

Bosnian Explorer

From £1,199 per person // 13 days



Take to the rails through Europe to one of the the continent's less-visited destinations, the heart-shaped country of Bosnia-Herzegovina and its three main cities - Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar.

The Essentials

- Rail travel from the UK to Bosnia & Herzegovina
- The de-facto capital of the Republika Srpska entity, Banja Luka
- One of Europe's most fascinating capitals, Sarajevo
- Mostar with its iconic bridge and spectacular old town
- Stop-offs at a open-air village and Kravice Waterfalls

Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Upgrade hotels and rail journeys
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours
- Return from Bosnia without flying

What's included

- Standard class rail travel
- 12 nights hand-picked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Private car transfer between Zagreb and Banja Luka
- Private car transfer between Mostar and Split Airport
- Comprehensive directions to your hotels
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - London To Stuttgart

Take a sleek Eurostar service through the Channel Tunnel to Brussels. Here, you change onto a German ICE train which takes you east into Germany, then south to the city of Stuttgart. Stay overnight near the station at the Arcotel Camino (or similar), and head out to explore the city and take in an evening meal at one of the many eateries.



Day 2 - Stuttgart To Villach

Board a direct EuroCity train before lunch today which takes you through the rolling hills of Bavaria and into the more dramatic landscapes of the Austrian Alps. After crossing onto the southern side of the mighty mountain range, you arrive in the city of Villach, where you are staying overnight across from the station in the City Hotel (or similar).



Day 3 - Villach To Zagreb

After a morning in Villach, you have a lunchtime train today that takes you through the pretty landscapes of Slovenia and into the Croatian capital Zagreb. On arrival in Zagreb, check in at the Canopy by Hilton City Centre (or similar), located conveniently across from the station. You then have an evening to take in the beautiful squares, parks and pavement cafés of this underrated city.



Day 4 - Zagreb To Banja Luka

Late morning today you will be collected by a private car transfer, which will take you down the motorway towards the Bosnian border, plugging a gap in the rail network. Once you are on Bosnian soil, you have a stop at the fascinating Ethno Village – Museum Ljuba?ke Doline (pictured), which an open-air museum showing the life of a community that used to inhabit this area, its traditional architecture, material culture, and furniture from the late 19th century and early 20th century. Later, you move on by car and arrive at the Hotel Ideja (or similar) for a 2-night stay.



Day 5 - Banja Luka

De-facto capital of the Serbian entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina (known locally as Republika Srpska), this city of 200,000 inhabitants is Bosnia's second-largest city. Don't miss the Ferhat-Pasha Mosque, painstakingly restored and reopened in 2015, as well as the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Saint Bonaventure and the Serbian Orthodox Cathedral of Christ the Saviour.



Day 6 - Banja Luka To Sarajevo

You have the bulk of today to look around Banja Luka for one last time, you board an evening direct train through the picturesque Bosnian countryside to the capital, Sarajevo. These are relatively modern Talgo trains imported from Spain, with airconditioning and comfortable legroom. On these trains you will travel in First Class for the extra comfort. On arrival in Sarajevo, check in at the Hotel Old (or similar), your home for the next 4 nights.



Days 7, 8 & 9 - Sarajevo

One of Europe's hidden treasures, Sarajevo is an absolute delight. The Baščaršija area of the old town dates back to the days of the Ottoman Empire. As you make your way west from here the city morphs into a relic of the Austro-Hungarian Empire which was in control until the First World War. Further west you have "Sniper Alley", the main thoroughfare to the airport, which was targeted by Serbian snipers in the surrounding hills during the 1990s conflict.



Day 10 - Sarajevo To Mostar

This journey takes in some spectacular scenery, which you enjoy from the comfort of your First Class seats. The train passes through the Neretva River Valley, affording some truly wonderful views on what is thought by many to be one of Europe's most spectacular train rides. On arrival in Mostar, check in at the Villa Fortuna (or similar) for a 3-night stay.



Days 11 & 12 - Mostar

Best known for its iconic bridge, Mostar is in the Herzegovina region of the country, and sits astride the Neretva River. Mostar boasts many noteworthy buildings in a diverse range of architectural style. Examples include the Italianate Franciscan church, the Ottoman house of Muslibegovića, the Dalmatian Orović House and an Orthodox church, constructed as gift from the Sultan during the Ottoman times.



Day 13 - Mostar To Split And Back To The UK

This morning a private car transfer takes you from your hotel in Mostar south towards the Croatian border, making a stop at the spectacular Kravice Waterfalls (pictured), before heading to Split airport for your flight home. TMR RECOMMENDS – Return to the UK without flying by taking a ferry across the Adriatic to Italy and through the Alps to France. Contact the team for more information and a quote.

Pricing

From £1,199 per person

Low season (November-March) from £1,199pp

High season (April-October) from £1,399pp

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. If you travel at short notice, then supplements may apply.