

11-Day Balkan Road Trip with 5 Days in Lefkada

11 days · 8 stops · 2026-08-24

Embark on an unforgettable 11-day Balkan road trip starting from Bucharest, with a perfect blend of vibrant cities, stunning nature, and idyllic beaches. Experience the rich history and lively culture of Sofia and Skopje, the breathtaking landscapes and hiking adventures near Tirana, and the coastal charm of Saranda. Then, indulge in 5 days of pure bliss on the beautiful Greek island of Lefkada, known for its crystal-clear turquoise waters and spectacular beaches. Conclude your journey with a delightful stay in Bari, Italy, savoring authentic Apulian cuisine and exploring historic old towns. T

Bucharest → Sofia → Skopje → Tirana → Saranda → Lefkada → Bari → Bucharest

Bucharest, Romania

DAY 1–1

Sofia, Bulgaria

DAY 1–2

Sofia, the vibrant capital of Bulgaria, is a fantastic stop on your road trip with its rich history, stunning architecture, and lively cultural scene. Explore the impressive Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, stroll through the charming streets filled with cafes and shops, and enjoy the blend of ancient and modern vibes. It's a perfect mix of culture and cool spots to energize your journey towards Lefkad

ARRIVE · FLIGHT

OTP → SOF

1h 29m · Direct

\$342.36

STAY

Хотел ресторант Света Анна

ул. „Нарцис“ ул.Нарцис 1, 1415 Sofia · 10.0

ITINERARY

Day 1 · Arrival and Light Evening in Sofia · 4 experiences: Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Made in Home, Vitosha Boulevard (Vitoshka), Rainbow Factory

Day 2 · Cultural Exploration and Wine Tasting · 4 experiences: Sofia National Archaeological Museum, Borisova Gradina, The Little Things, Sofia: Wine & Cheese Tasting Experience

Skopje, North Macedonia

DAY 2–3

Skopje, the capital of North Macedonia, is a vibrant city known for its unique blend of historic and modern architecture, including the impressive Stone Bridge and the bustling Old Bazaar. It's a great stop to experience rich cultural heritage, lively markets, and delicious local cuisine. The city's lively atmosphere and friendly locals make it a perfect pit stop on your road trip to Lefkada.

ARRIVE · CAR

Sofia → Skopje

3h 7m

STAY

Hotel Balkan

2C5P+829, Прохор Пчински, Skopje, 1000 Skopje · 8.6

ITINERARY

Day 2 · Arrival and Evening Stroll in Skopje · 2 experiences: Skopje Old Bazaar, Destan
Day 3 · Nature Escape and Iconic Views · 4 experiences: Skopje: Matka Canyon, Millennium Cross and Ethno Village Tour, Millennium Cross, Kolektiv, Skopje Kale Fortress (Skopsko Kale)

Tirana, Albania

DAY 3–4

Tirana, the vibrant capital of Albania, is known for its colorful architecture, lively street art, and bustling markets. It's a fantastic stop to experience authentic Albanian culture, delicious local cuisine, and a friendly atmosphere. Perfect for a squad looking to explore a city with a mix of history and modern energy on their way to Lefkada.

ARRIVE · CAR

Skopje → Tirana

3h 48m

STAY

Arka Art Theatre Atelier

Rezidenca "Kodra e Diellit" 2, 1001, Tirana

ITINERARY

Day 3 · Arrival and Evening Stroll in Tirana · 3 experiences: Skanderbeg Square, Skanderbeg Monument, Padam Boutique Hotel & Restaurant
Day 4 · Nature and History Exploration · 4 experiences: From Tirana: Bovilla Lake & Gamti Mountain Hiking Day Trip, Et'hem Bey Mosque, Tirana Clock Tower (Kulla e Sahatit), Mon Cheri Coffee Shop

Saranda, Albania

DAY 4–5

Saranda, Albania, is a stunning coastal town known for its crystal-clear waters, vibrant nightlife, and proximity to the ancient ruins of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage site. It's a perfect stop for your road trip to enjoy beautiful beaches, delicious Albanian cuisine, and a lively atmosphere.

ARRIVE · CAR

Tirana → Saranda

4h 8m

STAY

Hotel Monte Carlo - Rooftop Pool

Rruga 40 Shenjtorët 135, 9701, Sarandë · 10.0

ITINERARY

Day 4 · Arrival and Relaxing Evening in Saranda · 1 experiences: Taverna Pupi
Day 5 · Explore Lekursi Castle and Prepare for Departure · 1 experiences: Bar Restorant Limani

Lefkada, Greece

DAY 5–10

Lefkada is a stunning Greek island known for its crystal-clear turquoise waters, spectacular beaches like Porto Katsiki and Egremni, and vibrant local culture. It's perfect for a squad looking to mix beach relaxation, water sports, and exploring charming villages. The island's accessibility by car via a bridge makes it an ideal road trip destination, blending natural beauty with easy travel logist

ARRIVE · CAR

Saranda → Lefkada

2h 48m

STAY

SALTY BREEZE Beachfront Villa

Ligia, 311 00 Lygia

ITINERARY

- Day 5 · Arrival and Relaxation at the Beachfront Villa · 1 experiences: The Olive Tree
- Day 6 · Explore Lefkada Town and Local Flavors · 3 experiences: Café del Mar Lefkada, Taverna To Steki, Bar 9
- Day 7 · Beach Day and Water Activities at Porto Katsiki · 2 experiences: Captain's Table, Milos Restaurant
- Day 8 · Cultural and Scenic Exploration in Nidri · 2 experiences: Nidri Taverna, The Blue Bar
- Day 9 · Relaxation and Local Exploration · 2 experiences: Agios Nikitas Taverna, Pelekanos
- Day 10 · Departure Day and Preparation for Next Leg

Bari, Italy

DAY 10–12

Bari, Italy, is a vibrant coastal city known for its historic old town, beautiful seafront, and delicious Apulian cuisine. It's a fantastic stopover with charming streets to explore, lively piazzas, and a rich cultural heritage. If you enjoy a mix of history, food, and seaside ambiance, Bari offers a perfect blend to enrich your road trip experience.

ARRIVE · FLIGHT

PVK → BRI

7h 14m · 1 stop

\$623.44

STAY

Guest House Biscardi

Via Guglielmo Oberdan, 60 2°, 70126 Bari · 7.8

ITINERARY

- Day 10 · Arrival and Relaxing Evening in Bari · 2 experiences: Piazza del Ferrarese, La Uascezze
- Day 11 · Explore Bari's Old Town and Culinary Delights · 3 experiences: St. Nicholas Basilica, Bari: Street Food Walking Tour with a Local Guide, Caffè Vergnano 1882
- Day 12 · Departure Day and Preparation

Bucharest, Romania

DAY 12–12

ARRIVE · FLIGHT

BRI → OTP

2h 39m · Direct

\$454.44