

This is the latest news on the Slovenian tobacco legislation:

1. In the beginning of August 2007 the new Slovenian tobacco legislation came into force. The main feature of this legislation is that it completely bans smoking in all public areas. In addition to this, 45 members of The Parliament voted for and 13 against the new tobacco legislation.
2. The new tobacco legislation is based on latest scientific researches on harmful effects of second hand smoking. As previously mentioned, the new tobacco legislation completely bans smoking in all public areas except;
 - hotel rooms and other accommodations
 - retirement homes
 - prisons
 - mental hospitals
 - rooms/places intended exclusively to smoking i.e. smoking roomsEmployees in these institutions are not allowed to stay in these rooms/areas unless no one is smoking in the time of their presence.
3. The new tobacco legislation also sets regulations for smoking rooms:
 - no drinking or eating will be allowed in smoking rooms
 - smoking rooms must not exceed more than 20% of the public area/workplace (e.g. pubs)
 - smoking rooms are still prohibited in the institutions/areas where smoking was completely banned before (i.e. educational and health and care institutions).
4. The next important feature of the new tobacco legislation is that it raises the age limit from 15 to 18 years. The main purpose of this measure is to limit the access of tobacco products to minors. What is more the vendor has the right to demand ID from the customer, if he suspects that s/he is under age.



5. What is more, besides health-risk warnings, every packet of cigarettes is equipped with the help call number (appointed by the Health Minister) where smoker can get useful advice on quitting smoking.

