GEEO ITINERARY

Northern Balkans 7/10/2027

Day 1: Budapest Arrive in Budapest at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.

Arrive at any time. There are no planned activities until the Welcome Meeting in the evening. The tour starts in Budapest, and the nearest airport is **Liszt Ferenc International Airport (BUD)**.

Consider arriving 1-2 days early to explore the city, adjust to the time zone, and buffer against flight delays. We can request extra hotel nights for you before the program begins. With the Danube River dividing old town, Buda, from the newer area, Pest, there is plenty to see and do. Opt to visit Buda Castle, window shop in Pest, or soak in the city's famous thermal baths.

Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting
Hotel check-in is normally between 2–3 p.m. Check with reception for the exact time and location of the group welcome meeting, typically between 6–7 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. If you're running late, send a message in the group WhatsApp or call the emergency number on your trip voucher so that your tour leader can let you know where and when to meet the group.

After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another.

> **Joining Instructions**
> Taxi: (€25-30 | ~30-40min) Metered taxis are available at the airport. Do not accept rides from drivers hanging around the arrivals hall. You should head right outside the terminal to the official Főtaxi booth, log your destination with the agent, and they will hand you a receipt with a designated taxi number and an estimated price. Ride hailing apps like Bolt are also popular.
> Public Transportation: (~45-60min) Take bus NR 100E to Deák Ferenc tér metro station (City Centre), then transfer to Metro Line 3 (blue line) to Corvin-negye (direction: Kőbánya-Kispest). From there, the walk to the hotel takes about 10–15 minutes.
> Private Transfer: Book a private or shared transfer through Viator. Choose highly-rated services with many reviews.

Day 2: Budapest/Novi Sad After a full-day bus journey, arrive in Novi Sad. Enjoy the first opportunity to try some Serbian cuisine.

After a full day's bus journey, cross into Serbia and arrive in Novi Sad.

Novi Sad, located on the banks of the Danube River, is Serbia's second-largest city. Atop a riverside bluff stands Petrovaradin Fortress, and across the river is the old quarter, Stari Grad, site of the Gothic Revival Name of Mary Church and Neo-Renaissance City Hall. We will spend an evening wandering this cultural hub.

NOTE: Border crossings in the Balkans are typically pretty easy but there can be some delays. Ensure you have any necessary visas to speed up the process.

Approximate travel time: 5 hrs by bus
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3: Novi Sad/Belgrade Spend the morning exploring Novi Sad. Visit the famous Petrovaradin Fortress and, with time, check out Stari Grad. In the afternoon, hop a train for a short ride to Belgrade.

This morning, we take the opportunity to explore Novi Sad, the ancient capital of Serbia. We start by visiting the famous Petrovaradin Fortress, whose construction began in the late 1600s. Today, the fortress remains an important landmark for the city. We will also visit the famous “reversed clock” and learn more about the varied history of this site. If we have time, we will check out the charming old town, or Stari Grad. Opt to visit some of the neighborhood’s many monuments or museums, and stop into a café or shop along the way.

In the afternoon, we hop on a bus for a short ride to Belgrade, where you will have the rest of the day free to explore on your own. Opt to walk down the pedestrian street of Skadarlija or visit Republic Square.

Approximate travel time: 1-1.5 hrs by local bus
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4: Belgrade Visit the Kalemegdan Fortress. Spend the rest of the day freely, perhaps on a boat on the Danube or shopping in the local markets.

We start the day by visiting the Kalemegdan Fortress, also known as the Belgrade Fortress, which consists of the old citadel and Kalemegdan Park. Located in the Old Town of Belgrade, the sight makes for one of the best lookouts in the city, staring down at the confluence of two rivers.

You will be free to explore Belgrade for the rest of the day. There is a lot to see and do. You can take the opportunity to float down the Danube on a river cruise or perhaps to go shopping in one of the many bustling markets. Alternatively, consider visiting the National Theater or National Museum. The city offers a wealth of churches and cathedrals, as well as an interesting Ethnographic Museum where you can learn more about Serbian culture, traditions, costumes, and tools used throughout history.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5: Belgrade/Sarajevo Travel to Sarajevo. Walk the cobblestone streets, visit the Latin Bridge, and soak in the atmosphere.

We leave the country of Serbia and travel to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina and one of the most beautiful and diverse cities in the region. We will visit the famous Latin Bridge, which played an important part in the history of this area. This is the site where the Archduke of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Franz Ferdinand, was assassinated, leading to the start of World War I.

Soak in the bustling atmosphere of this resilient city.

Approximate travel time: 7-8 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6: Sarajevo Take an included tour of the Tunnel of Life. Spend some free time exploring the Stari Grad section and looking for "Sarajevo Roses."

Today, we will have a tour of the Tunnel of Life, which played a crucial role in the survival of the people of Sarajevo during the civil war of the mid-to-late 1990s. Visit the airport and the house of a brave Bosnian who allowed the smuggling of supplies. Hear firsthand accounts of the horrors of war and the resilience of the people of Sarajevo. Drive into the mountains and learn more about the somber history.

You will have the afternoon to explore Sarajevo on your own. Take the opportunity perhaps to walk around the cobblestone streets of the Old Town (Stari Grad) and taking in the architecture of diverse places of worship. This is also a great place to shop and visit markets.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 7: Sarajevo/Mostar Travel to Mostar. Wander the old city and visit the new, taking in the many reminders of what the people of this region have survived.

Today, we travel through beautiful countryside before reaching the charming city of Mostar. The city's symbol, a beautiful reconstructed Ottoman-style bridge, is a reminder of the tenacity of Bosnians in recent times. The bridge was constructed in the 1600s and was meticulously rebuilt after its destruction during the Bosnian War. Wait at the bottom for daredevils to dive into the icy river below.

For a sobering look into the city's recent history, wander through town, passing buildings still riddled with bullet holes. Visit a bank that was completely destroyed during the war and past houses in shambles. While life continues and progress is made, these sights remain as reminders of the evils of war.

You will have plenty of free time today to enjoy the laid-back atmosphere of Mostar.

Approximate travel time: 2-3 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8: Mostar/Kotor Continue on to Montenegro and arrive at the Bay of Kotor. There is free time here to relax or explore as desired.

We leave Bosnia and cross over to the country of Montenegro for two days on the Bay of Kotor, a region that is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Arrive in time to start exploring this gorgeous area. If relaxing is more your style, the beach of Kotor offers a great escape.

Approximate travel time: 3-4 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9: Kotor Enjoy a sea kayaking tour before free time to relax or explore. Wander the streets of the walled city of Kotor, relax on picturesque beaches, or visit the local mud spas.

This morning, we will go sea kayaking to appreciate this gorgeous area fully. Start just outside the Old Town walls and explore the coast. Stop at a beach bar for a break or a swim. The sea kayaking will take about 2.5 hours. There may be a motorboat available if you do not want to paddle your own kayak (ask your Tour Leader), or you can skip this included activity if you wish.

Enjoy a free afternoon to explore Kotor. Take some time to walk around this picturesque town surrounded by a walled fortress built by the Republic of Venice. Kotor has a Mediterranean feel to it and the bay offers a stunning backdrop for photographs.

You might opt to visit the Risan Roman mosaics. Risan, once the capital of Kotor Bay, contains the Roman Mosaics, found in what remains of an ancient Roman villa, built sometime between the 2nd and 3rd century BC. You can also take a leisurely stroll in Perast and the islands, or continue sea kayaking. The Kotor Maritime Museum features historical, cultural, and living artifacts that connect modern Kotor with its centuries-old naval traditions. Learn about the Boka Marines, a fraternity of sailors and navigators who helped shipbuilding flourish in the Balkans.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10: Kotor/Dubrovnik Travel to Croatia and experience Dubrovnik. Choose to relax in one of the many cafés, explore the old town fortifications, or take a boat trip to one of the nearby islands.

Today, we depart Montenegro, cross into the country of Croatia, and travel to the city of Dubrovnik, known as the Pearl of the Adriatic. Set on the Dalmatian coast, Dubrovnik has been an important maritime town in the region for centuries. Surrounded by medieval walls, it is rich in history and is a beautiful city to explore, filled with stunning architecture, museums, and fountains.

Opt to take a city wall walking tour or head out on your own to explore the city's ancient walls. A trip to Dubrovnik isn't complete without doing this 2 km (1.1 mi) walk. See highlights along the way that include Fort Minceta, Fort St. John, Fort Lawrence, Fort Revelin, and St. Luke's Tower. There are three main entrances to the city walls, the principal one located by the Inner Pile Gates.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 11: Dubrovnik In the morning, we will visit the G Adventures-supported Deša project. Then enjoy a free afternoon to explore the old town fortifications or take a boat trip to one of the nearby islands.

In the morning, we will visit the G Adventures-supported Deša project, a non profit dedicated to empowering and employing women in the community. Founded during the homeland war in Dubrovnik, Deša runs victim support for survivors of domestic abuse through computer classes, language lessons, cultural preservation activities, and other inspiring programs. During your visit, you will learn about the powerful work undertaken by the women of Deša and their network across Croatia working to preserve traditional foods and handicrafts.

Then you can enjoy a free afternoon to explore the old town fortifications or take a boat trip to one of the nearby islands. The red roofs of the old city make for spectacular photos, and the seaside cafés serve up delicious seafood. You may want to escape the city on a ferry ride to Lopud Island, part of the Elafiti Islands and home to one of Croatia's most stunning beaches, Plaza Sunj.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12: Dubrovnik/Hvar Head to the island of Hvar. Enjoy amazing beaches, nightlife, and water sports.

Today, we will leave Dubrovnik and head to the island of Hvar, where we will enjoy amazing beaches, nightlife, and water sports. Filled with sunshine, the beautiful island is known for its lavender fields and vineyards in the interior and detailed Venetian-inspired architecture in the towns.

Approximate travel time: 3 hrs by ferry
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 13: Hvar Soak in the scenery and relish the calm on a boat ride around the Pakleni Islands.

Today, we have a scenic boat ride around the famous Pakleni Islands, offering a great escape for those wanting to spend a day relaxing on a quiet beach.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 14: Hvar/Split/Trogir Ferry back to the mainland and arrive in Split. Take a guided tour of the UNESCO site at Diocletian's Palace. Then drive to Trogir, with free time to explore this charming seaside NESCO World Heritage town.

Today, we leave Hvar and take a ferry to Split. After storing our luggage in our private vehicle, we will take a guided walking tour of Diocletian’s Palace, one of the most imposing Roman ruins in Europe. It took over 10 years to construct and is built of white stone imported from the island of Brač. Visiting this UNESCO World Heritage Site is a perfect way to learn more about the history of Split.

We will then drive to the historic city of Trogir, where the Old City core is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. Found in the center of Dalmatia on the eastern coastline of Adriatic sea, this pretty seaside town is a great place to walk and explore. You will have the rest of the day free to explore this charming seaside town before opting to meet up together for one last group dinner.

Approximate travel time: 1 hr by ferry, 30 min by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 15: Trogir Depart Trogir at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart at any time. The tour ends in Trogir, and the nearest airport is **Split Airport (SPU)**.

If you wish to extend your stay in Trogir, consider requesting post-trip accommodation with us.

Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk.

Meals included: Breakfast

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Where you’ll stay

The hotels listed below reflect the properties expected to be used for this program. Final accommodations are subject to change based on group size, availability, or seasonality. The confirmed start and end hotels are listed on your trip voucher:

Day 1 Budapest (Jul 10): Ibis Styles Budapest Center

Day 2 Novi Sad (Jul 11): Hotel Zenit Novi Sad

Day 3 Belgrade (Jul 12): Hotel Bohemian Garni

Day 4 Belgrade (Jul 13): Hotel Bohemian Garni

Day 5 Sarajevo (Jul 14): Hotel Sahat

Day 6 Sarajevo (Jul 15): Hotel Sahat

Day 7 Mostar (Jul 16): Hotel Bristol

Day 8 Kotor (Jul 17): Hotel Marija Kotor

Day 9 Kotor (Jul 18): Hotel Marija Kotor

Day 10 Dubrovnik (Jul 19): Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik

Day 11 Dubrovnik (Jul 20): Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik

Day 12 Hvar (Jul 21): Hotel Pharos

Day 13 Hvar (Jul 22): Hotel Pharos

Day 14 Trogir (Jul 23): Heritage Hotel Tragos

**__Itinerary Disclaimer__: While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*