WORLD VIEW 2013 INTERNATIONAL STUDY VISIT TO
SLOVENIA, CROATIA & BOSNIA

June 19-30, 2013

Following is a tentative itinerary for our trip. We are currently arranging school and college visits, lectures, and dialog sessions with educators on the days indicated. This may cause us to alter some of the activities listed below.

JUNE 19 DEPARTURE FROM CHARLOTTE

Full meal service on wide-bodied flight to Zagreb.

JUNE 20 ARRIVE LJUBLJANA (2 NIGHTS)

We will be met at the airport by our tour manager/guide, board our own private coach, and be transferred to Ljubljana, a city that has managed to retain traces from all periods of its rich history. The legacy of Roman, Renaissance, Baroque and Art Nouveau periods are characterized in the house fronts and ornate doorways of the city center, the romantic bridges adorning the Ljubljanica River, the lopsided rooftops, and a park reaching deep into the city center. This is where eastern and western cultures met, and the Italian concepts of art combined with the sculptural aesthetics of Central European cathedrals are intermingled. We begin with a Walking Tour of the Old City Center. Our tour will include the Baroque Town Hall, which was the seat of the municipal government, and continues throughout the old city center Central Market, Cathedral of St. Nicholas, Dragon Bridge, Prešeren Square, and the Triple Bridge. We continue with a Boat Ride on the Ljubljanica River to complete our introduction to this city.

JUNE 21 LJUBLJANA

This morning we take a funicular to Ljubljana Castle (Ljubljanski grad) which is the most spectacular sight of Ljubljana. According to archeological surveys, the area of the present castle has been settled continuously since 1200 BC, when the first settlements and later fortifications were built. Preserved from this early period are the remains of the Urn Tomb culture. Except for the outer walls of the 1489 Chapel of St. George, all of the other main buildings of the present castle were either built or rebuilt in the 16th and 17th centuries. Until 1814 the castle served as a garrison and later a provincial prison. SCHOOL / COLLEGE VISIT / LECTURE.

JUNE 22 LJUBLJANA - ZAGREB (2 NIGHTS)

Today we return to Zagreb, a city rich with history and culture as it progresses from socialist to modern city. Visit the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, whose twin spires stand as a symbol of the city. The masterpiece of Herman Bollé inside features a marble pulpit by Mihael Cussal and the sarcophagus of the Croatian priest, Blessed Aloizije Stepinac. Explore Dolac Market, where we will see some of the city’s “babushkas” pushing their wares. We will have time for lunch in the Tkalčiceva area of
the city, with many restaurants and bars. After lunch, we will walk to Kamenita Vrata, one of four entrances to the walled city of Gradec and the only one to survive the fire of 1731. Just inside the gate is a small grotto, Chapel of God’s Mother, featuring a painting of the Virgin and Child, which is believed to be a miraculous icon.

JUNE 23 ZAGREB

This morning we will visit the Croatian Museum of Native Art, featuring Croatian masters such as Ivan Generalic and Ivan Lackovic. The art often reflects local customs that persist in the hinterlands today. We will have some free time this afternoon at Jarun Lake, where we may rent bikes and explore the pebble stone beaches along the lakes shores.

JUNE 24 ZAGREB - BANJA LUKA (1 NIGHT)

Our journey continues as we travel to Banja Luka, a Roman city built around healing waters and to protect the trade route from Salona to Servitium. Visit the Banja Luka Kastel, located in the center of the city and which will transport us back to prehistoric times. View the Banj Brdo, a monument built to honor those who died in World War II. SCHOOL / COLLEGE VISIT / LECTURE.

JUNE 25 BANJA LUKA - SARAJEVO (2 NIGHTS)

Today, we will journey to Sarajevo, a city featuring the best of the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian empires. Our experience today will focus upon Sarajevo’s Bascarsija or Old Town. Stroll to the Kozja Cuprija or Goat Bridge, an Ottoman-era structure where trading caravans once crossed and local pilgrims set off for Mecca. SCHOOL / COLLEGE VISIT / LECTURE.

JUNE 26 SARAJEVO

Visit the Sarajevo Museum 1878-1918, which stands on the spot where Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand and marks the beginning of World War I. The museum displays the details of the Austro-Hungarian rule in Sarajevo and its affect upon politics, art and architecture. Explore the Cathedral of Jesus’Heart, the largest church in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The steps of the church, built in 1889 by Josip Vancas, are a popular meeting place for locals. The quiet beauty within allows a sense of peace to permeate throughout the church. SCHOOL / COLLEGE VISIT / LECTURE.

JUNE 27 SARAJEVO - MOSTAR - DUBROVNIK (2 NIGHTS)

SCHOOL / COLLEGE VISIT / LECTURE.

Today we will travel to Dubrovnik via Mostar. Here, we will view the Stari Most, or Old Bridge, which displays Ottoman ingenuity at its finest. The bridge has been rebuilt to its former glory, since its destruction in 1993. We continue to Dubrovnik, a Venetian port that until the late 17th century, was one of the great maritime and trading centers of the Mediterranean.
JUNE 28 DUBROVNIK

This morning we begin with a Guided City Tour that will include the Saint Balise Statue that guards the bridge, the Pile Gate, the Sponza Palace and the Stradun Town Center. Our next and most memorable stop will be the Rector's Palace and Cathedral that was once a fortress. Dubrovnik is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is encircled by medieval walls and contains a harmonious collection of white-marble renaissance buildings. The Dubrovnik summer Festival is one of the oldest and most prestigious European summer Festivals, which gives the city a unique atmosphere at this time of year.

JUNE 29 DUBROVNIK - SPLIT (1 NIGHT)

Leaving Dubrovnik this morning we continue on to Split. Our first stop is the immense 3rd-century Diocletian’s Palace that was built on the seafront by the Roman Emperor for his retirement. The palace was designed to combine a luxurious villa with the defenses of a military camp, complete with towers, fortifications, and monumental gates. We will see the Peristyle or central courtyard, and go through the Bronze Gates to see the Egyptian sphinxes that guard the domed Mausoleum. In early medieval times the town of Split grew up within these palace walls and they remain in a very good state of repair, with three out of four corner towers and three large gates still standing. We will see the former underground storerooms on the seaward side of the palace that now house souvenir shops and galleries. Later we continue onto our hotel for the night.

JUNE 30 DEPART SPLIT

Our guide accompanies us to the airport for the return flight home.