



Ohrid Lake Wildlife Conservation & Educational expedition

Day of Adventure (DOA)

Ohrid Lake is one of the oldest and deepest tectonic lakes in the world, formed between 2-4 million years ago. Its crystal waters are home to rare prehistoric life forms and many endemic species, like the well known Ohrid trout. It is also UNESCO's World Natural Treasure and still hides many unsolved mysteries. Join us on this expedition and spend one adventure day on the lake. Take an active role in the lake's wildlife protection program and scientific surveys, led by specialist bio-engineers. Dive into the crystal waters and discover hidden archaeological sites, explore the underwater life guided by experienced diving instructors. Taste local fish specialties, learn old fishermen recipes and exchange experiences with the friendly locals. And be, at least for a day, part of this world's beautiful nature and its everlasting tradition and culture. Live the Ohrid legend for one day and gain lifetime memories.



Detailed Itinerary:

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09:00 The adventure begins with a pick up from the Conference site – Inex Gorica Hotel, at 09:00 h. After a short drive we arrive at the Institute of Hydrobiology. The Institute takes care about the sustainability of the biodiversity by making constant researches and implementing different measures to keep the lake clean and to protect all species living in and around it. Introduction and sightseeing by expert bio-engineer, getting familiar with different practices to protect the wildlife in the lake and the surrounding area. See the reproduction center for the trout and take active part in some protection practices, like food preparing and feeding.

10:00 From here we'll take our boat and start exploring the lake, following the Institute scientists on their research boat. We'll participate in lake protection practices, like taking water samples from the lake depths for a regular control and scientific purposes.

12:00 Our next stop is at the Bay of Bones, the location of the oldest settlement on the lake shore, inhabited in the Paleolithic period. We'll visit the replica of the settlement with museum exhibition and learn about the history of this region. The waters of the Bay also hide many artifacts from settlements, lost through the ages, as well as a rich underwater life. We'll have to dive and discover this hidden world. The diving instructors from the local diving club are here, ready to give us a brief basic diving course and provide the needed equipment. The guided diving in the Bay will take around 30 minutes, in which we'll explore the underwater archaeology and life and have opportunity for an exclusive photo session.



13:30 We continue by mini bus to the nearby picturesque fisherman's village. The locals are very friendly and like to exchange experience with the strangers, to tell about their life, but also to hear about distant lands. Socializing to understand local culture is also an important component of this tour and therefore we'll visit the best place-the village fish tavern. Time for lunch, chance to taste local fish delicacies and to learn the recipe to prepare trout "the Ohrid way", through a cookery demonstration.

14:30 After lunch we drive to Ohrid, to visit there a local handicraft shop. Here, we'll be introduced the old traditional craft of making "Ohrid Pearl", a unique type of jewelry made of lake fish scales. This secret technique has been well kept between two local families for more than a century. One of the old masters, will explain exclusively for us how this jewelry is made. Today the "Ohrid Pearls" are the most popular handmade souvenir that tourists take from Ohrid.

16:00 Our tour ends around 16:00 h, by dropping you at your hotel in Ohrid.



Total duration of the Adventure: 1 day / 0 nights

Starting location, date and time: Conference Site - INEX Gorica Hotel, Ohrid, 10.05.2016, 09:00 h

Ending location, date and time: Hotel in Ohrid, 10.05.2016, 16:00 h

Minimum / maximum number of pax: Minimum 4 pax, Maximum 12 pax

Difficulty rating: Easy

Cost per Guest: 185 EUR / 215 USD

What is included in the price

- Transfers by mini-van and boat
- 1 x lunch, including cookery demonstration
- Water, soft drinks and refreshments
- Guide services and escort by licensed guide
- Contribution for the Hydrobiology Institute for using its resources and facilities
- Equipment needed for the conservation operations and scientific research
- Contribution for the Handicraft shop for using their resources and facilities

What is not included

- Personal gear and equipment
- Alcoholic drinks, unless they are served by the hosts for degustation
- Non mentioned services or activities, personal expenses and tips

Guide: Miss Jana Arsovska, licensed national guide (English and French speaking).

DOA-Ohrid Lake Expedition

Destinations of activities

- Hotel Inex Gorica
- Hydrobiology Institute
- Bay of Bones
- Old Town of Ohrid
- Village

Ohrid Lake Wildlife Conservation & Educational Expedition - Map of Activities

