

# Serbia

## Itinerary 1

**Day 1- Monday May 12** Morning arrival to Belgrade Airport, welcome by professional English speaking guide and transfer to centrally located 3+/4 stars *Belgrade hotel*. Short relax.

*Belgrade sightseeing tour:* starting with visit either to the [Gallery of Frescoes](#) /if opened, bcs it is under reconstruction/ or the [Museum of the Serbian Orthodox Church](#).

We continue bus tour COMBINED with walking sightseeing ; the National Theater, Parliament, [Saint Sava Orthodox Cathedral](#) /second largest Orthodox church in the world/, Kalemegdan Fortress with the Victory Monument from where spreads magic panorama of New Belgrade and confluence of the Sava and the Danube Rivers, the Knez Mihajla pedestrian-shopping street, Republic Square. Welcome dinner with live music in Skadarlija bohemian quarter restaurant. Overnight.

**Day 2- 5/13** After breakfast drive along highway to Kraljevo and visit to the [Zica Monastery](#). Continue along the picturesque [Ibar River Valley](#), known as the Kings Valley for numerous Medieval Monasteries built by the Serbian Medieval kings to the [Studenica Monastery Medieval complex](#) /UNESCO/. Sightseeing of the complex, including the Treasury. Accommodation in comfortable Studenica Dormitory /twin rooms with facilities/. Monastic dinner with glass of red monastic wine. Overnight.

**Day 3-5/14** After breakfast drive to Novi Pazar and tour of the [SS Apostles Peter and Paul Church](#) – UNESCO site, one of the oldest churches in the Balkans. Continue to the [Sopocani Monastery](#), UNESCO heritage and *sightseeing of the impressive frescoes* that are considered the pinnacle of the Medieval art. Drive along the harsh mountainous terrain to the [Crna Reka Monastery](#), one of the most secluded among the Medieval Monasteries of Serbia, deep in the wilderness, close to the border of Montenegro. Tour of the wonderfully painted cave church which keeps the holy relics of the *St Peter of Korisha*. Drive on via Rozaje /Montenegro/ border crossing to Pec and hotel accommodation /[Dukadjini Hotel](#)/. Dinner, overnight.

**Day 4-5/15** After breakfast tour of the [Pec Patriarchate Medieval complex](#), UNESCO heritage site. Continue to the [Visoki Decani Monastery](#), UNESCO site and sightseeing of one of the most majestic architecture and paintings of the Serbian Medieval shrines. Accommodation in Prizren 4 stars hotel in the historical core /[Centrum Hotel](#) in the old town/. Traditional dinner, overnight.

**Day 5-5/16** After breakfast visit to the [Holy Virgin of Ljevish Cathedral](#), UNESCO heritage site. Short walk through the old town. Optional visit to the either [Holy Savior Church](#) in the Kaljaja quarter of Prizren **or** the [Holy Archangels Monastery](#), on our way further via the magic landscape of the [Sara Mountain-National Park](#). Short break for traditional refreshment */homemade cheese pie prepared of the famous Sharr Mt cheese – shepherd cheese + natural blueberry-raspberry juice/* and introduction in lifestyle */short folklore performance/*. Drive via [Skopje](#) to **Thessaloniki**, for further program-accommodation. End of program and services.

## Greece –hellas

Arrival Thessaloniki ANCIENT MAKEDONIA GREECE dinner overnight in hotel a class

Day 6-5/17 buffet breakfast in hotel and departure for a full day visit of the byzantine monuments of thessaloniki we will visit the church of agios dimitrios protector of the city and its crypt where he martyred visit ayia sofia church visit rotunda and the church of achiropoihtos then departure to ano poli to visit the valtadon monastery and the church of osios david with the wonderful mosaic of Christi without beard that was covered during the Turkish occupation and was not destroyed

This way we will do the early byzantine times architecture and decoration of the churches then after a short stop for photographs at ano poli upper city for photographs we will arrive at the byzantine museum for a visit after the visit we will stop at the white tower for photographs and return to the hotel passing by the ottoman monuments of the city dinner overnight at hotel

Day 7/5/18 breakfast at the hotel and depart to veroia we will visit vergina the royal tombs and then we will visit the bema of St Paul and we will walk on the traces of the ancient path of via egnatia which was connecting dirachio port was crossing all ancient makedonia and thrace - greece and was arriving at

Constantinople parts and traces of this road we visited the day before under the church of St Dimitrios church at crypt .we will stop at the bema of St Paul for a pray and we will continue to visit some of the byzantine churches in veria which will be open for us agios savas a wonderful byzantine monument and church <http://discoververia.gr/agios-savas-tis-kyriotissas/> the old cathedral of veroia <http://en.discoververia.gr/palaia-miropoli/> <http://en.discoververia.gr/romaikos-dromos/> ancient egnatia metamorfosi toy sotiros <http://discoververia.gr/metamorfoosi-tou-sotiros/>

Panagia eyaggelistris <http://discoververia.gr/moni-tou-sotiros-xristou-2/> we will visit as many as possible as well as the byzantine museum of veroia then in the afternoon we will visit the barbouta the old Hebrew neighborhood <http://discoververia.gr/mparmpouta/> and we will pass by the synagogue

No visit just outside <http://discoververia.gr/evraiki-sinagogi/> veroia will need some time to walk around and evening we will return to thessaloniki hotel for dinner and overnight

Day 8-5/19 departure to visit Edessa with the waterfalls and the Miesia the Aristoteles school then we will depart to see 2 of the most wonderful tombs of Hellenistic period of Macedonian era in Ierakia and we will continue to palace of Pella visit the site and the museum and return to Thessaloniki to visit

Aristoteles square and the museum of Thessaloniki return to the hotel dinner overnight

Day 9-5/20 departure from Thessaloniki after breakfast to Kerkeni lake visit the monastery of Timios Prodromos <https://www.timiosprodromos.gr/> we will have a welcome from the nuns to a monastery built from Mount Athos for nuns to represent them on the outside world

with the view of the lake then we will depart to visit the church/monastery of St George <https://orthodox-world.org/en/i/26468/Greece/Serres/Monastiraki/Monastery/HOLY-MONASTERY-OF-SAINT-GEORGE-TRIMORFOS> we will meet with the only monk there afternoon we will do a cruise in the lake Kerkeni with the traditional boats to see the flamingos and the other birds dinner with local food at the hotel at Kerkeni

Day 10-5/21 departure from Kerkeni to Serres to visit the monastery Ioannis Prodromos a very old monastery with wonderful wall paintings <http://www.monastiria.gr/makedonia/nomos-seron/iera-moni-timiou-prodromou-serron/> the nuns will welcome us with coffee and Loukoumi

Then we will depart to Amphipolis visit the site and the small museum and we will visit the walls and the ancient bridge between the two sides of the river the bridge is from the period of Philippos the Great the father of Alexander the Great

[https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GGRV\\_enGR752GR752&q=amphipolis+lion&tbm=isch&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid\\_4aD-aTgAhWP16QKHcrTCnsQsAR6BAgDEAE&biw=1920&bih=969](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GGRV_enGR752GR752&q=amphipolis+lion&tbm=isch&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid_4aD-aTgAhWP16QKHcrTCnsQsAR6BAgDEAE&biw=1920&bih=969)

[https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GGRV\\_enGR752GR752&biw=1920&bih=969&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=ubBZXOnSHc68kwWkxqKQBw&q=amphipolis+walls+&oq=amphipolis+walls+&gs\\_l=img.12...37306.41498..44050...0.0..0.295.2463.0j16j1.....0....1..gws-wiz-img.....0i67j0i0i30j0i8i30.22zbgHr\\_h4w](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GGRV_enGR752GR752&biw=1920&bih=969&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=ubBZXOnSHc68kwWkxqKQBw&q=amphipolis+walls+&oq=amphipolis+walls+&gs_l=img.12...37306.41498..44050...0.0..0.295.2463.0j16j1.....0....1..gws-wiz-img.....0i67j0i0i30j0i8i30.22zbgHr_h4w)

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after the visit we will depart to Kavala dinner overnight at hotel in Kavala

Day 11-5/22 visit kavala and the church of <https://orthodox-world.org/gr/i/18589/Greece/Kavala/Kavala/%CE%95%CE%BA%CE%BA%CE%BB%CE%B7%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1/Saint-Nicholas-Orthodox-Church> sta nikolas church and the monument of st paul then we will depart and driving along the path of ancient egnatia we will visit the philippi archeological site with the early christian churches <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1517> visit the theatre the arch site and the st paul prison and we will depart to lidia a near by village where st paul baptised the first European christian a woman named lidia

There by the river we can do a pray and visit the church of st john

[https://www.google.com/search?q=lidia+arch+site&rlz=1C1GGRV\\_enGR752GR752&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=yRILShq6z2EWgM%253A%252CQLV6amlT0od-M%252C\\_&usg=AI4\\_kSvlf0eDQUxwPJ8M9gAub-sTsfmeQ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjlra7J-6TgAhWLDuwKHZZLBIQQ9QEwAnoECAUQBA#imgrc=yRILShq6z2EWgM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=lidia+arch+site&rlz=1C1GGRV_enGR752GR752&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=yRILShq6z2EWgM%253A%252CQLV6amlT0od-M%252C_&usg=AI4_kSvlf0eDQUxwPJ8M9gAub-sTsfmeQ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjlra7J-6TgAhWLDuwKHZZLBIQQ9QEwAnoECAUQBA#imgrc=yRILShq6z2EWgM:)

then we will depart to alexandroupolis dinner overnight at alexandroupolis

Day 12-5/23 breakfast in hotel and departure to greek Turkish border to meet with our Turkish bus and guide and cross the border to the Turkish side

## Turkey

<p><b>Day 12-5/23</b></p> <p><b>(D)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Thessaloniki / Istanbul</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Arrive to the Greek-Turkish border. Our licensed bus will be waiting Greek Side of Border for the border crossing. Then board on our luxury bus and we start our drive to Istanbul. After check-in, our tour director will brief our guests about the Biblical Itinerary.</li> <li>· Dinner and an overnight stay will be at the hotel.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 13-5/24</b></p> <p><b>(B-D)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Istanbul</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· After breakfast, we will start our full day, sightseeing tour of Istanbul. First, we will visit the <b>Blue Mosque</b>, famous for its blue Iznik (modern name: Nicaea) tiles and unique 6 minarets. After the Blue Mosque, we will walk to the <b>Hippodrome</b>, which was the center of sports events (chariots races and athletic games) and political activities in the old city. From the Hippodrome, we will walk to <b>Hagia Sophia, which</b> is right across from the Blue Mosque. Built as the church of divine wisdom, it is still one of the greatest marvels of the world.</li> </ul>

architecture in the World. The Byzantine Emperor Justinian constructed it as a basilica in the 6th century. **Hagia Irini (Eirene) Church** will be our next visit (in the Topkapi Palace Garden). It was built as a church dedicated to divine peace on the former site of a temple of Aphrodite. **Constantine the Great** had it built in 324 AD. In the afternoon, we will continue with a tour of the **Topkapi Palace Museum**, which was the imperial residence of the Ottoman Sultans. Today in the rooms of this palace, there are exhibits of the imperial treasury, Chinese porcelain, weapons, and Holy Relics (**the Sword of King David, the Staff of Moses, the Turban of Joseph, Relics of St. John the Baptist**). We will end the day with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**. It is **the biggest oriental bazaar** (market) in the World with around 4,000 shops, which sell antiques, jewelry, gold, carpets, leather, etc. **\*\* Unique Moment:** During the visit of the Grand Bazaar we will taste **Turkish coffee** in **Sark Kahve**, a 400 year old Turkish Coffee House. A variety of Turkish coffee and tea will be available.

· Dinner and an overnight stay will be at the hotel.

**Day 14-5/25**

**Istanbul**

**(B-D)**

· After breakfast, we will set off for a full day sightseeing tour of Istanbul. Today's itinerary will start with a visit of **Chora Church (Museum of Kariye –in Edirne Kapi district)**. It was built originally as a church of a Byzantine Monastery. The best-preserved Byzantine Mosaics in Turkey, depicting Biblical scenes, are in this church.

[Then we will visit the Patriarchate and after a short drive to Spice Market lunch time](#)

The **Spice Market will be our visit**. Built in the 17th century, this is **the second largest oriental covered bazaar** in Istanbul. In the Spice Market, the enchanting and savory aromas of exotic oils, herbs and spices hang in the air. People looking for herbs, spices, tea, and Turkish delight (candy) have frequented this 350-year-old market for centuries. Today, selling nuts, honey, dried fruits, traditional sweets, and herbal remedies, the Spice Bazaar's vendors will try to lure you into their shops with their amusing calls. **\*\* Unique Moment :** During the visit of Spice Market, we will have a short break at **Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir's shop** – the inventor of Turkish delight. Since 1777 (when it was founded) the name Hacı Bekir has become a legend in Ottoman and Turkish confectionery and a local symbol of this gastronomical art. After the Spice Market, we will take a short walk to **Rustem Pasha Mosque**. The Ottoman imperial architect Mimar Sinan designed it for

Grand Vizier “Damat” Rustem Pasha (husband of Princess Mihrimah, the beloved daughter of the Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent). The construction took 2 years from 1561 to 1563. The Rustem Pasha Mosque is famous for its’ exquisite Iznik tiles, displaying a wide variety of beautiful floral and geometric designs, which cover the Rustem Pasha Mosque inside out. These tiles exhibit a cherry-red color, which was the characteristic feature of the early Iznik period tiles (1555-1620).

- **.we will embark on a private boat and we will arrive in Chalki we will have a short walk with carriages to Chalki school visit and return walking to the port by boat return to port and transfer back to the hotel dinner overnight at hotel**

**Day 15-5/26**

**Istanbul / Troy / Canakkale**

**(B-D)**

- After breakfast we will begin our scenic ride to **Gallipoli**, through the European land in Turkey and cross the second strategic waterway, the Dardanelles Strait by ferry. We will drive through the city of **Canakkale to Troy**. After visiting the legendary site of the ruins of Troy, we will drive back to Canakkale to our hotel.
- Dinner and an overnight will be at our hotel in Canakkale

**Day 16-5/27**

**Canakkale / Troas / Pergamum / Izmir**

**(B-D)**

After breakfast, we will drive to **Alexandria Troas**, (Acts 16: 8-11; 20:5, 6, II; Tim. 4:13; II Cor. 2:12), which was a significant port for travelling between Anatolia and Europe during the Roman era. Paul of Tarsus sailed to Europe for the first time from Alexandria Troas. Troas was visited at least twice by St. Paul. In his third journey, we know that St. Paul also traveled by land from Alexandria Troas to Assos. In Troas, we visit the theater, the Temple of Athena, and the agora. After that, we will drive to **Pergamum**. On the 1,200 ft. high **Acropolis**, we will see the steeply sloped theatre of the ancient world, the Temple of Trajan, and the Library. We will continue our tour with a visit of the **Asklepion**, which were one of the 3 famous hospitals in the ancient world. We will also visit **the Red Basilica**, which was one of the seven Churches of the Revelation. In the late afternoon, we will drive to the city of **Izmir**. Upon arrival, depending on timing, we will have a short city tour of Izmir, the ancient Smyrna.

- Dinner and an overnight will be at hotel in Izmir.

<p><b>Day 17-5/28</b></p> <p><b>(B-D)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Izmir / Sardis / Philadelphia / Laodicea / Hierapolis / Pamukkale</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· &lt;image002.jpg&gt;After breakfast, we will start our busy day with a visit at <b>Thyatira</b> to see the standing columns. Don't expect too much from Thyatira as not much has been excavated. Continue onto <b>Sardis</b>, the capital of ancient Lydia. We will see the Temple of Diana (which later became a church), the earliest built Synagogue discovered so far in Turkey and the Gymnasium. Sardis was <b>one of the 7 Churches</b> of Revelation. After Sardis we will drive to <b>Philadelphia</b>, which was also one of the <b>7 Churches of Revelation</b>. After the visit, we will drive to <b>Laodicea</b>, which has been extensively excavated non-stop all round since 2009. Laodicea was one of the 7 Churches and <b>this is the only one to where the exact location of the Church has been discovered</b>.</li> <li>· Dinner and an overnight will be in Karahayit (Pamukkale).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 18-5/29</b></p> <p><b>(B-D)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Pamukkale / Hierapolis / Ephesus / Kusadasi</u></b></p> <p>After breakfast, our next visit will be the ruins of <b>Hierapolis</b>, with its beautiful calcium deposited covered travertine terraces, the ancient Necropolis, baths, theatre, and <b>St. Philips's Martyrdom</b>. After this visit, we will drive to the worldwide famous <b>Ephesus</b> area and visit the house of the <b>Virgin Mary</b>, where she was said to have spent her last years. After that, we will proceed to the <b>Ephesus</b> ruins, where excavations are also still going on. We will see the Odeon, the Bouleuterion, the fountains, the temples, the library and the <b>theatre where St. Paul had preached</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Dinner and an overnight will be at the hotel in Kusadasi town.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 19-5/30</b></p> <p><b>(B - D)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Kusadasi / Samos / Kusadasi</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· After breakfast, transfer to port of Kusadasi. Ferry to Isle of Samos. Following an hour journey from Kusadasi we arrive in <b>Pythagorion</b> at 10:00 hrs where you will stroll around</li> </ul>

to visit this beautiful town built on top of the ancient Samos and each stone witness ancient past. Today it is a lovely picturesque port town, the most visited place on the island due to its history and beauty. You may visit the tiny souvenir shops located each side of the road leading down to the marina, or enjoy delicious Greek mezes, barbecued dried octopus and taramas in a small restaurants lined up along the coast before 12:00 hrs when you will meet your guide who will escort you to the rest of the island's jewels awaits to be discovered. Our next stop will be the pottery center in **Koumaradei Village**. This is a perfect hands on activity you will never forget about. Here you will show your skills and who knows maybe you will make the best pottery, plate or tray to decorate your home or give them to one of your beloved ones as a present. Continuing on our tour to capital of **Samos Island** called **Vathy** also known as Samos Town where you will enjoy visiting the souvenir shops, small narrow streets shadowed by the out leant flowers from the neighboring gardens and local cafes along with family run restaurants. Of course not to mention about the wine museum and archeological museum to a harbor to look at. Least but not last, we will drive you to the most tiny and cosy little once was fishermen village called **Kokkari** is an exceptional beauty along the coast with a small church, lots of cafes and restaurants, is a perfect spot to refresh and get rid of the day's loads off of your shoulders. Here you will have free time to wonder the narrow colorful streets and visit the church, shop for beloved ones and of course have a coffee before heading back to Pythagorion. Ferry back to Kusadasi. Upon arrive in Kusadasi transfer to our hotel

- Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Kusadasi.

**Day 20-/5/31**

**Kusadasi / Izmir / .....**

**(B)**

- After breakfast, there will be a departure transfer from our hotel to Izmir to the airport for our direct flight to Athens or Istanbul for connecting flight to...usa

## Serbia

### Included :

- transportation with high-quality-tourist class, fully equipped bus,
- entrance fee for 1 Belgrade Museum



- 1 BB in 3+/4 stars centrally located Belgrade hotel
- Welcome dinner in Skadarlija restaurant
- 1 HB in Studenica Monastery Dormitory, including Treasury and glass of red monastic wine
- 1 HB in Dukadjini Hotel Pec
- 1 HB in Centrum Hotel Prizren
- Entrance fees for all monasteries, especially the UNESCO sites
- Traditional refreshment on the way to Thessaloniki in the Sara Mt restaurant
- A lunch on the way to thessaloniki **as it is a long way** and we have to organize a **lunch somewhere in skopia**
- 24 hours support and professional English speaking guidance
- all taxes and tolls

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## Greece

transportation with high-quality-tourist class, fully equipped bus,

all hotels a class or superior centrally located or in case of not in the center we will have shuttle bus to the center of thessaloniki

the hotel in kerkini is a bsuperior hotel but well equipped as it is a special wild life watching hotel

all hotels with dinner and breakfast in kerkini with local products

cruise in kerkini and wine local wine tasting

all entrance fees in archeological sites and monasteries where it is requested

English professional guide where needed for the visits

24 hours support

Tips for hotels and restaurants

Meals as specified in the program greece

All taxes and tolls parking etc

Turkey

#### INCLUDED

- Hotel accommodation at select hotels 4 and 5 star hotels
- Private Sightseeing tours as per above itinerary
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Meals as specified each day
- Transportation in air-conditioned, deluxe vehicle
- Border crossing with licensed bus
- Private English speaking professional tour guide throughout the tour
- Tips for hotels and restaurants
- Return Regular Ferry ticket to Samos
- Half Day Tour of Samos Island
- Port Tax All taxes and tolls parking etc

#### Supplement

for the flight internal in turkey is euro 80-100 per person we cannot tell you now as the flights can change till moment we will buy the tickets

## EXCLUDED FOR ALL TOUR

- Flight tickets (International & National)
- 
- Drinks and meals not listed in the itinerary
- 
- All personal expenses
- 
- Porterage at hotels
- 
- Tips for the tour guides and drivers.