



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Slovakia - Bratislava

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bratislava
- ✓ **Language:** Slovak
- ✓ **Population:** ± 424,400
- ✓ **Sq. km:** ± 367.6
- ✓ **Currency:** Euros (€)
- ✓ **Country code:** +421 (2)
- ✓ **Visa:** Yes, part of [Schengen](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 112 (general), 150 (fire), 155 (medicinal)



History Recap Over 1 Drink

623-658: First state of Slavs: Samo's Realm. 833-900: Great Moravia. 1863: Matica Slovenka founded as cultural organization, objective: Slovak independence. 1892: Bridge across Danube connecting Hungary and Slovakia, both part of Austro-Hungarian empire. 1918: Habsburg Empire collapses after defeat in WWI → Slovaks & Czechs form Czechoslovakia. '39: Nazis dismember Czechoslovakia (as result of Munich Agreement signed by UK/France/Germany/Italy allowing annexation of Sudetenland to appease Hitler), independent Slovak Republic formed. '44: Slovak National Uprising against German occupation → Soviet Army arrives and reinstates Czechoslovakia in '45 → until '89: Communist rule. '93: Independence after Czechoslovakia splits: Democratic. '95: Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with Hungary. 2001: Constitutional changes towards gaining membership of EU and Nato: decentralization of power to regions, strengthening of judiciary, recognition of minority rights. '04: Nato & EU. '06: Danube floods. '07: Withdrawal troops from Iraq. '09: €. New language law: Fines against official use non-Slovakian languages (*Hungarian minorities mad*). '10: Against dual citizenship Hungarians. '15: More and more shifting to political right-wing climate, migrant-agendas.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 134m. Climate: Marine West Coast Climate (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

☺ **Sights:** Bratislava Castle, Old Town, City Walls, Michalska Brana, Old Town Hall, St. Michael Street, Obchodna Street, Devin Castle, Modry Kostol, Hotel Galeria Spirit, UFO Observation Deck, Street Statues & Fountains, Obrazaren pri Dome, Slavín, Hidden Bunkers (*Pohraničárska signálka*) / Bunker BS-8, Biatec Monument, Grassalkovich Palota, Primacialny Palac, Slovak Radio Building, Kilometer Zero, Chatam Sofer Memorial, Holocaust Memorial, Rusovsky Park, Sigismund Gate, Slovak National Garden & all churches.

☺ **Nature:** Koliba, [Horsky Park](#), [Medicinal Garden](#), [Bratislava Forest Park](#), Lake Zlate Piesky, Lake Strkovecke.

Paid Attractions \$€¥

👍 **Museums:** [Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum](#), [Nedbalka Gallery](#), [Bratislava City Museum](#), [Slovak National Museum](#), [Multium](#), [City Gallery of Bratislava](#), [Museum of Jewish Culture](#), [Natural History Museum](#), [Museum of Pharmacy](#), [Museum of Trade](#), [Arthur Fleischmann Museum](#), [Johann Nepomuk Humme Museum](#), [Uluv](#), [Slovak Museum of Design](#), [Museum Milana Dobesa](#), [Tripland](#), [Police Museum](#). Many are incl. with [Bratislava card](#).

👍 **Sports:** [Petrzalska Plavaren](#) (swimming pool), [Hangair Action Sports Academy](#).

👍 **Wine:** [PD Bratislava Vinohrady](#), [Vinarstvo Cenky](#) & many more.

Budget Bites

⌘ **Supermarkets:** Lidl, Delia, Billa, Tesco, DM.

⌘ **Markets:** Central Market Mileticova, Old Market Hall (Stara Trznica), Farmer's Market, Zilinska Market, Dobry Trh Market.

⌘ **Local food:** Bryndzové Pirohy / Brundzove Halusky (*dumplings*), Kapustnica (*sauerkraut soup*), Strapacky (*sauerkraut dumplings*), Liptauer (*paprika-spiced cheese spread*), Gulas (*goulash*), Vepro Knedlo Zelo (*pork dumpling soup*), Vyprazany Syr (*fried cheese with fries and tartar sauce*), Vyorazany Rezen (*schnitzel*), Zemiakove Placky (*potato pancakes*), Parené Butchy (*poppyseed sweet steamed dumpling*), Laskonsky (*cookies*), Makovnik (*poppyseed roll*), Trdelnik (*funnel cake*).

⌘ **Go veg:** Being vegan/vegetarian is ridiculously easy in Europe, and also in Slovakia. Meatless Slovakian dishes: Vyprazany Syr (*cheese though*), Cesnakova Polievka (*garlic soup*) and Bryndzove Halusky (*dumplings - ask without bacon*). Vegan Restaurants: [Happy Cow – Bratislava](#).

Nights Best Spent

◆ **Nightlife areas:** Old Town, Michalska Street, Obchodna Street, Venturska Street, Karpatska Street, Hvezdoslavovo Square.

◆ **Theatres:** Slovak Philharmonic, Slovak National Theatre, The Old Slovak National Theatre, Divadlo Nova Scena, Cultural Centre Dunaj.

Mama Said

☠ Europe is generally safe... and Slovakia is no exception. Relax.

☠ Tap water is safe to drink in Slovakia.

☠ If you truly love animals, don't support businesses where they're exploited for our entertainment... such as Dinopark Zoo.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very affordable in Slovakia. Check [Booking.com](#) for deals, but always book directly with accommodation to avoid fees. [Air BnB](#) usually has slightly cheaper deals.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)). Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges. Wild camping generally not allowed, but you can get away with it if you hide well off-trail.

Festivals

☼ Cultural Summer: Juli - Sep.

☼ Junifest (*beer festival*): Jun.

☼ Wine Festival: May & Sept.

More festivals [here](#) & [here](#) & [here](#).

Free-Riding?

■ Bratislava's city centre is rather compact, and most sights are at walking distance.

■ Biking is another fun way to explore. There's a relatively cheap [bike sharing program](#) in place.

■ There's an extensive bus / trolleybus / tram network in Bratislava. Tickets need to be bought before entering the bus at kiosks, vending machines and [DPB](#) offices – or via the [app](#). You can choose between 15/30/60-minutes tickets. All tickets are transferable. 50% discount for children / students / pensioners. Tickets are valid on all DPB lines within Slovakia, including night services. Tourist day tickets are way more expensive. Bratislava's central bus station (*Autobusova Stanica Mlynské Nivy*) is located at Chalupkova / Okrug Bratislava. Trolleybus 206 and 208, as well as bus 70 connects you with the city centre – trolleybus 210 with the train station. There is a [Flixbus](#) station in Bratislava with very cheap fares to European destinations.

■ Bratislava's main train station is located on: Námestie Franza Liszta. From there bus 93 brings you to the city centre (*stop Hodžovo námestie*) Some trains from Vienna arrive to the Petržalka train station which is across the river, from there bus number 93 (*direction Hlavná stanica*) connects you with the city centre. Train tickets can be bought on the [ZSSK website](#). I also found great deals on: [Trainline](#).

■ Airports: Bratislava Airport (BTS). From the main train station take bus 61 to reach the airport.