

Rivers, lakes and canyons of the North

Tour description:

On this Montenegro holiday, leave the crowds on the coast behind and explore inland, discovering the mountains, rivers & canyons of the North. This eight-day, tailor made trip is a chance to enjoy some of the best active, outdoors experiences as you explore the mountains, beautifully clear lakes and deep gorges with raging rivers in this small and spectacular Balkan country. Meet the welcoming people of northern Montenegro, too – famous for their warm hospitality – and learn about a lifestyle that has deep roots in the past while enjoying modern comforts at friendly, locally owned accommodation. Feast on fresh, organic food, hike through ancient forests, swim in Lake Skadar, try some white-water rafting on the Tara river and simply relax and enjoy the views over Montenegro's dramatic landscapes...

Tour details:

Group: 2-8 people

Departure dates: April 15-October 31

Fitness level required: Good



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Full itinerary:

DAY 1 – SKADAR LAKE, GATEWAY TO MONTENEGRO

Transfer to your accommodation in a small village on the lake shore. This centuries old village has ample charm. There are a number of walking trails, explore the nearby (fishing) villages, take a (sunset) kayak trip in the small lake channels (**option 1**) or just soak up the tranquillity!

At night enjoy a huge meal of local specialities prepared the traditional way.



Accommodation – Homestay of 3* around Lake Skadar (b&b) – 2 nights

Driving time: 30min if arriving at Podgorica airport (1h10min if Tivat airport)

Meals included: dinner

DAY 2 – EXPLORE THE LAKE AND SURROUNDS



Head out on a 3-hour private boat trip of the lake aboard a traditional fishing boat. Look for the rare Dalmatian pelican, swim in the clear waters of your own private beach, visit to a centuries old monastery or just enjoy the serenity.

Afterwards, suggestion to visit an abandoned medieval fortress from the 14th century with great views of the lake.

Driving time: 30min (15min local transfers in one direction)

Meals included: breakfast



DAY 3 – MOUNTAINS AND FARMS OF THE BJELASICA REGION

Head towards the capital Podgorica then follow the Morača canyon into the mountains. First stop at the 12th century Morača monastery, wander through the gardens and view the 13th century frescos. The road from here climbs rapidly to the Bjelasica plateau with stunning views along the canyon.



Lunch in the farm of a local family in an amazing rural setting. Enjoy homemade local dishes. Sample local wine and homemade brandy (Rakija). Back on the road, enjoy spectacular mountain views, swathes of native forest and small mountain villages as we continue our climb to tonight's accommodation.

Accommodation rural household 3* Bjelasica area (halfboard) – 2 nights

Driving time: 3h30min

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 4 – HIGHLANDS OF BJELASICA OR FLY FISHING IN PROKLETJE



In the early morning something relaxing on the meadows of this lovely mountain. Tour of Bjelasica glacial lakes. For those who don't mind a bit of colder water, bring on some swimming suites to refresh at one of the lakes. Duration is approximately 4-5 hours, with 560m of elevation difference, and couple of springs on the way.





In the afternoon, you can explore the area around Plav (meaning “flooded place”) with numerous springs, lakes and soaks. If you decide to finish this beautiful day by going fly fishing in Plav (catch and release) **(option 2)**, it is a must for the seasoned fisherman or first-time enthusiast alike. You can try your hand at fly fishing with professional tutoring where our local experts will assist you.

If you are sticking to Bjelasica then we suggest to try out horseback riding through the meadows and forests above Berane, views are amazing and these gentle animals are great companions with our knowledgeable instructors (2h duration) **(option 3)**

Driving time: 30min (15min local transfers in one direction)

Meals included: breakfast, pocket lunch, dinner

DAY 5 – FRESH AIR, CANYONS, RIVERS AND WILDERNESS



Today direction the far North West of the country, taking in some diverse scenery and natural wonders. Following the Tara, our route passes through the Durmitor National Park. Take a break at the historic Đurđevića Tara Bridge – gateway to the Durmitor Alpine region – for a breathtaking view. For the brave at heart, there is a zipline across the gorge.

Taking the scenic route through a spectacular Durmitor mountain pass, you will have plenty of great photography moments! The route continues through remote rural countryside dotted with small mountain villages and tombs of the long lost Bogumili (called Stećak), passing Piva Lake you will arrive at your accommodation.

Looking to relax away from the crowds, you cannot go past this area of the country: enjoy authentic and traditional food, local drinks and a way of life that has all but disappeared.

In the afternoon, you can jump on a boat on the lake to discover the unexplored part of Komarnica canyon **(option 4)**.

Accommodation: 3* or questhouse in Plužine (b&b) – 3 nights.



Driving time: 3h50min

Meals included: breakfast, lunch

DAY 6 – PIVA MOUNTAINS AND FAIRYTALE LAKES



Hiking tour takes us to two lakes situated above 1000m of elevation. Hiking through small peaceful village, mountain katon and colourful forest with one spring on the way before reaching Malo jezero (1194m) and further up the mountain Veliko (1325m). Summer temperature of water is 16-20 degrees and lakes are rich with trouts. Trail length is around 3,5km in one direction, meaning around 7km in total.

Driving time: 30min (15min local transfers in one direction)

Meals included: breakfast

DAY 7 – RAFTING ON THE TARA RIVER

Today, we have planned a really special adventure. We will take you to enjoy white water rafting on the Tara with the best operator in the country.

Situated at an elevation of 1500m on the verge of the Durmitor National Park, experience rafting down the deepest canyons in the world after the Grand Canyon – The Tara River! Adrenaline rush is guaranteed on this 18 km rafting tour through the most remote section of the canyon. Your experienced guides will ensure your absolute safety and enjoyment.



Driving time: 1h (30min drive to the starting point of the rafting and same drive back)

Meals included: breakfast, lunch



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DAY 8 - DEPARTURE



Breakfast before saying goodbye to Montenegro - back to the airport. For those with late departures, we can arrange an exclusive visit to an award-winning winery to sample some of the best wines the region has to offer (**option 5**) or story of the craft beers and visit to local brewery with beers and snacks (**option 6**).

Driving time: 1h50min

Meals included: breakfast



Price details:

Price: From 720€ per person

Details*: 6-8 pers: 720€ 4 pers: 770€ 2 pers: 975€

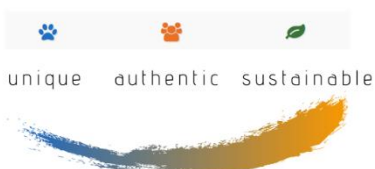
INCLUDED

- Rental car for all days (with delivery at the airport)
- Accommodations for all nights as specified in itinerary
- Meals mentioned in the itinerary
- Rafting, professional guide and safety equipment
- Private boat tour on Skadar Lake (+ entrance tickets to Skadar Park)
- Private & certified mountain guide for hike in Bjelasica and Piva
- Our on-site assistance 24/7
- Insurance for excursions

NOT INCLUDED

- Options as specified in the itinerary
- Alternative for private transfers instead of rental car (on request)
- International flights and airport taxes
- Meals not mentioned in itinerary (lots of options available)
- Your own hiking equipment
- Entrance fees in national parks, museums and churches (these are included in guided tours)
- Drinks and personal expenses and tips
- Tourist tax

*price per person, on a base of double rooms



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