

8 COUNTRIES

13 DAYS ✈️

PRICES FROM
2999 AUD
PER PERSON
+
1250 AUD TAX

GRAND BALKANS

1N SARAJEVO | 2N MEDJUGORJE | 1N SHKODER | 1N OHRID
2N SKOPJE | 1N SOFIA | 2N ISTANBUL

ALL FLIGHTS INCLUDED



FLIGHTS

HOTELS

TRANSFERS

MEALS

GUIDES

ENTRANCES

DEPARTURE FROM MELBOURNE WITH TURKISH AIRLINES



H | Harmony
Travel Group

 **TURKISH AIRLINES**

GRAND BALKANS



LAND PACKAGE + INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS INCLUDING

1N SARAJEVO | 2N MEDJUGORJE | 1N SHKODER | 1N OHRI
| 2N SKOPJE | 1N SOFIA | 2N ISTANBUL

DAY 01 [-/-] MELBOURNE - SINGAPORE

Set off on your grand Balkans adventure as you board your flight from Melbourne to Sarajevo, with a scheduled stopover in Singapore. This long-haul flight is the perfect opportunity to relax, enjoy the in-flight entertainment, and rest up before you arrive in the vibrant city of Sarajevo. Prepare for the cultural and scenic riches that await you in this historically rich and diverse region.

DAY 02 [-/-] SINGAPORE -ISTANBUL - SARAJEVO

Begin your Balkans adventure upon your arrival in Sarajevo the capital of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, derives its name from the Turkish word for palace. As we embark on a walking tour through the historical center, we will encounter numerous fascinating monuments that narrate the city's rich past. Explore the bustling Turkish bazaar, where the aroma of spices and the vibrant colors of traditional crafts create a lively atmosphere. Admire the Watching Tower, a prominent landmark offering panoramic views of the city. Visit the magnificent mosque, an architectural gem reflecting Sarajevo's diverse cultural heritage. Stroll across the historic Latin Bridge, known for its pivotal role in world history. Marvel at the grandeur of the Cathedral, an impressive structure showcasing the city's religious diversity. As we wander, take in the breathtaking natural landscape that surrounds this part of the city, providing a serene backdrop to the urban charm. After a day of exploration, settle into your accommodation, ready to continue the adventure in this captivating city.

DAY 03 [B/-] SARAJEVO – MOSTAR - MEDJUGORJE

After breakfast, we will depart for the picturesque town of Mostar, known for its iconic Stari Most (Old Bridge), a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This stunning Ottoman-era bridge, originally built in the 16th century, was meticulously reconstructed after being destroyed during the Bosnian War. As we stroll through the cobble streets of Mostar, we will visit the bustling Old Bazaar, where traditional shops and charming cafes line the narrow alleys. Admire the architectural beauty of the Koski Mehmed Pasha Mosque and take in the panoramic views from its minaret. We will also learn about the town's rich history at the Museum of Herzegovina. Continuing our journey, we will arrive in the small Herzegovinian town of Medjugorje, one of the most popular pilgrimage destinations in Europe today, attracting more than one million pilgrims annually. Since June 24, 1981, there have been six Apparitions of the Virgin Mary, making this town a significant spiritual site. Medjugorje is situated in the Herzegovina region of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and its name literally means "between the mountains." Upon arrival, we will visit Apparition Hill, where the Virgin Mary first appeared to the local children. Next, we will explore the Shrine of Our Lady of Medjugorje, which houses the statue of the Peace Queen. We will also see the statue of Jesus and visit Saint James Church, a central place of worship and community gathering. The serene and spiritual atmosphere of Medjugorje offers a unique and profound experience for all visitors. After our visits, we will settle into our accommodation, reflecting on the spiritual significance of the day. For those interested in exploring further, consider the optional tour to Kravice Waterfall, a breathtaking natural wonder located on the Trebizat River. This majestic waterfall, 25 meters high with a lake radius of 120 meters at its base, offers a refreshing escape and is a perfect spot for picnics and swimming.

DAY 04 [B/-/] MEDJUGORJE

After breakfast, enjoy a free day dedicated to an optional tour to the beautiful Croatian cities of Split and Trogir, situated along the stunning Dalmatian Coast. Split, known for its impressive Diocletian's Palace, offers a blend of ancient Roman architecture and vibrant modern life. Stroll through its bustling streets, explore the historic sites, and soak in the lively atmosphere. Trogir, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is renowned for its well-preserved medieval architecture, charming narrow streets, and beautiful waterfront. Discover the historic Kamerlengo Castle and the magnificent Cathedral of St. Lawrence. After a day of exploration and discovery, return to Medjugorje for accommodation, reflecting on the diverse cultural experiences of the day. For those looking to explore further, consider the optional tour to Split and Trogir. Experience the architectural splendor of Split, a UNESCO World Heritage site, including Diocletian's Palace and Saint Domnius Cathedral. Continue to Trogir to marvel at its mix of Renaissance and Baroque architecture, including the exquisite Saint Lorenzo Cathedral and Kamerlengo Castle.



DAY 05 [B/-/] MEDJUGORJE – DUBROVNIK – KOTOR - SHKODER

After breakfast, we will depart for the fabulous Croatian city of Dubrovnik, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its historical significance and stunning architecture. As we walk through its historic center, we will marvel at the massive defensive walls that have protected the city for centuries. Admire the City Tower, Rector's Palace, Sponza Palace, and the beautiful Saint Blas Church, along with other fascinating monuments that reflect Dubrovnik's rich medieval and ancient heritage. Next, we will continue our journey to the Republic of Montenegro, where we will visit the enchanting city of Kotor, nestled in the southernmost fjord of Europe. As we stroll through the Old Town, we will be captivated by the Gothic and Latin Style architecture of its landmarks, including the impressive Saint Trifon Cathedral, the historic Army Square, the iconic Clock Tower, and the beautiful Saint Nicolas Church. Finally, we will proceed to Shkoder, a city in northern Albania, known for its cultural heritage and historical significance. We will settle into our accommodation in Shkoder, reflecting on the diverse and enriching experiences of the day, from the coastal charm of Dubrovnik to the medieval allure of Kotor.

DAY 06 [B/-/] SHKODER – TIRANA – OHRID

After breakfast, we will depart for Tirana, the capital and largest city of the Republic of Albania. Our walking tour will offer a unique opportunity to experience the spirit of a communist city, evident in its preserved architecture. We will explore Skanderbeg Square, the central hub of Tirana, and admire the Tirana Pyramid, a remnant of the communist era. We will also see the historic Clock Tower and the beautiful Ethem Bey Mosque, both significant landmarks of the city. After exploring Tirana, we will continue our journey to Ohrid, a picturesque ancient city in the Republic of North Macedonia. Situated on the banks of the renowned Ohrid Lake, this city is a UNESCO World Heritage site. As we stroll through its charming Old Town District, we will visit the Ancient Theatre, which dates back to Hellenistic times. We will also explore the beautiful Saint Sofia Church and the historic Saint Pantaleimon Church, each with its own unique architectural style and historical significance. Along the way, we will hear captivating stories and legends about love, battles, cruelty, and pearls, enriching our understanding of Ohrid's rich cultural heritage. We will then settle into our accommodation, ready to reflect on the day's diverse and fascinating experiences.

For an enchanting view of Ohrid, join the optional boat tour on Ohrid Lake. Glide across the lake's tranquil waters and soak in the breathtaking landscape juxtaposed with medieval and modern architecture, providing a unique perspective of this historic region or enhance your evening with the optional North Macedonian Folk Show. Dine in a traditional restaurant where you'll savor local cuisine and wines, all while enjoying the vibrant atmosphere created by live folk music and dance—a perfect way to experience the cultural spirit of North Macedonia.



Tirana Pyramid

DAY 07 [B/-/] OHRID - SKOPJE

After breakfast, we will depart for Skopje, the capital and largest city of North Macedonia. Situated on the banks of the Vardar River, Skopje is a city that beautifully blends its rich history with modern developments. As we arrive, we will explore the charming late medieval bazaar, a bustling area filled with shops, cafes, and historic buildings. Here, we will find both a church and a mosque standing close by, reflecting the city's diverse cultural heritage. We will also visit the reconstructed fortress, which offers panoramic views of the city and provides a glimpse into Skopje's storied past. The iconic Stone Bridge, an enduring symbol of the city, connects the old and new parts of Skopje and is a testament to the city's enduring resilience. A visit to the Memorial House of Mother Teresa, who was born in Skopje, will offer a poignant moment of reflection. This memorial honors the life and legacy of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and provides insight into her early years and humanitarian work. After a day of exploring the historical and cultural highlights of Skopje, we will settle into our accommodation, ready to rest and prepare for the next day's adventures. For a spiritual and visual treat, consider the optional tour to Saint Naum Monastery. Located 29 km south of Ohrid along the rocky banks of Ohrid Lake, this medieval Orthodox sanctuary is adorned with stunning frescoes. The tour includes a serene boat ride, offering beautiful views en route to the monastery or immerse yourself in natural beauty with the optional tour to Matka Canyon. Just east of Skopje, this breathtaking canyon spans 5,000 hectares and features lush vegetation, medieval monasteries, and the historic Matka Lake, the oldest artificial lake in North Macedonia. It's a perfect escape for nature lovers and history enthusiasts alike.



Ohri

DAY 08 [B/-/] SKOPJE

After breakfast, enjoy a free day dedicated to exploring Skopje at your own pace or join an optional tour to the youngest European state – the Republic of Kosovo, which declared its independence on February 17, 2008. This optional excursion will provide a unique opportunity to visit this nascent country, rich in history and culture. In Kosovo, you can explore its vibrant capital, Pristina, with landmarks such as the National Library, the Newborn Monument, and the historic Sultan Mehmet Fatih Mosque. You might also visit the city of Prizren, known for its charming Ottoman-era architecture and the beautiful Sinan Pasha Mosque. After a day of exploration, return to Skopje for accommodation, reflecting on the diverse experiences of the day. Explore the vibrant history and culture of Kosovo with an optional tour to its capital, Pristina. Wander along the main streets to discover a fascinating mix of architectural styles from the Middle Ages to modern times. The tour continues to Prizren, a city framed by majestic mountains and filled with romantic, charming old architecture, including the local mosque, the Watch Tower, and the Stone Bridge. This excursion offers a deep dive into the rich heritage and scenic beauty of Kosovo.

DAY 09 [B/-/] SKOPJE - SOFIA

After breakfast, we will depart for Sofia, the capital and largest city of the Republic of Bulgaria. As one of the oldest cities in the world, Sofia is uniquely situated on three historical levels: the present-day bustling city, the ancient Roman and medieval layers, and even prehistoric remnants. Our walking tour will begin with the striking Saint Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, an impressive example of Neo-Byzantine architecture and one of the largest Eastern Orthodox cathedrals in the world. We will then visit the National Drama Theatre, an architectural gem that stands as a testament to Bulgaria's rich cultural heritage. Next, we will explore the medieval Banya Bashi Mosque, a beautifully preserved structure that highlights Sofia's diverse religious history. We will also delve into the city's ancient past by visiting the Roman ruins scattered throughout the city center, providing a fascinating glimpse into Sofia's origins and its evolution over millennia. After a day of exploring the historical and cultural treasures of Sofia, we will settle into our accommodation. To enrich your experience, cap off your day with an unforgettable experience by joining the optional Dinner with a Traditional Bulgarian Folk Show. Indulge in authentic Bulgarian cuisine served in a traditional setting, complemented by the lively ambiance of live traditional music and dance. This vibrant cultural feast is an excellent way to immerse yourself in Bulgaria's rich traditions and festive spirit.

DAY 10 [B/-/] SOFIA - ISTANBUL

Spend the day exploring Sofia's rich mosaic of history and culture. Start with a walking tour that includes the Saint George Rotunda, the oldest building in Sofia dating back to the 4th century, and the sprawling ruins of the ancient Serdica that lie beneath the modern city. Visit the National Historical Museum, which offers extensive collections from prehistoric times to the modern era. In the late afternoon, depart Sofia and fly back to Istanbul. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and unwind. Before finalizing your amazing Balkans journey, discover the ancient city of Plovdiv on an optional tour, one of the oldest cities in the world and the second largest in Bulgaria. Wander through the Old Town District where history unfolds before your eyes with sites like the well-preserved Roman Amphitheatre, a 15th-century mosque, and stunning examples of 18th and 19th-century local architecture. This tour offers a captivating journey through time, showcasing Plovdiv's rich historical tapestry.



DAY 11 [B/-/] ISTANBUL

After breakfast at hotel, we will send regards to amazing city Istanbul from our last lovely day for this tour. Depart for a panoramic excursion in one of the oldest areas of the city where we will see the Roman Aqueduct, whose construction was completed under the reign of the Roman Emperor Valens in the year 368. We will continue to appreciate the Walls of Constantinople, which remind us of the times when they were seen as invincible, limiting entry by land and sea to the so-called "Eis-tin Poli/ or Inner City", possibly hence the name Istanbul. After arriving to the old city area, firstly visit Blue Mosque & Hippodrome. Take time to admire the intricate architecture, including the impressive domes and minarets. After visiting the Blue Mosque, head to Hagia Sophia for a photostop, located just a short walk away. Learn about the fascinating history and significance of Hagia Sophia from your knowledgeable Honest Travel guide. After Hagia Sophia, make your way to outside photostop at Topkapı Palace. Topkapı Palace, located in the historic district of Istanbul, Turkey, is an architectural marvel that served as the primary residence and administrative headquarters of the Ottoman sultans for nearly 400 years. Its exterior is as impressive as its interior, showcasing a blend of architectural styles that reflect the grandeur and opulence of the Ottoman Empire. Also, we can make a combination visit with Topkapı Palace, Hagia Sophia entrances + Grand Bazaar visit + lunch (optional). Before you leave the old city area, visit the Spice Market for shopping. The Spice Market, also known as the Egyptian Bazaar (Mısır Çarşısı in Turkish), is one of Istanbul's oldest and most famous covered markets, renowned for its vibrant atmosphere, exotic aromas, and colorful array of spices, herbs, and traditional Turkish delicacies. Then, we will have a Bosphorus Tour (optional) to discover one of the most beautiful views of the world. After this exploration, transfer to hotel for rest and accommodation.

DAY 12 [B/-/-] ISTANBUL DEPARTURE

After breakfast at hotel, we will depart to Taksim Square and İstiklal Street for free time. Taksim Square and İstiklal Street are two of Istanbul's most vibrant and iconic landmarks, known for their bustling atmosphere, rich history, and cultural significance. Later on we will drive to the Airport (IST) while saying goodbye to city and back to home with unforgettable memories.

DAY 13 [-/-/-] MELBOURNE

Arrive in Melbourne, marking the end of your grand Balkans journey. Reflect on the unforgettable experiences and memories made during the trip. Your journey concludes as you disembark from your flight, ready to share your travel tales and adventures with family and friends. Welcome back home!

GRAND BALKANS TOUR - PRICES IN AUD AND CONDITIONS PER PERSON

DAY	CITY NAME	HOTEL
NIGHT 01	Sarajevo	Hotel Hollywood 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 02	Medjugorje	Hotel Forest 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 03	Medjugorje	Hotel Forest 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 04	Shkoder	Hotel Luane Arte 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 05	Ohrid	Hotel Belvedere 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 06	Skopje	Hotel Gold 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 07	Skopje	Hotel Gold 4* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 08	Sofia	Hotel Grand 4* Astoria or similar
NIGHT 09	Istanbul	Golden Tulip Or Marriott Courtyard 5* or Similar Hotel
NIGHT 10	Istanbul	Golden Tulip Or Marriott Courtyard 5* or Similar Hotel

PRICE INCLUDES	PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 10 Nights accommodation at high standard hotels▪ International flights: MEL - IST - MEL▪ 4* and/or 5* category hotels▪ Professional English-speaking guide▪ Meals, entrance fees and visits as mentioned in the program.▪ All transfers are made in air-conditioned vehicles.▪ Mineral water service as requested during tour▪ All Parking and Permits and Road taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Private Expenses▪ Drinks at Hotels & Restaurants▪ For city tourist taxes , hotel taxes, municipal taxes, the passenger will hand over 55 €/ 90 AUD to the guide upon arrival▪ Tips for guide and driver 5 € / 8 AUD Per Person, Per Day.▪ Portage▪ Optional excursions.▪ City Municipality Tax Per Person 20 € / 35 AUD and payment upon arrival in Istanbul f▪ Single Room Supplement 475 AUD (In case of single room accommodation request)

Important notes: Prices in AUD. 2 - Operation with a minimum number of 10 Pax. 3 - Triple accommodation will be provided with the addition of an extra portable bed as hotels do not usually have 3-bed rooms in Turkiye. The order of the itinerary may be modified without prior notice due to the availability of guides and closing days of the monuments, always respecting the visits to be made. The order of the optional excursions can also be changed. Closing days for visits: Sundays - Grand Bazaar | Tuesday - Topkapi Palace. Similar tours are offered or the schedule is changed in case of closure. The nights in Istanbul are operated in two ways: 3 at the beginning + 1 at the end (as published) // or // 2 at the beginning + 2 at the end. In case the Grand Bazaar is closed, the Spice Bazaar will be visited.

Pre-sale dates with pending confirmations (PNR): The published itinerary and dates whose confirmations (PNRS) from the airline have not yet been received are expected and may change depending on the availability of air segments.

***Harmony Travel has the rights to change prices and dates for requests less than 10 pax.**

DEPARTURE DATES - 2024 (40 SEATS PER DEPARTURE)

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
16.10.2024	6.11.2024
23.10.2024	13.11.2024
30.10.2024	20.11.2024
	27.11.2024

DEPARTURE DATES - 2025 (40 SEATS PER DEPARTURE)

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
22.01.2025	5.02.2025	5.03.2025
	12.02.2025	12.03.2025
	19.02.2025	

BOOKING & CANCELLATION POLICIES / DEADLINES

250 AUD PER PERSON PAYMENT ON BOOKING

FULL PAYMENT AND NAME LIST MUST BE SUBMITTED 35 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE

ANY CHANGES TO THE NAME LIST MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 35 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL FEES

LATE PAYMENTS MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION AND FORFEITURE OF PAYMENTS MADE

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

SPECIAL REQUESTS MUST BE COMMUNICATED AT THE TIME OF BOOKING

TRAVELERS MUST HAVE NECESSARY TRAVEL DOCUMENTS IN ADVANCE OF DEPARTURE

RESERVATIONS CAN BE CANCELLED WITHOUT ANY PENALTY BEFORE 95 DAYS OF ARRIVAL (ONLY PRE PAYMENT 250 AUD WHILE ON BOOKING IS NON REFUNDABLE)

20% CANCELLATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN 94-36 DAYS OF ARRIVAL

IF CANCELLATION WILL BE MORE THAN 20% OF BOOKING, PER PERSON / PER SEAT 550 AUD CANCELLATION FEE WILL BE APPLIED. CANCELLATION FEE WILL BE CHARGED ONLY REMAIN PERCENTAGE OF UP TO 20 %

IN CASE OF ANY CANCELLATION OF ADJUSTMENT REQUEST BEFORE 35 DAYS OF ARRIVAL, WILL BE APPLIED 100% NO SHOW.

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