Keys

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KEYS



1) F	2) T	3) F	4) F	5) F
6) T	7) F	8) F	9) T	10) T

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- Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, is mere forty miles from Vienna, which is considered to be in Western Europe. Thus, the preferred term is "Central Europe", which is geographically correct and also less weighted with the old political and cultural assumptions.
- A reform in 1786 by the Habsburg monarch Joseph II obliged government officials to explain legislation in the languages of the various people in his realm, and this gave impetus and substance to a Slovak national consciousness.
- 3) Many Slovaks are generally skeptical of politics, perhaps as a consequence of high expectations after 1989, and often disappointing or too slow results, or due to the cynical and sometimes criminal behavior of some of the country's politicians.



1) D 2) C 3) B 4) A 5) C

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- Slovaks have adapted to these rifts with a unique combination of careful flexibility, patience, and modesty.
- 2) The decline in social awareness demonstrated by the youth is perhaps most vividly displayed in the plague of graffiti that is evident in both urban and rural settings throughout Slovakia.

Chapter 03 Customs & Traditions

1) F 2) F 3) T 4) T 5) T 6) F 7) T 8) F

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- 1) Christmas is the predominant holiday celebration in Slovakia.
- Traditionally, children would leave their shoes or boots on the windowsill; in the morning the good children would find theirs filled with little treats.

Keys
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 Smiling women in long skirts and bonnets, dancing with colorfully dressed men, and folk music, with evocative laments, expression of love, and moments of despair and triumph.

Chapter **04** Making Friends

1) F	2) T	3) F	4) F	5) T
6) T	7) F			

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- Slovaks are normally punctual, and stick to their word as regards meetings and arrangement between friends. It rarely happens that a Slovak fails to show up for a planned meeting.
- Friends meet with a double kiss or a handshake, and sometimes a hug.

Chapter 05 The Slovaks at Home

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- 1) apartment block
- 2) two bed-room apartment

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- 3) finished schools
- 4) education/work/marriages/babies
- 5) 3.04/1.32
- 6) school-leaving exam
- 7) 2006
- 8) indifference

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- School gives young people a basic knowledge of sexual anatomy and physiology, but topics such as homosexuality, sexual deviation, and sexual assault are almost ignored.
- The basic school system in Slovakia is composed of preschools, primary or elementary schools, secondary schools, and higher education institutions.

Chapter 06 Time Out

1) A	2) B	3) A	4) C	5) D
6) B	7) D			

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- Few restaurants offer vegetarian dishes, and even when they do, you should read the ingredients carefully before ordering—often dishes that are listed as vegetarian include a little meat.
- If you are a nondrinker, do not feel you have to decline the invitation. Ordering tea, coffee or Kofala, even when your host and all the other guests are drinking alcohol, is common.

Chapter **07** Travel, Health, & Safety

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- 1) Schwechat International/most convenient
- 2) Travelling by train
- 3) 50 kmph
- 4) The Internet/rental services/a week
- 5) Škoda
- 6) exchange money/undersell

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- Perhaps the easiest and safest means of getting cash is from an automatic teller machine, most of which will work with international bank accounts.
- 2) A penzión, or a pension, is a boarding house or a guest house. This

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is normally a family-owned establishment with only a few rooms. By law, rooms must have a private bathroom, and breakfast is often included.

Chapter **08** Business Briefing

1) T	2) F	3) T	4) F	5) F
6) T	7) F	8) T		

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- Slovakia has a civil law system based on Austro-Hungarian codes, complying with the obligations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
- If you make an appointment by telephone, it is advisable to send a confirming e-mail, letter, or fax. Ask what language your Slovak colleagues prefer as regards written documents and contracts. Offering to bring an interpreter to meetings may also be a good idea.



Keys 007

1) F	2) T	3) F	4) T	5) F
6) F	7) F	8) F		

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- With hundreds of people living in a small apartment block, a Slovak's sense of privacy and personal space is understandably different, and during the worst times some foodstuffs and other products were hard to come by. Thus mild jostling to get what one needed was not uncommon.
- One of the main reason for this is that Czech programs dominate Slovak TV—this is particularly true with regard to children's programs, and Czech movies are much more common in cinemas than Slovak ones.

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