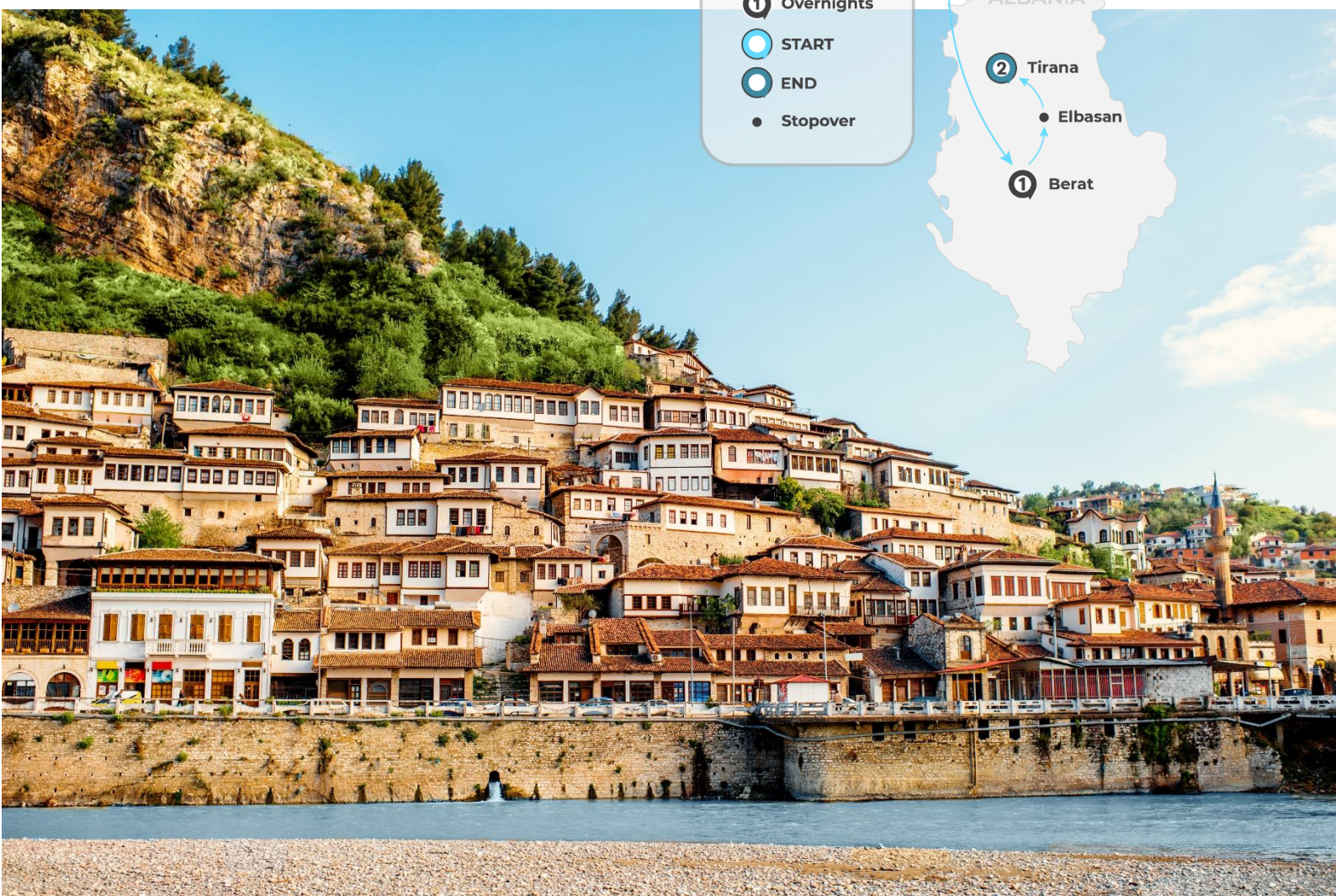


Montenegro & Albania

Kotor Bay – Skadar Lake – Berat – Tirana

6 nights / 7 days tour



If you are arriving in Boka Bay a few days prior to the tour departure, you can book additional nights with us, at the same hotel.

Day 1 Arriving to Montenegro

Upon arrival at the airport of your choice, an enjoyable ride with staggering viewpoints waits for you. Accompanied by your guide, you will get the first glimpse at this Mediterranean country during a scenic ride to your hotel. The intervening landscapes of old times' architecture and contemporary lifestyle will introduce you to the diversity of this small, yet imposing country.
Overnight: Boka Bay.



Day 2 The Bay of Kotor: Perast – Boat Ride to The Our Lady of The Rocks Isle – UNESCO'S City of Kotor – Oysters or Wine Tasting

Breakfast. This day is devoted to the Bay of Kotor with its unique scenery. The first stop is at the town of Perast, a little settlement baroque in style, where a relaxing boat ride to the picturesque island of Our Lady of the Rocks starts. This artificial islet is home to a church known for its mystifying story and valuable artifacts like paintings by local artist, votive silver tablets and a hair-made tapestry.

After short boat tour, marvellous Kotor kept in the mediaeval wall-frame is welcoming us. A walking tour though the capital of Europe's southernmost bay shows multicultural richness through churches of Saint Nicholas and Saint Luka, the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon and all the glory of this UNESCO site. Use your free time to continue wandering around the stone paved town, or enjoy offer of fish restaurant at one of romantic squares.

For the end of this day, you are welcome to choose an optional excursion:

Optional 1: A visit to the family-owned and operated shellfish farm. Here you will learn about oyster production and sample some fresh catches amid the charming atmosphere of Boka Bay.

Optional 2: Try one of the most famous wines from Boka Bay, enjoy a wine tasting with a stunning view over Herceg Novi. **Overnight: Boka Bay.**



Day 3 NP Lovćen Mountain: Gastronomy, History & Culture

After breakfast, we are going up to the Lovćen massif area. Right there, high above and behind those hills, Montenegrin history begins and ends in the very same place. Just getting there is a unique adventure: the stunning view of the Boka Bay will leave you in awe, while driving up the old, Austro-Hungarian 25-serpentine-road. First stop for the day is Njeguši, the village known as the birth place of the royal dynasty Petrović and a 'guardian' of the authentic architecture and cuisine in the region. Njeguški sir and pršut (cheese and prosciutto of Njeguši), a real treat for true foodies, are both genuine contributions to Montenegrin cuisine, produced only in this area, following the traditional recipe for smoking and curing meat.



Tasting the most famous specialties of the region makes us ready for one more breath-taking peak.

The National Park Lovćen encompasses the central and the highest part of the Lovćen massif, covering an area of 6.400 hectares. On top of one of the mountain's two imposing peaks, lies a magnificent mausoleum – the tomb of Montenegro's greatest person in history: Petar II Petrović Njegoš. It takes 461 steps to climb to reach but it is a steep journey well worth the effort. At the very top, you will be rewarded with a spectacular viewpoint from the world's highest mausoleum.



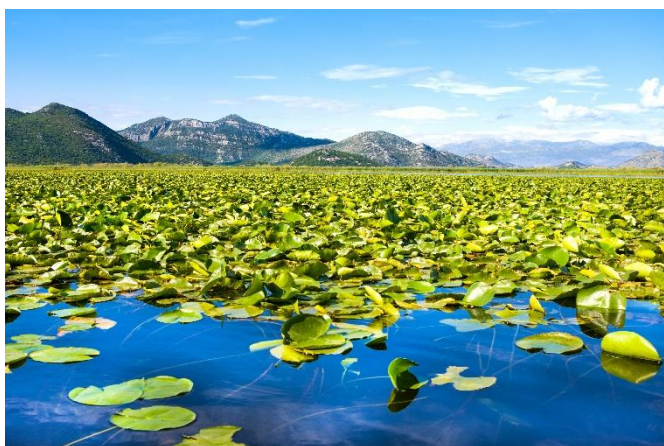
Finally, the trip continues to the Old Royal Town of Cetinje, in which you will grasp more about the Petrović Njegoš dynasty and the history of our country.

Use free evening and try out some of the finest Montenegrin wines, made from the authentic red grape variety Vranac, as well as some organic honey, figs, and a homemade spirit called rakija. It is highly recommended to enjoy these delicacies at the konoba - a small, traditional restaurants owned by local families, a true essence of Montenegrin's warm hospitality and friendship. **Overnight: Budva.**

Day 4

Virpazar - NP Skadar Lake with Boat Ride – Shkodër (Albania) – Berat

Breakfast. For this day, we have prepared an experience to remember during which you will have the opportunity to enjoy the picturesque nature of Skadar Lake National Park.

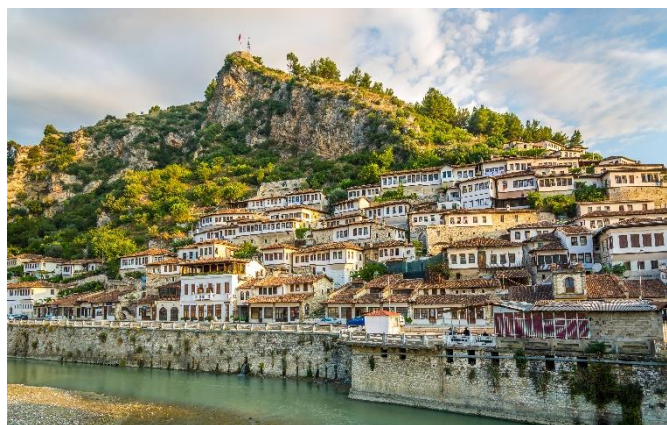


The fishing village of Virpazar is a departure point for a boat ride on Skadar Lake. As you glide through the mirroring water, the numerous lake's attractions reveal the extraordinary birds, the water lilies in full bloom, and wild, secluded beaches. Skadar Lake has an area ranging from 370 to 530 square kilometers, depending on the water level, and it is the biggest lake in the Balkans.

Afterward, we say goodbye to Montenegro until the next time and head across the border to get to know Skadar Lake from Albanian side.

The Albanian spirit is best felt by visiting the charming town of Shkodër, one of the oldest towns in Europe, unique for its narrow streets, stone walls and ancient houses. Surrounded by pristine nature, a national park and Lake Skadar, the largest lake in Southern Europe, Shkodër has played an important geopolitical role throughout Albanian history. At the entrance of the town stands the Venetian Rozafa Castle, one of the biggest and most famous castles in Albania. It rises imposingly on a rocky hill, surrounded by the Buna and Drin rivers, and offers amazing views of Shkodër, Lake Skadar and its water-intersected surroundings. A major attraction in the town center is the well-preserved and popular pedestrianized Kole Idromeno street, which leads to the other sights of the town, including the Ebu Bekr Mosque, the Orthodox Cathedral of the Nativity, and the monument of Mother Teresa.

The journey continues to our last stop of the day, even more charming town of Berat. **Overnight: Berat.**



Day 5

Berat morning tour – Elbasan afternoon tour – Tirana

After breakfast, we start with our morning tour of Berat. The city combines both eastern and western cultures, traditions and image. Berat is the pride of Albanian architecture under UNESCO protection, combining both eastern and western cultures, traditions, and images, making it more of an open-air museum than a city. This treasury of the history of Albania, with its arched Gorica

Bridge, Byzantine Church of Saint Michael, and Ottoman monuments such as the Red Mosque, presents traces of the diverse cultures and traditions that once passed through this monumental “town of a thousand windows” in central Albania. Not only a heritage destination but a gourmet one too, Berat is known for its traditional dishes, and this is where you could taste local delicacies, such as “pula me përsesh” and “çorba e Tomorrit”, made in traditional restaurants and based on centuries-old recipes.

On our way to Tirana, we will make a stop in Elbasan, the third largest city in Albania, located on the Shkumbin River. While the city was the main centre of Albanian nationalism during Ottoman rule, Elbasan is best known for its castle district. Here you can still admire the old city walls built by the Ottoman sultan Mehmet II on the ruins of the Roman and Byzantine fortifications, which gave the city the name of EliBashan (“I put the hand”). Inside the fortress, while walking the cobblestone streets past old houses and excellent restaurants, you will see the Royal Mosque that dates back to the 15th century, the Orthodox Church of Saint Mary and the Sahati Clock Tower.



Drive to Tirana, the capital city of Albania as well as its largest city. **Overnight: Tirana.**

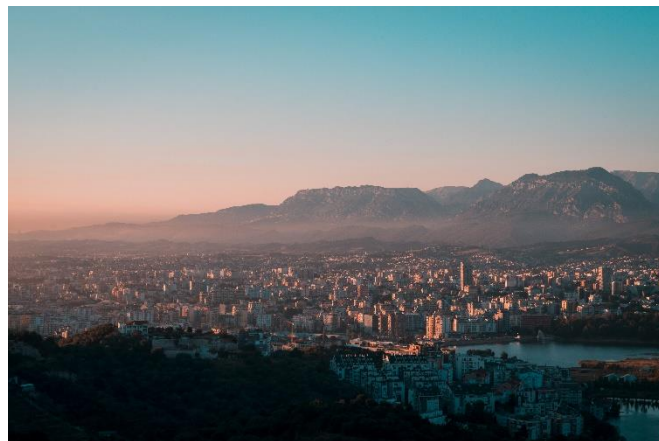
Day 6

Tirana City Tour: Free Afternoon or Optional Experiences

Breakfast. The never-sleeping city of Tirana is the capital city of Albania, as well as its largest city. Situated on the banks of the Lana river, Tirana has outstanding architecture, wide boulevards, parks, shops, and cafés. The heart of Tirana is Skanderbeg Square, home of the ministerial buildings, as well as the National Opera, the National Bank and the National Library. The square is dominated by a statue of Lord Skanderbeg, an Albanian hero and symbol of freedom and independence. The Italian influence is carved into the architecture of the Mussolini period, mixing with the city’s most important

landmarks, including the Et’hem Bey Mosque, the National Museum of History, the Clock Tower, and the Presidential Palace. Famous for its vibrant colors, many murals and works of art painted on the buildings by various artists, it is easy to understand why Tirana is known as ‘the city of colorful buildings’.

Use your free afternoon to explore Tirana on your own, or book one of the optional experiences:



Optional 1: Visit Kruja with Sightseeing. If you want to see more of Albania, head north of Tirana and visit Kruja. It is one of the most famous towns in Albania, as it was the home of Albania’s national hero Skanderbeg. A visit to Kruja starts with a walking tour through the Kruja Castle and admiring the stunning panoramic views. Inside, you can visit Skanderbeg or Ethnographic Museum. Afterwards explore Old Bazaar Market on the slope of the hill. The market is a great place to shop for souvenirs and enjoying a coffee on the terrace.



Optional 2: Visit Durres with Sightseeing. If you want to see more of Albania, head west of Tirana and visit Durres. The coastal city of Durrësi, located a convenient 34 km from Tirana, is home to Albania’s largest port—and is one of the country’s most ancient cities. “The eternal city” over the Adriatic has a 3,000-year history, its founding dating back to 627 B.C.E. when the Corinthians and settlers from the ancient Greek city of Corcyra, situated in the island of Corfu, invaded the Illyrian territory of the Taulantii people. Because of its

long history, the city is naturally brimming with ancient archaeological sites and findings, including the famous amphitheater of the Roman Emperor Hadrian, whose 15,000-seats capacity make it the second biggest amphitheater in the Balkans. **Overnight: Tirana.**

Day 7

Departure day

Breakfast and hotel check-out. 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.

Wishing for MORE TIME IN ALBANIA? If you would like to spend a few more days in Tirana, you can book additional nights with us, at the same hotel, for a surcharge of €35 reg.s / €40 high.s (Standard package) or €65 reg.s/ €70 high.s (Superior package). Prices are per person, per night, in a double room.

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES SEASON 2023.

APR	23 rd	
MAY	7 th	27 th
JUN	11 th	
JUL	9 th	
AUG	27 th	
SEP		
OCT	8 th	

*High season dates

STANDARD PACKAGE (per person, in double room):	Regular season	High season
	€1.089	€1.279

SUPERIOR PACKAGE (per person, in double room):	Regular season	High season
	€1.249	€1.569

SUPPLEMENTS, REDUCTIONS // STANDARD PACKAGE	Regular season	High season
1/1 Room Supplement (on basic price)	€270 reg.s	€380 high.s
1/3 Room Reduction (per person, on basic price)	- €30 reg.s	- €40 high.s

SUPPLEMENTS, REDUCTIONS // SUPERIOR PACKAGE	Regular season	High season
1/1 Room Supplement (on basic price)	€410 reg.s	€640 high.s
1/3 Room Reduction (per person, on basic price)	- €10 reg.s	- €10 high.s

CHILD POLICY, y/o // Valid both for Standard and Superior Package:

0 to 2	FOC
2 to 6 in existing bed	50% discount
2 to 12 in extra bed	1/3 Room Reduction Policy
12+ in extra bed	1/3 Room Reduction Policy

General inclusions // Valid both for Standard and Superior Package:

- ❖ Airport arrival transfer
- ❖ All sightseeing tours and transfers that are included in the itinerary
- ❖ Entrance tickets to the NP Skadar Lake, NP Lovcen & Njegosi Mausoleum, Our Lady of The Rocks, Kotor Old Town
- ❖ Boat ride at Skadar Lake National Park
- ❖ Tickets to Rozafa Castle in Shkodër
- ❖ Traditional food tasting in Njegusi village
- ❖ Boat trip from Perast to the island of Our Lady of the Rocks
- ❖ 1 bottle of water (0.5l) daily for each passenger
- ❖ Professional tour guidance throughout the tour
- ❖ VAT, accommodation taxes and city taxes
- ❖ Tour logistics and organisation by a licensed incoming agency

Standard package // Accommodation:

- ❖ 1 BB in Budva or Tivat in Hotel Pine 4* / Hotel Moskva 4* / Hotel Bracera 4* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Boka Bay in Hotel Casa del Mare - Blanche 4* / Hotel Montebay Perla 4* or similar
- ❖ 1 BB in Berat in Portik 4* / Hotel Onufri 4* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Tirana in Hotel Senator 4* / Hotel Golden City & My Spa 4* / Hotel Prestige 4* or similar

Superior package // Accommodation:

- ❖ 1 BB in Budva or Tivat in Hotel La Roche 5* / Hotel Avala 5* / Hotel Budva 4* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Boka Bay in Hotel Casa del Mare - Mediterraneo 5* / Lazure Marina & Hotel 5* or similar
- ❖ 1 BB in Berat in Hotel Colombo 5* / Hotel Residenza Desaret 4* / Hotel Tradita E Beratit or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Tirana in Hotel Rogner 5* / Maritim Hotel Plaza Tirana 5* / Hotel Mak Albania 5* or similar

Notices:

- ❖ Tips and portage services are not included in price
- ❖ Final choice of the hotels depends on current availability. The tour organiser reserves the right to change the hotel due to availability reasons but guarantees the same category, service quality and similar location of the accommodation unit
- ❖ Minimum number of passengers needed for guaranteed tour departure: 1
- ❖ The tour organiser reserves the right to change the itinerary of the tour due to unexpected slow-moving traffic at international borders. These changes will not affect the basic itinerary
- ❖ It is the responsibility of the passengers to get acquainted with visa requirements of all the countries they are travelling to or will be in transit
- ❖ General Travel Conditions are issued by Boccato DMC d.o.o.