

MEDITERRANEAN

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN | FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 2013

Bled on a Misty Day

It was spitting when we woke up. We checked out the local weather report. It was going to rain all day. Martin, the van owner, had warned us about the rain - he has been here three times and each time it rained.

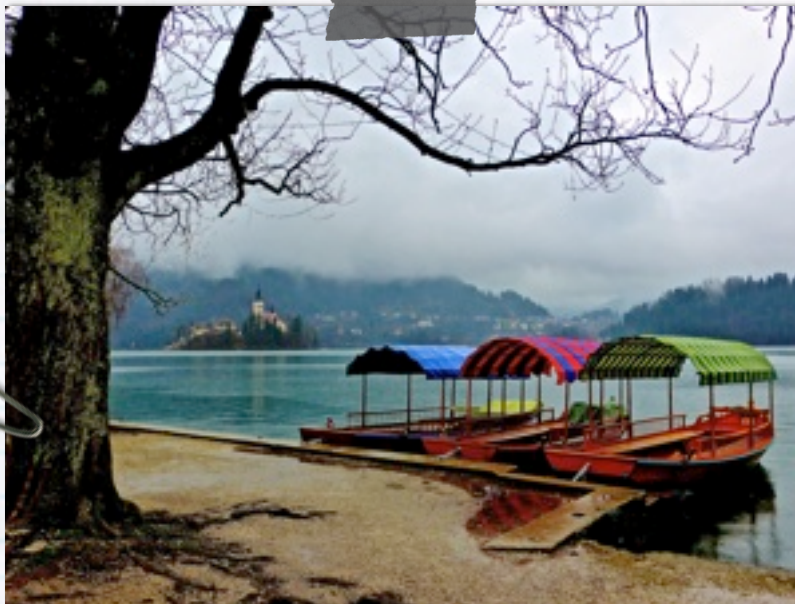
We waited for a while and did some internet research on places of interest in Slovenia. Heather was getting restless so we both decided to get some exercise. We donned our coats and decided to walk into Bled along the lake shore. It was 7 kms all the way around.

It was not cold and there were other people walking around the lake. In fact it was kind of pleasant with the magnificent backdrop of the church on the island. The water here is supposed to be quite warm - 24 degrees. We passed the rowing club which trumpeted that their club members had figured in placings in the last 8 Olympics.

Further on we came across a water park - great for holiday makers in the summer. Slovenian geese seem be particularly nasty because two blocked my path and tried to bite my ankles. Heather shooed them with her umbrella.



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STONE AND TURF ROOFS Interesting to see many roofs here with a layer of stones and then a layer of turf on top. Evidently these type of roofs are able to drain melted snow more quickly. Looks strange to traveling Australian's though.



TO DIE FOR Judy and Kim told us not to miss this delicacy. Bled is the home of the original "custard slice". We walked 7 kms to check it out and were not disappointed. Definitely not something you can share - you must have one all to yourself. Maybe even two. Unfortunately the hot chocolate to go with it was bloody awful.

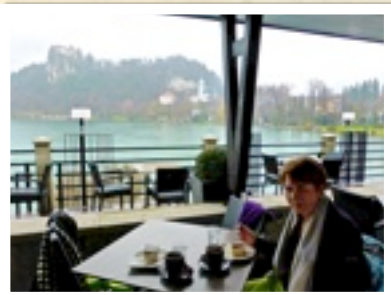


A GREAT DRINK ON A RAINY DAY
It is raining in Bled so there is no better way to relax than with a book and a nip of the local liqueur - 20% proof and very warming. One pissed tourist.

HAPPY SNAPS



GEESE MUGGERS



CREME DE LA CREME



CASTLE ON THE HILL



JUST ONE LAST PHOTO OF
BLEDS' BEAUTIFUL ISLAND
(TILL TOMORROW)

Bled may have lots of things to offer but we think they're probably best experienced in sunny weather.

After this stressful experience we sat down and gorged ourselves on some hot chocolate and cremas (a Bled delicacy - vanilla slice).

There were very few shoppers around. Little wonder. The rain got heavier so we moved on. Despite this we decided to take the long walk back and view the island church and castle on the rock from different angles.

We understand why Bled is such an icon but wonder what it would be like in peak season with hundreds of rowing boats on the lake and thousands of people sitting around drinking coffee in the lakeside cafes. Parking would also be a total nightmare.

By the time we got back to the van we were quite hot and sweaty on the inside and rather wet on the outside. Time for a relax. We had a nanny and poppy nap while our clothes dried.

Oh this is the life.

It is supposed to be sunnier weather tomorrow so we plan to spend time riding our bikes to the various attractions. On Monday it will be on to Ljuljana and beyond.

BLEED CARAVAN PARK

We have been very impressed with Bled Caravan Park. Its location (right on the lake shore with the church island clearly visible out the front), its facilities (multiple toilet and shower blocks), its very friendly staff (can speak all languages), its shop (almost a supermarket), its restaurant (great food and extensive menu at very reasonable prices) and the larger than normal size of each of its sites.

The showers and toilets are also extremely clean (and warm).

The park was even able to exchange our gas bottle because we were close to running out of gas.

We would have given it a AAA rating (best of all the parks we have been to so far) but the temperature of the showers let it down - would have been perfect if only it was 2 degrees more.

Bled Caravan Park is nevertheless a great place to stay.

Now if only it would stop raining!!

