

THE CROATIAN

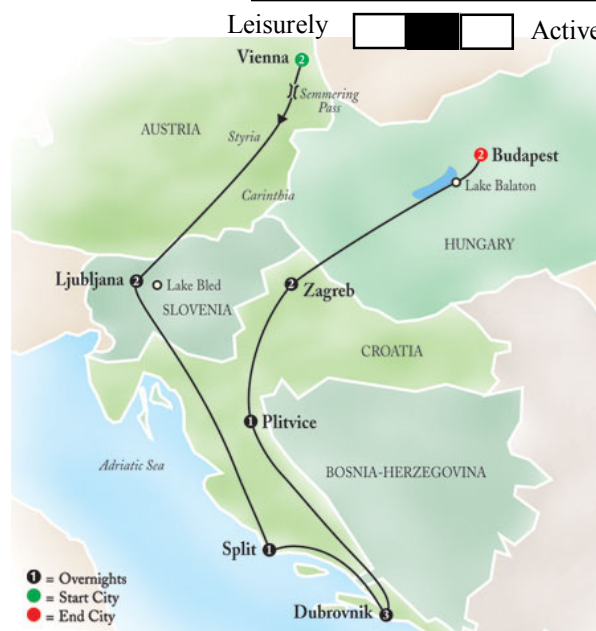
Vienna, Slovenia & Croatia

June 5 - Jun 19, 2011 15 Days

PACE OF TOUR



This romantic vacation takes you from Vienna, once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire, through scenic Semmering Pass, Styria, and Carinthian lakes and resorts, and via the Alps to Ljubljana in Slovenia, where sightseeing features a visit to magnificent St. Nicholas Cathedral. Enter Croatia, where you will stay for a week, exploring the Dalmatian coast and Split, featuring an included visit to the 4th-century Diocletian's Palace. Travel through Bosnia-Herzegovina and arrive in Dubrovnik for a 3-night stay. Admire the impressive ramparts, erected during the Crusades, the 15th-century Rector's Palace, and an entire day at leisure before continuing to Plitvice National Park, famous for its lakes, waterfalls, and forests. In Zagreb, capital of Croatia, guided sightseeing features all the major sights. Leave Croatia and enter Hungary for two nights in Budapest, Eastern Europe's most cosmopolitan city. Admire St. Matthias Coronation Church, take pictures from Fishermen's Bastion, and celebrate the success of your vacation at an included farewell dinner.



TOUR PRICE per person, sharing.

Double occupancy \$4,575
 Single supplement \$772

DEPOSIT: \$300 per person non-refundable.

HEALTH: None required. Consult with your physician and health clinic.

DOCUMENTATION: Valid Canadian passport 6 months beyond return date (recommended).

INSURANCE: Comprehensive Insurance \$150 per person including tax.

VISA: No visa required for Canadian Citizens.

INCLUSIONS

- Professional Tour Director and local guides.
- Flights from Toronto (Ask for airfare from other cities).
- Accommodation in first class hotels. • Gratuities to Guides & Coach drivers.
- Meals as listed. • Sightseeing as listed.
- Roundtrip airport transfers at destination.
- Tour Leader accompanies you from Toronto with a minimum number of participants.

Day 1 - DEPART TORONTO - VIENNA - Depart for your overnight transatlantic flight.

Day 2 - ARRIVE VIENNA, AUSTRIA (D) - Time to rest or to explore the city, once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel.

Day 3 - VIENNA (B) - Morning sightseeing with a Local Guide starts with vistas of Prater Park with its giant Ferris wheel and the United Nations City on the banks of the Danube River. Then, drive along Ring Boulevard, pass the State Opera House and the Jewish quarter, and stop at the Hofburg Palace, winter residence of the Austrian Imperial family. Marvel at the impressive courtyards and famous Heldenplatz, and visit St. Stephen's Cathedral. An optional excursion to Schönbrunn Palace and an evening out to one of Vienna's concert halls can be arranged.

Day 4 - VIENNA - LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA (B,D) - Scenic Semmering Pass, stately Styrian crossroads towns, and Carinthian lakes and resorts provide the ever-changing Alpine backdrop to today's journey through the loveliest parts of Austria to Slovenia and its elegant capital, Ljubljana. Sightseeing with a Local Guide features the medieval castle, the impressive City Hall, and a visit to magnificent St. Nicholas Cathedral.

Day 5 - AT LEISURE IN LJUBLJANA (B) - Enjoy a full day at leisure. There is plenty of time to explore at your own pace, and to stroll along the Ljubljanica River or through the many attractive parks. An optional excursion to Lake Bled is available.

Day 6 - LJUBLJANA - SPLIT, CROATIA (B,D) - Enter Croatia and travel south to the Dalmatian Coast and Split, the ancient Spalato. During your guided walking tour, learn about the history of this captivating resort and visit the labyrinth of 4th-century Diocletian's Palace, a well-preserved fortress and a living part of the Old Town.

Day 7 - SPLIT - BOSNIA - HERZEGOVINA - DUBROVNIK, COATIA (B,D) - This morning, cross the Bosnia-Herzegovina border and admire stunning seascapes as you drive along the Dalmatian Coast to Dubrovnik, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 8 - DUBROVNIK (B) - Dubrovnik, beautifully situated on a promontory jutting into the Adriatic Sea, was once an independent maritime republic rivaling Venice. Enjoy a walking tour with a Local Guide and see the impressive ramparts, erected during the Crusades to protect the town against land attacks, and the Franciscan and Dominican monasteries. You will also visit the 15th-century Rector's Palace. Afternoon and evening at leisure.

Day 9 - AT LEISURE IN DUBROVNIK (B) - A full day on your own to just relax. You may wish to join an optional boat cruise.

Day 10 - DUBROVNIK - PLITVICE (B,D) - Enjoy a pleasant drive north through the Croatian countryside to Plitvice for your overnight stay.

Day 11 - PLITVICE - ZAGREB (B,D) - Time to soak in the pure beauty of the National Park, famous for its lakes, waterfalls, and forests. Then, head for Zagreb, capital of Croatia. Meet your Local Guide and start your afternoon sightseeing, which features all important landmarks of the Lower and medieval Upper Town, such as the Parliament, Stone Gate, the Archbishop's Palace, and more, plus a visit to the majestic Cathedral.

Day 12 - AT LEISURE IN ZAGREB (B) - A whole day to explore the city on your own: wander through the main center and browse through the shops or visit one of the excellent museums and art galleries. Your Tour Director has suggestions for exciting optional activities. Tonight is your chance to try out traditional dishes in one of Zagreb's fine restaurants.

Day 13 - ZAGREB - BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (B) - Today, leave Croatia and enter Hungary. Drive along Lake Balaton and stop to take pictures of the beautifully situated Abbey of Tihany before arriving in Budapest, Eastern Europe's most cosmopolitan city. Tonight, perhaps join an optional dinner outing.

Day 14 - BUDAPEST (B,D) - Morning sightseeing with a Local Guide features elegant Andrassy Avenue, the Thermal Baths, and the world's second-largest Jewish synagogue. From the lacy lookout towers of Fishermen's Bastion, enjoy a panoramic view of the sprawling city. Then, visit the 13th-century Matthias Coronation Church and Heroes' Square. The afternoon is at leisure, and tonight a farewell dinner has been prepared at the hotel to celebrate the success of your Eastern European vacation.

Day 15 - BUDAPEST (B) - Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

INCLUDED SIGHTSEEING

Headsets included throughout the tour

Vienna - Welcome dinner; guided sightseeing, Stephen's Cathedral

Ljubljana - Guided sightseeing, visit St. Nicholas Cathedral.

Split - Guided walking tour, visit Diocletian's Palace.

Dubrovnik - Guided walking tour, visit Rector's Palace.

Plitvice - National Park.

Zagreb - Guided sightseeing, visit the cathedral.

Lake Balaton - Take pictures of the Abbey of Tihany.

Budapest - Guided sightseeing, panoramic view from Fishermen's Bastion, visit Matthias Coronation Church; farewell dinner.