

## Croatia and the Balkans - EJBT

15 days: Budapest to Split

### What's Included

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- Your G for Good Moment: DEŠA Women's Centre Visit, Dubrovnik
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Petrovaradin Fortress visit (Novi Sad)
- Kalemegdan Fortress visit (Belgrade)
- 'Tunnel of Life' tour (Sarajevo)
- Sea kayaking trip (Bay of Kotor)
- Beach time in Hvar
- Scenic boat ride around Pakleni islands
- Diocletian's Palace guided tour (Split)
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2017 and onwards

### Itinerary Notes

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**Departures in April and October may run with with different transport times than noted on the itinerary due to seasonal ferry schedules.**

### Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### Day 1 Budapest

Arrive at any time. We recommend booking pre-tour accommodation to fully explore this breathtaking city.

There are no planned activities until tonight's welcome meeting.

#### **Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group**

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

#### **Accommodation**

**Ibis Styles Budapest Center (or similar)**

Hotel

#### Day 2 Budapest/Novi Sad

Today we will be traveling by local bus to Novi Sad. Enjoy the first opportunity to try some Serbian cuisine.

Cross into Serbia and enjoy time in the second largest city. Spend an evening wandering this cultural hub.

**Local Bus**

Budapest – Novi Sad 5h

Cross into Serbia. Border crossings in the Balkans are typically pretty easy but there can be some delays. Ensure you have any necessary visas to speed up the process.

**Free Time**

Novi Sad Evening

Head out and explore.

**Meals included: Breakfast****Accommodation****Hotel Zenit Novi Sad (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 3 Novi Sad/Belgrade**

Spend the morning exploring Novi Sad. Visit the famous Petrovaradin Fortress and, with time, check out the charming old town, or Stari Grad. In the afternoon, enjoy a short bus ride to Belgrade.

**Petrovaradin Fortress Visit**

Novi Sad

Construction on this fortress began in the late 1600s and today it remains an important landmark for the city. Visit the famous "reversed clock" and learn more about the varied history of this sight.

**Private Vehicle**

Novi Sad – Belgrade 1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Free Time**

Belgrade Afternoon

Opt to walk down the pedestrian street of Skadarlija or visit Republic Square.

**Optional Activities - Day 3****Stari Grad Visit**

Novi Sad 30m-1h

Free

Visit the historic Old Town, or Stari Grad. Opt to visit many of the neighbourhood's monuments or museums. Stop into café or shop along the way.

**Meals included: Breakfast****Accommodation****Hotel Bohemian Garni (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 4 Belgrade**

Visit the Kalemegdan Fortress then spend a free day floating down the Danube or shopping in one of the many bustling markets.

Opt to visit the National Theater or National Museum. The city offers a wealth of churches and cathedrals as well as an interesting Ethnographic Museum. Learn more about Serbian culture, traditions, costumes, and tools used throughout history.

**Kalemegdan Fortress Visit**

Belgrade 1h-2h

Kalemegdan Fortress, or Belgrade Fortress, consists of the old citadel and Kalemegdan Park. Located in the Old Town of Belgrade, the sight makes for one of the best lookouts in the city, staring down at the confluence of two rivers.

**Free Time**

Belgrade Full Day

Spend the day exploring this capital city.

**Meals included: Breakfast****Accommodation****Hotel Bohemian Garni (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 5 Belgrade/Sarajevo**

Travel to Sarajevo, one of the most beautiful and diverse cities in the region. Walk around the cobblestone streets, visit the famous Latin Bridge, and soak in the bustling atmosphere of this resilient place.

Walk around the cobblestone streets of the Old Town while taking in the architecture of its diverse places of worship.

#### **Free Time**

Sarajevo Afternoon

Explore the enchanting capital of Bosnia.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Belgrade – Sarajevo 7h-8h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### **Optional Activities - Day 5**

##### **Latin Bridge Visit**

Sarajevo

Free

The Latin Bridge is worth a visit as it is a direct link to history. This is the sight where the Archduke of the Austro Hungarian Empire, Franz Ferdinand, was assassinated, leading to the beginning of World War I.

##### **National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Sarajevo 1h-2h

10-30BAM per person

Founded in 1888, the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the oldest cultural and scientific institutions in the country.

##### **Times of Misfortune Tour & Tunnel Museum**

Sarajevo

54BAM per person

Walk in the footsteps of Sarajevans who endured the Siege (1992-1995). Visit many historical sights including a stunning viewpoint over the city, a cemetery where the defenders of Sarajevo are buried, and Sniper Alley. Learn about the Siege and absorb interesting stories about daily life.

##### **Gallery 11/07/95**

Sarajevo 1h-2h

12-15BAM per person

This gallery space aims to preserve the memory on Srebrenica tragedy and 8372 persons who tragically lost their lives during the genocide through photography, video and interactive documentary.

##### **Svrzo's House**

Sarajevo

3BAM per person

Get a glimpse into the life of an urban, 19th century Muslim family in Sarajevo. Built by Munib effendi Glodo, famous for his involvement in Bosnia's struggle for autonomy within the Ottoman Empire. This house is a typical example of architecture from the period.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Hotel Sahat (Old Town Astra) (or similar)**

Hotel

#### **Day 6 Sarajevo**

Take an included tour of the 'Tunnel of Life' to get a better understanding of the tragic recent history of this captivating city. Spend some free time exploring the Stari Grad section and looking for 'Sarajevo Roses'.

##### **Tunnel of Life Tour**

Sarajevo 1h-2h Morning

Visit the "Tunnel of Life," which played a crucial role in the survival of the people of Sarajevo during the fairly recent civil war. Visit the airport and the house of a brave Bosnian who allowed the smuggling of supplies. Hear firsthand accounts of the horrors of war and the resilience of the people of Sarajevo. Drive into the mountains and learn more about the sombre history.

#### **Free Time**

Sarajevo Afternoon

Explore more of this gorgeous city.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Hotel Sahat (Old Town Astra) (or similar)**

Hotel

## Day 7 Sarajevo/Mostar

Travel through beautiful countryside to reach charming Mostar. The city's symbol, a beautiful reconstructed Ottoman-style bridge, is a reminder of the tenacity of Bosnians in recent times. Wander the old city and visit the new, taking in the many reminders of what the people of this region have survived.

After visiting the bridge, wander through the small streets and opt to sit in a café, enjoying the laid-back atmosphere.

For a sobering look into the city's recent history, wander through town, passing buildings still riddled with bullet holes. Visit a bank that was completely destroyed during the war and past houses in shambles. While life continues and progress is made, these sights remain as reminders of the evils of war.

### Private Vehicle

Sarajevo – Mostar 2h-3h 130km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### Free Time

Mostar Afternoon

Explore this beautiful riverside town.

### Optional Activities - Day 7

#### Koski Mehmed Pasa Mosque & Minaret

Mostar

Take a visit to Koski Mehmed Paša Mosque, built in 1618 and take a wander around the garden courtyard. Climb up the minaret to amazing views of Mostar.

#### Stari Most (Old Bridge) Visit

Mostar 1h-2h

Free

Visit the city's symbol; a beautiful, reconstructed Ottoman-style bridge. The bridge was constructed in the 1600s and was meticulously rebuilt after its destruction during the war. It's a reminder of the tenacity of the Bosnians and is a gorgeous sight to behold. Wait at the bottom for daredevils to dive into the icy river below.

### War Photo Exhibition

Mostar

6BAM per person

Immerse yourself in a collection of photos that give visitors a sobering glimpse into the Balkan War of 1912.

### Meals included: Breakfast

### Accommodation

#### Hotel Bristol (or similar)

Hotel

## Day 8 Mostar/Kotor

Continue on to Montenegro and arrive to the Bay of Kotor, a World Heritage-listed region. There is free time here to relax or explore as desired.

Arrive in time to start exploring this gorgeous area.

If relaxing is more your style, the beach of Kotor offers a great escape.

### Private Vehicle

Mostar – Kotor 3h-4h 190km

Cross into Montenegro. Border crossings in the Balkans are typically pretty easy but there can be some delays. Ensure you have any necessary visas to speed up the process.

### Free Time

Kotor Afternoon

Explore this gorgeous seaside town.

### Optional Activities - Day 8

#### Sea Kayaking

Kotor

20EUR per person

Head out by sea kayak to fully appreciate this gorgeous area. Start just outside the Old Town walls and explore the coast. Stop at a beach bar for a break or a swim.

### Kotor City Exploration

Kotor 15m-30m

Free

Take some time to explore this picturesque town surrounded by a walled fortress built by the Republic of Venice. Kotor has a Mediterranean feel to it and the bay offers a stunning backdrop for photographs.

### **Kotor Maritime Museum**

Kotor

4EUR per person

At the Maritime Museum, explore the history, culture and living artifacts that connect modern Kotor with its centuries-old naval traditions. Learn about the Boka Marines, a fraternity of sailors and navigators who helped shipbuilding flourish in the Balkans.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Hotel Marija Kotor (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 9 Kotor**

Enjoy a sea kayaking tour before free time to relax or explore. Wander the streets of the walled city of Kotor or relax on picturesque beaches.

### **Sea Kayaking**

Kotor 5h Morning

Head out by sea kayak to fully appreciate this gorgeous area. Start just outside the Old Town walls and explore the coast. Stop at a beach bar for a break or a swim.

### **Free Time**

Kotor Afternoon

Get active or get lazy— the choice is yours.

### **Optional Activities - Day 9**

#### **Perast Visit**

Perast

Visit the small seaside town of Perast for a taste of the quaint in Montenegro.

### **Risan town and Roman Mosaics Visit**

Risan 2h-4h

10EUR per person

Risan, once the capital of Kotor Bay, is a lovely town. Its most famous characteristic is the archaeological site is known as the Roman Mosaics. The mosaics are found in what remains of an ancient Roman villa, built sometime between the 2nd and 3rd century BC.

### **Kotor Maritime Museum**

Kotor

4EUR per person

At the Maritime Museum, explore the history, culture and living artifacts that connect modern Kotor with its centuries-old naval traditions. Learn about the Boka Marines, a fraternity of sailors and navigators who helped shipbuilding flourish in the Balkans.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Hotel Marija Kotor (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 10 Kotor/Dubrovnik**

Travel to Croatia and experience the 'Pearl of the Adriatic' in Dubrovnik. Visit the G Adventures-supported Deša project, a non profit dedicated to empowering and employing women in the community. Then, choose to relax in one of the many cafés, explore the old town fortifications, or take a boat trip to one of the nearby islands.

The red roofs of the old city make for spectacular photos and the seaside cafés serve up tasty seafood.

### **Private Vehicle**

Kotor – Dubrovnik 2h

Cross into Croatia. Border crossings in the Balkans are typically pretty easy but there can be some delays. Ensure you have any necessary visas to speed up the process.

### **Free Time**

Dubrovnik Afternoon

Explore this picturesque city.

### **Your G for Good Moment: DEŠA Women's Centre Visit**

DEŠA is a women's non-profit, founded during the homeland war in Dubrovnik. It is dedicated to empowering and employing women in the area. From their headquarters in Dubrovnik's Old Town, DEŠA runs victim support for survivors of domestic abuse through computer classes, language lessons, cultural preservation activities, and other inspiring programs. During your visit, you will learn about the powerful work undertaken by the women of DEŠA and their network across Croatia working to preserve traditional foods and handicrafts.

### **Optional Activities - Day 10**

#### **Sea Kayaking**

Dubrovnik 8km

36EUR per person

Head offshore by sea kayak to gain a different perspective of Dubrovnik and fully appreciate this gorgeous area. Tour around the city walls and take a loop around Lokrum.

#### **Rector's Palace**

Dubrovnik 1h-2h

70HRK per person

Originally built in the 12th century, today's Rector's Palace is a cultural history museum with an intriguing past. A mix of Renaissance and Gothic architecture, it began as the seat of Dubrovnik's rector, becoming a place for merchants and citizens of the republic to gather by the 16th century. In the atrium, you'll find a statue of Miho Pracat, one such merchant who bequeathed his wealth to the city. Wander the galleries and admire paintings, sculptures and furniture from Croatia's past. Today the courtyard is a venue for music and cultural performances - and is often used as a filming location for shows such as Game of Thrones.

#### **Museum of Croatian War of Independence**

Dubrovnik 1h-2h

20HRK per person

Hop in a cable car to the top of Mount Srd and take in a bird's eye view of the walled city of Dubrovnik. Admire the vistas surrounding this ancient fortress perched above the Adriatic Sea, then make your way to the Croatian War of Independence Museum housed in a wing of Fort Imperial. Built to commemorate the war which lasted from 1991-1995, find artifacts such as documents, photos, military equipment, maps and other everyday objects from Croatians who lived through the siege. Pause for a moment at the memorial plaque, engraved with the names of those who died defending the city.

#### **War Photography Museum**

Dubrovnik 1h-2h

40HRK per person

The War Photo Limited gallery displays exhibits from leading photojournalists who cover recent and present conflicts across the world. Curated by photographer Wade Goddard, who covered the Balkan wars in the 1990s, the gallery is spread over two floors and aims to raise public awareness on the injustices and effects of war.

#### **Dubrovnik City Wall Walk**

Dubrovnik 1h-2h

150HRK per person

Opt to take a walking tour or head out on your own to explore the city's ancient walls. A trip to Dubrovnik isn't complete without doing this 2km (1.1 mi) walk. See highlights along the way that include Fort Minceta, Fort St. John, Fort Lawrence, Fort Revelin, and St. Luke's Tower. There are three main entrances to the city walls, the principal one located by the Inner Pile Gates.

#### **Franciscan Monastery & Museum**

Dubrovnik

30HRK per person

Take a wander through this Franciscan Monastery complex. Originally constructed as a public pharmacy in 1317, the Friars Minor pharmacy is the third oldest functioning pharmacy in the world today.

#### **Cable Car Ride**

Dubrovnik

150HRK per person

Get an amazing view of the rows of red roofs of Dubrovnik and the sea on a scenic cable car ride. While you slowly creep up the side of the mountain, look down on the winding streets and out to the nearby oceans. If you run out of time during the day hop on the cable car near sunset to see the tints of pink, red, and orange spread across the sky.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 11 Dubrovnik**

Enjoy a free day to explore the Dalmatian Coast.

### **Free Time**

Dubrovnik Full Day

With so much to see and do, get going.

### **Optional Activities - Day 11**

#### **Lopud Island Visit**

Lopud

Escape the city on a ferry ride to Lopud Island, part of the Elafiti Islands and home to one of Croatia's most stunning beaches, Plaza Sunj.

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#### **Sea Kayaking**

Dubrovnik 8km

36EUR per person

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#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 12 Dubrovnik/Hvar**

Head to the island of Hvar. Enjoy amazing beaches, nightlife, and water sports.

Filled with sunshine, the beautiful island is known for its lavender fields and vineyards in the interior and detailed Venetian-inspired architecture in the towns.

### **Ferry**

Dubrovnik - Hvar 3h

Hop on a ferry from Dubrovnik to beautiful Hvar.

**Free Time**

Hvar Afternoon

Don't waste a minute—get exploring.

**Optional Activities - Day 12****St. Stephen's Cathedral**

Hvar

10HRK per person

Originally constructed over 400 years ago, St. Stephen's Cathedral still plays an important role in the lives of local residents. Located in Hvar's main square, step inside the cathedral to admire beautiful altar paintings and bas reliefs made during the Dalmatian Renaissance.

**Hvar Fortress Visit**

Hvar

6EUR per person

Explore the 16th century fortress that looks over the city of Hvar. Tour the interior and see some of the artifacts on display like the canon. Climb hundreds of stairs to reach the top for an incredible panoramic view of the city, nearby islands, and the ocean.

**Meals included: Breakfast****Accommodation****Hotel Pharos (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 13 Hvar**

Soak in the scenery and relish the calm on a boat ride around the Pakleni Islands.

**Pakleni Islands Boat Ride**

Pakleni Otoci

Enjoy a scenic boat ride around the famous Pakleni Islands, offering a great escape for those wanting to spend a day relaxing on a quiet beach.

**Meals included: Breakfast****Accommodation****Hotel Pharos (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 14 Hvar/Split**

Ferry back to the mainland and arrive to Split. Take a guided tour of the UNESCO site at Diocletian's Palace. Enjoy free time to explore this charming seaside town.

Opt to visit the local market and gobble up some Croatian delicacies. For a little more activity, visit Marjan's peak with gorgeous views over the city or hit up some of the hiking and biking trails in the area.

**Ferry**

Hvar – Split 1h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

**Diocletian's Palace Guided Walk**

Split 2h-2h30m

Take a guided walk around Diocletian's Palace, one of the most imposing Roman ruins in Europe. It took over 10 years to construct and is built of white stone imported from the island of Brač. Visiting this UNESCO World Heritage site is a perfect way to learn more about the history of Split.

**Free Time**

Split Afternoon

Head out and explore.

**Optional Activities - Day 14****Bacvice Beach Visit**

Split

Free

Head to this local hot spot to soak up some rays or play in the calm waters. The sandy shores are often packed with rows of lounge chairs and umbrellas, but it's still a great place to spend some time if you're looking to cool off. Visit some of the cafes along the waterfront, wade out into the shallow water, or rent a lounge chair and relax.

**Marjan's Peak Visit**

Split 3h-4h

30EUR per person



For spectacular views of the city, make sure to visit Marjan's Peak. The area has nice hiking and biking trails for those that want to embrace nature and escape the port town.

### **St Duje Cathedral Visit**

Split

15-40HRK per person

The Cathedral of St Duje is said to be the oldest cathedral in the world, built around 305 AD. Climb up the bell tower for excellent views of Split and the surrounding port area.

### **Mestrovic Gallery**

Split

30HRK per person

Filled with the incredible sculptures of Croatian artist and architect Ivan Meštrović, this gallery is beautiful inside and out. The gallery is housed in a villa designed by Meštrović as a summer home which overlooks a wonderful garden where you can view more sculptures and enjoy the breeze from the sea.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Accommodation**

### **Hotel Art Annex Split (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 15 Split**

Depart at any time.

We recommend staying an extra day or two to fully experience all this lively city has to offer.

### **Optional Activities - Day 15**

#### **Trogir Excursion**

Trogir 4h-6h

15-41EUR per person

Take an excursion to the historic city of Trogir, where the Old City core is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. Found in the centre of Dalmatia on the eastern coastline of Adriatic sea, this pretty seaside town is a great place to walk and explore.

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### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **What's Included**

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## Highlights

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Kayak to tiny islands in the crystal waters of the Bay of Kotor, enjoy beach time in Hvar, explore the ancient Roman palace of Diocletian on a guided tour.

## Dossier Disclaimer

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## Itinerary Disclaimer

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While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## Itinerary Notes

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Departures in April and October may run with different transport times than noted on the itinerary due to seasonal ferry schedules.

## Important Notes

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### 1. YOUR CEO

It is important to note that in Europe, all guiding is based around local guides all of whom are licensed to work only in a particular city. As such, our leaders are able to provide orientation walks which will show you the layout of each town and city as well as the location of local services such as post offices and laundromats, but are unable to legally share historical facts and figures in public places.

### 2. LUGGAGE

In Europe it is very rare to find elevators in train stations, hotels or other public places. We use public transport on this trip, which means you will need to carry your luggage from platform to platform, in and out of trains and buses etc. and also possibly up several flights of stairs. You will also need to be able to stow your luggage safely on trains and buses. It is therefore essential that you pack light and bring luggage which is compact and lightweight, and which you can easily transport. The carrying of your luggage remains your responsibility at all times. We highly recommend travelling with a backpack or duffel bag over any wheeled luggage options.

### 3. RAMADAN

Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan in Muslim areas, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-muslims throughout the day. It is very important to display increased cultural sensitivity during Ramadan. Please wear loose fitting clothes, that cover knees and shoulders, and try to avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public out of respect for those who can't at that time.

### 4. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

#### 5. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

#### 6. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES NOTE:

During high season in Europe (May-October) we highly recommend booking reservations for any popular optional activities/museum tickets etc. in advance to avoid encountering sold-out activities on the ground while on tour.

### Group Leader Description

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This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects.

### Group Size Notes

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Max 16, avg 12.

### Meals Included

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14 breakfasts

### Meals

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Eating is a big part of traveling. G Adventures understands the importance of breakfast to start your day, we strive to include a basic breakfast wherever possible. A typical breakfast may include toast, coffee and tea, however this may vary depending on the city. Should breakfast not be included, your CEO can suggest some local options.

Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip.

For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

### Transport

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Train, private vehicle, ferry, walking.

### Solo Travellers

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We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

### Accommodation

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Hotels/pensions (14 nts).

### My Own Room

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Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops.

Please be aware that single room accommodations in European hotels are often smaller, and may not be to the same service level as double-occupancy rooms.

### About Accommodation

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It is important to note that accommodation in Europe tend to be quite different to other areas of the world you may have travelled in. Buildings and rooms are generally old and may not have been renovated or maintained to the highest standard. Downtown hotels in Europe were not built to be hotels

but rich owners houses, which have been changed into hotels. Therefore unusual room sizes are common as large rooms have been partitioned in the past, resulting in rather "thin" walls. Reception areas, rooms and bathrooms tend to be very small as they were often added into an existing room, and may have a hand nozzle rather than a conventional shower head.

On this trip you can expect to stay in small family-run hotels (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. You can expect to find clean, safe, simple accommodation in convenient locations.

Note that most accommodation in Europe does not have air conditioning units in rooms. Air conditioning is not routinely installed in European homes and workplaces. However, nearly all hotels will provide a standing or desk fan for your room on hot nights. If you do not already have one in your room, please ask your CEO to organize one for you with reception.

## **Joining Instructions**

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For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

Getting to the city centre from Budapest airport:

By Taxi: From Budapest International Airport to the city centre should take approximately 35 minutes and cost approximately 20-30 EUR.

By Public Transportation: Bus 100E (airport to Deák Ferenc tér central metro station) departs from the airport every 30 minutes and the trip takes approximately 35 minutes.

Regular tickets for the airport shuttle bus 100E cost 3€ (900 HUF) per person and can be purchased from the customer service centres, newsagents, ticket offices or ticket vending machine in the arrivals hall.

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - HolidayTaxis - by copying the link below into your web browser:

<https://partner.holidaytaxis.com/?ref=GADVE>

Choose from a range of transport options including both private and shared transfers at a discounted rate.

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## **Arrival Complications**

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We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## Emergency Contact

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Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

G Adventures Berlin office: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, from calls within North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from within UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from within Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from within Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from within New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What to Take

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We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. You must be prepared to carry your luggage up and down stairs, on and off transportation, and to hotels (max 15-20 mins.)

## Packing List

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### Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

### Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

### Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

#### Health & Safety:

- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Quick Covid Test/Antigen Test

#### Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## Visas and Entry Requirements

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All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

## Spending Money

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Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## Money Exchange

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Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Visa cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work - Check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of Euros and cards is best.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

Hungary uses the Forint (HUF), Serbia the Dinar (RSD), Bosnia and Herzegovina the Convertible Mark (BAM), Montenegro and Croatia the Euro (EUR).

Euros (EUR) are accepted everywhere. When exchanging currency, or deciding what to bring, keep in mind that you can withdraw money from an ATM when you arrive. If you need to exchange USD for EUR, hotel exchange rates are usually quite poor, so try to avoid changing your money at your hotel. You will probably be better off changing your money in a bank or in one of numerous Bureaux de Change that you will find in towns.

## Emergency Fund

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Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Tipping

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While conventions can vary from country to country, tipping is customary in Europe. A general rule is 10% of the bill for wait staff, and a smaller amount (€1 or €2) for other service providers.

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €30-€40 per person, per week can be used as a guideline.

## Optional Activities

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### Novi Sad

- Stari Grad Visit (Free)

### Sarajevo

- Latin Bridge Visit (Free)
- National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (10-30BAM per person)
- Times of Misfortune Tour & Tunnel Museum (54BAM per person)
- Gallery 11/07/95 (12-15BAM per person)
- Svrzo's House (3BAM per person)

### Mostar

- Koski Mehmed Pasa Mosque & Minaret
- Stari Most (Old Bridge) Visit (Free)
- War Photo Exhibition (6BAM per person)

### Kotor

- Sea Kayaking (20EUR per person)
- Kotor City Exploration (Free)
- Kotor Maritime Museum (4EUR per person)

### Perast

- Perast Visit

### Risan

- Risan town and Roman Mosaics Visit (10EUR per person)

### Dubrovnik

- Sea Kayaking (36EUR per person)
- Rector's Palace (70HRK per person)
- Museum of Croatian War of Independence (20HRK per person)
- War Photography Museum (40HRK per person)
- Dubrovnik City Wall Walk (150HRK per person)
- Franciscan Monastery & Museum (30HRK per person)
- Cable Car Ride (150HRK per person)

### Lopud

- Lopud Island Visit

### Hvar

- St. Stephen's Cathedral (10HRK per person)
- Hvar Fortress Visit (6EUR per person)

#### Split

- Bacvice Beach Visit (Free)
- Marjan's Peak Visit (30EUR per person)
- St Dujce Cathedral Visit (15-40HRK per person)
- Mestrovic Gallery (30HRK per person)

#### Trogir

- Trogir Excursion (15-41EUR per person)

## Safety and Security

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Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewelry at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## A Couple of Rules

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Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Travel Insurance

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Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

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Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries.



globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## Feedback

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After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Newsletter

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Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation - Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## Minimum Age

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You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## International Flights

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Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.