

Jim Gold International Folk Tours

BALKAN SPLENDOR!

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



SERBIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA/HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO



Belgrade, Novi Sad South Serbia, Iba Valley, Studenica, Nis, Sarajevo, Mostar, Kotor, Budva, Dubrovnik



Balkanfolk.com

October 15-29, 2017

Led by Jim Gold

- ★ 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: Sunday, October 15: Fly to Belgrade from Newark airport in Newark, New Jersey.



Day 2: Monday, October 16: BELGRADE

Arrival at Belgrade airport. Meet & greet followed by a private transfer to your hotel. Welcome dinner and overnight at the Hotel Life Design.

Day 3: Tuesday, October 17: BELGRADE

City tour of Belgrade including **Dedinje** residential district with its numerous villas and mansions which is considered as a wealthiest part of the city; **Topcider Park** one of the oldest parks in Belgrade with marvelous residence of Prince Milos Obrenovic; **House of Flowers**, former Yugoslavian leader Josip Broz Tito's memorial house, **Royal Palace**, white

stoned palace in the Serbian-Byzantine style; St. Sava Temple, the biggest Orthodox temple the Balkans; Slavija Square; Parliament building; Republic Square; Knez Mihajlova pedestrian zone with large number of shops, cafes, restaurants; and much more. Dinner in a local restaurant in the famous bohemian quarter named Skadarlija. Folk dance performance during the dinner in Restaurant "Ima Dana" Belgrade

Day 4: Wednesday, October 18: BELGRADE – NOVI SAD - BELGRADE

Drive to Novi Sad, the main administrative center of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. A picturesque city situated on the shores of the Danube north of Belgrade in Vojvodina province. It boasts impressive 17th century Petrovaradin Fortress, featuring courtyards, walkways and underground tunnels. Lunch in local restaurant. Meeting with Vila local folklore group.

Day 5: Thursday, October 19: BELGRADE – NIŠ

Depart for Niš. Serbia's third largest city, and one of the oldest cities in the Balkans. Home to one of Serbia's oldest Christian churches dating to the 4th century, it is also the birthplace of Constantine the Great, the first Christian Roman Emperor and the founder of Constantinople, as well as two other Roman emperors, ConstantiusIII and Justin I. Sightseeing tour of Niš including the Fortress on the Nisava river. Mediana – archeological site from the 4th century, Nis Cathedral Temple, Skull Tower, Stambol house, City hall, and Tinkers alley with its restaurants and cafes. Overnight: Grand hotel Niš.

Day 6: Friday, October 20: NIŠ – SICEVO GORGE

Sicevo Gorge is a spectacular part of the river Nišava valley! Visit the Sicevo hydroelectric power station, built according to the principles of Nikola Tesla principles. Wine tasting and lunch in local restaurant. Afternoon meeting in Nis with the local folklore group.

Day 7: Saturday, October 21: NIŠ – STUDENICA – KRALJEVO

Drive to Studenica Monastery. This most important medieval Serbian monastery, under protection of UNESCO World Heritage, is the endowment of Grand Prince Stefan Nemanja, founder of the independent Serbian state. a dynasty which ruled Serbia for two centuries. Lunch in a local restaurant. Meet with the local Riznica Studenica folklore group. This is the most iminent group there with more than 600 members performing worldwide. They offered meeting with them representing local heritage, costumes and dances for you and typical serbian dinner together. Overnight in Hotel Crystal.

Day 8: Sunday, October 22: KRALJEVO – SARAJEVO

Walking tour of Kraljevo: Serbian Warriors Square, church of the Ascension, and Master Vasa's Konak's residence. Continue to Sarajevo. Folk dancing with Bascarsija. Overnight in Sarajevo at Hotel Radon Plaza.

Day 9: Monday, October 23: SARAJEVO

Sightseeing tour of this capital city of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sarajevo is famous for its traditional cultural and religious diversity, with adherents of Islam, Orthodoxy, Catholicism and Judaism coexisting there for centuries. Due to this rich history of religious and cultural variety, Sarajevo is often called the "Jerusalem of Europe". Museums include the Museum of Sarajevo, Ars Aevi Museum of Contemporary Art, Historical Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina and more. Afternoon meeting with the lvo Lola folk dance group. Overnight in Sarajevo...

Morning drive to Jajce in Bosnia and Herzegovina. First built in the 14th century. Jajce served as the capital of the independent Bosnian kingdom. The town is also famous for its beautiful waterfall where the Pliva River meets the river Vrbas. Lunch in a local restaurant. Afternoon meeting with the Jajce folk dance group. Check in and overnight. Hotel Turist98***

Day 11: Wednesday, October 25: JAJCE – MOSTAR - NEUM

Drive to Mostar on the Neretva river. Mostar is named after its bridge keepers (natively: mostari) who, during medieval times.guarded the Stari Most (Old Bridge) over the Neretva. The Old Bridge,

Day 10: Tuesday, October 24: SARAJEVO – JAJCE









built by the, Ottomans in the 16th century, is one of Bosnia and Herzegovina's most recognizable landmarks. After sightseeing, continue to Neum. Overnight. Grand hotel Neum.

Day 12: Thursday, October 26: NEUM - DUBROVNIK - CILIPE - BUDVA



Depart for a sightseeing tour of the Dubrovnik. This ancient city under UNESCO protection surrounded by ramparts and fortresses abounds in architectural and cultural masterpieces. See Rector's Palace, the Dominican Monastery, housing a rich collection of mediaval paintings, hunch in local restaurant. Continue to Budya with on route

medieval paintings. Lunch in local restaurant. Continue to Budva, with en-route stop for **presentation of local folklore group in Cilipe**. Walking tour of Budva, 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. Meeting with Montenegrin folk dance group Bok Tivat. Overnight at Hotel Budva.



Day 13: Friday, October 27: BUDVA - CETINJE and LOVCEN - BUDVA

Visit Cetinje and Lovcen. Cetinje is the Old Royal Capital of Montenegro and now the secondary capital of Montenegro with the official residence of the President of Montenegro. The city nestles on a small karst plain surrounded by mountains, including Mt. Lovcen, the Black Mountain from which Montenegro gets its name. Founded in the 15th century, Cetinje son became the center of Montenegrin life. cradle of Montenegrin culture and a Serbian Orthodox religious center. Numerous points of interest include Cetinje Monastery, Vlaška church (built in 1450, with its fence made out of barrels of captured enemy rifles), numerous museums, Zets kindom royal theater and historic foreign embassies. Lunch in a local restaurant. Return to Budva. Afternoon **meeting with the local Montenegrin folkloance group**. Overnight in Budva.

Day 14: Saturday, October 28: BUDVA - KOTOR - PERAST - SPLIT



Drive to Kotor, a coastal town of Montenegro, surrounded by fortifications built during the Venetian period. A UNESCO world heritage site. Kotor is one of the best preserved medieval old towns in the Adriatic and is home to the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon built in 1166, and ancient walls stretching directly above the city. After a program with local folklore group, we'll drive to Perast to visit . Our Lady of the Rock, completed in 1632 and noted for its beautiful artwork painted by the region's celebrated 17th century artist Tripo Kokolja. Drive to Split for overnight. Farewell dinner in local restaurant.



Day 15: Sunday, October 29: SPLIT departure

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

Land Only: \$3995 Land and Air: \$4885

REGISTRATION FORM: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Single supplement: \$795. Additional charges: Air tax: \$640. Service charges:\$85. Gratuities and drinks during meals not included. Program subject to change without notice. Group air: Minimum 10 people needed for group air rate to apply. If not met, additional fees will be added. Air taxes and fuel surcharges not guaranteed until ticketing one month before departure. Group rate: A minimum of 15/20 or 25 people required or additional fees may apply. Cancellations 60 days prior to departure: Total refund: Less than 60 days: No refund. Travel insurance always recommended. **Total balance due July 1, 2017.**

Name				 	_
Address					
No. of people	Phone_()			

Make checks payable to: Jim Gold International, 497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ

07666 U.S.A Phone (201) 836-0362. Website: www.jimgold.com E-mail: jimgold@jimgold.com



JIM GOLD INTERNATIONAL: TERMS AND CONDITIONS Air

Transportation: International air not included except as noted.

Rates: Tour rates are subject to change in the event of currency fluctuations or increase in costs. Inclusive tour rates are per person in double occupancy. In case of computer or human billing errors, we reserve the right to re-invoice clients with corrected billing.

Reservations: Deposits and Payments: Deposit of \$200 per person is required at time of reservation. Balance is due 90 days prior to departure date.

Changes: Prices and program subject to change without notice

Baggage: One baggage per person and a carry on is allowed.

Cancellations: Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund 50% of total price. Less than 30 days: No refund. Additionally, any cancellation fees imposed by the respective hotels, airlines, tour companies and cruise lines will be charged. Travel Insurance is non-refundable as are unused services. **Gratuities:** Tipping to guides, drivers, transfer personnel and hotel staff is left to the discretion of the participants and is not included.

Insurance: Tour participants are **strongly recommended to purchase insurance** for trip cancellation, trip interruption, accident, sickness and/or loss of baggage and personal effects.

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