

POLL: SLOVAKS TRAVEL MUCH LESS THAN AVERAGE EUROPEAN



Slovaks prefer holidays in their home country. Most of them will not travel this year.

Among the 27 EU member states, Slovakia is on the 21st position with respect to traveling abroad. While 71 percent of Europeans spent at least one night in a foreign country last year, there were only **58 percent Slovaks who left their homeland**.

The biggest travelers are Swedes (88 percent), Finns (87 percent), the Dutch and Irish (84 percent). These findings were revealed in a poll organized by European Commission in February.

As the main reasons for traveling abroad for vacation Slovak citizens stated relaxation (39 percent) and enjoying sun and beach (28 percent). Those who were not able to go on holiday explained it by the lack of funds (37 percent), personal reasons (22 percent) or lack of time (12 percent). The same number (12 percent) decided to stay at home with a family or friends.

0.5 percent of Europeans chose Slovakia as the main destination for vacation. The most common transport used by Slovaks was car or motorcycle (46 percent) or plane (28 percent). 7 out of 10 Europeans went for holiday in the summer season which was the same for Slovaks who prefer to enjoy their vacation mostly in July (39 percent) and August (28 percent).

One third of Slovaks used tour operators to organize their holiday while on average Europeans mostly planned their leisure time themselves (56 percent). When choosing their destinations 68 percent Slovaks state they follow the advice of their friends, while 25 percent trust internet and 20 percent tour agencies.

With respect to their plans for this year, most Slovaks stated in the poll that they will skip vacations altogether. Others plan to travel around Slovakia or within the EU.

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Date: 2009-04-28

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