

# CROATIAN ENCOUNTERS

A 16 DAY PILGRIMAGE | ZAGREB TO MEDJUGORJE

*A spectacular journey encompassing breathtaking landscapes, natural encounters and a deeper insight into the spiritual graces of Croatia's past and present.*

FROM **\$6490** AUD per person  
Now includes all taxes fees and levies

## ITINERARY

- Zagreb (2)
- Our Lady of Bistrica
- Ljubljana
- Opatija (1)
- Our Lady of Trsat
- Plitvice Lakes (2)
- Zadar
- Split
- Trogir (1)
- Our Lady of Sinj
- Dubrovnik (1)
- Medjugorje (5)



## DAY 1 DEPART FOR CROATIA

## DAY 2 ARRIVE ZAGREB

After our arrival into **Zagreb** we will be transferred directly to our centrally located hotel. *Zagreb overnight (D)*

## DAY 3 ZAGREB

This morning we enjoy a guided city tour of **Zagreb** featuring the fortified historic **Upper Town** including a visit to **St Mark's Church** dating back to the 13th century. Continue on to **St Catherine's Church** and the **Cathedral of the Assumption** whose twin spires are visible from afar. Nearby is the **Stone Gate** containing a shrine to the Virgin Mary believed to possess miraculous powers. Enjoy some time for lunch in this beautiful old part of the city.

This afternoon we travel out to Croatia's National Sanctuary of **Our Lady of Bistrica** and home to a fifteenth century miraculous statue of the Virgin Mary. Here we will celebrate our group Mass. Take the opportunity to kneel before the black wooden figure of the smiling **Madonna with the infant Jesus**. *Zagreb overnight (BD)*

## DAY 4 VIA LJUBLJANA TO OPATIJA

Travelling west today into Slovenia we come to beautiful **Ljubljana**, Slovenia's capital. See the famous **Dragon Bridge** and the **Triple Bridge** that connects **Preseren Square** with the **Old Town** before entering the 18th century **St Nicholas' Cathedral** where we plan to celebrate our group Mass.

## HARVEST HIGHPOINTS

- 1 Come to the great Croatian Sanctuary of Our Lady of Maria Bistrica to gaze upon the miraculous figure of the Virgin Mary.
- 2 Be awe-struck by the natural beauty of the Plitvice Lakes.
- 3 Experience the unique combination of several UNESCO World Heritage cities and inspired shrines scattered along our Adriatic path.
- 4 Culminate in the world renowned apparition village of Medjugorje to witness the tangible grace of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

## PILGRIMAGE COMBINATION

ADD 10 NIGHTS  
EASTERN EUROPE

SELECTED DEPARTURES ONLY ON THE ABOVE LINKS. CONTACT HARVEST FOR MORE INFORMATION.

This afternoon we journey south, crossing the border back into Croatia and on to the picturesque seaside resort town of **Opatija**, known as the 'Pearl of the Adriatic'. Time permitting, stroll the Lungomare (Seaside promenade) or visit St Jacob's Church with the replica Madonna del Mare, originally erected to keep vigil over the soul of count Arthur Kesselstadt buried in the one-time cemetery on the headland.

*Opatija overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 5 RIJEKA & PLITVICE LAKES

This morning we come to **Rijeka** and the shrine of **Our Lady of Trsat**, built to commemorate the transfer of the Holy House of Nazareth from Jerusalem. Tradition asserts that the Holy House was kept here between 1292 and 1294 en route to Loreto. After Mass we will take the opportunity to pray before the **miraculous painting of Our Lady**, donated to the shrine in 1367 by Pope Urban V. See adjacent to the shrine the 13<sup>th</sup> century **Trsat Castle**.

Continue on inland today towards the beautiful **Plitvice Lakes** for our two night nature retreat in what can only be described as paradise!

*Plitvice Lakes overnight (BD)*



Plitvice Lakes

#### DAY 6 PLITVICE LAKES RETREAT

*The Plitvice Lakes National Park has been granted UNESCO World Heritage status. The breathtaking scenery of this natural wonderland lies in its sixteen lakes interconnected by a series of waterfalls and in deep woodland populated by deer, bears, wolves, boars and rare bird species. The lakes are yellow and ochre in autumn, green and fresh in spring.*

A series of wooden footbridges will allow us this morning to walk across the lakes before boarding a boat cruise for a close up view of the waterfalls.

An afternoon at leisure in paradise to enjoy and discover the natural surroundings and walking trails at your own pace.

*Plitvice Lakes overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 7 VIA ZADAR & SPLIT TO TROGIR

Journey due south today to the fortified medieval city of **Zadar**, the oldest Slavic city on the Adriatic and the once capital of Dalmatia for many centuries. We pause here for an exploration tour which includes the ruins of the **Roman Forum**, the **Cathedral of St. Anastasia** and the pre Romanesque **Church of St. Donat** dating back to the 9<sup>th</sup> century! Celebrate our group Mass today in St Mary's Church. Finally we enjoy a visit to **Zadar's sea organ** which plays enchanting rhythms according to the movement of the sea.

Continue on to **Split** for our afternoon tour featuring the historic inner city built around the Roman Emperor's Diocletian's Palace (another UNESCO World Heritage site). See remnants of Split's Roman heritage including the **Church of St. Domnus**, **Jupiter's Temple**, the **Peristyle** and **Split Cathedral**. Late this afternoon we travel on to nearby **Trogir**, a beautiful walled coastal town with a waterfront promenade – now listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site!

*Trogir overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 8 VIA SINJ TO DUBROVNIK

Our pilgrimage this morning brings us to the town of **Sinj** and home to the great Croatian **Shrine of Our Lady of Sinj**. Situated atop a hill in a beautiful setting, this spiritual centre is home to a miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. After the celebration of Mass we settle in for a breathtaking drive along the famous Adriatic coast to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed **Dubrovnik** called the "Pearl of the Adriatic". This will certainly be a day of scenic wonder.

*Dubrovnik overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 9 DUBROVNIK TO MEDJUGORJE

This morning enjoy a walking tour of "Old Dubrovnik" starting with Mass and a visit to the **Church of St. Blaise**; the **Rectors Palace**, **Bell Tower Clock**, **Orlando's Column** and the **Sponza Palace**. Our tour will culminate with a visit to the **Dominican Monastery** and **Franciscan Monastery** with its pharmacy, one of the oldest in the world.

2012 DEPARTURE DATES	COSTS AUD*	COSTS NZD*	TOUR CODE
TUESDAY 26TH JUNE	\$6490	\$8490 NZD	2CE01
WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER	\$6490	\$8490 NZD	2CE02
Single Room Supplement	\$680	\$890 NZD	
Prepaid Tipping Fund	\$140	\$190 NZD	

*Cost includes all airline taxes & levies\* For Full price inclusions, Booking Conditions & Booking Procedures visit [www.harvestpilgrims.com](http://www.harvestpilgrims.com)*

**2012 Pilgrimage Chaplains:** Contact Harvest or visit [www.harvestpilgrims.com/chaplains](http://www.harvestpilgrims.com/chaplains)

\* 2013 pilgrimage costs available on application to Harvest.

\* Costs have been based on prices as at 30 November 2011 and must remain subject to change without notice based on currency exchange rates, departure city and minimum group size contingency. Prices are based on twin share or double rooming.

## PILGRIM'S JOURNAL

*"It was a wonderful pilgrimage in every way, especially our time in Medjugorje... full of so many deeply moving experiences which I pray will lead me to a closer relationship with Jesus"*

**MARIE GRAFEN**



Enjoy lunch at leisure in one of the small family owned cafés along the narrow streets. Depart for **Medjugorje** early afternoon to arrive before dinner as we prepare for a most extraordinary encounter of grace and peace for the next four days. Here we will be welcomed by a local family in private guesthouse lodgings (all rooms with ensuite). Home cooked dinners and breakfasts will be served daily from your residence.

*Medjugorje overnight (BD)*



#### DAYS 9–13 MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE (5 Nights / 4 Day Programme – B/D Daily)

#### DAY 14 DEPART FROM MEDJUGORJE

We farewell our Medjugorje hosts after breakfast and travel by coach to Split or Sarajevo for our return or ongoing flight or pilgrimage connections.

#### DAY 16 ARRIVE AUSTRALIA / N.Z.