Ski touring in Slovakia, Vysoke Tatry (High Tatras) 2019

Dear Friends,

we are meeting this year in High Tatras, since 17th to 24th March.

We will stay at two sites, from Sunday 17th at the **mountain hotel Popradske Pleso** http://www.popradskepleso.com/en .
On Thursday 21st we will move to iconic hut **Chata pri Zelenom plese** (Cottage at the Green Ball) https://chataprizelenomplese.sk/en/ .
If weather and snow conditions would kindly let us, we will cross the Tatra mountains via „Haute-Route" – four passes, to get to the Green Ball on Thursday. Shall they not, we will arrange the safe route - transport by cars or railway.

For those who would like to arrive on Saturday 16th, we will try to arrange the accomodation at the Popradske pleso site at small but nice **Majlathova chata**, http://majlatka.sk/en/
as the hotel is yet fully booked during the first weekend. At least one of us will then meet you there on Sunday morning and join you on the tour.

Travel to High Tatras:

By air:
- we recommend airport Krakow, PL (KRK) – you could have the best connection there, and we will help with the friendly taxi transport to Tatras.
- or you can take a chance with the bad connections to airport Košice (KSC), Poprad- Tatry (TAT) or Bratislava (BTS) and then by train / taxi

By car or train: best place where to start is **Strbske Pleso** (train, bus), „Central Parking lot" (free of charge, roof covered) or **Popradske Pleso parking lot** (train) (convenient, but unguarded and pricey). Both these starting points means 1 hour ski-tour to the hotel, via the marked pathways and roads.
Parking lot for Green Ball cottage is called **Biela voda**, (bus stop), and is paid and unguarded. Alternatively, village **Tatranska Lomnica** is good option.

The Hotel PP and GB Cottage can help with the luggage transport if neccessary.

Map with the points of parking and accomodation: https://sk.mapy.cz/s/3hfbT

Prices of accomodation:
Hotel Popradské Pleso: we have pre-booked the accomodation in big rooms for 8 persons with bunk beds (20 EUR + 15 EUR for half-pension,) Should you prefer smaller and better equipped rooms, please let us know, we will check the available options.
Hut Majlathova chata – roughly 20 EUR + 16 EUR half-pension in smaller rooms.
Chata pri Zelenom plese: 10 EUR + 14 EUR half-pension.
Visa and MC cards are accepted at the hotel but not at the hut. (VISA is standard in Slovakia, MasterCard might have a problem). Cash is the safest option here for the case of bad connection.

Vegetarian option of food to be ordered upon arrival.

Language: English is better spread within the site personnel than Deutch, but try to take a chance (Russian and Hungarian too) and you will see where your luck lays.

OEAV/UIAA membership:
Because of the ridiculous legal limitation of the ski-touring in High Tatras, we recommend the membership in some UIAA or other climbing organisation. (e.g. OEAV is fine) to be on safe side with the rangers.

Tours:
We will prepare the information materials in English, as the ski-tour guidebooks in English or German language are rare (none). If you want to do some pre-research, look for peaks Končistá, Rysy, Kôprovský štít, Vysoká peak, Patria peak, valley Zlomiská and Mlynická dolina, „Tatra Haute Route", passes Priečne sedlo, Satanovo sedlo, Široké sedlo, Baranie sedlo and Prielom, peak Baranie rohy, Kolovy stit peak...

Ski-rental:
www.galfy.sk

Recommended equipment to fully enjoy Tatra mountains at its best: crampons, ski- or ice-axe, helmet (Tatras are full of nice but narrow couloirs with rocky walls around), avalanche equipment.
Tours that we have in mind are mostly combined with short and very light climbing, one or two of them require **harness and abseiling equipment** (we will provide the ropes in that case).
This could be avoided - should you prefer the tours on snow only.

Please tell us by **14th February 2019** if you are coming.
We are looking forward to seeing you all!
Zdenka and Jena

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(Please write on all 3 address, so we have it double-checked.)