



EVERLASTING BALKAN 11D/10N

Trip Summary

Day 1-Sarajevo

Arrival to Sarajevo airport

Sarajevo - The City

Check in hotel Holiday 4* or sim

Day 2-Sarajevo

Breakfast at the Hotel

Optional Eat, Pray, Love tour

Optional Sarajevo tunnel tour

Overnight

Day 3-Dubrovnik

Check out from hotel Holiday 4* or sim

Transfer to Dubrovnik via Flix bus

Dubrovnik - The City

Check in hotel Lero 4* or sim

Overnight

Day 4-Dubrovnik

Breakfast at the Hotel

Optional Dubrovnik walking tour

Overnight

Day 5-Zagreb

Check out from hotel Lero 4* or sim

Transfer to bus station in Dubrovnik, taking Flix bus to Zagreb

Zagreb - The City

Check in hotel Panorama 4* or sim

Day 6-Zagreb

Breakfast at the Hotel

Optional Zagreb city tour

Optional Zagreb gourmet tour

Overnight

Day 7-Ljubljana

Check out from hotel Panorama 4* or sim

Taking Flix bus from Zagreb to Ljubljana

Ljubljana - Ljubljana

Check in hotel Lev 4* or sim

Day 8-Ljubljana

Breakfast at the Hotel

Optional Historical city and center and Ljubljana castle

Optional boat tour on Ljubljanica river

Overnight

Day 9-Venice

Check out from hotel Lev 4* or sim

Transfer by Flix bus from Ljubljana to Venice Mestre

Venice - The City

Check in hotel Plaza 4* or sim in Venice Mestre

Day 10-Venice

Breakfast at the Hotel

Transfer to Tronchetto pier to take boat to St. Mark square

Venice walking tour

Optional gondola ride

Boat ride from St. Mark's square to Tronchetto

Overnight

Day 11-Venice

Breakfast at the Hotel

Check out from hotel Plaza 4* or sim

Transfer to airport

END OF THE PROGRAMME

Day 1-Sarajevo



Arrival to Sarajevo airport



Sarajevo - The City

The city of Sarajevo is divided into four municipalities; however, it is Stari Grad (the Old Town) that is undoubtedly the city's crown jewel. The eastern section of Stari Grad is home to the 15th-century Ottoman quarters. Wandering among the atmospheric alleyways of the Bascarsija, you will be transported to another time and place by the sight of its splendid architecture, the sound of the muezzin from the Gazi Husrey-Beg Mosque and the smell of freshly cooked cevapcici filling the air.



Check in hotel Holiday 4* or sim

Overnight

Day 2-Sarajevo



Breakfast at the Hotel



Optional Eat, Pray, Love tour

You'll enjoy the beauty of Vijećnica, a world symbol of the meeting of civilizations and the most representative structure from the Austro-Hungarian period in Bosnia and Herzegovina; hear the incredible story of Inat Kuća, then stroll along the narrow and winding streets which display trades that have been active since the 15th century.

You'll discover Baščaršija, Sarajevo's old market place which was built during the Ottoman period; drink water from Sebilj, the fountain that serves as a symbol of Sarajevo, and learn about the differences between burek and other types of pita.

Did you know that in Sarajevo it's possible to pray in four different houses of God, all of which are located only a few hundred meters from one another? This is why some call Sarajevo "a European Jerusalem".

You'll experience Sarajevo's hospitality in your fildžan (demitasse) of coffee and come to appreciate the significance of the coffee drinking ritual. You'll also see the very spot where the world's two halves – East and West – meet and, at the end of the tour, you'll be able to try some Bosnian baklava, which is sure to top off your day!



Optional Sarajevo tunnel tour

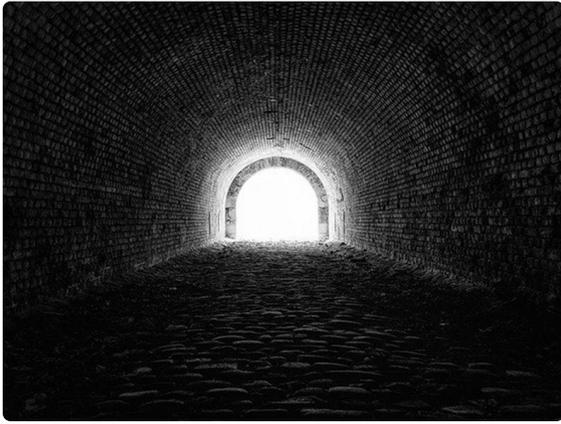
During your ride in the minibus, your guide will familiarize you with the buildings and places that were important sites during the Siege of Sarajevo (1992-1995).

Find out how the war began, why the National Library of BiH (Vijećnica) was burned and how many people were killed in Sarajevo.

The drive along Sniper Alley will help you realize what Sarajevans had to go through but how, despite everything, they didn't lose hope.

All of this will serve as an introduction to why the 800 meter-long tunnel (with a height of only 1.6 meters) was so important and how it was the only connection besieged Sarajevo had with the rest of the world. After passing through 20 meters of the original tunnel and watching a film about the war in Sarajevo, your guide will share stories about the role of the tunnel, its construction and use, and will be eager to answer any questions you might have.

You'll have a chance to hear other interesting details on your way back from the tunnel.



Overnight

Day 3-Dubrovnik



Check out from hotel Holiday 4* or sim

Breakfast



Transfer to Dubrovnik via Flix bus



Dubrovnik - The City

Few places in the world master the mix of young and modern with the medieval and baroque better than Dubrovnik. The city naturally evolves around the Old Town which is inside the city walls.

The Old Town provides a blend of shops, cafés and bars, a fantastic atmosphere, and some very beautiful sights as you walk along down the Stradun. The squares in the Old Town are lined with bars or restaurants that have outdoor seating, giving the visitors, as well as the locals, a chance to relax with a drink in the sunshine.

Outside the city walls, modern Dubrovnik offers everything you would expect from a Mediterranean country and figs, lemons, oranges and peaches are to be found dangling from the trees in many of the gardens.

The town's architecture displays very little evidence from the 'Siege of Dubrovnik' in 1992, during which more than two thousand bombs were dropped on the town. The only hint of this is the presence of all the newly tiled roofs in town.

Dubrovnik is well worth a visit any time of the year, but, naturally, spring and summer brings out the best in the city.



Check in hotel Lero 4* or sim



Overnight

Day 4-Dubrovnik



Breakfast at the Hotel



Optional Dubrovnik walking tour

On the city walking tour, we are going to discover all the highlights of Dubrovnik's history and find hidden places and back streets. Ragusa, as Dubrovnik was once named, was one of the most important Republics in the world until the time when America was discovered. You will hear a lot of interesting stories while we walk around the Old Port, Cathedral, Quarantine, St. Blasius church, Orlando column, Rector's Palace, a 700-year-old pharmacy, Sponza Palace and much more. I will explain the key elements of the street planning along the walk and the manner in which Ragusa has managed to preserve its independence. You will learn about the sea trading and shipbuilding that have been fundamental to Ragusa's success. Diplomacy of Ragusa is still a subject of investigation in the international universities. You will learn about the 1990s war also during this tour.



Overnight

Day 5-Zagreb



Check out from hotel Lero 4* or sim

Breakfast



Transfer to bus station in Dubrovnik, taking Flix bus to Zagreb



Zagreb - The City

The town of Zagreb has a lot to offer in its different areas. The thousand-year old Gornji grad (Upper town) contains the Presidential Palace, the historic church of St. Mark's, the Croatian parliament, along with museums and galleries. They are all set in romantic cobbled streets, which are lit by gas lamps in the evening. The other extraordinary district is the 19th century Donji grad (Lower town) with its shops, restaurants, cafés, theatres, parks and spectacular buildings. Zagreb is also a city of green parks and walking paths, with many places to visit in the beautiful surroundings. In spite of the rapid development of the economy and transportation, it has retained its charm, and a relaxed feeling that makes it a genuinely human city.



Check in hotel Panorama 4* or sim

Overnight

Day 6-Zagreb



Breakfast at the Hotel



Optional Zagreb city tour

Discover Zagreb from a different perspective. A comprehensive tour of the city with Audio-guide available in 10 languages, you'll be driven around the top sights, monuments and landmarks in a open top bus. It's the perfect opportunity to customise your own tour, you can hop-on, hop-off at any stop to explore Zagreb at your leisure.

With this new tourist service, you can pick and choose your journey and discover everything there is to see of Croatia's historic capital! With just one ticket you can get on and off at as many stops as you like.



Optional Zagreb gourmet tour

Zagreb Gourmet Tour helps you to discover Zagreb from *outside* – sightseeing, and *inside* – during *gastronomical journey* with Chef. Usually, city tours provide only one part of destination mosaic (culture, history, architecture, art...). Second part – gastronomy, often stays sidelined. It's a pity, food is a great storyteller, too. About people, tradition, way of life etc.



Overnight

Day 7-Ljubljana



Check out from hotel Panorama 4* or sim

Brekfast



Taking Flix bus from Zagreb to Ljubljana



Ljubljana - Ljubljana

Ljubljana is located half way between Vienna and Venice. It is marked by the peculiar intersection of different historic and cultural influences, including the elements of both of the mentioned cities.

Ljubljana is a picturesque town full of romantic attractions. Its ancient city centre can easily be travelled around on foot. Its architecture was distinctively influenced by the famous Jože Plečnik, giving the city, which was the place of his birth, a permanent seal, similar to Gaudi in Barcelona. Ljubljana is also unmistakably marked by medieval, Baroque and Secession elements. The most recognisable symbol of Ljubljana are the dragons of the Dragon Bridge protecting the city.

The atmosphere in Ljubljana is relaxed and reminiscent of the Mediterranean. Proof of this is the abundance of outdoor cafés, especially near the banks of the Ljubljanica, which are the favourite destinations of everybody looking to relax while mingling and enjoying the scenery.

The ancient city centre is always bustling with activity. All the year-round, Ljubljana provides a rich cultural offer, including many events. During the warmer months, several no-admission concerts are held, along with street performances and other happenings.

Ljubljana also boasts an extraordinary culinary offer, combining traditional recipes, locally grown organic food, the influence of the Mediterranean and modern techniques of the resident chefs. Also excellent are Slovene wines, characterised by pronounced natural aromas.

Ljubljana is located in the very centre of Slovenia. The natural sights and globally renowned landmarks, such as Bled and the Postojna Cave, the Alps of Slovenia, Karst and the coast are virtually at your fingertips.



Check in hotel Lev 4* or sim

Overnight

Day 8-Ljubljana



Breakfast at the Hotel



Optional Historical city and center and Ljubljana castle

The tour, takes you through the historical city center, whose unique architecture is the legacy of the Baroque and Art Nouveau periods and, most notably, the work of the famous 20th-century architect Jože Plečnik.

From the Town Hall and the Robba Fountain in front of it you will go on a walk around the historical city centre during which you will learn about the history of all the city's major sights. The walk will take you across the Cobblers' Bridge and past the National and University Library and the Križanke Summer Theatre to the Kongresni trg square, from where you will continue to the Prešernov trg square, dominated by the Franciscan Church and connected to the Triple Bridge, and further on to Plečnik's Market and the Cathedral.

Ljubljana Castle, standing on a hill above the city for about 900 years, is Ljubljana's main attraction. On this tour, you will learn about its history and enjoy beautiful city views afforded by the castle's ramparts.



Optional boat tour on Ljubljanica river



Overnight

Day 9-Venice



Check out from hotel Lev 4* or sim

Breakfast



Transfer by Flix bus from Ljubljana to Venice Mestre



Venice - The City

Historical evidences suggest that refugees founded Venice. When Germanic tribes ravaged northern Italy in the 5th century, many mainlanders escaped to this difficult-to-access area on the Adriatic Sea.

Over the centuries the refugee community grew into the most powerful trading port in the Mediterranean. At its peak, Venice counted 3.000 trade ships and 300 navy vessels. After Napoleon's fall, it became part of the Austrian Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia, but after the uprising in 1848, the city reached its independence once again. Shortly after, in 1866, Venice was annexed to the Kingdom of Italy. 1932 saw the opening of the motor and rail bridge between Venice and the mainland, which led this city to come out on top as a tourist destination.

It is hard to navigate around the city, but don't let that put you off, as this is part of Venice's charm. Leave the other tourists at St Mark's square and the Rialto Bridge and explore the maze-like little neighbourhoods instead. The most interesting areas and islands are Cannaregio, SanPolo/Santa Croce, Dorsoduro, San Marco and Castello.



Check in hotel Plaza 4* or sim in Venice Mestre

Overnight

Day 10-Venice



Breakfast at the Hotel



Transfer to Tronchetto pier to take boat to St. Mark square



Venice walking tour

The tour starts in PIAZZA SAN MARCO, where our local guide will reveal all the secrets about the origins and the history of its main monuments: the St Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace, the Bell Tower and the Procuratie.

Then we plunge into one of the most majestic cathedrals of the world: ST MARK'S BASILICA! Here you can feast your eyes on the Byzantine mosaics and drink in the magic.

From the sacred to the profane - the tour ends in the DOGE'S PALACE, for centuries the seat of the Venetian political power. In its splendid rooms, plastered with literally hundreds of masterpieces of paintings, the Duke and his Council controlled the fate of a thousand-year history republic. A tour to see the two faces of Venice.



Optional gondola ride



Boat ride from St. Mark's square to Tronchetto

Transfer back to hotel



Overnight

Day 11-Venice



Breakfast at the Hotel



Check out from hotel Plaza 4* or sim



Transfer to airport



END OF THE PROGRAMME