

## Balkan Express (M-ID: 2420)

https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/2420-balkan-express



### from €1,299.00

Dates and duration (days) 05/11/2024 - 05/19/2024 9 days 09/06/2024 - 09/14/2024 9 days 10/05/2024 - 10/13/2024 9 days

# The Balkan Express Tour takes us from Austria via Slovenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro to Albania. The return journey takes us back to Austria via Montenegro and the unique coastal road through Croatia.

For many motorcyclists, the Balkans are an unexplored mystery. Wild and pristine, an unpolished natural jewel. And again and again, the question arises: Is this even possible on my road bike?

Yes it is possible! And it is sensational! Incredible roads, breathtaking panoramas and open, friendly people.

What we experience here is fantastic: whether it's the cultural diversity of Sarajevo, the medieval city of Mostar, the largest gorge in Europe or the incredibly majestic landscape along some sections of the route, the Balkans hold treasures that are waiting to be discovered!

This tour combines the right amount of culture with motorcycle routes that are second to none. Some mountain roads wind around the mountains like masterfully woven ribbons and offer a winding landscape that will make any motorcyclist's heart beat faster. The stages are well-balanced and varied. They lead through towns and villages, through mountains and gorges, over passes, along rivers, lakes and the coast.

This tour is particularly suitable for frequent cyclists who want to experience a lot in a short time. Sightseeing and cultural stops are limited here, the riding experience is clearly in the foreground and some days are a little longer. If you want more sightseeing and slightly shorter days, we recommend our Balkan XXL Tour (15 days, support vehicle, rest day by the sea)!

Our travel program

Day 1: Graz (AUT) - Slovenia - Croatia - Banja Luka (BiH),

395 km

Meet at the agreed starting point near Graz. After getting to know each other briefly, we start our journey together. Mainly on the highway, we head directly to the capital of the Republic of Srpska, Banja Luka, in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Our hotel is in the city center. After arriving, we take a leisurely stroll through the old town. Overnight stay in Banja Luka (BiH).

TIP: There is a hotel at the starting point of the tour. For participants who have a further journey to Graz, we recommend arriving the day before and spending the night there. And if you want to come to the start of the tour by car and motorcycle trailer, you can park your car at the hotel during the tour.

Day 2: Banja Luka (BiH) - Sarajevo (BiH), 270 km

Following the course of the river Vrbas southwards, we leave Banja Luka. On the way we visit picturesque water mills and an old railroad bridge until we arrive in the capital of Bosnia in the afternoon: Sarajevo. During a German-speaking guided walk through the historic old town, we learn about the history and culture of this extraordinary and impressive city. Overnight stay in Sarajevo (BiH).

Day 3: Sarajevo (BiH) - Zlatibor / Mokra Gora (SRB), 230 km

The Visegrad Bridge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the cultural highlight of the day. The route there along picturesque gorges is in no way inferior until we finally reach the border with Serbia. The communist past can still be seen and felt in some places. The mix with modern development gives Serbia its special flair. Overnight stay in

the Zlatibor / Mokra Gora area (SRB).

Day 4: Mokra Gora (SRB) - Bosnia & Herzegovina - Zabljak (MNE), 240 km

We leave Serbia very early and set off for Montenegro: shortly after Mokra Gora we cross the border back into Bosnia & Herzegovina. We finally reach the Montenegrin border around midday. The reason why this country was called Montenegro (Black Mountain) is impressively demonstrated to us here. The Dumitor National Park (it goes up to 1,900 m above sea level) will inspire us. In the early evening we check into our hotel in the highest town in Montenegro: overnight stay in Zabljak (MNE).

Day 5: Zabljak (MNE) - Shkodra (ALB), 270 km

With Albania we reach the southernmost country of this tour. Before that, however, we enjoy the winding mountain roads of Montenegro and the Tara Gorge, the deepest in Europe. During a German-guided city walk, we learn a lot about the city of Shkodra and Albania, which is so foreign to us. Overnight stay in Shkodra (ALB).

Day 6: Shkodra (ALB) - Kotor (MNE) - Dubrovnik (CRO), 270 km

Today we start early, as there is a lot to see and two national borders to cross. Shortly after Shkodra we come to the border with Montenegro and soon reach the world-famous Adriatic coastal road "Jadranska Magistrala" for the first time. After a short detour into the Montenegrin hinterland, we experience the famous Bay of Kotor (MNE) and later cross the border into Croatia. In the evening there is still time for a short walk in Dubrovnik. Overnight stay in the Dubrovnik area (CRO).

Day 7: Dubrovnik (CRO) - Mostar (BiH) - Makarska Riviera (CRO), 290 km

The day begins with a stretch on the Croatian coastal road until we enter Bosnia & Herzegovina again at Neum. In the world-famous city of Mostar (BiH), we visit the "Old Bridge" Stari Most, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with a local guide. After this cultural highlight, we return to Croatia and continue along the coastal road to the Makarska Riviera. Overnight stay on the Makarska Riviera (CRO).

Day 8: Makarska (CRO) - Crikvenica (CRO), 350 km

So that we can really enjoy the most beautiful part of the Jadranska Magistrala, we bridge the route around the densely populated areas of Split and Sibenik on the highway. North of Zadar, we leave the highway and then have around 150 km of "cruising along the coastal road" at its finest and with breathtaking views of the Adriatic Sea ahead of us. In the afternoon we reach the last hotel of our exciting Balkan tour and can celebrate the end in a convivial atmosphere. Last night together in the Crikvenica area (CRO).

Day 9: Crikvenica (CRO) - Journey home

Unfortunately, it's time to say goodbye today. Your guide will accompany you to the Croatian-Slovenian border near Rupa, from where you will travel home independently or with other participants in the group with many wonderful memories in your luggage. Your guide will be happy to help

you find a great route home. End of the tour.

TIP: Additional nights in Graz and/or Croatia are possible on request! Please contact us for an offer!

Countries Albania

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatia

Montenegro

Austria

Serbia

Slovenia

Category Motorcycle Tour

Terrain Onroad

Vehicle your own motorcycle

motorcycle rent optional

Tourguide / Coach yes (guided)

Accommodation Hotel / B&B or similar

Flight to / from no, not incl.

Ferry no, not incl.

Support vehicle (luggage/service) no

Level of difficulty medium

difficult

Customer payment protection yes

\* PRICING Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

#### **Pricing**

Prices for the date: 11.05. - 19.05.2024

per rider in shared twin/double room with own motorcycle (Only available for a booking €1,399.00

of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)

per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW F 750 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room €2,704.00

surcharge.)

per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW F 800 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room

surcharge.)

per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW R 1250 GS (Only €3,145.00

available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room

surcharge.)

per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW R 1300 GS (Only €3,145.00

available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room

surcharge.)

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per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room (pillion passengers can only book along with an accompanying rider)	€1,399.00
per person single room (surcharge, only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	€499.00
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Prices for the date: 06.0914.09.2024	
per rider in shared twin/double room with own motorcycle (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€1,499.00
per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW F 750 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€2,804.00
per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW F 800 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€2,804.00
per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW R 1250 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€3,245.00
per rider in shared twin/double room incl. rental motorcycle BMW R 1300 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€3,245.00
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per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room (pillion passengers can only book along with an accompanying rider)	€1,499.00
per person single room (surcharge, only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	€599.00
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- Prices for the date: 05.10 13.10.2024	
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1/2 double room available on request upon availability

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Optional additional nights at the starting point of the tour in A-8502 Lannach:

one additional night before the start of the tour per person in a double room, incl. breakfast and local taxes	€50.50
one additional night before the start of the tour per person in a single room, incl. breakfast and local taxes	€71.50
one additional night at the end of the tour per person in a double room, incl. breakfast and local taxes	€50.50
one additional night at the end of the tour per person in a single room, incl. breakfast and local taxes	€71.50
Parking fees without overnight stay in the hotel for the duration of the tour per car:	€30.00

#### Included

9-day guided motorcycle tour along some of the most beautiful roads in south-eastern Europe

German-speaking tour guide with motorcycle from the Graz area (AT) to Crikvenica / SLO border

Morning tour briefing before departure

Daily tour guide on all day tours

8 nights in a double room in simple and good middle-class hotels (shower, WC)

With breakfast

3x dinner (Serbia, Montenegro and last evening)

Every evening organization for the physical well-being with dinner in specially selected locations to get to know the Balkans from its culinary side on the evenings without half board

City tour with a local German-speaking guide in Sarajevo, Shkodra and Mostar

When booking incl. rental motorcycle additionally:

Rental motorcycle BMW F 750/800 GS or BMW R1250/1300 GS (model depending on availability) incl.:

Liability and fully comprehensive insurance (excess = deposit € 2,000)

free kilometers and pick-up in the afternoon before the tour starts

#### Not included

Luggage transportation

Meals except breakfast and dinner in Serbia, Montenegro and on the last evening in Croatia

All expenses in connection with the operation of the motorcycles, e.g. gasoline, oil, tolls, parking fees

Rental motorcycle (optionally bookable)

Personal expenses

**Entries** 

Tips

Furthermore, all services that are not expressly listed as included services

Also not included, but strongly recommended: Travel insurance with cancellation cover.

#### More details

A frank word among bikers:

On guided motorcycle tours with your own motorcycle, riders and passengers from different countries of origin and with different motorcycles meet up for a trip together. As different as the participants are, the motorcycles will usually be just as different, which makes for a fun and interesting trip. As with all group activities, these trips require a certain team spirit and a certain degree of individual adaptation to the group so that everyone can enjoy the trip and their motorcycle vacation.

Minimum number of participants: 10 persons.

If the minimum number of participants is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the trip up to four weeks before the start of the trip.

Special notes for this trip:

Travel insurance with international health insurance including repatriation service (ambulance jet or transportation home) and accident insurance is a prerequisite for participation in the tour. In addition, "vehicle recovery insurance" (e.g. cover letter) is also required for all motorcycles. The motorcycles must be in perfect technical condition before departure (tires!). Technical assistance or spare parts service in the event of breakdowns or damage is only possible to a limited extent on site. In the worst case, a breakdown can result in the participant having to abandon the tour and return home on their own.

Parking space for car / van incl. motorcycle trailer

Parking your car and trailer directly at the start hotel for the duration of the tour is free of charge if you book an additional night, but must be registered and reserved.

Tour data: From the Graz area approx. 2,700 km, medium to high difficulty, short unpaved sections or sections without asphalt possible, with mountain passes incl. serpentines, city rides and highway stages.

Not suitable for beginners or riders with little experience in alpine terrain.

Recommendations: Dunlop tires and KLIM motorcycle protective clothing are recommended