

# Slovenia current trends in the real estate market

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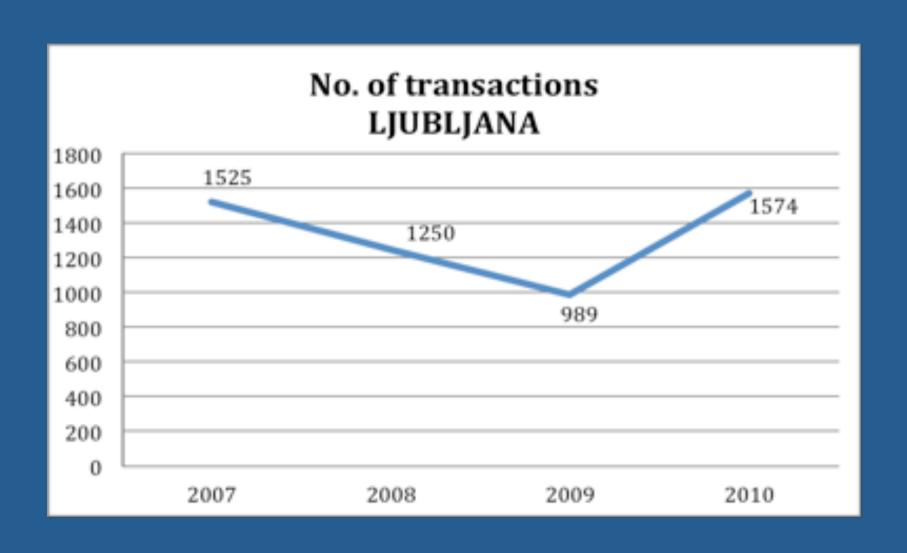
Ljubljana, september, 2011



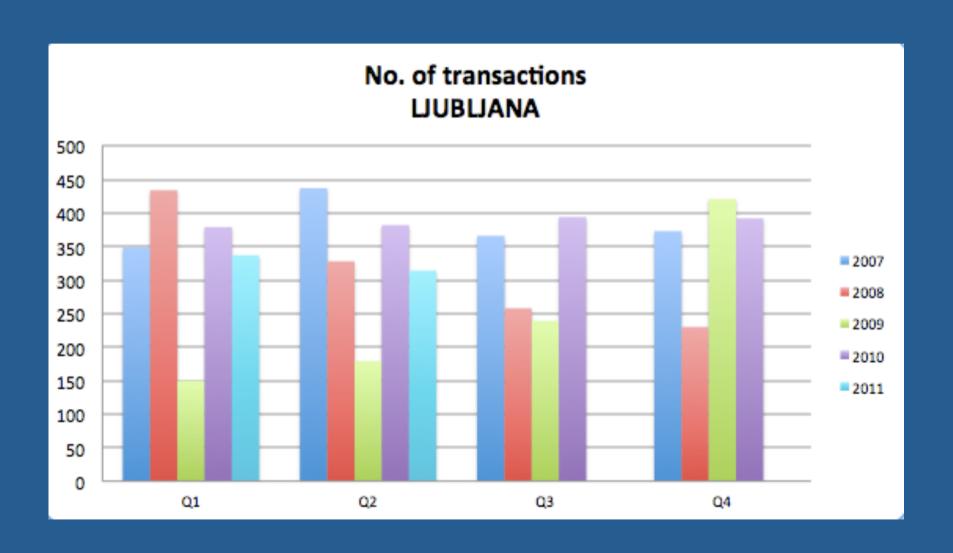
# **RESIDENTIAL MARKET**

- Prices and transactions levels stable
- Rental yields very low
- Rents are dropping
- 32,000 vacant properties in Ljubljana
- Šmartinska regeneration zone will provide land for many more homes
- Buy to let inadvisable at present

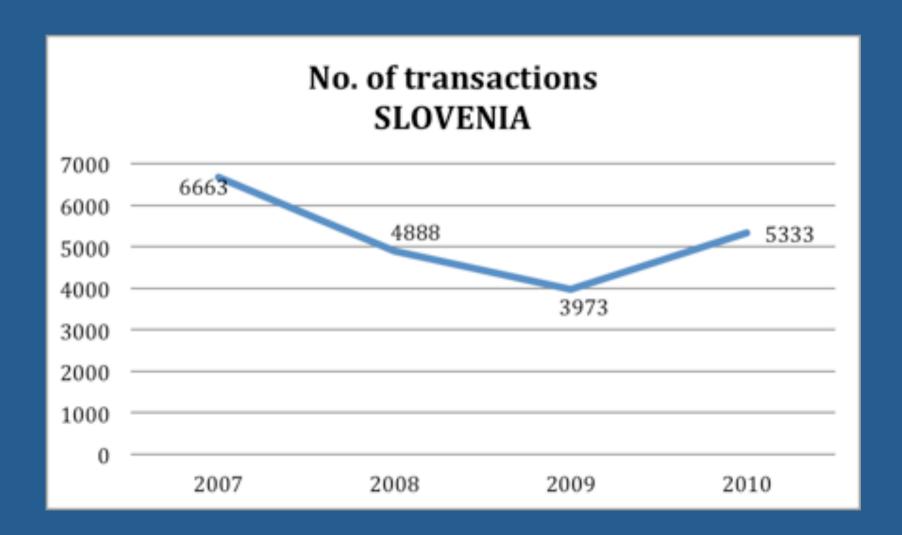
# Ljubljana transactions



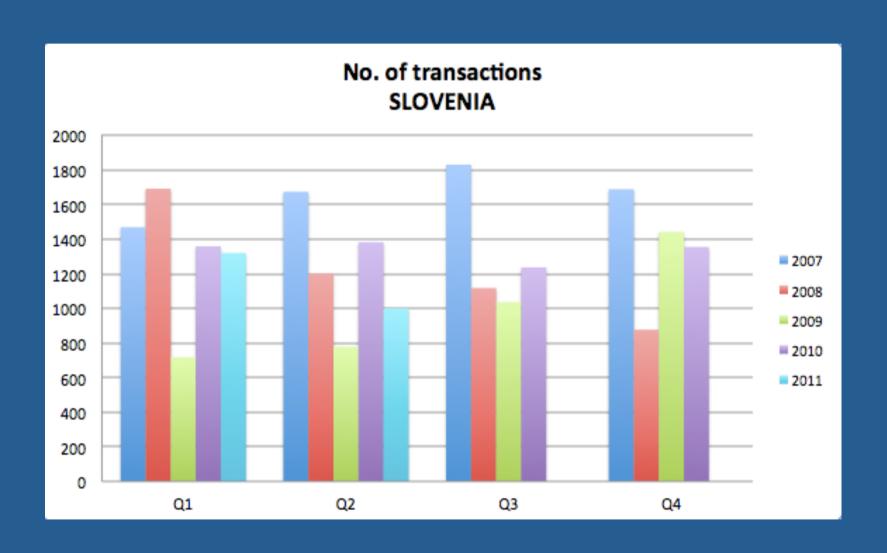
# Transactions by quarter



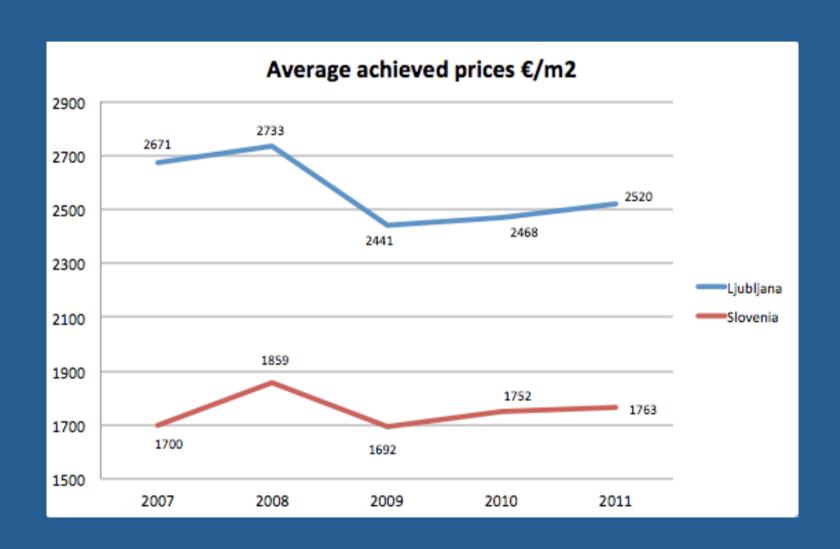
# Slovenia transactions



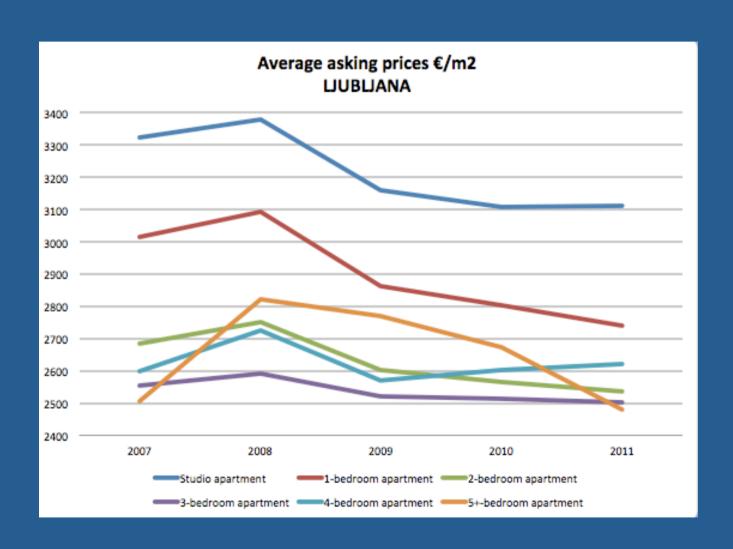
# Transactions by quarter



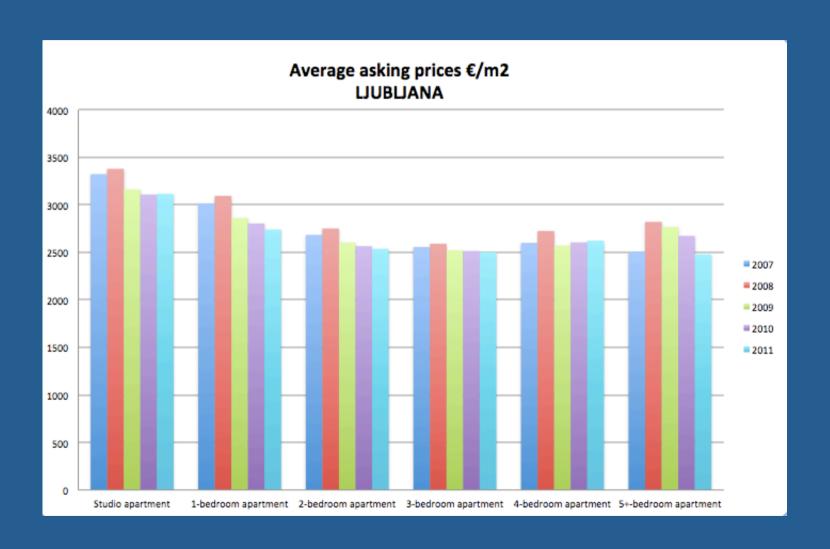
# Prices achieved – Slovenia and Ljubljana



# Asking prices Ljubljana



# Asking prices Ljubljana by size



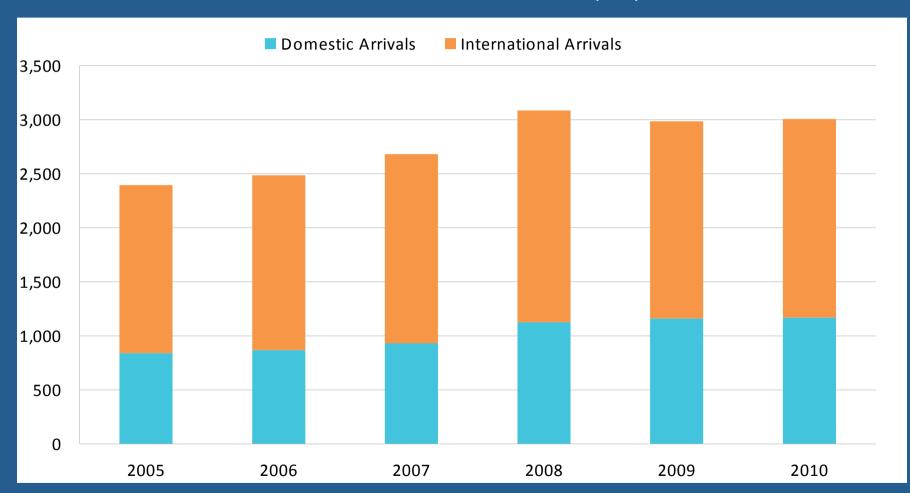


# **HOSPITALITY MARKET**

- What is the future for Slovenia's hotels?
- Most hotels still owner occupied
- Is there room for international operators?

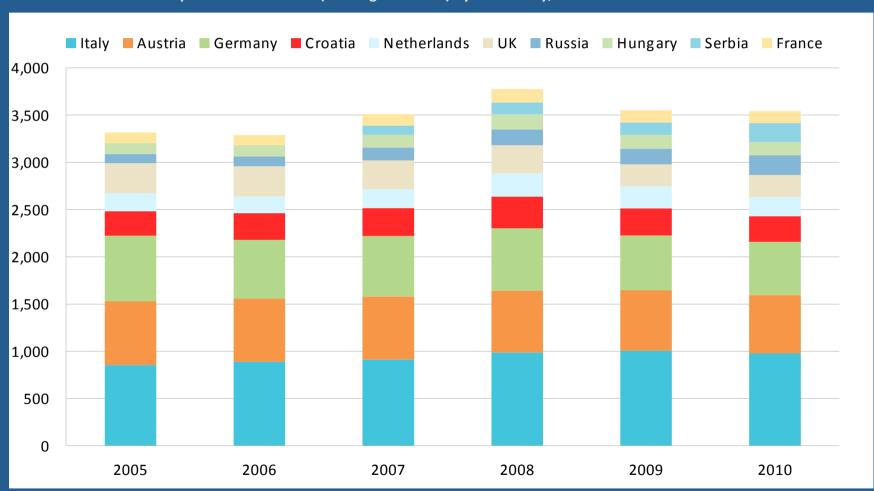


**Tourist arrivals to Slovenia 2005 – 2010 (000s)** 



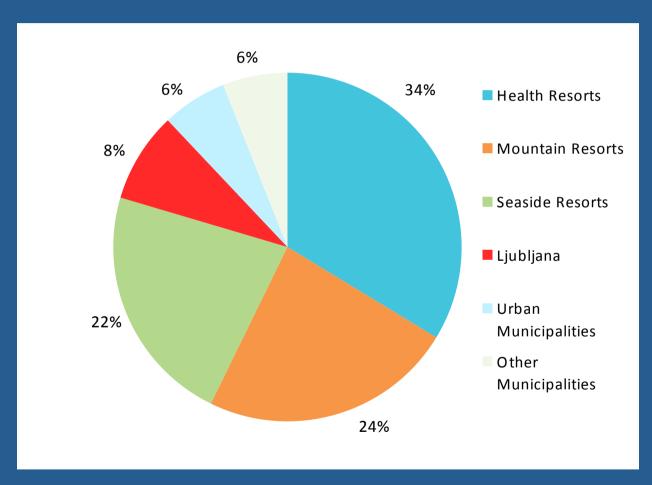


Top 10 Source Markets (Overnight Arrivals) By Nationality, 2005 - 2010



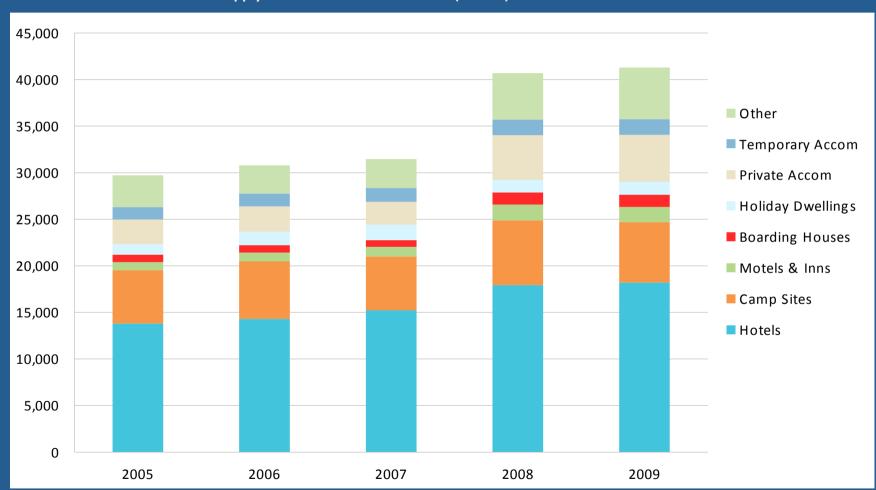


#### Destination Within Slovenia (As % of Total Overnights), 2010



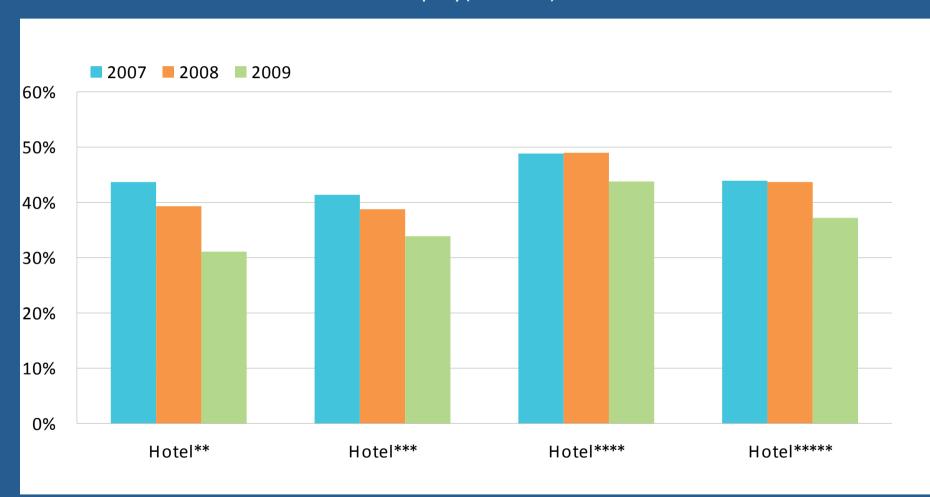


**Supply of Tourism Accommodation (Rooms)** 



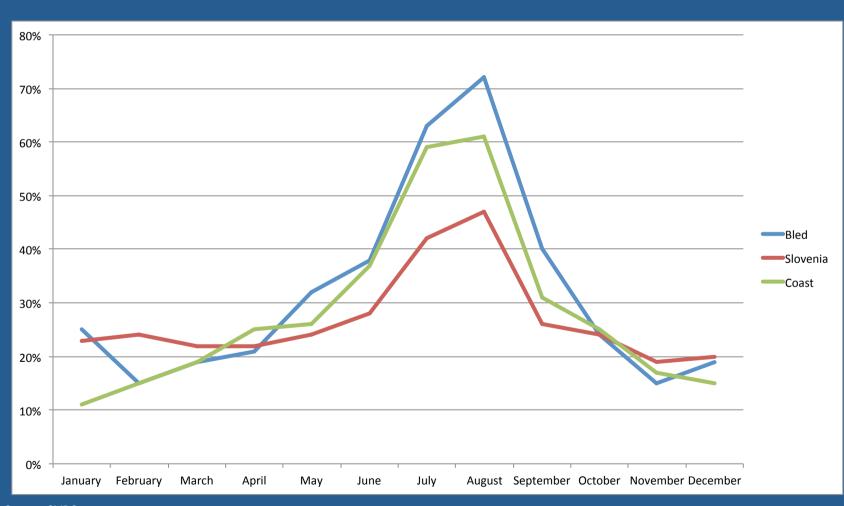


#### **Hotel Bed Occupancy (2007 – 2009)**





#### Comparison of Bed Occupancy in 2010, Slovenia, Coast and Bled



Source: SURS



#### **HOSPITALITY MARKET**

- Most hotels in Slovenia still owner operated, only two properties are managed by international operators; the Kempinski Palace Hotel in Portorož, and the Austria Trend in Ljubljana
- Percentage of rooms in branded hotels in other markets is much higher:
- USA over 79%
- UK circa 50%
- Dubai over 70%
- France circa 50%
- Italy less than 30%



# WHY HOTEL OWNERS CHOOSE INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Marketing muscle
- Internet expertise (45% of bookings now originate on the internet)
- Reservations platforms (GDS accessible by travel agents, car hire firms and airlines)
- Loyalty schemes (Hilton has 25m members)
- Generally 20% of bookings come from the reservation platform of an operator
- Training and operational manuals
- Constant monitoring of service levels
- Knowledge transfer to the local team
- Hotels are valued according to revenue and profit and professional operators can protect and enhance the underlying value of the asset
- Internationally recognized brand name is perceived as a quality promise
- Better finance terms available from banks as risk is perceived to be lower



# NOT ALL HOTELS ARE SUITABLE FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Hotels that are too small cannot achieve the economy of scale to make it worthwhile for an operator
- Hotels in very poor locations with low existing trade are not of interest
- Hotels in poor condition would impact badly on an operator's reputation so would not be of interest unless in an excellent location with potential to be refurbished quickly



# **OFFICE MARKET**

- Surplus of space in secondary locations
- Still little quality space in the centre
- Pipeline of new projects mainly in the centre
- Future of new projects uncertain
- Comparison with other CEE markets

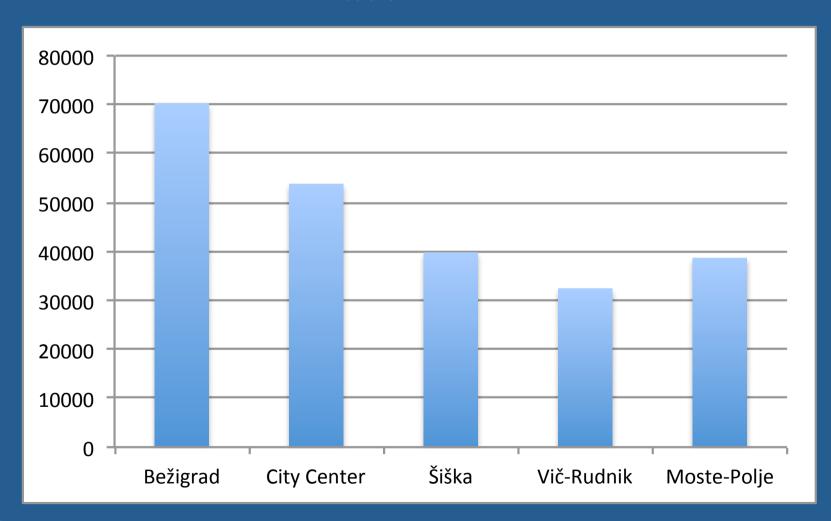


#### **OFFICE MARKET**

- Approximately 660,000m2 occupied in Ljubljana
- 235,000m2 currently available in previously occupied office space
- 58,000m2 available in new buildings
- 293,000m2 available in total
- Total office stock is therefore 953,000m2
- 30% vacancy rate



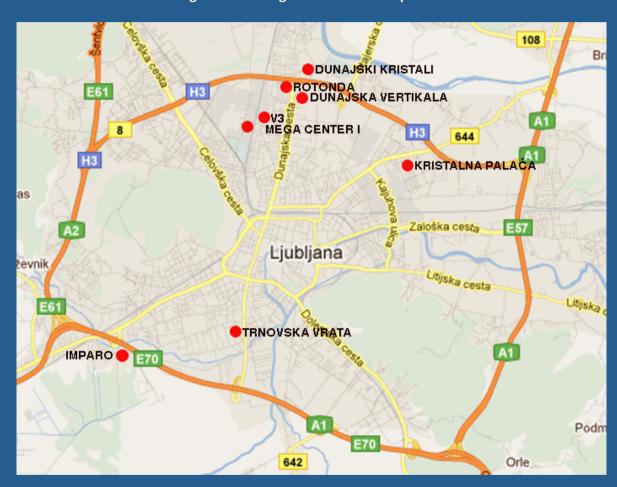
#### **Current supply by submarket**



Source::nepremicnine.net



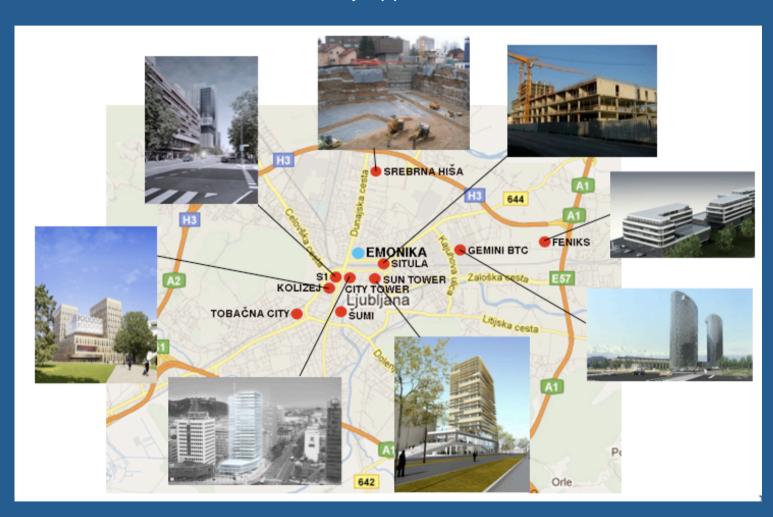
#### Existing new buildings with available space



Source::Slovenia Invest



#### **Project pipeline**



Source::Slovenia Invest



#### **FUTURE OF NEW OFFICE PROJECTS UNCERTAIN**

- Takeup of office space in Ljubljana is only 40,000m2 per year approx
- The high vacancy rate at present means there will be insufficient demand to support all pipeline projects
- Timing is key, the projects that get to market first will benefit from first mover advantage and the latent demand for quality office space in the center
- Obtaining bank finance will be very difficult due to the lack of liquidity in the Slovene banking system and the reluctance of foreign banks to finance Slovene real estate projects



#### Prime Office rents and yields in CEE cities, as at June 2011

Country	City	Prime rents €/sq.m/month	Prime yields
Bulgaria	Sofia	12	9.75%
Croatia	Zagreb	15	8.00%
Czech Rep.	Prague	21	6.25%
Hungary	Budapest	21	7.25%
Poland	Warsaw	26	6.40%
Poland	Krakow	15	7.25%
Poland	Katowice	13	8.50%
Poland	Poznan	15	7.75%
Poland	Lodz	13	8.50%
Poland	Wroclaw	15	7.00%
Poland	Szczecin	14	9.00%
Poland	Gdansk	14	8.00%
Romania	Bucharest	18.5	9.00%
Serbia	Belgrade	15	10.50%
Slovakia	Bratislava	17	7.25%
Slovenia	Ljubljana	15	7.75%

Source: Cushman & Wakefield



#### **RETAIL MARKET**

- New space becoming available but will it meet the needs of international brands entering Slovenia?
- Ljubljana has suffered from a lack of quality retail space for many years, but this is finally being addressed with the Stožice, Emonika and Interspar Šiška developments
- Further retail space will be developed in Ljubljana in Tobačna City, and an extension to Supernova in Rudnik
- New developments also underway elsewhere with Mercator Maribor, and Supernova Nova Gorica
- Q-Landia have added two malls to their portfolio this year, in Krško and Kamnik



#### **RETAIL MARKET ENTRANTS**

- 50% of all retail space in Ljubjana is situated in BTC city
- It is not purpose built, but converted from warehouse space and is compromised in terms of depth, parking and frontage
- There is poor availability of retail space that suits the needs of international brands entering Slovenia as part of their global expansion
- The new schemes under development will all be leased and managed by Companies with a successful track record in attracting international brands
- There is strong interest from global electronics, personal care, fashion, accessories, sports, fitness and restaurant brands wishing to expand into Slovenia



#### Prime Shopping Center rents and yields in CEE cities, as at June 2011

Country	City	Prime rents €/sq.m/month	Prime yields
Bulgaria	Sofia	24	9.00%
Croatia	Zagreb	32	7.50%
Czech Republic	Prague	70	6.00%
Hungary	Budapest	90	6.50%
Poland	Warsaw	77	6.25%
Poland	Krakow	37	7.25%
Poland	Poznan	37	7.25%
Poland	Tricity	37	7.25%
Poland	Silesia	47	7.25%
Poland	Szczecin	37	7.25%
Poland	Lodz	33	7.25%
Poland	Wroclaw	37	7.25%
Romania	Bucharest	51	9.00%
Serbia	Belgrade	35	10.50%
Slovakia	Bratislava	65	7.25%
Slovenia	Ljubljana	32	7.00%

Source: Cushman & Wakefield



#### Prime High Street Retail rents and yields in CEE cities, as at June 2011

Country	City	Prime rents €/sq.m/month	Prime yields
Bulgaria	Sofia	50	9.00%
Croatia	Zagreb	75	7.75%
Czech Republic	Prague	170	6.25%
Hungary	Budapest	100	6.75%
Poland	Warsaw	85	7.75%
Poland	Krakow	79	8.25%
Poland	Katowice	58	8.25%
Poland	Poznan	58	8.25%
Poland	Lodz	29	8.25%
Poland	Wroclaw	47	8.25%
Poland	Szczecin	33	8.25%
Poland	Gdynia	35	8.25%
Romania	Bucharest	65	9.25%
Serbia	Belgrade	92	10.50%
Slovakia	Bratislava	42	7.25%
Slovenia	Ljubljana	30	7.00%

Source: Cushman & Wakefield

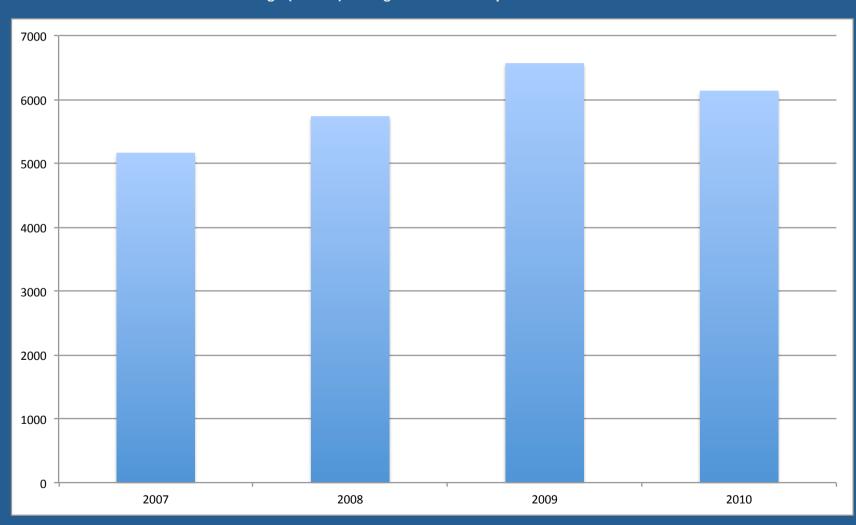


#### **INDUSTRIAL MARKET**

- Does Slovenia have the potential to become a logistics hub?
- Approximately 70% of industrial properties in Slovenia owner-occupied
- A rental market is yet to develop, currently very early stage
- Most warehouses are outdated and do not meet the needs of modern occupiers (minimum height 10m)
- No developers currently developing speculatively
- Croatia's accession to the EU may fuel the need for more warehouse space as trade increases with Slovenia and other EU members
- The Port of Koper is increasingly becoming the gateway to CEE and this will create a need for more warehouse space, but other infrastructure (particularly railways) needs to improve
- Slovenia's high social security contributions and inflexible labour laws may deter some logistics companies from setting up subsidiaries



Cargo (tonnes) through the Port of Koper



Source: SURS



#### Prime Logistics rents and yields in CEE cities, as at June 2011

Country	City	Prime rents €/sq.m/month	Prime yields
Bulgaria	Sofia	3.8	12.50%
Croatia	Zagreb	5.5	9.50%
Czech Republic	Prague	3.7	8.25%
Hungary	Budapest	3.5	9.00%
Poland	Warsaw	5.8	8.00%
Poland	Krakow	4.3	8.00%
Poland	Katowice	3.5	8.25%
Poland	Poznan	3.6	8.50%
Poland	Lodz	4.5	8.25%
Poland	Wroclaw	3.7	8.25%
Poland	Gdansk	3.7	8.50%
Poland	Szczecin	3.4	8.50%
Romania	Bucharest	4.0	9.50%
Serbia	Belgrade	4.5	13.00%
Slovakia	Bratislava	3.5	8.75%
Slovenia	Ljubljana	6.5	9.25%

Source: Cushman & Wakefield



#### **VALUATIONS IN SLOVENIA**

- Misalignment with international valuation methods
- International valuations generally focus on recent comparable transactions and current availability
- The replacement value method is still widely used in Slovenia, but is considered outdated in more mature markets
- A recent portfolio valuation of 350+ properties in ex-Yugoslavia on behalf of a leading financial institution, by four different international valuers, showed that most local valuations were between 3 and 7 times the actual market value
- Slovene banks have suffered huge write-downs with more to come and they will most likely start to hold valuers responsible for losses due to inaccurate valuations, as in more mature markets
- PI cover will have to be substantially increased to become aligned with international valuation standards



# **CAPITAL MARKETS**

- What is an investment transaction?
- No investment transactions in Slovenia since 2008
- Lack of suitable properties available
- Poor understanding of institutional investors requirements



#### Investment transactions in Slovenia and neighbouring countries

Country	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Slovenia	3 deals	3 deals	1 deal	none	none	none
	53.1m€	56.3m€	128m€			
Austria	63 deals	67 deals	38 deals	36 deals	70 deals	30 deals
	2,400m€	2,800m€	2,100m€	1,300m€	1,570m€	1,500m€
Croatia	5 deals	3 deals	5 deals	2 deals	3 deals	4 deals
	214m€	178m€	252m€	54m€	232m€	226m€
Hungary	25 deals	38 deals	15 deals	6 deals	9 deals	9 deals
	759m€	1,928m€	434m€	263m€	177m€	302m€
Slovakia	6 deals	13 deals	15 deals	4 deals	4 deals	3 deals
	292m€	444m€	170m€	42m€	33m€	131m€
Czech	42 deals	58 deals	27 deals	15 deals	30 deals	11 deals
Republic	1,757m€	2,655m€	1,109m€	496m€	646m€	1,005m€

Total	No. of deals	Total volume
Slovenia	7	237.4m€
Austria	304	11,670m€
Croatia	22	1,156m€
Hungary	102	3,863m€
Slovakia	45	1,112m€
Czech Republic	183	7,668m€

Source: CBRE and Slovenia Invest



#### **CAPITAL MARKETS**

- Investment transactions are sales of income generating assets (generally office buildings, shopping centres, logistics facilities or hotels) to investors looking for a stable ROI
- Although several instutional investors have targeted Slovenia, most have been unable to find suitable assets
- Most local developers in Slovenia have a poor understanding of investor requirements (title, due diligence, tax structure, leases etc), and their projects are not suitable for the rigorous conditions of funds



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