

Regional Explorer



BALKAN ESCAPE

8 DAYS | 2 COUNTRIES | 12 MEALS | FROM US\$1450pp*

A TROUBLED PAST HAS SHAPED A PROMISING FUTURE. DISCOVER HOW CROATIA AND SLOVENIA HAVE EMERGED AS VIBRANT NATIONS PROUDLY SHOWCASING THEIR DIVERSE CULTURE, HERITAGE AND NATURAL LANDSCAPES TO THE WORLD.



THE *Icons*

CITY TOUR of Zagreb, Rovinj and Ljubljana

ORIENTATION of Opatija and Bled

VIEW the Cathedral, the Archbishop's Palace and St Mark's Church in Zagreb, the Opera House, Cathedral, National Museum, Three Bridges Square and Castle in Ljubljana

SEE the Baroque St. Euphemia Cathedral in Rovinj

YOUR *Holiday*


DAY

1 ARRIVE ZAGREB (2 NIGHTS) Immerse yourself in the cultural diversity and scenic beauty of the Balkans, starting your journey in the Croatian capital, Zagreb. Spend your day wandering through the Old Town on your own before joining your Travel Director and fellow travellers this evening for a Welcome Reception and an orientation drive. (WR) **Hotel: Westin**

2 ZAGREB SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE Join a Local Specialist this morning for a sightseeing tour through the paved squares and steep alleyways of Zagreb. Explore the city's rich medieval heritage and see such sites as the Cathedral on Kaptol, the Archbishop's Palace and St. Mark's Church, with its vividly coloured tiled roof. You'll have the rest of the day to explore the city at leisure. Stroll along the romantic promenades of Strossmatre, people-watch at Ban Jelačić Square or climb up Lotrščak Tower for views of the city. Perhaps join an Optional Experience to the birthplace of iconic leader Tito and enjoy a delicious meal of regional specialties with magnificent views of the Croatian countryside. (B)

3 ZAGREB - OPATIJA (2 NIGHTS) A leisurely start to our day sees us drive south towards the Kvarner Gulf and the seaside promenades of Opatija. Sit back and watch the meadows, forests and farmlands roll past – a lush countryside dotted with terracotta-roofed villages and castles as you journey to Croatia's exquisite Istrian Peninsula. Views of beautiful parks and elegant villas greet you as you arrive, a testament to Opatija's Austro-Hungarian heritage. This evening you'll join your travel companions for dinner at your hotel. (B, D) **Hotel: Grand Adriatic**

4 OPATIJA FREE DAY - EXCURSION TO ROVINJ For a bit of Venetian flair, we travel to the Croatian fishing port of Rovinj this morning. Here we'll join a Local Specialist and wander through its Old Town to see such sights as the Baroque St. Euphemia Cathedral with its square campanile. We'll 'Dive into Culture' and savour the flavours of the region's famous white truffles before returning to Opatija for some time to explore on our own. See the statuesque nymph, her hand outstretched to cradle a seagull and admire the belle-époque architecture which once attracted members of Europe's high society. (B, )

5 OPATIJA - LJUBLJANA - BLEĐ (2 NIGHTS) We head north to the enchanting Slovenian capital of Ljubljana today. A Local Specialist will reveal the stories behind many of the city's iconic sights including the Opera House, Cathedral, National Museum, Three Bridges Square and Castle, from where you can enjoy spectacular views of the city. Good food and good company are guaranteed as we 'Connect With Locals' over a memorable Be My Guest lunch with a local Slovenian family. Our journey continues to Bled in the Julian Alps, where we'll spend the next two nights in romantic lakeside surrounds. Dinner is at our hotel tonight. (B, BMG, D, ) **Hotel: Rikli Balance**

6 BLEĐ FREE DAY The day is yours to explore at your leisure. Spend the day admiring your pristine surrounds. Take an invigorating walk along the lake shore for better views of Bled Castle which clings dramatically to a cliff or indulge in a slice of the local *kremšnita* cake after an ice-skating session if the lake has frozen over. Consider joining an Optional Experience to Slovenia's largest glacier lake or visit the extensive maze of underground caves at Postojna. (B)

7 BLEĐ - ZAGREB We leave our dazzling natural surrounds behind, returning to Zagreb where we end our journey. Slovenia's forests give way to the pastoral landscapes of central Croatia. Tonight, we join our fellow travellers for a celebratory Farewell Dinner and say a fond *živjeli* to lasting memories. (B, FD) **Hotel: Westin**

8 DEPART ZAGREB Our time together comes to an end after breakfast. We bid new friends goodbye and transfer to the airport for our return home. (B)



TRAVEL DIRECTOR *Tip*

Rub shoulders with the locals when you visit Dolac Market in Zagreb, where visitors and residents come to taste, buy and photograph tasty farm produce from all over Croatia. Just a few steps from the main square, Dolac has been feeding Zagrebians since the early 20th century.

Gasper Atelsek

YOUR HOLIDAY *Planner*

PricePP			PricePP		
Start Zagreb	End Zagreb	Twin Share	Start Zagreb	End Zagreb	Twin Share
SA 09 NOV	SA 16 NOV	1450	SA 18 JAN	SA 25 JAN	1495
SA 23 NOV	SA 30 NOV	1495	SA 01 FEB	SA 08 FEB	1525
SA 07 DEC	SA 14 DEC	1495	SA 15 FEB	SA 22 FEB	1525
SA 21 DEC	SA 28 DEC	1675	SA 29 FEB	SA 07 MAR	1525
	2020				
SA 04 JAN	SA 11 JAN	1495	SA 14 MAR	SA 21 MAR	1525

Single Supplement (add to price above): US\$350 p.p.

q Christmas Highlights: The 21 December 2019 departure will celebrate Christmas in Bled. This specially arranged festive meal celebration will replace one of the included meals featured in the itinerary.



EARLY BIRD SAVINGS

SAVE ^{UP TO} US\$84 p.p.



Young traveller discount: SAVE US\$150



Multiple trip discount: SAVE up to US\$42



Triple room discount: SAVE US\$40 p.p.



Past guests: Unlock VIP benefits

TRIP *Highlights*

Here's just a sample of the many special handcrafted Trafalgar highlights included in your trip.

CONNECT WITH LOCALS

Join a family in Ljubljana for a traditional Be My Guest lunch, featuring local flavours and stories about life in one of the world's greenest cities. (Day 5)

DIVE INTO CULTURE

Savour the flavours of Rovinj's famous white truffles, which are best sampled at this time of year. (Day 4)

MORE ABOUT YOUR *Trip*

* All prices are per person, twin share.

Airport transfers: On arrival at Zagreb Airport transfers will operate at 11.30am and 2.30pm. Guests arriving later should make their own way to the hotel. Return transfers on the last travel day will arrive at Zagreb Airport at 7am and 11.30am

Gratuities: Option to pre-pay gratuities for Travel Director and Driver, US\$78 per person.

TRIP CODE: WBESA

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)

(TR-28/06/2019)

 Connect With Locals

WR Welcome Reception

B Breakfast



Stay With Stories

L Lunch

D Dinner



Dive Into Culture

RD Regional Dinner

FD Farewell Dinner



Make A Difference

BMG Be My Guest