

Ultimate Balkans

LJUBLJANA ● DUBROVNIK ● BUCHAREST

The Offer

Experience a 25-day journey across the heart of the Balkans, as you travel from the Adriatic coast to the Carpathian Mountains. This sweeping adventure takes you through Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary and Romania. Experience stunning natural landscapes, imprinted with the history, culture and architecture of the Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian empires.

Begin in Bulgaria's vibrant capital, Sofia, before marvelling at the UNESCO World Heritage listed Rila Monastery. Journey to North Macedonia to explore Skopje and the ancient lakeside city of Ohrid, known as the Jerusalem of the Balkans. Continue to Albania to discover Tirana and the historic fortress of Kruje. In Montenegro, relax on the Adriatic coast in Budva. Cross into Croatia to walk the medieval walls of Dubrovnik and step inside the ancient Roman complex of Diocletian's Palace in Split. Travel through Slovenia to see the enchanting Lake Bled and the charming capital of Ljubljana.

After visiting Zagreb, head into Serbia to explore Novi Sad and the historic fortress of Belgrade. Next, soak in the grandeur of Budapest in Hungary, from its Neo-Gothic Parliament building to the Fisherman's Bastion, overlooking the Danube River. Conclude your epic adventure in Romania, exploring Timisoara, Sibiu and Brasov, before touring the legendary Bran Castle (also known as 'Dracula's Castle') in Transylvania. Finishing your bucket list experience in the bustling Romanian capital, Bucharest.

This unforgettable package includes return international flights, 22 nights of hotel accommodation, 21 meals, English-speaking guides and more.

Want more? Add extra days pre and post-tour in Europe with Arrive Early and Stay Behind options available.



25-DAY TOUR PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS

The Map





The Itinerary

Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) – Sofia, Bulgaria

Today depart for Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.

Please note: Some departures may depart on Day 2 and arrive on Day 2.

Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Welcome to Sofia

Upon arrival at Sofia airport, you will be met by a representative and transferred to the hotel.

Overnight: Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel or similar, Sofia
Meals included: None

Day 3 Sofia Walking City Tour

This morning, enjoy a guided walking tour of Bulgaria's capital city.

Sofia is a modern, youthful city, with a scattering of onion-domed churches, Ottoman mosques and stubborn Red Army monuments that lend an eclectic, exotic feel. See the gold-domed Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Saint (Sveta) Sofia Church, the main shopping street Vitosha, the Synagogue, St George Rotunda, the National Theatre and Banya Bashi Mosque (entrances not included).

Visit the country's most important museum, The Museum of National History (entry included) which contains some of the most important artefacts in Bulgaria's history. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure to explore some more on your own in this beautiful metropolis.

Overnight: Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel or similar, Sofia
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 Sofia, Bulgaria - Rila Monastery - Skopje, North Macedonia

After breakfast, you'll travel to discover Bulgaria's most famous tourist site, the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Rila Monastery (entry included). Being one of the largest in the Balkans, it was the centre of Bulgarian culture and Orthodox belief for more than 1,000 years. The monastery was founded in the 10th century by the hermit Saint Ivan Rilsky (St John of Rila). Next, leave Bulgaria behind and head to Skopje, the capital of North Macedonia, where you will arrive in the evening. The city is famous for being the birthplace of Mother Teresa. Today, travel approximately 340 kilometres.

Overnight: Hotel De Koka or similar, Skopje
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5 Skopje Walking City Tour - Ohrid, North Macedonia

After breakfast, you will discover the most attractive landmarks of Skopje during a walking guided tour, such as the quay of Vardar River, the Memorial house of Mother Teresa (entrance excluded), Macedonia Square (featuring the statue of Alexander the Great on his horse), the 1500-year-old fortress Kale and the narrow streets in the Old Bazaar. As one of the oldest and largest marketplaces in the Balkans, the Old Bazaar has been Skopje's centre for trade and commerce since the 12th century and is still home to several active mosques, churches and a clock tower.

Next, travel to the town Ohrid, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you will enjoy a walking guided tour of the old city. Ohrid once had 365 churches, one for each day of the year, therefore it has been referred to as the 'Jerusalem of the Balkans'. Lake Ohrid is famous as Europe's oldest lake, having formed over three



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million years ago. The tour will include the Ancient Theatre, the Tsar Samuil's (Samuel's) Fortress, old churches, monasteries, basilicas (Sveti Sofia Church) and the famous pedestrian shopping street (entrances not included). Afterwards, continue to the beautiful Bay of Bones, a fascinating archaeological site located on the shores of Lake Ohrid. The Bay of Bones is part of the larger Ohrid region, protected by UNESCO, and it is known for its rich history, stunning landscapes and cultural significance, making it one of the most visited areas in North Macedonia. Here you can visit the ancient St Naum Monastery (entrance included).

Today's travel will be approximately 190 kilometres.

Overnight: Hotel Garden or similar, Ohrid
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6 Ohrid, North Macedonia - Tirana, Albania - Walking City Tour

Today, you will travel to Tirana, the capital of Albania, for a walking guided tour of the city centre. These will include Tirana's massive main square (Skanderbeg), Et'hem Bey Mosque and Skanderbeg's statue. The remainder of the day will be at leisure. Today's travel is approximately 140 kilometres.

Overnight: Hotel Sky 2 or similar, Tirana
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 7 Tirana - Kruje, Albania - Budva, Montenegro

After breakfast, travel to the nearby town of Kruje. The history of this city is very much linked to the national hero of Albania, George Castriot Skanderbeg, who made Kruje a fortress of resistance against the Turkish Ottoman empire in the 15th century. You will see Kruje Castle (entry included), which is supposed to be the headquarters of the 'Dragon Of Albania'. Explore the souvenir markets in the traditional Old Bazaar afterwards.

Your journey will then continue to Budva, Montenegro, nestled on the beautiful Adriatic coast, with its lovely beaches and crystal-clear lakes. The rest of the day is at leisure. Today's travel is approximately 190 kilometres.

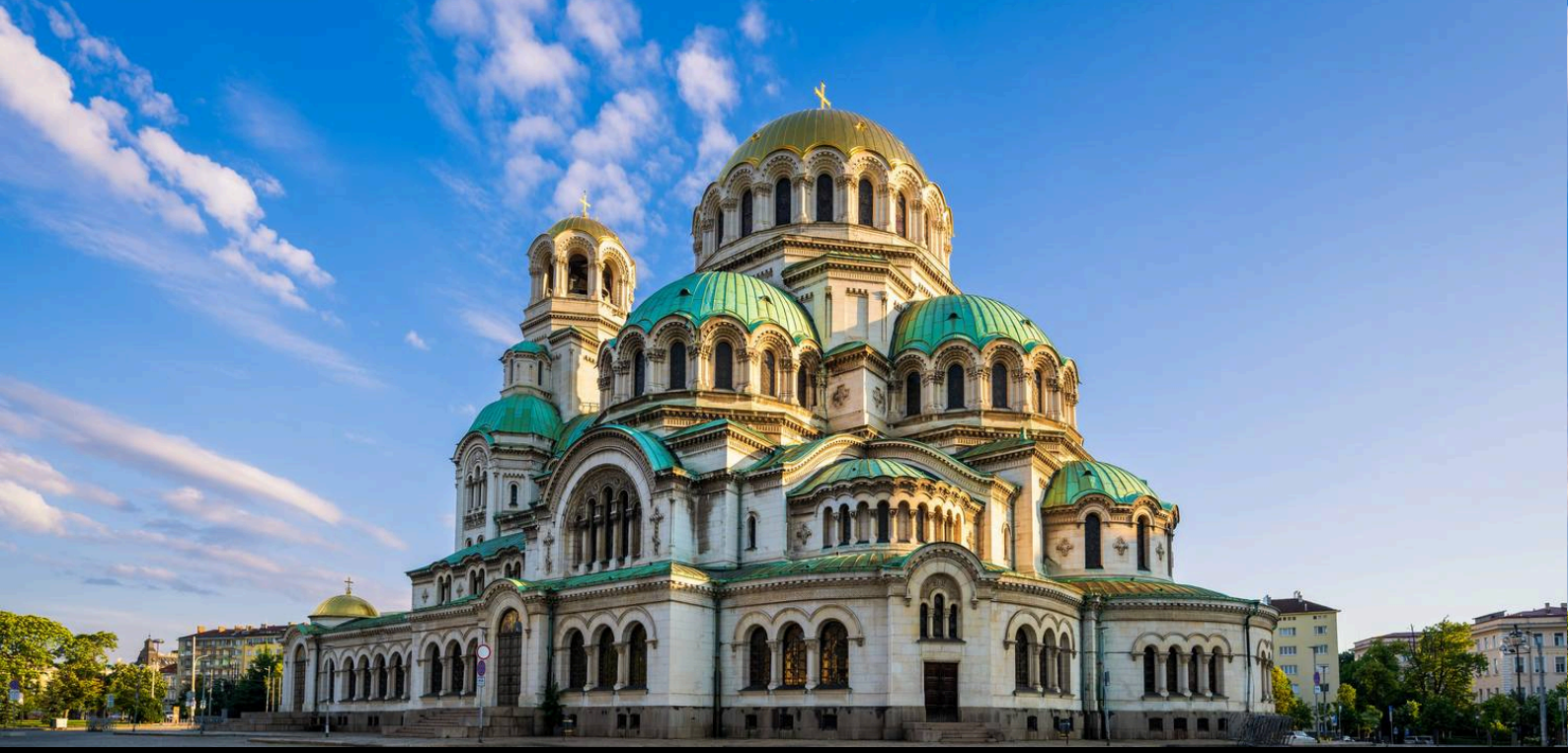
Overnight: Hotel Garni or similar, Budva
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8 Budva - Day at Leisure

Today enjoy a day at leisure in Budva, the centre of Montenegrin tourism, known for its well-preserved medieval walled city, sandy beaches and diverse nightlife.

You may enjoy a walk in the city centre and see the most famous tourist attractions: the Citadel, Ballerina and Mogren Beach, the marina, Land Gate, Square of Churches, Ancient Necropolis, Njegos Street, Mediternaska Street and Slovenska Plaza. Alternatively, you may decide to take an optional full-day tour of Kotor, Montenegro.

Optional Activity: Full Day Tour Kotor, Montenegro



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Enjoy a full-day tour of the medieval town of Kotor, a UNESCO World Heritage site, one of the most atmospheric medieval towns on Montenegro's Adriatic coast. Set against a backdrop of breathtaking mountains, it's a delight to those who love history and architecture. Glimpse ancient churches, an array of rustic palaces and a maze of streets and squares. Visit the famous Our Lady of the Rocks Church (entry included) and a guided tour at the Kotor Fortress (entry included). Afterwards, enjoy free time at leisure in the beautiful bay of Kotor. Please note: Return bus transfer from Budva to Kotor is included. See important information for pricing.

Overnight: Hotel Garni or similar, Budva
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9 Budva, Montenegro - Dubrovnik, Croatia - Walking City Tour

After breakfast, you'll head to Dubrovnik, Croatia, known as 'The Pearl of the Adriatic' on an approximately 95-kilometre travel day.

Upon arrival, enjoy a guided tour of the medieval Old Town an a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll also discover Onofrio's Fountain and walk along Prijeko Street to the Old Port, the key to Dubrovnik's trading and maritime success. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in the beautiful city of Dubrovnik.

Overnight: Hotel Marea or similar, Neum, Dubrovnik area
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10 Dubrovnik - Split, Croatia

Today, travel to Split on an approximately 235-kilometre day.

Split is one of the most important cities along the Adriatic Sea. The city's historical centre is UNESCO World Heritage listed. Upon arrival, see Diocletian's Palace, the ancient Roman fortress complex (entry included).

Overnight: Hotel Pax or similar, Split
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 11 Split - Korenica, Croatia

After breakfast, reach Korenica on an approximately 230-kilometre travel day. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

You may take the opportunity to join an optional tour to travel to the nearby Plitvice National Park, Croatia's oldest national park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Optional Tour: Plitvice Lake National Park

(Entry included)

Explore the cascading waterfalls and crystal-clear lakes, surrounded by lush greenery. It is Croatia's oldest National Park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here you will enjoy a guided nature walking tour, where you will be amazed by the colour of the water and the pure beauty of this natural wonder. Enjoy a boat ride within the National Park for approximately 15–20 minutes.

Please note:

- *The visit to Plitvice Lakes is weather-dependent. In the event of bad weather, the National Park can be closed. If possible, changes will be made to the following day's schedule, respecting all the visits included in the itinerary*



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- *Return bus transfer from Split to Plitvice Lakes is included. See Important Information for pricing.*

Overnight: Hotel Porto or similar, Korenica
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12 Korenica, Croatia - Ljubljana, Slovenia - Walking City Tour

After breakfast, cross into Slovenia and travel to its capital, Ljubljana. Upon arrival, enjoy a walking guided tour of the National University Library, Congress Square, Cobbler's Bridge, the New Square, Franciscan Church, the main square, Preseren Monument, the Three Bridges, the river promenade, the Municipality Square, the Open-Air Market, Butcher's Bridge, the Old Square, St Nicholas Cathedral and Dragon Bridge (entrances not included). Next, you will visit Ljubljana Castle (entry included), a medieval castle with Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance architectural elements, located on the summit of Castle Hill, which dominates the city centre. The visit includes a return journey by funicular.

This afternoon, enjoy time at leisure, after an approximately 244-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Urban Ring Hotel or similar, Ljubljana
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 13 Ljubljana - Lake Bled - Ljubljana

After breakfast, reach the enchanting Lake Bled. Upon arrival, take a scenic boat ride on the emerald-green lake to admire lush scenery. After the boat ride, visit Bled Castle (entry included), the oldest castle in Slovenia, dating back to the 11th century. Perched on a steep cliff high above the lake, the castle creates a dramatic backdrop to the city. Enjoy lunch at leisure in the fortress (not included) then return to Ljubljana after an approximately 110-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Urban Ring Hotel or similar, Ljubljana
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 14 Ljubljana, Slovenia - Zagreb, Croatia - Walking City Tour

Today, travel to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, where you will enjoy a guided walking city tour of Zagreb's Upper and Lower Town districts with amazing city views from the Strossmayer Promenade. You will also see the main attractions, including St Catherine's Church, the Stone Gate, the Lotrscak Tower and the Croatian Parliament. You will head to the Lower Town via Tkalciceva Street and pass the Dolac Market to the medieval Kaptol (entrances excluded). Finally, enjoy the traditional architecture in Ban Jelacic Square. Today's travel is approximately 140 kilometres.

Overnight: Garden Hotel or similar, Zagreb
Meals included: Breakfast



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Day 15 Zagreb, Croatia - Novi Sad, Serbia

After breakfast, drive towards Serbia on an approximately 380-kilometre day. Enjoy the scenic ride as you go inland towards Novi Sad, Serbia's second-largest city. Located on the banks of the Danube River, it features the historic Petrovaradin Fortress, a relaxed cafe culture and a historical city centre. Upon arrival, relax and enjoy time at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Fontana or similar, Novi Sad
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 16 Novi Sad - Belgrade, Serbia - Walking City Tour - Novi Sad

After breakfast, travel to the capital of Serbia, Belgrade. Upon arrival, admire Republic Square, the National Theatre and National Museum. Here you will find the Bohemian Quarter (Skadarlija), which is the oldest part of Belgrade, featuring Ottoman heritage, plus Bajrakli Mosque, the only mosque in the city. Here you will also find Kalemegdan Park, Belgrade Fortress and the confluence of the Sava and Danube Rivers (entrances not included). You will also discover Pobednik ('The Victor'), the most famous symbol of Belgrade, built to commemorate Serbia's victory over the Ottoman and Austro- Hungarian Empire during the Balkan Wars. You'll then return to Novi Sad in the evening after an approximately 200-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Hotel Fontana or similar, Novi Sad
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 17 Novi Sad, Serbia - Subotica, Serbia - Budapest, Hungary

After breakfast, travel to Budapest, 'The Queen of the Danube', and the capital of Hungary.

On the way, stop at stop in Subotica, one of the least-known architectural gems of Serbia, famous for its rich multicultural heritage and stunning Central European Art Nouveau style.

Upon arrival in Budapest, enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure after an approximately 310-kilometre travel day.

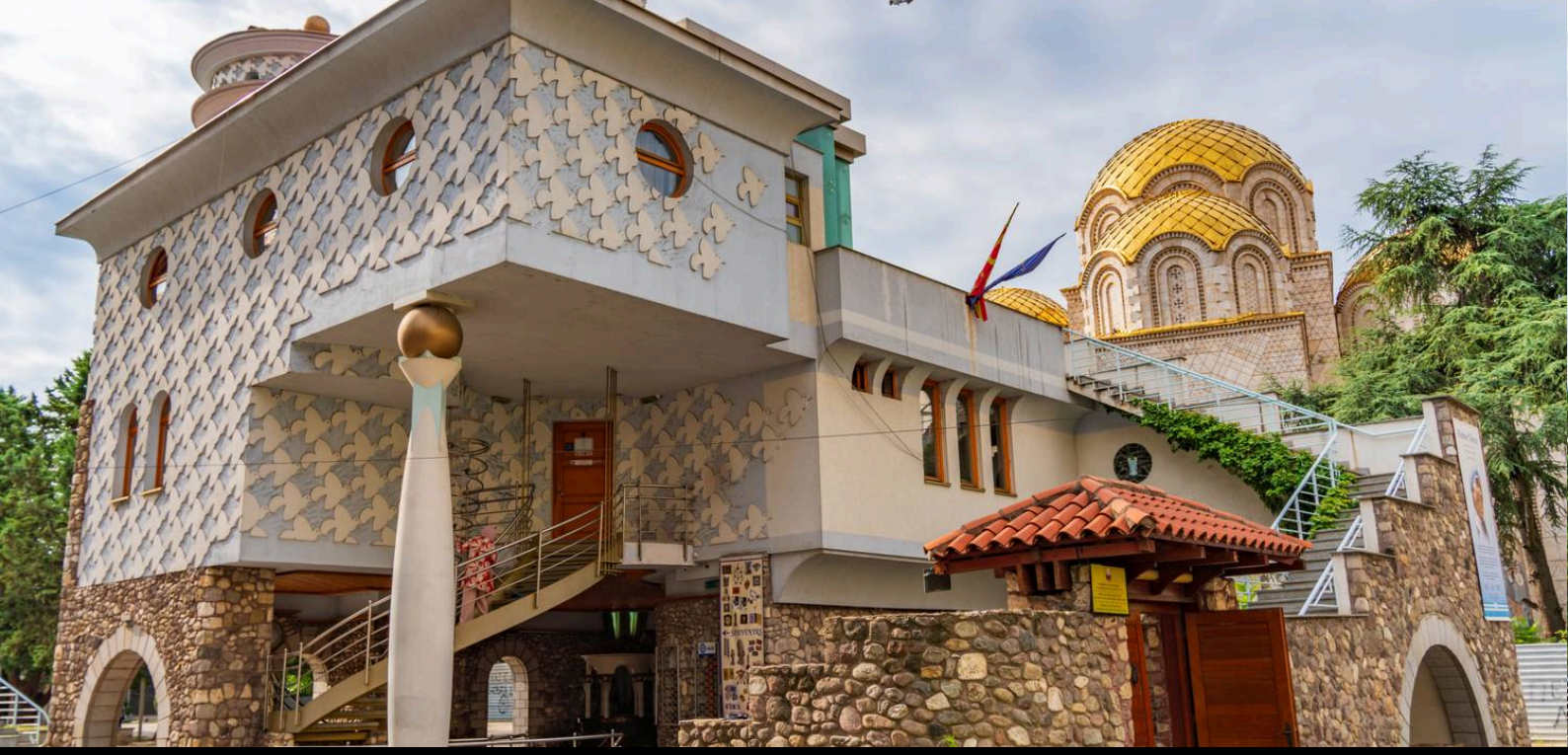
One of the largest cities in the European Union, Budapest is disected by the Danube River. Its 19th century Chain Bridge connects the hilly Buda district with flat Pest. A funicular (cable railway) runs up Castle Hill to Buda's Old Town, where the Budapest History Museum traces city life from Roman times onward. Budapest offers many interesting sites, including the largest building in Hungary, the neo gothic Parliament building, Fisherman's Bastion.

Overnight: Ibis Budapest City or similar, Budapest
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 18 Budapest - Day at Leisure

Enjoy a day at leisure in this beautiful city. In the evening, take the opportunity to join a scenic boat ride to see the evening lights of Budapest on the Danube (not included).

Overnight: Ibis Budapest City or similar, Budapest
Meals included: Breakfast



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Day 19 Budapest, Hungary - Arad, Romania - Timisoara, Romania

Today, travel to Romania on an approximately 325-kilometre travel day.

First, stop in Arad, where you will admire the impressive Neo-Gothic Palace of Culture, the City Hall Palace, the Red Church, the great Catholic Cathedral and the State Theatre (entrances not included).

Next, discover Timisoara, a wonderful city frequently referred to as 'Little Vienna', that became the European Capital Of Culture in 2021. The charm of this city lies in its distinct architectural character and vibrant cultural life. In the afternoon, enjoy some free time to discover Victory Square, Union Square, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Freedom Square or the Jewish Neighbourhood.

Overnight: Hotel Timisoara or similar, Timisoara
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 20 Timisoara - Corvin's Castle - Alba Iulia, Romania - Sibiu, Romania

This morning, visit the famous Corvin Castle (entry included), one of the most fascinating castles in Eastern Europe. Built in a Renaissance Gothic style, the castle is full of amazing legends.

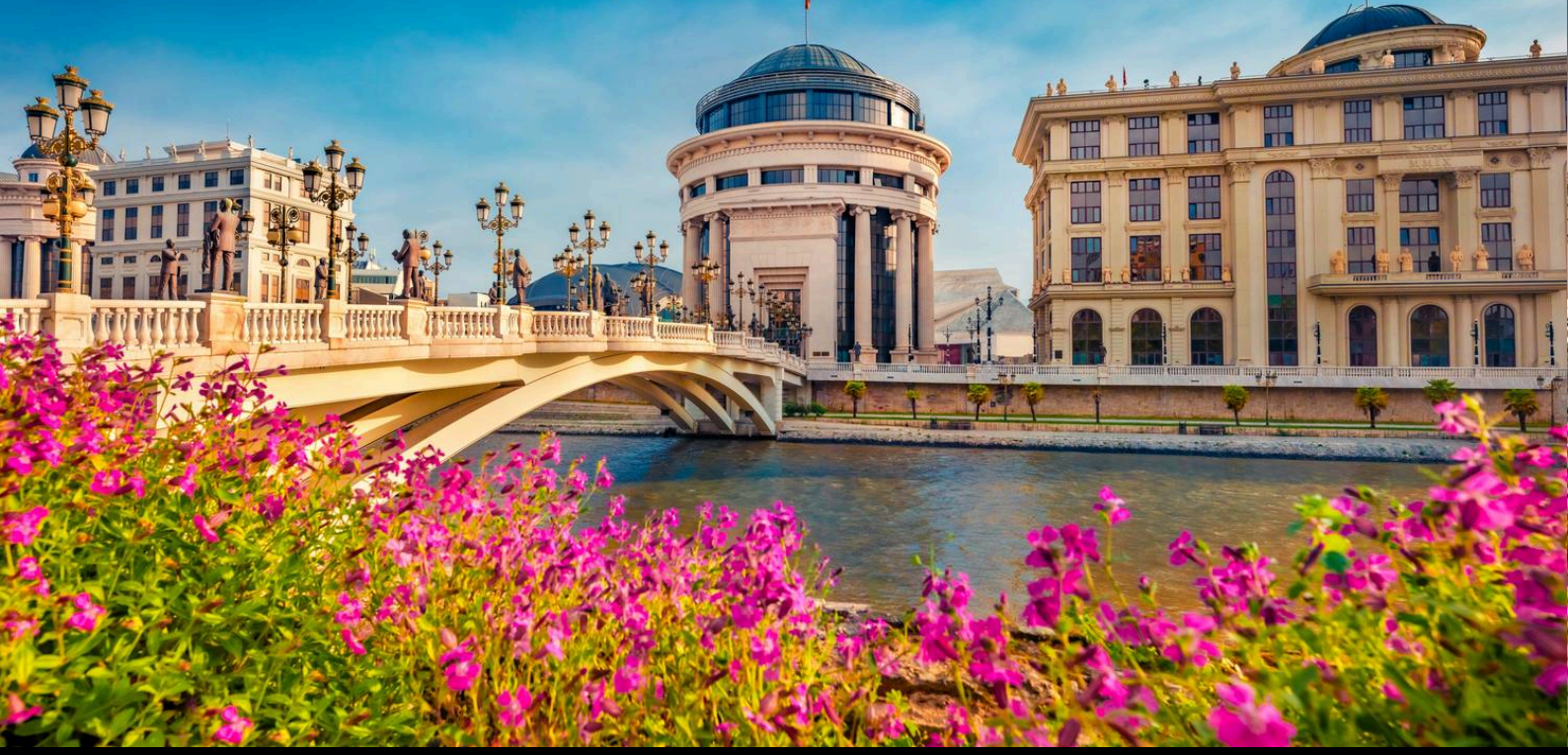
Next, travel to Alba Iulia, the city of the Great Union of Romania (the country's National Day). Here you will explore Alba Carolina Fortress, Romania's largest star-shaped fortress, beautifully restored with impressive gates, rich Roman history and deep cultural significance as the site of Romania's 1918 unification. Here, visit the Coronation Cathedral and St Michael's Cathedral (entries included). Afterwards travel to Sibiu, the European Capital Of Culture in 2007. The city is dominated by the Tower Of The Clock or the 'Council Tower', dating to the medieval era. See the Brukenthal Museum (the former residence of the governor of Transylvania), the Big Square, the Small Square and Huet Square with the Evangelical Cathedral (entrances not included). Today's travel is approximately 330 kilometres.

Overnight: Hotel MyContinental or similar, Sibiu
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 21 Sibiu - Sighisoara, Romania - Brasov, Transylvania, Romania

After breakfast, head to the ancient, fortified church of Biertan (entry included), a Saxon village. Discover the bastion where couples who wanted to separate were imprisoned in order to change their mind. You'll also visit the Saxon Citadel Of Biertan that has preserved and intact three city walls.

Next, travel to Sighisoara, renowned as one of the best-preserved still-inhabited citadels in Europe. The historic centre of Sighisoara has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1999 and is dominated by the Clock Tower. Enjoy a guided tour of Sighisoara Citadel. Here, you will see the Church On The Hill (entry included), reachable by a wooden covered staircase. You will also admire the statue of the famous Hungarian poet Petofi Sandor. The citadel is famous for its colorful houses, cobblestone streets, well-preserved defensive walls, and as the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler (Vlad Dracul), who inspired the myth of Dracula, the vampire. Continue to Brasov, a stunning medieval town in



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Transylvania, framed by the Carpathian Mountains, featuring colourful baroque buildings, after an approximately 200-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Hotel Coroana Brașovului or similar, Brasov
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 22 Brasov Walking City Tour - Bran, Dracula's Castle, - Sinaia - Bucharest

Today you will enjoy a guided tour of Brasov, which was once an entirely fortified town.

Brasov is also an important cultural and commercial centre and one of the most charming cities of Transylvania. Brasov impresses with its typically German architecture where the Gothic, Baroque and Renaissance intersect to give life to an interesting and culturally lively city. You will see the First Romanian School, located in the oldest district of the city (the Schei district) which was inhabited exclusively by Romanians. See the palaces and houses of the historic centre, with the Council Square and the pedestrian Avenue of the Republic.

Later, continue to Bran, where you will tour Bran Castle (entry included), also known as Dracula's Castle. In the Middle Ages, Bran was on the border between Wallachia and Transylvania, therefore it was essential for the inhabitants of Brasov to build a defensive stronghold. The fortress was later transformed into a beautiful castle thanks to the intervention of Queen Maria of Romania. After lunch (not included) you will visit the famous Peles Castle (entry included), the summer residence of the first king of Romania - King Charles 1 of Hohenzollern, of German origins. The castle was built between the 19th and 20th centuries. Each room is characterised by a unique style. Afterwards, you'll continue to Bucharest and check into the hotel after an approximately 215-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Hotel Ambassador or similar, Bucharest
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 23 Bucharest Walking City Tour

Today you will enjoy a fantastic guided city tour of Bucharest. See the Parliament Building, an impressive monument built during the 1980s. Tour the historical centre of Bucharest, a pedestrian area with the remains of the princely fortress of Vlad the Impaler. You will also see the 16th-century Palatine Church built in the Byzantine style, then visit the Stavropoleos Church, an architectural jewel of the 18th century designed in typical Wallachian style, with oriental influences in its external decorations (entrances not included).

In the afternoon, enjoy time at leisure in the capital city of Romania. Known as 'Little Paris' due to its elegant interbellum architecture, Bucharest blends a rich mix of neo-classical buildings, Communist-era landmarks and a vibrant modern culture.

Overnight: Hotel Ambassador or similar, Bucharest
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 24 Bucharest, Romania – Australia or (New Zealand)

Today, at the appropriate time, you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight to Australia or New Zealand after a trip of a lifetime!

Meals included: None



The Itinerary

Day 25 Arrive in Australia (or New Zealand)

Please note: Some flights may arrive +1 day.

Meals included: None



25-DAY TOUR PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS

Tour Inclusions

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover the highlights of 9 countries Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary and Romania

Visit Ljubljana, Dubrovnik, Brasov, Bucharest and more

See the famous gold-domed Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia on a guided tour

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage listed Rila Monastery

Explore UNESCO-listed Ohrid and its famous lake

Explore Skopje and Tirana on a guided walking tour

Visit the amazing archaeological complex known as the 'Bay of Bones'

See the Citadel and more in Budva, Montenegro on a day at leisure

Explore historic jewels of the Adriatic, Dubrovnik and Split

Ride the funicular to visit Ljubljana Castle and enjoy the amazing views

Enjoy an afternoon at picturesque Lake Bled and visit the Bled Castle

Wander the streets of Zagreb on a guided tour to see the Stone Gate, Lotrscak Tower and more

Experience the vibrant town of Novi Sad in Serbia

Enjoy a day at leisure in the beautiful city of Budapest

Visit the Corvin Castle, one of the most fascinating gothic castles in Eastern Europe

Wander through Sibiu, one of the European capital of culture

Experience the Transylvania the historical region in Romania, ringed by the Carpathian Mountains

Travel to Sighisoara, one of the best preserved citadels in Europe

Tour Bran Castle, also known as 'Dracula's Castle'

Enjoy a guided city tour of Bucharest

Visit Peles Castle, the summer residence of the first king of Romania

FLIGHTS

Return international full-service flights (economy class), surcharges may apply. (Excludes Trip Only Package)

ACCOMMODATION

22 nights in 3 and 4-star hotel accommodation

DINING

21 meals included

ESSENTIALS

English-speaking tour guides

Airline taxes and surcharges

TRANSPORT

Transportation by air-conditioned private vehicles

TRANSFERS

Return airport transfers (Excludes Trip Only Package)

Important Information

**Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.*

Booking Information

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. You must complete the Passenger Information Form within 72 hours of purchase.
Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

Our Policies

Cancellation and Refund Policy

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

- **we act as your booking agent** ; TripADeal is a booking services provider, and curates the Travel Offers available on our website. We act as your booking agent, and we receive payment for the Booking Services as part of the booking price, however, we do not provide any of the Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking – the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.
- **each booking is unique** ; our Travel Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- **changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible** ; once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel Offer carefully before placing your order.
- **Travel Offers are a package** ; our Travel Offers have been curated into package offerings and must be used as a package – individual components cannot be used independently of the full package offering.
- **our Travel Offers are generally non-refundable** ; in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals – this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

General Terms and Conditions

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our Terms & Conditions, Privacy Policy and Cancellation Policy.

Offer Essentials

This Travel Offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 12th October 2027.
Minimum group size 20, maximum group size 40 per vehicle.
This Travel Offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

Departure Dates & Surcharges

See checkout for live dates and availability.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement of $1400 applies.

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

Child Policy

- No child discounts are offered. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 12 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult, 18 years old and over, to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

Flights

Flight information for options excluding Trip Only Package

Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne, *Perth, *Brisbane, *Adelaide or *Auckland

Departure City Surcharges

Perth: $100 per person
Brisbane, Adelaide: $400 per person
Auckland: $800 per person

International Flight(s)

Full-service airline(s) used Only for deals where we can guarantee full service airlines, and no low cost carriers are considered

- Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note: We cannot accommodate one-way flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

Preferred Airline Surcharge

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Qatar: $265 per person

Please note:

- *Preferred airlines are subject to availability. If we are unable to fulfil your request, the above extra cost will be refunded.*

Important Information

- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed.*
- *In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.*
- *Preferred airline refers to the marketing carrier and could include codeshare partners.*

Arrive Early and Stay Behind Options

Fly out and return home up to 60 days pre and post your tour dates.

Arrive Early

Sofia- From $300per person, subject to availability.

Stay Behind

Bucharest- From $300 per person, subject to availability.

Please note:

This option incurs a fee for adjusting the departure or return dates. This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals and/or airport transfers, which will be at your own cost.
In addition, airport transfers listed as an inclusion on the Travel Offer are considered void in the event that you select an Arrive Early/Stay Behind option. As such, you will need to arrange your own transfers at your cost.
We strongly advise against booking any pre or post-tour travel arrangements/ accommodation until TripADeal confirms your flight details. If you choose to book before confirmation, we recommend opting for refundable reservations or having backup plans in case the tour does not proceed.

Internal Flights

: If you select to Arrive Early or Stay Behind into a city other than the one where the tour begins or concludes (where applicable), the package will include an internal flight to your destination. This offer applies only to the cities listed in our Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options. If you wish to forfeit this flight, please advise our friendly team at the time of purchase. Please note that the package's cost does not change when you choose to forfeit your connecting flight.

Please note: If you request to fly into cities not listed in our "Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options", we may be able to customise your itinerary. If possible, the flight's cost will be charged as an extra.

Cancellations & Changes

: Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies. Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

High-Season

: A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.

+ 60 days

: You can fly out up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or return home 60 days after your package's end date. Should you wish to fly out or return home for more than 60 days from the tour, please contact us to request availability. Additional costs may apply.

Estimated dates

: Your estimated departure, return, and arrival dates are all subject to availability and may vary. The confirmed schedule for all flights will be provided when you receive your flight tickets.
High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

- 3rd April 2026 - 20th April 2026
- 26th June 2026 - 17th July 2026
- 18th September 2026 - 9th October 2026
- 12th December 2026 - 26th January 2027
- 19th March 2027 - 28th April 2027
- 19th June 2027 - 18th July 2027
- 11th September 2027 - 10th October 2027
- 10th December 2027 - 31st January 2028
- 1st April 2028 - 30th April 2028
- 1st July 2028 - 23rd July 2028
- 16th September 2028 - 15th October 2028
- 9th December 2028 - 3rd January 2029

Stopover Packages

* Doha
Includes:

- 2, 3 or 5 nights in 4-star accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Return airport transfers

For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

- When a pre and post-tour stopover is chosen, the same stopover location must be chosen each way, due to the airline used.
- When selecting to Arrive Early for your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your fly out date from home will take place before the stopover.
- When selecting to Stay Behind after your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your stopover will take place before your final flight home.
- Stopover packages are subject to availability.
- In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.
- Blackout dates apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

2027

Hong Kong Rugby 7's: end March/ beginning April - (dates tbc)
Singapore Grand Prix: 30 September - 05 October 2027 (dates are still tbc)
Doha Grand Prix: 25 November - 1 December 2027 (dates are tbc)
Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (for Dubai): 21 - 26 October 2027 (dates are still tbc)

Important Information

Christmas and New Years Eve - 20 December 2027 to 3 January 2028

Flight Class Upgrades

Business Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

Please note:

- *Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).*
- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed.*

Outbound Flights

Please note: Due to flight scheduling and availability, some departures may occur on Day 0. Affected customers must be available to depart the day before. Flight times will be indicated on your final documents, issued 4-6 weeks before departure.

Missed Flights

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Trip Only Package

If you choose to remove international flights from your package, your holiday may be shorter, as travel days for flights are not included in the Trip Only Package. You will receive an email confirmation when minimum numbers have been met and the departure is guaranteed.
We recommend making further travel arrangements, such as flights, after you have received confirmation of a guaranteed departure.
TripADeal assumes no liability for financial losses incurred due to travel arrangements made prior to confirmation of guaranteed departure.
Note: The Trip Only Package does not include return international airfares or airport transfers. At the conclusion of the tour, you will be responsible for booking your own onward travel.
Click here for full Trip Only terms and conditions (see section 4.1)

Accommodation

Accommodation Used:

3 & 4-star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Sofia, Bulgaria - Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel
- Skopje, North Macedonia - Hotel De Koka
- Ohrid, North Macedonia - Hotel Garden
- Tirana, Albania - Hotel Sky 2
- Budva, Montenegro - Hotel Garni
- Neum, Croatia - Hotel Marea
- Split, Croatia - Hotel Pax
- Korenica, Croatia - Hotel Porto
- Ljubljana, Slovenia - Urban Ring Hotel
- Zagreb, Croatia - Garden Hotel
- Novi Sad, Serbia - Hotel Fontana
- Budapest, Hungary - Hotel Ibis Budapest City
- Timisoara, Romania - Hotel Timisoara
- Sibiu, Romania - Hotel MyContinental
- Brasov, Romania - Hotel Coroana Brasovului
- Bucharest, Romania - Hotel Ambassador

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

Extra Nights

Not available.

Please note: If you are interested in booking additional nights of accommodation pre or post-tour, please wait until you receive your travel documentation approximately 4-6 weeks before departure for the confirmed list of hotels. If booking your own additional accommodation directly with the hotel, please be aware that you may be required to change rooms at the start/end of your tour.

Maximum Room Capacity

2 people.

Triple Share

Not available.

Bedding Configuration

Twin or double (subject to availability).

Optional Tours/activities

- Full-Day Tour Kotor, Montenegro: $220 per person
- Plitvice Lake National Park Tour (Entry included): $230 per person

Please note:

- *Prices are based per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions, and are payable directly to the tour operator in the currency specified. OR*
- *The optional tours listed above must be purchased on checkout or over the phone before submitting your passenger information form (subject to availability).*
- *Some tours or shore excursions require minimum numbers to operate.*

Exclusions

- Visa fees and requirements
- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation
- Mandatory city tax

Please note: Return international flights and transfers to and from the tour are not included in the Trip Only Package.

Gratuities / Tipping

Land

Gratuities (tips) are not included for the services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip is 5-7 euros per person

Important Information

per day. This covers the guide/leader and the driver and will be collected on tour.

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

Other Important Information

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

Tour Guide:

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it at the end of the tour; they do not travel with the group.

Tour Leader:

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides at each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village and offer information on the place visited on the bus. However, they are not required to have specific art, architecture, or historical knowledge. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and, if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

The Balkans

The best time to visit the Balkans is from April to October when the weather is pleasant for enjoying the coast and the inland attractions from Greece to Serbia. Spring and autumn offer breathtaking views across the diverse region, and the weather is ideal for cultural trips to the historic sites that have been home to numerous empires.
Romania & Bulgaria have a temperate-continental climate with moderate features which is characteristic for Central Europe. with hot summers, long, cold winters and very distinct seasons. Abundant snowfalls may occur throughout the countries from December to mid-March.
May is when temperatures really begin to climb and the summer season truly begins. The town and ports are filling up with tourists, restaurants and bars are alive, museums open and extend their hours and the weather triumphs it all by warming up considerably. Average temperatures reach a very pleasant high of around 21°C and reach a low of a very manageable 11°C. Summers are hot and busy in the Balkan countries. From June to August, the coastal paradises of Dubrovnik and Kotor are bustling with life. It is a great time to witness memorable music and art festivals in the iconic cities and spend warm evenings surrounded by spectacular architecture.

Weather

We always suggest referring to an online source for the most up-to-date weather information for your destination/s.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points:

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the airline directly with seating allocation requirements and/or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the airline once you have your flight information.

Dietary Requests

Meal options and availability differ between airlines and routes therefore not all dietary requests can be accommodated. If your flight includes meals we will select the most suitable option available based on the dietary requirements you have specified. All meal requests are subject to airline approval and are not guaranteed, therefore we recommend preparing for your flight by bringing appropriate food for yourself, as required.

Passport Validity:

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 90 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

COACH TOUR

Meals:

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/requirements.

Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage:

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

OTHER

Mobility:

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

Fitness Level Required:

Important Information

Adventure (and spontaneity) create some of the best travel memories. Bear in mind, your home schedules and timings might not be adhered to on tour - it's all part of the fun!
A moderate level of fitness will be required.
Expect a moderate pace of touring with a focus on guided tours that may include full days with extended activity, guided city tours or nature walks. You will require a general level of fitness for unassisted navigation of stairs and inclines, longer distances with possible periods of standing when visiting sites, walking on sloping, uneven ground or elevations. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance. Please note: Many areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, where the unassisted use of personal walking sticks and other aids may be required.

Please note: It is expected that every traveller must be self-reliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.

Please note: If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

Sightseeing:

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

Shopping:

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all your receipts.
Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions regarding shopping for further information.

Visas

A tourist visa is not required if travelling on an Australian or New Zealand Passport.

European Union Entry/Exit System (EES)

From October 12, 2025, a new European Entry System (EES) replaces the current manual passport-stamping process for non-EU travellers. Upon arrival in the Schengen area, Australian and New Zealand passport holders will have their fingerprints recorded and a photograph taken. Their entry and exit dates will be electronically registered. No previous action is required, but please be aware of longer wait times at border entry. From 10 April 2026, the EES will be fully operational at all external border crossing points of all the European countries (Schengen area) using the system.

European Travel Information & Authorisation System (ETIAS)

As an extension of the EES implementation introduced from 2025, ETIAS travel authorisation is a mandatory entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals travelling to any of these 30 European countries, including Australian and New Zealand citizens, that will be introduced in 2026. We advise you to monitor smartraveller.com.au closer to your departure to ensure you are up to date on the requirements at the time of entry.

Important:

- *Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.*
- *Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.*
- *It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.*
- *Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.*
- *It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.*
- *Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.*
- *Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.*
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Travel Insurance

Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking.

Important Information

Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance

Schedule Of Fees

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- Changes - $100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

- If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of $100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Supplier Fees

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a Travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/ accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee.