GEEO ITINERARY

Croatia and Bosnia 4/10/2027

Day 1: Zagreb Arrive in Zagreb at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., and then set off on a short orientation walk on the way to an optional group dinner.

Arrive in Zagreb at any time. There are no planned activities until the Welcome Meeting in the evening. The nearest airport is **Franjo Tuđman International Airport Zagreb (ZAG)**.

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.

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 join the group for dinner after a short orientation walk.

> **Joining Instructions**
> Public Bus: To get to Zagreb Autobusni Kolodvor (the central bus station), take the Pleso Prijevoz bus operated by Croatia Airlines from outside the main International Arrivals terminal.
> Taxi/Ride-Share: Available outside the terminal. A taxi to the hotel takes about 15 minutes and costs around €25–€35. We recommend the rideshare app Bolt for use in Croatia, but Uber will work too.
> By Train: If you are arriving at Zagreb Glavni Kolod Train Station, the hotel is about a 2-minute walk from the station.

Day 2: Zagreb/Plitvička Jezera Leave the capital and travel into the countryside to explore the waterfalls, lakes, and forested trails of Plitvice Lakes National Park.

Depart Zagreb and journey south into the Croatian countryside to Plitvice Lakes National Park, one of the country's most celebrated natural sites. Spend the day exploring this UNESCO World Heritage Site full of cascading waterfalls, terraced lakes, and forested trails. Follow wooden walkways that wind over and alongside the water, offering ever-changing perspectives on this remarkable karst environment.

Continue to the hotel in the evening, check in, and relax before a delicious included dinner.

Approximate travel time: 3 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Day 3: Plitvička Jezera/Šibenik Journey to the coast with a guided food and wine walking tour of Zadar and a visit to the waterfalls of Krka National Park, before arriving in Šibenik.

Depart the hotel after breakfast and drive to Zadar on the Adriatic coast.

In Zadar, enjoy a guided food experience that highlights regional specialties and the influence of Mediterranean flavors. Set out on a walking tour of the historic center, beginning along the waterfront

near the Sea Organ and continuing through layers of history that include Roman ruins, medieval churches, and Venetian-era defenses. Along the way, your local guide will share insights into the city's past, daily life, and regional traditions. The experience culminates in a hidden wine garden tucked inside a 16th-century structure, where you'll sample a variety of traditional Dalmatian dishes paired with three local wines.

Continue onward to Krka National Park, where a series of cascading waterfalls and river channels create a lush and dynamic landscape. Walk along wooden pathways that wind through the park, offering close-up views of the falls and surrounding ecosystems. The terrain is a mix of compact dirt and paved sections, with an elevation change of approximately 330 feet.

By evening, arrive in Šibenik, a historic coastal town known for its stone architecture and relaxed atmosphere.

Approximate travel time: 4 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 4: Šibenik Enjoy a free day to explore Šibenik at your own pace, from its historic fortifications and car-free old town to its pebble beach and local food scene.

Today is yours to spend as you like in Šibenik, a stunning stone city along the Dalmatian coast known for its maze of winding alleys and rich history. Wander the car-free historic core, or climb up to one of the city's historic fortifications for panoramic views over the Adriatic Sea.

We recommend a visit to Šibenik's two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Cathedral of St. James and St. Nicholas Fortress. When you are ready for a break, Banj Beach offers a smooth pebble shoreline just steps from the old town, and Šibenik's food scene has plenty of delicious options to sample.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5: Šibenik/Makarska Travel south with a stop in Split to explore Diocletian's Palace, before continuing to Makarska.

Depart Šibenik and travel south along the Adriatic coast to the port city of Split.

Join your tour leader for an orientation walk of Split to get your bearings and to see some of the main sites. Split, a stunning walled city, is best known for the splendid palace erected by the Roman emperor Diocletian. Diocletian's Palace was originally built as a retirement residence in the 4th century. Today, the palace is not a static monument but a living part of the city—its courtyards, alleyways, and stone walls are filled with shops, homes, and cafés.

After time to wander and take in the unique setting in Split, continue along the coast to Makarska, dramatically situated between the Adriatic Sea and the rugged Biokovo mountain range. Check into the hotel and enjoy a free evening.

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

Day 6: Makarska Enjoy a free day on the Dalmatian coast, with options to relax, explore nearby islands, or take in the surrounding mountains and beaches.

Enjoy a full free day in Makarska, offering the flexibility to shape your experience. You might choose to

relax along the town’s beaches, explore the promenade lined with cafés and restaurants, or take an optional excursion to nearby islands such as Brač.

For those interested in more active pursuits, the surrounding landscape offers opportunities for hiking with sweeping coastal views. This pause in the itinerary provides a chance to recharge while taking in the natural beauty of the Dalmatian coast.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 7: Makarska/Dubrovnik Travel to Dubrovnik with a stop in Ston for an oyster farm visit and walk along its historic defensive walls.

Continue south along one of the Adriatic’s most scenic stretches, stopping near Ston for a hands-on look at local food production. Visit a family-run oyster farm in the sheltered waters of Uvala Bistrina in Mali Ston Bay, where you’ll learn about traditional aquaculture methods and sample fresh oysters harvested on-site. Stop at a rustic restaurant to taste some fresh oysters and have lunch with wine, everything sourced from local products of the region.

Afterwards, explore the town of Ston, known for its extensive medieval defensive walls—often compared to a smaller version of the Great Wall—built to protect the region’s valuable salt works. Ston was an important military fort of the Ragusan Republic, and the defensive walls are world-famous. Originally more than 4.3 miles long, it was the second largest in the world after the Great Wall of China, and now up to 3.4 miles of it can still be explored. The wall rewards those who choose to climb it with incredible views of the town and the surrounding mountains. (Cost to climb up on the wall is about 10 Euros.)

Arrive in Dubrovnik later in the day, where the walled Old Town rises above the sea in striking fashion. Spend the rest of the evening at leisure.

Approximate travel time: 3 hrs by private vehicle
Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 8: Dubrovnik Discover Dubrovnik’s UNESCO-listed Old Town on a guided walk and learn about both its maritime history and modern sustainability efforts.

Begin the day with a guided orientation walk of Dubrovnik’s Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its preservation and beauty. Walk along limestone streets polished by centuries of foot traffic, passing historic landmarks, churches, and fortified walls that reflect the city’s long maritime history. In addition to exploring its past, you’ll gain insight into present-day challenges through a visit to a local community initiative focused on recycling and environmental sustainability.

Check out the environmentally-focused Maritimo Recycling, which turns plastic waste from the Adriatic Sea into useful products like fishing lures, sunglasses, and jewelry. The proceeds from the 3-D printed products fund future sea cleanups.

The afternoon is free to continue discovering Dubrovnik—whether by walking the city walls for panoramic views, kayaking along the coastline, or simply soaking in the atmosphere of this iconic Adriatic city.

Regroup in the evening for an optional final dinner out on the town.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9: Dubrovnik/Trebinje Transfer from Dubrovnik to Trebinje with a stop at a

winery along the way. Opt to meet the new arrivals for a welcome meeting in the evening, followed by a short orientation walk on the way to an optional group dinner.

After a free morning in Dubrovnik, depart around midday and cross into Bosnia and Herzegovina. After driving across the border, stop at Tvrdoš Monastery for a tasting of locally produced wines rooted in centuries-old traditions. Continue to Hercegovačka Gračanica, where sweeping views overlook the city and surrounding hills, before pausing at the historic Arslanagić Bridge for photos. Arrive in Trebinje in the late afternoon.

In the evening, there will be another welcome meeting in the hotel lobby with the new arrivals. Following this meeting go on a short orientation walk along the Trebišnjica River and into the old walled city—an effective introduction to the history and culture of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The route passes the market square, where an outdoor market operates in the morning. Continue through the old town gate to explore the city's historic squares and mosque, and then choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant to further get to know your new traveling companions.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10: Trebinje Visit the local organic market, a family-run apiary, and a multi-generational cheesemaking farm, where a farm-to-table lunch is included.

The morning begins with a guided tour of the local Green (Organic) Market. Starting with the meat and cheese vendors, participants can sample local specialties before moving to the outdoor stalls, where small-scale farmers sell seasonal produce. The group will also meet with women who forage wild medicinal plants and prepare traditional herbal teas.

The group then transfers by private vehicle to a family-run apiary, where a guide introduces the five generations of women behind the farm's development. Participants may suit up in protective gear to observe hive management firsthand and learn about the honey and related products produced on-site.

The final visit of the day is to a farm where cheesemaking has been practiced across more than five generations. After witnessing the cheese production process, the group shares a farm-to-table lunch with the host family. All food — cheese, meat, produce, and bread — is made or grown on the property. The farm has begun transitioning beyond subsistence farming and affiliating with the Slow Food movement to promote awareness of sustainable, organic food production.

The remainder of the afternoon is unscheduled upon returning to Trebinje.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 11: Trebinje/Čitluk Travel from Trebinje to Čitluk with stops in Stolac and at the Koćuša waterfall. Dinner at a winery is included.

Departing Trebinje in the morning, the first stop is Stolac, where the group visits the town center and the Radimlja necropolis—a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring hundreds of stećak, the elaborately ornamented medieval tombstones characteristic of this region. The site offers a significant window into the social and cultural life of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the Middle Ages.

Continue to the beautiful Koćuša Waterfall to enjoy the scenery and have time for lunch. Later, travel to the town of Čitluk where you can spend time in the pool or explore the winery before capping off the day with dinner, paired with their locally produced wines.

Approximate travel time: 4–4.5 hrs by private vehicle (with stops)

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Day 12: Čitluk/Mostar Visit the historic sites of Počitelj, Blagaj Fortress, and the Blagaj Tekke Dervish Monastery before arriving in Mostar for a guided walking tour.

Several historically significant sites punctuate the route from Čitluk to Mostar. The first is Počitelj, a fortified Ottoman stone town and functioning artist colony situated along the left bank of the Neretva River. Considered an open-air museum, the site holds considerable architectural and historical value and hosts artists from around the world as part of the longest-operating artist colony in Southeast Europe.

The second stop is Blagaj Fortress, reached by an approximately 20-minute hike. The fortress predates the Ottoman conquest and served as an important seat of regional power. It sits atop a hillside overlooking the source of the Buna River.

The final stop before Mostar is Blagaj Tekke, an Ottoman-era tekke (monastery) constructed in 1520 for practitioners of the Dervish tradition—a mystical branch of Sufi Islam known for its meditative practices and ceremonial movement. The building is situated at the base of a sheer cliff beside a small waterfall, where the spring-fed Buna River emerges with striking blue water.

Upon arriving in Mostar, a local expert guide leads a walking tour of the city's historic core. The tour takes in the iconic Stari Most bridge—originally built in the 16th century and carefully reconstructed after its destruction during the 1990s war—along with the market alleys and diverse architecture.

Approximate travel time: 1.5 hrs by private vehicle (with stops)
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 13: Mostar/Sarajevo Travel by train to Sarajevo. Ascend Mount Trebević by cable car to visit the 1984 Olympic Bobsled Track, then explore the city on a history and food tour.

The journey from Mostar to Sarajevo is made by local train. Upon arriving in Sarajevo, the group ascends Mount Trebević via cable car for panoramic views of the city before visiting the abandoned 1984 Winter Olympics Bobsled and Luge Track. No longer operational, the structure has become a well-known site of urban documentation and street art, and walking its length offers an unusual perspective on both Olympic history and the legacy of the war.

The afternoon is structured around a history and food tour led by a local expert, combining visits to key landmarks, neighborhood markets, and restaurants. The tour serves as both an introduction to Sarajevo and the group's lunch.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by train
Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 14: Sarajevo A full free day to explore Sarajevo independently.

No activities are scheduled today, so you are free to explore Sarajevo on your own.

You can visit the famous Latin Bridge, the site where the Archduke of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Franz Ferdinand, was assassinated, leading to the start of World War I.

Take the opportunity to walk around the cobblestone streets of the Old Town (Stari Grad). The neighborhood rewards unhurried exploration—its Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, and socialist-era

architectural layers are best appreciated on foot. It is also a great place to shop and visit markets.

Consider visiting some of the following museums:

- Gallery 11/07/95 *(multimedia documentation of the Srebrenica genocide)*
- Times of Misfortune Tour & Tunnel Museum *(walking tour of Siege-era sites including the Tunnel of Life)*
- Siege of Sarajevo Museum
- War Childhood Museum
- History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Museum of the Jews of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Sarajevo Museum 1878 – 1918
- Museum of the City Hall
- The Museum of Gazi Husrev Bey's Library
- Sarajevo VRX Immersive Museum

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 15: Sarajevo Depart Sarajevo at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart at any time. The program ends in Sarajevo, and the nearest airport is **Sarajevo International Airport (SJJ)**. If you wish to extend your stay in Sarajevo, 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 Zagreb (Apr 10): Hotel Central Zagreb

Day 2 Plitvice Lakes National Park (Apr 11): Big House Hotel Plitvička Jezera

Day 3 Šibenik (Apr 12): Hotel Jadran Šibenik

Day 4 Šibenik (Apr 13): Hotel Jadran Šibenik

Day 5 Makarska (Apr 14): Hotel Biokovo Makarska

Day 6 Makarska (Apr 15): Hotel Biokovo Makarska

Day 7 Dubrovnik (Apr 16): Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik

Day 8 Dubrovnik (Apr 17): Akademis Hotel Dubrovnik

Day 9 Trebinje (Apr 18): Hotel Integra

Day 10 Trebinje (Apr 19): Hotel Integra

Day 11 Čitluk (Apr 20): Villa and Winecellar Ostojic

Day 12 Mostar (Apr 21): Hotel Almira

Day 13 Sarajevo (Apr 22): Hotel Cosmopolit

Day 14 Sarajevo (Apr 23): Hotel Cosmopolit

**__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.*