

# ORTHODOX TOUR OF THE BALKANS SEPTEMBER 17-30, 2018.

TOUR LEADER: FATHER  
SAMER YOUSSEF

**Day 1. Monday, September 17, 2018**

Departure from SF

**Day 2. Tuesday, September 18, 2018**

Meals: Dinner

Arrival to **Belgrade**, transfer to hotel, rest, dinner.





### Day 3. Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Half day **Belgrade city tour**, including St. Sava cathedral, St. Michael cathedral with holy relics of St. Stephen the First-crowned, St. Paraskevi chapel, Little Rose church, Rakovica Monastery, free time, boat tour in the afternoon, dinner with folklore show.

### Day 4. Thursday, September 20, 2018

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Day trip to **Vojvodina**, northern Serbian province. We will start with **Shishatovac monastery** with holy relics of St. Stephen Stiljanovic, continue to **New Hopovo**

**monastery** (frescoes and holy relics of St. Theodor Tyron) and then to **Krusedol**. In Sremski Karlovci we will visit **St. Nicolas cathedral** with holy relics of St. Arsenios of Srem and bishops palace. We could visit **museum of honey** and have wine tasting of Bermet (nowadays desert wine, but this aromatic wine was invented as healing wine by the monks, unique). Lunch in Sremski Karlovci on the bank of Danube river. Continue to **Novi Sad**, city tour with cathedral, some free time. Return to **Belgrade** for overnight.

### Day 5. Friday, September 21, 2018

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

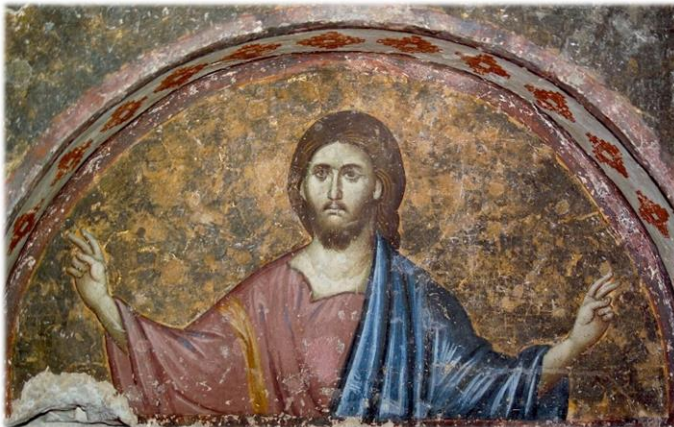
Today we leave Belgrade. **Topola** with St George church on Oplenac hill with second largest complex of mosaics in the world (mausoleum for Karadjordjevic royal family). We continue to **Manasija monastery** with amazing early 15th century frescoes. Lunch on the way. Transfer to Kopaonik national park for dinner and overnight.



### Day 6. Saturday, September 22, 2018

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Today we visit **monastery Crna Reka** (holy relics of St. Peter of Korisha), **monastery Sopocani** with most beautiful mid 13th century frescoes in the world (UNESCO) and relics of St. Cosma and Damien, lunch in the area of the archeological site **Pazariste** (ruins of the Serbian medieval town, the main trade center), after lunch Pillars of **St. George and St. Peters church** (UNESCO). Return to **Kopaonik**, dinner and overnight.



### Day 7. Sunday, September 23, 2018

Meals: Breakfast (optional), Lunch and Dinner

We will start our day with a **Liturgy at the Studenica Monastery**. Studenica monastery with early 13th century frescoes and holy relics of St. Stephen Nemanja (UNESCO), we continue to **Zica monastery** (coronation church for Serbian medieval kings and the seat of the archbishopric). Lunch in some restaurant on the river Morava in **Ovcar and Kablar gorge** (also known as the Serbian holy mountain), short visit to one of more than 15 active monasteries on the way to **Zlatibor mountain**, dinner and overnight.



## Day 8. Monday, September 24, 2018

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Today we drive through fantastic mountain landscapes starting from **Zlatibor**, across **Zlatar** and **Jabuka** mountain, besides Durmitor all the way to **Bjelasica**, all nature resorts or National parks. On the way we will visit **Mileseva monastery** with amazing 13th century frescoes and part of holy relics of St. Sava. We cross the country border and enter **Montenegro**. Stop in the **Canyon of Tara river** (second largest canyon in the world, after Colorado), at the bridge. Continue to **Kolasin**, dinner and overnight.



## Day 9. Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

**Moraca monastery**, continue to **Cetinje** (holy relics of St John the Baptist – the right hand), **Kotor** old town, overnight in Kotor area.



## Day 10. Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

Perast with boat tour to **Our Lady of the rock** island and church, **Savina Monastery**, cross to **Croatia**, overnight in **Cavtat**.

## Day 11. Thursday, September 27, 2018

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Full day for **Dubrovnik** and the area – morning tour of the old town, with entrance to cathedral, St. Blaze church and orthodox St. Nicolas church, lunch. In the

afternoon we take an excursion to **Little Ston on Peljesac peninsula** to see the remains of the **Great walls of Dubrovnik republic** (second longest man made structure in the world, after Great wall of China) and visit the oyster farm with tasting of fresh oysters. Return to **Cavtat** for overnight.

## Day 12. Friday, September 28, 2018

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Today we cross the border to **Bosnia and Hercegovina** and visit **Tvrdoš monastery**. Continue to **Mostar**, lunch and short tour of the Old town. Continue to **Sarajevo**. City tour and some free time for shopping, dinner, overnight.

## Day 13. Saturday, September 29, 2018

Meals: Breakfast

Departure from **Sarajevo airport**.





## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR:

### Price includes:

- International roundtrip airfare from San Francisco
- Four-star hotels along the way
- Daily city taxes
- Two or three meals daily, according to schedule (total of 25 meals, 3 courses, no drinks)
- Comfortable motorcoach with A/C
- Road tolls, city entrance fees, parking, etc.
- All entry fees as per itinerary
- Folklore show on September 19th
- Boat tour on Danube river, 90 minutes ride
- Extra transportation (minivans) for the Monastery at Crna Reka
- Boat tour to the Our Lady of the Rock Church in Montenegro
- Boat tour to oyster farm with mussels and shell tasting
- English speaking guide-escort and art/history expert Ivan Krucican
- Tips for the escort, local guides and drivers

### Price does NOT include:

- Cancellation/Medical insurance
- Individual transfers from/to the airport
- Meals other than specified
- Beverages during meals
- Optional/additional tours and/or extensions and associated entrance fees
- Entrance to temporary exhibits ... or to any

- exhibits that cost extra to the general museum fee
- Portage, gratuities at the hotels and extras
- Optional Extensions

### Package price based on:

20 (+ Fr. Samer Youssef) participants: **3770 USD**  
Single Supplement: Extra 650 USD

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### More information

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Checks are payable to the Orthodox Church of the Redeemer

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