



# **The Balkan Dream From Dubrovnik To Bucharest**

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **02-05-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

**Visit:** DUBROVNIK, KOTOR, BUDVA, SHKODER, TIRANA, ELBASAN, OHRID, SKOPJE, NIŠ, BELGRADE, SREMSKI KARLOVCI, TIMISOARA, HUNEDOARA, ALBA IULIA, SIBIU, SIGHISOARA, TARGU MURES, BUCOVINA PAINTED MONASTERIES, BRASOV, BRAN, SINAIA AND BUCHAREST

## **Small Group Tour**

- Local Guide Service

## **Detailed Itinerary**

### **Day 01: Day 1, Friday, arrival to Dubrovnik**

Upon arrival transfer to hotel.

### **Day 02: Day 2, Saturday, in Dubrovnik**

Start the day with a walking tour of Old Dubrovnik this morning. Visit the Rector's Palace, and see the Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column and Sponza Palace. Next, see the Dominican Monastery and Franciscan Monastery with its Pharmacy, one of the oldest in the world. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore on your own, enjoy the picturesque setting, shop or simply relax.

### **Day 03: Day 3, Sunday, to Kotor and Budva**

First travel to the Bay of Kotor, the deepest fjord in Southern Europe and stop in the city of Kotor to visit this beautiful town. Stroll the Weapons Square and admire the city bulwarks before continuing the journey to Budva. The Budva riviera is the center of Montenegrin tourism, known for its well preserved medieval walled city, sandy beaches and diverse nightlife. Budva is 2,500 years old, which makes it one of the oldest settlements on the Adriatic coast.

### **Day 04: Day 4, Monday, to Shkoder and Tirana**

Following the Montenegrin coast and its spectacular landscapes we enter Albania and visit Shkoder, a cultural center and one of the oldest cities in Albania. The city tour includes a visit to the Mosque, views of the Rozafa castle, as well as other points of interest in the city. In the afternoon the trip will take us to Tirana, the capital of Albania.

### **Day 05: Day 5, Tuesday, in Tirana**

The panoramic city tour of Albania's capital includes views of 'The Albanians' - the mosaic in front of the Museum of National History, the Statue of Skanderbeg in Skanderbeg Square, the 'Et'hem' Mosque with the Clock tower, the monument to Mother Teresa and other monuments of the city. Rest of the day free at leisure

### **Day 06: Day 6, Wednesday, to Elbasan and Ohrid**

Today we travel along the old 'Egnatica' road to Elbasan to visit the Castle. We continue to Struga, famous for being the place where you can see the Black Drin river flowing out of Lake Ohrid. Then we continue to Ohrid, the city that has its place on the UNESCO list for its natural, cultural and historical values.

### **Day 07: Day 7, Thursday, to Skopje**

In the morning, we visit Ohrid, also known as "the Jerusalem of the Balkans" with its 365 churches. A town of vast history and heritage was honored as UNESCO heritage site in 1980. Nestled between high mountains

up to 2,800 m and Lake Ohrid, it is not only a place of historic significance but also of outstanding natural beauty, it is the jewel in North Macedonia's crown. Continue to Skopje where we take a walking tour of the North Macedonian capital city upon arrival. Skopje has been occupied by many different peoples since its foundation. However, the group that left the greatest mark was the Ottomans. The Ottomans ruled North Macedonia for hundreds of years and built a large number of mosques and other buildings. The visit of Skopje includes the Mother Teresa Memorial House, dedicated to the humanitarian and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mother Teresa.

### **Day 08: Day 8, Friday, to Niš and Belgrade**

Today we travel to Serbia. Our first stop is Niš, considered one of the oldest cities in Europe. Niš is a university center but also one of the most important industrial centers in Serbia. Continue to Belgrade, the capital of Serbia.

### **Day 09: Day 9, Saturday, in Belgrade**

With a history dating back more than 7,000 years, Belgrade is a fascinating city to visit. Your morning sightseeing tour includes the city's main attractions: the imposing Kalemegdan Fortress, dramatically situated at the joining of the Sava and Danube Rivers; Republic Square and Mihajlova Street; Saint Sava Temple, the largest Orthodox Church in the city; and Tito's Memorial. The afternoon is free.

### **Day 10: Day 10, Sunday, to Sremski Karlovci and Timisoara**

In the morning, departure to Sremski Karlovci, the museum-city that was the center of culture and religion in Serbia during the 18th and 19th centuries. After a short stop we continue to Timisoara. Romania's third-largest city (after Bucharest and Cluj-Napoca) is also one of the country's most attractive urban areas, built around a series of beautifully restored public squares, and lavish parks and gardens. With western Romania's nicest hotels and finest restaurants, it makes a perfect base for exploring the Banat region.

### **Day 11: Day 11, Monday, to Hunedoara, Alba Iulia and Sibiu**

In the morning, we travel to Hunedoara, where iron has been extracted since the Iron Age. One of its most memorable buildings is the Corvin Castle, a fine example of secular Gothic architecture with spiky, spooky fantasy topped with asymmetrical pointed towers and turrets. Continue to the city of Alba Iulia, a symbol of national unity in Romania. Built on 13th century foundations, the imposing Habsburg citadel is star-shaped with seven bastions and successive walls. Head to Sibiu for overnight.

### **Day 12: Day 12, Tuesday, in Sibiu**

Morning free at leisure. In the afternoon we take a panoramic walk through the city of Sibiu. Sibiu is one of the most important cultural centers of Romania and bears a strong resemblance to a southern German or

Austrian town. The old city center has retained a largely Saxon aspect and managed to fuse the Middle Ages with the new.

### **Day 13: Day 13, Wednesday, to Sighisoara and Targu Mures**

Today, we travel first to the picturesque city of Sighisoara, the birthplace of Vlad Dracula. It is the only inhabited fortified citadel in Romania and is an enchanting city of sloping roofs, pastel facades and cobbled streets. We continue to Targu Mures.

### **Day 14: Day 14, Thursday, to Piatra Neamt**

Targu Mures remains a noticeably Hungarian town. Dating back at least to the 14th century it has long been an important commercial and academic center. After the visit that includes the Palace of Culture, we continue to Piatra Neamt through the Bicaz Gorge, the largest gorge in Romania, admiring the beauty of the landscape, the Red Lake and its hill station.

### **Day 15: Day 15, Friday, in Bucovina**

Departure to the Bucovina region to visit its monasteries, the most representative monuments of Moldovan art. Declared a World Heritage Site, these monasteries are one of the most important legacies of Byzantine art in the world, in which their brightly colored interior and exterior fresco paintings stand out. Visit of the Monasteries of Sucevita and the black pottery workshops of Marginea. In the afternoon visit the Voronet Monastery, considered the best architectural and pictorial example in the region, called the "Sistine Chapel" in the East. Return to Piatra Neamt.

### **Day 16: Day 16, Saturday, to Brasov**

In the morning, we leave Piatra Neamt and travel south to Brasov. Arrival in the afternoon, followed by a tour of the fascinating medieval city of Brasov. Visit the old town and see the exterior of the Black Church, the most representative Gothic monument in Romania.

### **Day 17: Day 17, Sunday, to Bran, Sinaia and Bucharest**

Continuation towards the town of Bran. Visit of its famous Castle, also known as Dracula's Castle. In the afternoon arrival in the city of Sinaia, known as "the pearl of the Carpathians" because of its beauty. In the afternoon we will visit the wonderful Peles Palace, the former summer residence and retreat place of the royal family, built in the second half of the 19th century by the first King of Romania, Carlos I.

### **Day 18: Day 18, Monday, in Bucharest**

We will get to know the Romanian capital, once known under the nickname "Little Paris". The visit will take us to the Romanian Athenaeum, the Opera House, the Military Club of the Nation, the Military Academy and

the Arc de Triomphe. Bucharest is Romania's capital and largest city, as well as the most important industrial and commercial center of the country. With 2 million inhabitants in the city proper and more than 2.4 million in the urban area, Bucharest is one of the largest cities in Southeastern Europe.

### **Day 19: Day 19, Tuesday, depart Bucharest**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight.

#### **Inclusion**

4\* and 5\* hotels  
Daily breakfast  
Touring by modern air-conditioned motor coach  
Airport transfers  
Professional English-speaking Tour Director throughout  
Licensed local guides  
Entrance fees included where indicated in bold letters  
Luggage handling at hotels  
Service charges and hotel taxes

#### **Sightseeing Tours Included:**

Dubrovnik (Rector's Palace, Franciscan Monastery)  
Kotor  
Shkoder (Mosque)  
Tirana (Et'hem Mosque)  
Elbasan (Elbasan Castle)  
Ohrid  
Skopje (Mother Teresa Memorial Center)  
Belgrade (Kalemegdan)  
Timisoara  
Hunedoara (Corvin Castle)  
Alba Iulia  
Sibiu  
Sighisoara  
Targu Mures (Palace of Culture)  
Painted Monasteries of Bucovina (Sucevita and Voronet Monasteries, Ceramica neagra Marginea)  
Brasov  
Bran (Dracula's Castle)  
Sinaia (Peles Palace)  
Bucharest

#### **Exclusion**

International airfares  
Optional activities  
Other meals, drinks, tips and other personal expenses or services not specified on the program  
Personal equipment  
Travel insurance  
Gratuities  
Voluntary tips for guides or drivers  
Travel and medical insurance



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Any items not mentioned as included

### Note

Dubrovnik: Hotel Valamar Lacroma 4\* / Argosy 4\* or similar

Budva: Hotel Adria 4\* or similar

Tirana: Hotel Tirana International 4\* or similar

Ohrid: Hotel Unique Resort & Spa 4\* or similar

Skopje: Hotel Marriott 5\* or similar

Belgrade: Hotel Moskva 5\* / Hotel Prag 4\* or similar

Timisoara: Hotel Continental 4\* or similar

Sibiu: Hotel Continental Forum 4\* or similar

Targu Mures: Hotel Continental Forum 4\* or similar

Piatra Neamt: Hotel Central Plaza 4\* or similar

Brasov: Hotel Aro Palace 5\* / Ambient 4\* or similar

Bucharest: Hotel Capitol 4\* or similar

### Tour Dates & Pricing

