The We are Alps tour is an initiative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention to raise awareness on specific alpine topics, along an international journey using sustainable means of transport.

The Alps have been inhabited for about 10,000 years and are now home to some 16 million people. Over the millennia, men and women have shaped the Alpine landscape, from the bottom of the valleys up to the highest peaks and developed very diverse cultural expressions. The Alps have been inhabited for more than 10,000 years and are now home to some 16 million people. Over the millennia, men and women have shaped the Alpine landscape, from the bottom of the valleys up to the highest peaks and developed very diverse cultural expressions.

The We are Alps tour will experience the heterogeneity of the demographic evolution in the Alps and what is being done to foster a sustainable, high-quality living in the region. The tour will showcase the diversity in the use of natural resources for food production or architecture or in the music, living traditions and languages. The tour will experience the Alpine Convention’s messages on sustainable and protected development of the Alps and what is being done to foster a sustainable, high-quality living in the region.

From Spittal a.d. Drau (AT) to Udine (IT)

28 June - 1 July 2018

We would sincerely like to thank all our partners in this project:
Thursday 28 June

Spittal an der Drau (AT) > Weissensee (AT)

Alpine life on the lakeshore
Angling and boat-building may not be your typical image of Alpine culture, but by Lake Weissensee we will learn how these activities were and are still indeed closely linked to the mountain environment. We will see which cultural offers are developed by the Nature Park and how the knowledge about the Alps is being passed on to the next generations.

12.30 Individual arrivals to Spittal -Millstätter See train station
13.00-14.00 Briefing on the tour and the topic in the Porcia castle, with light lunch
14.37-15.30 Train and Nature Park Bus to Weissensee
15.30-18.00 Raft cruise on Lake Weissensee (weather permitting) with a presentation of cultural tourism offers, visit of the Domenig boat-building workshop and the Weissenseefisch fishery and angling school
18.00 Nature Park Bus to the Kinderhotel Kreuzwirt and presentation of its kindergarten training programme
Dinner at the Kinderhotel Kreuzwirt

Overnighting in Weissensee

Friday 29 June

Weissensee (AT) > Radenthein (AT) > Mojstrana (SL) > Kranjska Gora (SL)

Of shepherds and mountaineers
To start the day, we will experience a centuries-old activity, i.e. cheese making, in a state-of-the-art community dairy, winner of an alpine-wide award for sustainable architecture. Crossing over to Slovenia, we will see how mountaineering has become an important part of the Alpine culture over the past 200 years; then we will come back to pastoral activities with the visit of a traditional homestead and the reading of a new translation of the popular tale of a young fearless shepherd.

7.15 Meeting time
7.30-9.25 Nature Park Bus, train and bus to Radenthein
9.30-11.15 Visit of the Kaslab’n dairy
11.30-14.30 Bus, trains, bus and a 1-km walk to Mojstrana
On the train, packed lunch then presentation of the Timetables in the Alps project
14.30-15.00 Visit of the Slovenian Alpine Museum & Alpine Convention Infopoint in Mojstrana
15.00-16.00 5-km hike to Pocar in Triglav National Park
16.00-17.00 Visit of the Pocarjeva domacija homestead
17.00-18.00 Hike back to Mojstrana
18.12-18.28 Bus to Kranjska Gora
20.00 Dinner
Reading of Kekec stories and presentation of the Reading Mountains initiative

Overnighting in Kranjska Gora

Saturday 30 June

Kranjska Gora (SL) > Rateče (SL) > Tarvisio (IT) > Dordolla (IT)

Food as cultural heritage and the challenges of rural depopulation
Today we will ride our bikes and cook our own lunch with the partners of an international project at the border between Slovenia and Italy. We will continue by bike, then bus, to the remote valley of Dordolla, where new and old inhabitants are defying rural depopulation.

7.45 Meeting time
8.00-9.00 Cycle (7km) to Ratečे
9.00-11.00 Hands-on presentation with the AlpFoodway project partners
11.00-13.00 Cycle on (12km) to Tarvisio
13.08-14.05 Buses to Dordolla
14.15-18.00 Visit to the village of Dordolla
19.00 Dinner
Projection of The New Wild – Life in the abandoned lands and discussion with the film director Christopher Thomson

Overnighting in Dordolla

Sunday 1 July

Dordolla (IT) > Prato di Resia (IT) > Udine (IT)

A dancing farewell
For lack of public transport on Sundays during school holidays, we will have to rely on private vehicles to reach the Val Resia, where we will give a go at folk dancing. We will also discuss social issues and how the community recovered from the earthquake of 1976. Then it will be time to say goodbye - end of the journey, but not of the story...

8.15 Meeting time
8.30-9.00 Transfer by minibus to Prato di Resia
9.00-10.15 Dance workshop with the Val Resia Folk Group and presentation by the EcoMuseo Val Resia
10.30-11.30 Discussion with the Prealpi Giulie Nature Park on social and settlement issues
12.00-13.30 Farewell lunch in San Giorgio di Resia
13.30-14.59 Minibus and train to Udine

Overnighting in Kranjska Gora