

# 8 DAY BALKAN DISCOVERY (WBO)





Experience the extraordinary destinations of Eastern Europe on this Danube River cruise adventure through the Balkans. You'll cruise through the rich landscapes and cultural locales of Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania. Embark on your Avalon Suite Ship® in Budapest, the lively Hungarian capital, and sail into beautiful Croatia. Enjoy a guided sightseeing tour in Vukovar and discover Ilok with its 1,000-year-old winemaking tradition. Take a fascinating guided tour of the Serbian capital of Belgrade, one of the oldest cities in Europe, where the Sava River meets the Danube. Cruise through the dramatic views of Iron Gates Gorge—a natural border between Serbia and Romania. Visit Bulgaria's Belogradchik, and see the fascinating rock formations sculpted by natural elements for over 200 million years. On an excursion to the ancient

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Bulgarian capital of Veliko Târnovo, you'll visit Arbanassi's Church of the Nativity, housing an impressive collection of frescoes.

## CRUISE OVERVIEW

8

DAYS

5

COUNTRIES

## COUNTRIES

Hungary

Croatia

Serbia

Bulgaria

Romania

## DAY-BY-DAY

## ITINERARY

## 1 BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (EMBARKATION)

Welcome to Hungary. Your Suite Ship® is Ready for Boarding.

Flights into Budapest must arrive by 2 pm.

Guests must be on board ship by 5 pm.

## OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO VUKOVAR

 Dinner

## 2 VUKOVAR - ILOK, CROATIA

History and Beer

Visit the Adventure Center for today's activities with your Adventure Host.

**DISCOVERY EXCURSION**

Join a Guided Walking Tour to discover the heritage, culture, and tradition of Vukovar and enjoy a beer tasting, OR:

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Join a Guided City Tour to discover the captivating culture and tradition of Vukovar and learn about its rich history and heritage.

Enjoy a brief cruise to Ilok while having lunch onboard.

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ILOK, CROATIA

## History and Culture in Croatia

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Join a Guided tour of Ilok, with its 1,000-year-old wine making traditions still thriving and its medieval fortress protected for its Croatian cultural heritage. Refresh your spirit with a wine tasting in a local cellar and hear the stories of culture and tradition in the natural beauty of Eastern Croatia, OR:

**ACTIVE EXCURSION**

Explore more of Croatia on a Guided Bike Tour along Ilok's city walls, into the central church, and the towns' museum on your way to Principovac Castle and Estate.

## OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN NOVI SAD



Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner

3

**NOVI SAD, SERBIA**

## The Athens of Serbia

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Join a Guided Tour of Novi Sad, the second largest town in Serbia. Admire its Austro-Hungarian old town, with its baroque buildings, and ancient fortifications.

**ACTIVE EXCURSION**

Enjoy a Guided Hike Tour to the Petrovaradin part of the town. Located on the right bank of the Danube, across from the main part of Novi Sad, this area will amaze you for its scenic views, OR:

**DISCOVERY EXCURSION**

Get to learn more about the beekeeper profession on this Guided Tour of Novi Sad by stopping at the Honey Museum and by tasting local honey specialties.

Later, enjoy live entertainment on board.

## OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO BELGRADE



Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner

4

**BELGRADE**

## Fortresses and Folklore

**ACTIVE EXCURSION**

Discover Belgrade's central walkway with your Adventure Host, OR:

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Join a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Belgrade—where the Danube and Sava Rivers converge—and see the city's many fascinating sights, including Saint Sava—one of the world's largest Orthodox churches.

Live Chat

**DISCOVERY EXCURSION**

Attend an onboard Lecture to learn about the rich history, destinations, and culture of the Balkan states.

Spend your free time exploring the city on your own this afternoon on Knez Mihailova Street—Belgrade's central pedestrian thoroughfare with many lively cafés, shops, and cultural spots.

This evening, you might like to join an Optional Excursion for an authentic Bohemian Dinner in the Quarter of Skadarlija.

**OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO GOLUBAČ**

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

**5****GOLUBAČ–DONJI MILANOVAC. EXCURSION TO LEPENSKI VIR–IRON GATES GORGE**

Ancient Artifacts and the Iron Gates

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Visit the Fortress of Golubač, one of the best-preserved medieval fortresses in Europe. You'll hear about its tumultuous history as a border control for defense in the Middle Ages, and a source of conflict between Serbia, the Habsburg Monarchy, and the Ottoman Empire. Continue to the Mesolithic archaeological site of Lepenski Vir with unique views of the Danube Gorge.

Sail through the spectacular and narrow Iron Gates Gorge—a natural border between Serbia and Romania.

**AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO VIDIN**

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

**6****VIDIN, BULGARIA**

Rocks, Ruins and Balkan Beauty

**ACTIVE EXCURSION**

Join your Adventure Host for a bike tour around the city, OR:

**CLASSIC EXCURSION**

Join Guided Sightseeing to Baba Vida Fortress, followed by a Guided Tour of Belogradchik. Marvel at the remarkable rock formations on the western slopes of the Balkan Mountains, sculpted by 200 million years of natural elements, OR:

**DISCOVERY EXCURSION**

Discover more than two centuries of a proud family history of Bulgarian winemaking with a tour and tasting at a local winery. Here, you'll enjoy a wine tasting in the cellars.

**AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO ROUSSE**

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

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## 7 ROUSSE. VELIKO TÂRNOVO & ARBANASSI EXCURSION

Fortresses and Folklore



### ACTIVE EXCURSION

Explore Rousse's old town by bike with your Adventure Host, OR:



### CLASSIC EXCURSION

Join a full-day Guided Tour to the former Bulgarian capital of Veliko Târnovo—with its ancient stone houses clinging to the cliffs above the Yantra River. Discover one of the oldest towns in Bulgaria (circa 4300 BC), as well as the Bulgarian Revival architecture in the 15th-century town of Arbanassi, OR:



### CLASSIC EXCURSION

Join a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Bulgaria's largest inland port and visit its impressive Holy Trinity Church. Later, enjoy a short scenic drive to explore the rock-hewn churches of Ivanovo, a UNESCO World Heritage.

Later, enjoy live entertainment on board with a Bulgarian folklore show.

## OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO OLTENITA

 Breakfast  Lunch  Dinner

## 8 OLTENITA, ROMANIA (DISEMBARKATION)

Your cruise ends with breakfast this morning.

Flights should not leave Bucharest airport before noon.

 Breakfast

# NOTES

- In the event of technical or water level issues, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or alter the program, including hotel overnight when necessary.
- Guided Tours, Optional Excursions, activities, sailing and docking schedules may be contingent on weather conditions or other issues outside of our control and could therefore be subject to change at any time.
- Please check visa requirements with your local consulate(s); responsibility for obtaining visas rests with the traveler.

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