



## **Journeys: Discover the Balkan Coast**

16 days, Zagreb to Sarajevo

Trip code ECXNG

### **What's included**

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Brusje Guided Walk, Brusje

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Konavle Valley Agorturizam Walk and Lunch, Dubrovnik
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Dabovic Winery, Nudo
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Siege of Sarajevo Tour, Sarajevo
- Your G for Good Moment: Maritimo Recycling, Dubrovnik
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Green Market Tour, Trebinje
- Your Foodie Moment: Apiary Visit, Trebinje
- Your Foodie Moment: Cheese Making Farm and Lunch, Trebinje
- Your Foodie Moment: Sarajevo Food Tour, Sarajevo
- Plitvice National Parks walk
- Split guided walking tour
- Hvar guided walking tour
- Stari Grad guided walking tour
- Malo Grablje walk
- Ston walk with oyster and wine tasting
- Self guided Red History Museum visit
- Boat cruise to Our Lady of the Rocks, Kotor orientation walk, Winery tour and tasting, Hercegovačka Gračanica Temple views, UNESCO Necropolis tomb stone visit, Stari Most visit, All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing August 12th, 2025 and onwards

# Itinerary



## Itinerary Notes

There are new Health & Safety Protocols for National Geographic Journeys tours. Please see [here](#) for full details and up-to-date requirements as they may change.

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Zagreb

Arrive at any time. Please make your own way to the joining hotel.

Welcome to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia known for a charming old city, complete with cobblestone streets and medieval buildings. Be sure to sample some of the delicious local food and drink. There are also a number of museums to explore focusing on art, history, and archaeology.

After the meeting, opt to head out for a meal in a local restaurant to get to know your Expedition Leader and travelling companions.

Hotel check-in time is approximately 3:00pm. If you'd like to explore this city, consider booking a night or two of accommodations before the tour begins.



### Accommodation

Best Western Premier Hotel Astoria (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Zagreb Orientation Walk

Zagreb

30m-1h

Head out with your Expedition Leader to get your bearings in the vibrant city of Zagreb. Wander by some key sites and landmarks, and check out the amazing graffiti and street art along the way.

Day 2

## Zagreb/Split

Enjoy an excursion to Plitviče Lakes National Park. Take in the splendor of the travertine barriers, which create gem-like natural pools, and wander past cascading waterfalls and towering karst formations on a guided walk along boardwalks. Learn about the diverse wildlife and unique bird population of this World Heritage Site – one of Croatia's most famed wonders. Take some free time for lunch, then journey down the Adriatic coast to Split and settle in for the night.

Entrance to the park is included and there are many opportunities for walking and relaxing in one of Croatia's most famed wonders.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Corner (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Plitviče Lakes National Park Walk

Plitvice Lakes National Park

4h-5h

Enjoy a morning walk in the National Park, admiring the stunning karst rock formations and cascading waterfalls. Enjoy the fresh air and stunning views that make the park a must-see for visitors.

Private Vehicle

Zagreb – Plitvice Lakes National Park

3h-3h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle

Plitvice Lakes National Park – Split

3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 3

## Split

After breakfast, begin your exploration of this beautiful coastal city. Take a guided walk around Split's historic Old Town, where you'll discover the grandeur of Diocletian's Palace—dazzling Roman ruins and a UNESCO World Heritage Site built of luminous white stone imported from the nearby island of Braç. National Geographic writer Barbara A. Noe explored the “Gothic and Renaissance buildings incorporating the Roman remnants into their relatively “modern” styles, all within the palace's original walls” for the article “In Diocletian's Living Room.” Stroll through the charming cobblestone streets and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of the Riva promenade – all while soaking in the rich history and stunning architecture of this unique city. Explore on your own with free time this afternoon. Wander the city at your leisure or join an optional excursion to the historic city of Trogir.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Corner (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Walking Tour of Split with Local Guide

Split

1h30m

Explore Split's historic Old Town on a walking tour, where you'll discover the grandeur of Diocletian's Palace, stroll through charming cobblestone streets, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of the Riva promenade, all while soaking in the rich history and stunning architecture of this UNESCO-listed city.

Free Time

Split

Opt to visit the Archaeology Museum or take an excursion to Trogir.



### Optional Activities - Day 3

Trogir Excursion

Trogir

15-41EUR

4h-6h

Take an excursion to the historic city of Trogir, where the Old City core is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. Found in the centre of Dalmatia on the eastern coastline of Adriatic sea, this pretty seaside town is a great place to walk and explore.

Archaeology Museum

Split

Free

1h-2h

The Archaeological Museum is the oldest museum in Croatia, built in 1820. It showcases a wide range of artifacts, from prehistoric times through Greek colonization and the Roman, early Christian, and medieval ages. The collections include stone epitaphs from Salona, Greek Hellenistic ceramics, Roman glass, clay lamps, antique and medieval coins, and a variety of artifacts made of bone, metal, and gems.

St Duje Cathedral Visit

Split

15-40HRK

The Cathedral of St Duje is said to be the oldest cathedral in the world, built around 305 AD. Climb up the bell tower for excellent views of Split and the surrounding port area.

Day 4

## Split/Hvar

Ready your sea legs as you board a Catamaran to Hvar town this morning, then set off for a walking tour with a local guide. Wander through the historical and cultural sites including the main square, St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Franciscan Monastery, and the Fortica Fortress. Stroll leisurely along the Riva Promenade and enjoy views of the harbor and nearby islands.

Join your guide on a walk back to the Citadel and continue your exploration with free time for lunch. After checking into your hotel, the remainder of the day is yours to fill however you'd like.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Podstine Hvar (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Ferry

Split - Hvar

1h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Walking Tour of Hvar with Local Guide

Hvar

2h

The walking tour of Hvar will take you through the main historical and cultural sites of the town, including the main square, St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Franciscan Monastery, and the Fortica Fortress. The tour usually ends with a leisurely stroll along the picturesque Riva Promenade, offering stunning views of the harbor and nearby islands.

Free Time

Hvar

Take time to explore Hvar at your own pace.

Today, step back into history and embrace traditional Croatian culture. Meet your local guide before transferring to Stari Grad, an ancient Greek settlement that is one of the oldest towns in Europe, as well as a UNESCO-listed site at the Stari Grad Plain. National Geographic writer, Alex Crevar, notes that approximately 120 archaeologists have found remains of ancient and prehistoric buildings in the plains, leading to unparalleled historic significance. After, head to Brusje, a nearly abandoned, once-bustling shepherd's village where you'll walk in ancient footsteps learning of the days gone by. Continue to Malo Grablje, a ghost town deserted since the 1960s, and wander through the haunting ruins of the town. Head to the only working restaurant at Berti's Konoba for a chat with the owner, then settle in for a traditional lunch. Return to Hvar after lunch and enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## Accommodation

Hotel Podstine Hvar (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Hvar - Stari Grad

30m

22km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle

Malo Grablje - Hvar

30m

1km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Walking Tour Stari Grad

Stari Grad

15m-30m

1km

Join a local guide walking the cobblestone streets of the Old Town (Stari Grad) while taking in the architecture of diverse worship. The Latin Bridge played an important role 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 beginning of World War I.

ACTIVITY

1km

Pass by key landmarks, including the historic parish church of St. George, the remnants of the old cooperative building, and the general store, before concluding at the local school and cemetery, silent witnesses to the generations that have called this place home.

Malo Grablje Walking Tour

Malo Grablje

45m

1km

Explore this quiet ghost town village where a beautifully preserved olive mill, an old church, a school, and a public well stand as testaments to its history. Our walk ends at Berti's Konoba, where you'll meet the owner and chat.

Free Time

Hvar

Set out to explore at your own pace. Stroll through the historic Old Town's cobblestone streets, or take a short walk to a nearby pebble beach.

Day 6

## Hvar/Dubrovnik

Cross the Neretva Channel by ferry and travel to Ston, famous for its defensive city walls and oyster farming. Here, enjoy a wine and oyster demonstration followed by a local lunch. Continue on to Dubrovnik, 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.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Hotel Adria Dubrovnik (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Ston Visit

Ston

30m

1km

Wander the town of Ston with your Expedition Leader and see the massive and historic city wall. Learn about oyster farming and the local customs with your Expedition Leader.

Private Vehicle

Ston - Dubrovnik

1h

60km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle

Hvar - Drvenik

1h

77km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ferry

Drvenik - Sućuraj

30m-45m

11km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a ferry boat.

Private Vehicle

Sućuraj - Ston

1h30m

77km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

## Dubrovnik Old Town Walk

Dubrovnik

1h-2h

1km

Set off on a walk through old town with a local guide at the helm. Learn of the intricate history and enjoy the city walls up close and personal.

Day 7

## Dubrovnik

Visit a family-run agrotourism villa surrounded by Mediterranean gardens and sweeping views of the Adriatic. Join a local host on a spirited walk around the picturesque grounds, pick fresh fruits and vegetables in the gardens, and watch a baking demonstration. Then sit down together to share a traditional lunch of local ham, cheeses, and wine. Return to Dubrovnik for a self-guided visit at the Red History Museum—a unique place showcasing life in the former Yugoslavia. After, walk to the G Adventures-supported Maritimo Recycling project where artists are creatively working to clean up the Adriatic Sea. This evening, join your group for an optional farewell dinner.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Hotel Adria Dubrovnik (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Dubrovnik – Konavle

30m

33km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### ACTIVITY

With its lush, scenic landscapes, Croatia's Konavle Valley is a must for any visitor to the region. Visit a family-run agroturizam villa surrounded by Mediterranean gardens and sweeping views of the Adriatic Sea. Meet our local hosts (who'll greet us with homemade liqueur) and walk through their beautiful property to learn about the history and culture of the valley. Explore the lush gardens and pick fresh fruits and vegetables before enjoying a baking demonstration. Then, sit down for a traditional lunch of local hams, cheeses, breads, and wines. Yum.

Private Vehicle

Konavle – Dubrovnik

30m

30km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Red History Museum

Dubrovnik

30m

Learn of the region's history and the daily life during socialist Yugoslavia from 1945 to 1991.

#### ACTIVITY

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 3D printed products fund future sea cleanups, to create more products, to fund more cleanups, to... well, you get the point!

Day 8

## Dubrovnik

Explore at your leisure with a free day today. Discover the well-preserved medieval architecture found in the famous Old Town safely tucked away behind the city wall's stronghold. Take a cable car up Mount Srd and enjoy panoramic views of the city, or sip some Rozulin, a rose liqueur, with the sea breeze in your hair at one of the many seaside cafes.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Accommodation

Hotel Adria Dubrovnik (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Dubrovnik

There's plenty to see and do in Dubrovnik so take the day to explore on your own terms. Visit Kolocep or see the historic city walls.



## Optional Activities - Day 8

Lopud Island Visit

Lopud

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.

Dubrovnik Sea Kayaking

Dubrovnik

It's said that Dubrovnik is best seen from the sea as that's the only way to properly admire the towering city walls. Paddle into the past and imagine how intimidating the fortifications must have been to invaders over the past 2000 years. Learn of the local history, explore the area around Lokrum Island, and check out a popular beach cave where you'll have the opportunity to stretch your legs on the sand. Enjoy a refreshing snack, sunbathe, or snorkel before heading back to port with a new appreciation of this beautiful city.

Cross the border to Montenegro to the stunning bayside town of Perast. Enjoy a boat cruise to the island of Our Lady of the Rocks. In the National Geographic article “How to plan your pilgrimage to Montenegro’s sacred spaces” writer Kimberley J. Graham writes that the church is adorned with more than 2,500 silver plaques donated by sailors who credit the Madonna for their safe return from the sea. Explore the church and treasury before transferring back to Perast for a short walk to the old town and free time to wander the narrow streets and admire the abandoned baroque palaces. Continue onward and soak up the sparkling Bay of Kotor, designated a World Heritage Site for its terraced waterfront landscape and medieval architecture.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Accommodation

Hotel Porto In (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Dubrovnik - Kotor

3h-4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle to Kotor via Perast.

Boat tour Kotor Bay & Perast

Kotor

1h

Journey by boat through the stunning Bay of Kotor to a man-made island home to the Church of Our Lady of the Rocks, built atop sunken ships and stones. The 17th-century church acts as a treasure trove of Baroque art and silver, amongst a dramatic landscape of rugged mountains plunging into the Adriatic.

Free Time

Perast

30m-27m

Take time with your National Geographic Expedition Leader to explore Perast's old town, known for Baroque palaces and churches that line the waterfront.

Day 10

## Kotor

Join your tour leader on a walk to the local market this morning, then enjoy a free day to explore. Discover the Mediterranean spirit of Kotor, surrounded by fortifications built by the Republic of Venice. Consider hiking up the medieval steps of the fortress for panoramic views of the city and harbour. Or opt to experience mud therapy at a local spa to test the natural healing properties of the area's sand. Choose to visit the Risan Roman mosaics, go sea kayaking or if relaxing is more your style, the beaches of Herceg Novi offer a great escape.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Accommodation

Hotel Porto In (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

Kotor Market Walk

Kotor

1km

Join your National Geographic Expedition Leader for a market walk this morning to explore regional specialties and artisan products.

Free Time

Kotor

The day is yours to do as much or as little as you choose.

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### Optional Activities - Day 10

Kotor Maritime Museum

Kotor

5EUR

At the Maritime Museum, explore the history, culture 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.

## Kotor City Exploration

Kotor

Free

15m-30m

Take some time to explore 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.

## Sea Kayaking

Kotor

20EUR

Head out by sea kayak to fully appreciate this gorgeous area. Start just outside the Old Town walls and explore the coast. Stop at a beach bar for a break or a swim.

## Sveti Ivan Fortress Hike

Kotor

Hike up the medieval steps to Sveti Ivan Fortress and be rewarded with an incredible panoramic view of the Old City, harbour and Bay of Boka Kotorska. This hike takes about an hour and is moderately challenging, but a highlight when visiting the area. Climb up just before sunset for the best experience.

Day 11

## Kotor/Trebinje

Set off to the Kovacevic Family Botanical Garden this morning; home to a diverse collection of approximately 127 species of trees, shrubs, and various other flora – the first protected natural monument of its kind. Walk the grounds before transferring to the Dabovic Winery for a tour and tasting. Whet your palate with sips of wine and brandy paired with local specialties to truly immerse yourself in the local Montenegro culture before crossing the border to Bosnia and Herzegovina, en route to Trebinje. Upon arrival, visit the Hercegovska Gračanica Temple for spectacular views of the city.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Integra (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Kotor – Grahovo

1h

50km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Kovacevic Family Botanical Garden Walk

Grahovo

45m

1km

Explore the meticulously tended paths that reveal a remarkable collection of native and foreign plants, a testament to one family's decades-long dedication to preserving the land's botanical heritage.

Private Vehicle

Grahovo – Nudo

30m

15km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

1km

Step into the warm embrace of the Dabović family, who welcome you with a taste of their Montenegrin hospitality—freshly baked pastries and honey. Tour the cellar where you'll learn the secrets behind their revered wine and brandy production, then the experience culminates with a tasting paired with a curated spread of local delicacies that reflect the soul of the region.

Private Vehicle

Nudo - Trebinje

30m

24km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hercegovačka Gračanica Temple

Trebinje

From its perch high above Trebinje, the Hercegovačka Gračanica Monastery offers a stunning view of the city and the Trebišnjica River. Enjoy the scenery from this elevated vantage point.

Today is an indulgence of local flavours, regional specialties. Begin with a tour of the local Green Market; take in the colourful stalls and sample the fragrant fruits, vegetables, meats, and cheeses. Next, head to a female-operated apiary to learn about all things honey and the history of this 5-generation-run farm. After, continue to another local farm specializing in the art of cheese making. Learn about cheese production, sample the products and join the family for an authentic farm-to-table lunch. Head back to Trebinje for an evening on your own.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Accommodation

Hotel Integra (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

1km

Explore the local organic market where you'll meet cheese and meat vendors and try their specialties. Then, move to the outdoor stalls to taste seasonal fruits and vegetables from small farms. You'll also meet local women who collect wild medicinal plants and make traditional teas.

ACTIVITY

Climb aboard a private bus and set off to a local, family run apiary. Meet your guide and learn of the 5 generations of women who've built the farm into what it is today. Suit up in protective gear should you wish, and see how they manage the hives. After, discover the honey and related products, learn more about the family history and enjoy the farm.

ACTIVITY

Join our guide at a local farm that has specialized in cheese making over more than 5 generations. Today the farm is moving beyond just sustenance farming and joining the slow food movement to build awareness about organic food production. Here you'll visit the farm to witness the cheese production before enjoying lunch with the family, outside overlooking the farm. Cheese and meat made on site, fruits and vegetables grown on the farm, and homemade bread - it doesn't get more farm to table than that.

Day 13

## Trebinje/Buna

Set off for ancient Stolac—one of the oldest cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Visit the town centre and stop at the UNESCO-listed medieval Necropolis tombstones of Stecaka. Continue onward to Blagaj for a short orientation walk around town, then enjoy a free afternoon. Perhaps hike to the Blagaj Fortress or if you're looking for something a little different, visit the Dervish Monastery.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Buna (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Trebinje - Stolac

1h30m-2h

80km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Stolac Visit

Stolac

1h

Visit Stolac's town centre and witness the "divided school," which reflects the town's unique history. Next, visit the Necropolis tomb stones of Stecaka, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. These medieval tombstones are a significant part of Bosnia and Herzegovina's cultural heritage.

Private Vehicle

Stolac - Buna

45m

30km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Buna

Enjoy a free afternoon in Buna. Hike to the Blagaj Fortress or visit the Dervish Monastery to experience the local culture.

Day 14

## Buna/Sarajevo

Enjoy a scenic drive to Mostar for a stroll around the ancient town and pay a visit to the famed Stari Most (Old Bridge), considered a symbol of the city's resilience. This reconstructed Ottoman-style bridge was first built in the 17th century and then meticulously rebuilt after its destruction during the Bosnian War. Later, continue to impressive Sarajevo, a city steeped in history and culture. Head out for an evening food tour, exploring tiny alleys, local restaurants and markets and indulge in delicious Bosnian flavours.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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### Accommodation

Hotel Colors Inn Sarajevo (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Buna - Mostar

15m-30m

13km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Stari Most (Old Bridge) Visit

Mostar

1h-2h

Visit the city's symbol; a beautiful, reconstructed Ottoman-style bridge. The bridge was constructed in the 1600s and was meticulously rebuilt after its destruction during the war. It's a reminder of the tenacity of the Bosnians and is a gorgeous sight to behold. Wait at the bottom for daredevils to dive into the icy river below.

Private Vehicle

Mostar - Sarajevo

2h-2h30m

125km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### ACTIVITY

Immerse yourself in the culture by sampling traditional Bosnian flavours. Learn about the rich history while exploring important landmarks, tiny alleys, local restaurants, and hawker markets with a local expert. Discover the city beyond the tourist attractions and fill your belly; what could be better?

Day 15

## Sarajevo

Learn about the four-year-long Siege of Sarajevo from a local expert who lived through this devastating period. Gain more insights at the Tunnel of Hope and War Tunnel Museum, and view bunkers, minefields, and trenches at Trebević Mountain, the site of several battles. After, take advantage of some free time to experience the site on your own before an optional farewell dinner.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Accommodation

Hotel Colors Inn Sarajevo (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

At nearly four years (1992-96) the Siege of Sarajevo is the longest siege of a capital city in modern warfare. Learn about this devastating period from a local expert who lived through the Bosnian War and is willing to share personal stories of this time. Visit the Tunnel of Hope and War Tunnel Museum, and gain perspective on what it was like to live in a 20th century city under siege. Then visit Trebević Mountain, the site of several battles, to view bunkers, minefields, and trenches. One of the most interesting parts about this experience is the opportunity it gives viewers to learn how a city and its people can move beyond serious conflict and once more find peace living together.

Free Time

Sarajevo

Explore this fascinating city at your own pace.



## Optional Activities - Day 15

Latin Bridge Visit

Sarajevo

Free

The Latin Bridge is worth a visit as it is a direct link to history. This is the sight where the Archduke of the Austro Hungarian Empire, Franz Ferdinand, was assassinated, leading to the beginning of World War I.

Day 16

## Sarajevo

Depart at any time.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Today's Activities

Departure Day

Sarajevo

Not ready to leave? Your Expedition Leader can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

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## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Walk beside turquoise waterfalls in Plitvice Lakes National Park, Visit Macirovo House a community hub blending co-op school and market, Cruise the Bay of Kotor to Our Lady of the Rocks and its historic treasury, Taste local wines and regional specialities on guided food experiences

## Itinerary Notes

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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## **Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, 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 Trip Details document 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. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **Are there Itinerary notes?**

There are new Health & Safety Protocols for National Geographic Journeys tours. Please see [here](#) for full details and up-to-date requirements as they may change.

# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

## 1. LOCAL GUIDES

It is important to note that in Europe, all guiding is based around local guides all of whom are licensed to work only in a particular city. As such, our leaders are able to provide orientation walks which will show you the layout of each town and city as well as the location of local services such as post offices and laundromats, but are unable to legally share historical facts and figures in public places.

## 2. LUGGAGE

In Europe it is very rare to find elevators in train stations, hotels or other public places. We use public transport on this trip, which means you will need to carry your luggage from platform to platform, in and out of trains and buses etc. and also possibly up several flights of stairs. You will also need to be able to stow your luggage safely on trains and buses. It is therefore essential that you pack light and bring luggage which is compact and lightweight, and which you can easily transport. The carrying of your luggage remains your responsibility at all times.

## 3. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## 4. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES NOTE:

During high season in Europe (May-October) we highly recommend booking reservations for any popular optional activities/museum tickets etc. in advance to avoid encountering sold-out activities on the ground while on tour.

# What is the group leader like?

All National Geographic Journeys with G Adventures group trips are accompanied by a National Geographic Expedition Leader. The aim of the Expedition Leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

# How large will the group be?

Max 16, Avg 10.

# What meals are included in this trip?

15 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your Expedition Leader will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private minivan, walking, bus, catamaran, ferry.

## **What transportation will we take on this trip?**

Private van/mini-buses are used on this trip.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels (15 nts)

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops.

Please be aware that single room accommodations in European hotels are often smaller, and may not be to the same service level as double-occupancy rooms.

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

On this trip you can expect to stay in small family-run hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. You can expect to find clean, safe, simple accommodation in convenient locations.

Note that most accommodation in Europe does not have air conditioning units in rooms. Air conditioning is not routinely installed in European homes and workplaces. However, nearly all hotels will provide a standing or desk fan for your room on hot nights. If you do not already have one in your room, please ask your National Geographic Expedition Leader to organize one for you with reception.

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

From Zagreb airport (ZAG), you can reach the city centre in a few ways. 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.

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - [Welcome Pickups](#)

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your Expedition Leader. If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

G Adventures Berlin office: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, from calls within North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from within UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from within Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from within Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from within New Zealand: 0800 333 307

## What should I take on my trip?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. You must be prepared to carry your luggage up and down stairs, on and off transportation, and to hotels (max 15-20 mins.)

# What should be on my packing list?

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

## Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Smart Dress:**

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

**When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your Expedition Leader where the closest laundromat is. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected. Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

## How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?**

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Visa cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work - Check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of Euros and cards is best.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:  
[www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

Euros (EUR) are accepted everywhere. When exchanging currency, or deciding what to bring, keep in mind that you can withdraw money from an ATM when you arrive. If you need to exchange USD for EUR, hotel exchange rates are usually quite poor, so try to avoid changing your money at your hotel. You will probably be better off changing your money in a bank or in one of nume

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Do I need to pay a departure tax?**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your Expedition Leader. If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

While conventions can vary from country to country, tipping is customary in Europe. A general rule is 10% of the bill for wait staff, and a smaller amount (€1 or €2) for other service providers.

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your Expedition Leader will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your Expedition Leader for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €30-€40 per person, per week can be used as a guideline.

# What activities are optional on this trip?

## Trogir

- Trogir Excursion (15-41EUR per person)

## Split

- Archaeology Museum (Free)
- St Dujce Cathedral Visit (15-40HRK per person)

## Lopud

- Lopud Island Visit

## Dubrovnik

- Dubrovnik Sea Kayaking

## Kotor

- Kotor Maritime Museum (5EUR per person)
- Sea Kayaking (20EUR per person)
- Kotor City Exploration (Free)
- Sveti Ivan Fortress Hike

## Sarajevo

- Latin Bridge Visit (Free)

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our Expedition Leader they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

# What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your Expedition Leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

Always keep an eye on your belongings especially in major cities, bus and train terminals.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your Expedition Leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, 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 Trip Details document 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. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

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