

THE BEST OF MACEDONIA, ALBANIA, CROATIA & SLOVENIA

TT•BAM

14 Days from Skopje to Ohrid, Tirana, Podgorica, Dubrovnik, Korčula, Split, Šibenik, Plitvice, Opatija, Bled and Zagreb



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Skopje:** the old railway station/monument, Church of St. Spas
- **Ohrid:** St. Sophia Church and Icon Museum
- **Tirana:** Skenderbeg Square, Palace of the Culture
- **Kruje:** The old bazaar within the walled city, Ethnographical and Skenderbeg Museum
- **Cetinje:** King Nicola Palace
- **Kotor:** Maritime Museum and Cathedral
- **Dubrovnik:** Walking within old City Walls will open up the view to incredible sights of the town, with the Pile Gate, Onofrio's Fountain, Franciscan Monastery, and Rector's Palace
- **Korčula:** Marco Polo house of birth
- **Split:** Roman emperor Diocletian's palace, Jupiter's Temple, the Peristyle and the Cathedral
- **Krka:** Krka National Park, stroll through part of this park and view some of the unique Karst formations during your boat ride on green and clear Krka river.
- **Šibenik:** St. Jacob Cathedral, one of the oldest churches in Dalmatia
- **Plitvice:** walk within unspoiled nature of Plitvice National Park with its 16 cascading lakes
- **Bled:** enjoy the sights of Bled Lake and area from the castle perched on the cliff above the lake

- **Ljubljana:** Tromostovje "the triple bridge," the local open air market, City Hall, Robba's Fountain, the Parliament and the famous "Dragon Bridge" – the symbol of Ljubljana
- **Zagreb:** Impressive St. Mark's church and Zagreb's Upper town

HOTELS:

- **Skopje:** Holiday Inn
- **Ohrid:** Metropol, Bellevue
- **Tirana:** Tirana International
- **Podgorica:** Best Western Podgorica
- **Budva:** Queen of Montenegro, Montenegro
- **Dubrovnik:** Valamar, Dubrovnik President
- **Korčula:** Marko Polo
- **Split:** Atrium
- **Šibenik:** Punta A, Solaris Hotel Resort
- **Plitvice:** Jezero, Plitvice, Bellevue, Grabovac
- **Opatija:** Milenium, Agava
- **Bled:** Golf, Park
- **Zagreb:** Westin, Sheraton



INCLUDED FEATURES:

- First class hotels, rooms with private facilities
- Service charges and taxes
- Welcome drink upon arrival with your Tour Director
- Breakfast daily, 5 hotel dinners, farewell dinner in local restaurant in Dubrovnik Old city
- Touring by modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Professional Tour Director throughout
- Qualified local city guides
- Luggage handling in hotels

ITINERARY

Day 01: Skopje

Arrive to Skopje airport and transfer to your tour hotel. In the evening meet your fellow travelers for dinner scheduled in one of the local restaurants. Meals: B, D

Day 02: From Skopje to Ohrid

Morning sightseeing of Skopje features the Old Railway Station – the first train station in the Balkans, the Monument of Mother Teresa, the church St. Spas, built at the end of the XVII century and the Stone Bridge – a monumental structure in the center of the city. In the afternoon board your coach and travel to Ohrid
Meals: B, D

Day 03: From Ohrid to Tirana

Ohrid has several monuments will be seen during our sightseeing tour: the monument of St. Cyril and Methodius, the Lower gate, Samoil's fortress, Ohrid market and the church of St. Sofia with its icon museum. Then it is off to Tirana, but before we will stop to visit St. Naum, the renovated monastery complex dating back to the 10th century. The monastery and the church were built by the end of the 9th century by St. Naum as a station and healing center for pilgrims.
Meals: B, D

Day 04: From Tirana to Podgorica

Today's journey will take us from Albania to Montenegro. Morning sightseeing tour of Tirana, the capital of Albania which enjoys a beautiful setting between the ranges of Dajti Mountains from one side and the coastal plains on the other one. We will see Skenderbeg square, Palace of culture and visit the National Museum. While still in Albania we will visit Kruje which rises 560 meters above sea level on the slopes of Sari - Salltiku Mountain. Visit the Museum of Skenderbeg, housed within the medieval castle where you will learn the history of Albania's national hero who led the 15th century struggle against the Ottoman Empire. The final destination of the day is Podgorica, the capital of Montenegro
Meals: B, D

Day 05: From Podgorica to Budva

After the short orientation tour of the modern capital, we will travel to its ancient capital of Cetinje. The guided sightseeing tour will feature National Museum, King Nicola Palace and other landmarks connected to Montenegrin history. Then we drive South to the beautiful Montenegrin coast of the Adriatic for the overnight.
Meals: B, D

Day 06: from Budva to Dubrovnik

The first stop on today's journey is the Bay of Kotor, the deepest fjord in Southern Europe. Enjoy the guided sightseeing tour and the visit to the Maritime Museum which offers the evidences of the oldest merchant navies so called Navy of

Boka. Afterwards proceed to Coatia and its Pearl of the Adriatic, Dubrovnik.

Day 07: From Dubrovnik to Korčula

Morning sightseeing tour will focus on the beautifully preserved medieval town with its imposing city walls. Among the highlights are the Rector's Palace and the Franciscan Monastery, which houses one of the oldest pharmacies in Europe. In the afternoon proceed along the coast of the Adriatic and through one of the famous wine growing areas of Croatia, peninsula of Pelješac to the port town of Orebič, where you will board the ferry to the island of Korčula, the birthplace of famous explorer, Marco Polo.

Day 08: From Korčula to Split

The tour of Korčula features the so called Cathedral Square where the biggest and the most beautiful building of Korčula - the Cathedral of St. Marco - is at the top of the town. South of it, there is the Bishops Palace where the Abbatial Treasury of St. Marco is held today with its rich collection of the Croatian and Italian Renaissance art works, the collection of manuscripts and books, and a collection of the ceremonial clothes. From the Cathedral Square we will descend to the north tower, Zakrjan. In the first street on the right, there is the family house of the traveller Marco Polo. who was born here in Korčula, and died in Venice. The family house of the Polos in Venice vanished and was replaced by a theatre, whereas Korčula has preserved his family house in memory of the great Marco. In the afternoon cross back to the mainland and after a short stop in Neum, the coastal town of Bosnia and Herzegovina, arrive to Split.
Meals: B, D

Day 09: From Split to Šibenik

This morning our goal is to explore the massive palace built by the 4th century Roman emperor Diocletian as his retirement home which is also on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. We see Jupiter's Temple, the Peristyle and the Cathedral as well as Split's many Renaissance and Gothic structures. Over time the city has encroached into the corners and crannies of the palace; shopkeepers and tiny restaurants now make their home within its massive walls. Then it is off via Trogir, the center of artistic activities to Krka National Park. Here you will take a stroll through part of this park and view some of the unique Karst formations during your boat ride on green and clear Krka river. Late afternoon arrival to Šibenik

Day 10: From Šibenik to Plitvice

The little streets, the attractive squares are remarkable and the stylish architecture of the vanished centuries is still evident in the buildings of the city. One of the main attractions that you will visit is the Cathedral of Sveti Jakov, which was built in 1434 and is listed by Unesco World

Heritage. Mid morning departure to the best known national park of Croatia, Plitvice. This afternoon, we explore the breathtaking scenery of this natural wonder of 16 terraced lakes surrounded by thickly wooded mountains and lush vegetation. Each of the falls is at a different elevation and feeds into the next through a series of spectacular cascades and frothing waterfalls.
Meals: B, D

Day 11: From Plitvice to Opatija

The whole morning is dedicated to explore Plitvice, UNESCO World Heritage site and have your camera ready while strolling around several of the upper lakes. In the afternoon leave Plitvice and drive south through the area of Lika to the coast of Adriatic and the Kvarner bay and its resort town of Opatija. An orientation tour will present the highlights of this former Imperial resort city.
Meals: B, D

Day 12: From Opatija to Bled

Today's travel will take you from Croatia to Slovenia where you will visit Postojna, home of the largest caves in Europe. Here we tour a fantastic subterranean world by miniature electric train and on foot. Afterwards our journey continues to Bled in the Julian Alps, where you will take the boat ride to the island on the lake to ring the famous wishing bell. Tonight's dinner will be in local restaurant in Bled Castle, perched on the cliff above the lake.
Meals: B, D

Day 13: From Bled to Zagreb

In the morning we drive to Slovenia's capital, where we enjoy the tour of the city that is filled with churches and fin-de-siecle palaces – reminders of the town's baroque Austro-Hungarian days. We will stroll across the triple bridge and through the local market, offering typical Slovenian foods and everyday products; see City Hall, Robba's Fountain and the famous "Dragon Bridge" – the symbol of Ljubljana. At noon we will leave Ljubljana and drive to Zagreb, capital of Croatia where we will have sightseeing tour featuring Gornji Grad (Upper Town), the well-preserved historical core of the city, St. Mark's Church, the Parliament, the Government Palace and visit to the Cathedral. In the evening join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in local restaurant.
Meals: B, FWD

Day 14: Zagreb

Your tour comes to the end with the transfer to Zagreb airport.
Meals: B