# Balkan Big Tour: seven countries in three weeks

21 days | 7 countries | 26 cities Departure months: May-Oct





#### Day 1. Welcome to Serbia

Arrive at Nikola Tesla International Airport. Our driver will meet you at the arrivals hall, assist with money exchange, provide essential information about Belgrade, and help with check-in.

Overnight: Belgrade

#### Day 2. Belgrade City Tour

Visit Belgrade Fortress, perched above the confluence of the Sava and Danube Rivers, and see the Victor Monument and Chapel of Saint Petka. Then, explore New Belgrade's modern architecture, including the Genex Tower and Sava Center. Continue to Zemun, known for its charming Central European ambiance and fish restaurants by the river. Drive through Dedinje, Belgrade's upscale neighborhood, and visit the iconic Saint Sava Temple.

Overnight: Belgrade

# Day 3. Transfer to Zagreb & Walking Tour

After breakfast, travel to Croatia's capital, Zagreb, for approximately 4 hours, depending on border control. Check in at the hotel and refresh before beginning a guided walking tour of Upper Town, featuring Kaptol Square, Zagreb Cathedral, and cobblestone streets. Walk to St. Mark's Church, the Jesuit Church of St. Catherine, and past the Parliament building. Explore the Old Town's winding streets and Ban Jelacic Square. Enjoy free time to explore local cafes, markets, or museums at your own pace.

Overnight: Zagreb

## Day 4. Plitvice Lakes & Dalmatian Coast

After breakfast, travel two hours to the breathtaking Plitvice Lakes National Park, a UNESCO-listed wonder.

Take a guided 3-hour tour through this magnificent park featuring 16 interconnected lakes, stunning waterfalls, and lush forests. Enjoy a lunch break before continuing to Split, a vibrant coastal city, for two more hours. Check in, take a leisurely evening walk along the lively Riva promenade or relax at a seaside restaurant.

Overnight: Split

## Day 5. Split - Diocletian's Palace & Game of Thrones

After breakfast, embark on a walking tour of Split, focusing on the 4th-century Diocletian's Palace, one of the most well-preserved Roman structures. Explore the remains of St. Domnius Cathedral and the Temple of Jupiter, protected by a headless black sphinx. The tour concludes around noon, leaving you with options to explore further. Take a high-speed catamaran ride to Hvar, book a Game of Thrones tour, hike Marjan Hill, or visit Split's museums. If you prefer, unwind at one of the city's beautiful beaches.

Overnight: Split

# Day 6. Dubrovnik - The Pearl of the Adriatic

After breakfast, enjoy a picturesque 3-hour drive along the Croatian coast to Dubrovnik. Upon arrival, check-in and take a short break before starting a walking tour of the **UNESCO**-listed Old Town. Visit highlights like Rector's Palace, Sponza Palace, and Orlando's Tower.



Walk along the impressive city walls overlooking the Adriatic, visit the Maritime Museum, or discover filming locations from Game of Thrones. Free evening for independent exploration.

Overnight: Dubrovnik

#### Day 7 Full-Day Montenegro Experience

Depart Croatia and travel to
Montenegro's stunning Bay of Kotor,
the longest fjord in Southern Europe.
Stop at Perast and take a boat ride
to Our Lady of the Rocks Church, a
15th-century islet chapel. Continue to
Kotor for a guided tour of its medieval
Old Town, including St. Tryphon's
Cathedral. After lunch, cross into
Bosnia and Herzegovina, ending
the day in Trebinje. In this charming
town, you can explore its laid-back
atmosphere.

Overnight: Trebinje

#### Day 8. Herzegovina: Mostar & Blagai Tekke

Start with a visit to Blagaj, an Ottoman-era monastery built beneath towering cliffs along the emerald-green Buna River. Continue to Mostar, famous for its reconstructed 16th-century Old Bridge, a UNESCO site.



Explore the Old Bazaar, Koski Mehmed Pasha Mosque, and Crooked Bridge. Enjoy lunch by the river before traveling to Sarajevo. After check-in, stroll through the city and sample traditional Bosnian dishes.

Overnight: Sarajevo

# Day 9. Explore Sarajevo & Return to Belgrade

After breakfast, take a city tour of Sarajevo. Visit Bascarsija Bazaar, Gazi Husrev-bey Mosque, and the Sebilj Fountain.



Learn about the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand at the Latin Bridge. After lunch, return to Belgrade (5-hour drive). Evening free to enjoy the city's vibrant nightlife.

Overnight: Belgrade

# Day 10. Novi Sad & Transfer to Budapest

After breakfast, head north to Novi Sad, Serbia's second-largest city. Stop in Sremski Karlovci, a cultural hub known for its theological school and wine production. Taste local Bermet wine before visiting Petrovaradin Fortress, known for its underground tunnels and stunning views of the Danube. Explore Novi Sad's vibrant pedestrian zone before continuing to Budapest (a 3-hour drive).

Overnight: Budapest

#### Day 11. Explore Budapest

Enjoy a 3-hour city tour, starting with a panoramic view from Gellert Hill. Visit Buda Castle, Fisherman's Bastion, and Matyas Church before crossing the Chain Bridge into Pest. Admire the Hungarian Parliament, St. Stephen's Basilica, and Heroes Square. Relax at one of Budapest's famous thermal baths in the afternoon, or take an evening Danube cruise.

Overnight: Budapest

#### Day 12. Goodbye Hungary, Hello Romania

Drive to Szeged, Hungary's thirdlargest city, for a walking tour before crossing into Romania. Arrive in Timisoara, known for its elegant squares and Baroque buildings. Visit Union Square, Liberty Square, and the Orthodox Cathedral. Enjoy a free evening to explore the city's cafes, theaters, or local events.

Overnight: Timisoara

#### Day 13. Timisoara -Corvin Castle - Sibiu

Tour Timisoara's historic center before heading east to visit Corvin Castle, an awe-inspiring Gothic fortress. Arrive in Sibiu and explore the Large Square, the Bridge of Lies, and the city's German-influenced architecture. Spend the evening soaking in the city's charming atmosphere.

Overnight: Sibiu

#### Day 14. Sighisoara & Brasov

Visit Sighisoara, the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler, and admire its wellpreserved medieval town. Continue to Brasov to explore the Black Church and Old Town. Walk along its historic streets and enjoy a free evening in this picturesque city.

Overnight: Brasov

#### Day 15. Dracula's Castle & Peles Castle

Start the day with a scenic drive to Bran Castle, famously known as Dracula's Castle. Walk through its corridors and learn about the legend of Vlad the Impaler. Enjoy panoramic views from the castle's towers before heading to Peles Castle, an architectural masterpiece in the Carpathian Mountains. Tour its lavish rooms with stained glass windows and intricate wood carvings. Afterward,

drive to Bucharest and check in at the hotel. Spend the evening exploring the capital's nightlife, enjoying a traditional Romanian dinner, or strolling along Victory Avenue.

Overnight: Bucharest

#### Day 16. Explore Bucharest

After breakfast, embark on a guided tour of Romania's capital, known as "Little Paris." Visit the imposing Parliament Palace, the second-largest administrative building in the world. Continue to Revolution Square and admire the Arch of Triumph. Stroll along Calea Victoriei Avenue, lined with historical buildings and lively cafes. Explore Lipscani, the old town district with charming streets and historic landmarks.

Overnight: Bucharest

#### Day 20. Sofia City Tour & **Optional Rila Monastery Visit**

After breakfast, take a guided tour of Sofia, visiting the Serdica-Roman fortress walls, St. George Rotunda, St. Sofia Basilica, and Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. Walk along Vitosha Boulevard and explore the National Theatre.



In the afternoon, enjoy free time or take an optional excursion to Rila Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Overnight: Sofia

Upgraded

package

package

#### Day 21. Departure

After breakfast, transfer to the airport. End of services.

Prices per person:			
Lower season: 04-24.05; 01-21.06; 05-25.10.			
	in double/ twin room	in single room	in triple room
Classic package	4,199 €	5,055 €	3,779 €

5,529 €

5,879 €

4,045 €

4,125 €

High season: 06-26.07; 03-23.08; 07-27.09. Classic 4,349 € 5,315 € 3,915 € package Upgraded

4,495 €

4,695 €

### Included highlights and must-sees:



#### **Explore with Local** Specialists:

Belgrade, Zagreb, Plitvice Lakes, Split, Dubrovnik, Kotor, Perast, Trebinje, Blagaj, Mostar, Sarajevo, Novi Sad, Budapest, Szeged, Timisoara, Sibiu, Sighisoara, Brasov, Bran, Sinaia, Bucharest, Veliko Tarnovo, Plovdiv, Koprivshtitsa, Sofia



#### Visit Must-see Landmarks:

Kalemegdan Fortress, St. Sava Temple, Zagreb Cathedral, St. Mark's Church, Plitvice Lakes, Diocletian's Palace, Dubrovnik Old Town, Rector's Palace, City Walls of Dubrovnik, Kotor Old Town, Our Lady of the Rocks, Trebinje Old Town, Blagaj Tekke, Mostar Old Bridge, Baščaršija, Gazi Husrev-bey Mosque, Latin Bridge, Petrovaradin Fortress, Hungarian Parliament, Fisherman's Bastion. St. Stephen's Basilica, Timisoara Union Square, Corvin Castle, Sibiu Large Square, Clock Tower (Sighisoara), Black Church (Brasov), Bran Castle, Peles Castle, Palace of the Parliament (Bucharest), Veliko Tarnovo Tsarevets Fortress, Plovdiv Roman Amphitheater, Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (Sofia), Rila Monastery.



#### Overnights:

3 nights in Belgrade; 1 night in Zagreb; 2 nights in Split; 1 night in Dubrovnik; 1 night in Trebinje; 1 night in Sarajevo; 2 nights in Budapest; 1 night in Timisoara; 1 night in Sibiu; 1 night in Brasov; 2 nights in Bucharest; 1 night in Veliko Tarnovo; 1 night in Plovdiv; 2 nights in Sofia



#### . Meals:

20 x breakfast in a hotel



#### Tickets & Entrance fees:

Saint Sava Temple in Belgrade, Wine tasting during the Novi Sad trip, Plitvice Lakes, boat ride to Our Lady of the Rocks, Blagaj Tekke, Corvin Castle, Bran Castle, Peles Castle, Rock-Hewn Churches of Ivanovo, Etar Open Air Museum, Arbanasi Historical Village, Thracian tomb of Kazanlak, Rose Museum Kazanlak

Visit www.victortours.com for your full itinerary, sightseeing highlights, dates, and prices.

Alternatively, contact your preferred Travel Advisor.



## Daniel Carter, USA

"This tour was an absolute dream for an adventurous solo traveler like me! Every day was packed with exploration, from walking through the historic streets of Dubrovnik to hiking in Plitvice Lakes National Park. The itinerary was well-balanced, allowing for both guided tours and personal discovery. I met amazing people along the way, and the seamless organization made everything stress-free. Highly recommended for solo travelers who love history, culture, and nature!"

## Isabella Rossi & Marco Conti, Italy

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"This tour was an incredible way to experience the Balkans in style! My husband and I appreciated the well-planned itinerary, top-notch accommodations, and comfortable travel between destinations. Walking through the romantic streets of Dubrovnik, admiring the breathtaking views in Kotor, and enjoying fine dining in Budapest made this trip unforgettable. The mix of history, culture, and natural beauty was perfect. Highly recommended for couples looking for a well-organized and luxurious journey!"

## Rachel and Mark Thompson, Australia

"Traveling with teenagers can be challenging, but this tour had something for everyone! Our kids loved exploring Dracula's Castle, riding the cable car in Dubrovnik, and discovering Game of Thrones filming locations. The itinerary was engaging yet not overwhelming, with just the right amount of free time. We felt safe, and the guides were knowledgeable and accommodating. An unforgettable family experience!"

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## John and Margaret Evans, United Kingdom

"As history lovers, this tour was a dream come true. Every city had its unique charm, from the medieval streets of Sighisoara to the grandeur of Parliament Palace in Bucharest. The pace was well thought out, allowing us to fully appreciate each location without feeling rushed. The local guides provided fascinating insights, and the food experiences were a delightful bonus. A highly cultural and enriching journey!"

## Alejandro González, Mexico

"This tour was the perfect way to explore multiple countries without the hassle of planning everything myself. The route covered must-see destinations while also including hidden gems like Trebinje and Koprivshtitsa. I loved that there were plenty of opportunities to explore independently while also enjoying the group dynamic. Great for backpackers who want an organized but flexible adventure!"