



Lewis & Clark
College



Bridging the Balkans: Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia with Historian Mo Healy

TOUR DATES: May 15-25, 2025

Explore the Land of Blood & Honey in dual perspective, with both a Serbian and a Bosnian guide on board. Experience Belgrade, Serbia's capital, built at the confluence of rivers, and holding over 2,000 years of history within its city limits. Meet with both combatants and survivors of recent conflicts for their first-hand accounts of a tumultuous past. Explore Sarajevo with a renowned local photo journalist and visit picturesque Mostar, a medieval town on the banks of the Neretva River. Reach the fortified town of Dubrovnik on Croatia's Adriatic Coast for stunning views and discussion with local creators.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- "Dual Narrative" experience led by both a Serbian and a Bosnian guide
- Discussion with an award-winning writer on Belgrade's current political climate
- First-hand accounts of Serbia's tumultuous past from refugees of the Yugoslav Wars
- Photojournalist presentation on life in Bosnia and Herzegovina before and after the war
- Exclusive meeting with a decorated Serbian general now devoted to coexistence
- See the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a head curator
- Tasting at a local winery, with the wine-maker

In Partnership with



MEJDI TOURS



PRICING: \$6,295* per person

INCLUDED:

- 10 nights' accommodation (double occupancy) in hotels listed (*or similar)
- Meals: 10 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 6 Dinners
- Local MEJDI Bosnian and Serbian Guides
- Expert MEJDI Tour Facilitator Throughout
- Private transportation (+ water on bus)
- Individual Arrival Airport Transfers
- 1 Group Departure Airport Transfer
- 1 Internal flight - from Belgrade-Sarajevo
- Entrance fees, site visits, & speaker honorariums
- Pre-trip travel guidance and on-ground support

Registration @ mejditours.com/open-tour/lewis-and-clark-balkans



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TOUR ITINERARY, CONTINUED

May 15: Arrival in Serbia

Welcome to Belgrade! Arrive in Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport and transfer to the hotel. Your Balkans adventure begins with an important welcome meeting and a festive group dinner. Pre-stays can be arranged if needed by request.

Hotel: Boutique Hotel Museum, Belgrade (D)

May 16: Belgrade- Old Town

Explore Belgrade, known as the "white city," with rich history spanning Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, Serbian, and Austrian empires. Tour Stari grad Municipality and stroll Knez-Mihailova Street. Visit Belgrade Fortress, a historical museum offering panoramic views. Explore the recently reopened National Museum, showcasing medieval and Byzantine artifacts, including the UNESCO-listed 12th-century Studenica Monastery's collection and Miroslav's Gospel manuscript. In the evening, engage in a discussion with a local journalist about Belgrade's war-torn past and its impact on current politics and socio-economics over dinner.

Hotel: Boutique Hotel Museum, Belgrade (B, L, D)



May 17: The History of Yugoslavia

Delve into Yugoslavia's intricate history, beginning in the charming village of Zemun, once part of the Habsburg Monarchy and now a Belgrade neighborhood retaining its historic ambiance. Explore WWII memorials and learn about Yugoslavia's formation. Visit the Museum of Yugoslavia to trace its evolution from the Kingdom to Socialist era, focusing on Josip Broz Tito's life and resting place. Reflect on the NATO bombing aftermath, and hear firsthand accounts of the Yugoslav wars from a refugee.

Boutique Hotel Museum, Belgrade (B, L)

May 18: Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Meet a Serbian Revolution expert to discuss Slobodan Milošević's overthrow before flying to Sarajevo. Upon arrival, visit the war tunnel used for evacuation and supply during conflict. Explore Sarajevo's old city on foot, marveling at its Ottoman and Austrian influences and its rich history, including its role in sparking WWI. Known as the "European Jerusalem," Sarajevo embraces its diverse religious heritage. End the day with a presentation by photojournalist Ziyah Gafic on post-war life in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Hotel: Hotel Europe, Sarajevo (B, D)



May 19: Sarajevo, Then and Now

Visit the ancient Jewish Cemetery, a frontline during the 1992 war. Have an exclusive meeting with General Jovan Divjak, who fought for the Bosnians, and learn about his current work with Education Builds Bosnia, supporting war orphan education. After lunch, take a gondola for a scenic view of Sarajevo and the 1984 Olympics bobsled remains. Discuss current affairs, politics, and solutions over drinks. In the evening, meet a local Sufi to learn about their community and culture, followed by dinner.

Hotel: Hotel Europe, Sarajevo (B, L, D)

May 20: Remembering a Troubled Past

Continue exploring Sarajevo with a visit to the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, founded in 1888, featuring extensive ancient and natural history collections. Tour the museum with a curator, highlighting Greek pottery, Roman mosaics, and the Sarajevo Haggadah, a significant illuminated manuscript dating back to 1350. After lunch, explore an exhibit on the Srebrenica massacre and meet Hasan Nuhanovic, a curator at the Srebrenica Genocide Memorial who lost his family in the genocide. If available, join a descendant of Josip Broz Tito or an expert on his era for drinks this evening. Enjoy the rest of the evening at your leisure.

Hotel: Hotel Europe, Sarajevo (B, L)



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TOUR ITINERARY, CONTINUED

May 21: The City of Mostar

Depart Sarajevo for Mostar in Herzegovina. En route, visit Konjic, renowned for its preserved secret bunker designed for nuclear defense. After lunch, explore Mostar's historic old city, famed for its UNESCO-listed single arch bridge spanning the Neretva River. Visit United World College Mostar, an L&C affiliate. Over dinner this evening, sit down with a local resident impacted by the war, to hear about how families were divided and impacted.

Hotel: Hotel Mepas (B, L, D)



May 22: Mostar

Visit a local mosque and climb up the minaret for a spectacular view of the city. Then, visit the famous Mostar bridge, a UNESCO Heritage Site and one of the tallest single arch bridges in the world. Continue to lunch and wine-tasting at a private winery with the wine-maker. Visit the town of Počitelj, a medieval hillside town with its iconic tower overlooking the valley then return to Mostar.

Hotel: Hotel Mepas (B, L)

May 23: Dubrovnik, Croatia

Travel to Dubrovnik, a renowned Mediterranean destination and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the walled Old City, famous for its medieval past, war history, and recent restoration. Enjoy a walking tour, taking in the city's rich history and natural beauty. After lunch, continue exploring Dubrovnik's highlights, including a visit to the War Photo LTD gallery, owned by an acclaimed international photojournalist, to learn about his work and life in the city.

Hotel: 4-5 Hotel TBD (B, L)*

May 24: Elaphiti Islands Excursion

After breakfast, take a boat ride to explore the nearby islands, soaking in the site of bright blue water surrounded by beautiful beaches, as well as the history that extends beyond the mainland. Swim and snorkel in and around natural sea caves and explore island trails on foot. Return to shore for lunch on your own and enjoy an afternoon at leisure at the beach, the pool, or further exploring the Old City. Join the group for a lively farewell dinner this evening with local cuisine.

Hotel: 4-5 Hotel TBD (B, L)*



May 25: Departure Day

Transfer to the airport for your departing flight home. Post-stays can be arranged by request.