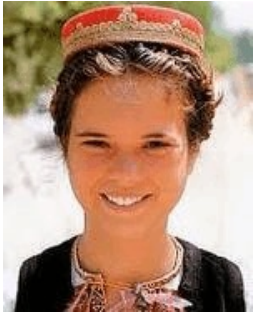


A Balkan
Journey
broadens
one!

Jim Gold International Folk Tours

BALKAN SPLENDOR!

Folk Dancing, Folk Music, Art, History, Culture, Adventure !



SERBIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA/HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO

**Belgrade, Novi Sad, Osijek,
Djakovo, Sarajevo, Mostar,
Kotor, Budva, Dubrovnik**



October 7-21, 2014

Extension to Dubrovnik October 21-24



Balkanfolk.com

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt

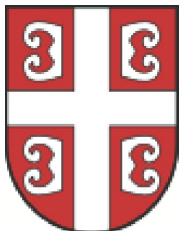
- ★ Visit historic Balkan cities, capitals, and folkloric villages.
- ★ Meet Serbian, Croatian, Bosnian, and Montenegrin folk dancers.
- ★ Plus international folk dancing with Lee Otterholt.
- ★ Our price includes round-trip airfare, city tours, transfers, hotels, two meals daily, and our own private bus.

Itinerary

Day 1: Tuesday, October 7: Fly to Belgrade from Newark airport in Newark, New Jersey.

Day 2: Wednesday, October 8: Arrival at Belgrade airport.

Transfer to your hotel. Welcome dinner! Overnights in Lifedesign Hotel, Belgrade.



Day 3: Thursday, October 9: BELGRADE

Walking city tour of Belgrade including Dedinje residential district with numerous villas and mansions, Topcider Park, residence of **Prince Milos Obrenovic, Josip Broz Tito's memorial house**; Royal Palace, and **St. Sava Temple**, biggest Orthodox temple on the Balkans. We'll also see Slavija Square, the Parliament building, and Knez Mihajlova, a



pedestrian zone with shops, cafes, and restaurants. Dinner in famous bohemian quarter of Skadarlija. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.**

Day 4: Friday, October 10: BELGRADE – KOVACICA

We'll drive to Kovacica, settled in 1802 by Slovak immigrants moved here by permission of the Empress Maria Theresa, to defend the borders between the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and Ottoman Empire. During these 210 years of settlement a new **Naive Painting** was created which is now included in the UNESCO world's heritage list. Lunch in a local restaurant. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.**

Day 5: Saturday, October 11: BELGRADE – SREMSKI KARLOVCI – NOVI SAD

Travel north to **Vojvodina**. We'll visit **Krusedol and Grgetek Monasteries** settled on Fruska Gora Mountain, then proceed to charming town of **Sremski Karlovci** and Patriarchy Residence of Srem. Stop at local winery to taste **domestic Serbian wines**. Lunch at an old Serbian farmhouse with homemade brandy rakija. Drive to picturesque Novi Sad, administrative center of Vojvodina province, boasting 17th century Petrovaradin Fortress, with courtyards, walkways and underground tunnels. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Dinner, overnight and more in the Hotel Centar, Novi Sad.



Day 6: Sunday, October 12: NOVI SAD – ILOK - VUKOVAR – OSIJEK

Morning transfer to Ilok, easternmost town in Croatia and located in **Syrmia region**. The town overlooks the Danube river and forms a border with Vojvodina. Visit the Museum of Ilok and have lunch in the Old Cellars of Ilok. We'll continue to Vukovar, the town of heroes, to visit **Vucedol, an important Neolithic site** and Memorial center of the Croatian War for Independence. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Overnights in Hotel Osijek in Osijek.



Day 7: Monday, October 13: OSIJEK – BARANJA – OSIJEK

We'll walk the 18th century Baroque citadel, promenade along the Drava river, and see Osijek's 18th century fortress complex. Osijek, a popular tourist destination, is the most important military, economic, administrative and **cultural center of Slavonia**. After our visit, we'll travel to **Baranja region** for wine tasting and dinner. Baranjians remember family stories with secrets of life and survival. Their traditions include wine making, planting hot peppers, special kinds of fishing, weddings, buše (traditional masks from Baranja), pudarine (guarding ripening grapes), paunići (embroidered motifs of small peacocks on traditional folk costumes), slamnjače (straw beds) and kandile (hanging candles). **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.**

Day 8: Tuesday, October 14: OSIJEK – DJAKOVO - VINKOVCI – OSIJEK

Morning drive to Djakovo. The town's famous landmark, the **Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul**, was built 1866-1882 under the direction of **Josip Juraj Strossmayer**, then the bishop of the Djakovo and Srijem Catholic diocese. The landscaped park near the bishop's palace is a horticultural masterpiece. The **Dakovački vezovi** (Djakovo Embroidery) is a folklore show of the regions Slavonia and Baranja organized annually in July; it presents traditional folk costumes, folklore dancing and singing groups, customs. We'll drive on to Vinkovci, Europe's oldest city and home of the Autumn of Vinkovci (Vinkovacke Jeseni), largest festival of its kind in this part of Europe. Dinner in a local restaurant. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.**



Day 9: Wednesday, October 15: OSIJEK – JAJCE – SARAJEVO

Travel to Jajce. 14th century **capital of the Bosnian kingdom**, famous for its castle, walls, and the waterfall where Pliva River meets the river Vrbas. Lunch in a local restaurant. Continue to Sarajevo for overnight. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Overnights: Hotel Radon Plaza 5* Sarajevo.



Day 10: Thursday, October 16: SARAJEVO

Sarajevo, capital city of Bosnia and Herzegovina, is famous for traditional **cultural and religious diversity**, with adherents of **Islam, Orthodoxy, Catholicism and Judaism coexisting** for centuries. Due to this rich history of religious and cultural variety, this city is called the "Jerusalem of Europe". Sarajevo's museums include Museum of Sarajevo, the Ars Aevi Museum of Contemporary Art, and Historical Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Dinner and **folk dancing**,

Day 11: Friday, October 17: SARAJEVO – MOSTAR – BLAGAJ – MOSTAR

Mostar. situated on the Neretva river, was named after the bridge keepers (mostari) who in the medieval times guarded the Stari Most (Old Bridge) over the Neretva. **The Old Bridge**, built by the **Ottomans** in the 16th century, is one of Bosnia and Herzegovina's most recognizable landmarks, and an exemplary piece of **Islamic architecture in the Balkans**. After lunch in a local restaurant we'll tour Mostar, then travel to Blagaj, a village on the Buna river. **The Dervish Monastery**, built in 1520, with elements of Ottoman architecture and Mediterranean style. is a national monument. Evening return to Mostar for **folk dancing** and overnight. Overnight: City Hotel in Mostar.



Day 12: Saturday, October 18: MOSTAR – DUBROVNIK – KOTOR

Dubrovnik! The famous ancient city surrounded by ramparts and now a UNESCO world heritage site. After lunch in a local restaurant. we'll visit the **Rector's Palace and Dominican Monastery**, with its rich collection of medieval paintings. Continue to Kotor for dancing. Overnight: Queen of Montenegro in Budva.

Day 13, Sunday, October OCT 19 KOTOR – BUDVA

The old Mediterranean port of Kotor in Montenegro is surrounded by fortifications built during the Venetian period. Kotor has one of the best preserved **medieval old towns** in the Adriatic. Now a **UNESCO world heritage site**, it is home to **Cathedral of Saint Tryphon**. Kotor's ancient walls stretch for 3 miles directly above the city. After our sightseeing tour and lunch, we'll drive to one of the oldest settlements on the Adriatic sea coast, Budva. Over 3,500 years old, the coastal area around Budva, called the Budvanska rivijera, is famous for its sandy beaches, diverse nightlife, and examples of Mediterranean architecture. The Old Town architecture is of **Venetian design**. Important churches are 7th century St. Ivan's, St. Mary's of Punta dating from 840 and The Holy Trinity, built in 1804. Dinner, **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers**. Overnight: Queen of Montenegro in Budva.



Day 14.: Monday, October 20: BUDVA – CETINJE & LOVCEN – BUDVA

Cetinje is the **Old Royal Capital of Montenegro**. It is also the official residence of the President of Montenegro. The city nestles on a small karst plain surrounded by mountains, including **Mt. Lovćen, the Black Mountain** from which Montenegro gets its name. Founded in the 15th century, Cetinje became both a cradle of Montenegrin culture and a Serbian Orthodox religious center. Today it is the honorary capital of Montenegro with numerous points of interest: Cetinje Monastery, **Vlaška church** (built in 1450, with its fence made out of barrels of captured enemy rifles), numerous museums, Zetski dom royal theatre and historic foreign embassies. Lunch in a local restaurant. **Folk dancing and our farewell dinner**. Overnight: Importantne Resort, Dubrovnik



Day 15: Tuesday, October 21: BUDVA departure

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport. Departure flight.

OR:

Join our October 21-24, 4-day/3-night DUBROVNIK EXTENSION:

Day 1: Tuesday, October 21: Transfer to Dubrovnik. Visit the old city walls.

Dinner and all overnights in Importantne Resort, Dubrovnik



Day 2: Wednesday, October 22: DUBROVNIK – PELJESAC – DUBROVNIK

Excursion to Peljesac peninsula. second largest peninsula in Croatia, Ston, known for its wine growing and oysters, was a major fort of the Ragusan Republic its defensive walls are a notable feat of medieval architecture. Lunch in a local restaurant.

Day 3: Thursday, October 23: 17: DUBROVNIK – ELAFITI ISLANDS

After breakfast, boat excursion to Elafiti Islands. Of the 13-island archipelago, only three are inhabited. Visit the island of Sipan. Spread across the island are about 30 scattered churches dating from the middle ages. Continue to Lopud, famous for its sandy beaches. Lunch on board the boat. Return to Dubrovnik for overnight.

Day 5: Friday, October 24: DUBROVNIK departure

Transfer to the Dubrovnik airport. Departure flight.

**Land Only: \$3995 Land and Air: \$4885
Dubrovnik extension: \$1095**

REGISTRATION FORM: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Single supplement: \$795. Dubrovnik ext. single supplement: \$595. Additional charges: Air tax: \$640. Service charges:\$85. Gratuities and drinks during meals not included. Program subject to change without notice. Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund: 50% of total price. Less than 45 days: No refund. Travel insurance recommended. **Total balance due July 1, 2014.**

Name _____
Address _____
No. of people _____ Phone_(_____)_____

Make checks payable to: **Jim Gold International**, 497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A
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