



*I'd love to see the ancient architectural sites that inspired the Game of Thrones film crew. The storytelling amidst the Medieval, Renaissance, and Roman locations in Croatia would bring it to life. I would love to enter the Gates of King's Landing!"*

— Margaret Barnes



**Gates of King's Landing  
CROATIA**

*"One of the 10 most beautiful cities I've ever seen is 7th century Old Town Dubrovnik perched above the Adriatic Sea"*

— Mary Lou McFate



**Zagreb  
CROATIA**



**Bled Castle  
SLOVENIA**



**Island of Hvar  
CROATIA**



**Euphrasian Basilica  
CROATIA**

*"The itinerary was carefully chosen and gave long remembered experiences of great mental and spiritual stimulation."*

— Dr. David Hill

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- International Air Fares
- First Class hotels
- Service charges and hotel taxes
- Breakfast daily at the hotels; free time during the lunch hour to use as you wish!
- Dinner daily at the hotels\*\* with 1 glass of wine/beer/non-alcoholic beverage included per person
- 1 bottle of water per person per day on the coach
- Assisted arrival and departure, airport transfers
- All transfers with a standard A/C motor coach as per itinerary
- Professional tour director throughout
- Tips to guides and drivers
- Sightseeing tours as per itinerary with licensed local guides
- Entrance fees are included
- Whisper enhanced audio devices for listening to the tour guide
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in/out)

*\*\* Dinners are conveniently provided in our first class hotels, but you are welcome to explore local restaurants on your own.*

### HOTELS:

2 NIGHTS **ZAGREB: HOTEL WESTIN** (5\*)  
 2 NIGHTS **LJUBLJANA: HOTEL LEV** (4\*)  
 2 NIGHTS **POREC: HOTEL BO HOTEL PALAZZO** (4\*)  
 1 NIGHT **PLITVICE: HOTEL LYRA** (4\*)  
 1 NIGHT **TROGIR: HOTEL ROTONDO** (4\*)  
 2 NIGHTS **HVAR ISLAND: HOTEL HVAR** (4\*) (in Jelsa)  
 1 NIGHT **MOSTAR: HOTEL MEPAS** (4\*)  
 2 NIGHTS **DUBROVNIK: HOTEL GRAND HOTEL PARK** (4\*)

— or similar

*"Croatia is a land of fascinating history, interesting architecture, stunning scenery, and beautiful beaches."*

— David Unsworth



**MONTENEGRO**



**Karst Cave System  
SLOVENIA**

**Dubrovnik**



**SMALL GROUP  
MAXIMUM 25  
TRAVELERS**

*The St. Bartholomew Travel Society  
of the Church of the Redeemer Presents:*

## **A CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE TOUR**

**SLOVENIA, CROATIA,  
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA,  
AND MONTENEGRO**

**September 28 - 12 October 2020**

**Travel with The Rev. Fredrick & Mrs. Linda Robinson**



## ITINERARY:

### Day 01 , 29 Sep, Tuesday Arrive Zagreb

Upon arrival at Zagreb Airport you will be transferred to your hotel.

Early evening will have a meet-and-greet with your tour director at the lobby followed by a welcome drink and dinner at the hotel. **(D)**

### Day 02, 30 Sep, Wednesday In Zagreb

This morning we explore the capital city: **the Lower Town and the Upper Town**. We will visit the Main Square with **Ban Josip Jelacic**, the beautiful Cathedral; the popular open market **Dolac**, admire the colorful roof and visit the **St. Mark's Church**; view the **St. Catherin's Church** and the **Parliament**. Later we will visit the **Stone Gate**, the place where the locals come to pray and light candles. After some free time in the city, we will head to see one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the world – the **Mirogoj Cemetery**. The rest of the day is at leisure with dinner at the hotel. **(B, D)**

### Day 03 , 1 Oct, Thursday Zagreb - Marija Bistrica - Ljubljana

This morning we head to **Marija Bistrica**, the most spiritual place in Croatia and the largest Marian shrine; home to the miraculous statue of the black Virgin Mary. In addition to the beautiful basilica, there are **Stations of the Cross** leading to **The Calvary**. Behind The Calvary there is a convent for the barefoot Carmelites. Lunch in a local restaurant and continue our tour to visit the **Castle of Trakoscan**. Its cultural heritage is protected as a historical entity consisting of the castle, the building next to the castle, a park, and a forest with a lake. Next we drive toward Ljubljana and arrive at your hotel in time for dinner and overnight. **(B, L, D)**

### Day 04 , 2 Oct, Friday Ljubljana - Bled - Ljubljana

Visit Lake Bled, the most popular tourist destination in Slovenia and, weather permitting, we will take a boat tour to the island for a visit to the historic **Church of the Assumption of Maria**. We return to the mainland for a visit to the iconic **Bled Castle** and stroll around the lake, enjoy some free time, and head back to Ljubljana for our walking tour of the city. We walk across the famous Dragon Bridge, through lively squares and streets, and visit the **St Nicholas Cathedral**. Taking the cable railway up to **Ljubljana Castle**, we'll enjoy great views of the city. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. **(B,D)**

### Day 05 , 3 Oct, Saturday Ljubljana – Postojna – Portoroz – Piran - Porec

We head toward the Slovenian coast, but first, we will stop to visit the **Postojna Cave** to explore this 20+ km **Karst cave system** with its great underground galleries and halls. After some free time we head to Piran to meet a local guide and begin a walking tour from **Tartini Square** visiting **St George's Parish Church** and many other interesting buildings and sites. After the visit we will travel to the Croatian border and our hotel in Porec. Dinner and overnight in Porec. **(B,D)**

### Day 06 , 4 Oct, Sunday Porec – Motovun – Pula – Rovinj – Porec

Travel to the **Istrian Islands** for a visit to Motovun, a walled Medieval town atop a hill. We will visit the **Church of St. Stephen** and walk the narrow streets of Motovun. We travel by coach to the coastal town, Pula, for a visit the **UNESCO-protected** Roman amphitheatre, **Arena of Pula**: the only remaining Roman amphitheatre to have four side towers entirely preserved. Some free time in Pula before heading toward Rovinj. Rovinj is situated on a peninsula and dominated by the gorgeous **Church of St. Euphemia**. After some free time, we will be on our way to Porec, and we will relax at our hotel and have dinner together. **(B,D)**

### Day 07 , 5 Oct, Monday Porec – Opatija – Rijeka – Plitvice Lakes

A short walking tour of the old city of Porec seeing many palaces and buildings, as well as the most beautiful **UNESCO World Heritage** site, the **Euphrasian Basilica**. We will go to the lovely **Opatija**, often called "**The Queen of the Adriatic**." Our visit to the **Church of St. Jacob** includes a view of the iconic symbol of Opatija, **The Maiden with the Seagull Statue**. We continue to Rijeka, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city of Croatia and a very important trading port. In Rijeka We will visit the **Fortress Trsat** and take a walk around the old city center viewing the **Church of St. Jerome** and the **Dominican Monastery**. You will have some free time on the main street, Korzo. Our motor coach trip takes us inland to the area most affected by the 90s civil war in Croatia, and the **Plitvice Lakes** area. Tonight we will have dinner and relax at our hotel near **Plitvice Lakes National Park**. **(B,D)**

### Day 08, 6 Oct, Tuesday Plitvice Lakes – Zadar – Trogir

We will drive through some parts of Croatia affected by the civil war of the 90s. We arrive at **Plitvice Lakes National Park**, famous for its sixteen terraced lakes and many waterfalls. We will take a boat ride and enjoy a walking tour. The Plitvice Lakes National Park is a rare wonder and another **UNESCO World Heritage** Site. We will have some free time to relax and grab a bite before we head toward the coast again. Our first stop will be Zadar, the city known for its Venetian and Roman ruins. **The Roman Forum, St. Mary's convent**, the grand 12th-century **St. Anastasia's Cathedral**, and the round, 9th-century pre-Romanesque **Church of St. Donatus**. You will have some free time on your own before proceeding toward Trogir for dinner and overnight in our hotel. **(B,D)**

### Day 09, 7 Oct, Wednesday Trogir – Split – Hvar island

A walking tour of Trogir, yet another Croatian town that is part of **UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage list**. Trogir was built on the site of an ancient Greek settlement, surrounded by walls, and very rich in history. We will visit the **Cathedral of St. Lawrence**, famous for the Master Radovan's work of art portal. Later, we head to Split, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city of Croatia, established 1700 years ago during the time of ancient Rome. We will stroll the narrow streets to **Diocletian's Palace**, built by the 4th century Roman Emperor. We will tour its excellently-preserved basement galleries and the old **Temple of Jupiter** in the ancient Peristyle Square. The **Cathedral of St. Dominus**, one of the oldest buildings of its kind in the world, also will be on the tour. We pass the protected Golden and Silver Gates walking through the historical squares to the lively markets, as well as the popular Riva, the ideal place for strolling, shopping, and to have a cup of coffee in one of the many cafes. Later we will enjoy a 2 hour ferry ride that will take us to the island of Hvar. Dinner at our hotel. **(B, D)**

### Day 10, 8 Oct, Thursday Exploring the Island of Hvar

This morning we will explore **Hvar Town**, visiting the Renaissance **Cathedral of St. Stephan**. We will see the oldest theatre in Europe and visit the **Benedictine Monastery**. Here the unique **UNESCO**-protected lace, produced by the nuns from the locally grown plant Agava, will be seen. Later on we'll enjoy walking the streets and squares of Hvar during some free time. In After lunch we will explore the churches and villages that organize the traditional Good Thursday procession, "**Following the Cross**". This tradition is recognized and protected by **UNESCO**, and it has been practiced for over 300 years. We will drive the whole length of the procession route and visit the churches in the towns and villages along the way. Dinner at our hotel **(B, D)**

“I really want to go to Medjugorje! It is at the top pf my bucket list!”

— Patricia Mudgett

### Day 11, 9 Oct, Friday Island of Hvar – Medjugorje – Mostar

Today takes us to the southern part of the island of Hvar, toward the town of **Sucuraj**. We will board the **ferry** back to the mainland and our trip toward the border with **Bosnia and Herzegovina**. We arrive at **Medjugorje** where we will experience the phenomenon that made it one of the most famous pilgrimage sites in the Roman Catholic world. We will attend mass, and those who wish, may visit **Apparition Hill** where the Virgin Mary first appeared to children in late 1981. After plenty of free time we head to Mostar where we have dinner and overnight at our hotel. **(B, D)**

“Mostar [Bosnia-Herzegovina] has a long history of Turkish and Ottoman rule which you can see still see in the local buildings and the famous bridge. Talking with the local people gives you a real sense of the lasting impact of the 92-94 civil war fought over ethnic differences”.

— Julie Baiter

### Day 12, 10 Oct, Saturday Mostar [Bosnia] – Dubrovnik

Today is the beautiful town of **Mostar**, famous for its unique bridge over the River Neretva. After a walking tour and some free time, we will continue to Dubrovnik, a **UNESCO World Heritage** site, for our city tour. It includes the highlights of Old Dubrovnik. You'll see the **Rector's Palace, Bell Tower Clock, Orlando's Column**, the **Sponza Palace**, the **Dominican Monastery**, and the **Franciscan church and Monastery** with its **Pharmacy**; one of the oldest in the world. We visit the most beloved **Church of St. Blaise**, protector of Dubrovnik. The rest of the day is free to discover more of the city on your own, Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Dubrovnik. **(B, D)**

### Day 13, 11 Oct, Sunday Dubrovnik – Kotor – Dubrovnik

Our travel today takes us to the **Republic of Montenegro**. Heading to the mouth of the beautiful **Bay of Kotor**, the longest and deepest fjord in Southern Europe, we will enjoy a boat ride to **Our Lady of the Rocks**, one of two islets off the coast of **Perast**. The Roman Catholic church is the largest building on the islet with a museum attached to it. Upon return to the coast, we will stop in **Perast**, an old, charming coastal town. Later we continue to **Kotor** where we will enjoy a tour of the city and a visit to the **Cathedral of St. Tryphon**. We will return to **Dubrovnik** in the early evening. **(B, D)**

### Day 14, 12 Oct, Monday Dubrovnik Departure

This morning we leave our hotel and head to Dubrovnik International Airport for our home-bound flight. **(B)**

“I have traveled all over the world, but the most beautiful place I have ever seen is Kotor, Montenegro.”

—Rev. Kevin Maxey



### Plitvice Lakes National Park CROATIA



“Slovenia evokes Old Europe. we climbed up to an ancient stone chapel on a hill, listened to a troupe of grade-school children playing violin in the town square, boarded an old wooden vessel where fishermen offered us a dinner of mussels in garlic and butter...all this and more will turn back the clock and charm you.”

— Nancy Unsworth



### Piran SLOVENIA

[An] “Unexpected bonus was daily Morning and Evening Prayer with Fr. Robinson...complimentary to the day's exploration”

— Dr. David Hill

“The peace and tranquility associated with traveling with a religious group was soothing to the soul!!”

— Beth Cotner



### Medjugorje BOSNIA

“A religious pilgrimage differs from a more traditional tour in that it generates a unique sense of camaraderie among the pilgrims as they embark upon a journey which brings to the fore their Christian heritage and helps revitalize their faith.”

— Muriel Quinn