

BALKAN GRAND CIRCLE 22 DAYS

21 NIGHTS | 22 DAYS

Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria,
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia



EXPERIENCE MORE

Some of our experiences included in the tour:

Serbian Morning Routine

Day 2

Mostar Cooper Artistry

Day 16

Pelješac Handcrafted Wines

Day 19



Day 1 Welcome to Belgrade Belgrade	Day 12 Southern Roads Sofia - Niš - Manasija Monastery - Belgrade
Day 2 Vibrant Capital of Serbia Belgrade	Day 13 “Serbian Tuscany” Delights Belgrade - Šumadija Region - Zlatibor Mountain
Day 3 Treasures of Vojvodina Belgrade - Fruška Gora NP - Sremski Karlovci - Novi Sad - Belgrade	Day 14 Vivid Western Serbia Zlatibor Mountain - Wooden-Town - Šargan Eight - Višegrad - Sarajevo
Day 4 Banat to Transylvania Belgrade - Timișoara - Sibiu	Day 15 Balkan Soul Capital Sarajevo
Day 5 Transylvania Unveiled Sibiu - “Astra” National Museum Complex - Transfăgărășan Road - Sinaia	Day 16 The Beauty of Herzegovina Sarajevo - Mostar - Blagaj - Trebinje
Day 6 The Castles of Transylvania Sinaia - Peles Castle - Brașov - Bran Castle - Sinaia	Day 17 The Mediterranean Essence Trebinje - Perast - Kotor - Dubrovnik
Day 7 From Vineyards to Capital Sinaia - Dealu Mare Wine Region - Bucharest	Day 18 The Pearl of the Adriatic Dubrovnik
Day 8 “The Little Paris” Bucharest	Day 19 The Dalmatian Coast Dubrovnik - Pelješac Peninsula - Split
Day 9 Introduction to Bulgaria Bucharest - Veliko Tarnovo - Arbanasi	Day 20 Hvar Island Adventure Split - Hvar Island - Split
Day 10 Traditions and Craftsmanship Arbanasi - Etar Ethno Village - Valley of Roses - Plovdiv	Day 21 The Devil’s Garden Split - Plitvice Lakes NP - Zagreb
Day 11 Sofia’s Cultural Fusion Plovdiv - Sofia	Day 22 Farewell, Zagreb Zagreb

Balkan
&more

BALKAN GRAND CIRCLE 22 DAYS

21 NIGHTS | 22 DAYS | 6 COUNTRIES | 16 EXPERIENCE MORE

Taste indigenous wines at Fruška Gora's top wineries. Explore Bucharest's palaces, gardens, and the grand Palace of the Parliament. Enjoy a serene boat ride through Montenegro's Boka Bay. Immerse in the tranquil beauty of Plitvice Lakes' stunning waterfalls.



EXPERIENCE MORE

EXPERIENCE MORE is at the core of our travel philosophy, elevating each tour beyond the ordinary. These carefully curated moments enrich our itineraries, offering deeper insights and unique perspectives of every destination. From exclusive cultural encounters to hidden local gems, EXPERIENCE MORE ensures each journey is unforgettable and engaging.

FOR TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

For dates, prices and to choose your group size contact your Balkan&more Local Expert or visit the tour on our website by scanning the QR code.



PRE-STAY: The good thing about our tours is that they can be customized to suit your desires. If you need more time to settle in and adjust before the tour, we'll be glad to book additional overnights for you. You are welcome to contact us for more details!

DAY 1 | WELCOME TO BELGRADE Belgrade

Upon arrival in Belgrade, Serbia's vibrant capital, your driver will welcome you and escort you to your hotel. Enjoy the sights of **New Belgrade**, featuring Socialist architecture and modern business centres, during the ride from Nikola Tesla Airport. After hotel *check-in*, use your free time to rest and prepare for the journey ahead. In the evening, we recommend a leisurely stroll through one of Belgrade's oldest quarters to **Skadarlija**, the city's bohemian heart. This charming 19th century cobbled street is lined with "kafanas" where you can enjoy delicious local specialties and traditional music.

Overnight: Belgrade

DAY 2 | VIBRANT CAPITAL OF SERBIA Belgrade

On your first day in Serbia, you will embark on a walking and driving tour around Belgrade, starting at **Knez Mihailova Street**, the city's bustling pedestrian zone, filled with shops, cafes, and historic buildings.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Serbian Morning Routine: Your guide will take you to a hidden gem close to the main district, **the city's oldest tavern** intriguingly known as "?" (Question Mark), where you'll try Serbia's most cherished traditional drinks: **coffee and rakija**, but also learn about the **UNESCO-protected art of making "šljivovica"**, Serbia's renowned plum brandy.

Having started the day like a true local, we will walk through **the historical Belgrade Fortress and Kalemegdan Park** and be amazed by the view of the mighty Sava and Danube rivers.

Crossing Branko's Bridge into New Belgrade, our panorama tour begins. You'll experience the bold **Brutalism architecture** and see the emerging **Belgrade Waterfront**, a symbol of the city's modern transformation. Continuing the journey, you'll gain **insight into Serbia's past**, from its 19th century struggle for independence

to its turbulent 1990s. We'll stop for a visit and devote time to the impressive **Temple of Saint Sava**, the symbol of the city and the fourth-largest Orthodox temple in the world, adorned with stunning mosaics.

Our tour concludes in **the lively heart of Serbia's bustling capital** - The Republic Square, having offered you an insight into both the city's and the country's diverse culture, heritage, and history.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Belgrade Sundown Cruise: Set sail on an enchanting evening river cruise through Belgrade, where the grand Sava and Danube Rivers unveil the city's splendour. Cruise past iconic landmarks, absorb the vibrant riverside ambience, and capture stunning views of Belgrade's **skyline, bridges, and historic landmarks**.

Overnight: Belgrade

DAY 3 | TREASURES OF VOJVODINA Belgrade - Fruška Gora NP - Sremski Karlovci - Novi Sad - Belgrade

Today, you will explore the most interesting sights of **Vojvodina**, a province in northern Serbia. Visit Fruška Gora NP, the "**Serbian Holy Land**", with its 17 active monasteries, including the well-preserved **Krušedol Monastery**, where you can buy wine and rakija made by the monks. The tour continues to **Sremski Karlovci**, a cultural gem with its Baroque centre, Patriarchal Court, Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Nicholas, and historic secondary school.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Wines of Fruška Gora: Step into the enchanting **Fruška Gora wine region**, home to Serbia's finest wines. Enjoy **a delightful array of wines** at a local winery, showcasing the region's diversity and craftsmanship. Don't miss trying **Bermet**, an internationally acclaimed Serbian wine that famously graced the tables of the Titanic.

Your next stop will be **Novi Sad**, the vibrant capital of Vojvodina and 2021 European Capital of Culture. This **multicultural gem** is renowned for hosting **EXIT**, Southeast Europe's largest music festival. Wander through its lively pedestrian zone, where historic landmarks like the City Hall and the old city centre blend with cultural sites. Explore the impressive **Petrovaradin Fortress**, often called "Danube's Gibraltar", where you can enjoy stunning views of the Danube River and the cityscape, perfect

for capturing unforgettable moments.

After a short drive, you will return back to **Belgrade** and enjoy the rest of your evening.

Overnight: Belgrade

DAY 4 | BANAT TO TRANSYLVANIA Belgrade - Timișoara - Sibiu

Your Serbian part of the tour ends after *check-out*, and the tour continues to **Timișoara**, the largest city in western Romania, nestled on the northern bank of the **River Bega**. Known as "**Little Vienna**" for its unique architectural charm and vibrant cultural life, Timișoara offers a visit to Unirii Square, the Catholic Cathedral of Saint George, Liberty Square, and Victory Square, home to the Romanian National Opera and National Theatre. As we continue our journey, soak in the picturesque landscapes of **Transylvania** with the stunning **Carpathian Mountains** in the distance.

Your day ends with a tour of **Sibiu**, once the largest and wealthiest of the seven fortified towns, and home to Romania's first hospital and pharmacy. Today, **medieval walls** still encircle the old town, where narrow streets weave past historical landmarks, including **the Large Square** with the Brukenthal Museum - Romania's oldest museum, the Small Square, the Council Tower, the Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, inspired by Hagia Sophia, and more.

Check-in to your hotel and rest before the tour continues.

Overnight: Sibiu

DAY 5 | TRANSYLVANIA UNVEILED Sibiu - "Astra" National Museum Complex - Transfăgărașan Road - Sinaia

After *check-out*, enjoy your leisurely morning with a cup of coffee on the charming cobbled streets of **Sibiu**, after which we'll continue our journey through **the heart of Transylvania** to our next destination.

A true Romanian journey must include exploring its traditional villages, and **the "Astra" National Museum Complex** offers a perfect glimpse into this heritage. As one of Europe's largest open-air museums, it showcases **the essence of rural life**.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Transfăgărașan Scenic Road: The legendary **90km route of Transfăgărașan** is often described as "the road to the sky".

Take a ride on the cable car towards the stunning **Bălea Lake**, a glacial gem nestled amidst the peaks, where its serene waters mirror the beauty of **the Făgăraș Mountains**.

Continue towards **Sinaia**, nestled in the Carpathian Mountains of Romania, and renowned for its stunning natural beauty and historic charm. *Check-in* to hotel and soak in the memories of the day.

Overnight: Sinaia

DAY 6 | THE CASTLES OF TRANSYLVANIA Sinaia - Peleş Castle - Brașov - Bran Castle - Sinaia

Our day begins with a visit to **Peleş Castle**, where King Carol I of Romania was once mesmerized by the breathtaking Carpathian Mountain scenery. Captivated by the views, the royal family chose this location for their summer residence, resulting in a magnificent **Neo-Renaissance masterpiece**. This combination of **noble taste and ingenious engineering** makes Peleş Castle a true marvel.

The tour continues to **Brașov**, founded by the Teutonic Knights in the 13th century. Baroque buildings, churches and relaxed cafés line the main square, **Piața Sfatului**, after which you'll walk towards the Gothic-style cathedral, **Biserica Neagră**, famously called the Black Church.

But the day isn't over yet, as mystery awaits in **Bran Castle**, commonly known as **Dracula's Castle**. This 13th century gothic fortress, set atop a 60-meter cliff, offers an irresistible journey back to **the Middle Ages**. Discover how the legend of Vlad the Impaler became the inspiration behind Bram Stoker's "Dracula".

In the evening, return to your **Sinaia** hotel as you collect your impressions and memories from Transylvania.

Overnight: Sinaia

DAY 7 | FROM VINEYARDS TO CAPITAL Sinaia - Dealu Mare Wine Region - Bucharest

After *check-out* from Sinaia hotel, our Romanian adventure takes a delightful turn. Having explored its enchanting mysteries and castle stories, today we'll indulge in **a journey of tasting natural gifts of the Carpathians**.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Carpathian Wines: As



a part of experiencing the diversity of Romania, we invite you to enjoy **a wine-tasting experience**. You will travel through **the expansive wine region of Dealu Mare**, to reach a charming estate nestled amidst these lush fields.

Your final stop of the day is **Bucharest**, the capital and largest city in Romania. Check-into your hotel and enjoy some free time to explore this vibrant city.

Overnight: Bucharest

DAY 8 | “THE LITTLE PARIS”

Bucharest

Famous for its wide, tree-lined boulevards and magnificent **Belle Époque architecture**, Bucharest earned the nickname “**The Little Paris**” in the early 1900s due to its vibrant social scene. You will visit all of the city’s best-known sights, including **the Piața Unirii** for a view of the colossal **Palace of the Parliament**, the second-largest building in the world, after the Pentagon. From there, the tour continues to the **medieval Old Town**, one of Bucharest’s oldest settlements. When you arrive at **Revolution Square**, you’ll delve into the story of what **communist rule** meant for Romania and discover how this historic square earned its name.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Art Nouveau Dinner (Optional): For those desiring a deeper connection with Bucharest, we present **an optional exploration of the city’s enchanting 19th century era**. Discover Bucharest’s rich history and timeless charm firsthand. With the assistance of our expert guide, you’ll discover a **carefully selected restaurant** that captures the essence of **Art Nouveau** Bucharest.

Overnight: Bucharest

DAY 9 | INTRODUCTION TO BULGARIA

Bucharest - Veliko Tarnovo - Arbanasi

The first stop of the day will take you on a journey back to the rise and fall of the mighty capital of the Second Bulgarian Empire - **Veliko Tarnovo**, where you’ll discover how its resilient population thrived under Turkish rule, as they created magnificent architectural masterpieces and formed a strong and **united craftsmen’s guild**. The legends and stories, along with the interesting history of Veliko Tarnovo and **the**

Tsarevets fortress, have gained them numerous admirers in both Bulgaria and abroad, making the region **a top tourist attraction in the country**.

Next, you’ll head to the nearby village of Arbanasi, known for its well-preserved traditional architecture and serene atmosphere.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Rural Roots of Bulgaria: To truly discover the essence of Bulgarian rural lifestyle, there is no better place than the neighbouring village of **Arbanasi**, an architectural and museum reserve. A picturesque **open-air museum of cultural heritage** includes 80 houses, some of which still have original Ottoman decor and design. To conclude this rural experience, we check-in to our accommodation, nestled within an ethno complex, with the ambience of a 17th century han (Turkish for a motel). It captures the spirit of Oriental architectural tradition. **In case of restricted availability, alternative options will be offered.*

Overnight: Arbanasi

DAY 10 | TRADITIONS AND CRAFTSMANSHIP

Arbanasi - Etar Ethno Village - Valley of Roses - Plovdiv

After *check-out* from Arbanasi, our journey leads us to **the Open Air Ethnographic Museum Etar**, where you’ll continue to uncover the charm of traditional Bulgarian life and explore **Bulgarian National Revival era architecture**.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Etar Traditional Crafts: Unveil the secrets of herbal traditions as you craft your own **handmade soap** or soothing calendula ointment in **Etar Ethno Village**. Delve into **the art of creating herbal cosmetics**, with a **hands-on demonstration** of crafting natural, herb-based products.

Continue towards the South, to discover yet another testament of the rich Bulgarian heritage and craftsmanship. Explore **the Damascena Complex** in the stunning **Valley of Roses**, home to Bulgaria’s first private rose factory. Uncover why roses are a cherished symbol of Bulgaria, visit the amphitheatre, and buy **renowned rose oil** straight from the distillery.

Finally, explore **Plovdiv**, one of Europe’s oldest cities, where heritage is marked by a striking blend of ancient Roman, Ottoman, and Bulgarian influences. Located on the banks of **the Maritsa**

River, the city presents a rich cultural mix and a unique architectural blend, earning it the title of an open-air museum. Marvel at **the Ancient Theatre of Philippopolis***, stroll through **the Old Town**, with its charming cobblestone streets and beautifully preserved Revival-era houses. Conclude your tour in **Kapana**, Plovdiv’s vibrant creative hub, before *checking in* to your hotel. **Due to limited visiting hours, there may be restrictions on entering the Ancient Theatre of Philippopolis in the late afternoon and evening.*

Overnight: Plovdiv

DAY 11 | SOFIA’S CULTURAL FUSION

Plovdiv - Sofia

Check-out and bid farewell to Plovdiv. Enjoy a leisurely morning with some free time to explore the city at your own pace. Afterward, we’ll continue our journey toward Sofia.

Sofia is a modern, youthful Eastern European capital, distinguished by a unique combination of onion-domed churches, communist-style architecture and Ottoman legacy. The home to many of **Bulgaria’s finest museums, galleries and restaurants**, Sofia will reveal to you its most interesting landmarks, such as the impressive **Saint Alexander Nevsky Cathedral** and **Largo**, one of the prime examples of Socialist Classicism architecture and one of Sofia’s main landmarks. Finish the day by *checking into* your hotel in Sofia and rest well.

Overnight: Sofia

DAY 12 | SOUTHERN ROADS

Sofia - Niš - Manasija Monastery - Belgrade

After *check-out*, we leave Bulgaria and head to **Niš**, a vibrant city in southern Serbia and the birthplace of Roman Emperor **Constantine the Great**. Explore the historic **Niš Fortress** and the cobbled **Tinkers Alley**, the last part of Niš’s old market, now full of cafés and restaurants. For an authentic **taste of southern Serbian cuisine**, savour local specialties like **čevapi** and **sarma**.

Next, we travel to the Resava Valley to visit the medieval **Manasija Monastery**.

Renowned for its well-preserved floor mosaics, wall frescoes, and architectural marvels, **Manasija Monastery** also houses an exceptional

collection of religious art and manuscripts, offering a deep insight into the spiritual and artistic **legacy of medieval Serbia**.

Finally, we’ll drive to Serbia’s capital city, **Belgrade**, for hotel *check-in* and a free evening.

Overnight: Belgrade

DAY 13 | “SERBIAN TUSCANY” DELIGHTS

Belgrade - Šumadija Region - Zlatibor Mountain

Morning *check-out* from Belgrade marks the beginning of your journey southwards, towards the heart of Serbia. You’ll explore **Oplenac**, a place where royals are laid to rest and history comes to life.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Šumadija Royal Wine: Delve into a royal wine journey through the enchanting **Šumadija region**, often called **the “Serbian Tuscany”**. At one of Serbia’s leading century-old wineries, where natural beauty meets urban elegance, you will taste **three sorts of wine** crafted using traditional recipes and learn about **the Royal Karađorđević dynasty**, who led Serbia through pivotal moments in its history.

After this exquisite wine experience, continue to **Zlatibor Mountain**, home to Serbia’s first royal resort. *Check-in* to your mountain hotel and enjoy a leisurely walk through the picturesque town centre, followed by a delightful dinner of traditional Serbian cuisine typical to the region.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Zlatibor Gourmet Session: Explore **the essence of Serbian cuisine** at one of Zlatibor Mountain’s finest **traditional kafanas**. Indulge in rich **ajvar**, creamy **kajmak**, artisan-cured meats, and hearty traditional **pies or proja**. Join us for this unforgettable dining experience and try **the rich, irresistible flavours** of Serbian cuisine against the stunning backdrop of Zlatibor’s natural beauty.

Overnight: Zlatibor Mountain

DAY 14 | VIVID WESTERN SERBIA

Zlatibor Mountain - Wooden-Town - Šargan Eight - Višegrad - Sarajevo

After *check-out*, continue to the ethno village **Drvengrad** (Wooden-Town), built by renowned film director Emir Kusturica. This village features natural wood constructions, the **Mečavnik Hotel**, galleries, shops, a cinema, and a church, hosting

the **Küstendorf Film and Music Festival** since 2008.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Šargan Eight Railroad: You will truly experience the charm of the mountains while riding the authentic, **retro “Nostalgia” train** along the narrow gauge heritage railway, **Šargan Eight**. This railway, named for its figure-eight shape, takes you from the base of Šargan Mountain and transports you back in time as you enjoy stunning scenery, numerous tunnels, and viaduct.

The tour concludes in **Višegrad**, with a visit to **Andrićgrad**, or Stone-Town, built by Kusturica on the emerald Drina River, featuring cultural facilities and the UNESCO-protected bridge. After lunch, continue to **Sarajevo**, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for hotel *check-in*.

Overnight: Sarajevo

DAY 15 | BALKAN SOUL CAPITAL

Sarajevo

Our Sarajevo exploration starts at **Vječna Vatra** (Eternal Flame), from where we will delve deeper in the cultural and historical treasures and engage **all your senses** - sight, sound, and taste - offering an extraordinary experience that truly captures the essence of Sarajevo.

EXPERIENCE MORE / A Taste of History: Start your Sarajevo tour with none other than a taste of the city’s culinary crown jewel - **the famous burek**. Enjoy this savoury pastry at a local bakery before we continue through the vibrant **Ferhadiya pedestrian zone** and discover how Sarajevo’s **diverse Orthodox, Catholic, and Islamic cultures influence** its rich traditions and heritage. Our journey continues to **Baščaršija**, the heart of Sarajevo’s old town, where you’ll find some of **the best čevapi** around, a minced meat dish which the entire Balkan swears by. In the city centre area, make sure to experience **the local tradition of coffee**, a key part of Sarajevo’s daily life. We’ll also visit iconic sites like the **Vjećnica (City Hall)**, wrapping **the entire tale** of this soulful city. End this unforgettable experience with a taste of heavenly **baklava** and savour the true essence of Sarajevo’s history and cuisine.

In the afternoon, take the opportunity to **explore Sarajevo at your own pace**, revisit your favourite sights or unwind in one of the city’s cosy cafes.

Overnight: Sarajevo

DAY 16 | THE BEAUTY OF HERZEGOVINA

Sarajevo - Mostar - Blagaj - Trebinje

Today, bid farewell to Sarajevo after *check-out* and embark on a journey to one of the Balkan Peninsula’s most stunning cities, **Mostar**. Begin with a walking tour visiting the iconic **Old Bridge**, a UNESCO landmark, **Koski Mehmed Pasha Mosque**, the **Crooked Bridge**, and the old tanner’s quarter, **Tabhana**.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Mostar Copper Artistry: Step into a workshop in Mostar’s Old Town to explore **the ancient art of copper modelling**. Guided by a master artisan, create stunning **jewellery pieces** or intricate reliefs, delving into Bosnia’s rich **coppersmithing tradition** passed down through generations.

Enjoy free time by **the Neretva River** for lunch with a breathtaking view of the bridge.

Continue to **Blagaj**, a 15th century town near the spring of the emerald green river Buna, and visit the monastery nestled beneath towering cliffs. Then, explore **Trebinje**, known for its picturesque **Arslanagića Bridge** and a leisurely walk through the old town’s narrow streets. Conclude your day at **“Poet’s Square”**, where century-old 16 plane trees symbolize the town’s charm, before *check-in* to your hotel.

Overnight: Trebinje

DAY 17 | THE MEDITERRANEAN ESSENCE

Trebinje - Perast - Kotor - Dubrovnik

After *check-out*, explore Trebinje’s **local market** before continuing towards Montenegro.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Trebinje Market Delights: Savour the fresh delights of Trebinje’s **vibrant local market**, a rare gem where **traditional tastes and methods** still thrive. Amidst the friendly chatter of vendors and the inviting aromas of fresh produce, indulge in creamy, fresh cheese, flavourful dried meats, and sun-ripened fruits, all grown by **small local producers** using time-honoured techniques.

Wave farewell to Herzegovina as you journey towards **Montenegro’s Boka Bay**, renowned for its picturesque landscapes and historical significance. Your first stop is the town of **Perast**, a charming baroque-style settlement nestled in the heart of Boka Bay.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Our Lady of the Rocks: From Perast, you have the opportunity to



discover **a quiet wonder** of the Boka Bay, the picturesque island of **Our Lady of the Rocks**, a manmade island is home to a church with valuable paintings by local artists, silver votive tablets, and a famous sacred tapestry.

Arrive in **Kotor** for a guided tour of this **UNESCO site**, including ancient churches and the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon.

The final destination of the day is **Dubrovnik**, one of the most significant monuments in the world and one of Europe's best preserved walled cities, known since the 7th century. Hotel *check-in*.

Overnight: Dubrovnik

DAY 18 | THE PEARL OF THE ADRIATIC Dubrovnik

Discover the true essence of Dubrovnik, the “Pearl of the Adriatic”, as you explore its iconic landmarks, from the bustling **Stradun** to the historic Placa Square and beyond. Immerse yourself in the enchanting atmosphere of this city, where the breathtaking settings of “**Game of Thrones**” come to life. Uncover the fascinating tales of the **Republic of Ragusa** and experience firsthand why Dubrovnik stands as one of the world's most captivating destinations.

Our mission is to showcase **Dubrovnik from every angle**, allowing you to fully embrace its unique charm. After the city tour, we recommend making the most of your **free time** by having lunch atop the city walls, taking **a cable car to Srđ Hill** for breathtaking views, walking **the 2 km City Walls** for a stunning perspective from above. In the evening, set sail on **a sunset cruise on the Karaka**, a replica of a traditional 16th century wooden galleon, and admire the breathtaking views of the old town and the centuries-old impregnable walls of Dubrovnik from the sea.

Overnight: Dubrovnik

DAY 19 | THE DALMATIAN COAST Dubrovnik - Pelješac Peninsula - Split

After *check-out*, drive along the scenic **Dalmatian coast**, enjoying views of Croatian islands and charming villages. Stop briefly in the **City of Ston** on the Pelješac Peninsula to taste its famous oysters and photograph the Ston Walls.

EXPERIENCE MORE / Pelješac Handcrafted Wines: *Pelješac Peninsula* is known for its

*brehtaking vineyards and celebrated wines. Experience the essence of Dalmatian wine-making as a local winery invites you to try the robust **Plavac Mali**, the region's signature red wine, made from vines hand-tended as they grow in rocky terrain.*

The day concludes in **Split**, the largest city in Dalmatia. Enter through the **Golden Gate** and wander through narrow cobblestone streets, where bustling markets, charming cafés, and hidden courtyards reveal the rich history and timeless grandeur of the **Diocletian's Palace**. Visit the **former Temple of Jupiter**, followed by the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, the oldest Catholic cathedral still in its original structure. Stroll along the lively **Riva promenade**, soaking up the Mediterranean sun and vibrant atmosphere. End the day with a hotel *check-in*.

Overnight: Split

DAY 20 | HVAR ISLAND ADVENTURE Split - Hvar Island - Split

To start your day, drive to the ferry port and board a **high-speed catamaran** bound for Hvar, Croatia's renowned island gem.

Hvar, a charming island-city with **Venetian architecture**, is known for its traffic-free cobbled streets lined with restaurants and bars. On your walking tour, explore the harbour, Renaissance Cathedral, Benedictine Convent, Franciscan Monastery, and Church of Our Lady of Mercy.

We've set aside plenty of free time for you to fully enjoy all that the island has to offer. Based on your interests, we recommend you to: Enjoy a delightful Mediterranean lunch at a local restaurant, relax on the sun-kissed beaches, embark on a boat excursion to discover the enchanting **Pakleni Islands**, or explore the picturesque trails to Milna Bay for a memorable adventure.

In the late afternoon, return to **Split**, with departure timing subject to seasonal variations.

Overnight: Split

DAY 21 | THE DEVIL'S GARDEN Split - Plitvice Lakes NP - Zagreb

Today, we bid farewell to the stunning Dalmatian coast, and after *check-out* we head inland. Pass through charming villages, admire rolling hills,

as you wave goodbye to the sparkling Adriatic Sea, before entering the mountainous landscape surrounding our next stop.

Start exploring **Plitvice Lakes National Park**, a beautiful park that contains **16 interconnected cascading lakes**. On old maps, it was called “Devil's Garden” and it is the first site in the Balkans to get **UNESCO World Heritage status**.

The final stop of the day is the Croatian capital, **Zagreb**. After *checking* into your hotel, enjoy some free time to explore the city and savour a delightful dinner on your own.

Overnight: Zagreb

DAY 22 | FAREWELL, ZAGREB Zagreb

After hotel *check-out*, it is time to conclude your Balkan tour with a Zagreb sightseeing tour, during which you will explore the city's main attractions. Visit **Kaptol**, the medieval part of Zagreb, and the Franciscan monastery with its 13th century Church of Saint Francis. Walk around **Dolac**, Zagreb's best-known farmers' market, and admire the baroque architecture of the 18th century Church of Saint Mary. The tour will conclude in the heart of Zagreb, at **Ban Josip Jelačić's monument**, placed in the square named after him.

As most of our clients decide to **extend their trip** within their own organisation, **transfer to the airport** at the end of the tour is not included in the overall price. Any guests who would like Balkan&more to organise a departure transfer on their behalf are welcome to contact us. End of services.

POST-STAY: If you feel like you are not ready to end this trip and would like to spend more time on your vacation, let us know and we will book some more overnights for you. You are welcome to contact us for more details!

GENERAL INCLUSIONS

Valid both for Standard and Superior package

Transportation:

- Airport arrival transfer
- Transportation as per the itinerary with modern, comfortable vehicles tailored to your group size

Entrances & tickets:

Temple of Saint Sava, Krušedol Monastery, “Astra” National Museum Complex, Bran Castle, Peleş Castle, Damascena Complex with rose water and rakija tasting, Oplenac Royal Complex, Wooden-Town, Blagaj Tekke, Kotor Old Town, Catamaran Split - Hvar - Split, NP Plitvice Lakes

Experiences:

Coffee & rakija in a Belgrade tavern (*Serbian Morning Routine*); Sava and Danube Rivers Cruise (*Belgrade Sundown Cruise*); Wine tasting in a local winery in Northern Serbia (*Wines of Fruška Gora*); Cable car ride in the Carpathian Mountains in Romania (*Transfăgărășan Scenic Road*); Wine tasting in a local winery in Dealu Mare region of Romania (*Carpathian Wines*); Visit to the ethno village in Bulgaria (*Rural Roots of Bulgaria*); Natural and handmade herbal cosmetics making experience in an open-air ethnographic museum in Bulgaria (*Etar Traditional Crafts*); Wine tasting in a local winery in Central Serbia (*Šumadija Royal Wines*); Dinner in a traditional Western Serbian restaurant (*Zlatibor Gourmet Session*); Train ride tickets on a heritage railway (*Šargan Eight Railroad*); Traditional Bosnian street food tasting (*A Taste of History*); Copper modelling workshop (*Mostar Copper Artistry*); Visit to the local market in Herzegovina (*Trebinje Market Delights*); Boat ride to the island and entry ticket to the church (*Our Lady of the Rocks*); Wine tasting in a local winery in Dalmatia (*Pelješac Handcrafted Wines*)

**Optional experience: Dinner in an Art Nouveau restaurant in Bucharest (not included in the price)*

Meals:

- 21 x breakfast
- Additional meals included in our experiences

Additional:

- Professional English-speaking tour guidance throughout the tour
- VAT, accommodation taxes and city taxes
- Tour logistics and organization with dedicated service and care
- 1 bottle of water (0.5l) daily for each passenger

HOTELS / STANDARD package

4 BB in Belgrade in Royal Inn 4* / Mercure Excelsior 4* / Central Point 4* or similar

2 BB in Sibiu in Continental Forum Sibiu 4* / Golden Tulip Ana Tower 4* / Art 4* or similar

1 BB in Sinaia in Sinaia 4* / Anda 4* / Vila Economat 4* or similar

2 BB in Bucharest in Capitol 4* / Leonardo 4* / Mercure Bucharest City Center 4* or similar

1 BB in Arbanasi / Veliko Tarnovo in Arbanaski Han 4* / Yantra Grand 4* or similar

1 BB in Plovdiv in Grand Plovdiv 4* / Holiday Inn 4* / Best Western Premier Plovdiv Hills 4* or similar

1 BB in Sofia in Central Sofia 4* / Coop 4* / Abrazo Sofia 4* or similar

1 BB in Zlatibor in Palisad standard 4* / Mona 4* / Buket 4* or similar

2 BB in Sarajevo in Old Town 4* / Colors Inn 4* / Movenpick 4* (Novotel) or similar

1 BB in Trebinje in Central Park 4* / Sesto Senso 4* / Platani 4* or similar

2 BB in Dubrovnik in Lapad 4* / Lero 4* / Valamar Tirena 4* or similar

2 BB in Split in Art 4* / Globo 4* / Marul 4* or similar

1 BB in Zagreb in DoubleTree by Hilton 4* / Dubrovnik 4* / International by Maistra City Vibes 4* or similar

HOTELS / SUPERIOR package

4 BB in Belgrade in Envoy 4* / Museum 4* / Moskva 4* or similar

2 BB in Sibiu in Radisson Blu 4* / Art 4* / Hilton Sibiu 5* or similar

1 BB in Sinaia in International 4* / Vila Economat / Boutique Vila La Kastel 4* or similar

2 BB in Bucharest in Grand Continental 5* / Novotel Bucharest City Center 4* / Mercure Bucharest City Center 4* or similar

1 BB in Arbanasi / Veliko Tarnovo in Arbanaski Han 4* / Yantra Grand 4* or similar

1 BB in Plovdiv in Double Tree by Hilton 4* / Imperial Plovdiv 4* / Este Park 4*

1 BB in Sofia in Grand Sofia 5* / Sense Sofia 5* / Crystal Palace Boutique Sofia 4* or similar

1 BB in Zlatibor in Palisad superior 4* / Bor by Karisma 5* / Zlatibor Residence 4* or similar

2 BB in Sarajevo in Courtyard by Marriott 4* / Europe 5* / Baškuća 4* or similar

1 BB in Trebinje in Central Park 4* / Nar 4* / Integra 4* or similar

2 BB in Dubrovnik in Royal Neptun 4* / Kompas 4* / More 5* or similar

2 BB in Split in Luxe 4* / Marmont Heritage 4* / AC Marriott 4* or similar

1 BB in Zagreb in Amadria Park Capital 4* / Sheraton 5* / Le Premier 5* or similar



Zagreb, Croatia