

Balkan Adventure

14 Days

7 Countries

20 Meals

From US\$3225 Per person, twin share

Visit several countries on this adventure-filled Balkan trip, where you'll venture deep into the Carpathian Mountains, walk in the mythical footsteps of Count Dracula at Bran Castle in Transylvania and revel in the beauty, history and traditions of the Balkan nations.

Past Guest Rated **feefo** 
NEW FOR 2022
NOT YET RATED
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Your Must-See Highlights

- **Explore** Bucharest, Braşov, Veliko Târnovo, Sofia, Skopje, Tirana, Mostar, Sarajevo and Belgrade with a Local Specialist
- **Discover** Kotor and Budva
- **Visit** Bran Castle in Braşov, Tsaravets Fortress in Veliko Târnovo, the Church of the Nativity in Arbanasi, Sofia, Skopje, Tirana, Kotor, Budva, Mostar, the War Tunnel in Sarajevo and Kalmegdan Fortress in Belgrade
- **View** Peleş Castle in Sinaia, St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and St. Sofia Church in Sofia, the Palace of Culture and the National library in Tirana and the Stari Most in Mostar
- **See** the Palace of Parliament in Bucharest

Your holiday

Day

- 1

Welcome to Bucharest You'd be forgiven for thinking you were in Paris when you explore the *Belle-Époque* atmosphere of Romania's capital, Bucharest. Your first day will be free to explore the city your way. Later, join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception. **(WR)** **Hotel: Intercontinental**
- 2

Journey to Transylvania and Braşov A full day of sightseeing stretches ahead, beginning in Bucharest where you'll join a *Local Specialist* to delve into the city's tumultuous history. See the immense Palace of the Parliament, one of the lasting legacies left behind by dictator Nicolae Ceauşescu. Venture to Sinaia and view Peleş Castle, the summer retreat of Romania's first king. Then, continue to Braşov and check in to your hotel in Poiana Braşov ski resort. **(B, D)** **Hotel: Ana Sport**
- 3

Dracula's Castle and More in Braşov The highlight of the day is this morning's visit to Bran Castle, the legendary home of Dracula. *Dive Into Culture* with a *Local Specialist* and learn about its history, then journey to the medieval streets of Braşov, where you'll take a step back in time with a *Local Specialist*. Your evening is free to indulge in some of the local Transylvanian favourites or consider joining your travel companions for an optional dinner. **(B, 🍷)**
- 4

Continue to Medieval Veliko Târnovo Head south, through ancient villages and tranquil landscapes across the Danube River into Bulgaria. Your journey ends in Veliko Târnovo, the 'City of the Tsars' and former capital of the Bulgarian Empire. Relax after your scenic drive and join your travel companions for dinner at your hotel. **(B, D)** **Hotel: Yantra Grand**
- 5

Onwards to Historic Sofia The fairy-tale façades of Veliko Târnovo exude medieval history around every turn and your *Local Specialist* will reveal a rich history and culture befitting a former imperial capital. Your next stop is the UNESCO-listed town of Arbanasi. Visit the Church of the Nativity before we continue to Sofia, where you'll join a *Local Specialist* for an in-depth sightseeing tour of Bulgaria's modern-day capital including views of the golden-domed St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and St. Sofia Church. Later, check in to your unique *Stays With Stories* accommodation, the Marinela Hotel designed by renowned Japanese architect Kisho Kurokawa. **(B, 🏠)** **Hotel: Marinela**
- 6

Sofia Your Way You'll have a full day to explore this modern city built on Roman ruins. You could choose instead to join an Optional Experience to the UNESCO-listed Rila Monastery, founded by the hermit St. Ivan of Rila in the 10th century. **(B)**
- 7

Journey to Macedonian Skopje Cross the Macedonian border today, bound for Skopje. See the Ottoman Empire's legacy in the mosques and bazaars as you join a *Local Specialist* for a sightseeing tour this afternoon. Local flavours and stories are on the menu tonight as you *Connect With Locals* at an exclusive *Be My Guest* experience. **(B, BMG, 🍷)** **Hotel: Holiday Inn**
- 8

Off to Albania and Tirana Leaving North Macedonia behind, head to the Albanian capital of Tirana where, on arrival, you'll join a *Local Specialist* for a sightseeing tour. You'll view such highlights as the Palace of Culture, the National Library and the Clock Tower before enjoying dinner at your hotel. **(B, D)** **Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn**

- 9

Journey to Montenegro's Kotor and Budva Soak up Montenegro's natural beauty as you drive towards Kotor. You'll have some time for lunch on your own and an orientation tour of this fortified town. Travel to Budva next where your Travel Director will provide an orientation tour before you have the rest of the day to explore 'Montenegro's Miami' on your own. **(B)** **Hotel: Falkensteiner**
- 10

Venture to Mostar and Sarajevo In Mostar, a *Local Specialist* will lead you through its colourful cobbled streets and you'll view the Stari Most Ottoman-style bridge reconstructed entirely using traditional methods. Head to Sarajevo next where you'll delve into the rich religious and multicultural heritage that has earned it the nickname, the 'Jerusalem of Europe'. Tonight you'll enjoy dinner at your hotel. **(B, D)** **Hotel: Novotel Bristol**



Walk across the Stari Most. Visit the beautiful Old Bridge in Mostar, destroyed during the Bosnian War. Rebuilt using its salvaged stone, it's a reminder of peace and reconciliation. Read more at trafalgar.com.

- 11

Discover Sarajevo Join a *Local Specialist* for a guided walking tour of Sarajevo. Visit the War Tunnel, an underground tunnel of hope that was built in 1993 during the Siege of Sarajevo, allowing war supplies and humanitarian aid to reach the city at the height of the Bosnian War. Then, enjoy a free afternoon to explore on your own. **(B)**
- 12

On the Road to Belgrade Travel through lush forests, pastures and the Bosnian Mountains into Serbia – a scenic day of driving that will end in Belgrade. The 'White City' has a long history which you'll have an opportunity to discover tomorrow. **(B)** **Hotel: Mercure Excelsior**
- 13

Explore Riverside Belgrade Your *Local Specialist* will share the sights and sounds of Belgrade from an insider's perspective this morning. Visit Kalemegdan Fortress and discover how the Romans, Ottomans and Austro-Hungarians have each had a hand in rebuilding the fortress. This evening, we reunite one final time for a rousing Farewell Dinner to reminisce over our shared travel experience. **(B, FD)**
- 14

Farewell Belgrade All that's left is to say a fond *dovidenja* as you bid your new friends farewell. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers. **(B)**

Your 2022 Holiday Planner

Start Bucharest	End Belgrade	Start Bucharest	End Belgrade
+ Sun 03 Apr	Sat 16 Apr	Sun 10 Jul	Sat 23 Jul
Sun 10 Apr	Sat 23 Apr	Sun 17 Jul	Sat 30 Jul
Sun 17 Apr	Sat 30 Apr	Sun 24 Jul	Sat 06 Aug
Sun 24 Apr	Sat 07 May	Sun 31 Jul	Sat 13 Aug
Sun 01 May	Sat 14 May	Sun 07 Aug	Sat 20 Aug
Sun 08 May	Sat 21 May	Sun 14 Aug	Sat 27 Aug
Sun 15 May	Sat 28 May	Sun 21 Aug	Sat 03 Sep
Sun 22 May	Sat 04 Jun	Sun 28 Aug	Sat 10 Sep
Sun 29 May	Sat 11 Jun	Sun 04 Sep	Sat 17 Sep
Sun 05 Jun	Sat 18 Jun	Sun 11 Sep	Sat 24 Sep
Sun 12 Jun	Sat 25 Jun	Sun 18 Sep	Sat 01 Oct
Sun 19 Jun	Sat 02 Jul	Sun 25 Sep	Sat 08 Oct
Sun 26 Jun	Sat 09 Jul	Sun 02 Oct	Sat 15 Oct
+ Sun 03 Jul	Sat 16 Jul	+ Sun 09 Oct	Sat 22 Oct

+ **Special Rate Solo Rooming:** These departures include 20 – 100% discount on our standard single supplement.

Your 2023 Holiday Planner

If you're looking even further ahead, this trip departs every Sunday from April to October 2023. Visit our website for dates and today's best prices.

Connect With Locals
WR Welcome Reception
B Breakfast
 Stays With Stories
L Lunch
D Dinner

Dive Into Culture
RD Regional Dinner
FD Farewell Dinner

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®
BMG Be My Guest

Trip code: BRAS

旅者之家
TRAVELERS HUB