

# HOW DO I GET HERE?

A BRIEF GUIDE FOR THE BALKAN PENINSULA AND ALL THE MAGNIFICENT AND MYSTIC PLACES YOU CAN DISCOVER HERE.



## Our story

Enjoy Balkans is a Destination Management Company for the Balkan Peninsula. We are a company that strives to provide the highest degree of satisfaction for our clients. Our company's headquarters are in Skopje, Macedonia, the Heart of the Balkans. We are a part of a wider consortium, consisting of several companies with long time experience in the field of tourism, leisure and transportation.

Our mission is the successful presentation of the Balkan Peninsula, with its huge heterogeneous heritage consisting of both natural and man-made treasures. To succeed in this mission requires a great local knowledge and experience on one hand, and high academic education in the field of tourism and travel on the other, both values that we greatly foster and nurture.

Knowing that long term partnerships are a key element in sustaining a high standard & quality service, we build strong relationships based on trust, knowledge, professionalism, honesty, enthusiasm and integrity.

**The Enjoy Balkans team is committed to delivering an extraordinary travel experience through our complete destination knowledge, creative planning, detailed administration and commitment to quality and precise execution.**

As with our partners in initiation, we put great value in the long-term partnerships with our partners in realization. This close cooperation ensures that our clients will receive the highest standard and quality service.

Tailor made cultural Balkan tours for the whole Balkan Peninsula (one or several countries combined);





ENJOY THE  
BALKAN SITES

*Slovenia*

- 1. BLED
- 2. LJUBLJANA
- 3. ALPS PREHISTORIC PILE DWELINGS
- 4. POSTOJNA & PREDJAMA CASTLE
- 5. SKOCIJAN CAVE
- 6. PIRAN

*Croatia*

- 7. E.P. EUPHRASIAN BASILICA POREC
- 8. PLITVICE LAKES N.P.
- 9. CATHEDRAL ST JAMES SIBENIK
- 10. HISTORIC CITY OF TROGIR
- 11. DIOCLETIAN PALACE SPLIT
- 12. DUBROVNIK

*BIH*

- 13. JAJCE
- 14. SARAJEVO
- 15. MEHMED PASA BRIDGE VISEGRAD
- 16. MOSTAR OLD BRIDGE
- 17. POCITELJ
- 18. BLAGAJ

*Serbia*

- 19. SMEDEREVO FORTRESS
- 20. DJERDAP N.P.
- 21. ROMULIANA – PALACE OF GALERIUS
- 22. MANASIJA MONASTERY
- 23. STUDENICA MONASTERY
- 24. TARA N.P.
- 25. STARI RAS – SOPOCANI
- 26. DJAVOLJA VAROS  
NATURAL LANDMARK

*Kosovo*

- 27. GRACANICA MONASTERY
- 28. PEC PATRIARCHY
- 29. DECANI MONASTERY
- 30. HOLLY VIRGIN OF LJEVIS



*Montenegro*

- 31. NATIONAL PARK DURMITOR
- 32. BIOGRADSKA GORA N.P.
- 33. KOTOR
- 34. BAR – OLD TOWN

*Albania*

- 35. DURRES AMPHY-TEATRE
- 36. BERAT HISTORIC CENTER
- 37. APOLONIA
- 38. GJIROCATER HISTORIC CENTER
- 39. BUTRINT

*Macedonia*

- 40. KOKINO
- 41. MATKA
- 42. MARKOVI KULI
- 43. OHRID

*Greece*

- 44. ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF PHILIPPI
- 45. PALEOCHRISTIAN & BIZANTINE  
MONUMENTS OF THESSALONIKI
- 46. ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF  
AIGAI – VERGINA
- 47. METEORA
- 48. MOUNT ATHOS

*Bulgaria*

- 49. ROCK HEWN CHURCH OF IVANOVO
- 50. MADARA RYDER
- 51. NESEBAR
- 52. TRACIAN TOMB KAZANLAK
- 53. BOYANA CHURCH
- 54. RILA MONASTERY

*Romania*

- 55. WOODEN CHURCHES  
OF MARAMURES
- 56. HISTORIC CENTER OF SIGISHOARA
- 57. TRANSYLVANIA
- 58. SINAIA MONASTERY
- 59. SIBIU





## Macedonia Timeless

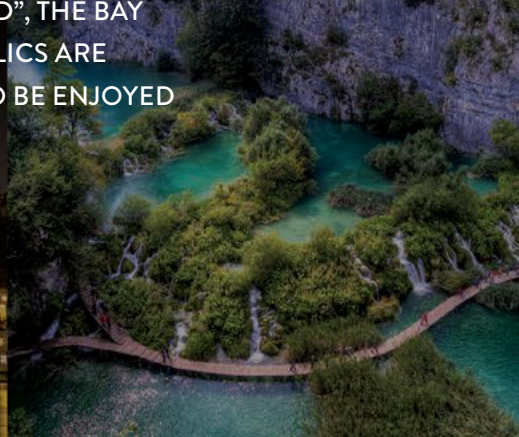
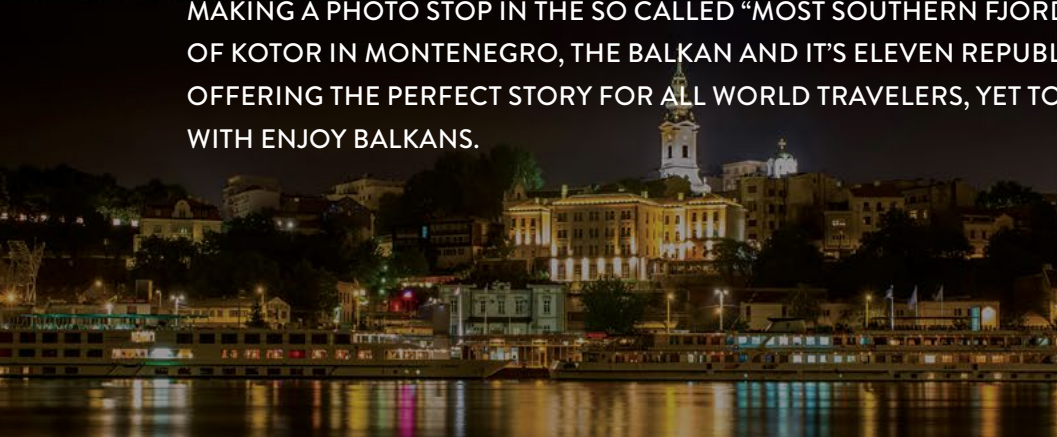
MOUNTAINOUS MACEDONIA REMAINS SOMEWHAT MYSTERIOUS. WHAT MAKES HER TIMELESS IS THE MIXTURE AND SYMBIOTIC CONNECTION OF THE ANCIENT AND MODERN, TOGETHER WITH THE COLORFUL AND VIBRANT TRADITIONS. THIS CENTRAL BALKAN COUNTRY IS FAMOUS FOR ITS WARM HOSPITALITY, DELICIOUS WINE AND FOOD AND VIBRANT AND HEARTY MUSIC.

# The Balkan Peninsula

A STORY BEST ENJOYED & EXPERIENCED,  
RATHER THAN HEARD

FROM THE WOODEN CHURCHES OF MARAMURES IN ROMANIA TO THE HISTORIC CENTER OF GJIROKASTER IN ALBANIA, FROM THE ANCIENT CITY OF NESEBAR IN BULGARIA TO THE PREHISTORIC PILE DWELLINGS ON THE SLOVENIAN ALPS, THERE LIES A VAST NETWORK OF MUST SEE PLACES AND ATTRACTIONS, BOTH NATURAL AND MAN-MADE, THAT WILL SATISFY EVERY ASPECT AND CULTURAL NEED THAT A TRAVELER MAY HAVE.

WHETHER YOU ARE WALKING ALONG THE STONE PAVED, CENTURIES OLD STREETS OF OHRID IN MACEDONIA, CLIMBING TO THE TOP OF THE HILL TOWARDS THE SAMUEL Fortress so you may enjoy the magnificent view, or you are making a photo stop in the so called "MOST SOUTHERN FJORD", the bay of Kotor in Montenegro, the Balkan and its eleven republics are offering the perfect story for all world travelers, yet to be enjoyed with enjoy Balkans.



### Must see places:

**Ohrid Lake Region.** According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization arguments, "Situated on the shores of Lake Ohrid, the town of Ohrid is one of the oldest human settlements in Europe. Built mainly between the 7th and 19th centuries, it has the oldest Slav monastery (St. Pantelejmon) and more than 800 Byzantine-style icons dating from the 11th to the end of the 14th century. After those of the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, this is considered to be the most important collection of icons in the world." The UNESCO protected Ohrid Lake Region is considered as a region with Outstanding Universal Value.

**Mother Theresa Memorial House.** Mother Theresa also known as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910 in Skopje, Macedonia was declared a saint by Pope Francis on Sep 4, 2016 for her great humanitarian work in India and the whole world.

**Decorated Mosque.** In the city of Tetovo you can find the beautiful and unique Decorated Mosque (Šarena Džamija), an Ottoman monument from the 15th century.

**Saint Panteleimon Church.** According to Andrew Graham-Dixon, British art historian and writer, the frescoes contained within St. Panteleimon at Nerezi are not seen as static, they have the capacity to change into something more obviously human and realistic, anticipating the West's emphasis on depicting Christ as a man of flesh and blood by some 150 years. He reminds that these frescoes from the 1160s precede Giotto's similar emotional frescoes from the Arena Chapel in Padua, circa 1305, suggesting that The Renaissance may not have really started in Italy.

**Kopackata** is a dynamic and energetic social dance performed by local residents of the village of Dramche in the region of Pijanec. It is a traditional Macedonian dance on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Macedonians wore 70 different types of national costumes, depending on the region where people lived. Every type of folk costume has its own characteristics, but what is common for all is the presence of the red, black and the white color, each with a deep meaning, and the geometrical shapes on it.

### General info:

The Republic of Macedonia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and multicultural social state;

There are two million people living in Macedonia;

The official currency is the Macedonian Denar (61 den = 1 €);

Macedonia has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and two airports, one in Skopje and one in Ohrid;

Macedonia has one million foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2005, and the number is consistently growing;

Every citizen learns English and one other foreign language in elementary school and high school;

Macedonians are considered as very warm-hearted and the most welcoming hosts;

There are three National Parks in the country;

There is one UNESCO site and 3 more on UNESCO tentative list in the country;







# Bulgaria - A Discovery to Share

BULGARIA IS COUNTRY RICH IN TOURIST SIGHTS AND HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, MAKING IT ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE DESTINATIONS FOR TRAVELERS SEEKING HISTORY AND CULTURE. IT HAS BEEN HOME TO ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS THAT LEFT EXCEPTIONALLY VALUABLE ARTISTIC AND ARCHITECTURAL EVIDENCE OF THEIR ADVANCED CULTURES. BESIDES HISTORIC TREASURES, BULGARIA PRIDES ITSELF ON ITS PRISTINE NATURE AND AMAZING BIODIVERSITY THAT ATTRACTS MILLIONS OF EUROPEANS WHO SPEND THEIR HOLIDAYS HERE.

## Must see places:

**Nesebar.** On the highly prized Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, and the proximity to the huge summer resort Sunny Beach, makes this ancient city crowded during the summer. Avoid the lines and pay a visit off season for a serene and mysterious cultural experience in this old town with its stunning collection of antique towers and fortifications, unique intricately designed medieval churches, and even a curious wooden windmill.

**Rila Monastery: The beacon of Bulgarian spirit.** One of the symbols of Bulgaria, high in the foothills of the Rila Mountains, lies the legendary 10th century Rila Monastery, founded by the hermit John of Rila, Bulgaria's national saint. Ever since, the monastery has been one of the most influential centers of Bulgarian culture and art. The Monastery's elegant main church and living quarters, with unmistakable striped decoration and gentle arches, mostly date from the 19th century, and are lauded as a masterpiece of the Bulgarian Nation

**Kazanlak: Rose Valley and Valley of the Thracian kings and Tombs.** Home to the Rose Valley and host of the annual Rose Festival, Kazanlak is where Bulgarian rose oil, an essential ingredient in most of the world's perfumes, is made. Nevertheless, the area's greatest asset, and the reason for its UNESCO protected status, is a Thracian **gold-filled** tomb with absolutely stunning mural paintings and richly colored and detailed frescoes covering the interior of the burial chamber.

**Pirin National Park: The Mountains' marble giant.** The mountain scenery of Pirin National Park is of exceptional beauty. The high mountain peaks and crags are in sharp contrast with the abundant meadows, rivers and waterfalls, and provide the opportunity to experience the true aesthetics of a Balkan mountain landscape. The ability to experience nature and remoteness is an important attribute of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Pirin National Park is well-known for its balneology and active tourism, with popular winter sports areas and a developed infrastructure.

Apart from the picturesque and diverse Bulgarian Black Sea Coast and the pristine mountains for adventure seekers, there are nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Bulgaria and fourteen additional properties on the Tentative List.

## General info:

The Republic of Bulgaria is an independent, sovereign and democratic social state;

There are 7 million people living in Bulgaria;

The official currency is the LEV  
( 1 Lev = 0,51 € );

Bulgaria has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and three airports, in Sofia, Plovdiv and Burgas;

Bulgaria had 7 million foreign tourists visiting every year, an average since 2005, and the number is growing;

Montenegro primarily offers exceptional cordiality and hospitality;

There are three National Parks in the country and more than 50 Nature Parks and reserves;

There are nine UNESCO sites in the country;



# Greece - All Time Classic

GREECE IS KNOWN FOR ITS NATURAL BEAUTY AND FASCINATING HISTORY. ANCIENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, COUNTLESS ISLANDS, SANDY BEACHES, AND A BALMY MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE MAKE GREECE ONE OF EUROPE'S PRIME TOURIST DESTINATIONS.

## Must see places:

**Meteora Monastery Complex.** Serene, spiritual, magical, mystical, extraordinary, breathtaking, immense, inspiring, impressive. These are some of the words people often use in an effort to describe the Meteora phenomenon. A trip to Meteora offers the unique experience of nature's grandeur in conjunction with history, architecture and man's everlasting desire to connect with the Divine.

**Pella Archeological site.** Pella was a small coastal town of the Thermaikos Gulf that replaced Aigai as the capital of the ancient Macedonian state at the end of the fifth - beginning of the fourth century BC, and quickly became one of the most important political, economical and cultural centres of the Macedonian State. Alexander the Great was born there!

**Vergina Royal Tomb.** The funeral of Philip II in 336 BC was performed, as imposed by tradition, in Aigai. It was the most lavish funeral ceremony of the historic times held in Macedonia. In a monumental death chamber, laid on an elaborate gold and ivory deathbed wearing his precious golden oak wreath, the king was surrendered to the funeral pyre. Today, the Royal Tomb is an UNESCO protected site.

**Thessaloniki.** From the top of the hill overlooking the whole city and the old Byzantine walls, downwards through the narrow stone paved streets and unique neighborhood's, passing the UNESCO protected Agios Dimitrios Church to the Aristotelous Square by the Aegean Sea, Thessaloniki has plenty to be enjoyed and experienced for all types of travelers.

**Athos Boat Cruise.** It is a classic, unforgettable boat trip at the coast of the saint hill Athos. Passengers can learn about the mystic Athos Monastery Republic, the independent state of the Greek Orthodox Church, where women can not enter since it was established, and men need visa to enter.

## General info:

The Republic of Greece is a sovereign, independent and democratic state;

There are eleven million people living in Greece;

The official currency is the Euro (€);

Greece has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads), 22 airports in total from which the two international are in Thessaloniki and one in Athens, and a lot of well-connected ports between the many islands and the mainland;

Greece has twenty million foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2005, and the number is growing;

Every citizen learns English in elementary school and high school;

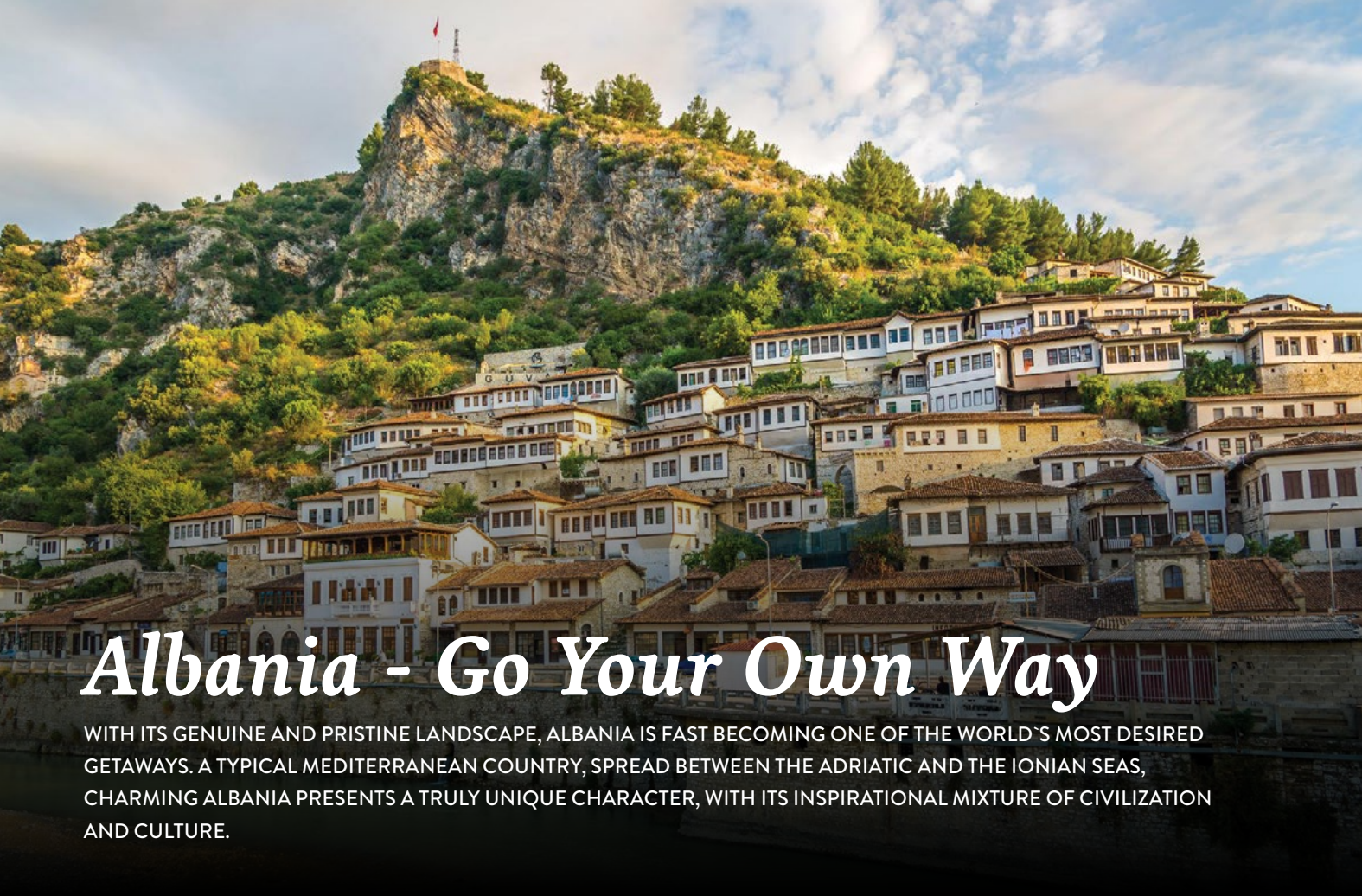
Greeks are people with long tradition in tourism and are great hosts;

There are eleven National Parks in the country;

There are seventeen UNESCO sites in the country;







# Albania - Go Your Own Way

WITH ITS GENUINE AND PRISTINE LANDSCAPE, ALBANIA IS FAST BECOMING ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRED GETAWAYS. A TYPICAL MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY, SPREAD BETWEEN THE ADRIATIC AND THE IONIAN SEAS, CHARMING ALBANIA PRESENTS A TRULY UNIQUE CHARACTER, WITH ITS INSPIRATIONAL MIXTURE OF CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE.

## Must see places:

**Butrinti.** In the south-western part of Albania, near the Ionian seacoast, you can explore the ancient city of the Epirus region – Butrinti, dating from the 7th century. The significance of this archaeological wonder was officially recognized in 1994, when it became a UNESCO world heritage site.

**Berat.** Registered as a world heritage site in 2005 and ratified in 2008 by UNESCO, Berati is a city where remnants can be found of the Illyrian, Byzantine and Ottoman period. Filled with old churches containing wonderful wall paintings, icons and wood engravings, it was named “Museum City” by the Albanian state in 1961. Berat is also called the city of thousand windows.

**Appollonia.** Apollonia was an ancient city in Illyria, located on the right bank of the Aous River (modern-day Vjosë River). Apollonia was founded in 588 BCE by Greek colonists from Corfu and Corinth, on a site initially occupied by Illyrian tribes. It would flourish during the Roman dominion of the area, hosting a renowned school of philosophy.

**Bunk'Art.** This fantastic conversion – from a massive cold war bunker on the outskirts of Tirana, into a history and contemporary art museum – is Albania's most exciting new sight, and a Tirana highlight. With almost 3000 sq metres of underground space, spread over several floors, this bunker was built for Albania's political elite in the 1970s and remained a secret for much of its existence. Today, it hosts multiple exhibits, combining Albania's modern history with contemporary art installations.

**Rozafa Castle.** With spectacular views over the city and Lake Shkodra, the Rozafa Fortress is the most impressive sight in town. Erected by antique Illyrians, and rebuilt much later by the Venetians and the Turks, the fortress takes its name from a woman who was allegedly walled inside the ramparts, as an offering to the gods so that the construction would stand.

## General info:

The Republic of Albania is a sovereign, independent and democratic state;

There are 2,8 million people living in Albania;

The official currency is the Albanian Lek (135 Leka = 1€);

Albania has a fast improving road infrastructure (highways & local roads), 2 international airports and four seaports;

As of 2005, Albania has an average of 1,5 million foreign tourists per year, with the number constantly growing;

Not every citizen knows English, but most workers in the tourism industry have good English conversational skills. Also, many people speak Italian;

Albanians are eager to welcome tourists and are excellent hosts;

There are fifteen National Parks in the country;

There are three UNESCO world heritage sites in the country;



# Montenegro - Wild Beauty

THE BEST KEPT SECRET OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, WITH EXTRAORDINARY AND WILD BEAUTY. CANYONS AS EXCITING AS COLORADO, CRYSTAL CLEAR SEAS, UNEXPLORED MOUNTAIN CRAGS, UNTAMED RIVERS AND GENTLE LAKES. YOU CAN HARDLY FIND ANY OTHER COUNTRY OF SUCH SIZE THAT HIDES SO MUCH NATURAL BEAUTY, A PLACE FOR BOTH THE TRADITIONAL RELAXING HOLIDAY PACKAGE, AND THE ACTIVE AND ADVENTUROUS HOLIDAY.

## Must see places:

**Boka Kotorska Bay.** Boka Bay, one of the world's 25 most beautiful bays and a protected UNESCO World Heritage Site, is undeniably most impressive when approached from the sea. Due to its unusual look, the bay is often called Europe's southernmost fjord.

**Kotor.** The Outstanding Universal Value of the Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor is embodied in the quality of the architecture in its fortified and open cities, settlements, palaces and monastic ensembles, and their harmonious integration in the cultivated terraced landscape on the slopes of high rocky hills.

**Budva.** Budva is the country's most popular tourist destination and boast great beaches, as well as a lovely, walled town center. The old town is located on a picturesque small peninsula, with narrow winding lanes hiding a multitude of historic buildings, churches and small squares.

**National Park Durmitor.** Montenegro's largest protected area, a stunning massif belonging to the Dinaric Alps or Dinarides, shaped by glaciers, numerous rivers and underground streams, and embedded by the Tara canyon, the deepest gorges in Europe. The dense pine forests are interspersed with 18 clear lakes and harbor a wide range of endemic flora. This breathtaking national park is a popular tourist destination, known for superb rafting, hiking, climbing, mountaineering and canoeing opportunities.

**Skadar Lake:** Lake Skadar is a wild wonder waiting to be explored. A vast freshwater lake straddling the borders of Albania and Montenegro and surrounded by dramatic karst mountains, its mirrored waters, rocky shores and wetlands host traditional fishing villages, islet monasteries and pristine beaches with a myriad of wildlife, including more than 260 species of birds.

A small Mediterranean country with rich architectural and cultural heritage, diversity of landscapes and climates, and well-preserved natural environment, Montenegro is has something for every type of traveler. One of the fastest-growing tourist destinations, it is quickly becoming an elite tourist destination, having been selected as Top World Tourist Destination multiple times.

## General info:

The Republic of Montenegro is a sovereign, independent, democratic and multicultural social state;

There are 670 thousand people living in Montenegro;

The official currency is the Euro 1 € (Montenegro has no currency of its own, € was adopted in 2002);

Montenegro has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and two airports, in Podgorica and Tivat;

Montenegro had 1 million foreign tourists in 2008, 1,5 million in 2014, and the number is still growing;

Montenegro offers exceptional cordiality and hospitality;

Montenegro is a very safe destination for all tourists around the world;

There are five National Parks in the country;

There are three UNESCO sites in the country;







# Serbia

## Life in the Rhythm of the Heartbeat

SERBIA HAS CONNECTED THE WEST AND THE EAST FOR CENTURIES. A LAND WHERE CULTURES, FAITHS, CLIMATES AND LANDSCAPES MEET, TODAY REPRESENTS A MODERN, EUROPEAN COUNTRY. NEVERTHELESS, SERBIA KNOWS HOW TO PRESERVE THE GENUINE BEAUTY OF ITS MOUNTAINS, CANYONS, GORGES, CAVES, FOREST AND OTHER NATURAL JEWELS.

### Must see places:

**Gamzigrad - Native town of Roman emperor Galerius.** Felix Romuliana was an imperial palace built on the orders of Galerius Maximianus on the spacious plateau of Gamzigrad, near the city of Zaječar. It belongs to a special category of Roman court architecture associated only with the period of the Tetrarchy and is the best-preserved example of this style. Since 2007, the archeological site Felix Romuliana has been listed on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.

**Kustendorf village and Sargan 8 Train.** Drvengrad (also known as Küstendorf) is a traditional ethno village in Serbia built by film director Emir Kusturica on the hill of Mečavnik near Mokra Gora. Located in the Zlatibor district near the city of Užice, Mokra Gora has become popular after a reconstruction of a narrow gauge railway called Sargan Eight, which is unique in the world.

**Nikola Tesla Museum.** Nikola Tesla Museum is located in the central area of Belgrade, in a residential villa built in 1929. The Nikola Tesla Museum is a unique institution of science and culture in Serbia and in the world. It is the only museum in the world which preserves the original and personal inheritance of Nikola Tesla, and is in possession of several exceptionally valuable collections.

**Romanesque Heritage of Serbia.** In the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Serbia, there is a group of medieval monuments in the area consisting of old marketplaces, monasteries, churches and fortresses. Stari Ras, the first capital of Serbia, together with the Monastery of Sopocani, combine to form a site that is known for its monument of culture and exceptional historical importance representing the connection between Western civilization and the Byzantine world. It was entered on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1979 and it is part of Transromanica Cultural Route. On the other hand UNESCO Studenica monastery Romanesque decoration of Saint Marry's church represents one of the richest programmatic and stylistic creations in the Serbian Medieval art and the finest portraits of the middle ages.

### General info:

The Republic of Serbia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and state;

There are 7.2 million people living in Serbia;

The official currency is the Serbian Dinar (120 din = 1 €);

Serbia has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and 5 international airports. The Danube River is a navigable river;

Serbia has one million foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2005, and the number is still growing;

Every citizen learns English and one other foreign language in elementary school and high school;

Serbians are considered as warmhearted and welcoming hosts;

There are four National Parks in the country;

There are four UNESCO sites in the country;



# Kosovo - Balkan's Newest

KOSOVO, EUROPE'S YOUNGEST COUNTRY, IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF SOUTH EAST EUROPE. POSITIONED IN THE CENTER OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA, IT IS AN IMPORTANT CONNECTION BETWEEN MEDIAN AND SOUTHERN EUROPE, THE ADRIATIC AND THE BLACK SEA. THIS LARGELY MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY PROMISES MANY MEMORABLE VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES.

### Must see places:

**Gadime Cave.** The entrance to Gadime Cave was discovered in 1966 by Ahmet Diti, a villager who was cutting stones in his yard and by chance came upon a glowing hole in the ground. Upon closer examination, he was amazed to find that the glow emanated from a cave full of crystallized stalagmites. Today, the stalagmites and stalactites are its main attraction.

**Prizren.** The town of Prizren is a charming Balkan town, nestled between towering green mountains, giving the impression of flowing along the banks of a shallow stretch of Bistrica River, which slices it in half. A town constructed over many centuries, with a mixture of architectures dominated by an Ottoman influence, Prizren is definitely one of the most attractive towns of Kosovo.

**El-Fatih Mosque.** The mosque is one of the biggest in Prishtina, and was constructed by the orders of King Sultan Mehmet II, also known as El-Fatih. The most distinguishing characteristic of this mosque is the huge 15-meter (98 foot) dome. Today, hundreds of citizens use the main mosque for daily prayer. A national icon, the El-Fatih Mosque is unanimously regarded as one of the city's grandest buildings.

**Churches and Monasteries of Kosovo.** There are four edifices included in this property that was listed as one of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Kosovo and Serbia. These four churches and monasteries, a tribute to the Byzantine-Romanesque ecclesiastical culture, offers unique wall paintings harking back to the 13th and 17th centuries. They include the Dečani Monastery, built in the mid-14th century for the Serbian king Stefan Decanski; the Patriarchate of Peć Monastery, comprised of four domed churches; Our Lady of Ljeviš, a Serbian Orthodox Church located in community of Prizren; and Gračanica, a Serbian Orthodox monastery built by Stefan Milutin in 1321. The murals and frescoes feature breathtaking ornamentation with colors that are still vibrant today.

**The tomb of the Sultan.** Just a few kilometers outside of Pristina is one of the oldest Ottoman monuments in the Balkans, the tomb of Sultan Murad. The Battle of Kosovo field took place in 1389 between the Serbians and the Ottomans. The Ottomans won, but Sultan Murad I was killed in the battle. One famous version of the story goes that the Serb nobleman Milos Obilic "played dead" on the field while Sultan Murad went out to check the condition of his wounded on the battlefield. When the sultan neared, Milos Obilic killed him with a dagger. Today the tomb is a famous tourist attraction that leaves no one indifferent.

### General info:

The Republic of Kosovo is the newest European country and it is a sovereign, democratic and multilateral state;

There are 1.8 million people living in Kosovo;

The official currency is the Euro (€);

Kosovo has an average road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and one international airport in Pristina;

Kosovo has one hundred thousand foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2005, and the number is growing;

Not every citizen knows English, but most of the workers in the tourism industry have good English conversational skills. Many people speak Italian and German;

There are two National Parks in the country;

There are four Medieval Monasteries that are protected by UNESCO;







# Romania Natural & Cultural

## Explore the Carpathian Garden

ROMANIA OFFERS COUNTLESS UNIQUE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES THAT ARE WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED. A JOURNEY OF THREE OR FOUR HOURS, BY CAR OR TRAIN, CAN TAKE YOU FROM THE DANUBE RIVER TO A BEAUTIFUL, INTACT, MEDIEVAL TOWN; FROM BUCHAREST - ROMANIA'S CAPITAL CITY - TO THE BLACK SEA; FROM SOUTHERN TRANSYLVANIA TO THE HISTORIC REGIONS OF BUCOVINA OR MARAMURES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO ROMANIA!

### Must see places:

**Bucharest.** Known for its wide, tree-lined boulevards, glorious Belle Époque buildings and a reputation for the high life (which in the 1900s earned its nickname of “Little Paris”), Bucharest, Romania’s largest city and capital, is a bustling metropolis. Romanian legend has it that the city of Bucharest was founded on the banks of the Dambovită River by a shepherd named Bucur, whose name literally means “joy.” His flute playing reportedly dazzled the people and his hearty wine from nearby vineyards endeared him to the local traders, who gave his name to the place.

**Bran Castle.** We invite you to experience the history, the myth, the intrigue and the magic of this wonderful place and its Queen. We hope that you will carry the spirit that makes us love Bran Castle with you, always.

**Sighisoara Historic Center.** Sighisoara still stands as one of the most beautiful and best-preserved medieval towns in Europe. Designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, this perfectly intact 16th century gem with nine towers, cobbled streets, burger houses and ornate churches rivals the historic streets of Old Prague or Vienna in atmospheric magic. It is the birthplace of Vlad Dracula, also known as Vlad Tepes (Vlad the Impaler), ruler of the province of Walachia from 1456 to 1462 and inspiration for Count Dracula, Bram Stoker’s fictional creation.

**Wooden churches of Maramures.** There is a strong tradition of building wooden churches across Eastern Europe, from Karelia and northern Russia all the way to the Adriatic, but in terms of both quality and quantity, the richest examples are in Maramures. The Wooden Churches of Maramures are unique in shape and ornamentation and eight of them – in Barsana, Budești, Josani, Desesti, Ieud, Plopiș, Poienile Izei, Rogoz and Surdești, have been recognized by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites.

**Sinaia.** Nestled at the foot of the Bucegi Mountains in the picturesque town of Sinaia, Peles Castle is a masterpiece of German new-Renaissance architecture, considered by many one of the most stunning castles in Europe.

**Danube Delta.** The mighty Danube River flows 1,788 miles from its springs in Germany’s Black Forest to the Black Sea. Just before reaching the sea it forms the second largest and best preserved of Europe’s deltas: 2,200 square miles of rivers, canals, marshes, tree-fringed lakes and reed islands. The Danube Delta is a wildlife enthusiast’s (especially a bird watcher’s) paradise.

### General info:

The name “Romania” comes from the Latin word “Romanus” which means “citizen of the Roman Empire.”

Romania is a sovereign, independent, democratic and multilateral state;

There are 19 million people living in Romania;

The official currency is the Leu (4,5 RON = 1 €);

Romania has more than eight million foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2008, and the number is still growing;

Every citizen learns English and one other foreign language in elementary school and high school;

There are twelve National Parks in the country;

There are seven UNESCO natural and cultural sites in the country and 16 sites on the tentative list;



# Bosnia & Herzegovina

## the Heart-Shaped Land

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IS ONE OF THOSE COUNTRIES THAT SURPRISES THE MOST WITH THE BEAUTY OF ITS CULTURAL DIVERSITY. UNTOUCHED NATURE AND LANDSCAPES OFFER MILLIONS OF CHOICES FOR HOLIDAYS AND ADVENTURES. THE CENTRAL DINARIC ALPS ARE A HIKER’S HEAVEN, WHILE THE DIVERSE LANDSCAPES OF ALPINE AND MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATES WILL AMAZE EVERYONE.

### Must see places:

**Mostar Bridge.** The Old Bridge of Mostar was a stone bridge built in 1566. The bridge had few aesthetic devices and no ornamental elements; its architectural beauty and elegance were found in the simplicity and essentiality of the structure. The original Old Bridge was destroyed in 1993 during the Bosnian conflict, but the bridge was reconstructed in 2004, using the remains of the old bridge. Among a population still ravaged by ethnic divisions, it is seen, now more than ever, as a symbol of unity.

**Sarajevo’s Bas Carsija (old bazaar).** The Old Town ‘Bascarsija’ may be hard to pronounce but it is certainly one of the most impressive and charming market centers in the country. Bascarsija has been a meeting and trading place since the 15th century, as caravans from Asia Minor, Dubrovnik and the west met here to offer their wares.

**Medugorje.** In the early 1980’s, several teenagers held a vision of the Virgin Mary. Since then, this sleepy Herzegovina village has been transformed into one of the largest Catholic pilgrimages in the world.

**Travnik.** Famous for its Nobel Laureate writer Ivo Andrić, this Ottoman town still best represents what was once called the European Istanbul. The ancient mosques and fortresses that dot the skyline are as impressive as the original Bosnian architecture that gives this town its charm.

**Blagaj Tekija.** This 16th century dervish monastery epitomizes the harmonious existence of man and nature. This stunning structure was built at the mouth of the largest river-head in Herzegovina, gushing from a cave at the base of a 200 meter high cliff.

**Tito’s bunker in Konjic.** In the early 1950s, Josip Broz Tito, the late leader of the former Yugoslavia, ordered the building of a secret bunker that would safeguard the country’s ruling class in case of a nuclear attack. The 26-year project was only completed in 1979, the year before Tito died, and it was built at a cost equivalent to just under £3 billion. Today it is a time capsule that back to 1950s Yugoslavia.

### General info:

The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is a sovereign, independent and democratic parliamentary republic;

There are 3.9 million people living in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

The official currency is the Convertible Mark (2 BAM = 1 €);

Bosnia has a good road infrastructure (highways & local roads) and four civil airports;

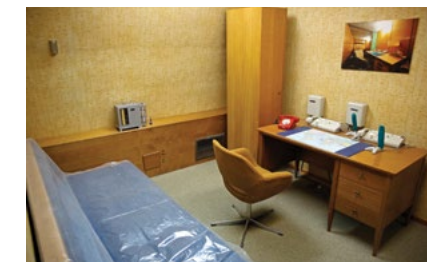
Bosnia and Herzegovina has, since 2005, four hundred thousand foreign tourists on average every year, and the number is still growing;

Every citizen learns English and one other foreign language in elementary school and high school;

Bosnians are considered warmhearted and embracing hosts, always willing to welcome tourists;

There are three National Parks in the country;

There are three UNESCO sites in the country;







# Croatia - Full of Life

CROATIA, THE LAND OF A THOUSAND ISLANDS; OF FABULOUS NATURE AND RICH HERITAGE. IT IS A COUNTRY WHOSE BEAUTY HAS BEEN CELEBRATED SINCE ANTIQUITY, A LAND THAT MANY CALL HEAVEN ON EARTH. CROATIA HAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE A PLACE OF TRUE INSPIRATION.



# I Feel Slovenia

SLOVENIA IS THE ONLY COUNTRY IN EUROPE CONNECTING FOUR COMPLETELY DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHICAL WORLDS: THE ALPS, THE MEDITERRANEAN, THE PANNONIAN PLAIN AND THE KARST. ONE MOMENT YOU ARE ADMIRING THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS, THAN YOU LOOK AWAY AND ADMIRE THE SEA. THIS WORLD OF BEAUTIFUL CONTRASTS IS THE BEST HALLMARK OF SLOVENIA.

## Must see places:

- Plitvice Lakes National Park.** Sixteen beautiful Plitvice lakes, crystal clear and turquoise, are situated one over the other in a forested mountain area. High waterfalls cascade from the higher into the lower lakes, leaving visitors breathless.
- Dubrovnik City Walls.** Almost two kilometers in length, Dubrovnik's city walls are among the best preserved and most attractive on the planet, and a walk atop them is an absolute must. Built between the 8th and the 16th century, the fact that they are almost 6 meters thick in places shows their primary purpose as defenses against the Ottoman Empire.
- Zadar sunset.** According to Alfred Hitchcock, the sunsets in Zadar are more beautiful than those in California.
- Korcula Island.** Korcula is the birthplace of the renowned world traveler Marco Polo.
- Zadar Sea Organ.** The musical Sea Organ in Zadar is the world's first musical pipe organ played by the sea. Simple and elegant steps, carved in white stone, are built on each side. Underneath them are 35 musically tuned tubes with whistle openings on the side walk. The movements of the sea pushes air through, and depending on the size and velocity of the wave, random beautiful and harmonic sounds spring from the tubes.
- Hvar Island.** They say that the most richly smelling Lavender can be found on Hvar Island.
- Island of Brac.** The Washington's White House, Vienna's Parliament and New Palace, Budapest's Parliament are just some of the famous buildings made from the white stones found on the island of Brac, in the vicinity of Split.
- City of Split.** The first inhabitant of Split was the Roman emperor Diocletian who built his palace in this friendly bay around 293 AD. After his abduction he withdrew to this luxurious palace of about 30 thousand square meters.

## General info:

- The Republic of Croatia is a sovereign, independent, democratic and multilateral state;
- There are 4.5 million people living in Croatia;
- The official currency is the Euro (€);
- Croatia has a great road infrastructure (highways & local roads), nine civil airports and over thirty sea ports;
- Croatia has nine million foreign tourists visiting every year, on average since 2005, and the number keeps growing;
- Every citizen learns English and one other foreign language in elementary school and high school;
- The Croatians are considered warmhearted and welcoming hosts, with great experience working in tourism and hospitality;
- There are seven National Parks in the country;
- There are eight UNESCO sites in the country;



## Must see places:

- Lake Bled.** Lake Bled is a symbol of Slovenian beauty. Look out at the lake from a castle on a cliff and visit the island on a traditional "pletna" boat. Visit Lake Bled and have your wishes come true. On this island, which is the subject of legendary tales, listen to the church bell, and ring it yourself - legend has it that this will make your wishes come true. Experience the most intact nature of Bled in the first tourist arranged gorge in Slovenia – Vintgar Gorge. Don't forget to have a taste of Cream Cake at Hotel Park, made according to Tito's recipe.
- Ljubljana.** The cityscape, guarded by the prominent Ljubljana Castle, was shaped by the widely celebrated architect Jože Plečnik. Whether you are a lover of culture and art, or seek culinary delights, Ljubljana has something to offer that will never fail to impress. Ljubljana is a green city, friendly towards residents and visitors alike. Its social and environmental awareness have a long tradition that you will feel with every step, and it is no coincidence that the city was named the European Green Capital of 2016.
- Postojna Cave.** The most visited tourist cave in Europe is a place where the proteus or olm offspring are once again hatching. The cave railway has been operating for 140 years, and it is connected to Predjama Castle, the largest cave castle in the world.
- Piran.** The most beautiful town on the Slovenian coast grew with the help of salt. The Piran salt pans, where the world-class fleur de sel (flower of salt) is still produced today using age-old methods, were the reason why the picturesque Mediterranean walled town, with its religious and cultural attractions, flourished.
- The Logar valley Landscape Park.** In the heart of the Kamnik - Savinja Alps, the Logar valley is one of the most beautiful alpine valleys in Europe. Set among the over 2,000-meter peaks are sunny meadows and pastures, charcoal-makers' and foresters' cottages, wooden flumes for transporting logs, and picturesque natural features beside the springs and tributaries of the Savinja River. From behind the green backdrop of beech forest, the impressive roar of the Rinka Waterfall resounds.

## General info:

- The Republic of Slovenia is a sovereign, independent, democratic state member of the European Union since 2004;
- There are over two million people living in Slovenia;
- The official currency is the Euro;
- Slovenia is divided into 4 geographical regions;
- Alpine, Mediterranean, Dinaric and Pannonian Landscapes;
- Slovenia had an average of 2,4 million foreign tourists in 2014, a number that is growing;
- There are two UNESCO sites in the country;





# BEAUTY IN BALKAN VARIETY

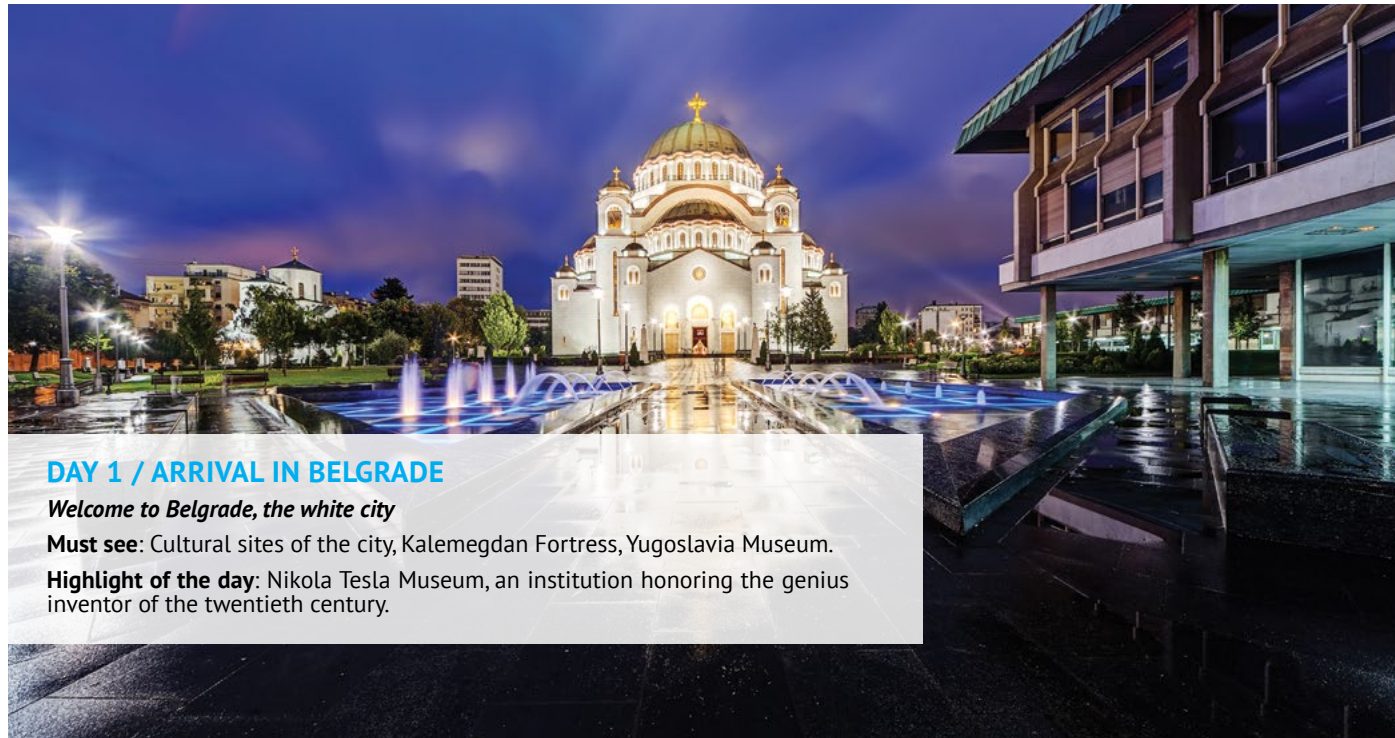
6 COUNTRIES, 8 DAYS – 7 NIGHTS CULTURAL TOUR



SERBIA – BIH – CROATIA – MONTENEGRO – ALBANIA – MACEDONIA

PRICES  
STARTING  
FROM **250€**  
PER PERSON

Once upon a time people said that the Balkans were the “powder-keg of Europe”. Indeed, history is full of sudden burst of the strong Balkan passions. But wars are left in the past. We can now only enjoy the beautiful features of the sunny face of the Balkans – beautiful and preserved nature, old monasteries, cozy towns – a different and slightly old-fashioned Europe. We offer you a tour of several countries, and a chance to see the most interesting places in each of them - Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania and Macedonia – all alike, but at the same time so very different in their own way. This is the place where Europe meets the Orient, where Christians and Muslims have lived together for centuries, where old traditions coexist with the rhythm of XXI century.



## DAY 1 / ARRIVAL IN BELGRADE

*Welcome to Belgrade, the white city*

**Must see:** Cultural sites of the city, Kalemegdan Fortress, Yugoslavia Museum.

**Highlight of the day:** Nikola Tesla Museum, an institution honoring the genius inventor of the twentieth century.

## DAY 2 / BELGRADE – SMEDEREVO – TOPOLA – ZLATIBOR

*Serbian Royalty*

**Must see:** Smederevo Fortress, Oplenac Royal complex, Zlatibor.

**Highlight of the day:** Enjoy wine tasting in Oplenac Royal Winery.



## DAY 3 / ZLATIBOR – VISEGRAD – SARAJEVO

*From an extraordinary mountain village down to an even more impressive historic bridge*

**Must see:** Kustendorf Village, a traditional Serbian gastronomy experience, UNESCO protected stone bridge in Visegrad.

**Highlight of the day:** Amazing train ride back in time, driven by an authentic steam train.



## DAY 4 / SARAJEVO – MOSTAR – BLAGAJ – DUBROVNIK

*Beauty of the oriental architecture and culture*

**Must see:** Sarajevo Old Bazaar (Bas Carsija) and other cultural sites, UNESCO protected Mostar Bridge, Blagaj Tekke, delicious river fish lunch by the Buna river.

**Highlight of the day:** Taste of authentic Sarajevo coffee culture and experiencing “rahat” (higher level of enjoyment while drinking coffee).



## DAY 5 / DUBROVNIK – KOTOR – BUDVA

*Magnificent coastal cities*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Dubrovnik old city, walk from Pile Gate to Stradun Pedestrian Street, Rectors Palace, UNESCO protected Kotor Old City, Budva Old City.

**Highlight of the day:** Extraordinary experience walking atop Dubrovnik city walls and enjoying the amazing view.

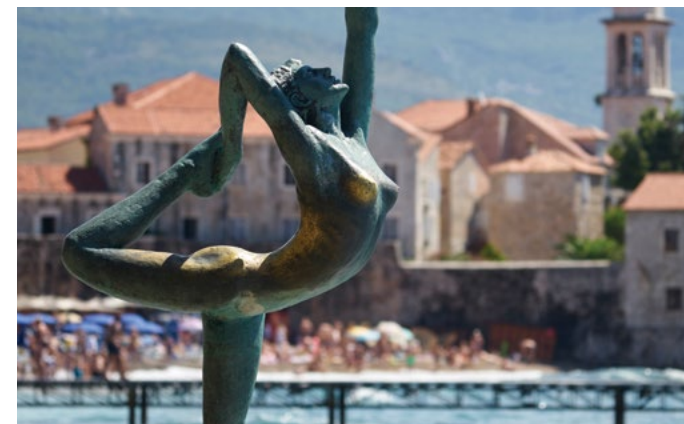


## DAY 6 / BUDVA – SHKODER – TIRANA – OHRID

*Traditional gastronomy and folklore live show*

**Must see:** Skadar Lake, Rozafa Castle, taste of traditional Elbasan Tava meal, Skanderbeg City Square in Tirana.

**Highlight of the day:** Enjoy watching a traditional Macedonian live folklore show with music and dance.



## DAY 7 / OHRID – SKOPJE

*Jerusalem of the Balkans*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Ohrid region, St. Naum Monastery complex & River Drim Springs, Ohrid Old Town, other cultural attractions.

**Highlights of the day:** Enjoy a tranquil boat ride on Drim River Springs, crystal clear waters & the mesmerizing view from St. Ka-neo Church plateau.



## DAY 8 / SKOPJE DEPARTURE

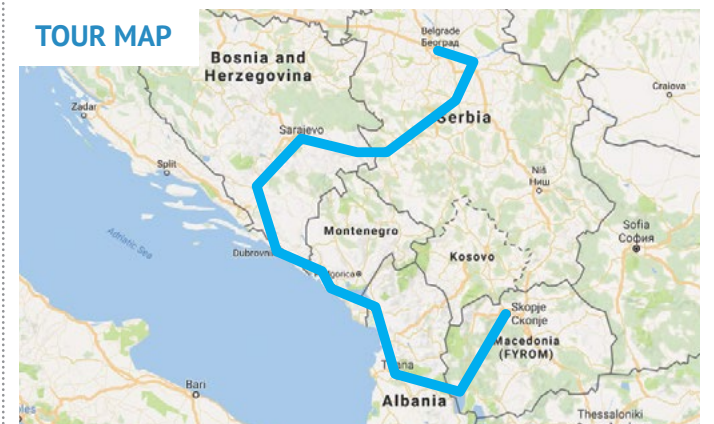
*The Mother of humanity*

**Must see:** Kale Fortress, Skopje Old Bazaar, Stone Bridge, Skopje city square.

**Highlights of the day:** A unique experience of walking through the stone paved streets of the second largest oriental bazaar in the world, over the Vardar River towards the Mother Theresa Memorial House.



## TOUR MAP





# COAST TO COAST

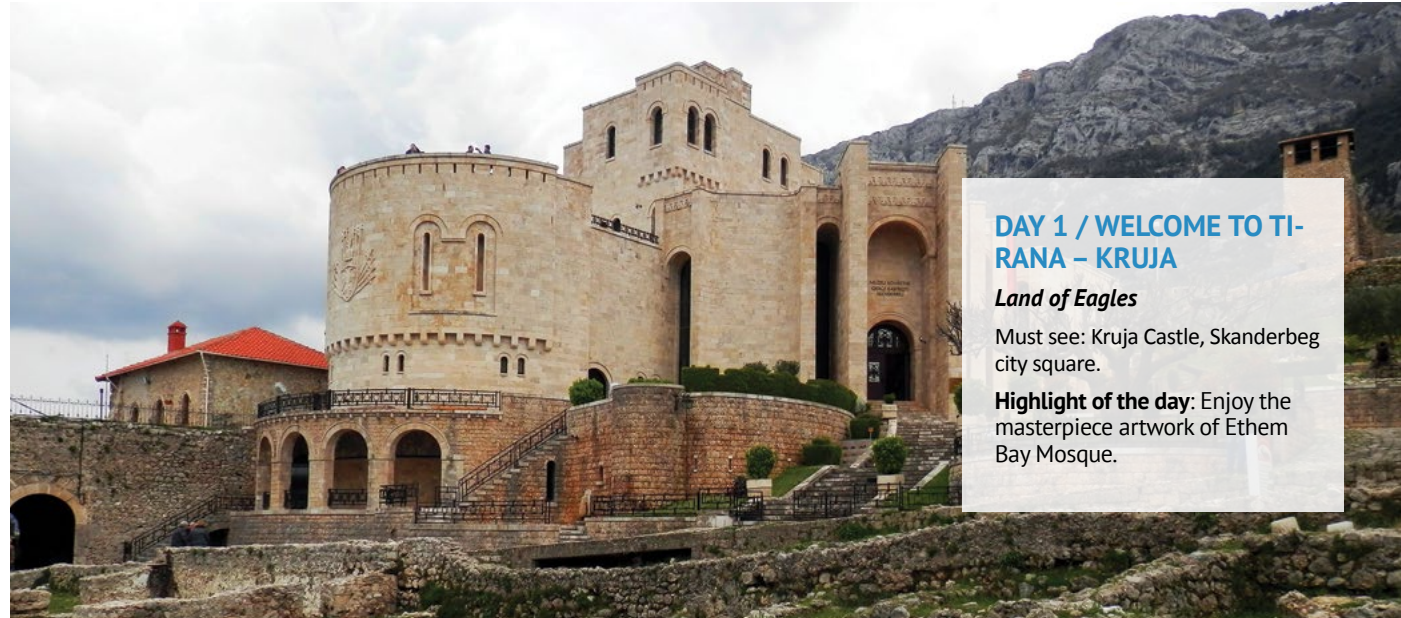
5 COUNTRIES, 12 DAYS – 11 NIGHTS CULTURAL TOUR



ALBANIA – MACEDONIA – KOSOVO – BULGARIA - ROMANIA

PRICES  
STARTING  
FROM **350€**  
PER PERSON

From the splendor of the Adriatic Coast through the paths less traveled over Macedonia, Bulgaria and Romania, discover and experience the secret pearls and hidden gems that will make you the story teller, so much better than a simple audience.



## DAY 1 / WELCOME TO TI-RANA – KRUJA

### Land of Eagles

**Must see:** Kruja Castle, Skanderbeg city square.

**Highlight of the day:** Enjoy the masterpiece artwork of Ethem Bay Mosque.

## DAY 2 / TIRANA – DURRES – BERAT

*From the shores of the Adriatic coast to the city of thousand windows*

**Must see:** Durres amphitheater & Archeological Museum, Berat Castle & Onufri Museum.

**Highlight of the day:** Going back in time by walking the stone paved streets of Berat.



## DAY 3 / BERAT – ST. NAUM – OHRID

*Hidden pearl of the Balkans*

**Must see:** St. Naum Monastery Complex, Drim River Springs boat ride, Bay of the Bones Museum.

**Highlight of the day:** Enjoy the scenic boat cruise on Ohrid Lake from St. Naum Monastery to the city of Ohrid.



## DAY 4 / OHRID – SKOPJE

*Beautiful views from above*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Ohrid Old Town, Skopje Old Bazaar, Stone Bridge, Skopje City Square.

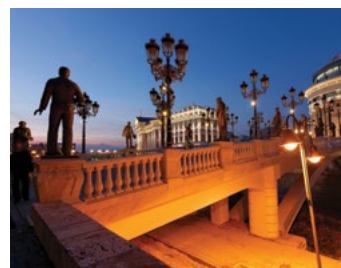
**Highlights of the day:** Witness and take pictures of the magnificent views from the city walls above.

## DAY 5 / SKOPJE – PRIZREN – PRISTINA

*Day for the newborn*

**Must see:** Sinan Pasha Mosque and old stone bridge in Prizren, Gracnica Monastery.

**Highlight of the day:** Enjoy Prizren's local traditional dish for lunch.



## DAY 6 / SKOPJE – RILA MONASTERY – SOFIA

*Rila Mountain hidden spiritual and artistic treasure*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Rila Monastery, UNESCO protected Boyana Church, St. Aleksandar Nevski Cathedral.

**Highlight of the day:** Witness the harmony between Rila Monastery and the Mountain.



## DAY 7 / SOFIA – PLOVDIV - NESEBAR

*Opening horizons of the Black Sea*

**Must see:** Plovdiv Old Town and Amphitheatre, Nesebar Old Town.

**Highlight of the day:** Evening stroll in UNESCO protected Nesebar Old Town and dinner in a local restaurant.



## DAY 8 / NESEBAR – VARNA – MADARA – VELIKO TARNOVO

*History of the Bulgarian civilization*

**Must see:** Varna roman baths, UNESCO protected Madara Rider, Gurko Street in Veliko Tarnovo.

**Highlight of the day:** Entering and sightseeing the huge fortress lying next to Yantra River.



## DAY 9 / VELIKO TARNOVO – IVANOVO – RUSE – BUCAREST

*Crossing the Danube River border*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Ivanovo rock churches, Bucarest Parliament Building.

**Highlight of the day:** Witnessing the sheer magnitude of the Romanian Parliament Building.



## DAY 10 / BUCAREST – SINAIA – BRAN - BRASOV

*In the land of count Dracula*

**Must see:** Peles Castle, Bran Castle, Brasov Black church.

**Highlight of the day:** Visiting the home of Dracula, Bran Castle.

## DAY 11 / BRASOV – SIBIU – BUCAREST

*The German influence in Romania*

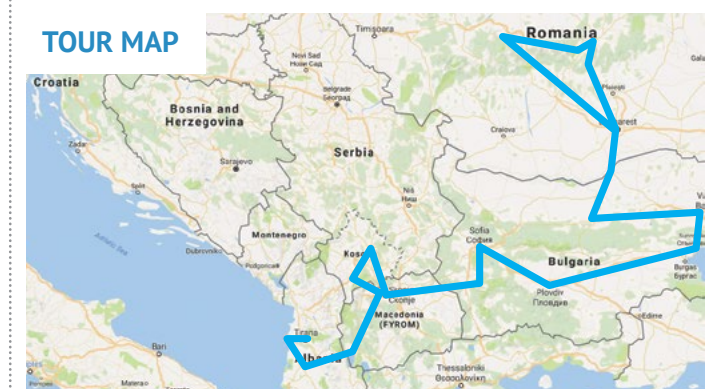
**Must see:** Upper and lower town of Sibiu, Great Square, Huet Square.

**Highlight of the day:** Visit of the oldest and finest museums in Romania, the Brukenthal Museum in Sibiu.



## DAY 11 / BUCAREST DEPARTURE

*Activities on the last day (shopping tour, visit of a museum etc.) are dependent on the flight schedule.*





# ADRIATIC SUNSET

4 COUNTRIES, 13 DAYS – 12 NIGHTS CULTURAL TOUR



SLOVENIA – CROATIA – MONTENEGRO – BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

PRICES  
STARTING  
FROM **550€**  
PER PERSON

Beautiful places often get slugged with the tedious tagline, 'The pearl of...'; and the Adriatic coastline of Slovenia, Croatia & Montenegro is no exception. Anyway, we strive to evade this cliché principals and are trying to tell a unique story of the beauties and must see places, packed in an easy going program optimal for every cultural traveler.



## DAY 2 / LAKE BLEĐ – POSTOJNA CAVE – POREC – ROVINJ – PULA – OPATIJA

*Mesmerizing Adriatic Sunset*

**Must see:** Postojna Cave train ride, UNESCO protected Euphrasian Basilica in Porec, charming Rovinj stone paved streets.

**Highlight of the day:** Enter and marvel the impressive Pula Arena (amphitheater).



## DAY 3 / OPATIJA – ZAGREB – PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK

*Checkerboard Cravats for every occasion*

**Must see:** St. Mark's Church, Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Stone Gate, Zagreb upper town, Plitvice National Park.

**Highlight of the day:** Take great pictures of the Checkerboard roof-tops.

## DAY 4 / PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK

*Back to the nature*

**Must see:** Plitvice National Park.

**Highlight of the day:** Connec with Mother Nature while walking on the wooden trails over Plitvice Lakes.

## DAY 5 / PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK – ZADAR

*The greeting to the sun*

**Must see:** Captains Tower, Five Wells Square, People's Square, and The Roman Forum.

**Highlights of the day:** Sit on the stone stairs above the unique Sea Organ, listen to the music of the sea while watching the sunset.



## DAY 6 / ZADAR – SIBENIK – TROGIR – SPLIT – HVAR

*Culturally enhancing voyage through the Adriatic seaport cities*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Cathedral of St. James in Shibenik, Cathedral of St Lawrence in Trogir, Diocletian Palace and Cellars in Split.

**Highlights of the day:** Walking tour in the charming Trogir Old Fortified Town.



## DAY 7 / HVAR – STARI GRAD – SPLIT

*Extraordinary lavender smells of the island*

**Must see:** Town of Hvar

**Highlights of the day:** A ride on the roads of Hvar Island filled with breathtaking views and short stops to smell the lavender bushes.

## DAY 8 / SPLIT – PLOCE – KORCULA – STON – DUBROVNIK

*The island of the famous navigator*

**Must see:** Korcula Old Town & Marko Polo's House, Stone Walls.

**Highlights of the day:** The mere ride on the roads by the Adriatic Sea is a feast for the eyes.



## DAY 9 / DUBROVNIK – KOTOR – BUDVA – DUBROVNIK

*"The most southern fjord"*

**Must see:** Kotor Bay, UNESCO protected Kotor old city, Budva old city.

**Highlights of the day:** Enjoy a coffee break on "Trg oruzja" (Weapons Square) in Kotor Old City.

## DAY 10 / DUBROVNIK

*Most famous and most impressive coastal city on the Balkans*

**Must see:** Funicular ride up to Dubrovnik Hill, UNESCO protected Dubrovnik Old City, walk from Pile Gate to Stradun Pedestrian Street, Rectors Palace, and Dubrovnik boat cruise.

**Highlights of the day:** Extraordinary experience walking atop Dubrovnik city walls while enjoying the amazing view.

## DAY 11 / DUBROVNIK – KRAVICE WATERFALLS – BLAGAJ – MOSTAR

*Charming transition from western to eastern oriental beauties*

**Must see:** Kravice Waterfalls, Blagaj Tekke, UNESCO protected Mostar Bridge.

**Highlights of the day:** Enjoy a fish menu lunch in a beautiful ambience by the river Buna in Blagaj.



## DAY 12 / MOSTAR – SARAJEVO

*Charming transition from western to eastern oriental beauties*

**Must see:** Morica Han, Sebil Fountain, Gazim Husrev Bay Mosque, Latin Bridge, and Sarajevo Town Hall.

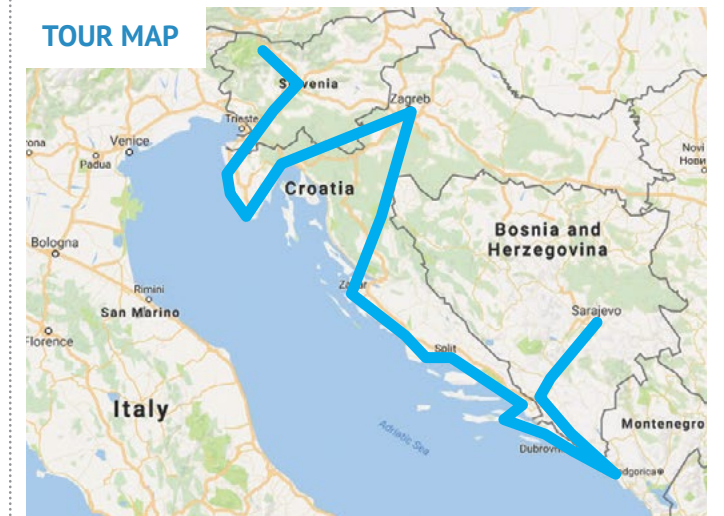
**Highlight of the day:** Taste of authentic Sarajevo coffee culture and experiencing "rahat" (higher level of enjoyment while drinking coffee)



## DAY 13 / SARAJEVO

*Activities on the last day (shopping tour, visit of a museum etc.) are dependent on the flight schedule.*

### TOUR MAP





# ORIENTAL CHARM OF THE BALKANS – HALAL FRIENDLY TOUR

5 COUNTRIES, 10 DAYS – 9 NIGHTS CULTURAL TOUR



MACEDONIA – ALBANIA – MONTENEGRO – CROATIA – BIH

PRICES STARTING FROM **320€** PER PERSON

Balkan countries with their beauty offer you a nice, relaxed and breathtaking travel experience, with a lot of mosques, inns, hamams, and with enough time for leisure and shopping.

We always pay attention for Solat Times. A break for prayers will be incorporated into the daily travel schedule in accordance with the prayer times for the following prayers: morning – Salatu-l-Fajr, midday – Salautu-z-Zuhr, afternoon – Salatu-l-Asr, evening – Salatu-l-Magrib, nighttime – Salatu-l-Isha. A break for prayer will be organized in such a way that all requirements are provided (vicinity of sanitary facilities, prayer mats for the purposes of travel and performance of outside prayer).



## DAY 1 / ARRIVAL IN SKOPJE

*Welcome to Skopje, the city on the crossroad of civilizations and culture.*

**Must see:** Kale Fortress, Skopje Old Bazaar, Stone Bridge, Skopje city square.

**Highlights of the day:** Unique experience walking through the stone paved streets of the second largest oriental bazaar in the world, over the Vardar River towards the Mother Theresa Memorial House.

## DAY 2 / SKOPJE – TETOVO – OHRID

*Visit Pearl of Balkans*

**Must see:** 15th century painted Mosque in Tetovo, Ohrid Old City (UNESCO protected)

**Highlight of the day:** The mesmerizing view from St. Kaneo Church plateau.

## DAY 3 / OHRID – ST. NAUM – TIRANA

*Visit land of Eagles*

**Must see:** E'them Bey Mosque, Clock tower and Skanderbeg Square in Tirana

**Highlight of the day:** Boat ride on the Springs of the River Drim in the National Park.

## DAY 4 / TIRANA – SHKODER – BUDVA

*View of Bojana River*

**Must see:** Skadar Lake, Ebu Bekr Mosque.

**Highlight of the day:** Amazing view from Rozafa Castle.

## DAY 5 / BUDVA – KOTOR – DUBROVNIK

*Magnificent coastal cities*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Kotor Old City, Budva Old City.

**Highlight of the day:** Coffee in Kotor old town on famous "Trg oruzja"

## DAY 6 / DUBROVNIK

*Tourism capital of Balkans*

**Must see:** UNESCO protected Dubrovnik Old City, walk from Pile Gate to Stradun Pedestrian Street, Rectors Palace, and boat tour.

**Highlight of the day:** Extraordinary experience walking atop Dubrovnik city walls while enjoying the amazing view.

## DAY 7 / DUBROVNIK – POCITELJ – BLAGAJ

*To the heart of Balkans*

**Must see:** Kravice Waterfalls, Pocitelj Castle and amazing view of Neretva River.

**Highlights of the day:** Blagaj - spring of River Buna.

## DAY 8 / BLAGAJ – MOSTAR – KONJIC – SARAJEVO

*Old Bridge many stories*

**Must see:** Koski Mehmed Pasha Mosque, Oriental Bazar and Turkish House, Konjic

Underground City.

**Highlights of the day:** View of Mostar Old Bridge

## DAY 9 / SARAJEVO

*Sarajevo - The world city*

**Must see:** Old Bazaar with lively craftsmen shops, Shadrvan Square, Morica Han, Gazi Husrev Bey Mosque, The Town Hall,

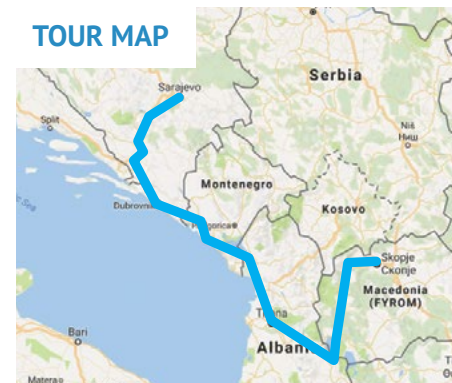
**Highlights of the day:** Taste of authentic Sarajevo coffee culture and experiencing "rahat" (higher level of enjoyment while drinking coffee)

## DAY 10 / SARAJEVO DEPARTURE

*Activities on the last day (shopping tour, visit of a museum etc.) are dependent on the flight schedule.*



### TOUR MAP



# EAST ROMAN BYZANTINE TOUR

5 COUNTRIES, 10 DAYS – 9 NIGHTS CULTURAL TOUR



GREECE – MACEDONIA – KOSOVO – SERBIA - BULGARIA

PRICES STARTING FROM **350€** PER PERSON

Breathtaking Balkans, the gate through which Christianity entered Europe. This region represents a unique crossroad of civilizations where Byzantine transcendence and sophistication melded into diverse rich cultures. Enjoy in the unique experience of spirituality in conjunction with history, architecture and man's everlasting desire to connect with God. Here the Byzantine period represents the climax of social progress, intellectual evolution and remarkable cultural achievements.



## DAY 7 / PRISTINA – SOPOCANI – STUDENICA – VRNJACKA BANJA

*West meets the East*

**Must see places:** UNESCO World heritage of Stari Ras and Sopoćani (Old Ras and Sopoćani Monastery), Djurdjevi Stupovi Monastery, Holy Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul Church (St Peter's Church), UNESCO Studenica Monastery

**Highlights:** Fortresses, churches and monasteries of Rashka.

## DAY 8 / VRNJACKA BANJA – NISH – SOFIA

*From the Serbian to the Bulgarian kingdoms*

**Must see places:** Nish fortress, UNESCO protected Boyana church near Sofia.

**Highlight:** The Byzantine fresco painting timeline of Boyana Church.

## DAY 9 / SOFIA – RILA MONASTERY – THESSALONIKI

*From the wisdom of God to the source of the enlightenment*

**Must see places:** The Churches of Sofia City (St. George Rotunda, Saint Nedelya Church, Alexander Nevsky Cathedral), UNESCO world heritage Rila Monastery, Thessaloniki.

**Highlight:** Rila Monastery XIXc. Example of the Bulgarian Renaissance.

## DAY 10 / THESSALONIKI – MOUNT ATHOS BOAT CRUISE – THESSALONIKI FAREWELL

*Holly Mountain - Autonomous Monastic State*

**Must see places:** Thessaloniki Museum of Byzantine Culture, UNESCO world heritage Mount Athos.

**Highlight:** Mount Athos cruise.

## DAY 1 / WELCOME TO THESSALONIKI

*Thessaloniki, the second-most important city of the Byzantine Empire*

**Must see places:** Paleo-Christian and Byzantine monuments of Thessaloniki – 15 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

**Highlights:** Latomou Monastery - Osisos David Church, VI c. mosaic representation of Theophany.

## DAY 2 / THESSALONIKI – METEORA - BITOLA

*Spiritual elevation*

**Must see places:** UNESCO protected "Columns of the Sky" Meteora monasteries.

**Highlight:** Transfiguration post Byzantine XVI c. frescoes and museum.

## DAY 3 / BITOLA – OHRID

*Symbiosis of nature and the Divine*

**Must see places:** Heraclea Lyncestis mosaics, Kurbinovo Monastery, St. Naum of Ohrid Monastery.

**Highlight:** Visiting St.Naum Monastery, a cure for the soul.

## DAY 4 / OHRID

*Jerusalem of the Balkan*

**Must see places:** UNESCO Protected town of 365 churches - St.Sophia Cathedral, Early Christian Basilicas at Plaoshnik, Mother of God Peribleptos Church.

**Highlight:** St.Sophia church - XI c. witness to the partitioning of the Christianity.

## DAY 5 / OHRID – BIGORSKI MONASTERY – SKOPJE

*Through the Mountains and the keepers of the treasure*

**Must see places:** St. John Bigorski Monastery, St.Pantelimon Nerezi, Medieval monasteries of Skopje.

**Highlight:** St.Pantelimon Nerezi Lamination – Byzantine 'Renaissance'.



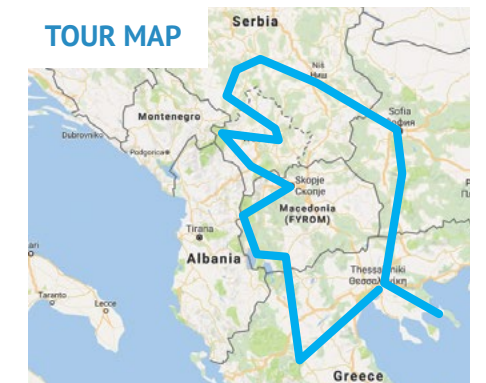
## DAY 6 / SKOPJE – PRIZREN – PATRIARCHATE OF PEC – GRACANICA MONASTERY – PRISTINA

*Serbian Medieval Heritage in Kosovo*

**Must see places:** Medieval UNESCO World heritage Monasteries of Kosovo - Holy Virgin of Ljevisa - Prizren, Visoki Decani, Patriarchate of Pec, Gracanica Monastery – Pristina.

**Highlight:** The Decani Monastery, Byzantine-Romanesque ecclesiastical culture.

### TOUR MAP







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