

4 Days Tour Balkans – Croatia & Slovenia

Highlights (Natural Wonders & Adriatic Coast)

(Mini Group | 5–9 seat Business Van | Door-to-door pick-up with Driver-Guide)

Balkans – Croatia & Slovenia Highlights 4-Day Tour

Natural Wonders & Adriatic Coast

Fairytale lake views
Lake Bled

Castle ruins
Celje

The world's oldest vine
Maribor

Baroque architecture capital
Varazdin

SLOVENIA

CROATIA

Ljubljana
European Green Capital

Postojna Cave
Natural wonders

Zagreb

Opatija
Aristocratic resort town

Rijeka
Coastal culture hub

Change Brown Line

Mini Tours	Adult € 900	Child (2-11yrs) € 800 (no extra bed)	Single € 240	Tips € 40
-------------------	--------------------	---	---------------------	------------------

Price Includes: 5-9-seater executive vehicle + 4-star hotels with breakfast + professional driver-guide

Price Excludes: Flights & visas, lunches & dinners, attraction tickets, driver-guide tips, city taxes

Every Fri & Mon from Zagreb

Sydney Head Office

📍 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

☎ 1300 309 117

✉ info@vnholidays.com.au

Tour Dates

- Depart Zagreb every Friday & Monday.
- Guaranteed departure from 2 guests, max 6 guests. (Perfect add-on to Brown Line Line in-depth tour).

Tour Highlights

- Croatia two-city highlights: Varaždin (Baroque architecture capital) & Rijeka (coastal culture hub).
- Adriatic coastal getaway: Opatija (aristocratic resort town) seaside promenade & photo stops
- Slovenia culture & wine country: Maribor (the world's oldest vine), Celje (castle ruins) & Ljubljana (European Green Capital).
- Natural wonders & fairytale lake views: Postojna Cave & Lake Bled.

Itinerary

Day 1: Zagreb → Varaždin → Slovenia - Maribor (166 km)

In the morning, our driver-guide will meet you at the pre-arranged time and location to begin the journey. Varaždin – rich in heritage and arts, known as Croatia's "Baroque architecture capital". Varaždin Castle & Old Town: a signature landmark—once a medieval fortress, later rebuilt in Renaissance and Baroque styles. The castle houses a museum showcasing local history, culture and art. Cathedral of the Assumption: a Baroque cathedral renowned for its magnificent interior and ornate altars—an important local religious site. National Theatre: a grand Neo-Renaissance building and the city's main venue for cultural performances. King Tomislav Square: surrounded by historic buildings such as the Town Hall, cathedral, palaces and academic buildings. Maribor – known as the "city of the world's oldest vine" and a former European Capital of Culture. Old Vine House: its façade is covered by the "world's oldest vine" (Guinness-recognized, 400+ years). Learn about local wine history and taste Styrian wines. Lent District: the oldest and most charming quarter along the Drava River, featuring well- preserved medieval defensive towers such as the Water Tower and the Judgement Tower. Main Square: lined with colorful historic buildings. At the center stands a Baroque plague memorial column. Maribor Castle: a 15th-century castle on Castle Square, now home to the Regional Museum with exhibitions on local history and artefacts.

Day 2: Maribor → Celje → Ljubljana (135 km)

Sydney Head Office

📍 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

☎ 1300 309 117

✉ info@vnholidays.com.au

Celje – known as Celeia in Roman times, once a prosperous settlement, famous for its impressive castle. Celje Castle: built in the 12th century. Though now in ruins, it still conveys its former glory. The best-preserved tower is Frederick’s Tower, named after Frederick II of the Counts of Celje, who was imprisoned here during family power struggles. The hilltop location offers sweeping views of Celje, the Savinja River and surrounding mountains. Celje Regional Museum: one of Slovenia’s largest regional museums, presenting Celje’s history from Roman times to the modern era. Museum of Recent History: exhibits covering history from World War I to the present, including wartime and post-war life in Slovenia. The special “Children’s Museum” is also worth a visit. Roman Ruins (beneath the Palace): an underground exhibition displaying preserved Roman streets, city gates and house remain—often dubbed the “second Troy” of the region. Ljubljana – picturesque and leafy, crowned as the “European Green Capital”. Ljubljana Castle: with around 900 years of history. Take the funicular from the Old Town to the castle courtyard (about 1 minute), then climb the panoramic tower for views over red rooftops, the winding Ljubljanica River and the Alps. Triple Bridge: a city icon connecting the Old Town and the modern centre—three bridges side by side, a masterpiece of architect Jože Plečnik. Dragon Bridge: spanning the Ljubljanica River and adorned with four vivid green dragon statues. The dragon symbolizes strength, courage and the city’s guardian. Prešeren Square: surrounded by Baroque and Art Nouveau buildings and named after the national poet France Prešeren. His statue stands at the centre, symbolising Slovenia’s cultural spirit. Across the square is a relief of his beloved Julija—facing him in a romantic, poetic dialogue.

Day 3: Ljubljana → Postojna Cave → Lake Bled → Croatia - Opatija (250 km)

Postojna Cave – one of Europe’s largest karst cave systems, renowned for its spectacular underground scenery and cave-train experience. Cave Train: take a unique electric mini-train about 2 km into the cave, admiring early-stage stalactite formations along the way. This is the only show cave in the world with a double-track cave railway. Inside you’ll see enormous chambers, narrow passages, rock walls up to 45 metres high, and a variety of stalactites, stalagmites and pillars. Thanks to its natural acoustics, the cave has even hosted large-scale underground concerts. Red/White Halls: the Red Hall’s formations take on reddish tones due to iron and manganese during calcification. The White Hall remains pure white because no impurities entered the calcium-carbonate deposition process. The cave’s ‘treasure’: the Brilliant Pillar—about 5 metres tall, strikingly white—paired with a

Sydney Head Office

📍 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

☎ 1300 309 117

✉ info@vnholidays.com.au

neighboring column, resembling a bride and groom at a wedding. ‘Human fish’ (olm): a rare cave-dwelling creature with a pale body and slender limbs. Living in darkness, its eyes have regressed. It is Europe’s only cave-dwelling vertebrate. Lake Bled – famous for its island church and cliff-top medieval castle, a national symbol of Slovenia. Bled Island / Church of the Assumption: ride the traditional colorful Pletna boat (about 15 minutes, rowed standing up by the boatman) to the island. After landing, climb 99 stone steps to reach the church—one of Slovenia’s most iconic sights. Legend says that ringing the ‘wishing bell’ three times will make your wish come true. Inside, admire the ornate Baroque gilded main altar depicting the seated Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus.




Day 4: Opatija → Rijeka → Zagreb (175 km)

Opatija – an elegant aristocratic seaside resort, often called the “Nice of the Adriatic”. Lungomare Promenade: a 12-km seaside walkway along the Adriatic, perfect for strolling with sea views and historic architecture. Maiden with the Seagull: the iconic statue standing on seaside rocks overlooking the bay—now a symbol of Opatija. It represents a blend of loyalty, longing and hope. Rijeka – known for its port and maritime history, cultural heritage and modern vibe; selected as the 2020 European Capital of Culture. Trsat Castle: the city’s key historic landmark with panoramic views over Rijeka. The complex includes the Shrine of Our Lady of Trsat, an important pilgrimage site visited by Pope John Paul II in 2003. Korzo Street: the main pedestrian boulevard lined with Austro-Hungarian architecture, boutiques, cafés and restaurants—great for experiencing local life. Peek & Poke Computer Museum: a quirky retro computer and video game museum, popular with tech enthusiasts. Arrive in Zagreb in the early evening. Your driver will drop you off at the designated location. End of service.

Tour Price

Adult Price	EUR 900
Child Price	EUR 800 (2-11 yrs, no extra bed)
Single Supplement	EUR 80 / pax / night
Tips	EUR 10 / pax / day

Sydney Head Office

 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000
 1300 309 117
 info@vnholidays.com.au

Price Includes:

- 5–9 Seat business van
- 4★ Hotels with breakfast + professional driver-guide (10 hours/day)
- Includes driver’s meals & accommodation, fuel and parking.
- Door-to-door pick-up & drop-off for joining/leaving the tour (city centre only).

Price Excludes:

- Airfare & visas.
- Lunch and dinner.
- Attraction tickets.
- Driver-guide.
- Tips (EUR/GBP 10 per person per day).
- Themed activities (e.g., winery visits, truffle hunting).
- Other transport (trains/boats), city taxes, insurance, and driver-guide overtime (EUR/GBP 50 per hour).

Reference Hotels




City	Hotel (or similar)
Maribor	Arena Maribor 4★ or similar
Ljubljana	Four Points By Sheraton Ljubljana Mons 4★
Opatija	Bristol Opatija 4★ or similar

(Hotels are subject to final arrangement.)

Reference Entrance Fees & Signature Meal Costs

(Prices are for reference only. Final prices are subject to official websites or restaurant announcements.)

Sydney Head Office

 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000
 1300 309 117
 info@vnholidays.com.au

Item	Reference Price
Varaždin Castle Museum	EUR 05
Maribor Castle	EUR 08
Celje Regional Museum	EUR 08
Ljubljana Castle	EUR 16
Postojna Cave (incl. cave train)	EUR 30
Lake Bled Pletna boat	EUR 15
Peek & Poke Computer Museum	EUR 10

Signature Meal:	Approx. EUR 30 per person.
Recommended Restaurant:	Gourmet & Bistro Kodila Market (Slovenian cuisine, Central European flavours).
Address:	Adamic Lundrovo Nabrezje 5, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
Opening Hours:	Mon 08:00 – 16:00; Tue 08:00 – 16:00; Wed 08:00 – 16:00; Thu 08:00 – 16:00; Fri 07:00 – 16:00; Sat 07:00 – 16:00

Sydney Head Office

 Suite 1201, Level 12 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

 1300 309 117

 info@vnholidays.com.au