

Consultant: Troy Coelho

Issued: Mon, 5th November 2018

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## Slovak Country Guide

Important Information Prior

## Current Travel Advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not issue a travel advice for the Slovak Republic at this time. Read <u>Travel smart</u> for useful travel information to help you prepare for your trip, and advice on what you should do if you run into problems overseas.

Travellers are encouraged to subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence and contact details in the Slovak Republic with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

## Passport and Tourist Visa Conditions Vaccinations & Health Precautions

Slovakia forms part of the Schengen Area. Australian passport holders are usually allowed to enter the Schengen Area for Tourism or Business purposes for up to 90 days in any 180 day period without a visa.

The countries which make up the Schengen Area are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Travellers to the Schengen Area are recommended to ensure their passport is valid for at least six months beyond their intended stay. Travellers are also recommended to be able to provide documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay as well as tickets and entry documents for their onward destination. Additional conditions may apply to minors.

Travellers are encouraged to contact a Slovak mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Slovakia without a visa.

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Slovakia. Frequent or long stay travellers to Slovakia should consider vaccination against hepatitis B and rabies (particularly if working with animals). Tick-borne encephalitis is present throughout many areas in Europe, predominately in forested regions. Whilst no vaccine is available in Australia, travellers visiting risk areas and planning outdoor activities during summer might consider vaccination once in Europe.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures.

Australians travelling to Slovakia should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

## Slovak Representation in Australia

Embassy of Slovakia, Canberra Consulate of Slovakia, Sydney

47 Culgoa Circuit O'MALLEY ACT 2606

(02) 6290 1516 Tel· Fax: (02) 6290 1755

Web: www.mzv.sk/canberra Lakes Business Park Level 1 2A Lord St BOTANY NSW 2019

Tel: (02) 8335 1122

Web: www.hcsr-sydney.org Consulate of Slovakia, Brisbane Consulate of Slovakia, Perth

Tel: (07) 3221 7000 (07) 3221 5610

Consulate of Slovakia, Melbourne

Tel: (03) 9752 3098 (03) 9752 3098 Fax:

Tel: (08) 9371 7081

(08) 6365 4384 Fax:



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# Slovak Country Guide

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### Time Differences between Slovakia and Australia

Slovakia is Greenwich Mean Time +1 hour (+2 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Central European Time (CET) or Central European Summer Time (CEST). Daylight saving is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Slovakia, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 7pm, Darwin 8:30pm, Brisbane 9pm, Adelaide 9:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 10pm. Slovakia, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 6pm, Darwin, Adelaide 7:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 8pm.

## **Important Contact Numbers**

Country Code for Slovakia: +421

To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>

Travelex Card Services: Call the US on +1 954 838 8294

Visa Global Assist:

0 800 000 101 (await dial tone) 800 406 9970

MasterCard:

Call the US on +1 636 722 7111

American Express Travellers Cheques: Call the UK on +44 20 7365 4846

Tourist Information: 16 186 (costs apply)

Emergency Services: All - 112 Ambulance - 155 Fire - 150 Police - 158

The Emergency services may not always have English speakers available. In this case, you should have a Slovak speaker call on your behalf or contact the Australian Embassy.

## Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports	
Name:	Passport #:
Name:	Passport #:
Credit Cards Name:	
Card Number:	
	Institution:
Card Number:	
Travel Insurance Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	Emergency #:
Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	Emergency #:

## Australian Representation in Slovakia

Australian Embassy, Austria

Mattiellistraße 2-4 A -1040 VIENNA

Tel: +43 (0) 1 506 740 Fax: +43 (0) 1 504 1178

Web: www.austria.embassy.gov.au

Australia does not maintain a permanent consular presence in Slovakia. The Australian Embassy in Austria is accredited to this country.

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61 2) 6261 3305.

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## Slovak Country Guide

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## **Duty Free Allowances**

Allowances when entering Slovakia by air from a non EU state:

Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages;

as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.

Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250 g of tobacco. Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 for air and sea travellers,

€300 for others and €150 for those under 15 years.

Allowances when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.

Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes. Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Slovakia, Europe and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Slovak customs please visit <a href="https://www.financnasprava.sk/en">www.financnasprava.sk/en</a> or <a href="https://www

### **Electrical and Telephone Adaptors**

#### Electrical Socket: European

Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia, no voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem: Slovakia uses the Russian/Polish and the Czech phone sockets.

Source: Korjo Travel Products.

To purchase electrical/modem adapters, or for further information on this matter, please view the Korjo adapter guide at www.korjo.com.au.



## Slovak Public Holidays 2018

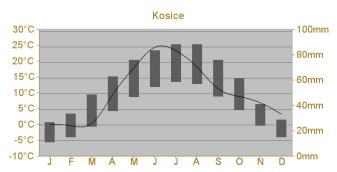
01 Jan: New Years Day 01 Sep: Constitution Day 06 Jan: Epiphany 15 Sep: Lady of Seven Sorrows

30 Mar: Good Friday 01 Nov: All Saints Day
02 Apr: Easter Monday 17 Nov: Democracy Day
01 May: May Day 24 Dec: Christmas Eve
08 May: End of World War II 25 Dec: Christmas Day
05 Jul: Cyril and Metod. Day 26 Dec: Boxing Day

29 Aug: National Uprising

## Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Slovakia





Source: Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute. For local forecasts please go to www.shmu.sk/en.

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## Slovak Country Guide

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## Exchange Rate

Interbank Rate 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.63 Euro 1 Euro (EUR) = 1.58 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.61 Euro 1 Euro (EUR) will cost 1.65 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

### Information

and

Cheat

Sheet

## **Purchasing-Power Parity**

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Euro and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing-power of the two currencies.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 3.76 Euro

Big Mac Euro Area: €3.95 (EUR) = 6.26 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in the Euro Area is therefore 5% more expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

### **Currency Cheat Sheet**

€0.50	=	\$0.82 AUD		This cl	heat sheet uses the	"With 4% Margin" rate	of e	xchange listed above.
€1		\$1.65 AUD	€10		\$16.47 AUD	€100		\$164.73 AUD
€2	=	\$3.29 AUD	€20	=	\$32.95 AUD	€200	=	\$329.47 AUD
€3		\$4.94 AUD	€30		\$49.42 AUD	€300		\$494.20 AUD
€4	=	\$6.59 AUD	€40	=	\$65.89 AUD	€400	=	\$658.94 AUD
€5	=	\$8.24 AUD	€50	=	\$82.37 AUD	€500	=	\$823.67 AUD
€6	=	\$9.88 AUD	€60	=	\$98.84 AUD	€600	=	\$988.40 AUD
€7	=	\$11.53 AUD	€70	=	\$115.31 AUD	€700	=	\$1,153.14 AUD
€8	=	\$13.18 AUD	€80	=	\$131.79 AUD	€800	=	\$1,317.87 AUD
€9	=	\$14.83 AUD	€90	=	\$148.26 AUD	€900	=	\$1,482.61 AUD
						€1,000	=	\$1,647.34 AUD

### **Notes and Coins**

The legal currency of Slovakia is the Euro, which is abbreviated using the symbol € (for example €100). The subunit of the Euro is the cent, of which there are 100 in every Euro. The following units of currency are the most common in Slovakia but other versions and denominations are also in circulation (including a purple €500 note and other nations' coins). Pictures are not to scale.



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### About Slovakia

Ethnicity:

Full Name: Slovenska Republika (Slovak Republic).

Independence: 1918 (from the Austro-Hungarian Empire).

1993 (from Czechoslovakia).

Size: 49,035 sq km (70% the size of the Tasmania).

Population: 5.5 million. Bratislava (capital) 430,000.

Languages: Slovak 79%, Hungarian 9%, Roma 2.3%.

Religion: Catholic 62%, Protestant 8%, Greek Catholic 4%.

Slovak 81%, Hungarian 8.5%, Roma 2%.

GDP Per Capita: US\$24,700 (Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:

179 AD - Trencin is the nth border of the Roman Empire.

The area is contested by Rome and German tribes.

400-600 AD - Slavic people arrive in the area.

820's - Danube Slavs' begin conversion to Christianity. 907 - The Magyars (Hungarians) conquer the Salvs and

rule the area for over one thousand years.

1536-1783 - Buda is captured by the Turks, Magyars move their

capital to Pressburg (Bratislava).

1918 - Nation of Czechoslovakia proclaimed.

1939-45 - Slovak State becomes a client state of Germany.

1948-1989 - Communist rule backed by USSR. 1989 - Velvet Revolution ends communist rule.

1993 - Czechoslovakia splits into Czech Rep. & Slovakia.



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