



**TIPS FOR A  
GREEN VISIT  
TO THE ŠKOFJA  
LOKA AREA**

Slovenia is a land of green stories and Škofja Loka is among them. One of the best preserved medieval towns in Slovenia, Škofja Loka, and its green hinterland along the Poljane and Selca Sora rivers encourages us to act responsibly and preserve the pristine nature. As part of the Green Scheme of Slovenian Tourism, here in Škofja Loka we are committed to the realisation of a green policy, as we also want to provide you, our dear visitors, with endless green experiences.



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## HOW CAN VISITORS CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE DESTINATION THEY ARE VISITING?

Above all, by being aware that your actions affect the environment, the local community and the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. By following these 'green tips' you contribute to reducing the negative impact of tourism and to strengthening the reputation of the Slovenia Green label.

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## BE GREEN BEFORE YOU EVEN ARRIVE IN SLOVENIA AND ŠKOFJA LOKA

According to the standards of Green Destinations, Slovenia is the first country entirely rated green. The destination of Škofja Loka is also a recipient of the Slovenia Green Silver label. Find out about Slovenia and Škofja Loka before you even arrive.

› **Travel green – travel to Slovenia by train or bus, or seek an airline that invests in a programme to reduce its environmental footprint.**

› **Book your stay with an accommodation with the international and national Slovenia Green label**

The destination of Škofja Loka does not yet have a Slovenia Green certified accommodation provider, however, quite a few of the smaller providers strive for sustainable operation through their responsible handling of wastewater, waste and energy and they are heavily involved in the environmentally friendly efforts of the local community.

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## NATURE AND LANDSCAPE

› **Visit Slovenia's nature parks and discover Škofja Loka's natural treasures**

Slovenia's pristine nature with its diverse flora and fauna is protected within the European Natura 2000 network of nature conservation areas.

› **Leave the car behind and discover Škofja Loka by bike**

The town and its surroundings are criss-crossed by many well-kept and marked cycle paths of various levels of difficulty. To make it easier to overcome the height differences, you can rent an e-bike or opt for a guided e-bike cycling tour. A map of the 13 stage Loka Cycle Route is available at the Tourist Information Centre and from selected accommodation providers.

› **Slovenia is a country just made for light-footed exploration**

The country has more than 11,000km of marked footpaths. The destination of Škofja Loka in the heart of the Škofja Loka hills is a real paradise for hikers. Help maintain the delicate natural balance in protected areas of nature by sticking to designated and marked trails. Any ventures outside the intended path can cause a biotic imbalance. The 'Hiking trails in Škofja Loka' map, which includes 29 trails, is available at the Tourist Information Centre and from selected accommodation providers.

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## ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

› **Experience Slovenia and Škofja Loka like a green outdoor home**

Together we can ensure that it remains clean and tidy for our descendants. Separate waste and take it to municipal collection points. When wandering the hills and mountains, please ensure you take your waste back with you to the valley.

› Water is clean and potable everywhere in Slovenia, as the right to clean drinking water is enshrined in the country's constitution. **We recommend that you buy a bottle suitable for refilling**, as clean drinking water can be found throughout the country. **In Škofja Loka, drinking fountains can be found in the old town.**

› **Help us maintain the wealth of water resources** by taking a short shower instead of a bath and turning off the tap while brushing your teeth.

› **Help contribute to saving energy** by reusing towels or bedding.





- › **Choose soap, cosmetics and other cleaning agents that are environmentally friendly** and do not encroach on the sensitive eco-system. Even when cosmetics containers are almost empty, ensure you use every last bit and take them home with you.
- › **If your device breaks down or the battery runs out** along the way, **deposit it in a designated container.**
- › **Unplug all electronic and other devices** whenever possible.



## CULTURE AND TRADITION

- › **Shop locally and support local producers** by purchasing natural products from the Škofja Loka hills sold under the 'Babica in dedek' (Grandma and Grandpa) trademark, as well as unique, hand crafted products made by master craftspeople united under the 'Škofja Loka Souvenirs' trademark. Products sold under the 'Babica in dedek' trademark can be bought in the Škofja Loka Co-op 'Milk Boutique' (Mlečni butik), while handicraft products can be purchased at the Škofja Loka DUO Arts and Crafts Centre.
- › Over the millenia, the Slovene language has helped to preserve Slovenian culture and sovereignty. **Try to learn a few basic words and phrases** that will put a smile on the face of your Slovenian hosts all over the country (Hello = Dober dan, Thank you = Hvala, How are you = Kako si/ste, This is really good = To je zelo dobro).
- › **Try authentic cuisine in local restaurants, prepared from local ingredients**, united under the culinary trademark 'Tastes of Škofja Loka'.
- › **Attend traditional events** that will acquaint you with Slovenian customs. In the Škofja Loka area don't miss the most important cultural/historic event, the Škofja Loka Historical Festival of History, with an emphasis on the historical, traditional and ethnographical heritage of the town.
- › The best way to **experience the destination is by taking a guided tour led by a local tourist guide**, who will acquaint you with interesting stories and legends and ensure you have an unforgettable experience.



## KEEP GREEN SLOVENIA AND ŠKOFJA LOKA IN YOUR HEART

Share your positive experiences with family and friends and help us spread the green idea.

Share your experiences in Slovenia and Škofja Loka on social networks and use the #ifeelsLOVEnia and #visitskofjaloka hashtags.

Open your heart to green habits and make them become a reality at home on your return.



**Thank you for joining us on our green journey!**

Sora Development Agency – Škofja Loka Tourist Board