

PODČETRTEK
14th – 17th September
AEFP Prize Giving Ceremony
2017



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You are always welcome in Podčetrtek!



Podčetrtek is a touristic municipality. Besides great cooperation between inhabitants, tourism service providers and the municipality management we are also proud on the neatness.

Two of the settlements in the municipality received an Entente Florale Europe gold award. We have also received various awards on the Slovenian national level from the Tourist Association of Slovenia.

In 2014 we were, through various indicators, named the municipality with the second highest standard of living in Slovenia.

We are honored by your consideration of organizing the EFE prize giving ceremony in Podčetrtek. We will make your stay with us a pleasant one.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Misja

Mayor of the municipality and president of the Tourist Association of Slovenia

Pamper yourself in Terme Olimia!



I am honored that Terme Olimia have been selected as the location for award giving ceremony of prestigious awards Entente Florale Europe 2016. As a leading tourist provider within the municipality Podčetrtek, we are extremely fortunate to be considered as one of the candidates to host such an international event.

Two golden awards that our municipality was given - in 2009, Village Olimje as the most beautiful European village and last year's award for Podčetrtek as the most beautiful smaller town in Europe - are proof that we are on the right track.

In addition to the rich cultural and historical heritage, natural beauty, orderliness and a wide range of offer with a hint of familiarity and local origin, close cooperation with all tourism providers within the municipality has to be the leading factor for our common success. Our common desire is that paying a visit to our region is always a new and unforgettable experience.

We invite you to experience all the variety and diversity of a geographically small, but versatility rich tourism jewel of eastern Slovenia.

Yours sincerely,

Zdravko Počivalšek

Director of Terme Olimia and Minister of economy of Slovenia

1. PRESENTATION OF THE TOURIST ORGANIZATION

Podčetrtek, in its near and far surroundings, has several different but very significant and also attractive sights for tourists. According to this fact it is no surprise that municipality Podčetrtek is one of the most distinctive Slovenian tourist municipalities. First we have to mention that a part of municipality Podčetrtek is also a part of Kozjanski Park – Regional Park, which with its diverse surroundings gives a great amount of possibilities for modern tourism.

In the place Olimje, not very far from Podčetrtek, is located worldly known Minorite Monastery with old apothecary and big nicely arranged herbal garden. An old and very popular guesthouse Amon is very important in our tourist picture; they have a golf field with nine holes, on the hill above the village lays a real game reserve with guest house Deer Reef. The place Olimje is also known by its famous chocolate boutique and production. The beer lovers can be satisfied with visiting this place, since municipality also has a small brewery with exemplary furnished rooms for guests, that is Brewery Haler. We have to emphasize that village Olimje received golden prize on the Entente Florale Europe competition in 2009 and in 2013 town Podčetrtek. The town Podčetrtek has s multipurpose sports hall, which came out as a result of public-private partnership between municipality Podčetrtek and Thermal Spa Olimia. The hall is used by locals and also several groups and clubs from different sorts of sport (using lodgment in Thermal Spa Olimia). Several sights, possibility of staying overnight in different accommodation, spread all over municipality Podčetrtek and not only in very famous Thermal Spa Olimia, give a possibility for long term vacation in Podčetrtek. The highest amount of accommodation is in Olimje. The reason for visiting our area is also the fact, that in the town and its vicinity more than 200 different events are organized throughout the year. There are no industries in the town or its wider surrounding that is why our place is a genuine green oasis, where the tourist can really enjoy and breathe with both parts of his lungs. Local Tourist Association is working in Podčetrtek (www.turizem-podcetrtek.si) and it is responsible for the promotion of the tourist offer for the whole municipality of Podčetrtek. Since 2012 the Association covers the tourist offer for two neighbor municipalities, namely municipality Bistrica ob Sotli and Kozje.



1.1 AWARDS



Two of the settlements in the municipality received an Entente Florale Europe gold award. We have also received various awards on the Slovenian national level from the Tourist Association of Slovenia.

1.2 LOCATION

Slovenia is situated in Central and Southeastern Europe touching the Alps and bordering the Mediterranean. Podčetrtek lies in the Northeastern part of Slovenia by the Slovenian Croatian border.



Photo: Slovenia in Europe



Photo: Podčetrtek in Slovenia. Motorways are also seen.

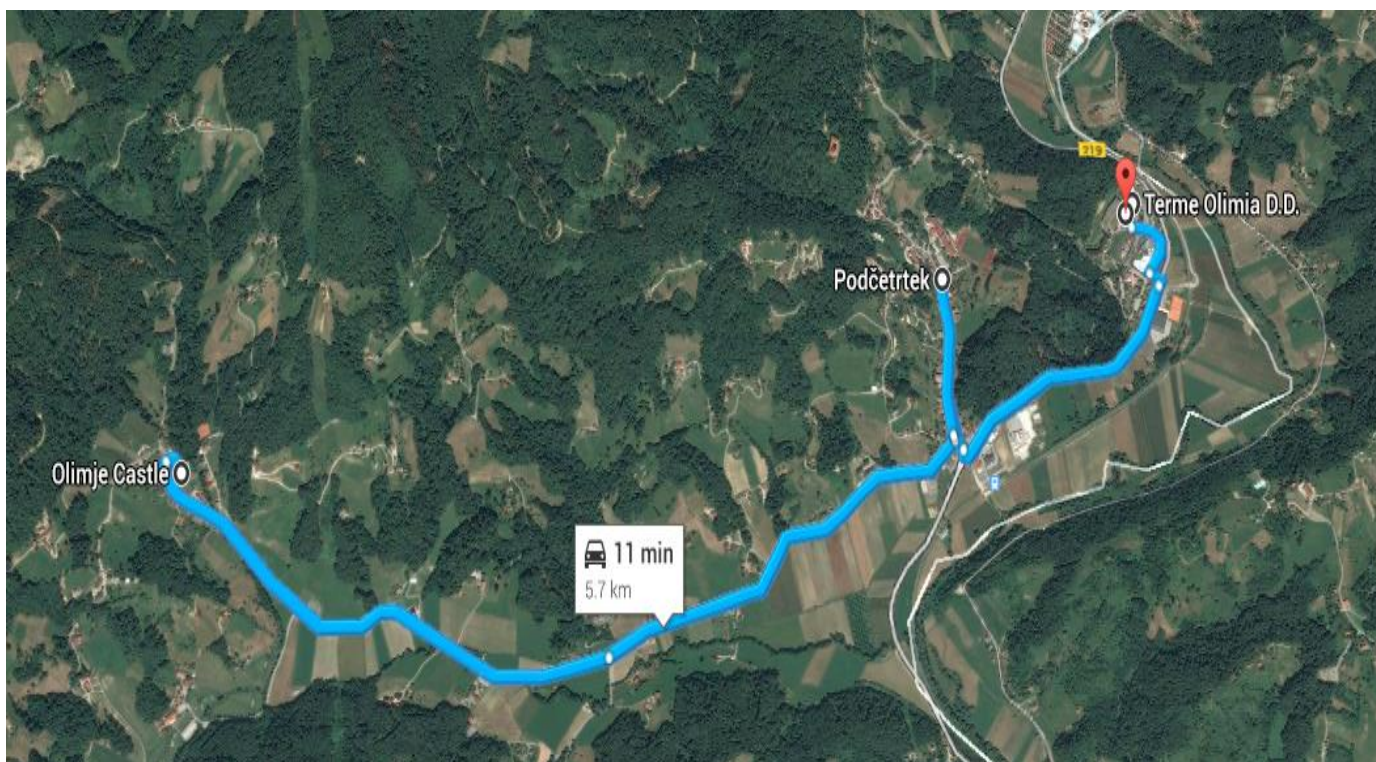


Photo: Podčetrtek tourism destination map (here you can see the closeness Terme Olimia, Podčetrtek (gold EFE 2013) and Olimje village (gold EFE 2009))

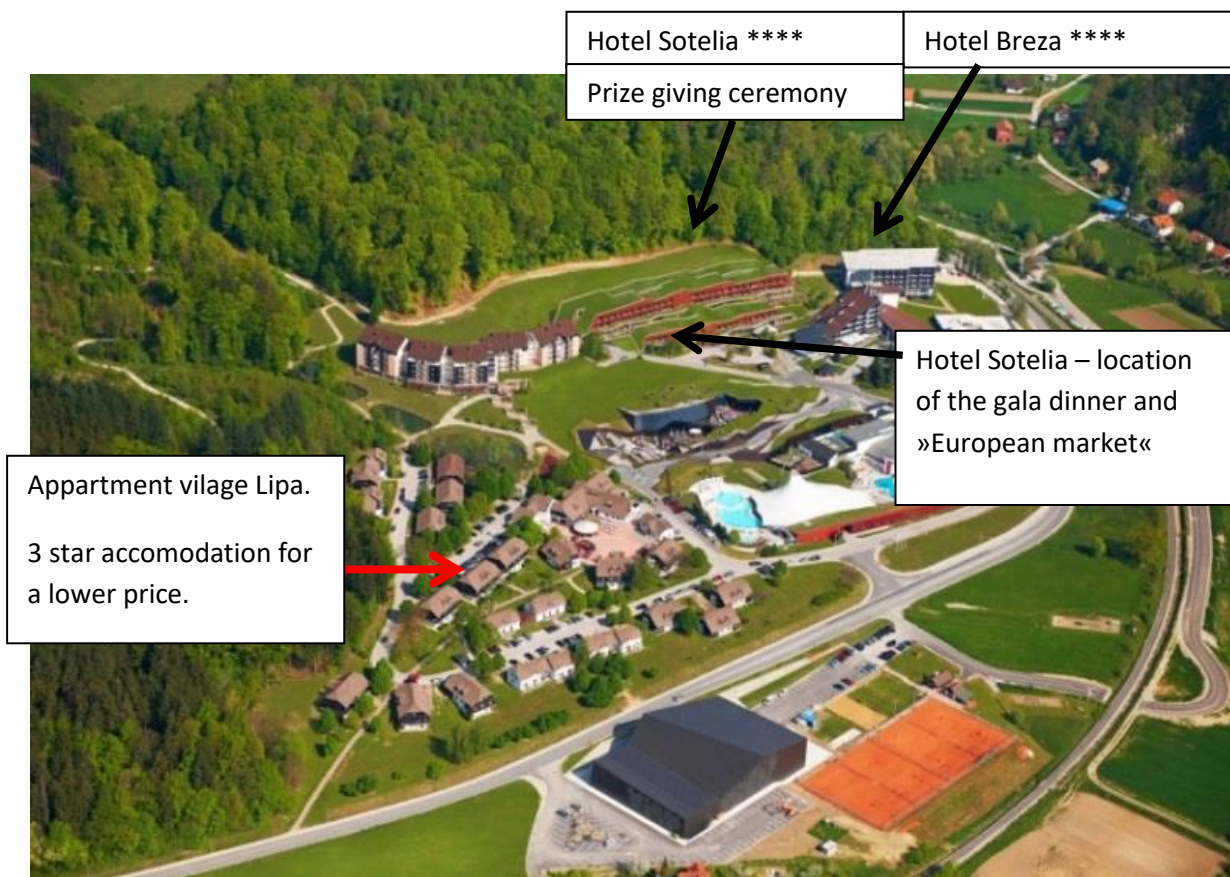


Photo: The locations of Terme Olimia

1.3 LOCATION OF ACCOMODATION

Our guests will be staying in Terme Olimia – the most beautiful terme in Slovenia. The Terme Olimia complex includes:

- Two 4 star hotels – Sotelia****s, Breza****
- One 3 star apartment vilage
- 2 wellness centers - Termalija and Orhidelia
- Various restaurants – Lipa, Gratiola
- Congress center – Olimia
- Health center – Olimia

NOTE: an underground tunnel connects Wellness centers Termalija and Orhidelia, Hotel Breza and Hotel Sotelia.

2. GETTING TO PODČETRTEK

2.1 BY CAR

Traveling through Slovenia is easy, because we have a spread system of motorways. Podčetrtek lies about 30 kilometers from the motorway.

Graz	115 km
Wien	300 km
Klagenfurt	180 km
Villach	220 km
Trieste	210 km
Venezia	340 km
Zagreb	70 km
Budapest	390 km
München	550 km
Zürich	790 km

Table: Distances from Podčetrtek to some of the bigger cities

2.2 BY PLANE

There are 3 airports nearby – Ljubljana (115km) and Zagreb (70km) and Graz (130 km) so finding a flight should be quite easy. We will also provide transfer for participants.

2.2.1 PRICES OF TRANSFER FROM THE AIRPORT

We will offer transport from airports:

- Bus transfer 10 €/ person
- Mini bus 15 €/ person
- Car transfer 20 €/person

2.3 BY TRAIN

Podčetrtek has a train station with limited amount of trains traveling here. Best way would be to travel to Ljubljana and let our transfer pick you up.

2.4. TRANSPORT AT THE DESTINATION PODČETRTEK

All of the accommodation, restaurants, prize giving ceremony location and gala dinner location are of walking range (5 min) apart.

All of the daily trips and excursions that are in the programme will include transport by bus.

3. PROGRAM FOR JURY BOARD AND PARTNERS

3.1 PROGRAM FOR JURY

Jury and board members for free. Partners pay 50%.

Thursday

- Transfer to Podčetrtek by coach
- Taking the Rooms in Hotel Sotelia
- Meeting of the executive/board in the congress center Olimia
- For partners: pampering in the prestige Wellness Orhidelia (no additional pay)
- Welcome dinner with the municipality representatives (transfer to dinner with bus)
 - o Presentation of the schedule
- Dinner at the Jelenov Greben restaurant – tasting of the local cuisine and wine
 - o Local music
 - o Transfer back at the hotel Sotelia

Friday

- 7.00 Buffet breakfast in the hotel restaurant
- 8.00 Meeting of the jury in the congress center Olimia
- 10.00 Coffee break for jury
- 12.30 Buffet lunch in the restaurant of the hotel Sotelia (for jury, board and partners)
- 14.00 Meeting of the executive/board in the congress center Olimia
- 18.30 Prize Giving Ceremony in the Primula hall
- 20.30 Walk to the MSH Podčetrtek (5min) for Gala Dinner

Saturday

- Buffet breakfast in the hotel Sotelia
- 09.00 Walk to the MSH Podčetrtek for European Market
- 12.30 Buffet lunch in hotel Sotelia
- 14.30 Optional: Visit to the Kozjansko regional park – the Podsreda castle, nature. Lunch and transfer included:
- 19.30 Dinner in the hotel
- After 21.00 party in the Club Žafran in Terme Olimia

Sunday

- Buffet breakfast in the hotel
- After breakfast transfer to airports, trainstations
- Other time spending activities for those that wish to stay longer:
- Pampering in the wellness centers of Terme Olimia

3.2 PROGRAM FOR DELEGATIONS

Thursday

- Transfer to Podčetrtek by coach, car or train
- Taking the Rooms in pre booked hotels
- Optional: Welcome dinner with the municipality representatives (transfer to dinner with bus)
- Presentation of the schedule

Friday

Whole day programme for delegations arriving on Thursday

- 8.00 Buffet breakfast in the hotel restaurant
- 10.00 Guided tour of Olimje: EFE gold award winner in 2009
Visit all of the sights in the village Olimje or
Other time spending (pampering in the wellness centers of Terme Olimia)
- 18.00 Drinks and canapes at the congress center Olimia reception
- 18.30 Prize Giving Ceremony in the Primula hall
- 20.00 Walk to the MSH Podčetrtek (5min) for Gala Dinner

Afternoon programme for delegations arriving on Friday

- Transfer to Podčetrtek by coach, car or train
- 18.00 Drinks and canapes at the congress center Olimia reception
- 18.30 Prize Giving Ceremony in the Primula hall
- 20.00 Walk to the MSH Podčetrtek (5min) for Gala Dinner

Saturday

Morning transfers to airports for people leaving on Saturday

- 8.00 Buffet breakfast in the hotel Sotelia
- 9.30 Visit of the European market
- 14.30 Optional: Visit to the Kozjansko regional park – the Podsreda castle, nature. Lunch and transfer included (price 25 €) or
Other time spending (pampering in the wellness centers of Terme Olimia)
- After 21.00 party in the Club Žafran in Terme Olimia

Sunday

- 7.00 Buffet breakfast in the hotel
- After breakfast transfer to airports
- Other time spending activities for those that wish to stay longer:
Pampering in the wellness centers of Terme Olimia

Prices of optional activities

(delegations pay full, partners of board / jury members 50% off):

- Dinner with the Municipality representatives (20 €)
- Guided tour to Olimje (20 €)
- Guided tour to Kozjansko regional park (25 €)

3.3. HOTEL PRICES FOR DELEGATIONS

We included only 2 hotels that are 4 stars. Both of the hotels combined can accommodate 700 people.

3.4 WELLNESS HOTEL SOTELIA ***** RENOVATED IN 2016



Photo: Hotel Sotelia

Specialty of the Wellness hotel Sotelia is its close connection to nature. Its position, relaxed structure, green roofs and large light areas create the sense of connected harmony with the surrounding nature. We expect to welcome you and spoil you in a rather different way, which is offered by Wellness Hotel Center Spa Armonia, with a selected catering and areas for socializing. There is also a congress center as part of the hotel.

There are 135 two-bedroom apartments in the hotel. All of them are equipped with a bathroom (shower or bathtub), toilet, TV, radio, telephone, mini bar, safe, bathrobe, a bag with bath towels, air-conditioning unit, internet connection, internet on TV and a balcony. There are also 24 rooms at the hotel that are connected between each other (two each) with a connecting door. At your arrival, a bottle of thermal water waits for you in every room.



Photo: Barago Bar in Hotel Sotelia

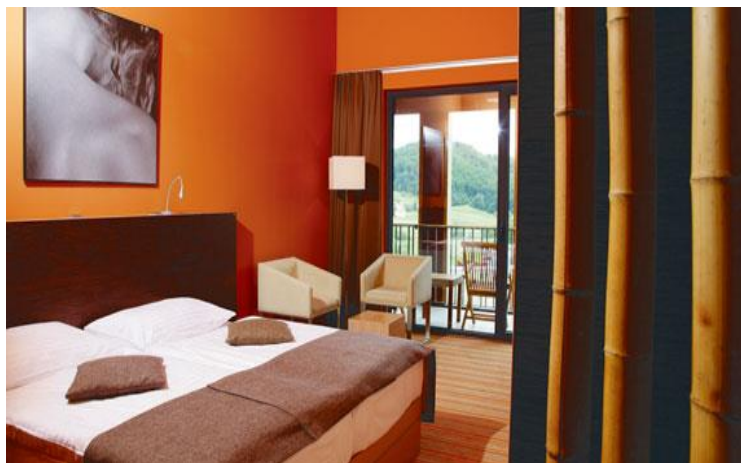


Photo: Room in hotel Sotelia

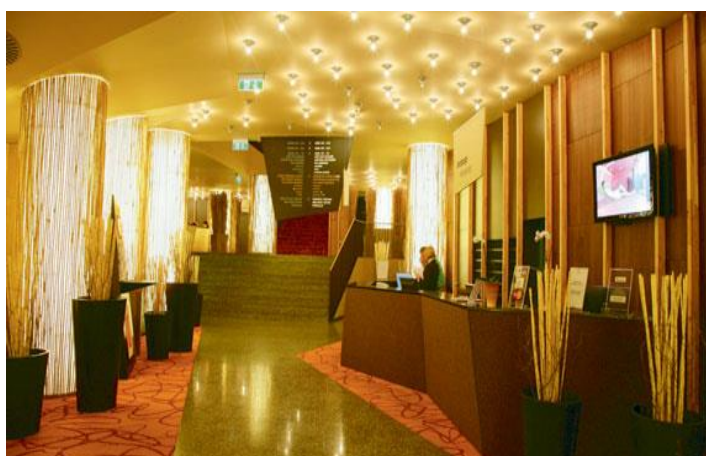


Photo: Reception in Hotel Sotelia

3.5 PACKAGES FOR DELEGATIONS

- Package 1 (arrival on Friday for 1 night):
- Package 2 (arrival on Thursday or Friday for 2 nights)
- Package 3 (arrival on Thursday for 3 nights)

3.6. PRICES OF PACKAGES IN HOTEL SOTELIA

HOTEL SOTELIA	Package 1		Package 2		Package 3	
Price / person	Single	Double	Single	Double	single	Double
	141 €	115 €	282 €	230 €	423 €	345 €

Table 2: Prices of hotel accommodation. Prices are per person per night for bed and breakfast.

3.7 SPECIAL OFFER FOR HOTEL SOTELIA

We are offering half board (breakfast, dinner) at special prices only for this special occasion.

When staying 5 days or 7 days Gala dinner is free of charge.

HOTEL SOTELIA	2 days Friday - Sunday	5 days Tuesday – Saturday or Wednesday - Sunday	7 Days Monday – Sunday
Price / person	Double 239 €	Double 526,25 €	Double 674 €

PACKAGE IN HOTEL SOTELIA ALSO INCLUDES:

- Accommodation with the room with balcony (packages or special offer)
- Daily fresh fruit and bottle of thermal water in the room,
- Free entrance to pools of Wellness center Termalija, Thermal park Aqualuna and Terme Tuhelj
- Free entrance to the sauna center of Wellness center Termalija (9 saunas)
- 1 x entrance to luxurious Wellness center Orhidelia
- »wellness bag« (bag with the bathrobe and an extra towel)
- Water aerobics, "Good morning" gymnastics, use of fitness studio
- Daily programme filled with sports activities, cultural events and entertainment, animation programme in "Mini-club" for children
- Night swimming in Wellness center Termalija – on Fridays and Saturdays
- Free internet access in a room

ADDITIONAL PAY:

- Extra meal in the hotel restaurant: 15 € / person
- Tourist tax: 1,25 € per person per night
- Single room in special offer: 26 € per person per night

3.8 HOTEL BREZA****



Photo: Hotel Breza

Hotel Breza reflects home atmosphere and relaxed living. The rooms in Hotel Breza will make sure you have a comfortable quality time. As part of the hotel there is also a Health Center, that offers a reach variety of traditional and modern programs to improve your health and well-being. There are 167 two-bed rooms at the Hotel Breza, of which 42 are anti-allergic rooms. room.

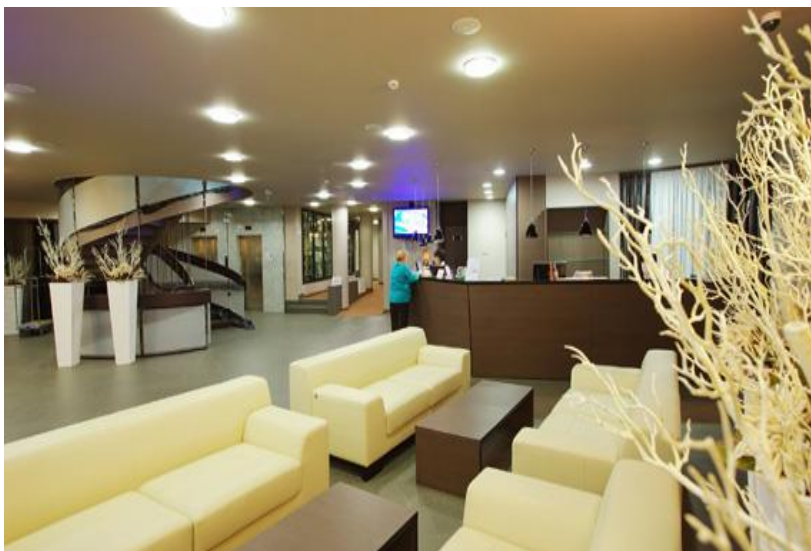


Photo: Reception in hotel Breza



Photo: Room in hotel Breza

3.9 PRICES OF PACKAGES IN HOTEL BREZA

HOTEL BREZA	Package 1 (1 night)		Package 2 (2 nights)		Package 3 (3 nights)	
	Single	Double	Single	Double	single	Double
Price / person	99 €	84 €	198 €	168 €	295 €	252 €

Table 2: Prices of hotel accommodation. Prices are per person per night for bed and breakfast.

3.10 SPECIAL OFFER FOR HOTEL BREZA

We are offering half board (breakfast, dinner) at special prices only for this special occasion.

When staying 5 days or 7 days Gala dinner is free of charge.

HOTEL BREZA*	2 days Friday – Sunday	5 days Tuesday – Saturday or Wednesday – Sunday	7 Days Monday – Sunday
Price / person	Double 176 €	Double 392,50 €	Double 496 €

PACKAGE IN HOTEL BREZA ALSO INCLUDES:

- Accommodation in a room with balcony (packages or special offer)
- Free entrance to pools of Wellness center Termalija, Thermal park Aqualuna and Terme Tuhelj
- »wellness bag« (bag with the bathrobe and an extra towel)
- Water aerobics, "Good morning" gymnastics, use of fitness studio
- Daily programme filled with sports activities, cultural events and entertainment, animation programme in "Mini-club" for children
- Night swimming in Wellness center Termalija – on Fridays and Saturdays
- Free internet access in the room

ADDITIONAL PAY:

- Extra meal in the hotel restaurant: 12 € / person
- Tourist tax: 1,25 € per person per night
- Single room in special offer: 15 € per person per night

3.11 APARTMENT VILLAGE LIPA

Apartments at Vas Lipa *** are located in the vicinity of wellness centres, hotels, and our Center zdravja, in the calm green surroundings of Terme Olimia. Perfect for those who wish to slow down, away from the hotel bustle, but still be near to the diverse relaxation that Terme Olimia offers.

Different sized apartments that will enchant you with homeliness, easiness, and comfortableness are suitable for stays in twos or, at most, a family of five, and pets are welcome as well.

The apartments' living room will offer you and [your family](#) pleasant spending of free time and a suitable social area. Spaciousness and comfortableness will enchant you. A modern and high-end kitchen enables you to prepare delicious dishes to your taste.

We have taken care of the youngest, too. In a rural atmosphere, they will be able to release their childhood playfulness on playground equipment, in the children's pool, and in a special children's area.



3.12 PRICES OF PACKAGES IN VILLAGE LIPA

VILLAGE LIPA	Package 1 (1 night)	Package 2 (2 nights)	Package 3 (3 nights)
Price / person	59,30 €	94,90 €	154,20 €

Table: Prices of hotel accommodation. Prices are per person per night for bed and breakfast. Apartments are for 2,3,4,5. No single apartments available.

PACKAGE IN VILLAGE LIPA ALSO INCLUDES:

- Accommodation in 2,3,4 person apartments with bed and breakfast
- Free entrance to pools of Wellness center Termalija, Thermal park Aqualuna and Terme Tuhelj
- »wellness bag« (bag with the bathrobe and an extra towel)
- Water aerobics, "Good morning" gymnastics, use of fitness studio
- Daily programme filled with sports activities, cultural events and entertainment, animation programme in "Mini-club" for children
- Night swimming in Wellness center Termalija – on Fridays and Saturdays
- Free internet access in the room

ADDITIONAL PAY:

- Extra meal in the hotel restaurant: 12 € / person
- Tourist tax: 1,25 € per person per night

4. PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY

Podčetrtek yearly hosts about 400 events. The location of the prize giving ceremony will be in the Congress center Olimia in hall Primula, which can accommodate 400 people. During the ceremony the children of primary school Podčetrtek will perform. The ceremony will be free of charge.



Photo: prize giving ceremony hosted by the Tourist Association of Slovenia

5. GALA DINNER

The Location of the gala dinner will be in hotel Sotelia, the best hotel of the Terme Olimia complex.

5.1 MENU

In accordance with our wellness philosophy, any event is complemented with an excellent local food (served to the table).

Price of served dinner per person : 35 €

NOTE: Drinks are not included.

- Board and jury free of charge
- Partners -50%
- Delegations 65€

The menu will be given at the start of the reservation process in 2017.

6. CONFERENCE FACILITIES FOR AAFP MEMBERS

6.2 Congress Center Olimia (in hotel Sotelia****S) RENOVATED IN 2016

Congress Center Olimia at Wellness hotel Sotelia is devised as a multifunctional space, appropriate for different types of meetings. Congress Center Olimia is a complex of eight excellent and technically equipped halls and meeting rooms.

Meetings in the harmony of nature – location, away from the crowded city rush.

Congress Center Olimia is suitable for conferences, commemorations, meetings, seminars, exhibitions and presentations as well as motivational programs, receptions and other social events such as banquets, fashion shows and formal banquets.

All areas are equipped with the latest audio-video equipment for a high quality realization of your events and undisturbed work.



Photo: Congress center Olimia reception



Photo: Congress room in hotel Sotelia

7. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE VICINITY



Photo: Pampering in Wellness Orhidelia – the best wellness in this part of Europe



Photo: Olimje monastery with the 3. Oldest pharmacy in Europe



Photo: Beer hall and beer brewery Haler Olimje



Photo: "Jelenov Greben" deer farm and homestead



Photo: Amon homestead (golf course, pension and bio restaurant)



Photo: Syncerus chocolate factory



Photo: Land of fairy tales and fantasy



Photo: Podsreda castle



Photo: Villages Kozje and Pilštanj



Photo: Pilgrimage church "Svete Gore" above the village Bistrica ob Sotli

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