



3 Days in Slovenia

Should You Rent a Car in Slovenia?

- You *can* visit Ljubljana and Lake Bled with only public transportation, the bus system is reliable.
 - But... **you need a car if you want to visit:** Lake Bohinj, Vintgar Gorge (easily), and any of the caves.
 - **Bottom Line-** If you want the *best* experience **rent a car** (roads are wide and easy, not scary driving!)
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Day 1 – Ljubljana Charm & Castle Views

Stay: Ljubljana (near Old Town — everything is walkable)

Transportation: Walk + funicular (optional)

Morning

- Slow wander through Old Town + along the river cafés

Afternoon

- **Free Walking Tour** (genuinely one of the best we've done)
Covers: Prešeren Square, Triple Bridge, Dragon Bridge, riverside market, cathedral bronze doors, WWII memorial alley
- Take the **funicular or hike** up to **Ljubljana Castle** for city views

Evening

- Dinner at **Figovec** (traditional Slovenian cuisine, warm vibes)
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Day 2 – Lake Bohinj + Savica Waterfall + Lake Bled

Stay: Lake Bled (lake-view splurge is worth it)

Transportation: Rental car (1 hr Ljubljana → Bohinj → Bled)

Morning

- Drive toward Bohinj with scenic photo stops
- Walk around **Lake Bohinj** (peaceful + glassy water)
- **Savica Waterfall hike** (about 1 hour round-trip, steps but manageable)

Afternoon

- Arrive at **Lake Bled** + check in
- Walk / bike around the lake (~3.7 miles)
- **Swim, kayak, or rowboat to Bled Island**
If swimming, bring a **waterproof bag** for clothes, you need clothing to enter the church

Evening

- Dinner at **The Oldest Bled Cellar** (local + amazing atmosphere)
- Try the **famous Bled Cream Cake** 🍰, lives up to the hype

Wish we stayed two nights — magical evenings here.

Day 3 – Vintgar Gorge + Cave/Castle Adventure

Stay: Return to Ljubljana **or** continue to Croatia

Transportation: Car

Morning

- **Vintgar Gorge** (book online, and go early to avoid crowds)
- Optional: Hike **Ojstrica / Mala Osojnica** for iconic lake views instead of going into the castle

Afternoon Options (*choose based on mood*)

- **Postojna Cave** (~1 hr from Bled)- Massive cave system, dramatic + impressive
- **Predjama Castle** (20 mins from Postojna)- Biggest Cave Castle in the World
- **Škocjan Caves** (~1 hr 20 mins from Bled)- **UNESCO site**, and more dramatic than Postojna

Evening

- Return to Ljubljana (**45 min drive**)
or
 - Cross into Croatia to continue your trip (*no passport check at border, you won't even notice!*)
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Tips

- Do the **free walking tour**, in Ljubljana best intro to Slovenia
 - Bring **swimwear + waterproof bag** if swimming to island
 - Snacks for hikes, limited food at sites
 - Check weather, mountain rain comes fast
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Smart Splurges and Saves

Splurge:

- Lake-view hotel in Bled
- Rental car, freedom to stop everywhere

Save

- Ljubljana lodging, walkable city, no need to splurge here
- Hikes instead of paid lookouts (Bled Castle), the best views are free