English Version





# CROATIA / SLOVENIA / BOSNIA / MONTENEGRO

GRAND TOUR OF BALKANS

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# Tour of 13 days / 12 nights

# DAY 1 – ZAGREB

Arrival in Zagreb, capital of Croatia. Panoramic tour to discover two historical villages : Gradec and Kaptol. Discovery of Gradec, ancient royal city fortified against Tartar attacks in the XIII century, still standing on its medieval frontages. Then, discover Kaptol, former religious colony with its Episcopal Palace. You will appreciate gothic and baroque church like Saint-Etienne cathedral, Saint-Marc church and Sainte-Claire convent and city museum. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 2 - ZAGREB / SARAJEVO

Departure for Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 3 - SARAJEVO

Guided tour of Sarajevo, which was held by the Turks until the arrival of the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the end of the XIX century. The Empire fell when François Ferdinand was killed in Sarajevo. This event is the cause of WW1. In 1984, the city hosted the winter Olympic Games. Visit of the ancient historical center, place where different religions cohabited. You will discover the National Library, Sarajevo Museum, Orthodox Church, the synagogue, the Roman Catholic cathedral and Gazi Husrev-Beg mosque considered as the biggest mosque of the country. You will go through the Latin Bridge where François Ferdinand was killed the 28th of June 1944 and the Olympic stadium. Visit of the War Museum built between 1992-1995 which used as a passage to join the besieged city and the free part. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 4 - SARAJEVO / MOSTAR / MEDJUGORJE / DUBROVNIK

You will start your day with a guided tour of Mostar, multicultural city crossed by the Neretva River. 90% of the city was destroyed during the war in the nineties. This city joins 3 communities : Christian, Muslim and Jewish. The ancient bridge is the example of Mostar reconciliation. The bridge was built in 1566 by Ottoman, destroyed during the war in 1993 and rebuilt in 2004. Continue to Medjugorje, where the Virgin appeared for the first time in 1981.Departure for Dubrovnik, "Jewel of Adriatic". Dinner and accommodation.

#### DAY 5 - DUBROVNIK

Visit the city, founded in 600 by Greek, with its paved streets. You will enjoy the charm of the streets, fountains, squares and monuments. Discover the cathedral and visit the Franciscan monastery. The city is designated at the UNESCO Word Heritage Site with its 2km of wall around the ancient city. Dinner and accommodation.

#### DAY 6 - DUBROVNIK / KOTOR GULF / BUDVA / DUBRIVNIK

You will visit the Montenegro Republic for a day at the edge of Adriatic Sea. Discovery of Kotor Gulf, considered as one of the most beautiful gulf in the world. You will admire Topla, Tivat, Kotor Bay and the artificial island of Risan. Discover also the island of Saint Georges. Kotor Bay is designated at the UNESCO World Heritage Sites, it's the unique fjord in Mediterranean. Departure for the ancient city of Budva where you will visit its church and museum. Free time to enjoy the city atmosphere with its galleries and bars. Return to Dubrovnik. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 7 - DUBROVNIK / MAKARSKA / SPLIT

Departure for the antique city of Mkarska, between the mountains and the seaside. This city was occupied by Romans and Greeks and today it's the most important seaside resort. Continue to Split. Visit the city, discover the Diocletian Emperor Palace added at the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Nowadays, more than 3000 people live in this palace. You will discover archaeological ruins such as Jupiter Temple, Saint-Domingue cathedral and mausoleum. Dinner and accommodation.

#### DAY 8 - SPLIT / TROGIR / ZADAR

Departure for Trogir. Visit the city designated at the heritage of humanity. The city is located on an island linked by bridge to the continent. Continue to Zadar on the Adriatic coast. Visit of the city located on a promontory overlooking the Adriatic. Visit of San Donato church and Saint-Anastase church. You will also admire the castle situated on Roman's Forum ruins. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 9 - ZADAR / PLITVICE / OPATIJA

Departure for Plitvice where you will discover its National Park designated at the heritage of humanity since 1979. It's the biggest National Park in Croatia with an area of 296km<sup>2</sup>. You will discover waterfalls, lakes and lush vegetation. The forests in the park are home to bears, wolves and many rare species. Continue to Opatija. Panoramic tour of the city. From the end of the XIX century to the First World War, Opatija was the touristic attraction of the Austro-Hongrois Empire. You will admire some luxurious houses which keep the charm of the past. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 10 - OPATIJA / PULA / OPATIJA

You will start with the visit of Pula. Then, you will visit one of the most conserved Romans Forum. The Forum was built between 20 and 71 BC and can host more than 20 000 people. Return to Opatija. Dinner and accommodation.

# DAY 11 – OPATIJA / POSTOJNA / LJUBLJANA

Departure for Postojna to visit a cave of 20km long. You will embark on a little train and then continue on foot. Later, departure for Ljubljana, Slovene capital on the Sava river. You will admire the castle built on the top of the hill with a wonderful view on Juliennes Alps. To finish you will visit the National Museum and the Opera. Dinner and accommodation.

#### DAY 12 - LJUBLJANA / BLED LAKE / LJUBLJANA

Enjoy your day on Bled Lake, main touristic destination in Slovenia. Visit the impressive castle, the bridges and in particular the Dragon Bridge. Then, you will board on a cruise on Bled Lake where you will see emerald water and the little island which houses Sainte-Marie church, ancient baroque church built on pre-roman chapel. Return to Ljubljana. Dinner and accommodation.

#### DAY 13 - LJUBLJANA / ZAGREB

Departure for Zagreb. Transfer to the airport.



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