

ONCE UPON A TIME IN YUGOSLAVIA

BOUTIQUE SMALL GROUP JOURNEY

14 days from Tirana to Ohrid, Kotor, Dubrovnik, Mostar, Sarajevo, Uzice, Belgrade, Visegrad, Drvengrad, Zagreb and Ljubljana,

Vacation Highlights:

- ◆ Arrival transfer from Tirana airport to the hotel
- ◆ 14 day/13-night guided tour featuring:
 - Centrally located first class hotels:
 - 3 nights in Tirana
 - 2 nights in Dubrovnik
 - 2 nights in Sarajevo
 - 2 nights in Belgrade
 - 2 nights in Zagreb
 - 2 nights in Ljubljana
 - Buffet breakfast daily
 - A welcome reception in Tirana (heavy hors d'oeuvres, a glass of wine, beer or soft drink)
 - A dinner in Dubrovnik (coffee or tea included)
 - A lunch in Sarajevo (coffee or tea included)
 - A dinner in Belgrade (coffee or tea included)
 - A farewell dinner in Ljubljana (coffee or tea included)
- ◆ Hotel taxes and service charges
- ◆ Touring by modern air-conditioned motor-coach
- ◆ Professional English-speaking tour director
- ◆ Sightseeing tours with licensed local guides
- ◆ Admission included where indicated in bold letters
- ◆ Luggage handling at the hotels
- ◆ Whisper technology enhanced touring
- ◆ Departure transfer from Ljubljana to Ljubljana airport

Tour spotlights:

- ◆ Lake Ohrid, one of Europe's oldest and deepest lakes with over 200 endemic species (North Macedonia)
- ◆ The Old bridge in Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- ◆ The fortified town of (Montenegro)
- ◆ Dubrovnik, Croatia's "Pearl of the Adriatic"
- ◆ Sarajevo, a city steeped in history (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- ◆ Belgrade (Serbia): Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman and Austrian influence in this vibrant city at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers
- ◆ Zagreb, Croatia's cultural center with a rich history and 18th and 19th century Austro-Hungarian architecture
- ◆ Ljubljana (Slovenia), one of Europe's greenest capitals, a prehistoric history, scenic bridges and a rich arts scene
- ◆ Bled, a striking lake and an imposing castle

Special features:

- ◆ 6 countries, that were once known as Yugoslavia
- ◆ Albania, a country mostly unexplored
- ◆ Visit of a local artisan in Dubrovnik
- ◆ Learn how Bosnian coffee is made in Sarajevo
- ◆ Traditional lunch in Sarajevo

- ◆ Dinner with live music in the old Bohemian quarter of Skadarlija in Belgrade

Hotels:

- ◆ **Tirana:** Hilton Garden Inn/Colosseo (F) or similar
- ◆ **Dubrovnik:** Lapad/Lacroma/Argosy (F) or similar
- ◆ **Sarajevo:** Europe (F) or similar
- ◆ **Belgrade:** Moskva (F) or similar
- ◆ **Zagreb:** Sheraton/Westin/Dubrovnik (F) or similar
- ◆ **Ljubljana:** Radisson Blu (F) or similar

Itinerary:

Day 1, arrive in Tirana, Sunday

Welcome to Tirana! You will be met and transferred to your hotel. The day is at leisure until you gather with your fellow travelers and your tour director in the evening for an orientation of your tour, and a welcome reception. **(WR)**

Day 2, in Tirana, Monday

On a morning sightseeing tour, see the Skanderbeg Square with the statue of G.K. Skanderbeg, Albania's national hero, the Mosque of Et'hem Bey, the Clock Tower, the Palace of Culture, built in Socialist-Realist style; and the National History Museum. Your afternoon is free to continue exploring on your own, shop, or just relax. **(B)**
Optional tour: Visit of Archeological museum in Dures and Skanderberg distillery with cognac and wine tasting

Day 3, in Tirana: Excursion to lake Ohrid, Tuesday

We travel to Macedonia and visit the lakeside resort of Ohrid. It is an important cultural and spiritual center, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Our sightseeing tour starts with a walk through the cobblestone streets of the old town. Afterward, we visit the magnificent **Monastery of Saint Naum**. In the early afternoon, we return to our hotel. The evening is at leisure. **(B)**

Day 4, to Dubrovnik, Wednesday

After breakfast, we leave Albania and travel to Montenegro where we visit Kotor's Old Town. There is time for lunch on your own. Later, we continue to beautiful Dubrovnik in Croatia. Dinner is on us tonight. **(B, D)**

Day 5, in Dubrovnik, Thursday

We start our discovery of Dubrovnik with a walking tour of "Old Dubrovnik"; the **Rector's Palace**, the Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column and the Sponza Palace are all on our itinerary, as are the Dominican- and Franciscan



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Monasteries. The **Pharmacy** of the Franciscan Monastery is one of the oldest in the world. Later, we meet a **local artisan** to learn about the traditional craftsmanship that still thrives in Dubrovnik today. The remainder of the day is at leisure. **(B)**

Optional tour: Home-hosted dinner

Day 6, to Sarajevo, Friday

We drive through the gorge of the Neretva River to Mostar. Here, we see the remains of the Turkish quarter and the 16th-century stone bridge. Afterward, we continue our journey to Sarajevo, the capital of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and a city influenced by several cultures and civilizations over its long history. **(B)**

Day 7, in Sarajevo, Saturday

In the morning, we visit a local coffee shop where the owner will explain how **Bosnian coffee, part of the national identity**, is made. Afterward, coffee will be served for you to enjoy. On our city tour, we will see the Turkish Bazaar Bas Carsija, visit the **Husref Bay's Mosque**, the Olympic Stadium, and the **Gavrilo Princip Museum**. A little bit later, we stop for a light **traditional Cevapi lunch** (a national dish with grilled minced meat, onion and bread). **(B, L)**

Optional tour: A horse-drawn carriage ride along Velika Aleja to Vrelo Bosne and a traditional Bosnian meal

Day 8, to Belgrade, Sunday

We continue our journey to Visegrad with its Bridge on the Drina River. The bridge was built in oriental style in the 16th century and is a masterpiece of civil engineering. Our next stop is in Drvengrad (translated as "Timber Town"), where famous director Emir Kusturica built the beautiful Ethno Village. Our final stop is in Uzice and we end our journey today in Belgrade. **(B)**

Day 9, in Belgrade, Monday

With a history dating back more than 7,000 years, Belgrade is a fascinating city to visit. Our morning sightseeing tour includes the city's main attractions: the imposing Kalemegdan Fortress, dramatically situated at the joining of the Sava and Danube Rivers; Republic Square and Mihajlova Street; Saint Sava Temple, the largest Orthodox Church in the city; and Tito's Memorial. The afternoon is free. Tonight, join your fellow travelers and your tour director for dinner with live music. **(B, D)**

Optional tour: Cruise on the Danube River

Day 10, to Zagreb, Tuesday

We travel to Zagreb today, the capital of Croatia. Upon arrival, your time is at leisure. **(B)**

Optional tour: Gastronomy tour

Day 11, in Zagreb, Wednesday

This morning we enjoy a city tour featuring the historic Upper Town, St Mark's Church, St. Catherine's Church, the **Cathedral**, the Parliament, and the Government Palace. The rest of the day is free to explore the winding streets of the Old Town. **(B)**

Optional tour: Kumrovec with dinner

Day 12, to Ljubljana, Thursday

We motor on to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. In the afternoon we visit the most significant sights of the old city center, the picturesque open-air Central Market, the Three Bridges, the Baroque Town Hall, and Robba's Fountain. The evening is at leisure. **(B)**

Optional tour: Wine tasting

Day 13, in Ljubljana: Excursion to lake Bled, Friday

We travel to Bled for a sightseeing tour which includes the charming town, the lakeshore and a visit of the imposing **Bled Castle** which is perched on a cliff high above the lake. Later, we return to Ljubljana and you have free time. In the evening, join your fellow travelers and your tour director for our farewell dinner. **(B, D)**

Day 14, depart Ljubljana, Saturday

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Ljubljana airport for your departure flight. **(B)**



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Once Upon a Time in Yugoslavia (K090)		
departure dates	\$ pp double occupancy	\$ single supplement
18-Apr-21	\$3.390	\$790
16-May-21	\$3.390	\$790
20-Jun-21	\$3.390	\$790
5-Sep-21	\$3.390	\$790
10-Oct-21	\$3.390	\$790

Rates are gross, per person, in US dollars