the trip. We DO NOT include airfare in the pricing of our trips. We want to give participants the opportunity to have flexibility in their travel arrangements. Some people will have frequent flyer miles, many people will be traveling from various destinations, while others may already be at the site location or decide to extend their trip once our expedition has concluded.

The Trek: Trekking distances range from 3-10 miles a day. Average trekking time ranges from 3-7 hours per day, which includes stops for lunch & breaks, appreciating the sites, general conversation, and sometimes just figuring out the route. The trekking series expeditions are designed to accommodate those who enjoy trekking at a moderate pace but also enjoy taking numerous stops to enjoy the location.

Group Size: The trip consists of two current and one alumni GRAB staff members and up to 9 participants from the Gettysburg College community; students, employees and their families, and alumni of the college are all welcome

Transportation: You are responsible for your own flights to and from Ljubljana Jože Pučnik International airport and for your transportation from the airport to the hotel, and back to the airport at the end of the program. All other ground transportation will be arranged and provided. If you plan on traveling further following the trip, you are responsible for those logistics as well.

Accommodations: The program's accommodations will include all lodging for the trip's duration: three total nights in an airbnb in Ljubljana, one night in a hotel in Kranjska Gora, six nights in Julian Alps Mountain homes, and a night in private hostel rooms in Villach.

Meals: The price of the program covers all breakfasts, lunches and dinners, excluding alcohol. Get excited for lodging at the mountain homes as these accommodations come with homemade Slovenian cuisine! Lunches will be provided in cities and on the trail. Participants will be responsible for any additional snacks or meals off the trail while traveling to and from Slovenia.

Weather: Be prepared for cooler mountain temperatures, windy days, and possible rain or snow. Average temperatures at this time of year range from 40 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit, but the higher elevations of the Alps (elevation >3000 feet) can bring extreme weather conditions. Expect snow and potentially frigid temperatures on and around summits, even in early June.

Physical Preparation: You do not need to be a top notch athlete to participate on this program, but proper preparation will make the trip much more enjoyable. Exercising 3-5 days a week and walking with a 30 pound pack to get used to the weight are great ways to prepare. No prior experience hiking is required, and all backcountry skills and expectations will be covered during the trip.

Health and Medical & Release of Liability: We require each participant to fill out medical/liability forms for Gettysburg College and for any contracted services who request similar documentation. We can provide information on short term insurance that covers baggage, accident/life, and trip cancellation which is required for our international programs. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Cancellation of Trips: We reserve the right to cancel trips due to lack of participants, State Department warnings, or natural occurrences that may be potentially hazardous. If you cancel the trip more than 60 days before the departure date, you will receive a full refund minus the \$150 deposit. If cancellation occurs 45 -60 days prior to the departure date a 50% refund is available. If cancellation occurs 21 - 44 days prior to the trip a 25% refund will be available. There will be no refunds for cancellations made within 21 days of the expedition.