

## SLOVAKIA – Bratislava & Banska Bystrika



*One does not immediately  
make the link between  
Andy Warhol, pop artist,  
and Slovakia.*

And yet it is there not only in his genes, but in his very rejection of so much history. He famously said that he was from nowhere, and until 1993, when Slovakia became independent, in a way that was true.

Now Slovakia is reclaiming its history and its national identity, and this is very much so in the capital Bratislava. Take a climb to the one remaining city gate, at the northern end of the Old Town, and you are standing in fourteenth century Bratislava. To the south, you can see the baroque town houses of Michalska street. Climb a little higher, via the Jewish district, to the castle and you can see Austria (only 3 km away) and, weather permitting, Hungary.

We will take you into the Tatra mountains of Slovakia to Banska Bystrica. Nestled in the Low Tatra

*“ I’m afraid  
that if you look  
at a thing long  
enough,  
it loses all of  
its meaning. ”*

Andy Warhol (1928 – 1987),  
from Pittsburgh,  
via Medzilaborce,  
North-east Slovakia

Mountains, the town is a social and cultural centre. As time permits, you may also wish to stop at the Demänová Caves. The Cave of Freedom is resplendent in drip-stone decorations tinted in shades of white, yellow and red, while the Dragon Ice Cave is resplendent with magnificent columns, cathedral-like halls and galleries.

### WE SUGGEST:

**Three nights in Bratislava**, a private tour of the Koliba Film Studios, a performance of opera or ballet, a visit to the English tapestries in the **Primates Palace**.