



BALKAN DISCOVERY

Tour: WBOB • BUDAPEST → BUCHAREST

9

DAYS

5

COUNTRIES

CJN_SE001_Balkan Discovery_9D5C_Apr-Oct 2024

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 cruise to Pécs, where you'll visit underground burial chambers with fascinating murals, now part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 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 Bulgarian capital of Veliko Târnovo, you'll visit Arbanassi's Church of the Nativity, housing an impressive collection of frescoes. To round out this timeless Eastern European River cruise, you'll stay in Romania's vibrant capital of Bucharest, known as the "Paris of the East." A local expert will show you many of its historical treasures, such as the Arc de Triomphe, built in honor of WWI soldiers.





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Meals

Breakfast: 8 Lunch: 6 Dinner: 7

Transport

State-of-the-art, luxurious river cruise vessels with modern services and amenities

Accommodation

Deluxe outside accommodations with Avalon's exclusive Comfort Collection Beds

HIGHLIGHTS

**ITINERARY****DAY 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 MOHACS (D)

DAY 2: MOHACS

Hungarian History in a Harbor Town Visit the Adventure centre for today's activities with your Adventure Host. ACTIVE - Enjoy an easy bike ride in Mohacs with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Join a morning Guided Sightseeing Tour of Mohacs-the quiet Danube harbor town with its historical memorial parks, statues, and distinctive churches.



Tour the remarkable medieval St. Nicholas Watermill-one of only a few remaining watermills performing stone-ground grain processing, OR: CLASSIC - Take a Guided Tour of nearby Pecs to see its 4th-century Christian underground tombs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with fascinating murals. You'll also enjoy an organ concert on your tour. EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO ILOK (B, L, D)

DAY 3: ILOK, CROATIA

History and Culture in Croatia CLASSIC - Join a Guided Tour of Ilok, with its 1,000-year-old winemaking tradition still thriving and its medieval fortress protected for its Croatian cultural heritage. Enjoy a brief cruise to Novi Sad while having lunch onboard. NOVI SAD, SERBIA: The Athens of Serbia ACTIVE - Enjoy a relaxing walk in Novi Sad with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - 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. OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO BELGRADE (B, L, D)

DAY 4: BELGRADE

Fortresses and Folklore ACTIVE - See Belgrade's central walkway with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - 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. DISCOVERY - 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 cafes, 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 GOLUBAC (B, L, D)

DAY 5: GOLUBAC-DONJI MILANOVAC. EXCURSION TO LEPENSKI VIR-IRON GATES GORGE

Ancient Artifacts and the Iron Gates CLASSIC - Visit the Fortress of Golubac, one of the best-preserved medieval fortresses in Europe. You'll hear about its tumultuous history as a border control defense in the Middle Ages, and a source of conflict between Serbia, the Habsburg Monarchy and the Ottoman Empire. Enjoy a brief sailing to Donji Milanovac. ACTIVE - Explore Donji Milanovac by bike with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Join a Guided Tour 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 (B, L, D)

DAY 6: VIDIN, BULGARIA

Rocks, ruins and Balkan Beauty Join your Adventure Host for today's special activities. ACTIVE - Enjoy an easy hiking experience in Vidin with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Join Guided Sightseeing in Vidin, 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. AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO ROUSSE (B, L, D)

**DAY 7: ROUSSE. VELIKO TARNOVO & ARBANASSI EXCURSION**

Fortresses and Folklore ACTIVE - Join a walk through the park with your Avalon Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Join a full-day Guided Tour to the former Bulgarian capital of Veliko Tarnovo-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 - Join a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Bulgaria's largest inland port and visit its impressive Holy Trinity Church. Later, enjoy live entertainment on board with a Bulgarian folklore show. OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO OLTENITA (B, L, D)

DAY 8: OLTENITA, ROMANIA (DISEMBARKATION)-BUCHAREST

The Paris of the East CLASSIC - Take a Guided Tour of the Romanian capital city of Bucharest with its tree-lined boulevards and Arc de Triomphe-honoring WWI Romanian soldiers. See the Royal Palace Square-the scene of the city's 1989 riots to overthrow the communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. Spend some free time exploring on your own to visit shops and museums. See the beautiful home and churches along Victory Avenue. (B)

DAY 9: BUCHAREST

Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B)



DATES & PRICING

TOUR CODE WBOB – BALKAN DISCOVERY : BUDAPEST to BUCHAREST						
Date	Vessels	Cabin / USD / (Cruise Only) / pax				
		E	D	B	A	P
12 – 20 Apr 2024	View	-	4,097	5,347	5,447	5,497
Promotion 1,000 USD		-	3,097	4,347	4,447	4,497
23 Apr – 01 May 2024	Impression	-	4,197	5,447	5,547	5,597
Promotion 1,000 USD		-	3,197	4,447	4,547	4,597
19 – 27 May 2024	Passion	4,198	4,397	-	5,747	5,797
Promotion 750 USD		3,448	3,647	-	4,997	5,047
12 – 20 Aug 2024	Envision	4,198	4,397	5,647	5,747	5,797
Promotion 1,000 USD		3,198	3,397	4,647	4,747	4,797
24 Aug – 01 Sep 2024	Passion	4,298	4,497	5,747	5,847	5,897
Promotion 1,000 USD		3,298	3,497	4,747	4,847	4,897
17 – 25 Sep 2024	View	4,498	4,697	5,947	6,047	6,097
Promotion 750 USD		3,748	3,947	5,197	5,297	5,347
05 – 13 Oct 2024	Passion	4,398	4,597	5,847	5,947	5,997
Promotion 1,000 USD		3,398	3,597	4,847	4,947	4,997
Excluded Port Charges USD 210 /Pax						
Excluded Gratuity USD 131 /Pax						