



"I'd love to see the ancient architectural sites that inspired the Game of Thrones film crew. The storytelling amidst the Medieval, Renaissance, and Roman locations in Croatia would bring it to life. I would love to enter the Gates of King's Landing!"
— Margaret Barnes



**Gates of King's Landing
CROATIA**

"One of the 10 most beautiful cities I've ever seen is 7th century Old Town Dubrovnik perched above the Adriatic Sea."
— Mary Lou McFate



**Zagreb
CROATIA**



**Bled Castle
SLOVENIA**



**Island of Hvar
CROATIA**



**Euphrasian Basilica
CROATIA**

"The itinerary was carefully chosen and gave long-remembered experiences of great mental and spiritual stimulation."
— Dr. David Hill

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- First-Class hotels
- Service charges and hotel taxes
- Breakfast daily at the hotels; free time during the lunch hour to use as you wish!
- Dinner daily at the hotels** with 1 glass of wine/beer/non-alcoholic beverage included per person and 1 three-course lunch [Mrija Bistrica]
- 1 bottle of water per person per day on the motor coach
- Assisted arrival with airport transfers
- All transfers with a standard A/C 49-seat motor coach as per itinerary
- Professional tour director throughout
- Sightseeing tours as per itinerary with licensed local guides
- Entrance fees and activities are included
- Whisper enhanced listening devices while touring
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in/out)
- All tips

HOTELS:

2 NIGHTS **ZAGREB: HOTEL WESTIN** or SIMILAR
 2 NIGHTS **LJUBLJANA: HOTEL LEV** or SIMILAR
 2 NIGHTS **POREC: HOTEL BO HOTEL PALAZZO** or SIMILAR
 1 NIGHT **PLITVICE: HOTEL BO HOTEL PALAZO** or SIMILAR
 1 NIGHT **SPLIT/SOLIN: SALONEA PALACE** or SIMILAR
 2 NIGHTS **HVAR ISLAND: PHAROS** (in Jelsa) or SIMILAR
 1 NIGHT **MOSTAR: HOTEL MEPAS** or SIMILAR
 2 NIGHTS **DUBROVNIK: HOTEL KOMPAS** or SIMILAR

"Croatia is a land of fascinating history, interesting architecture, stunning scenery, and beautiful beaches."

— David Unsworth



MONTENEGRO



**Karst Cave System
SLOVENIA**

"I really want to go to Medjugorje! It is at the top of my bucket list!"

— Pat Mudgett

Dubrovnik



**SMALL GROUP
MAXIMUM 25
TRAVELERS**

*The St. Bartholomew Travel Society
of Church of the Redeemer Presents:*

A CHRISTIAN HERITAGE TOUR

**SLOVENIA, CROATIA,
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA,
AND MONTENEGRO**

August 31 - September 14, 2022

Travel with The Rev. Dr. Fredrick & Mrs. Linda Robinson

ITINERARY:

August 31st, Wednesday Travel Day:

Motor coach from Sarasota to Miami International Airport — Overnight flight to Franjo Tudman Airport Zagreb, Croatia

Day 1, Sept. 1st, Thursday Arrive Zagreb

Upon arrival at Franjo Tudman Airport, Zagreb, you will be transferred to your hotel. We will attend a meet-and-greet with your tour director followed by a welcome drink and dinner at the hotel. (D)

Day 2, Sept. 2nd, Friday In Zagreb

This morning we explore the capital city. We will visit the main square, **Ban Josip Jelacic**, where we will see the beautiful cathedral, the open market, **Dolac**, and visit **St. Mark's Church**. We also will view the **St. Catherin's Church** and the **Parliament**. Later we will see the **Stone Gate**, the most significant oath site in Croatia. After some free time in the city, we head to see one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the world – the **Mirogoj Cemetery**. The rest of the day is at leisure with dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

Day 3, Sept. 3rd, Saturday Zagreb - Marija Bistrica - Trakoscan - Ljubljana

This morning we head to **Marija Bistrica**, the most spiritual place in Croatia and the largest Marian shrine, home to the miraculous statue of the black Virgin Mary. In addition to the beautiful church there are Stations of the Cross to Calvary. Behind the Calvary there is the **Convent of the Barefoot Carmelites**. We will have lunch in a local restaurant and then continue our day tour with a visit to the **Castle of Trakoscan**. Finally we drive to Ljubljana and our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

Day 4, Sept. 4th, Sunday Ljubljana - Bled - Ljubljana

Today we will visit **Lake Bled**, the most popular tourist destination in Slovenia, and we will take a boat ride to the island in the middle of Lake Bled for a visit to the historic **Church of the Assumption of Maria**. Later on we return to the mainland to visit the iconic **Bled Castle** for a stroll around the lake, enjoy some free time, and later head back to Ljubljana for a walking tour of the city. We will cross the **Dragon Bridge**, walk through lively squares and streets, and visit **St. Nicholas Cathedral**. Finally, we take the cable railway up to **Ljubljana Castle** to enjoy views of the city. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B,D)

Day 5, Sept. 5th, Monday Ljubljana - Postojna - Portoroz - Piran - Porec

This morning we visit the **Postojna Cave** exploring this mysterious, Karst cave system. After some free time we head to **Piran** for a walking tour from **Tartini Square** and a view of the **Walls of Piran**. Following this there is a visit to **St George's Parish Church** and other interesting buildings and sites. After our visit we will travel to the Croatian border and our hotel in **Porec**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B,D)

Day 6, Sept. 6th, 2022, Tuesday Porec - Motovun - Pula - Rovinj - Porec

Today we travel to the **Istrian Islands** for a visit to **Motovun**, a gorgeous Medieval town. Next we will visit the **Church of St. Stephen** and walk the narrow streets of Motovun. Next we go to the coastal town of **Pula** for a visit to the **UNESCO World Heritage**-protected Roman amphitheater, **Arena of Pula**. We have free time in Pula before traveling to Rovinj which is dominated by the **Church of St. Euphemia**. We will take a walk around this picturesque town, and you will have some free time. Later we travel to **Porec** with some relaxation at our hotel and dinner. (B,D)

Day 7, Sept. 7th, Wednesday Porec – Opatija – Rijeka – Plitvice Lakes

This morning we take a short walking tour of the old city of **Porec**, seeing many palaces and buildings, as well as the **Euphrasian Basilica**, a **UNESCO World Heritage** site. Next we visit **Opatija**, often called "**The Queen of the Adriatic**." Our visit to the **Church of St. Jacob** includes a view of the iconic symbol of Opatija, the statue of the **Maiden with the Seagull**. Afterward we continue to **Rijeka**, the 3rd largest city of Croatia. In Rijeka we will see the **Fortress Trsat** and take a walk around the old city center seeing the **Church of St. Jerome** and **Dominican Monastery**. You will have some free time in the main street, **Korzo**, before our drive inland. This area was most affected by the 1990s civil war. Our destination is the **Plitvice Lakes** area. Tonight we will have dinner and relax at our hotel near **Plitvice Lakes National Park**. (B,D)

Day 8, Sept. 8th, Thursday Plitvice Lakes – Zadar – Trogir

This morning we drive through some areas of Croatia where much of the civil war conflict took place. We will hear stories of this tragic part of Croatian history. We will take a boat ride and also enjoy a walking tour of the **Plitvice Lakes National Park**, another

UNESCO World Heritage site. Our next stop will be **Zadar**, a city known for its Venetian and Roman ruins. We will view several Venetian gates, the **Roman Forum**, **St. Mary's Convent**, the 12th-Century **St. Anastasia's Cathedral**, and the 9th-Century pre-Romanesque **Church of St. Donatus**. You will have some free time on your own before we proceed to **Trogir**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel (B,D)

Day 9, Sept. 9th, Friday Trogir - Split - Hvar Island

We will start the day with a walking tour of **Trogir**, yet another Croatian town that is part of **UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage** list. **Trogir** was built on the site of an ancient Greek settlement and is very rich in history. We will visit the **Cathedral of St. Lawrence** after which we drive to Split, the 2nd largest city of Croatia. We will stroll the narrow streets to **Diocletian's Palace**, tour its excellently-preserved galleries, and visit the **Temple of Jupiter** in the ancient **Peristyle Square**. Next we will see the **Cathedral of St. Dominus**, one of the oldest buildings of its kind in the world. We also will pass through the **Golden and Silver Gates**, walking through the historic squares. Late afternoon we will enjoy a 2-hour ferry ride to the **Island of Hvar**. Dinner at our hotel. (B, D)

"I have traveled all over the world, but the most beautiful place I have ever seen is Kotor, Montenegro."
— Rev. Kevin Maxey

Day 10, Sept. 10th, Saturday Exploring the Island of Hvar

Our day begins with an exploration of **Hvar Town** with a visit to the **Cathedral of St. Stephan**. Next we view the oldest theatre in Europe and have a visit to the **Benedictine Monastery** where we will see the unique, **UNESCO-protected lace** produced by the nuns. Afterward we will walk the streets and squares of **Hvar** during some free time. In the afternoon we will explore the churches and villages that organize the traditional Good Thursday procession: "**Following the Cross**." This traditional liturgy, recognized and protected by **UNESCO**, has been practiced for over 300 years. We will drive the whole length of the procession and visit the churches of the towns and villages in the procession path. Dinner at our hotel. (B, D)

"Mostar [Bosnia-Herzegovina] has a long history of Turkish and Ottoman rule, which you can see still see in the local buildings and the famous bridge. Talking with the local people gives you a real sense of the lasting impact of the '92-94 civil war fought over ethnic differences."
— Julie Baiter

Day 11, Sept. 11th, Sunday Island of Hvar - Medjugorje - Mostar

Today we travel to the town of **Sucuraj**. We will board the ferry to the mainland and our trip to the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. We arrive at **Medjugorje**, one of the most famous places of pilgrimage in the Roman Catholic Church. We will attend mass, and those who wish may visit **Apparition Hill** where The Virgin Mary first appeared to the children in 1981. After plenty of free time, we head to **Mostar** for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 12, Sept. 12th, Monday Mostar [Bosnia] - Dubrovnik

This morning we visit **Mostar** which is famous for its unique bridge over the **River Neretva**. After the tour and some free time, we will continue to **Dubrovnik**, a **UNESCO World Heritage** site. Our city tour includes the highlights of **Old Dubrovnik**. We'll see the **Rector's Palace**, the **Bell Tower Clock**, **Orlando's Column**, **Sponza Palace**, the **Dominican Monastery**, and a **Franciscan** church and monastery with its **Pharmacy**. Later we will visit the beloved **Church of St. Blaise**, protector of Dubrovnik. The rest of the day is free to discover more of the city on your own. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 13, Sept. 13th, Tuesday Dubrovnik – Perast – Kotor - Dubrovnik

Today our travel takes us to **The Republic of Montenegro**. We drive to the beautiful **Bay of Kotor**, the longest and deepest fjord in southern Europe. We will enjoy a boat ride to **Our Lady of the Rocks**, one of two islets off the coast of Perast. The Roman Catholic church there has an attached museum. Upon our return to the coast, we will stop in **Perast**, a charming, old coastal town. Afterward we travel to **Kotor** where we will enjoy a tour of the city and a visit to the **Cathedral of St. Tryphon**. We return to Dubrovnik for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 14, Sept. 14th, Wednesday Dubrovnik departure

This morning we leave our hotel for Dubrovnik International Airport for our homebound flight. (B)



"Slovenia evokes Old Europe. We climbed up to an ancient stone chapel on a hill, listened to a troupe of grade-school children playing violin in the town square, boarded an old wooden vessel where fishermen offered us a dinner of mussels in garlic and butter...all this and more will turn back the clock and charm you."
— Nancy Unsworth



"[An] Unexpected bonus was daily Morning and Evening Prayer with Fr. Robinson, complimentary to the day's exploration."
— Dr. David Hill

"The peace and tranquility associated with traveling with a religious group was soothing to the soul!!"
— Beth Cotner

"A religious pilgrimage differs from a more traditional tour in that it generates a unique sense of camaraderie among the pilgrims as they embark upon a journey which brings to the fore their Christian heritage and helps revitalize their faith."
— Muriel Quinn