

# SURVIVAL GUIDE

**build it  
smART**

**how to survive**

**BEST course**

**in Bratislava**

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# Introduction

## Welcome

Welcome to the Survival Guide of BEST summer course Bratislava 2011.

Do not hesitate to ask us for any extra information if there is something that is not clear to you. This guide should serve you all the information you need, so don't forget it at home!

We wish you very pleasant stay in Bratislava.

## General info

The Summer Course Bratislava 2011 will take place from the 26th of June to the 6th of July.

All nights we will stay in a dormitory of the university. Lectures will be held in university buildings.

## What we ask from you

Tell us if you have any allergies!

Tell us if you need a visa as soon as possible!!!

Please let us know in advance if you are a vegetarian or by any other reason, such as religion

or health, need a special diet. Then we can try to arrange it as well as possible.

Book your travel!

Tell us the date and place of your arrival!

Happy-happy joy-joy!

## About Slovakia

Slovakia is a peaceful country, with beautiful scenery, inexpensive shopping and tourism and hospitable people. Slovakia is becoming one of Europe's focal points for travel and tourism. "Slovensko" in the native language of Slovak, officially named the Slovak Republic, the country enjoys moderate weather and a prime map location, bridging east and west.

Slovakia's capital city Bratislava is a growing hub of culture, as well as the national seat of politics and business. Its thousand year history offers a great deal to visitors. The second largest city is Kosice. It is a centre of heavy industry, but also of architecture and multiculturalism. It's not easy for a country to overcome a situation like Slovakia's. Although its location is very close for travellers in the region (especially to Austria), many do not realize how near it is. More than a few still feel prejudiced against any recently communist country. Some people have the incorrect impression that war in the former Yugoslavia somehow involved Slovakia. The truth is that life in Slovakia (the food, the shopping, the cultural events) is very European, much like in countries to the west, except that commercialism has not yet advanced so far. Among other things, this means many things are much less expensive here... Come and discover this near but unexploited treasure!

[www.slovakia.travel](http://www.slovakia.travel)

[www.slovakia.com](http://www.slovakia.com)

[www.slovakia.org](http://www.slovakia.org)

## About Bratislava

The pearl on the Danube is called our capital - Bratislava. It's a beautiful city situated in the south-west part of Slovakia. In the past it was an important junction of the main trades and nowadays it's a gate to Slovakia from Austria and Hungary.

Bratislava is situated among the warmest places in Slovakia - in the Danube lowland. It offers a lot of opportunities how to use your free time. The history of the city is very rich and it dates back to the fifth century. At that time arrived the first Slovanic tribes into this locality. They formed their own principality which soon gave a race to the Great Moravian Empire in the 9th century. In 1291 Bratislava became a free royal town. Now it's an administrative, political and economical centre of the state.

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

## About us

### Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (STU)

Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (STU) is a modern educational and scientific institution. Since its foundation in the year 1937 more than 105.000 students have graduated. In average, 16.000 students study at the STU every year.

At present, the STU consists of seven faculties. All the STU faculties provide a study in accredited study programs within the complex system of a bachelor, master and PhD study. Faculties realise credit system compatible with the European credit transfer system enabling mutual mobility of students within European Union member countries and a larger European space. In the area of scientific and research activities the STU successfully joins European Union programs.

[www.stuba.sk](http://www.stuba.sk)

### BEST Bratislava

LBG Bratislava was established in year 1992 and 18000 students can you it's services :)

BEST Bratislava Office Adress:

BEST Bratislava

Fakulta elektrotechniky a informatiky STU

Ilkovicova 3

812 19 Bratislava

Slovakia

+421 2 602 91 649

# Getting to Bratislava

## Airplane

If you take a plane, you will arrive to airport of M. R. Stefanik in Bratislava.

[www.airportbratislava.sk](http://www.airportbratislava.sk)

## Train

If you take a train, you will arrive at main railway station (Hlavna stanica) in Bratislava or

Bratislava – Petržalka.

[www.slovakrail.sk](http://www.slovakrail.sk)

## Bus

If you take an international bus to Bratislava then you will arrive at the International Bus

Station (Mlynske Nivy) in Bratislava.

[www.slovaklines.sk](http://www.slovaklines.sk)

## Car

If you plan to beam yourself, let us know and we will provide you with Google maps coordinates of meeting point.

■ We are really nice people. So if you tell us in advance at what time you arrive in Bratislava, we will pick up you from the station or airport.

So, remember – arrival day is 26th of June, send us information on your arrival day (time and place) at least one week in advance!

## Practical informations

### Meeting point

We will pick you up. Let us know as soon as possible the exact date and time of your arrival to Bratislava.

### Do not forget list

- valid passport / EU ID
- travel and health insurance
- money
- ISIC or Euro 26
- Euro for fee
- sleeping bag
- comfortable shoes
- raincoat
- any music instrument
- swimsuit/swimming trunks
- sportswear
- antimosquito spray
- one smaller bag for day trips
- typical food and drinks of your country for International evening
- CD with your favorite music and the traditional music of your country
- smile, enthusiasm and funny mood

## Some restrictions

Some common laws in Slovakia that might be good to know:

You're not allowed to have had consumed any alcohol if you drive (zero tolerance).

You're not allowed to have, consume or distribute any drugs (not even light ones, such as joint, 1 gram etc.).

You're not allowed to drink alcohol in some public places (especially in the center of the town).

## Public Transport in Bratislava

Tickets for public transportation can be bought in newspaper stands, information desks or directly on the bus stops - don't forget to mark the ticket once in the bus (this validates the ticket) Please note, that it is not possible to buy ticket in the bus and if you get caught without a valid ticket, you'll have to pay fine 40/50,- EUR.

[www.imhd.sk](http://www.imhd.sk)

## What Languages are spoken

English and German are the most often used foreign languages. Less frequent is the knowledge of French, Spanish, Italian or Russian. In the South of Slovakia Hungarian is used many times. Basic phrases in Slovak language are to be found in short vocabulary.

## Health Services

There are hospitals in all larger towns. In smaller towns and tourist areas outpatient clinics and pharmacies are available. Pharmacies are open usually on workdays from 8:00 to 18:00, during weekends and holidays there is always one pharmacy in town non stop on duty. Next to dormitory there are two pharmacies. It is recommended to close a health insurance contract before coming to Slovakia, which is usually a part of the travel insurance package.

## Postal Services

The post offices are open from Monday to Friday 8:00 - 18:00 and on Saturday to 13:00. The main post offices in larger towns or shopping malls are open daily to 20:00 h. It is possible to buy post stamps for post cards and letters directly in the post offices or in some newspaper stands. A 50g letter sent within Slovakia by 2nd class costs 0.33 €, sent by 1st class and registered ones cost 1.03 €. The postage for sending a 50g letter by 2nd class from Slovakia to a neighbouring country costs 0.73 €, while sending a letter of the same class to the rest of the EU-member countries costs 0.93 €. Sending a 50g letter to the rest of the world costs 1.13 €.

## Telephone/GSM

All over Slovakia, there are crediphones where phone cards can be used. These can be bought in post offices and news agents. To phone abroad, dial 00 then the country code and city/local code. You can call from Slovakia to another country using your own mobile phone.

There are three operators of mobile-phones in the Slovak Republic: T-Mobile, O2, Orange.

You can also buy a SIM card of our local operator if you wish, but it is not necessary. Slovakia has 900MHZ GSM networks coverage of 99.6% of the national population. Before] leaving your country, check with your GSM provider that roaming service in Slovakia is available for you.

## Emergency Calls

Emergency services : 155

Police : 158

Fire : 150

All in One: 112

But first, call to organizers (the phone number will you get during welcome party)  
BEST

emergency phone: +421904881543 / +421907299551

## Electricity

The voltage in the Slovak Republic as well as the socket and plug sizes is identical to the most of European countries (220V / 50Hz).

Socket looks like: o l o . types E/C

## Smoking

In catering facilities, in trains and at workplaces smoking is allowed only in areas reserved for smokers. Smoking prohibition is valid in closed public areas (covered bus stops, closed sports fields), in publicly accessible spaces (stations, cinemas, theatres, museums, galleries, exhibition grounds and similar) and at schools and dormitories.

## Accommodation

You will stay in a Student's Dormitory. All participants will stay in the same buildings together with the organizers. Most of the rooms are for 3 people. You should bring your own sleeping bag.

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## Food and drinks

We usually have a breakfast around 8 am and even bigger lunch around 2 pm and a light dinner around 7-8 pm. One of them is served hot. The Slovak national dish is "bryndzové halušky" - a sort of potato dumplings (halušky) with special sheep cheese (bryndza) and usually also topped with fried bacon. You can get this specialty in regular restaurants, too.

But it tastes best in typical wooden sheds or chalets, where also other traditional Slovak meals are on the menu. The entire atmosphere completed with Gypsy music is an unforgettable experience.

Slovak food is specific and probably different a lot from the one you eat in your country.

During the whole SC you have a great opportunity to try various slovak dishes. There will be a Slovak evening during which we will serve traditional food and (of course) traditional drinks. We have a lot of specific drinks – slivovica (plum), demänovka (herbs), borovička (pine) – you can try all of them (but rather not in the same evening).

## Money

From the 1.1.2009 the official currency in Slovakia is Euro (EUR). You can change money in exchange offices and in banks.

## Credit cards

Of course in towns(cities), you can find plenty of ATMs of shops acceptings all known cards (Visa, Eurocard/Mastercard, American Express, Maestro, EC, Cirrus)

## Product and servicies price (EUR)

Bread 1-1.5,- EUR

Milk 0.5-0.8,- EUR

Big Mac 2.5,- EUR

Pizza 3.5-6,- EUR

Coffee 0.6-1.3,- EUR

Wine 2-3.5,- EUR

0,5 l Beer 0.5-1.5,- EUR

Juice 1-1.5,- EUR

Condoms 1.5-2,- EUR

Bus ticket 0.7,- EUR

A pack of cigarettes 3,- EUR

1 postcard+stamp for EU 1,- EUR

Beautiful sightings for free

to find beautiful girl for free (and quite easy) :-)

## Weather

Slovakia has a continental climate, with four distinct seasons. Winters are typically cold and dry, while summers tend to be hot and humid. The average daily temperature range in Bratislava is -5° to 2°C (27° to 36°F) in January and 20° to 26° C and around 12-15 at night.

In July; temperatures tend to be cooler in the mountains. Bratislava receives an average of about 650 mm of precipitation annually. It may rain but will try to order a lot of sun.

## Time

The Slovak Republic uses the Central European Time, CET, which is GMT+1.

## Habits and Customs

When entering a Slovak dwelling the residents change their shoes in the entrance hall and offer some house slippers to the guests as well. In many households it is considered as misbehaviour, if you move in the dwelling space in shoes, which is used outside. To offer the guests a tot of slivovica (a strong, colorless alcoholic beverage primarily made of distilled fermented plum juice, often referred to as plum brandy) or similar distilled liquor (spirits) is considered here as a demonstration of hospitality and respect and if there is not a cogent reason, it is impolite to refuse such an offer. This is especially true in the country, when the residents offer distilled liquor of own production (home made liquor). When meeting/welcoming the acquaintances are shaking hands. Close friends or family members usually kiss once on the cheek or both cheeks and hug slightly. When introducing strangers it is polite to shake hands, in a more informal atmosphere also to give peck (fleeting kiss).

In Slovakia it is a custom to eat 3-times daily, whereby the most is consumed usually in the lunch time between 11:30 - 13:30. The dinner consists of soup and main course, sometimes also a dessert. For supper warm meals are served often, as well, generally between 18 - 21 h.

It is a habit in Slovakia to use the formal second person plural "vykanie" in official relations and meetings, the informal "tykanie", is usual in families and among friends, eventually close colleagues (and is similar to being on first name with someone).

# Quick lesson

## Greetings

Cau! Nazdar! Ahoj! Hi! Ciao! Hello!  
Dobre rano [dobre: ra:no] Good morning  
Dobry den [dobri: djen] How do you do? (Literally: Good day)  
Dobry vecer [dobri: vetcher] Good evening  
Vitajte Welcome  
Dovidenia [dovidjenja] See ya later aligator :)  
Uvidime sa [uvidji:me sa] See you  
Dakujem [djakujem] Thanks  
Prosim [prosi:m] 1:Please, 2:You are welcome

## Important words

Dakujem za jedlo [djakujem za jedlo] Thanks for the food  
Jedno pivo, prosím [prosi:m] One beer, please  
Na zdravie! Cheers  
Áno [a:no] Yes  
Nie [nje] No  
Prosim Vas, kde najdem.... Please, where can I find.....  
Stratil som sa! I'm lost!  
Pomoc! Help!  
Pomoc, napadol ma medved! Help, I'm attacked by the Bear! :-)  
Kde je moja batozina? Where is my baggage?  
Prosim Vas, kde je autobusova zastavka? = Please, where is the bust stop?  
Prosim si jeden hodinovy listok. = Please, I'd like to buy one hour bus ticket

## Important sentences (in order to survive)

Ako sa máš? = How are you?

Páčiš sa mi = I like you

Milujem ťa = I love you

Sex = Sex

Použi kondóm = Use condom

Chceš sa milovať? = Wanna fuck?

Kde je tu krčma? = Where is the pub?

# Contacts

## Address

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## Main Organizers

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