

Important Information about Slovakia

Here are some essential facts that will make your stay in Slovakia less of a hassle. Read the following information over so you don't have to find it out the hard way when you arrive.

Time zone: Slovakia uses Central European Time (CET) along with other central European countries (e.g. Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Poland and Italy. Officially it is GMT+1 hour (London), EST+6 hour (New York) PST+9 hour (Los Angeles)

Climate: Slovakia enjoys a moderate continental climate. The weather is sunny in spring and fall, with temperatures between 10 and 20 (C). Temperatures average in the low to mid 20s (C) in summer, evenings may be cool. Winter temperatures averages around 0 (C).

Visa requirements

Visas are not required by most European and U.S. citizens. Canadian, British and Irish nationals can stay up to 180 days visa-free and US citizens can stay up to 30 days. [Click here for a complete list of countries and restrictions.](#)

Country telephone code: +421

Currency

Slovak unit of currency is the Euro (it replaced the Slovenska koruna (SKK), or Slovak crown on January 1, 2009).

Banks and Money Exchange

Only exchange money in banks and certified exchange offices. Exchanges offices can be found in all major hotels, travel agencies and department stores. They are denoted as ZMENAREN (Exchange/Cambio/Wechsel).

Credit Cards and Traveler's checks

EuroCard/MasterCard and Visa are accepted at banks, hotels, restaurants and shops throughout the country. Diners Club and American Express acceptance is also growing. Payment cards accepted are usually marked at the entrance.

Travelers' checks are generally not accepted in stores, small hotels or restaurants, although Eurocheques are taken at some locations. Banks and exchange offices will exchange travelers' checks for a fee. A convenient way of accessing cash outside business hours is to use an automated teller machine (ATM), usually marked as BANKOMAT (bank machine). Most Slovak ATMs belong to one of the major international banking systems such as MasterCard, VISA, Plus, Maestro or Cirrus.

Shopping hours

Most establishments are open between 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., but some smaller ones take lunch breaks. Many banks close at 4:00 p.m. On Saturdays, most stores close by noon, and few are open on Sundays. Nevertheless, there is some 24-hour convenience shops usually located at gas stations. Most major shopping malls are open until the evening seven days a week.

Voltage & Adaptors

220 volts / 50 Hz, Slovakia uses the standard continental European "europlug", with 2 round pins, socket and plug system also found in Germany, France, etc.

Emergency phone numbers

Joint rescue services> 112 Police: 158

Ambulance: 155

Fire: 150

The above numbers are valid anywhere in the Slovak Republic

Tourist information

Tourist information is available on the Internet at

<http://www.slovakia.org/tourism>

You can find the information whatever you are finding, such as sightseeing, transportation, tradition etc....

<http://visit.bratislava.sk/en/>

