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**25May to 9 June 2024 (16-days) Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina & Montenegro**

**Estimate Ground Trip Costs RM8,800 per pax (min 12pax), RM8,200 per pax (for group 13 to 18pax)**

**Update 21 August 2023** Estimate trip costs based on current quotes from ground operators, and subject to changes for significant increases to fuel prices in 2024. Return flight tickets with Emirates is about RM5,120

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humor, and above all, have the right attitude for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fussy-pots, and other similarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun!



Waterfalls at Plitvice National Park / View of Kotor old town

This will be a [backpack experience using a mix of local taxis, chartered bus and local trams/metros in some cities](#). Croatia is an expensive destination and we are visiting during the shoulder peak months. We stay in pensions and hostels in rooms, **some private and some shared bath ranging from 2 to 4 pax sharing room**. It is very important participants are able to manage their own luggage and we suggest **backpacks or small trolley bags**. As usual, you pay for your own meals, entrance fees, within-the-town taxis/trams and other activities, unless stated otherwise.

Note - B indicates where Breakfast included as part of accommodation costs. D = Dinner. O/N = Overnight

**Day 0 KLIA Midnight:** Assemble in KLIA by 1130PM on **24 May 2024 Friday** for Emirates flight early next morning.

**Day 1 Zagreb:** Fly Emirates EK343 departing **2:25AM**, arriving Dubai 5:30AM. Transit 4.5hr before reconnecting on **EK2012 10:00AM**, arriving Zagreb **2:10PM**. Transfer from Zagreb towards our hostel nearby city center. After check-in, we are free to wander around Zagreb's old town square and enjoy the many good inexpensive meals. Overnight (O/N) Zagreb hostel doubles/triples for next 2 nights with no breakfast included, but kitchen facilities available.

**Day 2 Zagreb :** We have a full day to explore Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia filled with plenty of cathedrals, museums, art galleries, restaurants and cafes. Members can start the morning at the city's local market and famous Mirogoj Cemetery before escaping the hot afternoon at nearby Maksimir Park. Stay 2nd night Zagreb hostel.

**Day 3 Plitvice National Park & Bihac (D):** Our chartered bus takes us to UNESCO **Plitvice Lakes National Park** 137km 2:30hr and we spend a good part of the day wandering around Europe's answer to China's Juizhaiguo. The Park has many walking trails to enjoy. Members can buy lunch inside park or bring along packed lunch to enjoy enroute. Entrance fees eu23.50 (2023 prices) is included in trip costs. After we finish, we hop across the Croatia/Bosnia border into Bihac 22km 1hr away. O/N Bihac homestay doubles/triples/quads with shared toilets & dinner provided.

**Day 4 Bihac (B/D):** Optional morning white water rafting trip on famed Una river can be done today. After breakfast, we take a short drive towards Strbacki Buk. Measuring about 25m high, it is one of the highest and biggest waterfall inside Una National Park. After exploring this magnificent waterfall, we drive southwards towards Martin Brod where another series of rapids await us. Afternoon free & easy to explore around small village. Second night in Bihac with breakfast & dinner included.



Strbacki Buk waterfall along Una River, Bihac / Mostar old Bridge

**Day 5 Travnik & Sarajevo:** After breakfast, our chartered bus takes us to medieval town of **Travnik**, some 4hr away. The local market is busy with a good mix of multi-religious Bosnians going about their business in this small town place for lunch, trout meals recommended. Members have option to walk up to the medieval Turkish castle, which was the seat of the 77 Turkish viziers who ruled Bosnia for 150 years. Later, we move on to **Sarajevo** 90 km 2hr. Sarajevo is the capital & largest city of Bosnia Herzegovina. Stay in budget hotel doubles/triples with attached bathrooms, no breakfast. O/N Sarajevo

**Day 6 Sarajevo:** Walking distance from our guesthouse is the Turkish Bazaar called the Bascarsija (Turkish Quarter). We organise a half day walking tour with a local English speaking guide. The city is famous for its cultural and religious diversity. Rest of afternoon free & easy. Members have option to visit Vrelo Brosne 12km away with public transport at own costs. The walk there is a tree-lined road/path of 3km that leads to a series of natural springs and streams and a good-sized park, full of locals enjoying the sun. 2nd night Sarajevo.

**Day 7 Mostar (B):** We proceed to **Mostar** 127km away with chartered bus 3hr through some spectacular scenery along Neretva River and mountainscape carved by the river. After check-in, we have a guided tour of Mostar with a local guide. Rest of afternoon free to wander the small town, home to several important Ottoman mosques and old Turkish houses which survived the last Bosnian War. The famous landmark of Mostar is the Old Bridge, a UNESCO Heritage site and venue for the annual diving competition during summer. O/N Mostar in local guesthouse in doubles/triples, no breakfast.



Sarajevo night view / Group at Sarajevo

**Day 8 Zabljak:** We charter a bus to cross border into Montenegro towards **Durmitor National Park**. The park is a UNESCO site and home to Tara river canyon, one of the world's deepest river canyon. Along the way, we stop at historic site of Pocitelj with option to climb up the old fort walls. Overnight in Zabljak, closest town to Durmitor NP. Stay in self-catering apartments for 2-4pax, with no breakfast provided but cooking facilities available.

**Day 9 Durmitor NP:** Durmitor NP is famous for its 18 glacial lakes and enormous Durmitor Massif. We will spend the day exploring Black Lake, the park's largest lake and walking one of the many mountain trails, with self-prepared picnic lunches. Durmitor National Park fee eu6/pax included. Second night in Zabljak.

**Day 10 Kotor:** Morning chartered bus to coastal town **Kotor** 3-4hr away through spectacular mountain roads and views of Tara and Moraca river. Along the way, we stop by Moraca Monastery to have a look at a Orthodox monastery. We arrive in UNESCO Heritage site of Kotor late evening. Kotor has one of best preserved medieval old town in the Adriatic located at the most southern fjord in Europe. Rest of the day free to wander the small Old Town filled with ancient churches and buildings. O/N Kotor in budget hotel/hostel with no breakfast.

**Day 11 Dubrovnik:** Early morning, members can trek up the hill towards Castle of St John for breathtaking views of the Bay of Kotor and the old town below. Our chartered bus brings us 3hr north back into Croatia towards **Dubrovnik** along the beautiful coastline. This is Croatia's top tourist attraction, with its walled old city, wonderful churches and medieval buildings. Another UNESCO Heritage site, Dubrovnik is beautifully located on a rocky coastline and houses numerous restaurants and shops, amidst the living quarters of the locals. O/N Dubrovnik for next 2 nights. Stay doubles/triples/quad in local guesthouse nearby historic center with no breakfast.

**Day 12 Dubrovnik:** We have a full day exploring Dubrovnik on foot. This include walking the tops of the city walls encircling Dubrovnik in an irregular polygon, making Dubrovnik one of the best preserved medieval walled cities in the worlds. Recommend to buy 1 day Dubrovnik Card eu35 which covers the entrance for Dubrovnik city walls and various other sights. Spend rest of the day wandering the old town filled with churches, monasteries, palaces, fountains and plenty of cafes and restaurants to soak up the local atmosphere. Members have option to take the cable car up to Srd Hill for awesome panoramic view of the town or walk up about 1 hr (cable car 2023 price eu14.60 for 1 way). Alternatively take a regular shuttle boat to nearby Lokrum island for some short walks and swimming. Second night Dubrovnik.



Dubrovnik, one of the beautiful UNESCO town

**Day 13 Split:** Early morning, we take the regular local bus **8AM - 1230PM** towards **Split** 4.5hr, located along the Dalmatian coast. Split is Croatia's second largest city, and was once a retreat for the Roman emperors. The Roman Emperor Diocletian, built his Palace here which has now been enlisted as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Option to join a local guided tour. Or simply get lost wandering inside the Palace grounds with many narrow streets filled with shops, restaurants and cafes. O/N Split for 2nights in self-catering apartments 2-4pax, no breakfasts provided.

**Day 14 Split:** Rest of day free & easy to enjoy the colorful and vibrant port city. Option to join the [Apodos Sight-seeing bus tours](#) to visit the nearby sights of Salona, Klis & Trogir. 2023 prices start from eu20-30. Enjoy last night in Split.

**Day 15 Bus to Zagreb-PLANE:** We take public bus from Split towards Zagreb Main bus station **5AM-1005AM**. We then take regular shuttle bus to Zagreb airport for our Emirates flight out. We leave on **EK2013** leaving **3:10PM**, arriving Dubai 10:55PM. Transit for 4.5hr.

**Day 16 Home:** Reconnect on **EK346** departing **3:10AM** , arriving KLIA afternoon on **9 June 2024 SUN 2:25PM**

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Trip Ground Costs cover accommodation, traveling to sites and entrance fees mentioned above.
2. Accommodations will be in doubles, triples or quads with private or shared bath as stated above, in self-catering apartments, hostels and guesthouses. Meals provided with accommodation in the places mentioned above.
3. Not included in the trip ground cost is the flight fares & airport taxes.
4. Not covered are meals (Rm80 x 15 day = Rm1,200), entrance fees and optional activities like Bihac river rafting. In-town trams metro are not covered except for transfers to and from train/bus stations to our place of stay. In some places, we have kitchen facilities for self catered meals to save cost.
5. Cost is subject to change depending on fluctuations in exchange rates and/or airfares. Final ground costs calculated based on **Eur1.00 = MYR5.138 as at 21 August 2023 (Maybank rate)**
6. A Non-refundable deposit of **Rm2,600** will be payable to confirm your place.
7. We may quickly call in more deposits to buy lower PROMO fares either online or through ticketing agent.

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