

# Journey to Slovenia and Croatia

*Culture. Religion. History. Tradition.*



SAINT JOHN'S  
ABBNEY


TRAVEL TOURS



October  
8-19, 2012

*12-day tour, including  
air travel from  
Minneapolis/St. Paul,  
four-star hotels, and  
most meals*

Approx. \$4,700  
Exact Pricing TBD




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Saint John's Abbey invites you to take part in a wonderful tour of beautiful Slovenia and Croatia, visiting Dubrovnik, Split, Ljubljana, Bled, Zagreb, and Medjugorje.



Rooted deeply in culture, religion, history, and tradition, our tour will provide opportunities to experience the history and tradition of this breathtaking part of the world. The traditions handed down to fishermen, farmers, and craftsmen of this area represent a way of life in many ways unchanged. All these combine to make the region of Slovenia and Croatia one of Europe's most fashionable and sought-after destinations.

### **DUBROVNIK**



Referred to as "the Pearl of the Adriatic," this walled city is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Highlights include the city's magnificent bastions and fortress; Onofrio's Fountain, built in 1438; the Franciscan monastery with an operational pharmacy since 1391; and Dubrovnik's Cathedral with its famous Treasury. We will celebrate Mass at St. Blaise Church, built between 1705 and 1717. The city's beautiful commercial center, with many statues, churches, and lovely piazzas, makes this one of the most charming cities in the world.

## ZAGREB

This charming medieval capital city of Croatia has architecture and cobbled streets reminiscent of Vienna and Budapest. Its National Marian Shrine, Marija Bistrica, is known for its miraculous 16th-century statue of the Black Madonna. We will visit Catherine's Square with the Jesuit church of St. Catherine, famous for its wall paintings and sculptures, and thought to be one of the most beautiful and fully preserved Baroque monuments.

## SPLIT

Here we will visit Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site, praised for its grandeur, and combining a luxurious villa with the defenses of a military fortress. Because of its level of preservation and the buildings of succeeding historical periods stretching from Roman times, the palace is one of the most famous architectural and cultural sites on the Croatian Adriatic coast.

## BLED

Set beautifully set in the Julian Alps, its immense natural beauty and surroundings ranks Bled among the most beautiful of alpine resorts. We will enjoy a boat ride to the Church of the Assumption, situated on an island in the middle of the lake. The 17th-century church remains a symbol of Slovenia, and we will celebrate Mass here. On a high rock above the lake we see the 16th-century Bled Castle.

## LJUBLJANA

The capital of Slovenia is dominated by its beautiful cathedral and a medieval fortress that dates from the 12th century. This beautiful city is also home to the Abbey of Sticna, the oldest existing Cistercian abbey in this part of Europe.



## MEDJUGORJE

In the summer of early 1980s, the Blessed Mother purportedly began appearing to several young children here, and almost overnight Medjugorje became one of the most popular Marian pilgrimage sites in the world. We will celebrate Mass at St. James Church, and our guide will introduce us to the visionaries to talk and pray with (based on their availability).

## Future Abbey Travel Tours

### SPRING 2013

Catholic South America: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Buenos Aires, Argentina with a possible extension to Machu Picchu, Peru

### FALL 2013

Pubs and Pews of Ireland

If you are interested in being part of this tour, please contact:

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