



Correspondence for the ClevelandSlovenian Newsletter should be directed to philip.hrvatin@gmail.com

## NEW YORK POST

I thought you would find this story from NYPOST.COM interesting:

# SLOVENIA INVADES NY

By V.A. MUSETTO

Click on the link below to access the story.

[http://www.nypost.com/seven/07132008/entertainment/movies/slovenia\\_invasdes\\_ny\\_119634.htm](http://www.nypost.com/seven/07132008/entertainment/movies/slovenia_invasdes_ny_119634.htm)

<http://daily.greencine.com/archives/006384.html>

<http://www.film-sklad.si/index.php?module=strani>



GREEN  
CINE DAILY





Hey Phil, Did you look at the US Embassy pictures for the July 4th party celebration -- the trio of Slovene-American singers? The singers were my son Richie, Johnny Srsen, and Johnny Jakomin. Regards, Mark Celestina

[markcelestina@yahoo.com](mailto:markcelestina@yahoo.com) July 11, 2008

<http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/july4more3.html>

Mark, I didn't click on the MORE PHOTOS link until you brought it to my attention. Can you get info about their visit to Slovenia and how they hooked up with the embassy? I can post an article in my

next newsletter. Phil Hrvatin [phil.Hrvatin@gmail.com](mailto:phil.Hrvatin@gmail.com) July 13, 2008

Phil, The US Embassy in Slovenia was looking for a group to sing the American and Slovenian National Anthems at the July 3rd celebration. My brother Tom works for the State Department there. When he told me this, I suggested to him that members of the new men's group, 'Mi Smo Mi' would be in Ljubljana at that time for Poletna Sola. They asked for a recording of the singing and I sent them a snippet from the DVD of the February Cultural Program that Zvone put together. They liked what they heard and asked them to perform. The singers were Johnny Srsen, John Jakomin and Richie Celestina. As an aside, they also attended the Funeral Mass for Zvone's father in Postojna last week. Regards, Mark [markcelestina@yahoo.com](mailto:markcelestina@yahoo.com) July 15, 2008

\*\*\*

Generalni konzulat RS v Clevelandu opozarja, da je Javni sklad RS za razvoj kadrov in štipendije na svoji spletni strani objavil razpis za štipendije za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu za dodiplomski študij v Republiki Sloveniji za študijsko leto 2008/2009.



Rok za prijavo na razpis je **30. september 2008**. Vloge novih kandidatov, ki bodo izpolnjevali pogoje tega javnega razpisa, se bodo ocenile na podlagi meril, ki jih določa javni razpis. Merila in vse ostale informacije dobite na spletni strani: [www.sklad-kadri.si](http://www.sklad-kadri.si).

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia of Cleveland announces that the Slovene Human Resources Development and Scholarship Fund AD FUTURA has posted a call for applications on their website. The scholarships are available for Slovenes abroad in an undergraduate program in the school year of 2008/2009.

The deadline for applications is **September 30, 2008**. Applications filed by new candidates that meet the formal requirements of the call for applications will be reviewed and assessed based on the criteria put forth in the call for applications. These requirements and criteria are posted on the website: [www.sklad-kadri.si](http://www.sklad-kadri.si)

# Italians love Slovenia

Jun 19, 08 | By Nelson Alcantara

Italian travelers are number one on the list as Slovenia's top foreign visitors for May, new figures released by the Slovenian Tourist Board (STB) have revealed.

According to the new figures, 69 percent of all foreign overnight stays was accounted for by visitors from Italy with 23 percent, Austria with 15 percent, Croatia with 13 percent, Germany percent, the United Kingdom with percent and Hungary percent.



STB said that tourist accommodation facilities registered 659,121 tourist arrivals and 2,022,199 overnight stays in the first four months of 2008. "The total number of overnight stays in the first four-month period was down by 1 percent year on year. The number of overnight stays of domestic tourists rose by 5 percent, whereas the number of overnight stays of tourists from abroad dropped by 5 percent. In April 2008 compared to April 2007, tourist accommodation facilities registered an 11 percent drop both in tourist arrivals and overnight stays."

Furthermore, the STB added that overnight stays of tourists from abroad accounted for 53 percent of the total number of overnight stays recorded in the first four months of 2008.

Where on earth is Slovenia? The Slovenian Tourist Board recommends several guidebooks and monographs have come out recently. The below is a few of the tourist board's suggestions:

Jože Plečnik – In Ljubljana and Slovenia, a guide and map to architectural masterpieces by Jože Plečnik, a widely known and recognized architect at home and abroad, was published in 2007 by Cankarjeva Založba in the Slovene, English and Italian languages. His work left an indelible, unique mark on Ljubljana, matching it with the beauty of other European capitals.

Od dobre gostilne do nobel prenočišča (From a good inn to a great place to spend the night in Slovenia) is a tourist handbook by authors Drago Medved and Peter Rebernik, which came out in 2007 in four language versions (Slovene, English, German and Italian). On 172 colour pages, it features a selection of 160 good inns, guesthouses, tourist farms and hotels from all over Slovenia. It is primarily intended for travelers who tour Slovenia without predefined itineraries, who choose a place to take a break on the fly.

Ustvarjalna Slovenija (Creative Slovenia) by Janez Bogataj, is written as a guidebook to Slovenia. It features presentations of individual regions, gives an overview of the creativity of craftsmen, innkeepers, winemakers and internationally renowned Slovenian companies, and lists all of Slovenia's patented products. It was first published by Rokus Publishing in 2005. The book lists 162 craftsmen with detailed contact information and 193 inns and winemakers with full addresses; it also boasts 27 maps and 464 photographs. Also available in English.

Slovenija v presežnikih (Slovenia in Superlatives) is a monograph by photographer Tomo Jeseničnik, whose photographs and descriptions feature Slovenia's distinctive attributes, such as the most popular spot, the deepest natural lake and the highest waterfall. The 223 pages contain 101 superlatives and 303 photographs. Published by Mladinska Knjiga Publishing House, Ljubljana, in 2008, it will soon be available in English and German.

Moja Slovenija (Slovenia, My Country) is a photo monograph by Joco Žnidaršič, author of several photo monographs on Slovenia (The Lipizzan Horses, Slovenian Vineyards, See You at the Market, Golf in Slovenia), available in English, and The Lipizzan Horses also in German. All the monographs were published by Veduta AŽ, d.o.o.

Cerkniško jezero (Lake Cerknica) is a 247-page photo monograph by Andreja Peklaj, with Slovene and English-language descriptions of the intermittent Lake Cerknica, an unmatched phenomenon in this part of the globe, whose dry bed during the year is a place of ploughing, planting, harvesting, mowing, hunting and fishing. The Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO crowned the book with the Decade Label in recognition of its important contribution to the protection and preservation of Slovenia's natural and cultural heritage.

Slovenia is the tourist guide from the Lonely Planet series, in which author Steve Fallon describes Slovenian cities, towns and wine regions, and lists adventure sites and interesting places to stay. It comes complete with maps.

The Rough Guide to Slovenia, from the Rough Guides series, written by Norm Longley, discovers Slovenia, from the capital Ljubljana to magnificent lakes and mountains, karst phenomena and possibilities for adventure and exploration.

Source: [http://travelvideo.tv/news/more.php?id=14746\\_0\\_1\\_0\\_M](http://travelvideo.tv/news/more.php?id=14746_0_1_0_M)



**City of Cleveland Mayor Frank G Jackson poses on the steps of city hall with members of Cleveland's Slovenian community. The gathering and flag raising ceremony marked 17 years of Slovenian Statehood. The 80,000-strong Slovenian community in Cleveland, Ohio, is the largest in any city outside of Slovenia.**

June 24, 2008

\*\*\*

### **Burger King Coming to Slovenia**

July 11, 2008 - STA



**US fast food chain Burger King is to open its franchises in Slovenia soon. Reports say that Polish firm AmRest signed a preliminary agreement with Burger King Europe to open its restaurants in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia.**

**Burger King's toughest competitor will be McDonald's, the only major international fast food chain currently operating in Slovenia, which has 15 restaurants.**

**However, McDonalds, which opened its first restaurant in Slovenia in 1993, was not the first fast food chain to open in Slovenia.**

**Dairy Queen opened before the golden arches, but called it quits in the late 1990s. The same happened with Quick, a Franco-Belgian chain, and Subway, which closed its only restaurant in Ljubljana last year.**

**AmRest operates franchises of global brands such as Pizza Hut, Starbucks and KFC in Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia and Russia.**

# Slovenian records, artifacts have new home at Slovenian Museum and Archives

After spending more than a century as the primary destination for Slovenian immigrants, Cleveland finally has a permanent home for the items telling the story of Slovenian heritage – both past and present.

The Slovenian Museum and Archives (SMA), which was officially dedicated June 22, will house records, articles, documents, textiles, photographs, and other

research materials documenting the experiences of its Slovenian immigrant community.

Although centered on Cleveland, which is home to the largest population of Slovenians outside the country itself, the museum and archives also includes artifacts and records from the other Slovenian communities throughout the United States and the rest of the world.

The SMA explores the rich history of Slovenians in America, starting with the immigrant experience and family histories, and continuing to the establishment of Slovenian neighborhoods, cultural and musical groups, churches and religious associations, and fraternal organizations.

The SMA was founded, developed and is managed entirely by a board of members of the Cleveland-Slovenian community, ensuring accuracy and personal dedication to the endeavor. Slovenian items and artifacts will continuously be on display, rather than saved solely for special exhibits as part of a larger collection. The executive board has been meeting for more than a year and a half to achieve continuity and ensure that the SMA lasts for future generations of Slovenians. Items donated to the SMA will be preserved professionally with knowledge, care and attention to detail.

The office and information center, which is part of the museum, archives and library, is located at 6415 St. Clair Ave. The museum itself will be housed within the Slovenian National Home.

Once completed, the SMA will contain the archives and a library for researchers from the United States and abroad, as well as the museum for visitors curious about Slovenian culture and heritage.

The event on June 22 saw Slovenian Ambassador to the United States Samuel Zbogar officially unveil the dedication plaque for the SMA, as well as a program featuring a presentation from architect Anthony Hiti, who explained the plans for the future, and speeches from SMA President Robert Hopkins and Johanna Bajc, who spoke on behalf of the Consulate General of



the Republic of Slovenia. The program also included the singing of the Slovenian and American national anthems by Fantje na Vasi and Mi Smo Mi under the direction of John Srsen, as well as a dance performance by Folklorna Skupina Kres.

The well-attended event included tours of the new offices with displays by the Slovenian Genealogy Society and the Slovenian Art Guild. Tours were also conducted at the mansion, located at 6409 St. Clair Ave., which will house artwork from the early days of the Slovenian-American communities.

The main hall of the Slovenian National Home provided a glimpse of the museum exhibitions to come upon completion of the SMA. The exhibits were divided into four displays, each conveying an element of the Slovenian culture, and included the immigrant experience, fraternal organizations, Slovenian religious life and Senator Frank Lausche. The exhibits were filled with items that were on temporary loan to the SMA, and included a desk formerly used by Senator Lausche, which was on loan from the Slovene Home for the Aged.

Fraternal organizations no longer in existence were the feature of that exhibit, which included banners, certificates and a tree stump from the Woodsman of the World. Father Joze Boznar and Father John Kumse graciously loaned the SMA items for the religious and church exhibit, including antique vestments, hymnals and photos.

Additional literature was provided by the Slovenian Consulate regarding the changing face of Slovenia today, particularly their presidency of the European Union earlier this year.

The museum is now dedicated and will soon be staffed and is open to donations and to any volunteers. There is also still time to become a founding member. Thus far there are more than 40 founding memberships representing individuals, corporations and companies. Substantial grants came from the Republic of Slovenia, the Richmond Brothers Foundation and the City of Cleveland. The SMA looks forward to reaching its goal of 100 founding members by the end of this year.

Suggested items for donation include photos and film, artwork, clothing and textiles, national costumes, family treasures brought from Europe, musical instruments, music, family histories, maps, books, postcards, audio recordings and documents from Slovenian organizations, among others. Those who wish to make a donation can call with any ideas for further information.

The committee reminds all that now is the time to be a part of this exciting venture, to celebrate and preserve our Slovenian Heritage in a permanent location within the Slovenian community.

To make a donation to the Slovenian Museum and Archives – either with materials or financial contributions, please call 216-361-5601 or toll free 877-361-4SMA, or email [staff@smacleveland.org](mailto:staff@smacleveland.org).



## Current Events

**June 25 - August 31** - "Two Capital Cities: Ljubljana-Washington." An exhibit of contrasting photos from Ljubljana and Washington. Embassy of Slovenia.

**July 16-22** - At the Crossroads: Slovenian Cinema, Walter Read Theater, 165 West 65th Street, New York, NY. [www.filminc.com](http://www.filminc.com)

## Slovenia Goes to National Geographic

Typically, the world renown magazine tours Slovenia, but on July 16, the Embassy of Slovenia had the opportunity to bring a slice of the country to the magazine's headquarters in D.C.



EU Coordinator Maša Šiftar and intern Rosie Jovic attended the event. It was an amazing opportunity for the Embassy, because it showcased all of the best qualities that Slovenia has to offer. Fifty geography teachers from around the United States had the opportunity to network with 13 Embassies from around the world. The teachers were able to grasp a better understanding of Slovenia, and not only did they leave with many different pamphlets and maps of the country, but they left with a newly found appreciation for the country. The teachers are taking back information to their fellow co-workers from their respective states, as well as their students.

## Parliamentary election 2008

The next parliamentary election in Slovenia will be held on Sunday, September 21, 2008. Should the voter decide to cast the vote via mail, he or she is required to file the claim for mail-voting with the National Voting Commission by August 22, 2008. The claim should be sent directly to the Voting Commission at:

Državna volilna komisija  
Slovenska 54  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

The claim can also be sent in by fax at ++ 386 1 43 31 269 or by email at [rvk@gov.si](mailto:rvk@gov.si) (however, due to the signature requirement, only scanned documents may be emailed). Slovenian citizens with a registered permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, but temporary living abroad, can send the claim for mail-voting via mail either to a diplomatic-consular representation of RS or directly to the National Voting Commission at the aforementioned address. The claim can be found on the website of the National Voting Commission at [www.dvk.gov.si](http://www.dvk.gov.si) and should be filed by 21 August, 2008. Slovenian citizens, with a permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, deciding to vote at the diplomatic-consular representation of RS abroad, will be entered into the special election registry.