

September 20 – October 3 | 14 Days, 13 Nights

Cuisine of Ukraine is one of the main parts of Ukrainian culture. Every ethnic region has its own signature dishes and traditions of cooking. Ukrainian dishes are generously flavored and, despite the contradictory tastes being used, come together in a harmonious blend.

On this tour we invite to try the food, feel the taste, become part of it!

We will plunge into everything that is connected with Ukrainian food, and the culture and traditions of this fascinating country. Learn how to cook your own borshch, varenyky and other delicious dishes.

Kyiv – Chernivtsi - The Carpathian Mountains - Lviv

Culinary workshops | Sightseeing | Cultural Experiences | Zabavas and Performances



Day 1 TOUR START DATE | Monday, September 20: Arrive in Kyiv (-/-/D)

Welcome to the heart of our beautiful country – Kyiv!

The capital of Ukraine, and the former capital of the Kyivan Rus, this beautiful and historic city has played a key part in the past, present and future of this country and still blends ancient and modern.

However, Kyiv is not just an old city of Golden Domes, exciting and historical museums and memorials. It's also a cool, up-and-coming progressive city, fast paced in some aspects, as you would expect a capital to be, but, in true Ukrainian style, also a place to sit back and relax as you watch the world go by, in one of its many backstreet cafes...



Welcome to Ukraine and its capital **Kyiv!**

After you touch down on Ukrainian soil, you'll be met at the airport by your Tour Leader and chauffeured to your hotel.

Start discovering Kyiv on our **guided city orientation**, where we will show you around the local neighborhood and help familiarize yourself with this historic capital city. We will introduce you to delicious places to eat, small hideaways to grab a cup of coffee and we'll make sure you know where to find ATMs, bottled water and all the things you might want.

It's your first night in Ukraine and the evening will showcase local hospitality. Tonight, you will be taken out to a traditional **Welcome Dinner** at one of the best, most authentic restaurants downtown! Enjoy local cuisine in an authentic, lively atmosphere.

Day 2 | Tuesday, September 21: Kyiv (B/L/-)

Breakfast in the hotel.

After a hearty breakfast, we'll take you on a **combined city tour (bus + walking)**. Visit the 'heart' of Kyiv – **the Independence Square**, better now known as Maidan. It is a history changing place, where the Revolution of Dignity happened.

We'll also walk down the **Khreshchatyk Street** – the most famous and well-trodden street, which runs along the chestnut alley.



Being here, we'll stop by at a window where two women hand out pieces of fried dough enclosing a mouth-watering sausage. This is a Kyiv traditional savory pastry – *Kyiv Perepichka!* Let's get in queue and see why it's worth it!

Later on, you will see the iconic sites like **St. Volodymyr's Cathedral**, **the Golden Gates**, and **St. Sophia's Cathedral**, which dates back to the 10th century! Travelers throughout Ukraine and abroad come to this Pilgrimage destination to see 1000-year-old frescoes and mosaics.

Now, it's time to start diving into the Ukrainian Culinary World. Get the skills you need to confidently cook the famous dish '**Chicken Kyiv**' at the restaurant of the same name! The cooking demonstration is followed by lunch.

After lunch, we'll transfer you to the Postal Square, near the River Port, where we take a **boat cruise down the Dnipro River**. Feel a sense of awe as you travel down this great river and discover the major waterfront sights of Kyiv in a relaxing atmosphere.

In the evening, enjoy the beauty of the city and explore the central square with many interesting restaurants with multicultural cuisine. Your Tour Leader will recommend the restaurants worth visiting and will accompany you there if necessary.

Day 3 | Wednesday, September 22: Kyiv (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today we'll discover more about Kyiv's fascinating history.

We'll visit a world famous historical and architectural landmark, and one of Ukraine's most important Christian sites: **the Pecherska Lavra Cave Monastery**. Enjoy the guided tour, taking you down into the candlelit, underground labyrinths filled with the relics and ancient mummified monks – intriguing to say the least!



After the tour of the place, we'll take you to 'Taras Bul'ba' restaurant for lunch and for another **cooking workshop**. Now you will learn the technology of cooking the famous Ukrainian dishes as '**Borshch**' and '**Deruny**' (potato pancakes).

Then, you will have some free time at your hotel or you can choose to go shopping at numerous souvenir stores and boutiques along Khreshchatyk street, the main shopping street in Kyiv.

In the evening, you're invited for a special **Festive Dinner** with special guests to entertain you at one of the best restaurants that serves delicious Ukrainian dishes and beverages.

Day 4 | Thursday, September 23: Kyiv (B/L/-)

We keep exploring Kyiv sights and now it's time to feel the Kozak spirit! You will visit **Mamaieva Sloboda**, an open-air museum, with thematic exhibits that represent a full replica of a historical settlement, depicting Ukrainian nature, architecture and the way of life.

We will have lunch Kozak style organized in Mamaeva Sloboda!

Later on, enjoy your free time and can choose to go shopping on **Andriyivsky Uzviz (St. Andrew's Descent)** - a cobblestoned street that's home to the city's artisans, craftsmen and vendors. Discover all kinds of items in their stalls - from unique works of art to souvenir trinkets to authentic Ukrainian clothing! Your Tour Leader will be ready to point you in whatever direction you'd like to go.

Later on, it's time to get ready for an overnight train ride. In Ukraine there is one very interesting old tradition, passed down from generation to generation - to bring fried chicken, boiled eggs and fresh vegetables with you on the train. Alternatively, instead of chicken, there may be a fragrant sausage that will make you feel hungry even if you are a vegetarian. And don't forget about a homemade moonshine!

Your Tour Leader will take you to the nearest supermarket to make sure you follow this tradition of eating on the train and purchase everything you need for that! ☺

In the evening, we'll check out from the hotel and we will hop on an overnight train to **Chernivtsi**. Enjoy your train ride and in the morning, you will have a chance to see beautiful landscapes of the Western part of Ukraine from your windows.

Accommodations:

'Ukraine' hotel or similar
<https://ukraine-hotel.kiev.ua/en/>

Overnight train Kyiv-Chernivtsi

Number of Nights:

3 Nights

1 Night

Highlights:

Cooking workshops: 'Chicken Kyiv' & Borshch and Deruny
Kyiv-style Zabava with folk band live performance

Tours & Museums:

Kyiv walking city tour
Andriyivskiy Descent
Pecherska Lavra Cave Monastery
Dnipro River boat cruise
Mamaeva Sloboda

Day 5 | Friday, September 24: Chernivtsi (B/-/D)

Chernivtsi – the Capital of Bukovyna - is a cosmopolitan and multicultural city, currently twinned with seven other cities around the world, and is also considered one of Ukraine's most important educational and architectural sites. Its stunning University is an ancient, magical collection of buildings, marked a UNESCO world heritage site, and will take you back in time as you step through its doors.



Welcome to the capital of Bukovyna region – **Chernivtsi!**

Upon arrival, we will whisk you to your hotel and get you checked-in. After breakfast, take a short break from train – stretch your legs and maybe take a nap in your hotel. Your tour guide will help you with suggestions of places for lunch.

After lunch, we'll all get together to embark on a **walking city tour**. We'll start with a visit to an architectural gem - **the Chernivtsi National University**. This stunning collection of buildings will make you feel as though you

have stepped back in time! The architectural ensemble of the main campus of the university, the Residence of Bukovynian and Dalmatian Metropolitans are included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Later on, proceed to the city centre to continue learning about Chernivtsi fascinating multicultural history and visit the most beautiful and notable sights the city has to offer.

Enjoy your next **cooking demonstration** afterwards. Chernivtsi is famous for its **Jewish cuisine**, so the local Jewish restaurant 'Rita Steinberg' will share with you some secrets and recipes. The demonstration will be followed by dinner.

Transfer back to the hotel in the evening.

Day 6 | Saturday, September 25: Chernivtsi – Kamyanets-Podilsky – Khotyn - Chernivtsi (B/-/D)

Breakfast in the hotel.

Today we are taking you on a time travel to **the fortresses of Khotyn and Kamyanets-Podilsky!** Not literally, of course, but you will get to see how the local princes and rulers lived hundreds of years ago.

The different types of people that lived in Khotyn and Kamyanets-Podilsky each brought their own culture and architecture, meaning that this place is steeped in history and culture. Learn the city's history on a tour through the ancient fortress, the cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, the City Hall Building and numerous other fortifications.

Once the tour is over, you'll have some free time for lunch in the medieval part of Kamianets-Podilsky. Transfer back to Chernivtsi afterwards.

This evening, we have a special treat – a **private performance of a local vocal folk ensemble – Gerdan**, who passionately represent the rich cultural heritage of this region. You don't want to miss this! The performance will be followed by a delicious dinner at 'Hopachok' restaurant, where you will taste the best examples of Bukovynian cuisine.

Accommodations:

'Allure Inn' hotel or similar
<http://www.allureinn.com/en/>

Number of Nights:

2 Nights

Highlights:

Workshops: Jewish and
Bukovynian cuisine
Gerdan Performance

Tours & Museums:

Chernivtsi City and
University tour
Kamyanets-Podilsky
fortress
Khotyn fortress

Day 7 | Sunday, September 26: Chernivtsi – Tulova - Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

Visit a traditional village deep in the Carpathian Mountains, and experience a lifestyle that has remained the same for centuries. Home to sweeping green forests, flowing rivers and breath-taking waterfalls – it's hard not to feel at-one with nature when you breathe in the fresh mountain air... This is the land of the Hutsuls, Boykos, and Lemkos – meet the local villagers, dance the Arkan and eat traditional food sat around one table. Experience how simple, open and hospitable these mountain people are.



In the morning after breakfast and check out, we'll set off to the land of Hutsuls – picturesque **Carpathian Mountains!** And our trip begins in style – with an authentic village experience!

On our way to the mountains, we will stop at a **local market in Sniatyn** to buy some vegetables and goods for your next cooking workshop in a beautiful village called **Tulova**.

Tulova is a small, authentic village, where the locals are excited to welcome you into their village, show you their culture and day-to-day life – you will feel like a part of this big family! The vibe of the village is really amazing: you can sing and dance with the locals, talk about any new recipes or even create your new ones with your new friends.

The local *gazdyni* (women hosts) will teach you some tricky technics of cooking varenyky (dumplings) and of course the *hospodari* (men hosts) will share the secrets of making the best homebrew moonshine the way locals do!

After the cooking workshop, you'll enjoy delicious homemade lunch with the local community. Experience the famous Ukrainian hospitality at its best!

In the late afternoon, we will hit the road again and drive to Carpathian Mountains. As soon as we arrive in Kosiv, we'll help you check in to your hotel.

Enjoy the evening at leisure - wander around your hotel, swim in the outdoor pool, relax at the sauna or just enjoy the stunning views of the mountains. You will be able to have dinner in the hotel's restaurant

Day 8 | Monday, September 27: Carpathian Mountains (B/L/D)

After a leisure breakfast at the hotel, we'll go into Kosiv and visit the local **Kosiv Mini bazaar**, where local artisans skillfully produce Easter eggs, jewelry boxes, spoons, pottery, embroidery, leather goods, and many other goods.

Afterwards, there's one more interesting place that you have to check – the local **Hutsul Pottery factory**. In 2019, Ukraine's Kosiv painted ceramics was included on the UNESCO Heritage list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. So, in the factory you'll watch how Kosiv ceramics is created, and you will be able to choose and purchase your favorite plates and cups for your kitchen.

Of course, while cooking in your kitchen you are using some wooden culinary utensils. So, we thought you'll definitely want to enlarge your collection by some more wooden items made in Ukraine! That's why we will pay a visit to **the local woodcarving family**. The *hospodar* will show you their collections of cups, wooden plates, wooden earrings and amulets, and the *gazdynia* will welcome you with some delicious appetizers and some drinks.

On our way back to your hotel, enjoy beautiful views from your bus window and remember to take some photos of Hutstuls, local nature, and of course don't miss the opportunity to take a selfie with a cow!

In the evening, be ready for a special **Hutsul-style BBQ demonstration**, followed by a delicious homemade dinner accompanied by live Hutsul music. Observe how Ukrainians cook *shashlyk* (kebab) and then sample it! Enjoy your meal, and believe us, you will remember this evening forever!

Day 9 | Tuesday, September 28: Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

Breakfast at hotel.

Today we'll take a short trip to see a beautiful **ancient wooden church** in the village of **Pistyn** and last but not least – we will enjoy the best of traditional Hutsul cuisine at 'Arkan' restaurant overlooking the river in the village of **Sheshory**. The restaurant chef will share the secrets of cooking Bograch (Hungarian meat soup a la Carpathian style), 'Shopsky' salad and steamed sweet cherry *varenyky* or blueberry *varenyky* (dumplings) for dessert. The demonstration will be followed by lunch.

In Sheshory you can also observe the local waterfalls, cool off with your feet in the water, or even go for a swim. Driving back to hotel afterwards. You can pre-book sauna, massage or even hot tub and take some rest sipping a cup of Carpathian tea...

Evening at leisure.

Day 10 | Wednesday, September 29: Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

Breakfast at hotel.

Our first stop for today, we'll stop in the village of **Yavoriv**, famous for its unique **lizhnyky** – woolen blankets. You'll learn why only women make them, and how through the centuries this tradition has been preserved. You will also be able to try making some. Moreover, you will see a real Hutsul jacuzzi! At the end of the workshop, take the opportunity to buy a masterpiece for yourself or your friends.

Today you will have an opportunity to put on your *vyshyvanky* (embroidered shirts/t-shirts), as you are cordially invited to a **Hutsul Wedding celebration** in a Carpathian 'village above the clouds' – **Bukovets**.

In Bukovets, you will be introduced to ancient traditions that Hutsul people preserve and pass from one generation to another. Live music, classic Arkan and Holubka dances, delicious homemade food, and golden-root vodka are the highlights of the day that will keep your soul and body forever young.

The local cuisine is rather unique and unusual since the locals are using ancient recipes from their grandparents and trying to keep them and share with the community. Therefore, today you are lucky to open the historical page of cooking at this region of Ukraine!

So, take out your notebooks and be attentive when writing down all the recipes: **'banosh'** (corn meal) with local homemade **'brynza' cheese, Hutsul cabbage rolls**, and many more dishes that you will try to cook with the local family.

We're sure you will make memories which last a lifetime!

After we've finished celebrating, we'll head back to our Carpathian Mountain hotel and you can enjoy dinner (if you still have any room in your belly). Kick back and have the evening at your leisure.

Day 11 | Thursday, September 30: Carpathian Mountains – Kolomyia – Lviv (B/L/-)

After your breakfast check out and we will drive to Lviv, the city considered the Ukrainian 'chest of traditions'.

On our way, we will stop in a quaint little town called **Kolomyia**. Here, we will visit the world's only **Pysanka (Easter Egg) Museum**, which houses a unique and rich collection of specimens of the ancient art - about 12,000 Easter Eggs from different regions of Ukraine and from artists around the world. This two-story building even looks like a large Easter egg.

Lunch at the local restaurant.

Upon arrival in Lviv, we'll help out with check-in to your hotel and show you around on a **city orientation** to get the lay of the land in this medieval town. We will show you around the local neighborhood and help you get familiarized with the area.

You'll have the option to check out a theme restaurant (Lviv is full of them and they're fabulous), go on a craft beer crawl (you'll be spoiled for choice) or kick back on an outdoor patio and soak up the sights and sounds of the largest Ukrainian-speaking city on Earth.

Evening at leisure.

Accommodations:

'Mayetok Sokilske' hotel or similar

<http://sokilske.com.ua/en/>

Number of Nights:

4 Nights

Highlights:

Tulova village experience

Kosiv Mini Bazaar

Kosiv Pottery factory

Hutsul cuisine workshops

Lizhnyky workshop

Tours & Museums:

Sniatyn market

Pysanka Museum

Pistyn' church

Woodcarving

experience

Hutsul family home visit and Hutsul wedding

Day 12 | Friday, October 1: Lviv (B/L/D)

Lviv is an ancient, historic city in Western Ukraine that is quickly becoming one of the most popular tourist destinations in Ukraine, and for a good reason! With its quaint charm, cobblestone streets and classical architecture, you won't fail to be charmed by this city of love and UNESCO heritage site. famous for its beer, coffee and chocolate, but also for being a place where time stands still – Lviv truly is a city of a laid-back, café culture where you can pick a spot, relax, and watch the world go by...



Breakfast in the hotel.

Today we will start our morning with exploring the city on a **guided walking city tour** to get you acquainted with the rich culture and history of the city. The couple of hours on this tour will allow you to enjoy strolling the cobblestone picturesque streets while learning about its history and historic sights.

After the tour, we'll take you for lunch.

Walking along Lviv's narrow medieval streets, you will smell the distinct and pleasant aroma of freshly brewed coffee, luring you towards its source. Lviv has long been known as the coffee capital of Ukraine. That's why we will take you to a **local coffee house**, where you will taste a cup of coffee and **discover the secrets of coffee making** from one of the best baristas of the café. Learn how to make your favorite morning drink: cappuccino, latte, strong coffee, espresso and some alternative ways to make coffee.

Then, you will have some free time to explore the city on your own. You may take advantage of shopping in the city - an open-air craft market 'Vernisazh' and numerous souvenir stores offer a variety of artwork, embroidery, woodcarving and more! You are sure to bring back more than fond memories from Lviv!

In the evening, learn how to cook traditional Ukrainian food on a **culinary workshop with Sil' Ukrainian cooking class**. They will reveal the secrets of cooking cabbage rolls, gravy, pampukhy (doughnuts) and other dishes in a cozy atmosphere, comfortable environment and lots of friendly conversation! Dinner of all the delicious fresh cooked dishes is included.

Transfer back to the hotel.

Day 13 | Saturday, October 2: Lviv (B/L/D)

Breakfast in the hotel.

Naturally, all the attractions of Lviv are centrally located, but this doesn't mean there aren't things to explore beyond this realm! We will take you to another **tour, on a bus**, where you'll be able to see attractions outside the city center.

We'll make a stop to visit famous **Lychakiv cemetery** - a place where famous Ukrainian writers, artists and other public figures have been buried, and their gravestones are a sight to behold! These stones are truly works of art, from intricate carvings to impressive mausoleums, this cemetery is an open air museum.

After the bus tour, enjoy lunch at 'Baluvana Halya' restaurant.

Enjoy some free time to explore the city on your own. Your guide will provide suggestions of what to do and where to go.

In the evening, we'll wrap up your stay in Ukraine with the traditional **Lviv-Style Zabava** (yes, another lavish dinner with entertainment), where everyone will have a chance to try delicious dishes as well as listen to some Ukrainian songs from our special guests!

Day 14 | Sunday, October 3: Lviv departure day (B/-/-)

After breakfast and checkout, we will transfer you to the airport and say our goodbyes.

Thank you for travelling with Cobblestone Freeway! Safe travels!

Accommodations:

'Rudolfo' hotel or similar

<https://rudolfo.com.ua/eng/>

Number of Nights:

3 Nights

Highlights:

Workshops:

'Paska' baking

Coffee making

Mushroom soup and

pancakes with meat

Galician cuisine

Farewell Zabava

Tours & Museums:

Lviv walking city tour

Bus city tour

Lychakiv cemetery

THANK YOU FOR TRAVELLING WITH COBBLESTONE FREEWAY!

On our Cobblestone Freeway Tour, enjoy:

Enjoy exclusive Folk dance/
music performances

Delicious, hand chosen local food, and more
inclusions than most other tour operators.



Enjoy an exclusive Hutsul experience

You will be escorted by a full-time
Cobblestone Freeway Tour leader



Plus!

Every time you go on a tour with us you get a stamp in
your very own
Cobblestone Freeway passport.

Once your passport is full – only 12 stamps - you are
entitled to a free Cobblestone trip anywhere in the world
that we go!

*Conditions may apply

Enjoy many culinary workshops and 1 coffee-brewing master class:



Day 2: Chicken Kyiv



Day 3: Borshch and Deruny (potato pancakes)



Day 5: Jewish cuisine



Day 7: Varenky (dumplings)



Day 8: Hutsul-style BBQ



Day 9: Bograch, 'Shopsky' salad and steamed sweet cherry and blueberry varenky



Day 10: Banosh (corn meal) and Hutsul cabbage rolls



Day 12: Coffee brewing



Day 12: Cabbage rolls, gravy, pampukhy (doughnuts)

**LOVE**
cooking

Options while in Kyiv

Visit the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and abandoned town of Prypiat.



Be a Kozak for a day at the Mamaieva Sloboda Kozak Village!



Visit poet Taras Shevchenko's Burial Place in Kaniv.



Visit the grandiose Kyiv Opera House



Go food-shopping at famous Bessarabsky Market



Step back in time at the Pyrohovo Open Air Architecture Museum.



Options while in Lviv

Explore the outdoor museum – Shevchenkivsky Hai.



See a Performance at the beautiful Lviv Opera House.



Visit the weapon museum located in the former City Arsenal.



Take a Ukrainian cooking class!



Make chocolate candies at the workshop at Lviv Handmade Chocolate Factory.



Join mysterious Lviv Night Guard tour to hear eerie legends of the city!



Contact us to arrange your tour add-on today!
*not included in tour price.

There is so much included:

SERVICES:

- Airport transfers
- Escorted tour with full time Tour Leader
- Tour in English
- All events included in the Itinerary
- Internet in hotels when possible
- Interaction with local artists, craftsmen, and performers
- Cooking workshops and demonstration mentioned in the itinerary
- Special events exclusively for Cobblestone travelers
- Cobblestone Freeway t-shirt

NOT INCLUDED:

- Extra days before/after the tour
- Events and Services not included in the itinerary or marked as Optional
- Alcoholic beverages
- Meals not listed in Itinerary
- Flights not listed in Itinerary
- Tips for guides / drivers/ maids
- Travel Insurance
- Laundry & Telephone Services

MEALS:

- Buffet breakfasts daily in the hotels
- Lunch x10
- Dinner x7

ACCOMMODATIONS:

- 12 Nights in hand-selected hotels
- 1 Night in the 1st class overnight train

TOURS, TRANSPORTATION & GUIDES:

- Tours and Events included in the itinerary
- All land transportation
- 1st class overnight train from Kyiv to Chernivtsi

HOTELS:

City	Hotel	In	Out	Nights
Kyiv	'Ukraine' hotel or similar https://ukraine-hotel.kiev.ua/en/	September 20	September 23	3
Kyiv-Chernivtsi	An overnight train	September 23	September 24	1
Chernivtsi	'Allure Inn' hotel or similar http://www.allureinn.com/en/	September 24	September 26	2
Tiudiv	'Mayetok Sokilske' Hotel or similar http://sokilske.com.ua/en/	September 26	September 30	4
Lviv	'Rudolfo' hotel or similar https://rudolfo.com.ua/eng/	September 30	October 3	3

LAND PACKAGE PRICE:

\$ 3,887 USD per person

The price is based on double occupancy*

Single Supplement - \$810USD

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