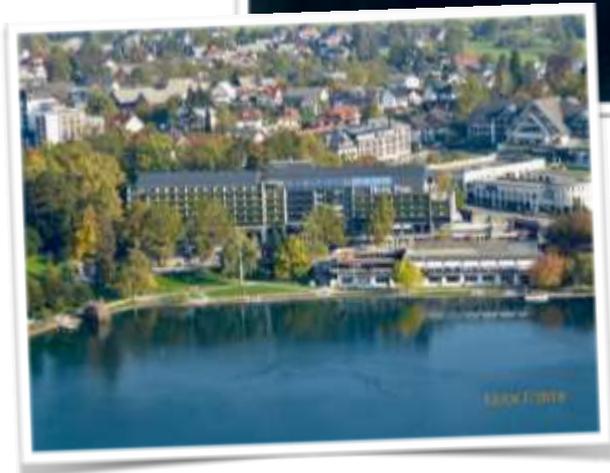
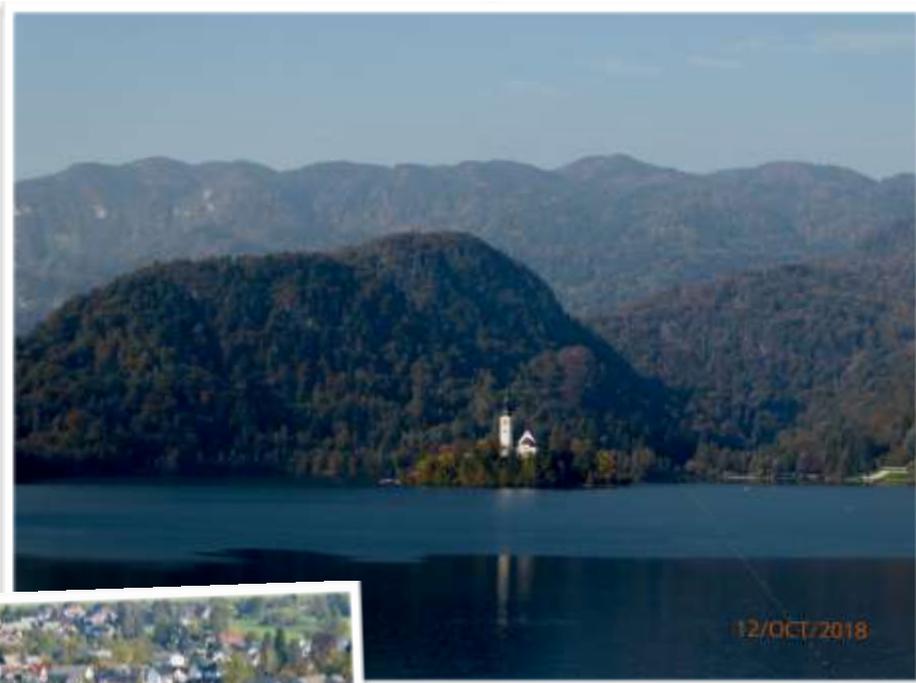


# Slovenia & Lake Bled October 2018.



### October 11th

31 members & friends met very early at their designated pick up points for the journey to Stansted Airport where we met up with the other 4 members of the party. After an uneventful flight to Ljubljana Airport we were met by our guide Blaz & taken by coach to our hotel overlooking Lake Bled.

### October 12th.

The morning was spent at leisure with many of the members either walking around the lake or taking a ride around in the small train. We met again at lunch time & after a short coach journey we went across to Bled Island on traditional Pletnja boats. Here most of us climbed the 99 steps up to the Church of Assumption, (a popular place for weddings.) some even ringing the church bell ! After the return journey we were taken to visit Bled Castle & Museum - again a very steep pathway- but amazing views of the lake, our hotel & surrounding countryside.

### October 13th

Before we set off for Ljubljana we sang 'Happy Birthday' to our 2 birthday girls, Jean & Marian!. Our journey was just under an hour & on arrival our guide Blaz took us on a tour of the Old Town with its cobbled streets & Baroque buildings presided over by a hilltop castle. We were then free for a few hours to explore the wonderful open air market, the Cathedral of St Nicholas or to enjoy food & drink in waterside cafes.

### October 14th.

29 of us went on the half day excursion to Lake Bohinj in a valley in the Julian Alps, travelling through some very small villages just about wide enough for the coach! We stopped at Bohinj to see the medieval Church of St. John . It was rather foggy here but by the time we had reached the summit of Mount Vogel by cable car we had a superb view of the surrounding mountains. Many photos were taken & after some lunch we descended & were taken to the Savica waterfall. Those with plenty of energy decided to climb the 250 steps (each way) to see the most famous waterfall in Slovenia while the others enjoyed coffee & visited the gift shop. We stopped at Bohinj again on the return journey & were able to see the Church of St. John in the sunshine.

### October 15th

This was the earliest start - at 7.45am - for a journey of just under 2 hours to the coast at Izola .Here we enjoyed a 2 hour cruise to Portoroz with a stop at Strunjan on the way but it wasn't as warm as it had been! The coach met us here

& transported us to Piran - another short walking tour before free time for lunch.

Then came the highlight of the tour - the Archangel Michael had been removed from the steeple of the Church of St. George for cleaning & was due to be returned that day. We agreed to extend our stay to see this happening- after all its very rare to see an angel flying over a town. The Angel was taken by lorry from Tartini Square to an area outside the town where a helicopter picked it up & flew overhead towards the steeple to where a few brave men had climbed. They were able to grab the ropes & guide it into position. Amazing! Then back to the coach for the return journey.

October 16th

After checking out of our rooms by 11am we were free to enjoy our last morning at leisure , having lunch before we were transported back to Ljubljana airport for our flight to Stansted airport. Here we were met by Kitch & continued our return journey to Bristol.

I believe all enjoyed the trip meeting up with friends & making new ones along the way.

Thank you to you all for coming & I look forward to meeting you again.  
Carole.