



Because we understand you! You choose, we do it! You propose, we action. And if you're tired of inventing something on your own, why not trust the arrangements for your next tour to our experienced team. Below you can find some ideas of what we regularly put into practice.

### What is more, with us you can:

- ~ Hop the islands by bike in Croatia
- ~ Engage in a proper culinary class in Italy
- ~ Ski with one pass in two countries: in Slovenia and Italy
- ~ Solve the Orient Express mystery riddle on the train in Romania
- ~ Get the best of Danube River cruise from Vienna to Budapest
- ~ Sip a glass of beer at Oktoberfest in Munich
- ~ Explore the setting of the Game of Thrones in Dubrovnik
- ~ Sing along with »il gondoliero« glimpsing through the canals of Venice
- ~ Renew your faith in Vatican, Czestochowa or Medjugorje
- ~ Admire the Jewish Heritage of Prague
- ~ Join the assembly line of BMW in Munich
- $\,\,{}^{\sim}\,$  Explore the catacombs of Rome and the caves in Slovenia
- ~ Relax in the Stechenyi baths or Heviz in Hungary or Piestany in Slovakia
- ~ Race a Ferrari in Modena
- ~ Meet real Heidi in the Alps
- ~ Throw a coin in the Trevi fountain and make a wish...



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### Company profile

Established in 2000 in Slovenia, Happy Tours (officially, Druzina Krumpak d.o.o.) started as a family business, with a long association with the tourism industry, and gradually evolved into one of the most important and fastest growing incoming tour operators in Europe.

We employ 50 international staff members, who handle over 1000 groups a year. Our core markets are Asia, North America and Latin America, but lately we are also expanding into many other markets (Middle East, Scandinavia, UK among else).

We are present every year at over 30 international exhibitions or workshops around the world. We are members of ETOA and affiliated members of JATA.

We excel at being the market leader when it comes to group travel in South-East Europe, dynamically spreading towards covering the whole of Central and East Europe. Furthermore, by opening an office in London recently, we want to strengthen our position in the West European market and become an even more competent partner for this region.

We have a MICE department operating under a special brand - PRIVILEGIUM - and we are also developing more and more FIT products. We have a sister company, Balkans d.o.o., which owns the coaches and mini-vans we operate.

We excel at fast response times, competitive pricing and 24/7 customer support (with decision making capacity), a broad network of experienced tour guides and transport providers, multilingualism and multicultural expertise – our staff members come from 10 countries.

At Happy Tours, we are aware of that every group has specific requirements depending on their cultural background, and that even two groups from the same country are not the same. We monitor travel from arrival at the airport until departure from Europe and make sure that everything runs smoothly. We aim to develop a long-term and lasting relationship with our clients and provide a positive travel experience – which is what Happy Tours is all about.

### **Our Network**

HAPPY TOURS Western Europe - Headquarters : London, UK, +44-7968-635-866, info@happytours.eu

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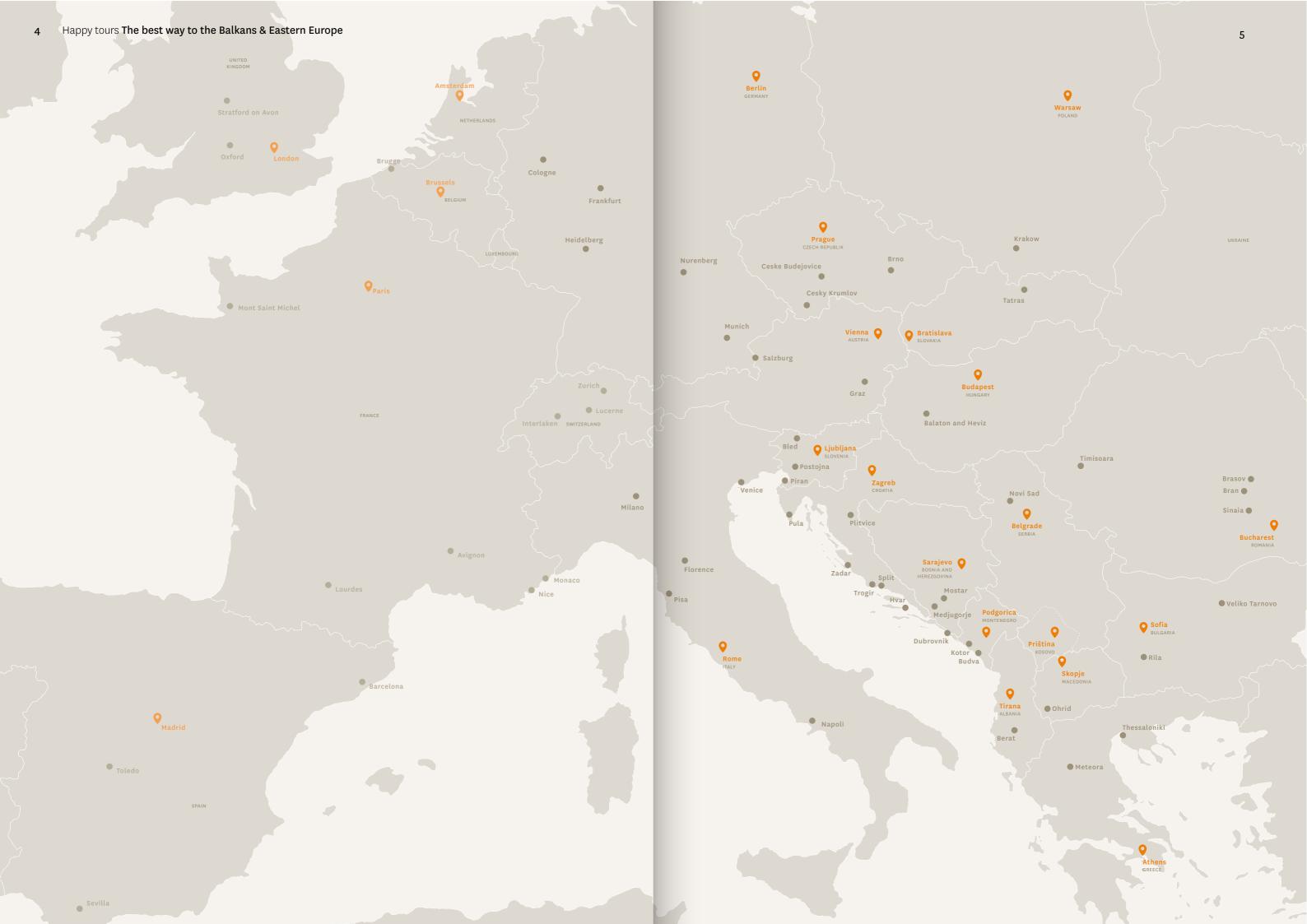
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SHANGHAP

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# **SLOVENIA**

A melting pot of Slavic, Central European, Balkan and Mediterranean cultures

you find it on a map? In Europe? Somewhere near Austria? Yes, indeed. This small, yet cosmopolitan country is surrounded by much more internationally well-known countries, Italy, Austria, Hungary and Croatia, and is one of the countries with direct access to the Adriatic Sea, although with only 46 km of coastline. Often referred to as Europe in a nutshell, Slovenia has everything you need for a perfect break – in every season.

Slovenia - Can you say you know exactly where it is? Could

### **WHY VISIT**

### Discover the infinity of a pocket-size country

Although only half the size of Switzerland, Slovenia has beautiful and diverse countryside, comprising all the major regions found in Europe, so it is often referred to as Europe in a nutshell. Short distances between diverse landscapes make you feel that everything is within reach. This means that you can go skiing in the morning and sail the Adriatic in the afternoon

### Explore the land of diversity

Slovenia boasts numerous must-see places, like the charming pocketsized capital of Ljubljana, with its hilltop castle; the coastal town of Piran perched on a tiny piece of land jutting into the sea; the biggest European cave, Postojna Cave, which never fails to work its magic; Bled with a picture-postcard lake with an island and a medieval castle rising overhead, and the emerald green Soča River, one of the most thrilling places in Europe for white-water rafting.

### Water is the driving force of all nature

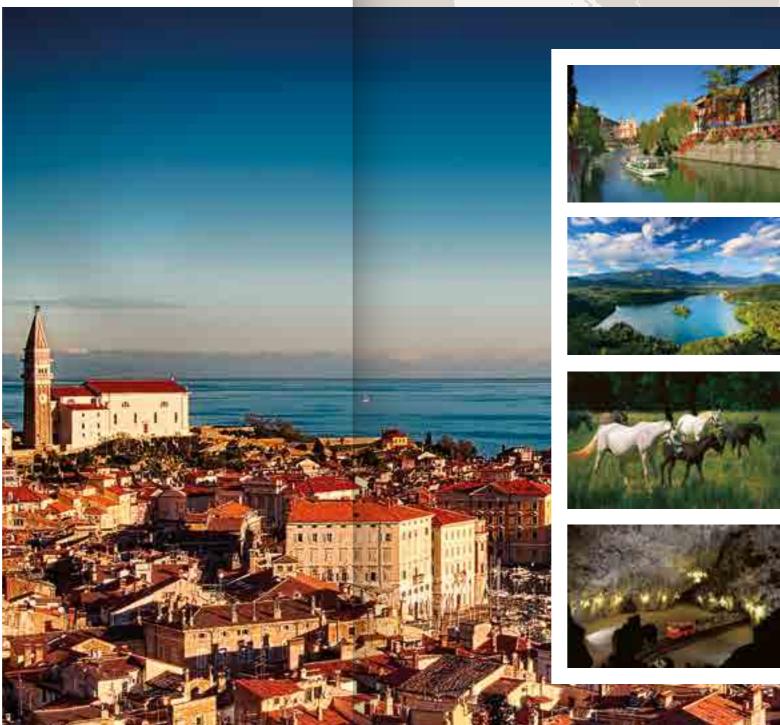
Slovenia is one of the richest countries in Europe in terms of water. Whether you are looking for an unforgettable rafting experience on the foaming emerald waters of the Soča River, an exciting sailing adventure on the Mediterranean or a perfect spa retreat at a spa with natural thermal water springs, Slovenia has it all. Also, tap water is drinkable in Slovenia.

### Mysterious Karst and Lipizzaner horses

The Karst is the common name for all the amazing picturesque shapes created by water in the porous stone found in almost half of Slovenia. More than 10,000 registered Karst caves, potholes, springs and intermittent lakes make the area between the Bay of Trieste and the Vipava Valley a must-see destination, with the top attraction being Postojna Cave. The picturesque Lipica Stud Farm is located nearby, where the original Lipizzaner horses are bred (the horses that perform in the famous Spanish riding school in Vienna)



Capital: Ljubljana Population: 2,061,085 Religion: Roman Cathol Currency: Euro (EUR) Language: Slovenian



### **PLACES TO SEE**

### Charming Ljubljana

Ljubljana, the pocket-sized capital of Slovenia, boasts a hilltop castle and the green Ljubljanica River. Concealing a number of great museums and galleries, atmospheric bars, varied nightlife, numerous concerts and cultural events, trendy shops, top-quality restaurants and elegant hotels, it turns its size into its main asset: where else in the world could you find everything within such easy reach? In spring and summer, when café tables spill into the narrow streets of the Old Town and street musicians and actors entertain passers-by, you will want to stay in this lively city forever.

### Fairy-tale Bled

In the foothills of the Julian Alps lies Bled, a fairy-tale place with a cobalt-blue lake boasting an enchanting island and Bled Castle dominating the north shore from the top of a sheer cliff face. This magical mountain setting has access to a range of outdoor activities, which give it all the appeal of a short break in Switzerland. Discover this beautiful alpine resort and take a stroll beside the grand villas which dot the rest of the shoreline

### The cobbled streets of Piran and sandy beaches of Portorož

Slovenia's coastline is short, yet diverse. It contains several small towns, like Piran, which perches on a tiny piece of land jutting into the sea. Rich in history, it feels more like an Italian coastal town, and for good reason: from the late 13th century to the end of the 18th century, it was part of the Venetian Empire. Today, it boasts exquisite piazzas, churches and labyrinthine streets, which offer a perfect setting for a romantic getaway. Another coastal town is Portorož, with sandy beaches and numerous waterfront restaurants, bars and cafés creating a lively atmosphere.

### Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle

A short drive from Ljubljana, the mysterious Postojna Cave awaits you, with over 20 km of underground tunnels and chambers. An underground train takes you on a journey past breathtaking cave formations unlike anything you have ever seen. The Cave is also home to the endangered Proteus anguinus, a blind salamander also known as 'the human fish'. Nearby, lies the majestic medieval fortress of Predjama Castle, which dates back to the early 13th century. Carved into a high cliff, it boasts a number of medieval castle characteristics, such as a drawbridge, 'murder holes' and a very dank dungeon.

Capital: Zagreb
Population: 4,284,889
Religion: Roman Catholic

Currency: Croatian kuna (HRK)
Language: Croatian

# CROATIA

A country of impressive highlands and dreamy deep-blue seascapes

Croatia is a country of impressive highlands, dreamy deep-blue seascapes set along the Adriatic coast, stunning hinterland scenery and a number of UNESCO heritage sites. It's a country of a thousand islands, glittering waters, secluded beaches and secret little hideaways. It's a country of historical monuments, such as the Emperor Diocletian's Palace, and breathtaking landscapes such as the waterfalls and lakes in Plitvice National Park. It's a country of tradition and a lively cotemporary cultural scene, including a number of electronic and alternative music festivals – currently, Ultra in Split is among the most popular. It's a country of adventure, offering off-the-beaten tracks to anyone ready to explore it.

### **WHY VISIT**

### A walk on the beach is worth a thousand words

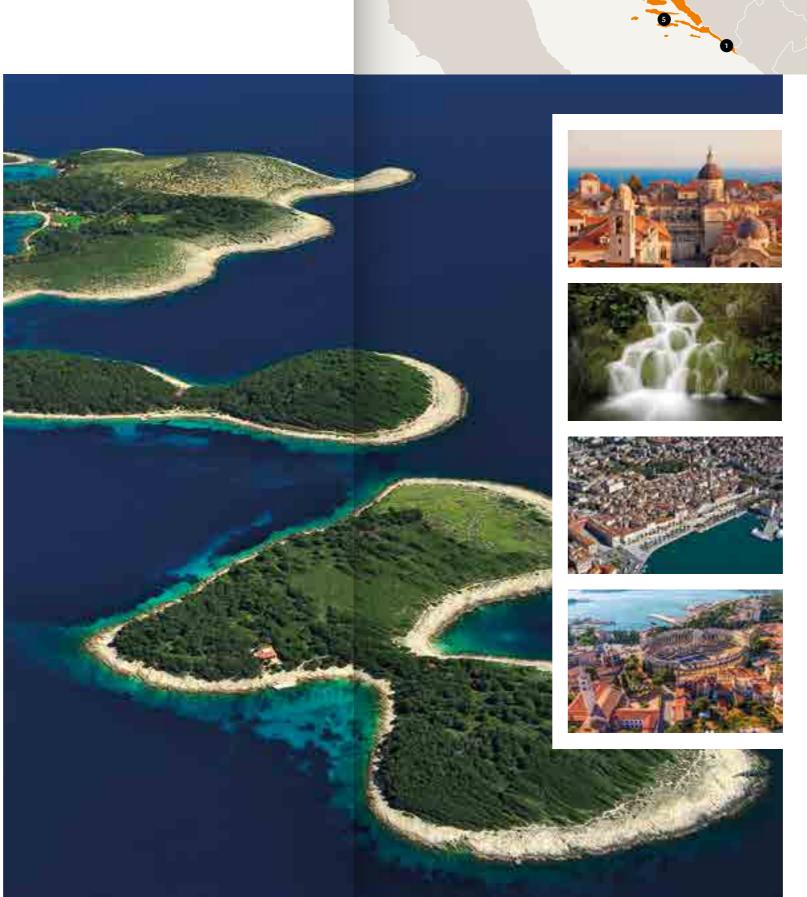
Boasting almost 2000 km of coastline and more than a thousand islands, including Marco Polo's Korčula and the majestic island of Hvar, where Hollywood stars come to relax, Croatia is considered one of the most beautiful seaside destinations in Europe and one of the sunniest places on Earth. Crystal-clear water, secluded pebbled beaches and a number of walled medieval towns, such as Dubrovnik, Split, Zadar, Pula and Rovinj, invite all travellers to step back in time and experience the Mediterranean as it once was.

### Soak up nature

Croatia is also the place to be for all hikers and nature lovers. It has as many as eight stunning national parks; these include Plitvice National Park, with a range of alluring waterfalls with azure, blue and emerald-green colours; Krka National Park, with the Skradinski Buk Falls; Mljet Island, with its lush vegetation, known as "the Green Island"; the Kornati Islands an archipelago of the most densely grouped islands in the Mediterranean, and Brijuni National Park, once an offshore retreat of Tito, where he entertained film stars such as Elizabeth Taylor and Sophia Loren, as well as politicians from both East and West.

### Explore 7 UNESCO world heritage sites

Croatia prides in having seven UNESCO world heritage sites, which take you through the exciting history of this magnificent country. Discover Diocletian's Palace in Split, or the Cathedral of St. James in Šibenik; take a walk through the Old Town of Dubrovnik, often referred to as "the Pearl of the Adriatic", or through the historic part of Trogir, where a must-see is Trogir Cathedral, the most significant example of Romanesque and Gothic art in Croatia. If you do some good old island hopping, do not miss out on Stari Grad Plain on Hvar, where vineyards and olive groves have been preserved since the first Ancient Greek colonies. In Istria, stroll through the town of Poreč, which hides the Episcopal complex of the Euphrasian Basilica, or head a bit further inland, to Plitvice National Park, with its spectacular foaming waterfalls and turquoise lakes, which turns into a frozen fairy-tale land in winter.



### PLACE TO SEE

Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Dubrovnik - Pearl of the Adriatic

The sublime location makes the ancient city of Dubrovnik worth a visit at any time of year. The Pearl of the Adriatic was once the capital of the wealthy seafaring Republic of Ragusa. Today, it is one of the world's most stunning walled cities and is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. So it is no surprise that the authors of the famous series Game of Thrones recognised its potential and shot their spellbinding fantasy series here. Join us on a tour through the pedestrian-only old town boasting Baroque churches, aristocratic palaces and medieval fortifications and keep your eyes open, as Dubrovnik is a popular holiday destination for numerous celebrities.

### Plitvice Lakes National Park

Spectacular foaming waterfalls and sixteen turquoise lakes make Plitvice Lakes National Park the most popular national park in Croatia. The UNESCO world heritage site comprises a leafy maze of paths, woods and meadows which are home to a number of wildlife species, including over 120 species of birds, the European brown bear, wolf, eagle, owl, lynx, wild cat and heather cock. If you are lucky enough, you might even catch a glimpse of them.

### Split – a serious rival to the Dalmatian islands

Bustling Split is one of the Mediterranean's most fascinating cities and the largest ferry port in Dalmatia. There are seafront cafés, a waterfront boardwalk and ancient alleyways hidden behind the walls of Diocletian's Palace. Built by the Emperor Diocletian in 295 AD, the Palace is now on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. While the historic part has a number of architectural and cultural treasures, the suburban streets are full of palms and exotic plants, which simply make you want to sit down and indulge in the Dalmatian way of life.

### Istria - the heart-shaped peninsula

While the undulating inland Istria with its characteristic medieval hilltop settlements and stone-built villages, such as Motovun, Grožnjan and Hum, is an area of rare and disarming beauty, the western side of the Istrian Peninsula has pretty resort towns like Umag, Poreč, Rovinj and Pula, where the cobbled piazzas and shuttered houses reveal a rich history and connections with the Venetian Republic. Among the great number of sights for history fans, the amazingly well-preserved Roman amphitheatre in Pula is particularly attractive.

### The islands of Croatia

Croatia has over over a thousand islands and islets, some 66 of which are inhabited. Tell us what you'd like to do and we'll tell you which island to choose: if you're looking for excellent food and wines head to Vis, which until 1989 was a Yugoslav military naval base and no-go zone for foreigners. If you are looking for Croatia's most fashionable island destination, boutique hotels and chic cocktail bars, then head to Hvar. If you'd rather go back to basics and stay in a fisherman's cottage, the Kornati archipelago is the place to be. For water sports, visit Brac, a top windsurfing spot. And if you're in the mood to party, go to Pag, Croatia's top spot for summer beach clubs.

# **BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA**

### The heart-shaped land

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a country dotted with breathtaking landscapes, winding rivers, waterfalls and traditional villages. This land where turquoise rivers run swiftly and sheep huddle on steep hillsides is one of Europe's most visually stunning corners. A delightful fusion of East and West in the heart of the Balkans, it features the reincarnated antique centres of Sarajevo and Mostar, while many other Bosnian towns are lovably small, wrapped around medieval castles and surrounded by mountain ridges or cascading river canyons.

### **WHY VISIT**

### The culture of Bosnian coffee

While in Bosnia, tasting the coffee is a must. But be aware of rule no. 1: Bosnian coffee is not Turkish coffee; they get upset if you call it Turkish. The difference, they say, is in the making. Both start out with ground roast coffee beans boiled in a small (generally) copper-plated pot with a long neck, called a džezva, but the Turks add the coffee and optional sugar to cold water before placing it on the stove, while the Bosnians put the cold water on the stove alone. In this way, a thick foam is created, which often makes the coffee even more robust in flavor.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### Sarajevo - the friendly capital

Sarajevo is at the very top of the most affordable European capitals, offering superb quality services for less money. Steeped in history, it hides traces of many settlements and kingdoms of the past and is the meeting place of many religions: muslim, orthodox Christians, catholics and judaism Apart from this, Sarajevo is a paradise for meat-lovers. Traditional restaurants offer excellent Bosnian meals, including sarma (stuffed cabbage), begova čorba (chicken stew), veal dishes, stuffed peppers, čevapčiči (minced meat) to name but a few. The essential sights are: Baščaršija, the Tunnel Museum, the National Museum and the Latin Bridge

### The fairy-tale town of Mostar

Perhaps the most popular image from Bosnia and Herzegovina is the one of the famous Mostar Bridge (Stari Most), and for good reason. At 21 metres high and with a dramatic arch connecting the two sides of the town, the bridge is really iconic. It was originally built in the 1500s, and has been restored following the damage during the Yugoslavian War. It is hard to imagine this place as a war-torn city nowadays.









# **SERBIA**

### A fusion of urban hedonism and breathtaking creations of nature

Serbia is one of Europe's best-kept secrets, especially when it comes to nightlife and festivals. Situated at the heart of South-East Europe, it boasts a number of annual festivals, including the Guča Trumpet Festival and Exit in Novi Sad, recently awarded as the Best Major European Festival. Then there's Belgrade which easily ranks alongside Ibiza when it comes to the party making. On the other hand the cobbled streets of Skadarlija hide beautiful galleries and museums and boast a lively cultural scene. If you head further, to the suburban hills, you will discover calm monasteries, whimsical villages and breathtaking creations of nature.

### WHY VISIT

### Good bargain destination

In comparison to its European neighbours, Serbia is astonishingly inexpensive and real value for money. If you are looking for an attractive destination away from pricey places, then Serbia is definitely the place to go. Although a landlocked country, the atmosphere, friendly local people and delicious food make up for the lack of beaches. Try some localfood and experience the vibrant nightlife or adventurous rafting on the Drina River; stay in superb hotels or rejuvenate body and soul in the thermal resorts that dot the countryside in one of Europe's most affordable countries.

### PLACES TO SEE

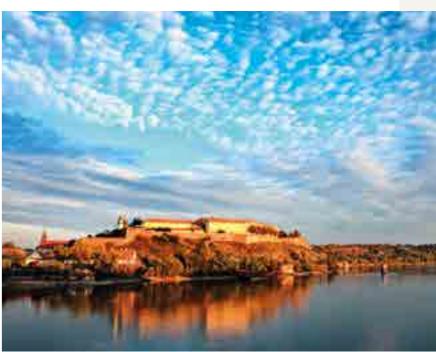
# Belgrade – the most colourful 'White City' in the world

Belgrade translates as 'White City', but the fascinating Serbian capital deserves a much more colourful name. Boasting hedonistic floating nightclubs, grandiose cafés, bars and restaurants and lively pedestrian streets in the centre, Belgrade is one of the top places to visit if you are looking for endless parties and legendary nightlife. While you are there, be sure to take a walk along Knez Mihailova Boulevard, or visit the ancient Kalemegdan Citadel, the real crown of the city.

### Novi Sad - the host of the annual Exit Music Festival

For some, Serbia's second city of Novi Sad is a synonym for the annual Exit Festival in July. For others who have already been there, Novi Sad is much more: it's the hometown of the imposing Petrovaradin Fortress, an old town with a most pleasant pedestrian zone, numerous churches and noteworthy museums and galleries. A stone's throw away lies Fruška gora National Park, which extends over an area between the Sava and the Danube rivers and boasts as many as 35 Serbian Orthodox monasteries and is famous for excellent wines and mystical rustic cellars.









# **MONTENEGRO**

Land of sunshine

Montenegro is tiny and proud with a landscape of cobalt-blue fjords, fishermen's huts, palaces, a church in a cave and an island built on the wrecks of enemy boats. Along with the mild Mediterranean climate and 240 sunny days on average per year, Montenegro boasts outstanding countryside, including UNESCO-recognised fjordscapes, culture and history, a variety of leisure activities and rich authentic cuisine, making it a perfect destination for your next holiday.

### **WHY VISIT**

### A spectacular pocket-size coastline

With as many as 240 sunny days on average per year, pristine beaches and whitewashed old towns, the coast of Montenegro has become one of Europe's hottest beach destinations. Here are the charming town of Herceg Novi, stretching along the coast and absorbing former villages on either side – such as Igalo, which was once a health spa famed for its mineral-bearing mud – and the dazzling Kotor, located at the end of a fjord and steeped in tradition and history. South of here, the coastline swings back out to the beaches of Budva and Bar, where the amazing remains of the old town walls of Stari Bar can be found.

### PLACES TO SEE

### Bay of Kotor

The Bay of Kotor (Boka Kotorska, or simply 'the Boka') is often described as the Mediterranean's only fjord. With its breathtaking natural surroundings of majestic mountains, the medieval old town of Kotor at the innermost point of a giant fjord is considered one of the top places to visit. Stroll through cobbled alleyways and streets, where cafés spill out from glorious buildings, or visit the Rector's Palace and the leaning clock tower, the fascinating Maritime Museum or St. Tryphon's Cathedral, a perfect spot for photo-ops.

## The dazzling town of Budva and the luxurious Aman Sveti Stefan Resort

Perched on a small peninsula, Budva, with its dazzling old town is by far the most popular coastal town in Montenegro. If you prefer something more upscale, then the picturesque town of Sveti Stefan next door is the right choice. Located on a tiny island connected to the shore by a causeway, this former fortified fishing village with terracotta-tiled stone houses has recently been refurbished into one of the most luxurious resorts on the Mediterranean.









# **FYR MACEDONIA**

Land of impressive sites

Though known by few, Macedonia is a country worth visiting. Located in the southern part of the Balkans, it boasts a fascinating history and rich cultural background. Part Balkan, part Mediterranean and rich in Greek, Roman and Ottoman history, it offers impressive ancient sites and breathtaking natural beauties scattered around the country, which are great for hiking, mountain biking and climbing. While remote mountains conceal fascinating medieval monasteries, superb alpine trails and traditional Balkan villages, Ohrid, noted for its beaches, summer festival, sublime Byzantine churches and 34km-long lake, is the centre of the country's tourism industry.

### **WHY VISIT**

### Kokino

Kokino Megalithic Observatory is an important archaeological and astronomical site located in northeastern Macedonia, close to the village of Kokino. Although more than 3,800 years old, the site was discovered as recently as in 2001. The altitude of 1,013 m (3,323 ft) and geology of this area make it suitable for observing the movements of the sun and the moon. Prehistoric inhabitants used the naturally formed cubic volcanic rocks to track the movements of the heavenly bodies to produce a lunar calendar. The U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration acknowledged Kokino as the fourth most significant astronomical heritage site in their project in 2005, following sites like Stonehenge in England, Abu Simbel in Egypt, and Angkor Wat in Cambodia.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

**Skopje** is the capital of Macedonia and the largest city in the country and contains numerous historic sites, ethnically diverse restaurants and a vibrant nightlife. While there, do not miss Mother Teresa's museum and birthplace, the Stone Bridge in centre of the city, the first railway station in the Balkans, Kale Fortress, built in the 6th century, the churches of St. Andreja-Matka and St Spas (Holy Salvation) and the Old Skopje Bazaar, the second largest bazaar outside Istanbul.

### Ohrid - Jerusalem of the Balkans

The picturesque city of Ohrid, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage cultural and natural site, has narrow cobbled streets, red terracotta roofs, open-air cafes, and a crystal clear lake with a backdrop of mountains, giving the impression of charming lake towns in the Swiss Alps. Notable for once having had 365 churches, one for each day of the year, it is thus often referred to as 'Jerusalem of the Balkans'. The Roman amphitheatre, the Church of St Sophia and St Clement, Tsar Samoil's fortress and Ohrid's marketplace are some of the places to visit.









# **ALBANIA**

An experience like no other

Located across the Adriatic Sea from Italy, north of Greece, west of Kosovo and Macedonia and south of Montenegro, Albania is definitely an experience like no other. This tiny country offers a remarkable array of unique attractions, including the thriving capital of Tirana, sun-drenched beaches to rival any other in the Mediterranean, a stunning mountain landscape, forgotten archaeological sites and villages where time seems to have stood still. An additional bonus is the never-ending supply of fresh produce that fills the markets and roadside fruit and vegetable stalls.

### Castles in the sky

The castles dotted around Albania's landscape tell of Albania's long and eventful past. You find them everywhere: atop hills, along the Adriatic coast, or even in the middle of the fields. Some have been turned into museums, cafés and restaurants, while others simply rest on grassy areas where sheep graze. The most well-known are Rozafa, Lezha, Gjirokastra, Butrinti, Porto Palermo, Kruja, Petrela and Kanina... Whichever castle you visit, you will be taken back in time to some of the most magnificent periods of Albania's history.

**Bunkers** - remnants of Albania's communist past From the end of WWII until his death in 1985, the slightly paranoid dictator Enver Hoxha ruled Albania. His paranoia at being invaded by neighboring countries led him to build a defense system of over 750,000 concrete bunkers strategically located throughout the country. Today, many still dot the shores and hillsides, city blocks and even front yards of private houses as a reminder of Albania's communist past. Many have even been converted into hotels, beverage stands or even fast food outlets.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### The undeniable charm of Tirana

Tirana is the heart of Albania. After awakening from its communist slumber in the early 1990s, the capital became a fusion of Italian, communist and post-modern architectural styles, with trendy bars and cafés, chic boutiques, grand boulevards and fascinating relics of the past. Tirana is one of the best shopping destinations in the region.

### Berat - UNESCO-listed city of a thousand windows

The charming UNESCO-listed town of Berat is a delight for all history and culture enthusiasts. Its most striking feature is the white Ottoman houses climbing up the hill to the castle, which is why it is often referred to as the town of a thousand windows. Apart from that, there is also the ancient Berat Castle, one of the city's most well-known attractions.









# GREECE

Cradle of Western civilisation

Greece boasts historical sites up to four millennia old, superb beaches scattered around the coastline, numerous islands and mountains that urge you to put on your hiking boots and explore. It is a country of culture, which inspires with stories of Minoans, Romans, Arabs, Latin Crusaders, Venetians, Slavs, Albanians and Turks, and a country of hedonism, where one can experience a typical Greek holiday. Greece is a country of surprises, where even the most demanding travellers can feel a true sense of discovery.

### **WHY VISIT**

### Archaeological treasures

Greece is a paradise for all history and archaeology buffs. From the famous Parthenon in Athens, Olympia - the cradle of the Olympic games - located on the Peloponnese peninsula, to Delphi with the famous Temple of Apollo... The best archaeological museums in Greece are the National Archaeological Museum in Athens, the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki and the Archaeological Museum of Iraklion on the island of Crete.

### Diversity of islands and beaches

Greece has nearly 1,000 miles of coastline, and over 2,000 islands, 227 of which are inhabited. While some islands are so popular that their entire economies are now centred on tourism, others have only recently been 'discovered' as holiday destinations. An important asset of the Greek islands is their diversity: some are rocky, others green. Some are mountainous, others flat. Many are famous for their nightlife, while others are renowned for their tranquility and relaxed lifestyle.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### Athens - the oldest city in Europe

The capital of Greece, Athens, is the oldest city in Europe. It boasts the magnificent Acropolis, crowned by the iconic Parthenon Temple rising above the city and the historic centre, home to significant ancient sites along the longest and arguably most stunning pedestrian promenade. Athens is also one of Europe's liveliest cities, where people take time for endless coffees and evening strolls, dine out until late and enjoy the city's nightlife long after the rest of Europe has gone to bed.

### The monasteries of the Meteora

Meteora, listed as a World Heritage site, is one of the greatest sights in all of Greece. The seemingly inaccessible ancient rock pinnacles with a number of monasteries occupy a valley just north of Kalambaka. Each monastery is built around a central courtyard surrounded by monks' cells, chapels and a refectory.











### 16

# **BULGARIA**

### Land of adventures

Located on the Balkan Peninsula and surrounded by five countries, Bulgaria is one of the most beautiful cultural crossroads in Europe today. Here one can admire natural wonders, such as the wild, forested Balkan mountain range, which hides remote hamlets and mysterious monasteries, sun-drenched beaches on the Black Sea coast, architectural sites revealing a long and turbulent history and trendy urban centres like Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.

### **WHY VISIT**

### World's oldest gold treasures

If you're in search of some Indiana Jones style adventure, Bulgaria is the place to visit. It is home to the oldest gold treasure in the world. Some three thousand gold artefacts were found at a burial site west of the seaside resort of Varna on the Bulgarian Black Sea coast. The vast cemetery with nearly 300 graves proved that a mysterious and incredibly technologically and culturally advanced civilisation inhabited the area around 4560-4450 BC, long before the Mesopotamians and Egyptians...

### The sound of Bulgarian music

Bulgaria is one of the few places where the bagpipes (Kaba gaida) are still popular and are even considered the national instrument. In May 2012, 333 Bulgarian bagpipe players performed a nine-minute folk song medley! There are numerous folklore festivals; the most exciting are in Koprivshtitza and Predela. The playing, singing and dancing will bring you a touch with this unique Bulgarian folklore art.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### **Enchanting Sofia**

Its unique blend of Eastern and Western architecture invites you to explore Sofia, Bulgaria's young, dynamic and fast-moving capital. Apart from being home to many of Bulgaria's finest museums, galleries, restaurants and numerous beautiful orthodox churches, Sofia is also the only place in Europe where a Christian Orthodox church, a Catholic cathedral, a Synagogue, and a Mosque are located within an area of less than 100 sq metres called 'Small Jerusalem Square'.

### Captivating Rila Monastery and the Rila Mountains

Rila is a picturesque mountain range in southwestern Bulgaria. While wandering among the rugged peaks and deep valleys, capture the view of the seven deep-blue Rila Lakes and indulge in the awe-inspiring scenery of the area. Another famous landmark is the captivating Rila Monastery. With vivid frescoes and icons, it is considered Bulgaria's largest and most renowned monastery. As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is a major attraction for both Bulgarian pilgrims and foreign tourists.









# ROMANIA

### Land of Dracula

Romania is still one of the off-the-beaten-track destinations in Europe. Located north of the Balkan Peninsula on the western shore of the Black Sea, it is home to numerous natural beauties, friendly people, a great number of jaw-dropping castles and impressive folk museums. Explore the most mysterious country in this part of Europe and hear the old-folk tales about witches, giants, ghosts, heroes and fairies.

### **WHY VISIT**

### Superstition and Dracula

The old Romanian folk tales about witches, giants, ghosts, heroes, fairies, werewolves, vampires and creepy creatures are very much alive today, especially in the rural and remote areas of Romania. When driving through the countryside, don't be surprised to see garlic and crosses hanging on house doors to ward off vampires. Sighisoara, a medieval citadel town in the historic part of Transylvania, is the place to be if you're hunting vampires, as this is where Vlad Tepes, known as Dracula, was born.

### Castles and medieval villages

When you travel through Romania, you feel as if you are traveling back in time, which is no surprise, as Romania is a land of mighty castles and enchanting medieval hamlets. Although the most famous is the Bran Castle, there are numerous other castles dotted around the country. Make sure not to overlook beauties such as Corvin and Peles Castles. The northern part of Romania boasts medieval towns and villages with hayracks, horse carts and stately wooden churches.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### Bucharest

Romania's capital, Bucharest, is a dynamic, energetic cosmopolitan city, where traces of communism meet unbridled capitalism. The city prides in having the largest parliament building in the world, with 3,100 rooms and 12 storeys, which is definitely worth a visit. Also not to be missed is the old town centre, with narrow cobbled streets and some splendid 17th- and 18th-century Orthodox churches.

### Bran Castle

Spooky Bran Castle is one of the country's leading attractions. It gained popularity mainly because of Bram Stoker's terrifying novel about Count Dracula, but the castle was originally built in 1382 to defend Bran pass against the Ottomans. When tourists came to Transylvania in search of Dracula, they found the 60-metre-tall castle and thought it resembled the castle from the book. Today it attracts more and more visitors every year.









# ON THE PATH OF THE

**VENETIAN EMPIRE** 













Day 1 : Bucharest IN & ss

Day 2 : Bucharest - Peles castle ss - Bran castle ss - Brasov

ss - Bucharest

Day 3 : Bucharest - Veliko Trnovo ss - Sofia ss

Day 4 : Sofia - Belgrade ss

Day 5: Belgrade - Skopje ss - Ohrid

Day 6 : Ohrid ss - Tirana ss - Budva

Day 7 : Budva - Kotor ss - Dubrovnik ss

Day 8 : Dubrovnik - Sarajevo ss - Mostar

Day 9 : Mostar ss - Medjugorje ss - Split ss - Trogir ss

Day 10: Trogir - Zadar ss - Plitvice ss - Zagreb

Day 11 : Zagreb ss - Postojna ss - Bled ss

Day 12: Bled - Venice (free time in outlet) & OUT

# **BALKAN TOP PICKS**

(7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS)













Day 1 : Vienna IN - Maribor

Day 2 : Maribor - Zagreb ss - Plitvice ss - Šibenik

Day 3 : Šibenik ss - Dubrovnik ss

Day 4 : Dubrovnik - Split ss - Trogir ss - Zadar

Day 5 : Zadar ss - Pula ss - Rovinj ss

Day 6 : Rovinj - Postojna ss - Bled ss - Laško

Day 7 : Laško - Logarska Valley ss - Graz ss - Vienna

Day 8: Vienna ss & OUT









Capital: Prague Population: 10,538,275 Religion: Agnostics

Currency: Czech krona (CZK) Language: Czech

# CZECH REPUBLIC

At the crossroads of Europe

Czech is not only Prague, though Prague alone Has more than enough reasons to visit. It's a country of medieval castles and villages, famous spa resorts, beer drinking, ice hockey and friendly people.

### **WHY VISIT**

### Journey back to the Middle Ages

The Czech Republic has countless fairytale castles and chateaux, churches and monasteries, religious sights and medieval towns. As many as twelve Czech towns are on the UNESCO heritage list. Some of the most popular destinations are the castle of Emperor Charles IV Karlštejn and Kutná Hora, a town that is listed as a UNESCO monument. Get acquainted with the last of the Habsburgs at Konopiště Chateau and wander through several types of maze and labyrinth in the park around Loučeň Chateau.

### Enjoy a beer in a typical Czech pub

Beer drinking has at least a thousand years of tradition here and the many pubs may explain why the Czechs are the biggest consumers of beer in the world. It is recorded that in Břevnov Monastery they brewing has taken place already in 993, the city of Brno had the right to brew beer from the 12th century while Plzeň and České Budějovice gained the right to brew beer in the 13th century. No wonder that this is where the famous brands Budweiser, Pilsner, Kozel and Staropramen originate from.

### Take a spa

The Czech Republic has a tradition of spa treatment. The curative powers of local springs have been used for centuries to heal and refresh. People from all over the world come to spa towns such as Karlovy Vary, Marianske Lazne and Frantiskovy Lazne for rest and relaxation.

### In the land of the Good solder Švejk

Who could have thought that the character from the novel by Jaroslav Hašek will become not only the most translated novel of Czech literature but even much more: Švejk has become a true personification of Czech people. The novel is set during World War I in Austria-Hungary, a multi-ethnic empire full of long-standing tensions. Jaroslav Hašek participated in this conflict and examined it in The Good Soldier Švejk. Walk in the streets of Prague, enjoy the cafeteria and drink a beer where The Good Soldier Švejk had one long before you.



### **PLACES TO SEE**

### THE GOLDEN PRAGUE

Slovakia

Golden Prague, or 'city of a hundred spires' is what they call the Czech capital (in fact, it is decorated with nearly a thousand towers and spires). It is one of the most beautiful European cities that managed to escape the devastations of war. The best landmark is Prague Castle, one of the largest complexes in the world, offering a spectacular view over the city. The Charles Bridge, decorated with thirty statues of saints, is a close second, as is the Vltava River which passes below. And one shouldn't forget The Old Town Hall with the famous Prague Astronomical Clock, the winding lanes of the Jewish Quarter, which you know from the novels of Franz Kafka and that tour around Europe's oldest synagogue and many more famous sights.

### ČEŠKY KRUMLOV

Český Krumlov is one of the most frequently visited towns because of its location, snuggled in a bend of the River Vlata. The Český Krumlov Castle and Chateau complex is situated on a hill overlooking the lovely town below. At the height of its fame, Český Krumlov could compete stoutly with the most important European royal courts, mainly thanks to the Rosenberg family, who chose the town as their residence. The Rosenbergs gradually came to rule a large part of South Bohemia. Enchanted by the Italian Renaissance, they built a town and residence, and in so doing contributed to the prosperity of the entire region.

The hot spring of Karlovy Vary is the oldest and most visited spa town in the Czech Republic. Its 13 main springs and 300 smaller springs offer a health and refreshment to visitors to this crown- jewel. The town was named after the Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV. Besides the many visitors who come for the health benefits of the water, Karlovy Vary is visited by many international celebrities. It is also famous for its vibrant film festival.

### **KUTNA HORA**

Kutná Hora, the silver treasury and a true gem of the country, was present at the very start of the boom in the Czech Kingdom. Architectural styles, unique buildings from various historical periods and a long history full of wine making. This is precisely what you will find in Kutná Hora, a city whose historical centre with the Cathedral of St. Barbara and Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary have been included in the UNESCO world heritage list.

# **SLOVAKIA**

### Europe's most castellated country

The landlocked country of Slovakia is the most castellated European country, with high mountains in the north, low mountains in the central part, hills to the west and the Danube basin to the south. It has dense forests and rough mountains, ideal for an unforgettable hiking experience, and there is an excellent opportunity for caving in the Karst. Its pocket size is at the same time also its biggest attraction, and enables you to visit waterfallfilled gorges one day and enjoy the sights from 2500m-plus peaks the next. Its tradition-steeped countryside cradles an entrancing folk culture that most European nations have lost.

### **WHY VISIT**

### Its size is its major benefit

Although Slovakia's marketing slogan "Little Big Country" sounds a little awkward in English, it could not be more accurate. Although small, the country boasts great diversity. Consider only the numerous sights which have been listed on the UNESCO World Heritage, including the gold-mining town of Banska Stiavnica, the free royal town of Bardejov, the Dobsinska ice cave, Ochtinska, the largest aragonite cave - there are only three in the world - Slovak Karst National Park, where 12 out of 700 caves have been recognised as UNESCO World Heritage sites, the medieval Spis Castle, Spisska Kapitula, one of the largest and most interesting Romanesque monuments in Slovakia, Vlkolinec village, and last, but not least, the wooden churches of the Slovak part of the Carpathian Mountains, with specific examples of religious architecture.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### The many faces of Bratislava

Bratislava, with Europe's greatest river as a backdrop, witnessed a long and proud history, starting in pre-Roman times. This is reflected in impressive architecture, language and traditional cuisine. Its old-town charm, sophisticated restaurants, traditional pubs and good music ranging from jazz to opera, make Bratislava a place to visit. The handsome homes of Austro-Hungarian aristocrats dot the city, with many now open to the public as museums and galleries. Bratislava Castle offers great views over the medieval old town and the Danube Valley.

### The High Tatras

The High Tatras (Vysoké Tatry) is the tallest range in the Carpathian Mountains, with some 25 peaks measuring over 2500m. At 2,655 m, the pyramid-shaped Gerlach is the highest mountain in northern and eastern Central Europe. Lying on the border with Poland, the mountain range, which is visible from space, boasts pristine snowfields, ultramarine mountain lakes, thundering waterfalls, undulating pine forests and shimmering alpine meadows









# **HUNGARY**

Europe at its most exotic

The country has more than 1,000 natural springs (and the world's largest thermal lake at Hévíz, near Lake Balaton), with 118 in Budapest alone. The bathing culture dates back to Roman times and covers all styles. In Budapest this is clearly visible: you can discover an original Turkish bathouse (Rudas or Veli bej) or the Neo-Baroque Szechenyi Baths, which are said to be the biggest thermal bathing complex in Europe. And there is also the Art Nouveau masterpiece, the Gellert Baths

### **WHY VISIT**

### Equestrian tradition is still alive

The Hungarians rode into Europe on horses and have kept their love of horses. They are among the best riders in the world, which they have shown on many occasions in many places around the country and in particular in the Puszta area.

### There's more to it than goulash

Hungarian cuisine has a worldwide reputation. It is spicy, tasty and with strong flavours. One of the secret ingredients of the well-known Hungarian dishes is paprika. You can enjoy spicy sausage, authentic goulash soup, fish soup with paprika, chicken paprika with dumpling, beef stew with paprika, stuffed cabbage, stuffed peppers with spicy tomato sauce and much more.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

**BUDAPEST** - has been voted the most welcoming European city, also because it is still a bargain destination but still one of Europe's most charming. The Danube runs through the city, dividing it into the Buda and Pest parts. The magnificent buildings and bridges make it one of the most attractive urban landscapes.

At almost 80 kilometres (50 miles) long, and covering an area of almost 600 sq km (230 square miles), Lake Balaton is so big it's known as the Hungarian Sea. It is a favorite vacation destination for Hungarians and foreigners alike.

### Hortobágy (The Puszta)

The Pustza is one of Europe's largest expanses of protected prairie, where Hungarian grey cattle, stud horses, Racka sheep with spiral-shaped horns and buffalo herds graze on open pastures. A World Heritage site since 1999, the Hortobagy National Park stretches over an area of 200,000 acre.









# **GERMANY**

### The marvels of Germany

Germany is a diverse country with a rough and turbulent history. The combination of old world charm and modern urban cities make it an ideal destination for all types of travelers. Medieval castles and the small towns, magnificent palaces and baroque churches, not to mention its urban centres, provide the perfect setting for everything from traditional festivals to high-end opera performances.

### **WHY VISIT**

### A land of fairy-tale castles

Neuschwanstein Castle in southern Bavaria is one of the most frequently photographed sights in Germany. The castle was the inspiration for Disney's Sleeping Beauty Castle. It is known all over the world as a symbol of idealised romantic architecture and for the tragic story of its owner, Ludwig II. But Neuschwanstein Castle is by no means the only castle in the area; Germany is dotted with them, and each corner has its own castle to discover.

### Cultural gem

In Germany, country's cultural institutions are all around you – from the glittering opera houses of Dresden and Bayreuth to the beer halls of Munich and Cologne, Berlin's countless museums and the art galleries in just about every major town. Germany is also home to Europe's best-attended football league, with clubs drawing raucous capacity crowds on a weekly basis.

### PLACES TO SEE

### Berlin - forever young

Berlin, the German capital, is renowned for its exceptional variety of attractions, its flourishing cultural scene and a way of life that is both fast-paced and relaxed. It is an ideal destination for the young and young at heart, as one thing is definite here: you will see no shortage of events in Berlin. The multiculturalism, which is reflected especially in the cuisine, is another characteristic of Berlin, thus it the most cosmopolitan city in Germany.

### City of Munich and Oktoberfest

The capital city of Bavaria, Munich, is situated near the foothills of the Alps, in Bavaria, the southern region of Germany. Its characteristic ornate architecture, beautiful parks, world-class museums, among them the BMW museum, nearby castles, such as the fairy-tale Neuschwanstein, and its trademark 'beer gardens' make it a great place to visit year-round. A must visit, especially for beer aficionados, is Oktoberfest, the biggest folk festival in the World.









# **AUSTRIA**

The legacy of one of the biggest European empires

Austria has it both: the stunningly beautiful Alpine landscape attracting nature lovers and sports enthusiasts from all over the world, and vivid towns and cities bursting with rich cultural scene and majestic historical background reflected in sophisticated architecture and stylish restaurants and bars.

### **WHY VISIT**

### From Mountain peaks to savage lakes

The Alps really spread their wings here, as the landscape is formed of high peaks (the highest being Grossglockner at 3797 m), deep valleys, mountain rivers and around 9000 lakes. Innsbruck is often referred to as the capital of the Alps, with the Swarovski crystal factory next door to it.

### Europe's longest river, the Danube

The 'Blue Danube' as we know it from the famous waltz, enters Austria from Germany to the north. It meanders along the edge of the Alps and onwards to the Pannonian Plain, until it leaves the country in Slovakia in the east. The Danube is an important cruise river and the meanders from Linz to Vienna and around Melk Abbey or from Vienna to Bratislava are annually crossed by many tourists from all around the world.

### Music capital of the world

Did you know that Mozart, Beethoven, Strauss and many other famous composers were all Austrian? From opera and classical concerts to musicals and modern rock (think of Falco, another famous Austrian) this is the cradle of some of the best music the world has heard.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

Vienna – always at the top of polls as one of the best cities to live in, Vienna is bridging its splendid past and modernity. You may enjoy one of over 900 coffee houses; walk along the banks of the Danube, or explore the magnificent Schoenbrunn Palace, Hofburg or the Museums Quartier. And of course, this is where the Viennese waltz originated, and it has one of the best opera houses in the world; and also the Prater with its iconic Ferris wheel, the Spanish Riding School, and delicious Sacher torte call it home.

Salzburg – the city of Mozart and the beloved 'Sound of Music'. A little wonder that one of world's most famous music festivals takes place here every year. Here are the Mirabell Gardens, the Hellbrunn Palace with its fountains, the many palaces and the majestic fortress reigning over them all. Nearby are numerous salt mines and lakes, ski resorts and castles that give the landscape a dreamy atmosphere.









# POLAND

Poland - land of remarkable survival

The numerous twists and turns that Poland encountered in the past can be seen almost everywhere. There are medieval towns like Kraków and Gdansk or the energetic town of Warsaw, and other spots where history buffs are well served. There is also a growing appreciation of the country's rich Jewish heritage. Beyond the deeply affecting Holocaust memorials, synagogues are being sensitively restored, and former Jewish centres such as Łódź and Lublin have set up heritage trails so you can trace this history at your own pace.

### **WHY VISIT**

### **UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Poland**

The World Heritage sites include the old towns in Krakow's and Warsaw, the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a monastery and the churches of Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, Torun, the birthplace of Nicolas Copernicus, the town of Zamosc, known as the Jewel of Renaissance Malbork Castle, one of the biggest Gothic castles in Europe, Białowieża Forest and Mużakowski Park, the extermination camp museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau, Świdnica and Jawor, which are the biggest woodconstructed places of worship in Europe, the wooden churches of southern Małopolska, and the Centennial Hall in Wrocław.

### **Musical Heritage**

Poland is the place to be for all music lovers. Poland's most famous composer is Chopin, whose statue presides over Lazienki Park. The rich musical tradition has continued ever since. Today, Poland's music scene ranges from jazz to medieval to opera music, which can be enjoyed in a variety of historic and modern venues in

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### Warsaw - capital of Poland

The region north of Warsaw is dotted with stunning Baroque palaces and the meticulously reconstructed Old Town (Stare Miasto), while in the southern area are two of Central Europe's finest urban parks. The main sights are on the west bank of the Vistula River, where you will find the central business and shopping district, Śródmieście, grouped around Centralna station and the nearby Palace of Culture.

Krakow - the harmonious blend of past and present The town is famous for it's Old Town with the Main Square and Wawel Hill and is the only major city in Poland that survived World War II almost undamaged. However, there's more to the former royal capital than history. A university centre, Kraków has a tangible buzz of arty youthfulness and enjoys a dynamic nightlife.









# ITALY

La dolce vita in Italy

Italy is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. With its excellent climate, wonderful landscapes, warm and passionate people, magnificent cooking and unsurpassable culture, there can be few better places to live or have a holiday home than Italy. As modern travel and communications make life in Italy ever more desirable and attainable, non-Italian speakers are increasingly looking for help to realise their dream of living 'la dolce vita' in Italy.

### WHY VISIT

### The art

According to UNESCO, Italy is home to 40% of the art in the world! This is the birthplace of the Renaissance, the home of Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli, Titian, Donatello, Giotto-the list goes on and on... And that's just the Renaissance.

### **Fabulous food**

Italy is a place where you can enjoy world's best fabulous foods, wines and pastries at every stop along the way, from north to south. Must tries are: pizza in Naples, risotto alla Milanese in Milan, tortellini in Bologna, prosciutto and tangy cheese, parmesan in Parma among many others.

### **PLACES TO SEE**

### The eternal city of Rome

Roma! Italy's capital has been an important city - not just for Italy, but worldwide - for millennia. Once the epicentre of the vast Roman Empire, Rome still contains some of the era's most important structures, as well the historic buildings of the empires that followed. Busy, everyday life continues at a frenetic pace, encircled by an unrivalled concentration of monuments, history and legend. Filled with medieval, Renaissance and Baroque buildings, Rome is a showcase of the two great titans of the western world: the Roman Empire and the Catholic Church.

### Venice - Queen of the Adriatic

Venezia - La Serenissima, Queen of the Adriatic, city of canals and palaces...or a tawdry sewer alive with crowds and charlatans? Venice's nature is dual: water and land, a long history and doubtful future, airy delicacy and dim melancholy. If this precious place does sink, the world will lose a lot. For a thousand years the city was one of the most enduring mercantile sea powers on earth. Today, the brilliance and influence have long since faded, leaving a town of tarnished glories, out of time and out of place, so achingly beautiful that it's hard not to look for the back









### FROM BOHEMIA TO BAVARIA









(10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS)



### PRAGUE-PRAGUE

Day 1 : Prague IN - Brno

Day 2 : Brno ss - Oswiecim ss - Wieliczka ss - Krakow

Day 3 : Krakow ss - Olomouc ss - Vienna

Day 4 : Vienna ss - Bratislava ss - Budapest (night cruise)

Day 5 : Budapest ss - Zagreb

Day 6 : Zagreb - Plitvice ss - Pula

Day 7 : Pula ss - Rovinj ss - Postojna ss - Bled

Day 8 : Bled ss - Hallstat ss - Salzburg ss

Day 9: Salzburg - Fussen ss (Neuschwanstein castle) -

Munich ss

Day 10: Munich - Rothenburg ss - Nurnberg ss - Prague

Day 11 : Prague ss & OUT

# FROM GOLDEN PRAGUE TO **SUNNY DUBROVNIK**

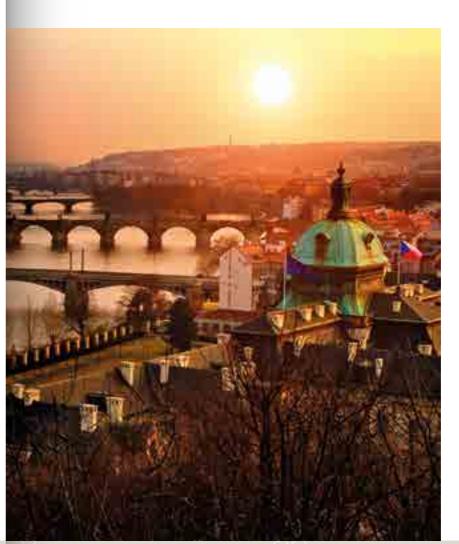












### PRAGUE-PRAGUE

Day 1 : Prague IN - Češky Krumlov

Day 2 : Češky Krumlov ss - Hallstat ss - Salzburg

Day 3 : Salzburg ss - Bled ss

Day 4 : Bled - Postojna ss - Zadar ss

Day 5 : Zadar - Šibenik ss - Mostar ss - Medjugorje ss -

Dubrovnik

Day 6 : Dubrovnik ss - Split ss

Day 7 : Split - Trogir ss - Plitvice ss - Zagreb

Day 8 : Zagreb ss - Trakošćan castle ss - Varaždin ss -

Budapest

Day 9: Budapest ss - Bratislava ss - Vienna

Day 10 : Vienna ss - Brno ss - Prague

Day 11 : Prague ss & OUT





### **MICE TRAVEL**

When it comes to corporate travel, good should not be enough – with such events the sky should be the limit and only the best should be acceptable, as this is what creates the image of your company in your partners' mind. Therefore dare to inspire. Dare to shock them with unimaginable ideas. Let them see that you are the best possible business partner. Be innovative, be fresh. And do not worry: HAPPY TOURS is here to help. From the very start, by proposing a perfect itinerary, based on your needs. By selecting first-class hotels, proposing top-notch venues and locations, by paying special attention to menus served at the events and providing 24/7 technical support. We will make sure that your meeting, incentive, congress or any other event fulfils your expectations and makes the desired impact on your clients or business partners.



Dare to inspire!



### **GOLF**

We conduct golf tours throughout the central Europe, which includes also Slovenia, the Undiscovered Golf Destination of the Year 2015 by IAGTO (The International Association of Golf Tour Operators). Slovenia has 13 golf courses, with over 8000 domestic golfers. The majority of golf courses are accessible within an hour's drive from Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, which also lies at the heart of the country. Slovenia is green, active and healthy: on golf courses and elsewhere. This has been making Slovenia and its 9-hole or 18-hole golf courses more and more popular as a golf destination, attracting golfers from all around the world. In the last 10 years, more than 8 official EGA European Amateur Championships, team and individual, were held on Slovenian golf courses, proving that golfers will find top quality courses to play on here. The Slovenian golfing tradition started after World War II. Bled golf course was the first golf club, built for the Yugoslav king in 1938. This 27-hole course with magnificent mountain views and an iconic alpine lake nearby is still one of the most popular in Europe. Many players find the largest Slovenian golf course with 27 holes a real challenge. According to the Golf World Magazine, this resort was ranked in the first half of 2014 among the top 100 golf courses in Continental Europe.





### **INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL**

The interest in independent travel is on increase, as travellers want to experience destinations in their own way. At Happy Tours, we do not only handle package groups, we handle individuals and design tailor-made tours to fit each and every specific request you might have.

### Several different types of tours are available:

- -Driver-guide tours: using a guide speaking either English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Arabic or certain other languages – to guide and drive the group at the same time either in a car or a mini-van (up to 8+1 seats)
- **Guaranteed tours** in English language only (see more in the Guaranteed Departures section)
- Other FIT arrangement we arrange a voucher system for travellers to use public transport, hotel vouchers and selected other services (meal vouchers, entrance fees and admissions, local guides)
- Fly&Drive and Self-drive programs we facilitate rent-a-cars and clients drive themselves. In such cases we handle the accommodation booking and if desired also certain other services, from entrance fees to restaurants. At classical self-drive programmes maps with preinstalled GPS are arranged to find the desired locations more easily.





# WEDDINGS AND HONEYMOONS

Europe's reputation, which is carefully maintained by thousands of years of culture and art and blessed with some of the most amazing natural landscape settings, is a perfect place for both weddings and honeymoons. There is probably no scenery more romantic than the scenery of a marriage proposal on a gondola in the canals of Venice, where a rose and a bottle of champagne await you, and you're being taken under a bridge with a banner saying 'Will you marry me?? A wedding in style must follow such an engagement: get married in Lake Bled in Slovenia, with its picture perfect beauty, on a privately chartered ship off the Croatian islands, taking a horse carriage in Vienna or Salzburg, enjoying a boat cruise on the Danube through Budapest.

Why not join all those who come to East Europe for a perfect honeymoon? The combination of nature, culture and fun, fantastic combinations of multiple country tours by rail, bus or private car will make your honeymoon truly memorable and everlasting. We organise professional photographers and can offer you a number of innovative and unique engagement proposals and venues.



The picture perfect wedding venues and honeymoon locations



# RELIGIOUS TRAVEL AND PILGRIMAGE TOURS

From the Vatican and the Holy Seat via Assisi and Loreto in Italy to Medjugorje in Bosnia, or Czestochowa in Poland. Many pilgrimage sites are scattered around East and Central Europe. We can organize masses in the holy places, conduct special guided tours with a specific emphasis on the shrines and similar. What is more: our travelling is not limited to conducting Christian travelling alone, we also handle Muslim groups, Jewish interested groups and others. For Muslim groups we provide praying venues, organize halal meals, check the specific requirements with the hotels. For Jewish or Jewish interested groups we provide kosher food and organize travelling so as not to interrupt Shabbat requirements and similar. At Happy Tours we truly appreciate and understand guests of all religions and try to adapt the journeys to their needs and wants.



# CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA TOURS

When it comes to planning tailor-made concert tours for choirs, orchestras and bands that combine flawless travel arrangements with superb performance opportunities Happy Tours is the best choice. Our team has a proper understanding of the needs of touring choirs, orchestras and bands and thus effectively communicates these to concert venues. This ensures that the concerts remain the focus and the high point of your tour. A comprehensive list of suitable venues and well-established connections with local organizations in the area of Central and Eastern Europe enable us to suit all your requirements and make the concert tour with Happy Tours a memorable experience.



Discover some of the most spiritual places in the world.





### **MOTORCYCLE TOURS**

Clutch motors is a project we developed with our partners to conduct guided tours, self-guided tours and Motorcycle rentals in South and South-Eastern Europe.

South Eastern Europe from Dubrovnik to the Dolomites in Central Europe is one of the most beautiful travel destinations in the world, offering exhilarating roads, unspoiled scenery, cultural diversity, generous and hospitable people, fabulous meals and delicious wines. Our intimate knowledge of the region once known as Yugoslavia offers standards and levels of service unmatched by our competitors.

Our tours have been carefully designed to give you fabulous journeys, stopping at the best cafes, restaurants and attractions. The scenery is awe inspiring, from the glistening crystal blue sea of the Croatian coast, to the majestic Dolomites, where you weave your way through mountain passes, and then to the breathtaking scenery of Slovenia's rolling hills and the quiet beauty of Bosnia. We will demonstrate our commitment, ensuring that at the end of the day, 'it's all about you'.

Our employees and guides are professional, enthusiastic motorbike riders and travellers. From our many years of experience in the motorcycle touring business we have come to understand customers' needs, and we promise to make your trip positively unforgettable





# GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

Happy Tours, in conjunction with Expat Explores, organises over 20 different itineraries throughout Europe, with more than 200 guaranteed departures annually. Most tours are on budgets (using primarily 3\* hotels, possibly some 2\* or pension-like stays), but some tours are premium (using 4\* hotels). All tours are conducted in English and incorporate full use of a coach and throughout guide, accommodation, and selected meals and admissions. Check for more on our website: www.happytours.eu. The main advantages are competitive prices, English language and guaranteed departures – so this product is ideal for students and young people, as well as all other groups of independent travellers and small groups.

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Tours include (list is not complete):

Budget tours (3\* accommodation)

- 10 Days Europe Taster London, Paris, Swiss, Germany, Amsterdam, Belgium, London
- 13 Days Europe Highlights London, Paris, Swiss, Italy, Germany, London
- 14 Days Europe Escape Tour London, Paris, Swiss, Italy, Germany, Amsterdam, London
- 14 Days European Jewels Tour London, Amsterdam, Germany, Prague, Budapest, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Swiss, France
- 10 Days Alpine Lakes & Mountains Germany, Austria, Swiss, Italy
- 7 Days Three Countries Escape London, Paris, Amsterdam, Belgium
- 12 Days Highlights of France France
- 9 Days A Taste of Italy Italy
- 13 Days Italian Delights Italy
- 9 Days Taste of Eastern Europe Germany, Prague,
- Slovakia, Budapest, Austria
- 12 Days Eastern Highlight Germany, Czech, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, Slovenia
- 15 Days Croatian and Eastern Delights Germany, Czech, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Croatia, Slovenia, Austria
- 9 Days Croatian Sailing Croatia

### Premium tours (4\* accommodation)

- 10 Days From Venice to Dubrovnik Italy, Slovenia, Croatia
- 9 Days From Vienna to Dubrovnik Austria, Slovenia,
- 7 Days From Zagreb to Dubrovnik Croatia
- 13 Days Best of Greece Greece





# GLAMPING AND CAMPING

There is an alternative to a five-star hotel for those who love unique experiences in natural settings. Glamping is a combination of glamour and camping, the latest trend in the travel industry. Our guests can stay in tent-shaped wooden huts with a glass wall at the back overlooking the forest. In this way, your home is a part of the natural environment. The wooden heated bath tub is just in front of the door. Alternatively, a tent, furnished with a bed, sofa and fireplace can be your home for the night. The list is long: floating tents on a river or tree houses. Glamping is the ideal solution for nature lovers who love luxury. Glamping is a fusion of camping and glamour and the latest trend providing a unique experience for everyone. Of course, the classic tent and campsite is always an alternative. The Adriatic coast is an ideal area, with many campsites overlooking the crystal-clear sea. On an island or the mainland, large or small, there is a campsite for every taste. If the Mediterranean setting is not your choice, the Alps offer different yet equally beautiful scenery for lovers of nature and the outdoors. Accommodation can be arranged in rented tents or mobile homes, depending on the campsite. And we can definitely take care of sightseeing, transportation and meals as well.



The world of outdoor luxury



### **RIVER CRUISES**

River cruising is becoming one of the most dynamic ways to travel. The Danube and the Rhine are the most important rivers for cruises in Europe. The Danube especially can be called a true pan-European river, crossing ten different countries along the route. Happy Tours offers on-shore excursions along the entire length of the Danube, both the Upper Danube and Lower Danube. The Upper Danube starts in Nuremberg on the Main- Danube canal, crosses Regensburg and Passau and enters Austria near Linz, passes through the lush Wachau wine region towards the imperial citiy of Vienna, through Bratislava, continuing to Budapest.

The on-shore excursions include all these cities, including Prague and Czech medieval cities, Salzburg, and a tour through Slovenia and Croatia among other things. The southern part of the Danube is less well known, but equally spectacular. The journey starts in vibrant Budapest and meanders through the hills of Pecs. In Novi Sad, you can see one of the biggest forts in Europe, and later on in Belgrade, can enjoy Europe's party capital. Then through the narrow gorges of the Iron Gates and later on forming the Romanian-Bulgarian border before it turns into a wonderful delta as it reaches the final destination, the Black Sea. Again, the on-shore excursion possibilities are various, ranging from an in-depth exploration of Serbia and Macedonia, to discovering Count Dracula's Bran Castle, Peles Palace or Bulgarian highlights: Sofia, Rila Monastery, Veliko Tarnovo Castle, Plovdiv city and much





### **COACH RENTAL**

We organize coach rentals throughout Europe. We use vehicles belonging to our sister company, Balkans d.o.o. (all SETRA coaches), as well as many other Slovenian, Croatian and other East European coach operators. We combine them with local coaches from West Europe. The portfolio of coaches includes: MERCEDES TOURISMO, MAN, SETRA, TEMSA, BOVIA, SCANIA, VOLVO and more. We offer competitive rates, good vehicles and English-speaking drivers and a reliable service, with a 24/7 emergency line. The portfolio of our coaches includes brand new to 8 year-old vehicles; they vary in size, though most commonly they are for 49 or 55 passengers, but sometimes we can also provide double-deckers. As a significant part of our job is coach brokering we try to arrange coaches in such a way that empty runs are avoided as much as possible. Apart from coach rentals, we also organize minivan transportation (Mercedes or other van types) and a limousine service.



### **CAMPER RENTAL**

Either with your family or a group of friends; the roads and camp sites of the Balkan Peninsula, Central and Eastern Europe await you. The diverse locations of the Adriatic, the Alps and Bohemia are a delight for people who love freedom and adventure. With a rented camper, you have the luxury of your home wherever you go. We will take care of all necessary rental arrangements and make sure the camper is ready for you. And if you and your loved ones need local guides or admission tickets, we can arrange this as well. Do you prefer travelling with a bigger group of friends or with your wider family? No problem: you can all travel together and we take care of arrangements at the campsite for you. We provide new vehicles and offer all the support you may need (both technical, road or with insurances), so that this really becomes a worry-free iournev.





It's not about the destination, it's all about the journey!

# **HAPPY TOURS**

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