

Adriatic Treasures 2015

Tour Host – Rev Dr Carol Hebron Obl OSB

DAY 01 VIENNA

SAT 22 Aug On arrival in Vienna we shall be met and transferred to our hotel. Rest of day at leisure until we meet all our travelling companions at dinner this evening.

DAY 02 VIENNA

Sun 23 Aug Our morning sightseeing tour with a local guide will include the Opera House, entrance to the Spanish Riding School and St. Stephen Cathedral. This afternoon is free for shopping and exploring. The coach will take us back to the hotel in time for dinner. (B, D) (2 nights here)



DAY 03 VIENNA-BLED (Slovenia)

Mon 24 Aug We drive south today to the tiny country of Slovenia and the very beautiful town of Bled, situated on a picturesque lake. Free time until dinner. (B, D)

DAY 04 BLED

Tue 25 Aug A sightseeing tour of Bled features the charming town with the lakeshore, and imposing Bled Castle, perched on a cliff high above the lake. We shall take a pletna boat ride to Bled Island and visit St Mary church with a collection of religious art. In the afternoon drive to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour in Brezje, the largest pilgrimage site in Slovenia. Here see the famous painting of the Our Lady of Brezje, the Patron Saint of Slovenia. Return to Bled for dinner and overnight. (B, D) (2 nights here)

DAY 05 BLED – LJUBLJANA

Wed 26 Aug A short drive to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, and embark on a city tour. Visit the most significant sights of the old city centre: the picturesque Central open-air Market and the Three Bridges, both designed by famous architect Joze Plecnik, Baroque Town Hall and Robba's Fountain and Ljubljana castle. Rest of the day is free. (B, D)

DAY 06 LJUBLJANA – POSTOJNA – LJUBLJANA

Thu 27 Aug Morning drive to Postojna, home of one of the largest caves in Europe. Tour the fantastic subterranean world by miniature electric train. After returning to Ljubljana, free time. (B) (2 nights here)

DAY 07 LJUBLJANA – ZAGREB (Croatia)

Fri 28 Aug Upon arrival in Zagreb, sightseeing tour will take you along the historic Upper Town. See St. Mark's Church, St. Catherine's Church, Zagreb Cathedral, the Parliament and the Government Palace. Rest of day at leisure. (B, D)



DAY 08 ZAGREB – PLITVICE

Sat 29 Aug Morning drive to Plitvice Lakes National Park. Upon arrival, have your camera ready and take a walking tour around several of the lower lakes. Enjoy the breathtaking scenery of this natural wonder of 16 terraced lakes surrounded by thickly wooded mountains and lush vegetation. Stay in Plitvice for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 09 PLITVICE – SPLIT

Sun 30 Aug Upon arrival in Split this morning, we shall enjoy a city tour featuring the historic inner city, built around Roman Emperor Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. See remnants of Split's Roman heritage, its Renaissance and Gothic structures, sights of Jupiter's Temple, the Peristyle and Cathedral. Rest of the day is free to explore the city on your own. (B, D)

DAY 10 SPLIT

Mon 31 Aug Day free at leisure. (B) (2 nights here)

DAY 11 SPLIT – MOSTAR – DUBROVNIK

Tue 01 Sep Drive to Mostar this morning. During orientation tour view the remains of the Turkish quarter and the reconstruction efforts on the 16th century stone bridge. Continue through the marvellous gorge of the Neretva River to Dubrovnik. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)



DAY 12 DUBROVNIK

Wed 02 Sep There is a walking tour of Old Dubrovnik this morning; the Rector's Palace, Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column and the Sponza Palace. You will also see the Dominican Monastery and Franciscan Monastery with its pharmacy, one of the oldest of the world. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B, D)

DAY 13 DUBROVNIK

Thu 03 Sep Free day with optional tour to a cultural performance and a tasting of typical Croatian cuisine. (B) (3 nights here)

DAY 14 DUBROVNIK – TIRANA (Albania)

Fri 04 Sep Cross the border into Montenegro and continuing south to Albania and travel to the town of Shkodra, a cultural centre and one of Albania's oldest cities. Sightseeing tour will include the ruins of Rozafa Castle, set on a hill high above the city, then on to Albania's capital, Tirana. (B, D)

DAY 15 TIRANA

Sat 05 Sep On a morning sightseeing tour, we shall see the Skanderbeg Square, the Clock Tower, and the statue of G.K. Skanderbeg, Albania's national hero; the Palace of Culture, built with Soviet assistance; and enter the Mosque of Et'hem Bey and the National History Museum, with a mosaic on its facade portraying Albanian history. Your afternoon is free to continue exploring on your own, shop, or just relax. (B, D) (2 nights here)

DAY 16 TIRANA – OHRID (Macedonia)

Sun 06 Sep After the morning drive to the lakeside resort of Ohrid, that is an important cultural and spiritual centre, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site, we start our sightseeing tour with a walk through the cobblestone streets of the old town. Visit the Cathedral of St. Sofia, containing some magnificent frescoes from the 10th century. (B, D)

DAY 17 OHRID – KALAMBAKA (Greece)

Mon 07 Sep Drive through Macedonia today and cross the border into Greece and on to the town of Kalambaka. Visit to an icon factory and enjoy the rest of day on your own. Dinner is at a local tavern this evening. (B, D)

DAY 18 KALAMBAKA – THESSALONIKI

Tue 08 Sep After breakfast, admire the fantastic landscapes of Meteora, known as 'the rocks that fell from the sky'. Here monks built their rock-top monasteries, far away from civilization. Of the 13 large and 20 small monasteries and hermit's cells, only 4 are now active. We shall visit two monasteries. Then drive on to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



DAY 19 THESSALONIKI

Wed 09 Sep Morning sightseeing to include Galerius Arch (Kamara), Rotunda, St. Demetrius church, Roman Forum, Our Lady of the Coppersmiths church, Bey Hamam Baths (Paradise Baths), church of Holy Wisdom, White Tower. Rest of the day free – perhaps visit the Jewish Quarter and the Modiano Market or just explore the vibrant trading port city at your own pace. (B)

Day 20 THESSALONIKI

Thu 10 Sep Enjoy a day free at leisure or join the optional tour to Pella and Vergina, sites of ancient Macedonian civilisations. Our farewell dinner this evening will be in a local taverna. (B, D) (3 nights here)

Day 21 THESSALONIKI – Depart

Fri 11 Sep After breakfast we transfer to airport for departure flights (B)

Tour Cost: Land Only: AUD 5900 (share twin)

Single Supplement: **AUD 1150** (numbers are limited)

Inclusions:

- **Accommodation** – hotels are mainly locally graded 3/4* with private facilities. (Tour based on share twin accommodation.) Supplement is payable for passengers requiring single rooms.
- **Meals** – breakfasts (Continental) throughout. Additional meals will be provided as detailed above: **L = Lunch, D = Dinner.**
- **Entrances** – we have arranged for pre-payment of entrances as follows:

Spanish Riding School, St Stephen's Cathedral, Bled Castle, Pletna Boat ride, St Mary Church Bled Island, Ljubljana Castle (not the tower or museum or funicular), Zagreb Cathedral, Plitvice Lakes National Park, Diocletian's Palace, Dominican Monastery Dubrovnik, Franciscan Monastery and Pharmacy, Rozafa Castle, Mosque of Et'hem Bey, National History Museum Tirana, Cathedral of St Sofia, Icon Factory, two monasteries at Meteora.

- **Touring** – in air-conditioned coach or mini-bus (depending on group size) with driver and English

speaking guide. This is a private tour.

- **Tips** – to driver and guide.
- **Porterage at hotels** – one piece of luggage per person

Not Included:

- **Airfares / Airline taxes / airport charges.**
- **Insurance** – Travel Insurance is extremely important. You are at liberty to arrange this through your own insurance provider. However, Travelmarket, in association with Canterbury Tours, will be happy to arrange this on your behalf.
- **Passport and visa fees.** At time of publication no visas are required for this itinerary.
- **Drinks** with meals
- **Items of a personal nature** – this goes without saying!

Optional Sightseeing:

Additional sightseeing tours, during this tour, will be available as follows:

Some of the optional tours that will be available (there may be other tours available – depending on numbers)

VIENNA

An evening cultural performance.

DUBROVNIK

Excursion to view national dance, song and taste Croatian cuisine.

THESSALONIKI

One day tour to Pella and Vergina. Pella was the birthplace of Alexander the Great and the first Macedonian capital. Vergina museum houses the fantastic discoveries of the Gold of Phillip of Macedon. Great tour for those interested in ancient history and archaeology.

Airfares:

The prices quoted above are for land content only. Passengers are able to utilise the services of any airline of their choice and bookings can be made personally or through any travel agent. If you require assistance please let us know.

Important – Please Note:

While every effort has been made to assess the cost of this tour as a whole, should there be variances to currency exchange rates, Canterbury Tours reserves the right to impose a surcharge to the quoted cost.

Should the tour numbers not reach the minimum required to obtain the quoted price, the tour may have to be cancelled. In this case a full refund of monies paid would be offered, or alternatively, the group as booked would be offered the option to proceed with the tour at a price to cover the reduced numbers.

Deposit

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to confirm a place on the tour. Please consider Cancellation Insurance at this time, as this deposit is non-refundable except under extreme circumstances.

Balance of Payment

Full payment of the balance of the tour cost will be due and payable by 15 June 2015. After that date all unused accommodation will be released to the overseas suppliers, and late applications to join the tour will be possible only upon request and consultation with the various overseas suppliers and the airline concerned.

Health

This tour is not strenuous, though there are days when quite a deal of walking is required, and often on cobblestoned streets – please consider your individual capabilities in this regard. The tour is not rushed and will be conducted to please all passengers if possible. We have allowed for free time and even free days whilst touring. There are four nights when we shall have only a single stay – all other stops are for multiple nights' stay. We are not planning very early morning starts, though there are days when several hours will, of necessity, need to be spent in travelling.

If you require any information regarding the performance of sightseeing etc on this tour, we would be happy to clarify.