

SLOVENIA – Ljubljana, Bled & Bohinj

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Gustav Mahler began his career in Ljubljana. We think that he needed

the exceptional beauty of this 'new' capital city

to be able to compose a musical equivalent. We say new because Slovenia, of course, is a new country (1991), but with an age-old history.

Ljubljana itself can be called an ancient city, dating back to the Roman Empire (when it was called Emona). It has High Renaissance architecture, elegant streets created during the rule of the Hapsburgs, art nouveau from the late nineteenth century, and, most fascinating of all, the early postmodern buildings, bridges and embankments designed by Joze Plecnik, whose triple Dragon Bridge is the symbol of Ljubljana.

We take you outside of Ljubljana to the beautiful Alpine lake towns of Bled and Bohinj. If the weather is fine we suggest a morning boat ride to the church, which stands on the island in the middle of the lake. Bled Castle, dating back to the eleventh century, is preserved as a museum, and the luminous frescoes of its church are well worth the strain on your neck. We take you to Bohinj, through the villages of the 'Upper Valley', and then a cable car ride to the Vogel mountain (1,532 m), from where there is a wonderful view on to Lake Bohinj and the Julian Alps.

WE SUGGEST:

One night Ljubljana, two nights Bled where you will be staying at the delightful Relais & Châteaux **Vila Bled, the former residence of President Tito.**



“*Don't bother looking at the view, I have already composed it.*”

Gustav Mahler
(1860 – 1911)