



2022
**BALKAN
EXPRESS**

by Kompas



KOMPAS

YOUR WAY IS OUR WAY.

Go Balkan Express is a tour concept that combines Balkan countries in a circular tour with several joining points across the Balkan Peninsula and offers great flexibility – customers are able to plan their own trip, suitable to their preferred dates and destinations, while letting us take care of all the hassle regarding accommodation and transfer.

**HOP ON & OFF WHEREVER YOU DESIRE.
CREATE YOUR OWN BALKAN
EXPERIENCE!**

- Guaranteed departures on mentioned departure points and days throughout the year (minimum 2 passengers)
- Affordable prices and maximum flexibility
- Choose between **STANDARD** and **PRIVATE** tour with maximum 8 passengers travelling together





BALKAN EXPRESS



POSSIBLE DEPARTURE POINTS:

- Ljubljana
- Split
- Dubrovnik
- Tirana
- Skopje
- Sofia
- Belgrade
- Zagreb



Ljubljana



Piran

SATURDAY | ZAGREB-BLED-LJUBLJANA

DEPARTURE POINT **LJUBLJANA**

For those continuing the Go Balkan Express journey from Zagreb, transfer to Bled, where you can take a stroll around the lake on your own or join our optional tour of the imposing lake **Bled** and Bled Castle, perched on a cliff high above the lake with a view of romantic little island with its church and mysterious wishing bell. Continue to Ljubljana, the capital city of Slovenia.

SUNDAY | LJUBLJANA

You will start your experience with an optional tour of **Ljubljana** that will take you through the elegant Baroque streets of Ljubljana, over the picturesque Triple and Dragon Bridge, past the beautiful St Nicholas Cathedral. On your own or later in the day, take some time to enjoy the atmosphere of the squares, riverbanks, the vibrant open-air Central Market, or take a funicular ride to Ljubljana Castle. Afternoon free to explore Ljubljana or book our optional tour to the famous Postojna Caves. Overnight in Ljubljana area.

MONDAY | LJUBLJANA-PIRAN-OPATIJA

Your day will begin with a drive through a varied landscape to the sparkling Adriatic Sea and the charming coastal town of Piran. The city of **Piran** is also known for its delicious Mediterranean cuisine. Take a walk along the promenade and try one of many restaurants located only a few steps from the sea or join the optional city tour. Continue towards Opatija. Historical town, characterized by an impressive architecture, and vibrant streets are waiting for you to be discovered. This small coastal town is known for its excellent restaurants and 12 km Lungomare seaside promenade winding its way along the coast to Opatija and further on to Lovran. Overnight in Opatija area.

TUESDAY | OPATIJA-PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK-ZADAR

Morning transfer to Plitvice National Park. Enjoy your free morning or join the optional tour to explore **Plitvice Lakes National Park**, protected by UNESCO for its natural beauty. Discover the magical world of lakes, waterfalls, moss, forests and sunlight. Enjoy the breath-taking scenery of this natural wonder of 16 terraced lakes surrounded by thickly wooded mountains and lush vegetation. Afterwards transfer to Zadar. Overnight in Zadar area.



WEDNESDAY | ZADAR-SPLIT

● DEPARTURE POINT **SPLIT**

Start your day with exploring the city on your own or by joining the optional city tour. **Zadar** was elected BEST EUROPEAN DESTINATION IN 2016. Take a stroll to admire the 16th century walls, built by Venetians as a defense from the Turks. On to see the 16th century Port Gate where the Venetian lion still stands guard over the entrance, the Square of the Five Wells, Church of St. Donat, the Roman Forum (1st century BC) and the largest cathedral in Dalmatia, St. Anastasia. Not to miss: the world-famous sea organs. Continue to Split. Overnight in Split area.

THURSDAY | SPLIT

Take your time to explore Croatia's second largest city on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Diocletian's Palace is the heart and Marjan Hill is the lungs of **Split**. Some say that Hajduk Football Club's fans are the city's soul. Discover the historic inner city, built around the Roman Emperor Diocletian's Palace from the 3rd century, an UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. Finally, see the remnants of Split's Roman heritage, its Renaissance and Gothic structures, Jupiter's Temple, the Peristil and the Cathedral. Afternoon free or optional excursion to Trogir, the famous island settlement also listed on the UNESCO heritage site. Admire the beautiful architecture and colorful streets. Later, return to Split area for overnight. Overnight in Split area.



FRIDAY | SPLIT-SARAJEVO

Morning transfer to Sarajevo. The city of **Sarajevo** has been influenced by several cultures and civilizations over its long history. On your optional city tour, visit the Turkish Bazaar Bas Carsija, Husref Bay's Mosque, the Olympic Stadium, and Gavrilo Princip Museum. Take the opportunity to feel and get lost in the atmosphere of the city, taste the typical Bosnian coffee and the famous meat dish ćevapčići. Overnight in Sarajevo area.

SATURDAY | SARAJEVO-MOSTAR-DUBROVNIK

● DEPARTURE POINT **DUBROVNIK**

Morning transfer to **Mostar** and stop there, where you will have the chance to explore the famous city on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Mostar is situated on the Neretva River and was named after the bridge keepers (mostari) who guarded the Stari Most (Old Bridge) over the Neretva in the medieval times. The Old Bridge, built by the Ottomans in the 16th century, is one of Bosnia and Herzegovina's most recognizable landmarks, and is considered one of the most exemplary pieces of Islamic architecture in the Balkans. It was reconstructed according to the original plans and is listed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Continue towards Dubrovnik. Overnight in Dubrovnik area.



SUNDAY | DUBROVNIK

Short morning transfer to **Dubrovnik** to visit and enjoy the numerous monuments in the old town on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Explore Dubrovnik City Walls, visit the Rector's Palace and see the Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column and Sponza Palace. Take a look at the Dominican Monastery and Franciscan Monastery with its Pharmacy, one of the oldest in the world. For a beautiful panoramic view take a ride with Cable car to Srđ mountain above Dubrovnik. Finish the day by walking through the narrow streets full of restaurants, bars, coffee shop and souvenir shops, enjoy the picturesque setting and simply relax. Afternoon free to explore Dubrovnik or join one of our optional excursions. Overnight in Dubrovnik area.



MONDAY | DUBROVNIK-KOTOR-BUDVA

Travel to **Kotor**, a coastal town in Montenegro. It is located in a secluded part of the Bay of Kotor. The old Mediterranean port of Kotor is surrounded by fortifications built during the Venetian period. It is located

on the Bay of Kotor (Boka Kotorska), one of the most indented parts of the Adriatic Sea. Together with the nearly overhanging limestone cliffs of Orjen and Lovćen, Kotor and its surrounding area form an impressive and picturesque Mediterranean landscape. Explore this coastal town on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Continue to Budva, a Montenegrin town on the Adriatic Sea. The coastal area around Budva, called the Budva Riviera, is the centre of Montenegrin tourism, known for its well-preserved medieval walled city, sandy beaches and diverse nightlife. Budva is 2,500 years old, which makes it one of the oldest settlements on the Adriatic coast. Overnight in Budva area.

TUESDAY | BUDVA-SHKODER-TIRANA

● DEPARTURE POINT **TIRANA**

Morning transfer to the city of **Shkoder**. Explore the city on your own or join our optional tour. Shkoder is a city of myths and legends. You will find that this naturally beautiful city has an abundance of mirrors in the Adriatic Sea, the Lake of Shkoder and the Buna River. It is also one of the best cities to visit, in order to experience the famous coexistence of religions in Albania. Continue to the capital city of Albania, Tirana, a city where the cosmopolitan spirit and the charm of a small-town meet. Overnight in Tirana area.

WEDNESDAY | TIRANA

During the optional city tour of **Tirana**, you will take a look at Skanderbeg square, the Mosque of Et'hem Bey, the Clock Tower, and the 11-meter statue of Albania's national hero G. K. Skanderbeg, the Palace of Culture, built with Soviet assistance. On your own, explore the diverse city with its bars, cafes and taverns, and let the locals welcome you with their hospitality. Afternoon free to explore Tirana or book our optional tour to Durres, a pleasant seaside town with a charmingly Mediterranean air and 10 km stretch of beach. Overnight in Tirana area.

THURSDAY | TIRANA-ELBASAN-OHRID

Morning transfer to **Elbasan**, one of the most important cities regarding history, culture and manufacture. A Roman emperor, a Sultan, fascists and communists have all made their specific contributions to the construction of this ancient city throughout the centuries. Explore the city of Elbasan on your own or by joining our optional city tour. Overnight in Ohrid area.

FRIDAY | OHRID-SKOPJE

● DEPARTURE POINT **SKOPJE**

Explore **Ohrid** – the pearl of Macedonia, also known as “the Jerusalem of the Balkans” with its 365 churches. Nestled between high mountains up to 2,800 m and Lake Ohrid, it is not only a place of historic significance but also of outstanding natural beauty, it is the jewel in North Macedonia's crown. Lake Ohrid was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1979. Its most beautiful part is the East coast, belonging to Galicica National Park and protected by UNESCO along with the lake for its natural values. From the east coast, the road winds along the lake and offers many hotels, tourist settlements and organized beaches. Explore Ohrid on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Transfer to Skopje, the capital and the largest city of North Macedonia. Overnight in Skopje area.

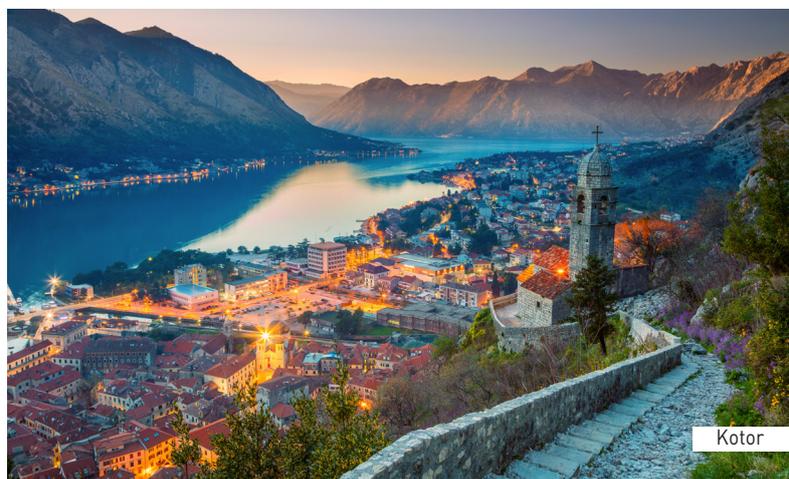
SATURDAY | SKOPJE

Walk through the old town and see the beautiful quay of the Macedonian river “Vardar”, the narrow streets in the Old Bazaar or join the optional city tour. **Skopje** has been occupied by many different peoples since its foundation. However, the group that left the greatest mark was the Ottomans. The Ottomans ruled North Macedonia for hundreds of years and built many mosques and other buildings. Visit the Mother Teresa Birth House, dedicated to the humanitarian and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mother Teresa. Overnight in Skopje area.

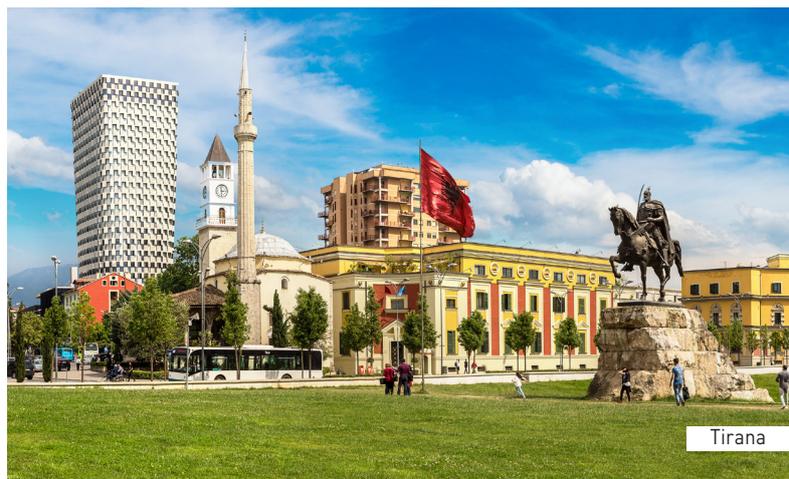
SUNDAY | SKOPJE-RILA-SOFIA

● DEPARTURE POINT **SOFIA**

Transfer to the beautiful **Rila** monastery, the largest and most famous Eastern Orthodox monastery in Bulgaria, where you can join our optional tour. Travel to Sofia, the capital city of Bulgaria.



Kotor



Tirana



Skopje



Ohrid

MONDAY | SOFIA

The city of **Sofia** is located at the foot of Vitosha Mountain in the western part of the country, within less than 50 kilometers drive from the Serbian border. Its location in the center of the Balkan peninsula means that it is the midway between the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea, whereas the Aegean Sea is the closest to it. Explore Sofia on your own or by joining the optional city tour. Overnight in Sofia area.

TUESDAY | SOFIA-NIŠ-BELGRADE

● DEPARTURE POINT BELGRADE

Morning transfer to Belgrade with a stop in **Niš**, a city somewhat off the beaten tourist trail, but well worth visiting. It offers some wonderful surprises, as it is one of the most important and bustling cities of Serbia, with a long and legendary historical past. It is considered one of the oldest cities in Europe. Niš is a university center but also one of the most important industrial centers in Serbia. After exploring Niš on your own or by joining our city tour continue to Belgrade. Overnight in Belgrade area.

WEDNESDAY | BELGRADE

With a history dating back more than 7,000 years, **Belgrade** is a fascinating city to visit. On the optional city tour, you will get the chance to see some of 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. Overnight in Belgrade area.

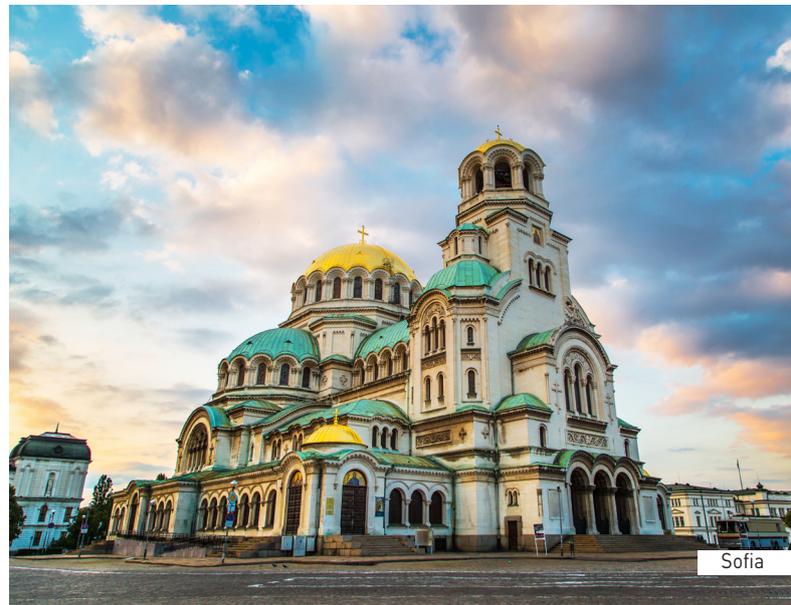
THURSDAY | BELGRADE-NOVI SAD-ZAGREB

● DEPARTURE POINT ZAGREB

Morning transfer to Novi Sad. **Novi Sad** is the second largest city of Serbia, the capital of the autonomous province of Vojvodina and the administrative center of the South Bačka District. It is located in the southern part of the Pannonian Plain, on the border of the Bačka and Srem geographical regions, on the banks of the Danube river, facing the northern slopes of Fruška Gora mountain. Explore Novi Sad on your own or join our optional city tour. Continue to Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia. Overnight in Zagreb area.

FRIDAY | ZAGREB

Zagreb is a remarkable city of many faces. On the optional guided tour, you will walk through the three historic parts of Zagreb, the medieval Upper Town (Gornji Grad), Kaptol, and monumental Lower Town (Donji Grad). Overnight in Zagreb area.



Sofia



Belgrade



Zagreb

PRICES AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

STANDARD TOUR

Our Go Balkan Express **STANDARD tour** includes accommodation with breakfast, throughout English-speaking guide and transfers by car/van as per itinerary with maximum 8 passengers travelling together.

PRICE: 170 €/person/day

Standard tour price includes:

- Tourist class 3* hotels, rooms with private facilities
 - Continental breakfast daily
 - Shared transfers by modern air-conditioned car/van
 - English-speaking Professional Tour Manager
-

PRIVATE TOUR

Don't like to share? Book our Go Balkan Express **PRIVATE tour** and enjoy your own, private and exclusive Go Balkan Express tour.

PRICE: 220 €/person/day

Private tour price includes:

- Tourist class 3* hotels, rooms with private facilities
 - Continental breakfast daily
 - **Private** transfers by modern air-conditioned motor car/van
 - English-speaking Professional Tour Manager
-

Optional extras:

- **Guided city tours with English-speaking guides for only 35 €/person/day**
(Guided city tours will be organized in Bled, Ljubljana, Piran, Plitvice Lakes, Zadar, Split, Sarajevo, Mostar, Dubrovnik, Kotor, Shkoder, Tirana, Elbasan, Ohrid, Skopje, Rila, Sofia, Niš, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Zagreb)
- **Single room supplement = 40 €/person/day**
- **Airport transfer:**
Car (up to 3 pax) = 30 €/transfer
Van (up to 8 pax) = 60 €/transfer

Not included:

- Lunches and dinners
- Entrance fees
- Arrival/departure transfers (can be booked separately)

Tour Conditions:

- Minimum stay is 2 nights.
- Minimum number of participants on the tour is 2 people (2 x adult person).
- Exact tour itinerary and possible additional services need to be chosen at the time of booking or at least 21 days before. During the tour, changes are not permitted.
- Location of overnight hotel will be within the mentioned city or max 30 km out of the city.
- Possible upgrade of hotels upon request.
- Bookings made less than 21 days before the tour starting date are on request only.
- Accommodation on departure day is not included.
- Breakfast on your chosen arrival day is not included.
- Arrival and departure transfers are not included but can be booked with supplement.

Reservations:

- All bookings must be done in writing and must state names of the passengers, type of requested room and flight details.

Child policy (PRIVATE TOUR ONLY):

Children up to 11,99 years of age are not allowed to travel on our STANDARD tour. If you are travelling with children under 11,99 years of age, please book our PRIVATE tour.

- Infants up to 1,99 years of age (without bed and meal) are traveling free of charge.
- Discount for children up to 11,99 years of age on additional bed traveling with 2 adults is 20%.

Cancellations:

Any changes and cancellations must be done in writing and will apply to the following conditions:

- Cancellations 21 or more days before the tour starting date are accepted without penalties.
- Cancellation between 20 and 15 days before the tour starting date: 50% of the total amount will be charged.
- Cancellation within 14 days before the tour starting date: full cancellation charges apply.

Payment:

- 100% of the total amount is required to be paid 21 days before tour starting date.