



# THE BALKANS 2025

SEPTEMBER 3 - 16

SLOVENIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA and MONTENEGRO

*Take a journey through four overlooked yet beautiful countries, each fascinating in its own right. Start with the natural beauty of the Lake Bled district in Slovenia, followed by Ljubljana and Zagreb, the Plitvice Lakes National Park, Split and the Croatian islands, Mostar and Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Bay of Kotor in Montenegro, and ending in the beautiful walled city of Dubrovnik.*

## SEPTEMBER 3 . . . .

Arrive in Ljubljana. We recommend arriving one day earlier. Transfer to Lake Bled area. Orientation and brief exploration. Welcome dinner. *Stay in the Lake Bled area for 2 nights.*

## SEPTEMBER 4 . . . .

Explore the Lake Bled area all day long. Walk around Lake Bled, take a *pletna* boat ride, and also go up to Bled Castle. Possible trip to the Soteska Vintgar gorge.

## SEPTEMBER 5 . . . .

Depart Lake Bled for Ljubljana, where we tour the old city and wander its cobbled streets. Visit the Riverside Market area and the National and University Library. In the afternoon, drive to Zagreb. Overnight in Zagreb.

## SEPTEMBER 6 . . . .

Spend the morning touring Zagreb with a local Deaf guide. Visit landmarks and learn more about the history of Croatia and its part in the Yugoslavian war. In the afternoon, we will drive to a small town near our next day's adventure. Visit the cute town of Rostoke. Overnight in Slunj.

## SEPTEMBER 7 . . . .

Get up bright and early to visit the Plitvice Lakes National Park, a world-famous attraction well known for its stunning scenery and countless waterfalls. We will take a long hike through the park. Afterwards we continue on to Split. Sleep in Split for 2 nights.

## SEPTEMBER 8 . . . .

Visit Diocletian's Palace in central Split. Afterwards, go to Trogir to enjoy the beautiful old town center.

#### SEPTEMBER 9 • • • •

Take the morning ferry from Split to Hvar and tour Hvar all day. Return to the mainland via the Sucuraj - Drevnik ferry. Drive on to Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Stay in Mostar for 3 nights.

#### SEPTEMBER 10 • • • •

Morning tour of Mostar with a local deaf Bosnian. In the afternoon go to visit Medugorje which is a famous Catholic pilgrimage site, then cool off with a swim at the Kravica Waterfalls if you desire.

#### SEPTEMBER 11 • • • •

Take a long day trip to Sarajevo to visit the highlights of the city with a local deaf guide. Return to Mostar in the evening.

#### SEPTEMBER 12 • • • •

Visit Blagaj and its house of the Whirling Dervishes on our way to Montenegro. Upon our arrival in Kotor Bay, we stop to have lunch at a romantic mill farm. We then continue on to the old town of Kotor. Stay in Kotor for 2 nights.

#### SEPTEMBER 13 • • • •

We get on a full-day private Kotor Bay Cruise, which will touch on the highlights of the UNESCO-recognized Bay of Kotor. We visit the Blue Cave, the old towns of Kotor and Perast, the "Our Lady of the Rocks" island, and much more.

#### SEPTEMBER 14 • • • •

Depart Montenegro towards Dubrovnik. Stop by the town of Cavtat for a stroll on the waterfront, then go up the mountain for an eagle's eye view over Dubrovnik. Evening orientation walk in the old walled town of Dubrovnik. Stay in Dubrovnik for 2 nights.

#### SEPTEMBER 15 • • • •

Our last day of this trip will be a relaxing day in Dubrovnik. We can take the ferry to nearby Lokrum Island, or simply lounge in the old town. Farewell dinner.

#### SEPTEMBER 16 • • • •

We transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for your departure flights.

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\$500 deposit per person is required to reserve space. The availability of space is based on a first come, first serve basis. 100% of the balance is required 90 days before the first day of the tour.

**\$3,900**  
per person /double occupancy

**14 DAYS**

**GROUP of 8**

**TOUR LEADER:** Terry Giansanti • [terry@handson.travel](mailto:terry@handson.travel) • 520-380-8468 (text)

## WHAT'S INCLUDED??

- 13 nights in 3-star accommodations.
- 15 meals: Breakfast (13), Dinner (2)
- Services of a deaf Tour Leader on call 24 hours a day.
- Services of local deaf and/or hearing guides.
- All transportation expenses, including full-day private Kotor Bay cruise.
- All admission fees for attractions and museums mentioned in the itinerary.
- Informative travel preparation packet.
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour itinerary consultation.
- \$100 discount per person on your next regular tour.

## WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

- Domestic and/or international airfares.
- Tips for your tour leader and local tour guides.
- City and tourist taxes.
- All other meals not mentioned in the itinerary and personal expenses.
- Any COVID-19 related tests.
- Travel insurance.

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Tour will be confirmed when we meet the minimum number of participants.
- When the tour is confirmed, additional deposits/payments may be required.
- A lot of hiking and walking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is required.
- Please consult the most recent version of the HOT terms and conditions.  
<https://handson.travel/resources/terms/>
- Hands on Travel recommends that you purchase a travel insurance plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. To learn more, please view the following link:  
<https://handson.travel/resources/protection/>
- **Tour itinerary and price are subject to change.**