

MAY 2022 - NOVEMBER 2023

EUROPE, JORDAN & MOROCCO

 **Llama  
Travel**

ALBANIA  
THE BALTICS  
ICELAND  
JORDAN

MOROCCO  
ROMANIA  
SICILY  
SLOVENIA





# LLAMA TRAVEL

Having just celebrated our 20th anniversary, Llama Travel is already established as one of the UK's leading operators of holidays to Latin America and Africa. We love travelling further afield, but we also know that there are many amazing places closer to home, so we are delighted to announce the launch of our tours in Europe, Jordan and Morocco. These offer the same combination of quality, great value and expertise that has been so successful in our long haul holidays, and the same mix of fascinating history, rich culture, beautiful scenery and great food.

The past couple of years have shown the importance of picking the right tour operator, and have given us plenty of opportunity to do the right thing by our customers. We'd love to show you why you should choose Llama Travel for your next short haul adventure.

Luca Newbold

## 7 GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE LLAMA TRAVEL

### 1. Our holidays really are better

Llama Travel customers rated their 2019 holidays (the last full year of travel) 93 out of 100. And we used the time when travel wasn't possible to make our holidays even better. The feedback from customers travelling in 2022 shows they agree!

### 2. We look after you, no matter what

We have always looked after our customers when the unexpected happens. When covid travel restrictions were put in place in 2020, we got all our customers who were overseas back home quickly and without hassle. And we offered all customers whose holidays could not go ahead due to the pandemic a full refund. The feedback from these customers has been just as good as from those who have travelled with us previously, and our efforts in refunding customers were recognised by Which? Travel and The Guardian.

### 3. Your money is protected

Llama Travel holidays are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Llama Travel has a strong financial position with substantial reserves and no debt. This has meant that we have been able to provide refunds promptly, even, for example, when we haven't received money back from airlines.

### 4. Our prices really are lower - guaranteed

Because of the way we work, our costs are lower and so are our prices. If, when you book, you find a genuinely comparable holiday available at a better price elsewhere, we will reduce our price to beat the other one.

### 5. Speak to someone who's been there

We have travelled throughout our destinations in Europe, the Middle East and Northern Africa, so wherever you want to go, you can speak to someone who knows the place.

### 6. Choose the holiday you want

We have 10 itineraries in this brochure, and you can add extra nights so you can create the holiday you want. Just let us know your requirements.

### 7. Our holidays give you more time

Llama Travel itineraries include time at each destination to settle in and to explore. And you can add extra nights to give yourself even more time.

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The air holidays in this brochure are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 5804.



Llama Travel is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. Llama Travel abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed at [www.aito.co.uk](http://www.aito.co.uk) or find out more by calling 020 8744 9280.



Llama Travel is an IATA accredited agent.



Llama Travel has featured in the Top 5 Tour Operators in the Wanderlust Reader Travel Awards every year from 2013, winning Gold in 2016, 2018 and 2019.



Welcome to Llama Travel!

Wander Sighisoara's cobbled streets in Romania



## HOTELS IN ICELAND

### SKUGGI HOTEL, REYKJAVÍK



Centrally located to easily discover downtown Reykjavík, the hotel has a bar. There is no restaurant, but good restaurants are close-by. The en-suite rooms are comfortable with a minimalist style.

### ICELANDAIR HOTEL, AKUREYRI



A short stroll away from the centre with great views of the fjord and mountains. There is a garden and good restaurant and en-suite rooms are comfortable with plenty of natural light.

### FOSSHÓTEL, LAKE MÝVATN



This modern hotel overlooks Lake Mývatn. There is a bar, sauna and the stylish restaurant serves Nordic cuisine. The elegant en-suite rooms have timber-clad walls.

### LAKE HOTEL, EGILSSTADIR



Sitting on the shores of Lake Lagarfljót, a family-run hotel with an excellent restaurant, spa, hot tub and cosy en-suite rooms.

### FOSSHÓTEL, GLACIER LAGOON



Overlooking the ocean, this hotel has a restaurant, sauna and hot tub. Rooms are en-suite and have large windows that overlook the mountainous terrain.

### HOTEL VÍK Í MÝRDAL, VÍK



This hotel is ideal for exploring the iconic black sand beaches nearby. There is a restaurant serving local cuisine. En-suite rooms are airy with great views.

# ICELAND FULL CIRCLE

REYKJAVÍK AKUREYRI LAKE MÝVATN EGILSSTADIR  
JOKULSARLON GLACIER LAGOON VÍK GOLDEN CIRCLE  
8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS FROM £2099



Walk behind the curtain of water at Seljalandsfoss and marvel at the waterfall from a completely new perspective

Iceland is a destination unlike any other in Europe. With its black sand beaches, spectacular waterfalls, geothermal lagoons, glistening glaciers, ice-covered volcanoes and gushing geysers, it is the perfect destination for nature lovers.

Start your adventure in Reykjavík, the world's northernmost capital. Stroll through the lively city centre, where there are many museums, cosy cafés and traditional restaurants. After enjoying the comforts of this small city, embark on an epic road journey around the island following Iceland's ring road, with stunning landscapes scattered on the 1,000-mile loop. Each section of the journey is different, with incredible waterfalls, volcanoes, glaciers, forests, barren deserts,

mountains, geysers and fjords all visible from the vehicle. With 30 active volcano systems, this harsh natural environment has resulted in Iceland being a hotbed for geothermal activity and geological formations. Despite these conditions, there is still an abundance of wildlife, and it is possible to spot whales, dolphins and seals on boat trips from the north coast. As the most sparsely populated country in Europe, you will pass small fishing communities, traditional turf houses and vast farms full of beautiful Icelandic horses and sheep.

This tour allows you to get the full picture of Iceland by travelling the full circle during the long days of the summer months, the best time to experience the wild outdoors.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Thu) Reykjavík** Fly from the UK to Reykjavík where you are taken to your hotel. Free afternoon to explore this fascinating city (1 night).

**Day 2 (Fri) Reykjavík - Akureyri** Head north on the scenic journey to Akureyri. Stop at the Grábrók volcano and walk to the top of the 170-metre high crater. There will be time for lunch in the fishing village of Hvammstangi before continuing to the Glaumbaer Farm & Museum, known for its well-preserved turf houses. Arrive in Akureyri in the late afternoon and take the optional Akureyri Whale Watching excursion (1 night).

**Day 3 (Sat) Akureyri - Lake Mývatn** Depart Akureyri, stopping at the impressive Godafoss waterfall, then continue towards the Lake Mývatn area, where you spend the day exploring the surrounding lava fields, lake shore, caves and volcanic craters. In the late afternoon take the optional Mývatn Nature Baths excursion to soak in idyllic hot springs (1 night).

**Day 4 (Sun) Lake Mývatn - Egilsstaðir** On your journey east, stop at the Hverir geothermal area and Dettifoss, the most powerful waterfall in Europe. Then cross the Icelandic desert, continuing to Studlagil, a beautiful canyon known for its tall basalt rock columns. Arrive at your hotel in Egilsstaðir on a beautiful forested lake shore in the late afternoon (1 night).

**Day 5 (Mon) Egilsstaðir - Glacier Lagoon** Journey to the southern coast, passing calm fjords, spectacular waterfalls and harbour villages on the way, and visit Stokksnes, an impressive headland of black sand dunes. End the day's journey at the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, filled with icebergs that have broken free from the mighty Breidamerkurjökull, an outlet glacier of

Europe's largest ice cap. Walk along Diamond Beach and marvel at the glistening icebergs that wash up on the jet-black sand shore. It is sometimes possible to spot seals relaxing on the smaller icebergs or swimming in the lagoon. For the more adventurous, take the optional Glacier Lagoon Zodiac Ride excursion to get up close to the face of the glacier (1 night).

**Day 6 (Tue) Glacier Lagoon - Vík** Drive along the south coast to Skaftafell National Park and walk to Svartifoss waterfall. Then, continue to possibly the most beautiful beach in Iceland, Reynisfjara, where the long black beach contrasts with dramatic cliffs, caves and sea arches. Continue to the Dyrhólaey peninsula, famous for its incredible views of Iceland's south coast and abundance of bird-life. From May to August, it is possible to spot Atlantic puffins nesting on the cliff faces. In the afternoon, check-in to your hotel in Vík, the southernmost village on the island (1 night).

**Day 7 (Wed) Vík - Reykjavík** Take the final leg back to Reykjavík, starting with two of Iceland's most impressive waterfalls: Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss. Then start the famous Golden Circle route by exploring the Geysir geothermal area, where the Strokkur geyser normally erupts every ten minutes. Continue to the last waterfall of the trip, the spectacular Gullfoss, before driving through Thingvellir National Park which boasts a fascinating combination of Icelandic history and natural beauty. Return to Reykjavík in the evening for your last night in Iceland (1 night).

**Day 8 (Thu)** Transfer to Keflavík airport for your return flight to the UK.



Sail between the massive icebergs on the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon



The Hallgrímskirkja Church towers over Reykjavik

## OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

### AKUREYRI WHALE WATCHING

Akureyri lies at the bottom of the Eyjafjörður fjord, and its bay is one of the best places in Europe for whale watching. It is often possible to spot humpback, minke and bottlenose whales, as well as harbour porpoise and white beaked dolphins on a three-hour boat ride from Akureyri harbour. On board is a specially trained whale watching guide who is an expert at spotting the whales and explaining their behaviours.

### MÝVATN NATURE BATHS

The Mývatn Nature Baths are a set of geothermally heated pools and steam baths overlooking the stunning volcanic landscape. After a day of walking on lava fields and volcanic cones, soak your weary muscles in soothing milky-blue geothermal waters for a couple of hours. The warm water contains a unique blend of minerals, particularly sulphur, which is said to be good for skin and respiratory problems.

### GLACIER LAGOON ZODIAC RIDE

The Jökulsárlón glacier face is 4.5 miles from the shore, so an adventurous zodiac boat ride is the best way to get up close and personal with the glacier. You are suited up in a weather suit before embarking on an exhilarating ride sailing around the massive icebergs, reaching speeds of up to 30mph as the guide explains the geography of the glacier, icebergs and the surrounding area. The tour of the lagoon takes around one hour.



Admire the impressive Godafoss waterfall



Relax in the serene milky-blue hot spring waters in the Lake Myvatn area



Spot fumaroles and bubbling mud pools in the Hverir area



Watch the Strokkur geyser shoot jets of boiling water 40 metres high



Spot whales in Eyjafjörður, Iceland's longest fjord



Visit Studlagil canyon and its stunning blue glacial river



Stroll along the black sand beaches on the south coast

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Iceland Full Circle (7 nights)	
Date of departure	
12 May 2022	2099
9 June 2022	2499
7 July 2022	2549
4 August 2022	2549
8 September 2022	2399
Single supplement*	450

\*Ask us for single supplement for Jun - Sep

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

<b>Reykjavik</b>	Hotel Skuggi
<b>Akureyri</b>	Icelandair Hotel
<b>Lake Mývatn</b>	Fosshótel Mývatn
<b>Egilsstaðir</b>	Lake Hotel
<b>Glacier Lagoon</b>	Fosshótel Glacier Lagoon
<b>Vík í Mýrdal</b>	Hotel Vík í Mýrdal

Accommodation is bed and breakfast  
Hotels vary on some dates. See our website or call us for more details.

### Optional Excursions

Whale Watching	£85
Mývatn Nature Baths	£45
Glacier Lagoon Zodiac Ride	£85

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

# TREASURES OF SICILY

## HOTELS IN SICILY

### GRAND HOTEL VILLA POLITI, SYRACUSE



This historic hotel is located close to Syracuse's seafront. Used as a wartime base by Churchill, it also sits on one of Sicily's oldest archaeological sites. There is a swimming pool, two restaurants and two bars. En-suite rooms are air conditioned.

### HOTEL BAIA DI ULISSE, AGRIGENTO



Set inside a cool pine forest, this hotel has access to a private beach, a swimming pool and two restaurants. Rooms are en-suite and air conditioned with plenty of natural light. Dinner is included.

### HOTEL PLAZA OPERA, PALERMO



Located in the historic heart of Palermo, the hotel does not have its own restaurant, but there are good restaurants nearby. There is a panoramic rooftop terrace and bar. En-suite rooms are air conditioned.

### SANT ALPHIO GARDEN & SPA, GIARDINI NAXOS



Boasting views of Taormina and Mount Etna, this hotel is a 5-minute walk from a fine-sand beach. The hotel has a restaurant, large swimming pool, spa and fitness room. En-suite rooms are spacious, comfortable and air conditioned.

SYRACUSE AGRIGENTO PALERMO

GIARDINI NAXOS MOUNT ETNA

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS FROM £1849



Palermo is full of a striking mix of Arab and Norman architecture, giving the city a unique feel

Sicily is an island of superlatives. The finest Greek temples anywhere, the best preserved and most extensive Roman mosaics, the highest and most active volcano in Europe and, of course, the best ice cream in the world!

Sicily is bursting at the seams with architectural gems. For more than 3,000 years, a myriad of civilisations have discovered, conquered and made their mark on the island. In the north, Palermo and Monreale are teeming with Arabic domes and arches, Byzantine mosaics and Norman cathedrals, while the towns of Erice and Castelbuono boast evocative remains of Arab and Norman castles. In the southeast,

there is an array of Baroque masterpieces, including the golden-hued churches and buildings of Noto.

The Greeks and the Romans were an integral part to Sicily's early history and as a result, they established a number of important cities which are now archaeological sites. The most important Greek city was Syracuse and is home to a number of well-preserved Greek and Roman ruins. On a ridge near the town of Agrigento are the ruins of a 6th century Greek city, Akragas. Still remaining are seven Doric temples, now known as the Valley of the Temples. Outside Piazza Armerina is Villa Romana del Casale, home to the best collection of mosaic floors anywhere in the Roman world.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Sun) Syracuse** Fly from the UK to Catania, where you are met and take a one-hour transfer to your hotel in Syracuse (2 nights).

**Day 2 (Mon) Syracuse** Morning tour of the Neapolis Archaeological Park to see the well-preserved Greek and Roman theatres. The Greek theatre is one of the largest ever built; its 67 rows could accommodate up to 15,000 spectators. Head to the small island of Ortigia, Syracuse's ancient heart. Admire the unique Cathedral of Syracuse, with its original Greek columns incorporated into a Baroque façade, and visit the Temple of Apollo, the oldest Doric temple in Sicily. In the afternoon, visit Noto, the capital of Sicilian Baroque architecture. Admire the stunning Noto Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and wander down Corso Vittorio Emanuele, Noto's main street, strolling past magnificent churches, beautiful buildings, restaurants and shops. Return to Syracuse in the early evening.

**Day 3 (Tue) Syracuse - Agrigento** Depart Syracuse crossing the interior of Sicily. Stop at the Villa Romana del Casale outside Piazza Armerina, home to the finest mosaics anywhere in the Roman world. Marvel at the impressive Ambulatory of the Big Hunt, a 60-metre long mosaic telling the story of the Roman Venatio. After a three-course lunch, continue to the Valley of the Temples outside Agrigento. The park consists of seven Doric temples built between 510 BC and 430 BC and is one of the most extensive sites of classical Greek civilisation. Admire the Temple of Concordia, the largest and best-preserved Doric temple in the world. In the evening check in to your hotel (1 night).

**Day 4 (Wed) Agrigento - Palermo** Leave southern Sicily behind as you journey north. Stop at the Temple of Segesta, a well-preserved Greek structure in beautiful rolling hills. Continue to the medieval hilltop town of Erice for lunch. Visit the 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman Venus Castle, boasting stunning views over the sparkling blue coast. Arrive into Sicily's capital city Palermo in the evening (2 nights).

**Day 5 (Thu) Palermo** Morning walking tour of Palermo. Wander the colourful souk-like markets, old streets and alleyways learning about the capital. After centuries of foreign rulers, Palermo's quilted history is evident in the vast range of architectural styles, namely Byzantine, Arabic, Baroque and Norman. Visit the impressive UNESCO-listed Palermo Cathedral, with its Roman columns, Gothic portico and Islamic engravings. In the afternoon, take the optional Monreale Cathedral excursion.

**Day 6 (Fri) Palermo - Giardini Naxos** Follow the north coast, visiting the charming medieval hill town of Castelbuono, known for its imposing castle and picturesque setting. Pass the Strait of Messina, with mainland Italy only two miles away, then continue on the beautiful coastline until you reach the seaside town of Giardini Naxos in the evening (2 nights).

**Day 7 (Sat) Giardini Naxos** Spend the day at leisure, perhaps relaxing on one of Giardini Naxos' beaches or take a short bus ride to the small town of Taormina. Alternatively, take the optional Mount Etna & Wine Tasting excursion.

**Day 8 (Sun)** Take a one-hour transfer to Catania airport for your return flight to the UK.



Admire the Temple of Segesta, built in the Greek style by indigenous Sicilians in 420 BC

## OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

### MONREALE CATHEDRAL

30 minutes from Palermo is the hilltop town of Monreale. This half-day afternoon excursion includes a guided visit of the stunning Cathedral of Monreale, arguably the finest example of Arab-Byzantine-Norman architecture in Sicily. The interior is jaw dropping, with over 6,500m<sup>2</sup> of swirling golden mosaics made with 2,200kg of pure gold. Admire the waves of glistening gold in the famous Byzantine style. Also visit the Benedictine monastery and walk around the cloister, admiring the 200 intricately carved marble columns. Return to Palermo in the early evening.



Look at the glistening gold mosaic Christ Pantocrator inside Monreale Cathedral



Visit Noto Cathedral, built in the impressive Sicilian Baroque style

### MOUNT ETNA & WINE TASTING

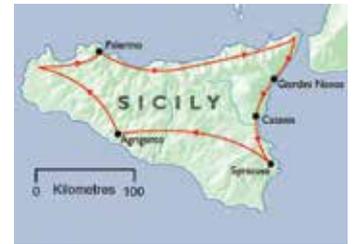
The highest volcano in Europe and among the most active in the world, Mount Etna dominates Sicily with its size and stature. On this full-day excursion, drive up Etna's slopes to 1,900 metres, passing by lava flows and extinct craters. Take a guided walk and enjoy sweeping views of the landscapes, characterised by black dunes and expanses of solidified lava. Descend the mountain and visit the Barone di Villagrande vineyard on Etna's eastern slopes. Learn about the production of Etnean wine, followed by tasting of 4 wines and an excellent four-course lunch. Return to Giardini Naxos in the afternoon.



Walk on Mount Etna's lava fields and pass its extinct craters



Wander the vibrant streets of Palermo



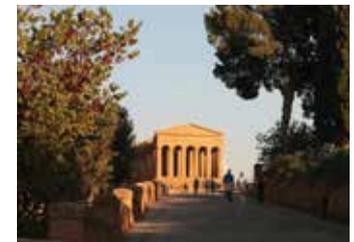
Marvel at the Roman mosaics in Villa Romana del Casale



Wander the old town streets of charming Castelbuono



Explore Venus Castle atop the medieval town of Erice



Visit the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento



Stroll down Ortigia's medieval side streets to the sparkling blue sea

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Treasures of Sicily (7 nights)		
Date	18 September 2022	1849
	9 October 2022	1849
	Single supplement	320

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

<b>Syracuse</b>	Grand Hotel Villa Politi
<b>Agrigento</b>	Baia di Ulisse
<b>Palermo</b>	Plaza Opera
<b>Giardini Naxos</b>	Sant'Alphio Garden & Spa

Accommodation is bed and breakfast. In Agrigento, dinner is also included.

Hotels vary on some dates. See our website or call us for more details.

Optional Excursions	
Monreale Cathedral	£25
Mount Etna & Wine Tasting	£250

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

## HOTELS IN SLOVENIA

### HOTEL PARK, LAKE BLEED



This recently renovated hotel located on the shores of Lake Bled has a rooftop pool, spa and gym with panoramic views over the lake. The hotel's restaurant is famous for producing the Slovenian cream cake *Kremsnite*. The modern, en-suite rooms are spacious and have a private balcony and air conditioning. Lake view rooms are available for an additional cost.

### BOUTIQUE HOTEL PORTOROŽE, PORTOROŽ



Located on Slovenia's Adriatic coast, the hotel has an outdoor pool overlooking the sea. There is a spacious restaurant and bar with an outdoor terrace area. All rooms are en-suite with a private balcony and air conditioning. Sea view rooms are available for an extra cost.

### HOTEL LEV, LJUBLJANA



A short distance from Ljubljana's pedestrianised city centre, the Hotel Lev is ideally positioned to explore the Slovenian capital. The hotel has a bistro-style restaurant and a bar area as well as a gym. Rooms are en-suite with air conditioning.



Climb to Bled Castle for great views over the lake

# NATURAL WONDERS OF SLOVENIA

LAKE BLEED PORTOROŽ ADRIATIC COAST LJUBLJANA

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS FROM £1299



Observe wonderful views of Bled Island from around the lake

Nestled in the heart of Europe, this small country offers an incredible array of unforgettable experiences. Admire the beauty of Lake Bled and Lake Bohinj, surrounded by pristine forests. Walk along river canyons with vibrant turquoise waters flowing from the melt-water of the snow-capped Julian Alps above. Discover castles with dramatic views and historic churches.

Continue to the Adriatic Coast, exploring one of

Europe's most impressive cave systems on the way. Then wander the charming streets of the ancient Venetian port city of Piran steeped in history and tradition, before ending in the country's capital, Ljubljana, with picturesque squares, ornate bridges and a laid-back cafe-culture vibe. On this holiday you will witness natural beauty, unique culture and rich history in abundance.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Sun) Lake Bled** Fly from the UK to Slovenia, where you are met and transferred to your hotel on the shores of Lake Bled (3 nights).

**Day 2 (Mon) Lake Bled** Begin by taking a short transfer to the start of an easy 90-minute walk along the beautiful Vintgar Gorge, passing waterfalls and alpine villages on your way. Return to Lake Bled to visit the iconic Bled Castle built on the massif overlooking the lake, before descending to the shores of the lake itself to take a traditional Slovenian boat to the island in the centre of the lake to visit the famous church where you can ring the bell. Afternoon free. Perhaps walk a loop of the lake, taking in the panoramic view from Mala Ojstrica.

**Day 3 (Tue) Lake Bled** Take the optional Lake Bohinj Hike excursion. Alternatively, spend time at Lake Bled. Perhaps take a refreshing dip in the cool waters, hire a bike to explore the beautiful surroundings or enjoy a traditional Slovenian pastry at a lakeside cafe.

**Day 4 (Wed) Lake Bled - Portorož** Take a 90-minute journey to the impressively constructed Predjama Castle, built into a cliff cave. Continue to the Postojna Cave system and take an underground train then explore the vast network on foot and marvel at the unique subterranean formations. Enjoy lunch (included) before continuing to the coastal town of Portorož on the Adriatic coast, arriving in the late afternoon (2 nights).

**Day 5 (Thu) Portorož** Free day in Portorož. Perhaps spend the day relaxing in the seaside town, or take a pleasant one-hour walk following the coast to the Venetian port of Piran. A 10-minute bus is also available. Wander the narrow, winding streets of the old town or walk the

cobbled street to the hilltop Cathedral of St George with good views over the peninsula. Enjoy fresh seafood at one of the restaurants located along the promenade overlooking the Adriatic Sea.

**Day 6 (Fri) Ljubljana** Take a 90-minute transfer to the charming capital city of Ljubljana. In the afternoon, take a tour strolling through the medieval old town and marvel at the architectural feats before ascending to Ljubljana Castle by funicular to take in the beautiful panoramic views of the city. Your tour ends with a visit to the bustling central market. You then have free time to further explore the city and perhaps enjoy an evening dining alongside the Ljubljanica River (1 night).

**Day 7 (Sat)** Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.



Explore the ancient Venetian port of Piran



Explore the Venetian port city of Piran on the Slovenian coast



Stroll through Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital

SLOVENIA

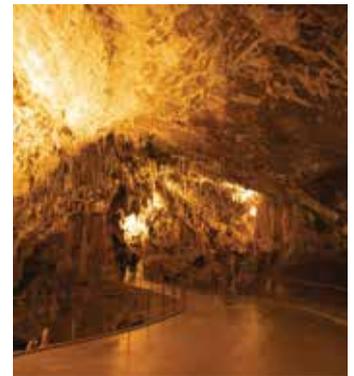
## OPTIONAL EXCURSION

### LAKE BOHINJ HIKE

This excursion takes you to the largest of Slovenia's glacial lakes, Lake Bohinj, located a 30-minute drive from Lake Bled. The hike takes you on a full circuit of the lake beginning on the south shore, through dense forests. You will then descend to the west side of the lake, before crossing the emerald green Savica River to the northern shore. The hike ends at the beautifully located Church of St John the Baptist on the edge of the crystalline waters, where lunch is included at a local restaurant. The full hike takes approximately four hours and is moderate in difficulty, traversing forest trails and rocky terrain. You have free time to wander the village or perhaps take a refreshing swim in the waters of the lake, before returning to Lake Bled.



Slovenia's lesser known Lake Bohinj



Descend into the depths of Postojna Cave

## LAKE BLEED

Arguably the most iconic image of Slovenia is that of Lake Bled island, with its spired church standing proud in the centre of the glacial lake surrounded by dramatic mountainous scenery and thick wooded forests. The Church, dedicated to the Assumption of Mary, was constructed in the late 15th century and is decorated with intricate frescoes. Wedding ceremonies are frequently held here and it is said to be good luck for the groom to carry his bride up the 99 steps leading to the entrance, before ringing the bell inside the church and making a wish.

The traditional method of accessing Bled Island is via a wooden boat known as a pletna, decorated with colourful awnings and similar in style to a Venetian gondola.

It is possible to walk a complete circuit of the lake along accessible paths and there are several places to take a dip into the cool water. Alternatively, scaling the Ojstrica viewpoint gives amazing views over the lake and landscape. Cycling around the lake is a popular activity and hiring a bike is possible. Or take a more relaxed pace, enjoying a Slovenian pastry at a lakeside cafe.



Walk the Vintgar Gorge



Predjama Castle built into the side of a cliff



Stay on the Adriatic coast in the resort town of Portorož



Ascend Ljubljana Castle with views over the city



Relax on the Slovenian Coast

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Natural Wonders of Slovenia (6 nights)	
Date of Departure	
26 June 2022	<b>1299</b>
24 July 2022	<b>1349</b>
4 September 2022	<b>1319</b>
25 September 2022	<b>1299</b>
Single supplement*	400
*Single supplement on 24 Jul is £450	

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above  
**Lake Bled** Hotel Park  
**Portorož** Boutique Hotel Portorož  
**Ljubljana** Hotel Lev

Accommodation is bed and breakfast  
 Hotels vary on some dates. See our website or call us for more details.

Accommodation is bed and breakfast

### Optional Excursion

Lake Bohinj Hike **£110**

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

# ALBANIA THROUGH THE AGES

TIRANA BERAT SARANDE VLORE KRUJE

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS FROM £999

## HOTELS IN ALBANIA

### LOT BOUTIQUE HOTEL, TIRANA



A short distance from Skanderbeg Square, this centrally located hotel is perfectly positioned to explore the capital. The restaurant serves international cuisine. En-suite rooms are spacious and have air conditioning.

### HOTEL ONUFRI, BERAT



Located in the heart of the old town, this hotel offers an authentic Albanian experience. The hotel has a large restaurant and bar with an outdoor terrace. Rooms are traditionally decorated with wooden panelling and Ottoman-style furnishings. En-suite rooms are air conditioned.

### HOTEL BRILANT, SARANDE



Located at the southern end of the promenade, ideally positioned to walk to the lively seafront. The hotel has a restaurant with good views across the city. Rooms are large, modern and comfortable with en-suite bathrooms, air conditioning and a balcony.

### REGINA CITY HOTEL, VLORE



A two minute walk from the beach and promenade, the Regina City Hotel boasts a rooftop restaurant, terrace and swimming pool. The modern rooms are en-suite with air conditioning and balconies.

### HOTEL PANORAMA, KRUJE



A large hotel built with traditional architecture, with a large rooftop terrace with a pool and incredible views over the surrounding landscape. The hotel has a number of restaurants. Air-conditioned rooms are spacious and with balconies and en-suite bathrooms.



Discover the UNESCO-listed fortified city of Berat

Hidden in the south-eastern corner of the Balkan Peninsula, Albania remains somewhat of a mystery compared to neighbouring countries in the region.

Begin by exploring the bustling capital city of Tirana, discovering the country's recent communist history and the impact this had on the population. Journey south to the historical cities of Berat and Gjirokastër to witness the stone architecture of the traditional Ottoman houses. Enter medieval churches decorated with intricate and mesmerising iconography. Continue south to the laid-back coastal city of Sarandë, surrounded by pristine white-sand beaches lapped by the warm waters of the

Adriatic and Ionian Seas. Explore the ancient Roman and Greek ruins of Butrint and Apollonia, rich in culture and history and with immaculately well-preserved structures.

Then travel the length of the Albanian Riviera flanked by beautiful coastal waters, impressive towering mountains and dense pine forests. Stroll along the promenade of Vlorë and spend the evening in the recently renovated pastel-hued old town. Spot flamingos and pelicans whilst visiting the unique Zvernec lagoon monastery. End your tour in the mountains of Krujë overlooking the vast valley below.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Wed)** Fly to Tirana, capital of Albania, where you are transferred to your hotel (1 night).

**Day 2 (Thu)** Tirana - Berat In the morning, take a tour of Tirana for your first introduction to Albania. Visit Bunk'Art 1, a nuclear bunker built into a mountain by the communist government, to learn about life under the regime. In the afternoon, take a scenic two-hour journey to the ancient city of Berat, arriving in the early evening (2 nights).

**Day 3 (Fri)** Berat A half-day walking tour of the UNESCO world heritage city of Berat. The town can be separated into three distinct areas; the Kalaja, or castle, which stands proud over the valley; and the residential areas of Mangalemi and Gorica below. Learn about the history of the 2,400-year-old town as you walk through the warren-like alleyways, stopping at the Church of the Dormition of St Mary with incredible examples of Orthodox iconography by the famous 16th century painter Onufri. Views are fabulous from atop the Kalaja with the most impressive being the viewpoint overlooking the town. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure to cross the river and explore the area of Gorica or relax in one of the many cafes along the promenade.

**Day 4 (Sat)** Berat - Sarandë An early departure to Gjirokastër with beautiful views en-route, including glimpses of the Adriatic Sea. Said to be one of Albania's most attractive towns, the tour of Gjirokastër will take you through the heart of the Old Town where the distinct Ottoman architecture is displayed. A visit to the vast fortress gives beautiful views of the town and surrounding valley. Enjoy some free time for lunch before continuing your journey to Sarandë on the

Adriatic Coast, where you have free time to stroll along the promenade and, perhaps, sample some of the fresh seafood (2 nights).

**Day 5 (Sun)** Sarandë A morning tour of the nearby ancient archaeological ruins of Butrint. Discover the history of the site with remnants of ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Venetian and other eras sprawled across the vast national park. In the afternoon relax at the nearby Ksamil Beach with inviting turquoise waters and views out to the Greek Island of Corfu.

**Day 6 (Mon)** Sarandë - Vlorë Drive along the Albanian Riviera to Vlorë, the Albanian city of independence. You stop at the Venetian Fort of Ali Pasha and the Llogara Pass, with breath-taking views. After lunch (included), take a dip in the Ionian Sea at one of the spectacular white-sand beaches en route, before arriving in the early evening (1 night).

**Day 7 (Tue)** Vlorë - Krujë Start with a visit to the nearby island monastery of Zvernec, situated in the Narta Lagoon, where pelicans and flamingoes can often be spotted. Continue to the ruins of Apollonia with iconic ancient Greek architecture, established in 600 BC. After lunch (included), travel northwards for two hours to the Ottoman hill-town of Krujë, arriving in the early evening (1 night).

**Day 8 (Wed)** For your final morning, perhaps explore the bazaar where authentic Balkan handicrafts can be purchased, or visit the Skanderbeg Museum or National Ethnographic Museum housed in the walls of the castle. Then take a transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.



Discover the history of the ancient city of Butrint with Roman and Greek ruins

## BUTRINT NATIONAL PARK

Albania boasts some incredible historical sites, and perhaps the most impressive of all are the UNESCO-listed archaeological ruins of the ancient city of Butrint, located a short distance south of Sarandë. Strategically located on the eastern part of the Strait of Corfu, the city was built across a peninsula that is surrounded by Lake Butrint, with channels that connect it to the Ionian Sea.

The history of this fascinating site spans some 2,500 years and the influence of ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine and other eras can easily be seen throughout the 29 square kilometre park.

Key sites of interest that show off the iconic architecture of the various inhabitants of the city include the immaculately well-preserved Roman amphitheatre, the ornate archways of the Grand Basilica and the intricate mosaics of the Baptistry. The site also has two castles; one overlooking the Vivari Channel and another unique triangular Venetian Castle that guards the main entrance to the site.

Aside from the rich historical significance, Butrint is also an important conservation area with a large number of animal and plant species including the golden eagle, the national symbol of Albania.



The road to Vlorë offers dramatic views of the Albanian Riviera



Roman ruins of the Grand Basilica of Butrint



Marvel at the ancient Greek ruins of Apollonia



Stroll the cobbled streets of Gjirokastër with impressive architecture



Wander the winding alleys of Berat and walk the promenade



Skanderbeg Square, Tirana



Sarandë is located on a beautiful bay



Take a dip at Ksamil Beach on the Adriatic Coast

### PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

**SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW**

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Albania Through the Ages (7 nights)		
Date of departure	11 May 2022	999
	8 June 2022	1049
	7 September 2022	1099
	28 September 2022	1079
	12 October 2022	1049
	Single supplement	200

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

<b>Tirana</b>	Lot Boutique Hotel
<b>Berat</b>	Hotel Onufri
<b>Sarandë</b>	Hotel Brilant
<b>Vlorë</b>	Regina City Hotel
<b>Krujë</b>	Hotel Panorama

Accommodation is bed and breakfast

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking



# HIGHLIGHTS OF TRANSYLVANIA

BUCHAREST BRASOV SIBIU CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS FROM £1149

## HOTELS IN ROMANIA

### CONCORDE OLD BUCHAREST HOTEL



Located in the old town, this neoclassical-style hotel is the perfect base for exploring the capital. There is no restaurant or bar, but there are good restaurants nearby. The en-suite rooms are spacious with plenty of natural light and air conditioning.

### RESIDENCE HIRSCHER BRASOV



A short walk from the old town's historic main square, this hotel is located on a quiet street at the foothills of Tampa Mountain. There is no restaurant or bar, but the hotel is a short walk away from many good restaurants. The en-suite, air conditioned rooms are modern and comfortable.

### RAMADA BY WYNNDHAM SIBIU



This modern hotel is situated a short walk away from the old town, and the panoramic glass lift boasts great views over the city. There is a restaurant, bar and gym. En-suite rooms are spacious and have air conditioning.



Wander the multicoloured alleys of Sibiu



Relax in Brasov's main square surrounded by lush Carpathian forest

A mysterious land of medieval villages, Gothic castles, legends of vampires, fortified churches, and brown bears roaming the mighty Carpathian Mountains, Romania is like stepping into a fairytale.

Transylvania is home to some of Europe's best preserved medieval towns, most notably Brasov, featuring old Saxon architecture and citadel ruins; Sibiu, with its cobblestone streets and pastel-coloured houses; and Sighisoara, adorned with a hilltop citadel, secret passageways and a 14th century clock tower. There are also 150 well-preserved Saxon fortified churches dotted around the region, some dating from the 13th century.

There is no shortage of jaw-dropping castles pitched precariously on rocky hilltops. The most famous is Bran Castle, a mythical Gothic structure associated with the legend of Dracula, while the most picturesque is the stunning Peles Castle, a fairytale royal castle nestled at the foot of the Bucegi Mountains.

End in the capital city of Bucharest with its striking architecture, historical buildings and cobbled Old Town.

From its dark communist history in Bucharest to its Saxon, Ottoman and Hungarian influences in Transylvania, there is so much to be discovered in each location on this trip.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Tue) Bucharest** Fly from the UK to Bucharest, capital of Romania. Transfer to your hotel (1 night).

**Day 2 (Wed) Bucharest - Brasov** An early departure for the drive towards Transylvania. First, visit the picturesque Sinaia Monastery and Peles Castle, built in the neo-Renaissance style and teeming with the finest European artwork inside. Peles Castle was the summer residence of the Romanian Royal Family until 1947. After lunch, included at a local restaurant, continue to Bran Castle, more commonly known as Dracula's Castle, for a guided tour. Exploring the castle transports you into an atmospheric world of mystery; wander down creaky-floored corridors, wind up narrow spiral staircases and enter vast rooms adorned with huge oil paintings and intricately carved antique furniture. In the early evening, arrive into the charming city of Brasov encircled by the Carpathian Mountains (2 nights).

**Day 3 (Thu) Brasov** In the morning, take the optional Carpathian Mountain Bear Sanctuary excursion. Spend the afternoon exploring Brasov on a walking tour and learn about the city's medieval history. Visit its superbly preserved Gothic church and wander through ornate pedestrianised streets and past pastel-coloured baroque buildings dating from the late Middle Ages.

**Day 4 (Fri) Brasov - Sibiu** Leave Brasov behind and first stop in the rural Saxon village of Viscri, whose Lutheran church forms part of the Villages with Fortified Churches in Transylvania UNESCO World Heritage Site. Viscri has a famous admirer in the Prince of Wales, who fought to stop the Communist destruction of Romania's traditional villages. Have free time for lunch in the beautiful city of Sighisoara, famed for its bright-coloured buildings, cobbled

alleys and medieval towers. Adjacent to the 14th century Clock Tower is the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler, which you can visit. The last stop is the Saxon village of Biertan. Surrounded by rolling hills and vineyards, the 15th century Biertan Fortified Church is perched on a hill overlooking the quaint village. Arrive into Sibiu in the evening, the final Transylvanian city on the tour (2 nights).

**Day 5 (Sat) Sibiu** A morning walking tour of the 12th century Saxon city of Sibiu, affectionately dubbed 'The City With Eyes'. Owing to the unique window vents that adorn many of the houses on the south and east sides of the city, these cartoonish features create the illusion that the houses are watching you. Sibiu also exhibits a diverse yet elegant architecture representing late Renaissance, early Gothic, classical and Transylvanian baroque. Starting from the Big Square, marvel at the Old Town's colourful buildings, defensive walls, towers and historical cathedrals. Enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure.

**Day 6 (Sun) Sibiu - Bucharest** A long drive through the Olt Valley back to the capital. On the way, stop at Cozia Monastery, a medieval monastic complex, and have lunch (included). In the late afternoon arrive in Bucharest where there is a photo stop at the Palace of Parliament, the heaviest building in the world. Enjoy the evening at leisure where you can further wander around the bustling Old Town (1 night).

**Day 7 (Mon)** After breakfast, enjoy a short walking tour of Bucharest's Old Town. Explore the cobbled streets of the historic Lipsican Street and visit the Old Princely Court, the residence of Vlad the Impaler. In the afternoon, transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.



Discover the history and myths behind Bran "Dracula's" Castle

## OPTIONAL EXCURSION

### CARPATHIAN MOUNTAIN BEAR SANCTUARY

This morning excursion takes you on a 45-minute picturesque journey into the mighty Carpathian Mountains. Romania is home to 60% of Europe's brown bears and around 6,000 bears roam in this region. With open countryside, rolling hills and a dramatic mountain backdrop, you arrive at the Liberty Bear Sanctuary, the biggest brown bear sanctuary in the world. The sanctuary has rescued

and rehabilitated over 130 brown bears from abuse and captivity, giving them a much better life as they wander freely around 69 hectares of leafy oak forest. Guided by a trained animal welfare expert, walk along a forest path next to the bear enclosure and learn the stories of the bears now living in the sanctuary. The walking tour takes about one hour and you return to Brasov for lunchtime.



Explore the Liberty Bear Sanctuary and hear the stories of the bears living there

## THE LEGEND OF DRACULA

Vlad III, better known as Vlad the Impaler or Vlad Dracula, was ruler of Wallachia (a historical region of Romania) between 1448 to 1476. Known for committing violent and brutal acts of war, Vlad the Impaler is also known as the inspiration for Bram Stoker's titular vampire in the novel 'Dracula'. Although Stoker never visited Romania himself, he depicted the imaginary Dracula's castle based upon a description of Bran Castle.

In the 1970s, in an attempt to develop a closer relationship with the West, the Communist Party of Romania began to promote Romania as a tourist destination. Due to its dramatic architecture, location and its mythical connections to the Dracula legend, it was only natural that Bran Castle became, and still is, Romania's biggest landmark.

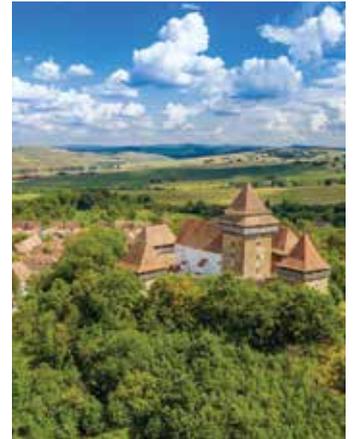
With its Gothic turrets looming over the surrounding spooky forest, Bran Castle undeniably has a mysterious and haunted atmosphere. After visiting, it is easy to see why the castle was used by Stoker as the home for his bloodthirsty vampire of Count Dracula.



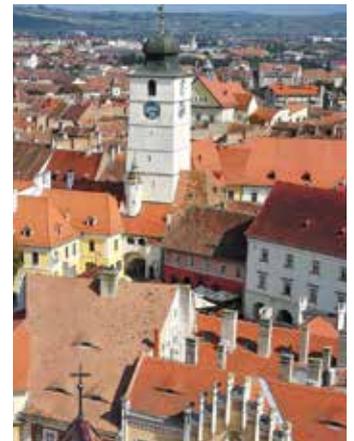
Experience the intrigue and magic behind this highlight of Transylvania



Admire the fairytale Peles Castle



Visit the rural Saxon village of Viscri



Spot the distinctive eyelid-shaped windows of Sibiu

ROMANIA

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Highlights of Transylvania (6 nights)		
Date of departure	3 May 2022	1149
	7 June 2022	1179
	5 July 2022	1229
	6 September 2022	1199
	20 September 2022	1179
	Single supplement	200

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

**Bucharest** Concorde Old Bucharest Hotel

**Brasov** Residence Hirscher

**Sibiu** Ramada by Wyndham

Accommodation is bed and breakfast.

### Optional Excursion

Carpathian Mountain Bear Sanctuary **£45**

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

## HOTELS IN THE BALTICS

### COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT, VILNIUS



A striking modern building, positioned steps away from the old town and ideally located for exploring the city, the hotel has a good restaurant showcasing both local and international dishes and a bar. En-suite rooms are contemporary, spacious and stylish.

### AC BY MARRIOTT, RIGA



A hotel with modern, urban stylings, located in the heart of the Art Nouveau district and within easy access of the beautiful gardens of Riga and the stunning old town. The hotel has a good restaurant and a fitness centre. The rooms are sizeable and well-appointed with en-suite bathrooms.

### KALEV SPA HOTEL, TALLINN



The Kalev Spa is enviably located on the edge of the charming old town, just footsteps from many of the main sites. The restaurant serves dishes made from seasonal local produce. The hotel features a large swimming pool, spa and sauna. Rooms are modern with en-suite bathrooms.



Witness the scenic beauty of Trakai Castle, Lithuania

# BEST OF THE BALTICS

VILNIUS RIGA TALLINN

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS FROM £1199



Enjoy a drink in the medieval Town Hall Square of Tallinn, capital of Estonia

The Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia each showcase unique characteristics intricately influenced by the many surrounding nations who have vied for dominance over these diminutive countries over the preceding centuries, creating fascinating countries in their own right, and fantastic destinations to combine in one trip.

This tour takes you through the three UNESCO Old Towns of Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn with a combination of attractive architectural styles and designs. Discover the rich history of each city by exploring the myriad of churches, cathedrals and castles housed within their fortified walls.

Experience the natural beauty of this region by visiting tranquil coastal towns on the Baltic Sea, the Gauja National Park and ornate castles and palaces surrounded by beautiful lakes, forests and flamboyant gardens. Discover the distinct cultures of each country rooted in their traditions, languages and cuisines.

Over the course of your week-long adventure you not only explore three capital cities but also visit many stunning and interesting sites along the journey, which are difficult to see unless you tour the entire region.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Wed) Vilnius** Fly from the UK to Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania. Transfer to your hotel (2 nights).

**Day 2 (Thu) Vilnius** Enjoy a morning walking tour of the UNESCO-listed Old Town. One of Europe's best-preserved historical centres, you explore the cobbled streets visiting ornate churches and impressive architecture including Cathedral Square, the picturesque Pilies Street, the ornate Russian Orthodox Church and the pilgrimage site of the Gate of Dawn. In the afternoon, visit the 14th century castle of Trakai, located 30km outside of Vilnius on a narrow peninsula that juts out between three lakes.

**Day 3 (Fri) Vilnius - Riga** Depart Vilnius and drive through rural Lithuania towards the second country of the tour, Latvia. Visit the sacred Hill of Crosses en-route, comprised of thousands of crucifixes concentrated in an isolated countryside location. After lunch, included at a local restaurant, continue towards the border, crossing into Latvia in the afternoon and visiting the baroque Rundale Palace. Explore the opulently decorated rooms of the palace and immaculate French-style gardens. Arrive into Riga in the early evening (2 nights).

**Day 4 (Sat) Riga** Discover the largest city of the Baltics on a half-day walking tour. The city has a rich legacy of design and architecture and the tour will take you through the iconic Art Nouveau district, to St Peter's Church and the city's Dome Cathedral. Housed within the dominating structure of four old German Zeppelin hangars is the UNESCO-listed Central

Market, where it is possible to sample some fantastic traditional food. Enjoy a free afternoon to further explore the city or, perhaps, take a pleasant train journey to the coastal town of Jurmala, a popular Latvian summer resort.

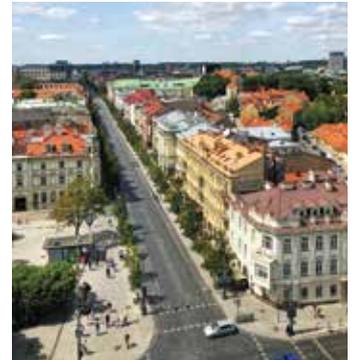
**Day 5 (Sun) Riga - Tallinn** Journey north-east of Riga to the Gauja National Park. Walk through the verdant landscape of green hills and dense forests to discover the 12th century castles of Turaida and Sigulda, where you have lunch. Enter Estonia in the afternoon and enjoy a stop at Parnu to enjoy a peaceful stroll along the sandy shore of the Baltic Sea. Evening arrival at your hotel in Tallinn (2 nights).

**Day 6 (Mon) Tallinn** A morning walking tour of Tallinn's Old Town, divided into an upper and lower area. Visit the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and nearby Toomkirk, the city's oldest church dating back to the early 13th century. Witness the bustling Tallinn Town Hall Square. The afternoon is free to explore the Old Town further, perhaps scale the 65m high tower of the Town Hall, or venture to other nearby districts such as Kalamaja, the old factory district which has now been transformed into a trendy area full of bars, restaurants, markets and boutique shops.

**Day 7 (Tue)** Depending on the time of your return flight, enjoy a morning at your own leisure, exploring the Old Town of Tallinn for a final time or people watching at one of the many cafés in the medieval Town Hall Square. Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.



Turaida Castle is located in the verdant forests of Gauja National Park in Latvia



Vilnius, Lithuania



Peaceful Parnu on the Baltic Coast, Estonia

## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BALTICS

The Baltic States have a varied and chequered past, with power over the three countries constantly changing hands over the centuries. This has served to create a unique history which can only be fully understood when exploring each destination.

During the 14th-16th centuries, Lithuania had a powerful empire that dominated much of Eastern Europe before becoming part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth which lasted until the end of the 18th century. In contrast, Latvia and Estonia both have historical ties to Germany and Sweden, with the former's capital of Riga first founded by Germans at the turn of the 13th century. By the 19th century all three countries were controlled by the Russian Empire.

Lithuania and Latvia first gained independence in 1918 when they broke away from the German Empire after the First World War, with Estonia following suit in 1920. Unfortunately, this period of relative stability in the Baltic States was interrupted with the onset of the Second World War, when Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union repeatedly contested for dominance over the states, with Germany taking power in 1941 before the Soviets captured the area in 1944. Soviet rule

remained in place for nearly half a century until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Each of the states rebelled against Soviet rule in different way. In Lithuania, the Hill of Crosses was erected as a symbol of protest against the atheist views of the Soviet Union and remains a strong reminder of the harsh conditions that were endured. The site has become a place of pilgrimage not only for Lithuanians but for practicing Christians all over Europe.

In Estonia, the weapon of choice was music and the power of song, with the five-year Singing Revolution resulting in the country's independence. This spirit of song has become a lasting tradition in the country and each year the Song Festival Grounds welcome more than 30,000 singers and an audience of 80,000 people.

In 1989, as a show of peaceful public demonstration against occupation, 2 million citizens of the Baltic States formed a continuous human chain covering 600km from Vilnius to Riga to Tallinn which become known as the Baltic Way. Following this act of defiance Lithuania became the first state to be granted independence.



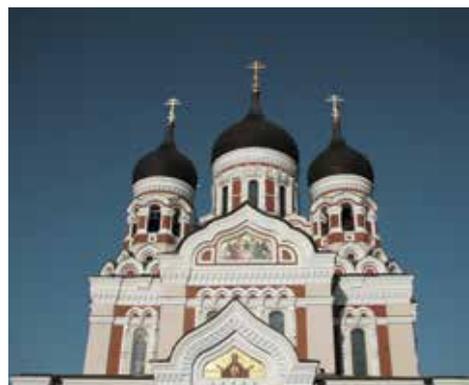
The Hill of Crosses, Lithuania



Witness the ornate rooms and gardens of Rundale Palace, Latvia



House of the Black Heads, Riga, Latvia



Admire the architecture of Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Tallinn



Old Town, Tallinn

THE BALTICS

### PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

**SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW**

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Best of the Baltics (6 nights)		
Date of departure	18 May 2022	<b>1199</b>
	15 June 2022	<b>1219</b>
	13 July 2022	<b>1249</b>
	7 September 2022	<b>1219</b>
	28 September 2022	<b>1219</b>
	Single supplement*	250
	*Single suppl. on 15 Jun & 13 Jul is £275	

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

**Vilnius** Courtyard by Marriott

**Riga** AC by Marriott

**Tallinn** Kalev SPA Hotel

Accommodation is bed and breakfast

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

# JEWELS OF JORDAN

PETRA AMMAN WADI RUM DEAD SEA

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS FROM £1949

## HOTELS IN JORDAN

Jordan is a dry country, so some hotels do not serve alcohol. Dinner is included in all hotels.

### AMMAN INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, AMMAN



A comfortable hotel with locally crafted furnishings offering an authentic stay. There is an outdoor pool, three restaurants serving a range of local and international dishes and a bar. Rooms are spacious with good views of the city and have en-suite bathrooms with air conditioning. Breakfast and dinner are included.

### PETRA MOON HOTEL, PETRA



A family run hotel, located steps away from the entrance to the ancient city of Petra. The hotel boasts a rooftop terrace with a restaurant and swimming pool with great views across the town of Wadi Musa. Rooms are en-suite with air conditioning. Breakfast and dinner are included.

### MAZAYEN DESERT CAMP, WADI RUM

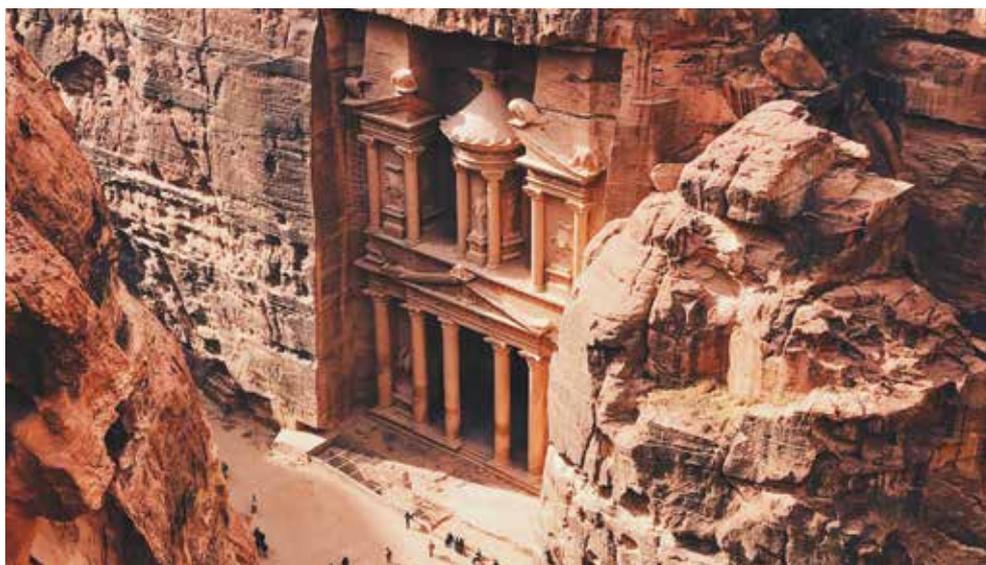


Mazayen is a fixed campsite in the midst of the desert of Wadi Rum offering a simple yet authentic experience. The restaurant serves traditional Jordanian food in an unforgettable setting. The air-conditioned private cabins are decorated with typical Arabesque detailings and have en-suite bathrooms. Breakfast and dinner are included.

### HOLIDAY INN RESORT, DEAD SEA



Located on the shores of the Dead Sea with direct access to a private beach, this is an ideal place to relax at the end of your tour. The hotel offers an outdoor pool, a spa and a sauna. There is a bar and five restaurants including rooftop and poolside dining. Rooms are decorated in a contemporary style and have a private balcony or terrace. All are equipped with air conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. Breakfast and dinner are included.



Explore the ancient Nabataean ruins of Petra, founded in the 4th century BC

Although desert covers almost 85% of Jordan, the country offers a wealth of different experiences, and this holiday allows you to enjoy the best of the country's desert landscape, rich history, cultural heritage and unique natural beauty in a week.

Admire the ancient Roman ruins of Jerash, said to be the best-preserved outside of Italy. Feel like a real-life Indiana Jones whilst discovering the majestic ruins of Petra. Experience the vastness of the desert and the mesmerizing sunrise and sunset over Wadi Rum. Venture to the lowest point on earth at the Dead Sea and

experience a sense of weightlessness floating in the ultra-saline waters. Gaze down upon the city of Jericho in the distance from the biblical Mount Nebo, said to be the spot where Moses was granted a view of the Promised Land.

On this journey you will learn about the fascinating history of Jordan from biblical times, to the Nabataean Kingdom, to the influence of the Roman Empire and the Crusader Knights. You will be immersed in the breathtaking landscape of Wadi Rum, the Dana Biosphere and the Dead Sea.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Mon) Amman** Fly to Amman, arriving late at night. You are met and transferred to your hotel in the north of the city (2 nights).

**Day 2 (Tue) Amman** A morning tour of the capital city, visiting the iconic Umayyad-era Citadel that sits atop Jebel al-Qala, the highest hill in Amman. Enjoy the panoramic views of the city from this vantage point, then descend to the downtown area of Amman with the ancient Roman amphitheatre before travelling to the Roman ruins of Jerash, said to be the best preserved outside of Italy. After lunch (included), you explore key sites such as the pillar-lined causeway of 'Cardo', the Oval Plaza and the impressive Arch of Hadrian. Return to your hotel in the early evening.

**Day 3 (Wed) Amman - Petra** Journey along the 5,000-year-old King's Highway, stopping at the historic town of Madaba and the revered site of Mount Nebo, where you walk to the summit for amazing views, lunch included. Continue to the crusader castle of Kerak, one of the largest and most impressive in the Levant, before you arrive at your hotel in Wadi Musa in the early evening, located at the entrance to Petra. Take the optional Petra by Night excursion (2 nights).

**Day 4 (Thu) Petra** After an early breakfast, enter Petra and walk through the fabled Siq canyon to the famous façade of the Treasury. Enjoy a guided tour of this fascinating site that has been crowned one of the 'New Wonders of the World'. Your guide will escort you through the through the giant Royal Tombs that gaze across the hidden valley, the Roman amphitheatre and the Great Temple. You then have the afternoon free to

further explore the site. Perhaps walk to the The High Place of Sacrifice or the legendary Monastery.

**Day 5 (Fri) Petra - Wadi Rum** Embark on the journey to Wadi Rum in the heart of the Jordanian desert. After a two-hour drive, arrive at your desert camp, with time for lunch, then board a pickup truck for an exciting drive through the lunar-like landscape of the desert made famous by the tales of Lawrence of Arabia. Before you return to your camp, your driver will stop at a vantage point overlooking the desert. Here, you can witness the changing colours of the desert as the sun dips below the horizon. You arrive back at the camp in the early evening where you enjoy a typical Bedouin meal with entertainment and great stargazing opportunities (1 night).

**Day 6 (Sat) Wadi Rum - Dead Sea** Perhaps rise early to view the sunrise over Wadi Rum, then depart the desert camp and take a two-and-a-half hour drive to the Dana biosphere, where you take a gentle 2km walk with opportunities of spotting unique flora and fauna. Have lunch (included) in the historic stone village of Dana with views out over the canyon before continuing to the Dead Sea, arriving in the evening (2 nights).

**Day 7 (Sun) Dead Sea** Enjoy a relaxed day at the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth. Take a dip in the super-salty water and feel the sense of weightlessness as you bob on the surface of the sea. Perhaps relax at your hotel or take a spa treatment.

**Day 8 (Mon)** An early morning transfer from your hotel to Amman airport for your return flight to the UK.



Explore the otherworldly landscape of Wadi Rum



Take a dip in the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth

## OPTIONAL EXCURSION

### PETRA BY NIGHT

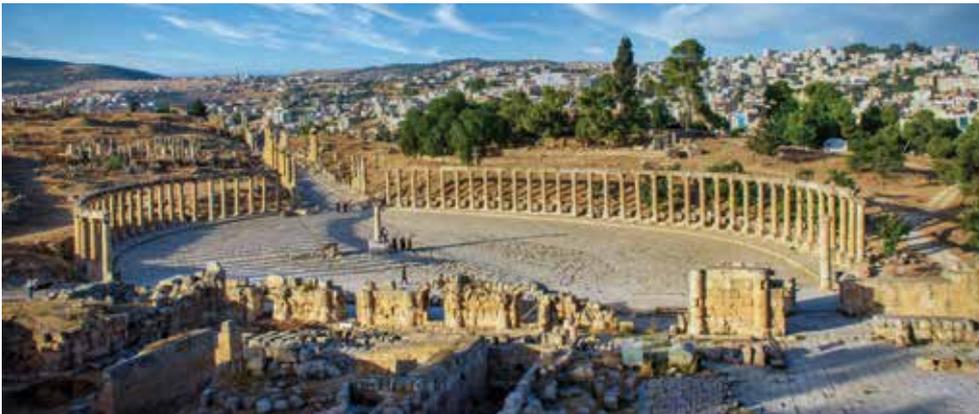
This evening excursion is a great first introduction to the ancient Nabataean city of Petra. Walk through the meandering Siq slot canyon to the Treasury, romantically illuminated by candlelight, where you enjoy some traditional Bedouin entertainment over a glass of mint tea. Be enraptured by the atmosphere of this iconic site after dusk and let your mind wander back in time. With incredible photo opportunities, this is the perfect way to first witness the sheer beauty of Petra. Entrance to Petra by Night opens at 20:30 and lasts for two hours, finishing at 22:30.



Experience the ancient city of Petra after dark



Pillars of the Roman Temple of Hercules, Amman



Explore the ancient Roman city of Jerash

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF PETRA

Standing at the crossroads between Arabia, Egypt and Syria-Phoenicia, the ancient Nabataean city of Petra, inhabited as early as the 4th Century BC, became a major caravan-centre for the trading in items such as Arabian incense, silk from China and spices from India.

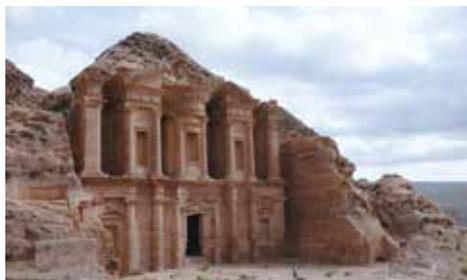
The city itself has been half-carved and half-built into the rock of the desert and is surrounded by mountains with natural passages and gorges. The Nabataeans were ingenious architects and engineered a water management systems of canals and irrigation tunnels that were cut into the rose-red rock that turned a naturally arid region

into a prosperous and flourishing city. At the height of Petra's power, in the 1st century AD, these technologies allowed a population of 20,000 people to reside in the desert with a continuous flurry of visitors following the trade routes.

With the introduction of sea trade routes, Petra's importance began to decline, and by 106 AD the Romans had invaded and forced a surrender, ruling over the city until the 4th century AD when an earthquake struck. The Byzantines then took power, however, by the start of the 8th century AD, Petra was largely abandoned.



Take in the views out to Jericho from Mount Nebo



Admire the intricate architecture of Petra, seen here at the Monastery

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Jewels of Jordan (7 nights)	
26 September 2022	1969
17 October 2022	1969
7 November 2022	1969
28 November 2022	1969
20 February 2023	1949
20 March 2023	1999
3 April 2023	2029
17 April 2023	2029
1 May 2023	1999
15 May 2023	1999
25 September 2023	1999
9 October 2023	2049
23 October 2023	2049
6 November 2023	2029
20 November 2023	2029
Single supplement 2022	400
Single supplement 2023	420

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

<b>Amman</b>	Amman International
<b>Petra</b>	Petra Moon Hotel
<b>Wadi Rum</b>	Mazayen Wadi Rum
<b>Dead Sea</b>	Holiday Inn Resort

Accommodation includes breakfast and dinner.

### Optional Excursion

Petra by Night **£30**

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

# GRAND TOUR OF MOROCCO

MARRAKECH CASABLANCA RABAT FES

ERFOUD ERG CHEBBI OUARZAZATE SAHARA DESERT

11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS FROM £1699



## HOTELS IN MOROCCO

### KENZI MENARA PALACE, MARRAKECH



Located a short drive from Djemaa El-Fna, this comfortable hotel boasts tranquil gardens, a pool, good restaurants and a bar. En-suite rooms are spacious, decorated in traditional design and have air conditioning.

### ODYSEE CENTER HOTEL, CASABLANCA



A modern hotel with contemporary design located a short distance from Mohammed V Square. The hotel has two restaurants and a bar. Rooms are simply furnished with en-suite bathrooms and air conditioning.

### HOTEL MERCURE SHERAZADE, RABAT



Situated in a quiet area in the heart of the capital, this hotel offers an outdoor pool and spa. The restaurant serves international dishes and the bar has a good drinks menu. En-suite rooms are air conditioned.

### HOTEL BARCELO MEDINA, FES



A modern hotel close to the old medina, with a pool, a good restaurant and a lively bar. The spacious rooms are en-suite with air conditioning.

See page 19 for hotels in Erfoud, Erg Chebbi and Ouarzazate.



Watch Djemaa el Fna square come to life at dusk, Marrakech

Less than four hours flight from the UK, Morocco is at the crossroads of Europe and Africa, and is a country rich in contrasts, being a melting pot of Berber, Arab, African and European cultures that have all left their mark over the centuries.

Discover the historical imperial cities of Marrakech, Rabat, Meknes and Fes, with bustling old town medinas replete with stallholders offering goods of every nature. Marvel at the intricate decorations of monumental sites of the Bahia Palace, the Hassan II Mosque, and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. Take in

the vibrant colours and odours of the ancient tanneries of Fes and watch as workmen undertake their tasks unchanged for centuries. Then, travel through the mighty Atlas Mountains driving through towering gorges, dense pine forests and arid plateaus. Spend a night surrounded by the vastness of the Sahara Desert and explore the dunes on an exciting 4x4 excursion and discover ancient desert cities.

This tour will take you on a journey of all your senses, allowing you to experience the full contrasts of the country.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 (Tue) Marrakech** Fly from the UK to Marrakech where you are escorted to your hotel. Enjoy a free afternoon (2 nights).

**Day 2 (Wed) Marrakech** A morning tour of Marrakech visiting the famous Koutoubia Mosque, the Saadian Tombs, the Bahia Palace and the medina. Afternoon free to explore independently.

**Day 3 (Thu) Marrakech - Casablanca** After breakfast, take a three-hour journey to the coastal city of Casablanca, where you have a guided tour including visits to the impressive Hassan II Mosque, the vast Mohammed V Square, the open-air market area of Habous and the residential area of Anfa, the oldest part of Casablanca. Lunch is included (1 night).

**Day 4 (Fri) Casablanca - Rabat** Take the scenic coastal road from Casablanca to Rabat, Morocco's capital. On arrival, your guide will take you on a fascinating tour showcasing the city's Islamic and French-colonial past. Visit the Kasbah of Udayas with formal gardens, the iconic 12th century minaret of Hassan Tower, the Royal Palace and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. Afternoon free (1 night).

**Day 5 (Sat) Rabat - Fes** Depart the capital and drive to the laid-back city of Meknes, famous for its Jewish Quarter, Royal Stables, Lahdim Square and Bab el-Mansour Gate. After lunch, continue to the ancient Roman city of Volubilis, one of the most remote bases of the empire. Admire the fine mosaics and well-preserved ruins, then continue to Fes, arriving in the early evening. Lunch included (2 nights).

**Day 6 (Sun) Fes** This morning, take a tour of the Medina, navigating the maze-like alleys of the old town. You have time to visit the iconic Chouara Tannery and the beautiful 18th century inn of Fondouk Nejjarine. The afternoon is free to explore the city on your own or relax at your hotel.

**Day 7 (Mon) Fes - Erfoud** After an early breakfast, start your full-day journey to the edge of the desert. Stop at the unexpected alpine town of Ifrane with chalets more commonly associated with Switzerland. Continue through the forests of the middle Atlas, where Barbary macaques live, before visiting the village of Azrou, an important handicraft centre. After lunch in Midelt, journey through the palms of the Ziz valley before arriving at your hotel in Erfoud, on the edge of the desert, in the early evening. Dinner and lunch included (1 night).

**Day 8 (Tue) Erg Chebbi** After a relaxed morning, take a 4x4 vehicle into the desert to the colossal dunes of Erg Chebbi, visiting Lake Merzouga, often with flamingos feeding in the shallows, and Rissani, the cradle of the Alaouite dynasty, en route. Witness the mesmerizing sunset of the desert, then head to your camp for an evening under the stars with Berber entertainment. Dinner included (1 night).

**Day 9 (Wed) Erg Chebbi - Ouarzazate** Rise early to witness the desert sunrise then drive to the town of Ouarzazate via the impressive Todra Gorge and the road of a thousand kasbahs, passing through the oasis village of Skoura. Lunch and dinner are included (1 night).

**Day 10 (Thu) Ouarzazate - Marrakech** Explore the grandeur of the centuries old Kasbah Telouet with exquisitely-tiled walls and fine carved ceilings, before discovering the ancient UNESCO adobe city of Ait Ben Haddou featured in Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*. Return to Marrakech in the evening. Lunch included (1 night).

**Day 11 (Fri)** Enjoy a final morning in Marrakech before your flight to the UK.

Extend your holiday with a trip to the Atlas Mountains or the Moroccan Coast. See page 20.



Discover the vastness of the Sahara Desert at Erg Chebbi

## MOROCCO'S IMPERIAL CITIES

Marrakech, Rabat, Fes and Meknes are the four most historical and important cities of Morocco. Collectively known as the imperial cities, each has at one point served as the capital of the country and, as such, has played a pivotal role in its history and development. With incredible sites of importance, unique characteristics and charms it is well worthwhile exploring each city.

Perhaps the most well known of the four, Marrakech, also affectionately called the 'Red City', is a feast for the senses. The 70 metre minaret of the Koutoubia Mosque dominates the skyline and stands proud over the main square of Djemaa el Fna, which comes to life as the sun sets and a temporary city of foodstalls is erected nightly. The bustling souk of the medina evokes the true essence of Morocco.

The current capital, Rabat, sits on the Atlantic coast and has maintained a rich cultural identity. The most impressive site is the city's 12th century Hassan Tower and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. The 200 columns dotted around the Hassan Tower are the

remains of the unfinished mosque. The king resides here and, overall, the city has the feel of a small seaside town with wide boulevards influenced by the colonial-French rule of the early 20th century.

The oldest of Morocco's imperial cities, Fes is the spiritual heart of the country. The city houses the world's oldest university, the Al Quaraouiyine Mosque, and the world's oldest medieval medina, dating back to the 9th century, which also holds the title of the world's largest pedestrianised urban centre. Exploring the winding lanes of the medina feels like stepping back in time.

The least known of the imperial cities, Meknes symbolizes the power of Sultan Moulay Ismail who made the city the capital of Morocco in the 17th century. It retains an authentic charm with a more relaxed medina full of vibrant markets. The city showcases the power of the Sultan in such sites as the elaborately decorated Bab el-Mansour gate and the massive imperial palace complex endowed with extensive fortifications.



Men working at the Chouara Tannery, Fes



The intricate gates of Bab el-Mansour, Meknes



Discover the frenetic medina and markets of Marrakech



Explore the adobe town of Ait Ben Haddou

## HOTELS IN MOROCCO

### KASBAH HOTEL XALUCA, ERFOUD



A characterful hotel at the door to the desert, with several restaurants, a bar and a pool. En-suite rooms are traditionally decorated with air conditioning. Breakfast and dinner are included.

### AZAWAD DESERT CAMP, ERG CHEBBI



This desert camp, surrounded by golden sand, offers private nomadic-style tents, with en-suite facilities with hot water. Enjoy traditional Berber entertainment under the stars. Breakfast and dinner are included.

### HOTEL DAR CHAMAA, OUARZAZATE



Styled like a traditional kasbah, with a pool, manicured gardens and a tranquil courtyard. Rooms are comfortable with an en-suite bathroom and air conditioning.

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

### SAVE UP TO £150 ON THE PRICES BELOW

See our website for savings on the date you are interested in

Grand Tour of Morocco (10 nights)	
Date of dep.	
27 September 2022	<b>1699</b>
25 October 2022	<b>1699</b>
15 November 2022	<b>1699</b>
Single supplement	400

Call us for 2023 dates and prices.

Prices from London; regional departures see p21

**Standard hotels** included in prices above

<b>Marrakech</b>	Kenzi Menara Palace
<b>Casablanca</b>	Odyssee Center Hotel
<b>Rabat</b>	Hotel Mercure Sherazade
<b>Fes</b>	Hotel Barcelo Medina
<b>Erfoud</b>	Kasbah Hotel Xaluca
<b>Erg Chebbi</b>	Azawad Desert Camp
<b>Ouarzazate</b>	Hotel Dar Chamaa

Accommodation is bed and breakfast, except in Erfoud, Erg Chebbi & Ouarzazate, where dinner is included. Hotels vary on some dates. See our website or call us for more details.

**Important** please read pages 22-23 before booking

# ATLAS MOUNTAINS

2 NIGHTS FROM £349



## HOTEL IN IMLIL

### RIAD JNANE, IMLIL



An authentic, family-run guesthouse in the heart of Imlil, with a terrace with stunning views overlooking the Atlas Mountains and surrounding valley. The restaurant serves traditional Moroccan fare. The en-suite rooms are spacious, decorated in traditional design and have air conditioning.

## HOTEL IN ESSAOUIRA

### HOTEL MGALLERY, ESSAOUIRA



Located on the edge of Essaouira's vast beach, this hotel is a short walk to the medina. The hotel has a private beach, outdoor pool, spa, three restaurants and a bar. Rooms are modern with air conditioning and en-suite bathrooms.



Hike through the dramatic scenery of the Atlas Mountains, dotted with isolated Berber villages

Running like a spine along the centre of Morocco, the Atlas Mountains are ever-present. With unique landscapes and traditional villages dotted along the range, a visit to this area offers a great contrast to the bustling cities, arid deserts and ancient kasbah's visited on our Grand Tour of Morocco.

After the Grand Tour of Morocco your tour will continue as follows:

**Day 11 (Fri) Marrakech - Imlil** Take a 90-minute transfer along scenic roads to the mountain village of Imlil, where you have free time for lunch. Then meet your guide for a three-hour hike, enjoying panoramic views over the Atlas Mountains dotted with Berber villages. Walk up to Tiz N' Tamartert Pass with an altitude of 2,300m. Then continue to

the summit where your guide will explain all about Berber life in this region. Descend along the same path, returning to your hotel (1 night).

**Day 12 (Sat) Imlil - Marrakech** A morning tour of Berber villages, passing through the hamlets of Ait Souka, Targa and Imoula. Enjoy the views over the ancient terraced fields where barley and corn are grown, then have a typical Berber meal with a local family in Achan. After lunch, return to Marrakech (1 night).

**Day 13 (Sun)** Depending on the time of your return flight, enjoy a final morning in Marrakech. Transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK.

You can also combine with the Moroccan Coast Extension. See our website or call us for details.

# MOROCCAN COAST

2 NIGHTS FROM £279



Blue boats of Essaouira port



End your time in Morocco at the laidback coastal town of Essaouira

Morocco has a long coastline stretching from the Mediterranean along the Atlantic. Essaouira, Morocco's most relaxed city, offers a tranquil end to your tour in the country. Discover the fortified coastal city, stroll along the vast beach and sample some of the best and freshest seafood available, or relax in your hotel.

After the Grand Tour of Morocco your tour will continue as follows:

**Day 11 (Fri) Marrakech - Essaouira** Take a three-hour transfer to your beachfront hotel in the coastal city of Essaouira. Free afternoon to relax around the pool or explore the laidback walled medina. Peruse the boutiques of the town with beautiful

handicrafts on offer, or walk to the port, where the iconic blue wooden boats are moored. Watch as the fisherman haul their daily catch on to the promenade (2 nights).

**Day 12 (Sat) Essaouira** Spend time strolling along the vast, sweeping beach of Essaouira. Perhaps take a horse-ride along the shore or try your hand at surfing. The facilities at your hotel are perfect to while away an afternoon in the sun, lounging by the pool.

**Day 13 (Sun)** Take a three-hour transfer to Marrakech airport for your flight to the UK.

You can also combine with the Atlas Mountains extension. See our website or call us for details.

## PRICES IN £ PER PERSON

<b>Atlas Mountains</b> (2 nights)
<b>£349</b> (£429 single)
<b>Moroccan Coast</b> (2 nights)
<b>£279</b> (£369 single)
<b>Atlas Mountains + Moroccan Coast</b> (3 nights)
<b>£549</b> (£669 single)
Call us for 2023 dates and prices.
An extra charge may be payable for rearranging flights back to the UK
<b>Standard hotels</b> included in prices above
<b>Imlil</b> Riad Jnane
<b>Essaouira</b> Hotel MGallery
Accommodation is bed and breakfast.
A minimum of 2 passengers is required to operate these extensions.

# YOUR FLIGHT

All Llama Travel holidays include flights from the UK. Our holidays are usually scheduled to use British Airways or airBaltic, however, this may be different on certain dates and we will let you know flight details at the time of booking.

If you prefer to use a different airline, we will let you know if there is a supplement payable. Levels of onboard service and facilities vary by airline and route. Please ask us for details. Flights are sometimes operated by another airline in the appropriate airline alliance.

Business Class seating on short haul flights will usually be similar to standard economy seats, however, the middle seat out of three will usually be left free. Please ask us for details of the upgrade cost.



## REGIONAL DEPARTURES

Most airlines offer the option of connecting from regional airports in the UK, avoiding the need to make your own way to London. Due to the timing of flights, in some cases this may involve an overnight stop in London or another intermediate airport. There is usually a supplement for regional departures.

# RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

Many people are looking to offset their carbon emissions in some way. You can buy 'carbon offsets' from many organisations. The going rate for a short haul holiday is currently about £10, depending on the flight. Whilst this is a valid option, we are less comfortable with this approach. Many of these organisations are commercial enterprises. In addition, a lot of the activity they undertake is planting trees, the environmental benefits of which are much disputed. Llama Travel supports the work of Practical Action, a UK-based development charity, in the development of renewable energy sources in rural communities in Africa and Latin America. This allows the communities to develop without having to burn resources or use other polluting forms of energy generation and developing a 'carbon habit'. If you would like to contribute your £10 carbon offset amount to this Practical Action activity, please let us know. We will match your £10, so that Practical Action will receive double your contribution to developing renewable energy projects.

## FLIGHTS TO ICELAND (REYKJAVIK)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Reykjavik</b> <i>direct from Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 0745 0950 Return 1040 1440	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO SICILY (CATANIA)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Catania</b> <i>direct from Heathrow or Gatwick</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 0905 1315 Return 1410 1630	<i>Connect to Heathrow, Gatwick</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO SLOVENIA (LJUBLJANA)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Ljubljana</b> <i>direct from Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 1625 1935 Return 2050 2205	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO ALBANIA (TIRANA)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Tirana</b> <i>direct from Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 1530 1935 Return 1315 1520	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO ROMANIA (BUCHAREST)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Bucharest</b> <i>direct from Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 1155 1720 Return 1450 1620	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO THE BALTICS (VILNIUS & TALLINN)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>airBaltic to Vilnius</b> <i>direct from Gatwick</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 1745 2235	<i>Ask us for details</i>
<b>airBaltic from Tallinn</b> <i>direct to Gatwick</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Return 1555 1700	<i>Ask us for details</i>

## FLIGHTS TO JORDAN (AMMAN)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Amman</b> <i>direct from Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 1720 0035 Return 0830 1205	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

## FLIGHTS TO MOROCCO (MARRAKECH)

Airline	Flight times	Regional departures
<b>British Airways to Marrakech</b> <i>direct outbound from Gatwick</i> <i>direct inbound to Heathrow</i>	<i>Depart Arrive</i> Out 0640 1020 Return 1730 2015	<i>Connect to Heathrow</i> From Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Manchester or Newcastle

# BOOKING CONDITIONS

## 1. Your contract

Your contract is with Llama Travel Limited, registered in England and Wales, number 4370517. The following conditions will apply to your booking and form part of your contract. They cannot be varied and should be read carefully. A contract will exist when we accept your booking and issue our confirmation invoice. The contract and all matters arising from it shall be governed by English law and be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts. All correspondence will be sent to the lead passenger of the booking unless otherwise advised. You must be over 18 to book a Llama Travel holiday. Llama Travel holidays are not for resale. The lead passenger accepts these booking conditions on behalf of all persons named in the booking.

## 2. Deposits and final payments

A deposit of 10% of the holiday cost is required. On some occasions a higher deposit is required, we will advise you if this is necessary. When this is received, we will issue a confirmation invoice. The balance of the payment must be paid 90 days before departure. If the booking is made less than 90 days before departure, full payment must be made when booking. On some occasions, earlier balance payment may be required to secure flight seats or other services. In order to secure your holiday arrangements in some cases, we may ask for a payment in advance before we can reserve the appropriate services. This payment is not refundable if you subsequently decide not to proceed with the booking.

## 3. Our prices

Brochure prices are based on the latest known information at the time of preparation – 8 Feb 2022 (£1 = US\$1.36, £1 = ZAR21, £1 = Euro1.19, Brent Crude oil \$93 per barrel) but can go up or down. Before making a booking, please call us to check the correct up to date price of your chosen holiday.

Once you have made a booking and we have issued our confirmation invoice, your holiday price can only be varied due to a significant increase in charges, fees, taxes, or similar items as a result of governmental action. Air passenger duty (APD) for UK departures is £84 (£13 for flights under 2000 miles). For business class, APD rates are higher. The VAT rate for holidays outside the EU is zero.

Except for increases in entrance fees or tax increases, such as in APD or VAT, we will not surcharge you.

## 4. Alterations or cancellations by you

If you wish to alter your holiday arrangements before departure, we will do our best to help. An administration fee of £25 per passenger will be charged, together with any additional costs incurred as a result of the change. If you make any alterations within 60 days of departure, we may treat this as a cancellation, and apply cancellation fees. Scheduled airlines treat name changes as a cancellation and rebooking; any alteration is likely to incur a 100% cancellation charge. Please make sure that all names you give us are spelled exactly as they appear in passports.

It is not normally possible to make alterations after commencement of travel. If you do wish to make alterations during your holiday, cancellation fees for services booked may apply. Refunds cannot be made for any unused accommodation, services or transport. We recommend that you take out full travel insurance with cover against cancellation penalties, including in the event of force majeure; see section 6 below.

We commit to and confirm services in advance. If you wish to cancel your holiday, you must let us know in writing. The following cancellation charges apply:

Days before departure when you notify us	Penalty
90 days or more	Loss of deposit
61 to 89 days	25% of holiday cost, or deposit if higher
31 to 60 days	60% of holiday cost (75% for Galapagos or safari holidays), or deposit if higher
30 days or less	100% of holiday cost

In some cases, the balance payment may be due earlier than 90 days before departure. We will advise you if this is the case. If any part of the balance payment is required earlier than 90 days before departure, this will normally be non-refundable in the event of cancellation.

Where one person in a party cancels and others still wish to travel, single room supplements will be payable if this results in single rooms being used.

## 5. Alterations or cancellations by us

We make careful arrangements with airlines, hotels and service operators to ensure that we are able to provide you with the holiday as described. However, in exceptional cases, it may be necessary to make changes to your holiday arrangements (including airlines, flights, accommodation, transport or services) due to circumstances beyond our control. Flight times are given only as indications, and finalised times will be shown on your tickets.

When changes are necessary, we will do our best to ensure that they do not affect your holiday. If, before you depart, a major change is necessary (defined as a change of itinerary so that you are no longer able to visit a destination where you are scheduled to spend one or more nights or an appropriate alternative destination, or a change of accommodation to a lower standard or category affecting a significant part of your holiday) or if we have to cancel your holiday, we will contact you and offer you the choice of:

1. Accepting the changes to your holiday;
2. Purchasing another available Llama Travel holiday;
3. Cancelling your holiday with a full refund.

If we have to cancel your holiday less than 60 days before departure, other than in the event of force majeure (see section 6 below), you will be entitled to compensation at the following levels:

When notified	Compensation per person
43 – 60 days before departure	£50
29 – 42 days before departure	£100
15 – 28 days before departure	£150
0 – 14 days before departure	£200

## 6. Alterations or cancellations by you or us in the event of force majeure

If, prior to departure, we have to make major changes to, or cancel, your holiday in the event of force majeure, we will contact you and offer you the above choices. However, compensation will not be paid.

If, in the event of force majeure, it is not possible for your holiday to proceed, we will endeavour to recover from suppliers, and refund to you, monies paid for your holiday, but where we are unable to do so, you may be able to claim for irrecoverable costs from your travel insurance. We do not accept liability where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented by force majeure.

Force majeure events include war, threat of war, civil unrest or strife, decisions by governments or governing authorities, epidemic, natural disasters, fire, bad weather, terrorist activity, nuclear disaster, industrial disputes, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of timetables of airlines, or other causes beyond our control.

## 7. Minimum group size

Most holidays can operate with a minimum of 2 passengers, but some holidays have a higher minimum group size. If we have fewer than the minimum number of passengers, we will let you know two months before departure. In this case, we will refund you any monies paid or offer you an alternative option. No compensation will be paid.

## 8. Our responsibilities to you

Llama Travel is dedicated to ensuring that your holiday is as described. If a part of your holiday is not provided as promised, please inform us at the time. If this affects the reasonable enjoyment of your holiday, we will pay compensation appropriate to the circumstances. If you do not inform us at the time, Llama Travel accepts no responsibility for the situation as we will not have been given the opportunity to rectify the problem.

Llama Travel accepts responsibility for illness, personal injury or death caused as a direct result of the negligence of our employees or suppliers while acting in the course of their employment to provide services or arrangements for your holiday that you have booked with us in the UK. We do not accept responsibility for illness, personal injury or death where there has been no fault of our employees, agents, suppliers or sub-contractors, or as a result of taking part in any activity which does not form part of the holiday booked through us in the UK. Where illness, personal injury or death arises in the course of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, the amount of compensation you may receive is limited in accordance with the provisions of any International Convention.

## 9. Your responsibilities

Clients are responsible for ensuring that all immigration and health requirements are fulfilled, for obtaining travel documents, including passports, visas and vaccination certificates, and for ensuring that these are all in order, including for any intermediate stops on international flights. Covid-19 requirements are updated frequently in all countries and you must ensure that you comply with these in the UK, in destinations visited and in any intermediary stops. You must comply with local regulations regarding prevention measures which may be stricter than in the UK. Non-compliance may result in you being excluded from the holiday with no refund. You must not travel if you are required to isolate by health authorities and standard cancellation terms will apply. If you are required to isolate when on holiday, you will not be entitled to a refund for unused services, including flights. You accept the risks of catching covid-19, being required to isolate or be tested and we recommend you have suitable travel insurance to cover such circumstances.

We require your passport details to issue some tickets. If these change after you have given them to us, you must inform us. If the name on your airline ticket does not match that on your passport, you must inform us as soon as you receive the ticket.

It is your responsibility to behave in a responsible, restrained and sober manner when dealing with local authorities, fellow travellers and our representatives.

By taking a Llama Travel holiday, you agree to accept the authority and decisions of our employees and representatives. If, in the opinion of such people, your behaviour or health is likely to threaten the safety, comfort or progress of a tour, then you may be excluded from the tour without refund or compensation. It is your responsibility to obey local laws, otherwise you may be excluded from the holiday and we will cease to have any responsibility for you.

Please bear in mind that travel to Llama Travel destinations is not the same as travel in the UK, and inconveniences and delays may arise due to weather conditions, strikes, demonstrations, the poor state of roads or for other reasons. By travelling with Llama Travel, you are implicitly accepting this part of the way of life in these countries.

## 10. Flights

We have no control over international or national air carriers, and therefore schedules or airlines used may change or flights be delayed due to no fault of our own. A change of flight time or airline due to schedule changes or flight cancellations is not treated as a major change. We will try to ensure the smooth flow of all your transport connections, but it is your responsibility to check exact times of flights. This is particularly important for internal flights, which can be rescheduled at short notice. Llama Travel accepts no responsibility for the consequences of flights missed due to the client's failure to confirm exact details.

When you travel with an airline, the Conditions of Carriage of that airline apply, some of which will limit or exclude liability. These conditions are the subject of International Agreements between countries.

It is your responsibility to arrive at the departure airport at the appropriate time and to check in for your international flight, and to change aeroplanes if necessary

# HOLIDAY INFORMATION

at intermediate airports. If you wish to sit in a specific seat, or wish to sit with other people on the flight, it is recommended that you check in early or check in online where possible. It is sometimes possible to reserve seats directly with the airline online prior to travel.

Airlines do not allow more than one booking per passenger on a flight and may cancel seats if they are held by more than one operator. Clients are responsible for ensuring they are not holding flights with another operator.

## 11. Baggage allowance

Most airlines have a baggage allowance of 20kg per passenger, or sometimes less. Carrying excess baggage will normally incur an expensive additional cost payable at check in. Additionally, certain excursions have a limited baggage allowance. Where this is the case, you will usually be able to leave the rest of your luggage in storage. Llama Travel accepts no responsibility for the delay, loss or damage of luggage.

## 12. Insurance

You must have adequate insurance provision to cover the cost of assistance, including emergency repatriation, in the event of illness or other problems occurring during your holiday.

## 13. Complaints

If you have any complaints about your holiday arrangements when you are abroad, please bring these to the attention of our local representatives who will do all they can to ensure a swift and satisfactory resolution. Problems can usually be sorted out by talking to the supplier concerned (e.g. hotel) and our local representatives or by informing us directly. If this is not done, Llama Travel accepts no responsibility for the situation, as we will not have been given the opportunity to rectify the problem. If you do not inform us, your consumer rights to compensation may be affected. If you have tried and failed to rectify the situation whilst abroad, please send us your complaint in writing within 28 days of returning to the UK. We will then follow up your complaint. Communication with destinations is often slow, so we may not be able to resolve the situation as quickly as you would like.

## 14. Financial protection for bookings made in UK for UK residents

The holidays in this brochure are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority, number ATOL 5804. If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.

## 15. Brochure and website information

The information in our brochures and on our website is, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of going to press. However, details of flights or hotels may vary during the lifetime of a brochure. These changes will be reflected on our website where possible.

The copyright on all material in our brochures and on our website, including text, photographs, maps and layouts is held by Llama Travel Limited. No part of these publications may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any way without the prior written permission of Llama Travel.

## 16. Data Protection

The information we ask you to provide, including personal information about you and members of your party, is necessary for us to arrange and operate your holiday. By booking a holiday with us, you agree to our processing this information, including, where appropriate, its transfer outside of the UK.

## How to Book

To book a holiday or discuss your requirements, please call us on 020 7263 3000. We can usually confirm availability immediately, but may need to check with a supplier first.

## Payment

There is no charge for bank transfers or cheques, or for deposits on UK debit cards or standard UK Visa and MasterCard credit cards. Balance payments can be made by cheque or bank transfer only. We are unable to accept cash. Our bank details are: Llama Travel Ltd, Account No: 40738998, Sort Code 09-06-66.

## What's included in the price

Prices are based on two persons sharing a room and include all flights, transfers and accommodation.

Where applicable, entrance fees, taxes and charges are included in our prices at the rates advised to us at the time of preparation. An adjustment will be made to your price if any of these change before your holiday.

## Passports and Visas

Visas are not required in advance for British citizens for any Llama Travel destination in Europe or Morocco. The Jordan visa is included in the price of your holiday. For British passports endorsed in any way and all other passports, please ask the appropriate consulate. You need a full 10 year passport valid for 6 months after your return to the UK, and which was issued less than 10 years prior to the date of your return.

If children are not travelling with both parents, some countries require a letter of consent to enter or depart. Please consult the appropriate consulate.

To issue some tickets, we require passport details and ages when you book. If you subsequently change your passport, please let us know as soon as possible.

## Hotel grading

Official hotel ratings vary from country to country. Our standard hotels are comfortable tourist class hotels. More details on each hotel can be found on our website.

## Hotel rooms

If you have a preference for a twin or a double room, please let us know. However, we cannot guarantee this as many hotels do not allocate rooms until the day of arrival. Despite costing more per person, single rooms do not always offer the same level of comfort as doubles. Some hotel bathrooms have showers instead of baths. If you prefer a bath, please ask. If you arrive at a hotel before check-in time, your room may not be ready. You will be able to use the hotel facilities until your room is ready. Check out time is usually in the late morning. A charge is normally made for late check out.

## Tickets and vouchers

You will receive tickets approximately 10 days before departure, along with information on accommodation, transfers and excursions. Our agents in destination will give you any other documentation when you arrive. Please check airline tickets carefully in case timings have changed after we issued your confirmation.

## Excursions and Extensions

Excursions are operated together with other holidaymakers. These will usually be in English, although groups are sometimes a mix of English and other languages. A minimum of 2 people is required for some excursions. On some occasions, the order of excursions may vary.

## Insurance

Adequate travel insurance is essential. We do not sell or recommend any specific policy. A list of insurance companies that our customers have found suitable is available from us. Please advise your insurer of any pre-existing medical conditions and, if you are booking a holiday involving any activities, make sure

that you are covered for these. Note that cancellation cover is often only available if insurance is purchased at the time of booking your holiday.

## Age and fitness limitations

For most of our holidays, age is not a concern. However, a reasonable level of fitness is required, as most holidays require some walking, sometimes on uneven ground.

## Health and vaccinations

Please consult your GP or a travel clinic about health and vaccination requirements. Advice for travellers is available at [www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk). Yellow Fever certificates are sometimes required if you have recently visited a country with an infected area.

Covid-19 entry requirements are updated frequently. Please check government travel advice for the latest information.

When travelling, stomach illnesses are not uncommon due to changes in diet. For some countries, we suggest you only drink bottled or filtered water and avoid ice in drinks. If you are unsure if salads and fruit have been washed in purified water, it is best to avoid them.

If you suffer from a disability or condition and are worried whether this will affect the enjoyment of a holiday, please call us. We will do our best to help. We recommend that you bring any medicines you require from the UK.

Outside of major cities, medical facilities can be basic, meaning a lengthy transfer if hospital attention is required.

## Your safety and security

Most people who travel to the countries where Llama Travel operates experience no problems on holiday. However, as is the case anywhere in the world, crime can be a problem, especially in large cities. Tourists can appear attractive targets to criminals. To minimise the risk, use common sense. Do not display signs of wealth, such as expensive looking jewellery or cameras. Avoid empty streets, especially on your own. Take a taxi after dark. By taking sensible precautions, you should have a trouble-free holiday.

Each country has its own standards for health and safety, but these are often not as good as in the UK. We take this into account when selecting hotels and request that they comply with local regulations, but cannot guarantee that these are equivalent to British standards. Please take reasonable precautions to protect yourselves whilst on holiday, e.g. by locating fire exit routes.

Please also check government travel advice for the countries you are visiting at [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice).

# LLAMA TRAVEL BROCHURES



MARCH 2022 - NOVEMBER 2023



**AFRICA**  
 BOTSWANA  
 KENYA  
 NAMIBIA  
 SOUTH AFRICA  
 VICTORIA FALLS



MARCH 2022 - DECEMBER 2023



**LATIN AMERICA**  
 ARGENTINA  
 BOLIVIA  
 BRAZIL  
 CHILE  
 COLOMBIA  
 COSTA RICA  
 ECUADOR  
 GALAPAGOS  
 GUATEMALA  
 MEXICO  
 PANAMA  
 PERU



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