Walking in the Slovakian Tatras

Trip Code: STW

Version:

WALK & TREK	GUIDED GROUP	MODERATE
		5



HIGHLIGHTS

- Scenic ridge walks with sweeping views of the High Tatras and Western Tatras
- Visit iconic alpine lakes including Zelené Pleso and Popradské Pleso
- Ride the historic Tatra Electric Railway through mountain valleys and forests
- Stay in traditional towns and classic mountain resorts such as Poprad and Starý Smokovec
- Experience authentic Slovak mountain culture, cuisine, and historic alpine huts

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days moderate walking
- Max. Altitude: 1,645m
- Join at Poprad Town

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

Explore one of Europe's most beautiful and underrated mountain ranges on this guided walking holiday through Slovakia's High Tatras and Western Tatras. From your base in charming medieval towns and historic mountain resorts, you'll discover a remarkable variety of landscapes–glacial lakes, forested valleys, flower-filled meadows and dramatic granite peaks.

Each day brings a new perspective on the Tatras, from panoramic ridge walks in the Spišská Magura to unforgettable hikes into alpine valleys beneath towering peaks like Gerlachovský štít. Along the way, you'll stay in welcoming accommodation, enjoy traditional Slovak cuisine and experience the region's rich mountain heritage, including historic huts and scenic rail journeys.

Is this holiday for you?

This holiday is ideal if you enjoy walking in the mountains and are comfortable spending 4-7 hours on foot each day over varied terrain. Trails include forest paths, alpine meadows, rocky mountain tracks, and steady ascents, all at a relaxed guided pace with time to enjoy the scenery. This holiday is centered in two different accommodation bases so it would be possible to skip a day's walking to rest or take in some local sights.

You need a good level of fitness and experience walking in mountainous terrain is important due to the nature of the trails. A If you're looking for a trip that combines rewarding hiking with culture, comfort, and spectacular scenery, this holiday is a perfect fit.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional English speaking experienced tour leader
- Single timed group airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- All land transport, including railway journeys required by the itinerary

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

Travelling to your Destination

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive that low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

The group will meet at the hotel in Poprad.

A single-timed group transfer is provided between Kosice airport and the group hotel.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group or on public transport saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

Slovakia's cuisine is hearty and flavoursome, drawing influence from neighbouring Central European nations and utilising seasonal produce and regional staples. Expect plenty of meat, cheese and potatoes, in various wonderful forms! While in Slovakia, you must try the national dish of bryndzove halusky, a classic meal of potato dumplings and cheese, topped with crispy bacon... Comfort food on a plate! You can also expect to have plenty of goulash - evidence of the Hungarian influence - or fill up with rustic soups such as kapustnica, rich with meat and vegetables. For a delicious, sweet treat, trdelnik (chimney cake) is a sweet dough rolled around a large stick and topped with sugar, cinnamon or chopped nuts, and baked over an open fire for a crispy finish.

Outside of larger cities, vegetarians and vegans may find options more limited as the cuisine traditionally uses a lot of meat and dairy. It is possible to have meat-free options on most classic Slovak dishes, however a strict vegan diet will be more difficult.

Accommodation

During this holiday the group will spend 4 nights in a comfortable hotel in Poprad Town and 3 nights at a hotel in Stary Smokovec. Accommodation is based on twin sharing rooms with en-suite bathrooms.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single rooms available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotels are available on request.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The holiday will be accompanied a locally based experienced English-speaking qualified guide.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

The currency in Slovakia is the Euro. Approximately 250 - 300 Euros will cover your personal spending including non-included meals, local drinks and tips for the leader. Cash can be withdrawn from ATM's using a credit card or a debit card and there are cashpoint facilities at the airports and in Poprad town.

Guidance on Tipping

Tipping is the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your local staff. Tipping is entirely voluntary and should be dependent on good service. We recommend that you give any tips from the group as a whole rather than individually. As a rough guide, a contribution of €15 - €25 per person should provide a suitable pot for tips.

Baggage Allowance

There is no weight limit as such for this holiday other than imposed by your international carrier. However, we ask you to restrict your luggage to one main bag and a small day pack. Remember that your journey will be more pleasant the lighter you pack.

Meal plan

7 breakfasts, 2 boxed lunches and 2 dinners are included in the holiday price. Where there is a wide variety of dining options we have not included the evening meals (5 nights) in the trip price preferring to leave the choice of where to eat and the budget for these meals to you. In addition 4 lunches at the mountain huts have not been included so you are free to choose food and budget. We recommend that you allow from £7 to £15 for these lunches and £15 to £25 for evening meals in local restaurants.

General Information

Passport & Visas

Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

Preparing for your Holiday

It makes a lot of sense to spend some time before coming on a walking holiday getting some additional exercise. Although this is not a sustained trekking trip, you will be walking for 5 or more hours on each day and the fitter you are, the more enjoyable you will find the experience. We would suggest that you adopt a weekly exercise regime leading up to your holiday. Running, cycling and swimming are good for developing better stamina. Before departure, we suggest that you try to fit in several long walks in hilly country.

Climate

Slovakia has a temperate, continental climate with four distinct seasons, typical of Europe. There is snow cover in the Tatra Mountains over the winter months from November to April. Summers are warm, with average daytime temperatures reaching around 22 degrees centigrade in Bratislava, while in the mountainous northern part of the country the average temperature will be cooler by a few degrees. July is the hottest month, while August is the rainy season, with afternoon thunderstorms occurring more frequently over the summer. Precipitation can be expected at any time of year so you should be prepared for all eventualities.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

The following checklist should help you with your packing. As a general rule, you should always try to keep the weight of your luggage to a minimum.

You must bring the following items:

- Walking boots
- Casual shoes / Trainers (for around town)

- Socks
- Walking / hiking trousers
- Lightweight waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear
- Thermal baselayer shirts (2 short sleeve, 1 long sleeve)
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Sun hat or cap
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Lightweight thermal gloves
- Small daypack
- Headtorch
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottle 1 litre (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Basic First Aid Kit including plasters, blister treatment, headache tablets etc.

The following items are optional:

- Travel clothes
- Trekking poles
- Shorts
- Camera
- Spare laces
- Insect repellant
- Swimming kit and towel
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Land Only Information

Please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' within Holiday Information for further details.

Flights and other transport to your destination should not be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary starting and ending in Poprad Town. A single-timed transfer is provided between Kosice Airport to the group hotel in Poprad Town which you can take advantage of.

Flight Inclusive Information

Limited seats are available at the advertised flight price, please book as early as you can. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures and/or upgrades, we will provide you with an alternative quote. It is likely that flight payment will be in advance of your final holiday balance. Booking a flight inclusive package means you will benefit from full financial protection, eases your holiday planning, and leaves us to deal with airlines and schedule changes. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Kosice on Austrian Airlines. Outbound flights will usually depart from the UK in the morning, arriving mid afternoon of the same day (Day 1 of the itinerary). Return flights will depart Kosice in the afternoon on the final day of the holiday, arriving in the UK later that same evening.

Why Choose KE

Why KE?

Named as one of the best countries to visit in Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2025, the High Tatras offer some of the most dramatic mountain scenery in Europe, yet remain refreshingly uncrowded compared to better-known alpine destinations. Our carefully designed itinerary showcases the very best of the region, from iconic alpine lakes and panoramic ridgelines to hidden valleys and traditional mountain huts.With expert guiding, well-paced hiking days and comfortable accommodation throughout, this trip balances adventure with ease. Add in scenic rail journeys, welcoming Slovak hospitality and unforgettable mountain landscapes, and you have a truly special walking holiday that combines exploration, culture and natural beauty in equal measure.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 11/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change