

# ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

CROATIA • SERBIA • HUNGARY • ROMANIA

## The Offer

The Balkans is a region full of surprises, whether you're exploring maze-like streets overflowing with grand monuments, dining at colourful eateries or travelling through misty mountain ranges to UNESCO wonders. This 30-day group tour will allow you to uncover the myths, legends and secrets of nine spectacular European countries, including Bulgaria, Croatia, Albania, Romania and Slovenia, and more.

Your tour begins in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria and is home to the famous UNESCO-listed Rila Monastery. You'll enjoy walking tours of old cities in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ohrid in North Macedonia, take in the stunning coastal views of Dubrovnik in Croatia and visit Slovenia's Postojna Cave, one of the largest caves in Europe. Your journey continues as you take in the magic of picturesque Lake Bled in Slovenia, admire the National Theatre of Belgrade in Serbia and uncover the charming beauty of the capital of Hungary, Budapest.

This incredible package includes return international

flights, 27 nights hotel accommodation, English-speaking guides, airport transfers and more.



Offer available for a limited time or until sold out. TRIP A DEAL PTY LTD: 50149240433

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Trip a Deal





## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

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

Today depart for the capital of the Balkan nation - Sofia, 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 be transferred to the hotel.

**Overnight: Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel or similar, Sofia**

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 3 Sofia City Tour & Free Time

This morning you will enjoy a walking tour in the city centre, which will include seeing 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.

A visit would not be complete without a stop to the country's most important museum, The Museum of National History that contains some of the most important artefacts in Bulgaria's History.

Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore some more on your own in this beautiful city.

**Overnight: Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel or similar, Sofia**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 4 Sofia – Rila, Bulgaria – Skopje, North Macedonia

After breakfast, you'll have a 245km travel day to discover Bulgaria's most famous tourist site, the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Rila Monastery. Being one of the largest in the Balkans it was the centre of Bulgarian culture and Orthodox belief for more than 1000 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, Macedonia, where you will arrive in the evening. The city is famous for being the birthplace of Mother Teresa. Enjoy an orientation tour and then check into the hotel.

**Overnight: Hotel de Koka or similar, Skopje**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

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### The Itinerary

#### Day 5 Skopje City Tour – Ohrid

After breakfast you will discover the most attractive landmarks of Skopje during a walking tour, such as the quay of the Macedonian river 'Vardar', the Memorial house of Mother Teresa, Macedonia Square with 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 approximately 180km to the town Ohrid, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you will enjoy a walking 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". You will have the chance to wander through the narrow streets and squares of the city situated on the banks of the lake with the same name. Lake Ohrid is famous as it's Europe's oldest lake having formed over three 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.

**Overnight: Hotel Garden or similar, Ohrid**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 6 Ohrid City Tour & Free Time

Following breakfast, you will visit the Museum On Water, also known as the Bay Of Bones, an amazing archaeological complex and a reconstruction of a pile dwelling settlement, dating back between 1200 and 700 BC.

Afterwards, you will visit the Monastery of St. Naum, an amazing monastery built on a rock that offers a wonderful view of Lake Ohrid. You'll then enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure or take part in an optional Ohrid boat ride around the marina, the old town and the Sveti Jovan Kaneo Monastery for approximately €60 per person.

**Overnight: Hotel Garden or similar, Ohrid**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 7 Ohrid, North Macedonia – Tirana, Albania

Today you will travel to Tirana, the capital of Albania and see the main tourist attractions during a walking tour of the city centre. These will include Tirana's massive main square (Skanderbeg), Et'hem Bey Mosque, Skanderbeg's statue and the National History Museum.

The remainder of the 140km travel day will be at leisure for you to explore one of the most fascinating capitals in Eastern Europe.

**Overnight: Sky 2 Hotel or similar, Tirana**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

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## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

#### Day 8 Tirana – Kruje, Albania – Budva, Montenegro

After breakfast you will travel to 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, which is supposed to be the headquarters of the “Dragon Of Albania”. Then you will explore the souvenir market in the traditional Old Bazaar.

Your 185km travel day will then continue to Budva, Montenegro. Here you will 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, Njegoš's Street, Mediteranska Street and Slovenska Plaza. Enjoy your centrally located hotel and explore more of this fascinating small port town.

**Overnight:** Garni Hotel MB or similar, Budva

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 9 Budva Free Day

After breakfast, enjoy time at leisure to explore the beautiful Old Town or beaches of Budva.

**Overnight:** Garni Hotel MB or similar, Budva

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 10 Budva Free Day

Following breakfast, enjoy time at leisure to explore the beautiful Old Town or beaches of Budva. Alternatively you can take part in an optional Kotor City Tour & Boat Ride for approximately €70 per person.

**Overnight:** Garni Hotel MB or similar, Budva

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 11 Budva, Montenegro – Dubrovnik, Croatia

After breakfast you'll travel approximately 95km as you head to Dubrovnik, Croatia, known as 'The Pearl of the Adriatic'. The medieval Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll also discover Onofrio's Fountain and enjoy a walk along Prijeko Street to the Old Port, the key to Dubrovnik's trading and maritime success.

**Overnight:** Hotel Komodor or similar, Dubrovnik

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 12 Dubrovnik Free Day

Today is free at leisure to explore this magical city.

**Overnight:** Hotel Komodor or similar, Dubrovnik

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 13 Dubrovnik, Croatia – Split, Croatia

Today you will travel approximately 235km to Split, one of the most important cities along the Adriatic Sea. Here you'll visit the 4th century Diocletian's Palace and the city's historical centre which is UNESCO World Heritage Listed.

**Overnight:** Hotel Pax or similar, Split

**Meals included:** Breakfast

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### The Itinerary

#### Day 14 Split – Korenica, Croatia

After breakfast you'll have a 250km travel day as you transfer to the town of Korenica and check into your hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure or join a short stroll around town. After free time, 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. Here you will enjoy a guided nature walking tour, a boat trip across the lakes and a panorama train ride and will be amazed by the colour of the water. The price for this optional tour is approximately €70 per person.

*Please note: The visit to Plitvice Lakes is weather dependant. 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.*

**Overnight:** Hotel House Sapina or similar, Korenica

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 15 Korenica, Croatia – Postojna Cave – Ljubljana, Slovenia

After breakfast you will cross into Slovenia and travel to the Postojna Cave (entrance not included) - one of the largest caves in Europe. For those who don't wish to enter the cave there are plenty of cafes nearby to sit and relax in. Afterwards your 330km travel day will continue on to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia.

**Overnight:** Urban Ring Hotel or similar, Ljubljana

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 16 Ljubljana City Tour

After breakfast you will enjoy a walking tour to see the main tourist attractions of Ljubljana's city centre. These include the National University Library, Congress Square, Cobbler's Bridge, the New Square, Franciscan Church, the main square with the Prešeren 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.

Next you will visit Ljubljana Castle, 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 your time at leisure.

**Overnight:** Urban Ring Hotel or similar, Ljubljana

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 17 Ljubljana – Lake Bled – Ljubljana

After breakfast you will be driven approximately 110km to Lake Bled where you can enjoy some time at leisure.

Upon arrival at the lake, you can take an optional scenic boat ride for approximately €60 per person on the emerald-green lake to admire lush scenery.

After the optional boat ride everyone will visit Bled Castle, 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.

**Overnight:** Urban Ring Hotel or similar, Ljubljana

**Meals included:** Breakfast

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## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

#### Day 18 Ljubljana, Slovenia – Zagreb, Croatia - City Tour

Today you will travel 140km to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, where you will enjoy a walking tour of Zagreb's Upper and Lower Town districts with amazing city views from the Strössmayer Promenade. You will also see the main attractions including St Catherine's Church, the Stone Gate, the Lotrščak Tower and the Croatian Parliament. You will head to the Lower Town via Tkalčićeva Street and pass the Dolac Market to the medieval Kaptol. Last but not least, you will enjoy the traditional architecture in Ban Jelačić Square.

**Overnight: Garden Hotel or similar, Zagreb**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 19 Zagreb, Croatia – Novi Sad, Serbia

After breakfast, start the 400km drive towards Serbia. Once the capital country of all Yugoslavia, today it boasts a perfect blend between cities and nature. Enjoy the scenic ride as you go on land towards Novi Sad, Serbia's second largest city.

**Overnight: Hotel Fontana or similar, Novi Sad**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 20 Novi Sad – Belgrade – Novi Sad

After breakfast travel 200km to the capital of Serbia, Belgrade. Upon arrival admire the Republic Square, the National Theatre and National Museum, Bohemian Quarter (Skadarlija) which is the oldest part of Belgrade with Ottoman heritage, the only mosque in the city, Kalemegdan Park, Belgrade Fortress and the confluence of the Sava and Danube Rivers.

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.

**Overnight: Hotel Fontana or similar, Novi Sad**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 21 Novi Sad Walking Tour

This morning is free for your leisure or you may take part in an optional day tour to the nearby town of Sremski Karlovci for approximately €50 per person.

In the afternoon enjoy a guided walk to see Zmaj Jovina Street, the promenade of Novi Sad, the Palace of the Orthodox Bishop, Dunavska Street with its long line of single-story 19th century houses, the Danube embankment and the outside of Petrovaradin Fortress on the other bank.

**Overnight: Hotel Fontana or similar, Novi Sad**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 22 Novi Sad – Subotica, Serbia – Budapest, Hungary

After breakfast you will travel approximately 380km to Budapest, "The Queen of Danube", and the capital of Hungary with a stop in Subotica, one of the least known architectural gems of Serbia along the way. Upon arrival in Budapest, you may check in and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

**Overnight: Ibis Budapest City or similar, Budapest**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

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## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

#### Day 23 Budapest Free Day

Enjoy the day at leisure in this beautiful city. In the evening take the opportunity to join an optional tour with a fantastic 2-hour folklore show which includes traditional Hungarian dances and a scenic boat ride to see the evening lights of Budapest for approximately €100 per person.

**Overnight:** Ibis Budapest City or similar, Budapest

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 24 Budapest, Hungary – Arad, Romania – Timisoara

Today you will travel 325km to Romania with the first stop in Arad. Here 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.

Next you will 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 25 Timisoara – Corvin's Castle – Alba Iulia – Sibiu

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

Next you will travel approximately 330km to Alba Iulia, the city of the Great Union Of Romania (national day). Here you will explore Alba Carolina Fortress and visit the Coronation Cathedral and St. Michael's Cathedral.

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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' that dates 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.

**Overnight:** Hotel MyContinental or similar, Sibiu

**Meals included:** Breakfast

#### Day 26 Sibiu – Sighisoara – Brasov

After breakfast you will explore the ancient, fortified church of Biertan, 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 you will travel 210km to Sighisoara, one of the best-preserved citadels in Europe that's still inhabited. The historic centre of Sighisoara has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1999 and is dominated by the Clock Tower. Here you will see the Church On The Hill, reachable by a wooden covered staircase. You will also admire the statue of the famous Hungarian national poet Petofi Sandor. Next to the statue you will see the Catholic Church, reserved for the Hungarian community and the tower of the shoemakers. You have the option to enjoy lunch in the house where Vlad The Impaler was born (not included) before continuing to Brasov and checking into the hotel.

**Overnight:** Hotel Coroana Brasovului or similar, Brasov

**Meals included:** Breakfast





## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

#### Day 27 Brasov City Tour – Bran – Sinaia – Bucharest

Today you will enjoy a 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.

You will then visit the amazing Black Church, the largest evangelical Gothic church in Eastern Europe. The church houses are the most beautiful 19th century mechanical organ in Romania. Next you will see the palaces and houses of the historic centre, with the Council Square and the pedestrian Avenue of the Republic.

Later you will continue travelling on your 215km day to Bran where you will tour Bran Castle, 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, the summer residence of the first king of Romania - King Charles 1 of Hohenzollern, of German origins. The castle is famous for being one of the most modern castles in Europe at the time of its construction, 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.

**Overnight: Ambassador Hotel or similar, Bucharest**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 28 Bucharest City Tour

Today you will enjoy a fantastic city tour of Bucharest and lunch (not included) at a restaurant in the beautiful Herastrau Park, a relaxing place with a large lake.

Explore the Village Museum, founded by a Romanian sociologist, an impressive open-air museum which offers the opportunity to learn about the lifestyle of 19th century Romanian farmers, their houses, water mills and churches made entirely of wood. You will also discover a wooden Maramures Church, which was dismantled and brought to the museum.

Next you will see the Parliament Building, an impressive monument that was built at the command of the dictator in the 80's.

You will then enjoy a tour of the historical centre of Bucharest, a completely pedestrian area, with the remains of the princely fortress of Vlad the Impaler. You will also see the 16th century Palatine Church which was built in the Byzantine style and visit the Stavropoleos Church, an architectural jewel of the 18th century that was built in typical Wallachian style with important oriental influences in its external decorations.

**Overnight: Ambassador Hotel or similar, Bucharest**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

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## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### The Itinerary

#### Day 29 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 your trip of a lifetime!

**Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight**

#### Day 30 Arrive in Australia (or New Zealand)

*Please note: Some flights may arrive +1 day.*

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## 30 DAYS HIGHLIGHTS PACKAGE | ULTIMATE BALKANS 2024

### Tour Inclusions

#### HIGHLIGHTS

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

Visit Ljubljana, Dubrovnik, Brasov, Bucharest and more

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage listed Rila Monastery

See the Memorial House of Mother Teresa and more

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

See the Citadel and more on a walking tour of Budva

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

Enjoy an afternoon at picturesque Lake Bled and Bled Castle

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

Experience a day at leisure in the vibrant town of Novi Sad in Serbia

Visit charming Timisoara 'Little Vienna' and enjoy some free time

Wander through Sibiu, the European capital of culture

Explore the ancient fortified church and Saxon Citadel of Biertan

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

Visit the Black Church, the largest evangelical Gothic church in Eastern Europe

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

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

See the princely fortress of Vlad the Impaler and more

#### FLIGHTS

Return international full-service flights (economy class), departure city surcharges may apply

#### ACCOMMODATION

27 nights quality hotel accommodation

#### DINING

Enjoy daily breakfast

#### TOUR ESSENTIALS

English speaking tour leader and guides

Airline taxes and surcharges

#### TRANSPORT

Transportation by air-conditioned vehicles

#### TRANSFERS

Return airport transfers

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# 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.

On purchasing this Travel Offer, you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions and the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

*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.*

## CANCELLATION POLICY

### Covid-19 Booking Policy

TripADeal Tour packages are non-refundable. If your Tour package is affected by Covid-19-related travel restrictions and you are unable to travel, you will receive either a free date change (credit that is specific to your original package and purchase value) or an open credit less any non-recoverable supplier fees to the value of your original purchase for use on any other package available via the TripADeal website.

*Please note: Date change credits are subject to availability and not guaranteed until confirmed by TripADeal, not the tour operator you are due to stay with.*

The standard cancellation policy will apply if

you cannot travel because you have tested positive for Covid-19.

*Please note: All additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant in AUD (unless otherwise stated).*

## Offer essentials

This travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 14th October 2024.

This travel offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

### Single Traveller Supplement

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

### Departure Dates

See checkout for live dates and availability.

### Surcharges

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

## Flights

### Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth or Auckland

*Please note: See checkout for departure city surcharges.*

### International Full-Service Airline(s) Used

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Airlines: Etihad Airways, Emirates, Qatar Airways, Singapore Airlines, Qantas Airways, Lufthansa, Swiss Airways, Turkish Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, Air France, Bulgaria Air, KLM Dutch Airlines and airline partners (subject to availability).

*Please note: TripADeal 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.*

### Arrive early in Sofia, Bulgaria

If available, please refer to the payment cart upon checkout.

*Please note:*

- This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- Arrivals before your selected departure date can only be booked up to one month before

check-in. Should you wish to arrive earlier, please contact TripADeal to request availability. \*Additional costs may apply.

- No flight booking changes or cancellations are permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

### Stay behind in Bucharest, Romania

If available, please refer to the payment cart upon checkout.

*Please note:*

- This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- A stay behind can only be booked up to one month after your package end date upon check-out. Should you wish to stay later, please contact TripADeal to request availability. \*Additional costs may apply.
- No flight booking changes or cancellations are permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

### Stopover Packages

If available, please refer to the payment cart upon checkout.

*Please note:*

- 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 an Arrive Early or Stay Behind in conjunction with a Stopover Package, the stopover will take place after the departure date you select for your Arrive Early or Stay Behind.
- Stopover packages are subject to availability.

### Flight Class Upgrades

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

*Please note:*

- Flight upgrades are subject to availability. If we are unable to fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded.
- On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed, subject to aircraft configuration.

# Important Information

## 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 will miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact TripADeal as soon as possible to make arrangements.

## Guaranteed Airline surcharge

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

## Accommodation

### Accommodation Used:

3-4 Star (Self-rated) Properties

- Sofia (Bulgaria): Best Western Plus Bristol Hotel
- Skopje (North Macedonia): Hotel de Koka
- Ohrid (North Macedonia): Hotel Garden
- Tirana (Albania): Sky 2 Hotel
- Budva (Montenegro): Garni Hotel MB
- Dubrovnik (Croatia): Hotel Komodor
- Split (Croatia): Hotel Pax
- Korenica (Croatia): Hotel House Sapina
- Ljubljana (Slovenia): Urban Ring Hotel
- Zagreb (Croatia): Garden Hotel
- Novi Sad (Serbia): Hotel Fontana
- Budapest (Hungary): 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 at check-out.

*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.

## Child Policy

Please refer to the TripADeal website.

## Triple Share

Not available.

## Bedding Configuration

Twin or Double Bedding (subject to availability).

## General information

Minimum group size 20, maximum group size 36 per vehicle.

## Optional Tours/Activities

If available, please refer to the payment cart upon checkout.

*imum numbers to operate.*

## Exclusions

- Visa fees and requirements
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Recommended gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance

## 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 best time to visit the Balkans is from April to December 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.

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.

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.



# Important Information

## FLIGHTS

### Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points:

At TripADeal, 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.

### Passport Validity:

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 45 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:

Daily breakfast is in total are included in the package. 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 TripADeal 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 would love to travel with TripADeal and require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

### Fitness Level Required:

An easy/low level of fitness will be required. Easy/low is described as Light walking on

well-maintained surfaces, occasional climbing of stairs and ability to get on and off vehicles without assistance and stand for a minimum of 30 minutes in hot/humid conditions. A general level of fitness and mobility.

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

### Gratuities / Tipping:

#### Land

Gratuities (tips) are not included in the tour price for services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip is approx. 5 Euro per person per day. This covers the guide/leader and the driver, and will be collected whilst 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.*

### Sightseeing:

Please note: If the entrance 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 to Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary or Romania on an Australian

passport.

#### Important:

- Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.

- Visa rules may have changed since Covid-19. Some countries and airlines may require you to obtain an additional visa before arrival. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination you're entering.

#### Please note:

- 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.

## Travel insurance

We've partnered with emergency medical assistance provider Allianz Global Assistance. To inquire about purchasing travel insurance please contact us on 1300 360 015 to speak with a friendly team member available between 8 AM to 7 PM AEST Monday - Friday or 8 AM - 5 PM AEST Saturday. Alternatively, you can visit our TripADeal website [tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance](http://tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance) and get a quote today.

*Trip A Deal Pty Ltd ABN 50 149 240 433 AR 1238357 arranges this insurance as authorised representative for AWP Australia Pty Ltd ABN 52 097 227 177 AFSL 245631 trading as Allianz Global Assistance (AGA). AGA issues and manages travel insurance as agent for the insurer Allianz Australia Insurance Limited ABN 15 000 122 850 AFSL 234708 (Allianz). Terms, conditions, limits and exclusions apply. Trip A Deal, Allianz and AGA do not provide any advice on this insurance based on any consideration of your objectives, financial situation or needs. Therefore, you should consider whether the advice is appropriate for you. Before making a decision please consider the Product Disclosure Statement. The Target Market Determination is available at <https://www.allianzpartners.com.au/policies/>. Trip A Deal and AGA receive a commission which is a percentage of the premium you pay for a policy - ask us for further details prior to purchasing.*

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Call our friendly team on 1300 158 912

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# Important Information

## SCHEDULE OF FEES

### Voluntary Changes

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

- Changes - \$100.00 per booking + additional charges from the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

### Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

- If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

### Supplier Fees

In the event the Travel Offer you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the Travel Offer 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. TripADeal has committed to these costs as your Agent and will endeavour to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your Travel Offer, but this may not be possible in all circumstances. If refunds are unavailable from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. If TripADeal cannot obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee. This fee is not revenue-raising and is paid to or withheld by our suppliers when recovering payments.

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