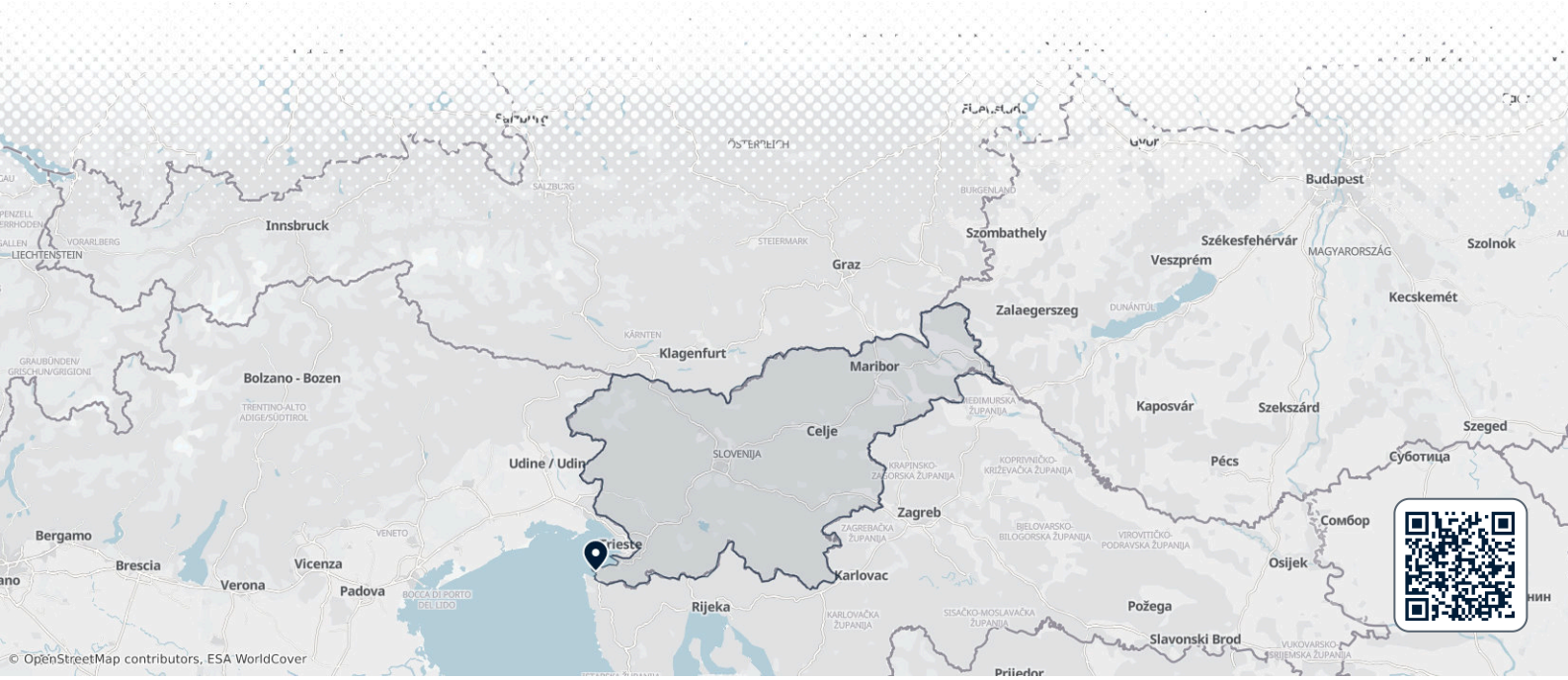


Portorož

Piran · Slovenia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Portorož is Slovenia's main seaside resort. It sits on a sheltered bay a few kilometres south-east of Piran, in the same municipality. A long seafront promenade lines the bay, with hotels, cafés, palm trees and the coast's best-known sandy beach.

The town grew as a spa resort in the late 19th century, and wellness is still a big part of its character. Many hotels have spas that use brine and mud from the nearby salt pans. Portorož suits a relaxed beach or spa holiday, and it is a convenient base for the whole Slovenian coast. Come here for swimming, sunbathing and evening walks. Go to Piran for old streets and Venetian history.

When to visit

June and September are the best months. The sea is warm enough for swimming, and the beach and promenade are calmer than in July and August, the busiest and most expensive weeks. Spring is mild and green, with sea water still too cold for most swimmers. From November to March the resort is quiet and often grey and wet, but spa hotels stay open and many visitors come just for them.

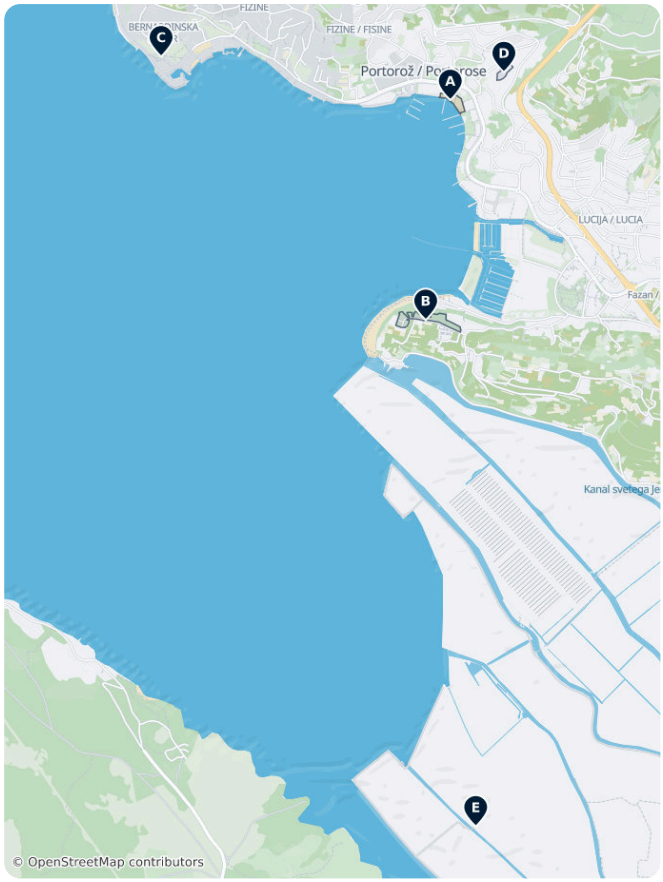
The biggest annual event is the **Festival of Slovenian Film**, the country's national film festival. It takes place each autumn, usually in September or October, at Avditorij Portorož and nearby venues, with screenings open to the public.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for cycling	8° / 12° Feels like 4°	3° / -2°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 13° Feels like 5°	3° / -2°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Good Good for cycling	12° / 16° Feels like 9°	6° / 1°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for cycling	16° / 21°	9° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds
May	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	14° / 10°	Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 30°	18° / 14°	Humid air · Calm winds
July	Great Great for the beach	27° / 31°	20° / 17°	Humid air · Calm winds
August	Great Great for the beach	27° / 32°	21° / 17°	Humid air · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 27°	17° / 12°	Calm winds
October	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 22°	13° / 8°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Good Good for cycling	13° / 18°	9° / 3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 13° Feels like 6°	4° / -1°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: May, June, July, September

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights



A Portorož Beach is the heart of the resort: a long, sandy strip in front of the hotels, with cafés and shade close by. It is also one of the most accessible beaches in Slovenia, suitable for wheelchair users and with adapted restrooms.

B Forma Viva Sculpture Park is an open-air collection of more than 130 stone sculptures on the Seča peninsula, among old olive trees above the sea. Sculptors from over 30 countries have made the works since 1961, and entry is free.

C Church of St Bernardine is the ruin of a 15th-century Franciscan monastery church at the western end of the bay. A Gothic chancel and a tall bell tower survive, now standing in the grounds of a hotel complex.

D Avditorij Portorož is the town's arts and congress centre, opened in 1972. Its open-air theatre and halls host concerts, shows and the national film festival.

E Sečovlje Saltworks lie about 15 minutes south by car, close to the Croatian border. Salt is still made here by hand, and you can walk or cycle along the dikes between the salt fields.

Portorož – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
App Store · Google Play
Scan to download the app

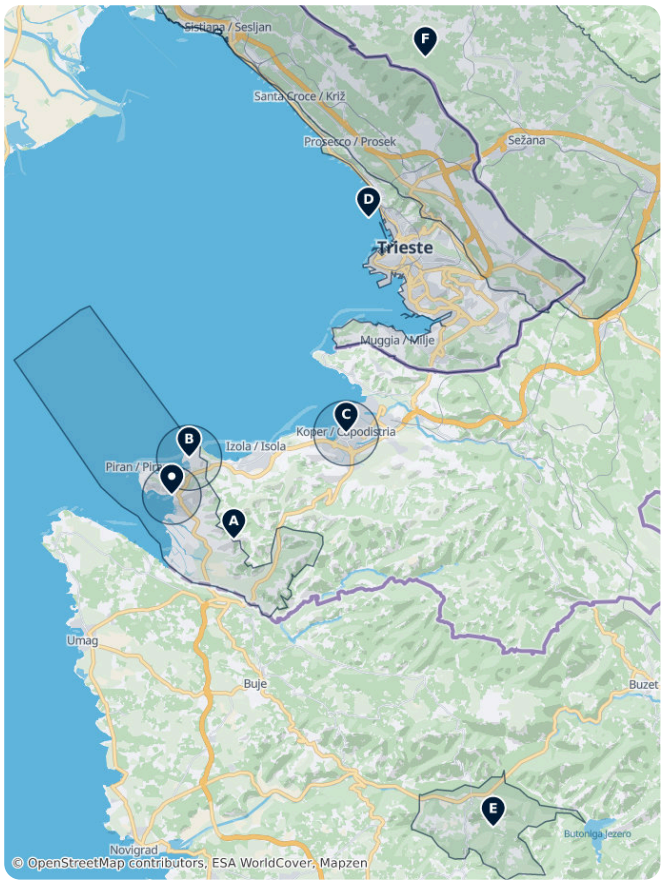
What to experience

Portorož is a place to slow down. These are the things that make a stay here special:

- **A salt-pan spa day**: Book a treatment with brine and mud from the local salt pans at one of the resort's spa hotels. In the warmer months and in good weather, the open-air Thalasso Spa Lepa Vida offers mud wraps and brine baths right among the salt fields of Sečovlje Salina Landscape Park.
- **Evening walk to Piran**: Follow the seafront path past the Bernardin hotels as the sun goes down, have dinner in Piran, then take the local bus back.
- **Cycling the Parenzana trail**: Ride the former railway route from Portorož through an old tunnel to Strunjan, with sea views most of the way.
- **Sunset among the sculptures**: Walk out to Forma Viva Sculpture Park on the Seča peninsula in the late afternoon, when the light is soft and the stone glows.
- **A film night in autumn**: During the Festival of Slovenian Film, join locals at public screenings in Avditorij Portorož.

Day trips

Portorož sits in the middle of the short Slovenian coast, so several towns are only minutes away.



- A Piran — about 10 minutes by local bus, or a 45-minute walk along the sea. A small Venetian-era town on a peninsula, with narrow lanes, a white stone main square and views from the old town walls.
- B Strunjan — about 15 minutes by car or local bus. A protected coast with high cliffs, small salt pans and a quiet pebble beach at Moon Bay.
- Izola — about 20 minutes by car or bus. A relaxed fishing town with a working harbour and a seafront promenade.
- C Koper — about 25 minutes by car or bus. The coast's largest town has a Venetian main square, a cathedral and a busy market.
- D Trieste — about 1 hour by car or bus. An elegant Italian port city with grand cafés and a huge seafront square.
- E Motovun — about 1 hour by car, across the border in Croatian Istria. A walled hilltop town above vineyards and truffle forests.
- Škocjan Caves — about 1 hour by car, on the F Karst plateau. A UNESCO-listed underground river canyon, one of the largest in Europe.

Where to explore

Portorož is part of the Piran municipality, and its neighbours are close enough to visit in an afternoon:

- Piran — the historic town at the tip of the peninsula and the seat of the municipality.
- Sečovlje Salina Landscape Park — the large salt pans just south of town, a nature park and a home for wetland birds.
- Strunjan — a protected stretch of coast with cliffs and quiet bays to the north.

Further up the coast, Koper is the region's main town and its rail hub.

Getting there

- **By air**: The closest large airports are Trieste Airport in Italy (about 1 hour by car) and Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport (about 2 hours by car). Venice Marco Polo Airport is about 2.5 hours away. From any of them, continue by shuttle transfer or rental car. From Ljubljana Airport, buses run via Ljubljana.
- **By train**: Portorož has no railway. The nearest station is in Koper, with trains from Ljubljana; continue by bus to Portorož in about 25 minutes. Slovenian Railways
- **By bus**: Arriva and Nomago run regular buses from Ljubljana, taking about 2 to 2.5 hours. Arriva tickets on these routes are cash only on board. FlixBus links Portorož with Ljubljana, Trieste and other cities; book online or in its app.
- **By boat**: In summer, fast passenger boats link nearby Piran with Trieste.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The centre is flat and compact. A seafront promenade runs the length of the bay, and you can walk to Piran along the sea in about 45 minutes.
- **Local buses**: Arriva runs two local lines. Line 1 links Piran, Portorož and Lucija, and line 2 links Piran, Portorož and Strunjan. **Cash is not accepted.** Tap a contactless bank card on board (€2 per ride), or pay €1 per ride with the Arriva Piran app or the rechargeable Piran city card. Bus transport – Portorož & Piran Tourist Board
- **Cycling**: Bikes are a good way to reach Piran, Strunjan and the salt pans. Several shops in town rent bikes and e-bikes.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The flat centre and a long seafront promenade make walking easy, and Piran is a 45-minute walk along the sea.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Cycling is pleasant along the coast to Piran, Strunjan and the salt pans, and the car-free Parenzana trail starts nearby; the coast road is busy in summer.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the resort itself; walking, buses and bikes cover Portorož, Piran and Strunjan. A car is useful for the Karst caves, inland villages and Croatian Istria.
- **Parking**: Central Portorož has paid parking at €2 per started hour, or €20 for more than 10 hours. In Lucija the first hour is free, then €1 per hour. From mid-October to mid-March most central street parking is free.
- **Summer traffic**: In July and August, the coast road and car parks fill up by late morning. Arrive early, or leave the car at your hotel.

Food & drink

Portorož eats from the sea and from Istria. Look for grilled fish and squid, fish stews, shellfish and pasta with seafood, with Istrian olive oil and local Piran salt. Coastal wines go well with it: red Refošk and white Malvazija.

The easiest place to eat is the seafront promenade, where cafés, pizzerias and fish restaurants face the beach. For a quieter meal, try the restaurants around the marina in Lucija. Prices along the beachfront are higher in July and August.

What to eat & drink

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Potica · potica
A rolled nut cake, traditionally served at holidays.

Kremna rezina · kremna rezina
A vanilla and whipped-cream custard slice, associated with Bled.

DRINKS

Slovenian wine
Wine from the Vipava Valley, Štajerska, and Primorska regions.

SIGNATURE DISHES

Štruklji · štruklji
Rolled dumplings, sweet or savory, boiled or baked.

Kranjska klobasa · kranjska klobasa
A protected (PGI) pork sausage, usually boiled and served with mustard and horseradish.

Jota · jota
A hearty stew of beans, sauerkraut or turnip, and smoked meat.

Portorož – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
App Store · Google Play
Scan to download the app

Safety & health

Portorož is very safe, including at night. Petty theft is rare, but do not leave bags unattended on the beach in high season.

- **Sun and heat**: Summer sun is strong, and the beach has little natural shade. Rent an umbrella or swim in the morning and late afternoon.
- **In the sea**: Watch for sea urchins on rocky and concrete shores; water shoes help. Jellyfish appear in some summers.
- **Crowds and traffic**: In July and August, the promenade, beach and car parks are very busy. Keep an eye on children near the coast road.

History

Portorož takes its name from a 13th-century church of St Mary of the Rosary near the bay. The harbour became known as *Portus Sanctae Mariae de Rosae*, and over time the name became Portorož. At the western end of the bay, Franciscan friars built a monastery in 1452. Its ruined church and bell tower survive as Church of St Bernardine.

Modern Portorož began as a health resort. The first spa with a landscaped healing park opened in 1887, using the brine and mud of the nearby salt pans. The grand Hotel Palace followed in 1910, and by 1911 the bay had about 20 hotels and guesthouses and dozens of villas for wealthy guests from across Austria-Hungary. The Palace closed in 1990 and reopened after restoration in 2008. Its Art Nouveau façade still faces the main beach.

After World War II, Portorož was in Zone B of the Free Territory of Trieste, run by Yugoslavia. It became part of Yugoslavia in 1954 and grew into a large modern resort. Cultural projects followed, including the Forma Viva Sculpture Park sculpture symposium in 1961 and Avditorij Portorož in 1972. Since 1991 the town has been part of independent Slovenia. Like Piran, it is officially bilingual, with an Italian name, Portorose.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Slovenia at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



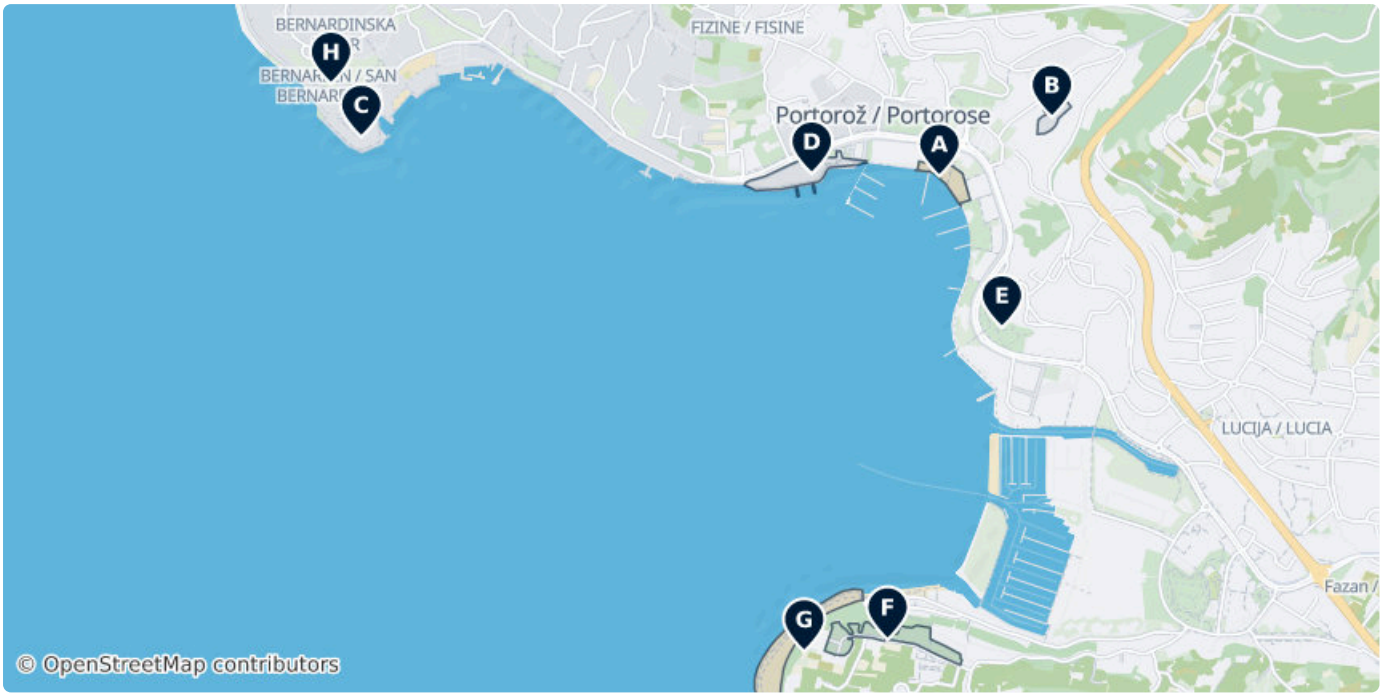
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Slovenian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Portorož Must-Sees

Slovenia's seaside resort: sandy beaches, a waterfront theatre, sea park fun and sculpture parks on the Adriatic.





A Meduza Beach Portorož

This clean, accessible beach features fine sand and crystal-clear water, providing a relaxing spot along the coast.

(Unnamed Road), Portorož 6320, Slovenia
(45.51320, 13.59297)



B Avditorij Portorož

A local theatre hosting cultural performances and events in the heart of the resort town.

Senčna pot - Via Ombrata 8A, 6320 Portorož - Portorose
(45.51463, 13.59687)

avditorij.si, 05 676 67 00

C Morski Park Laguna Bernardin

A coastal water park offering aquatic attractions and seaside fun.

(45.51415, 13.57298)

D Plaža Meduza

A coastal beach resort set along the Adriatic shore.

(45.51326, 13.58856)

E Park Metropol

(45.50953, 13.59514)

F Forma viva Seča

Open-air green space with sculptures on the Seča peninsula, protected as a cultural heritage site.

Seča - Sezza, 6320 Portorož / Portorose, Slovenia
(45.50198, 13.59118)

G Plaža Ribič

(45.50169, 13.58830)



H Cerkev sv. Bernardina

Historic ruins of a Catholic church offering a wheelchair-accessible site of worship overlooking the sea.

3B Bernardinska reber, Portorož 6320, Slovenia
(45.51543, 13.57193)

portoroz.si/si/odkrij/portoroz/znamenitosti/4477-object-c...

DATA SOURCES

Map data	© OpenStreetMap contributors, ESA WorldCover, Mapzen
Data	© OpenStreetMap contributors, Wikidata, Wikipedia, Tripomatic, Official websites

IMAGE CREDITS

- Meduza Beach Portorož — "Beach (3743876070)" by Bruno Girin from London, United Kingdom, cc-by-sa-2.0
- Avditorij Portorož — "Osrednja državna slovesnost ob 75. obletnici vrnitve Primorske k matični..." by Vlada Republike Slovenije from Ljubljana, Slovenia, pd
- Cerkev sv. Bernardina — "Cerkev sv. Bernardina, Portorož, Slovenia - panoramio" by Mister No, cc-by-3.0

A free travel guide — not for sale. Travel guide generated with AI on November 17, 2026. Text and layout by Tripomatic, licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the ODbL. Photos are under their own licences, as credited on this page.