

Croatia, Montenegro and Bosnia

*A unique two week small group tour of Croatia, Montenegro and Bosnia!
One week optional extension to Istria- 'Croatia's Tuscany' and Slovenia.*

October 13, 2011



Today we will drive into the heart of Bosnia with a stop at celebrated Mostar.

Sarajevo is the capital of Bosnia & Herzegovina and is a cosmopolitan European city with an Eastern twist and unique ambiance. It is set amongst endless hills and towering mountains giving one the sense of isolation. The Old Town with its cobble stoned streets, mosques and oriental style shops give one the feeling they are in the Middle East. Sarajevo is actually a melting pot of diverse

cultures. It was here that the Western and Eastern Roman empires split. Few places on earth feature an Orthodox and a Catholic church, a mosque and a synagogue within easy walking distance of each other. –



Located in a beautiful valley between the high mountains of Herzegovina, **Mostar** is listed on the UNESCO world heritage list. The town is exceptional for its dwellings and monuments assembled harmoniously over the centuries thanks to favorable geographical conditions and a sound economic climate. Mostar's most famous landmark is an Ottoman stone bridge which connects the city in two parts over the Neretva River. The official religion in Bosnia is Islam and there is evidence of this influence throughout Mostar with its Bazaars, Turkish House, tea houses and many old Mosques.

Three nights at the centrally located Hotel Michel.

Day 5 Sarajevo

Half day walking city tour.

Sarajevo is a city full of opportunities from the Old Town center representing the country's Muslim influence to its surroundings that offer breathtaking nature

Day 6 Sarajevo

Today a tour to the tunnel war memorial and the Bascarsija Old Town.

During the siege of **Sarajevo**, the inhabitants built a tunnel under the airport, and it soon became the lifeline for the city, as it was the only way for goods and people to be transported. The tunnel ended in the home of a family, and today The Sarajevo Tunnel Museum houses the last 20 meters of the tunnel. The museum is open daily for visitors who want to experience a walk through the tunnel and learn about its history during the most recent war.



Day 7 **Sarajevo – Split – Trogir**

We will stay two nights in Trogir from where we will visit Split.

Trogir is a "city-museum" in every sense of the word. More than 2300 years in existence, the city provides lovers of cultural and historical monuments, art, original architecture and cozy alleyway streets an unforgettable setting. The old core of Trogir is an island surrounded by city walls which has been influenced by the Romans, Greeks and Venetians. The wider surroundings of Trogir are characterized by numerous islands and islets, lush green vegetation and beautiful rock/pebble beaches.

Split is the second largest city in Croatia, with just over 200,000 inhabitants, and is the largest city on the Adriatic coast. Coupled with its strong history - it emerged from a palace built by Roman emperor Diocletian, and was also an important city within Yugoslavia - this lively city sure is worth a visit.

Day 8 **Trogir**

Today we will drive to Sibenik for a visit.

In the heart of the adriatic coast , at the mouth of the river Krka , hidden among the channels , there lies the Old Croatian fortress of St. Mihovil . In 11th century houses of a town emerged at the bottom of the fortress.

The great Croatian King Petar Krešimir IV made the name of **Šibenik** famous ever after. That is the beginning of the town history and its beauties .

Day 9 **Trogir - Hvar**

A ferry will take us to Hvar, named one of the ten most beautiful islands in the world.

Hvar is rich in history as it boasts, among other amazing features, the oldest communal theatre in Europe, the largest square on the Croatian coast and a medieval fortress dating back to the 7th century. Right off the town's port you will find the archipelago Palkeni, consisting of 21 islands with isolated beaches and secluded

coves, making for the ideal way to spend your summer days. If nightlife is what you are looking for, Hvar is known as the party capital of the Adriatic.

Day 10 Hvar

Day free to enjoy the island.

Day 11 Hvar – Plitvice

Today we will drive to Plitvice Lakes with a stop in Zadar.



Zadar is well known for having the attractive Romanesque churches: Cathedral of St. Anastasia from 13th century and Church of St. Chrysogonus from 12th century as well as the church tower of St. Mary dating back from 12th century too. The town is fortified with medieval walls, distinguished for their pretty and impressive ports – entries in the city all dating back to the sixteenth century.

Throughout history, Zadar was the centre of key Croatian and Dalmatian cultural events : the establishment of the first Croatian university (1396), the writing of the first Croatian novel (1536) and the publication of the first Croatian newspaper. The famous permanent exhibition of sacral art and the traditional St. Donat Musical Evenings represent only a small part of numerous cultural events that Zadar offers to its visitors.

*The first and most popular national park in all of Croatia
This natural phenomenon was described by famous guidebook writer Rick Steve's as "Niagara Falls diced and
sprinkled over a heavily forested Grand Canyon"*

*In 1979 UNESCO proclaimed the **Plitvice National Park** a world heritage site. The park is highlighted by
a series of 16 lakes with unique and distinctive colors ranging from azure, turquoise, green, blue and gray. It is
200 miles in total area and a paradise for hikers and nature lovers. The lakes joined together cover a distance
of five miles and are connected by wooden footbridges making the park easy to traverse on foot. Dense forest,
amazing flora, varied bird and other wildlife as well as spectacular waterfalls and cascades linking the lakes
make up this national treasure.*

Day 12 Plitvice – Zagreb

Drive to Zagreb.



A city with a million hearts

A capital city that has managed to stay romantic, clean, and preserve its soul and identity as well as its cultural and historical heritage.

Zagreb lies on the intersection of important routes between the Adriatic coast and Central Europe. It is the hub of the business, academic, cultural, artistic and sporting worlds in Croatia. Zagreb can offer its visitors the Baroque atmosphere of the Upper Town, picturesque open-air markets, diverse shopping facilities, an abundance of impressive architecture, a variety of museums and a choice vernacular cuisine. It is a city of green parks and walks, with many places to visit in the beautiful surroundings.



Day 13 _____ Zagreb

Walking city tour.
Farewell dinner.

Day 14 _____ Zagreb

Transfer to the airport for flight home or;

Join us for a one week visit of Istria, 'the Croatian Tuscany' and Slovenia, the country of delights.

Tour is limited to 14 guests

Please contact us for full details and to reserve your place

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