

Let us introduce you to Ukraine!

Ukraine tours are a Cobblestone Freeway specialty! We will make sure you get the ultimate introduction to this beautiful country, and enjoy the very best of sightseeing, accommodations and restaurants! This Ukraine tour is an ideal introduction to this wonderful country, for first-time visitors who have limited time.

Get a taste for this wonderful country, and see the sights of the majestic capital, Kyiv; the breath-taking Carpathian Mountains, and charming, cobblestoned Lviv. See the best that Ukraine has to offer in this Brand New 9 Day Tour!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Golden domes:** explore the beautiful capital of Ukraine – Kyiv
- **Arts & Antiques:** shop on the famous Andriyivskiy Uzviz – home to Kyiv’s artists and craftsmen
- **Easter Eggs:** visit the World’s Only Pysanka/ Easter Egg Museum!
- **Hutsul home:** attend a Cobblestone Freeway exclusive – a traditional dinner in the home of a Hutsul Family in a Carpathian village
- **Traditional arts:** learn how to make traditional “lizhnyky” - woolen blankets in the village of Yavoriv
- **Quaint streets:** explore the charming and beautiful city of Lviv
- **Age-old Crafts:** step back in time at Shevchenkiivskiy Hai Open Air Museum, and take workshops in Ukrainian folklore
- **Cobblestone Exclusives:** attend private concerts, cultural events, and workshops exclusively for Cobblestone freeway travellers



Day 1 TOUR START DATE | Kyiv (-/-/D)

Welcome to Ukraine! Upon arrival in Kyiv, you'll be met at the airport by your Tour Leader and chauffeured to your hotel, located in the heart of the city center.

*Your **Tour Leader** will be with you throughout your entire trip – every step of the way. More than just a guide - they will be your personal travel host, along with your private driver and vehicle. Together, they'll make sure you get where you need to go, and be available to stop when you need along the way. Not to mention, they'll show you the best places to eat, and help you with all the small details, from using the bank machines to showing you where to find the best gifts at the market - and negotiating for the best price! They'll share the best of Ukraine, tell you about its history, and show you the modern Ukraine. And if there are any problems, they will make sure everything gets worked out. You're in good hands!*

After check-in and some free time to freshen up, we will provide you with a **city orientation**, so you will know the closest exchange places, ATMs, and best souvenir and convenience stores.

Later on, we will enjoy a delicious **Welcome Dinner** in one of our favorite restaurants with traditional Ukrainian food!

Day 2 | Kyiv (B/-/D)

Your first impression of Kyiv is bound to be a surprise. Nowadays, Kyiv is not just a city of Golden Domes, exciting and historical museums and memorials, but it's also a cool, up-and-coming progressive city.

To introduce you to the city, we'll take you on a walking **city tour** – you'll visit Independence Square, better now known as Maidan, a history-changing place, where the Revolution of Dignity happened!

After the city tour, we'll stop for lunch in one of Kyiv's many fantastic restaurants.

Afterwards, enjoy a free afternoon. Treat yourself to a shopping at **Andriyivsky Uzviz** – a street that's home to the city's artisans, craftsmen and vendors – discover all kinds of items, from souvenir trinkets, to authentic costumes and war time memorabilia.

We'll end the day with a proper Ukrainian party, or **Zabava** – and it's going to be one for the books! Featuring a live music performance from a folk band that promotes and preserves authentic Central Ukrainian singing.

HOTEL:

'Khreshchatyk' Hotel

<http://www.hotel-khreschatyk.kiev.ua/en>

2 Nights



The Destination

Day 3 | Kyiv (B/L/-)

Today we'll visit the **Kyiv Pechersk Lavra**. Founded more than a thousand years ago and set on the hills above the Dnipro River, this monastery astonishes tourists with its gold-domed churches, ancient icons and underground labyrinths lined with mummified monks! Next, we'll take you for lunch at a restaurant, in the style of a traditional Ukrainian house.

After, we'll visit the **Holodomor museum**. Here we will pay our respects to those who suffered one of the most terrible crimes against the Ukrainian nation – famine. Learn about the tragedy at the underground museum before walking around the memorial park, and taking a moment to reflect at the monument.

In the afternoon, stock up on some snacks, as, after a (late) checkout, in the evening we'll hop on a night train to Ivano-Frankivsk.

Day 4 | Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

Upon arrival into Ivano-Frankivsk, we will take you out for breakfast in a great centrally located restaurant. After, we will enjoy some local history and legends on a brief **city tour**. Then we'll set off for the beautiful Carpathian Mountains.

On our way, we will stop in the city of Kolomyia and visit the world's Only **Pysanka** (Easter egg) **museum** to admire the art, and Hutsul Culture and Art Museum - the collection of costumes, tools and art will help you to imagine how ancient Hutsuls lived. Stop for lunch in a local restaurant before hitting the road again. Arriving in the afternoon, we'll check you in, then the evening is yours to relax and unwind.

Day 5 | Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

In the morning – take a trip to the local **Kosiv crafts bazaar**. Once a week vendors and artisans from the area get together to buy and sell art supplies, embroidery, antique items, food and even animals! See all kinds of unique items made by local women - Easter eggs, jewelry boxes, spoons, pottery, embroidery, leather goods, and many other goods. Even if you don't buy something (which is quite unlikely) – it's a real experience!

Next stop is a small Carpathian village, located higher up in the mountains, where inhabitants are passionate about preserving their ancestors' traditions. You'll be cordially invited to dinner at a **Hutsul Family House**! Learn traditional songs; watch the locals dancing, try rich, home-made Hutsul food made by the local women! Experience the famous Hutsul hospitality at its best!

Return to the hotel, rest of the evening at your leisure.

HOTELS:

1 Overnight train ride Kyiv to Ivano-Frankivsk

'Sokilske' Hotel

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

3 Nights



Day 6 | Carpathian Mountains (B/L/-)

This morning, we'll visit the village of Yavoriv, famous for its '**lizhnyky**' – unique, hand woven woolen blankets. You'll learn why only women make them, and how through the centuries this tradition has been preserved. You will even be able to try making some for yourself.

Next, we will visit a traditional Hutsul house-fortress –**Hutsul Grazhda**. This is an impressive piece of architecture, preserved for centuries, and feels like you are stepping back in time as you step through its low wooden doors. Now conserved as a museum, it displays many artefacts representing the local way of life. It was here that the famous film "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors" (a.k.a. 'Wild Horses on Fire') was filmed.

Next stop - the **Museum of Hutsul Magic!** Here you'll get to know about the mountain magicians called molphars. It is said that they could clear the dark clouds, stop the rain, and even heal diseases with tinctures from vipers...

Transfer back to the hotel. Remainder of the day at your leisure.

Day 7 | Lviv (B/L/-)

Welcome to **Lviv!** This city has many names – Lemberg, the city of Lion, Lvov, – but under any name, Lviv has always been a city of love. The historic city centre, which is included on the UNESCO World Heritage List, with its antiquated buildings and cobblestoned streets, survived through Soviet and German occupations during the Second World War, and yet it still looks almost unharmed! ! We'll get to know this beautiful city a little bit better on a **city tour**...

Enjoy the afternoon on your own as you explore and get some shopping time in at the local souvenir market, where you'll be able to stock up embroidered shirts, handcrafted souvenirs and accessories and much more!

Day 8 | Lviv (B/-/D)

In the morning we will visit **Lychakiv Cemetery**, a place where many famous Ukrainian writers, artists and other public figures have been buried, and their gravestones are a sight to behold! Next, visit **Shevchenkivskiy Hai** - a famous open-air museum, of Ukrainian village life, and a living reproduction of Western Ukraine from centuries past... Explore the reconstructed wooden houses, authentic artefacts and get a feel for Ukrainian village life. Get involved in some masterclasses or workshops in Ukrainian folklore!

Take advantage of the many suggestions we have for you today! Enjoy a final afternoon in Lviv at your leisure, before coming back together for a final **Farewell dinner** in one of our favourite restaurants!

Day 9 TOUR END DATE | Lviv (B/-/-)

After a free morning to stock up on souvenirs we will transfer you to the airport where, sadly, we will have to say our goodbyes!

HOTEL:

Vintage' Hotel | Lviv

<https://vintagehotel.com.ua/en/>

2 Nights



Suggestions to extend your trip (Number of Days is dependent on flight arrival time in Ukraine)

EXAMPLE: 3 Days Kyiv Pre-tour Extension

Three Days Prior to Tour Start Date | Depart for Ukraine

Two Days Prior to Tour Start | Arrive in Kyiv

Upon arrival in Kyiv, enjoy the **Dnipro River Cruise** by a comfortable boat and discover the major waterfront sights of Kyiv in a relaxing atmosphere. Contemplate breathtaking views on both sides of the river while your friendly local guide tells you interesting facts about the capital of Ukraine!

One Days Prior to Tour Start | Day trip to Chernobyl

Take a moving journey to **Chernobyl Exclusion Zone**, and abandoned town of Prypiat, and learn about the nuclear disaster in 1986 that forever changed the world.

Tour Day 1 | Visit to Mezhyhiria

After a leisure breakfast, head out to visit the Museum of Corruption – the **Mezhyhirya** Residence of the ex-president of Ukraine, Viktor Yanukovich. Return to Kyiv and meet the members of your tour group at the hosted **Welcome Dinner!**



Contact us to arrange your tour add-on today!

*not included in tour price.

EXAMPLE: 4 Day Lviv Post-tour Extension

Day 10 | Lviv Castles Tour: Olesko + Pidhirtsi

Enjoy a day trip to visit some of the stunning castles in Lviv's surrounding areas. We will visit the **Olesko and Pidhirtsi castles**. These castles are great examples of the fortification architecture and you will uncover many secrets of the past, exploring their territory.

Upon returning to Lviv, take some free time to shop, walk around the city or simply relax in a street side cafe.

Day 11 | Lviv: Brewery tour and explore Lviv

Take a **Brewery tour** - you will be impressed with the wide range and variety of beer in Lviv, and the enigmatic atmosphere of the city and tunes of Lviv music has transformed the process of beer drinking into a ritual that hasn't changed for centuries!

To see Lviv from a stunning panoramic viewpoint, you can climb the **High Castle hill**, which presents a bird's eye view of the city.

Visit the weapon museum located in the former **City Arsenal** - an outstanding architectural monument of the 16th century. The exhibition shows examples of ancient weapons from more than 30 countries.

Day 12 | Lviv: Art, traditions, & cuisine

Admire antique artworks at The **Andrey Sheptytsky National Museum** or enjoy unique and remarkable collection of traditional objects of national culture and folk arts and crafts of Ukrainian people in Ethnographical Museum.

Learn how to cook traditional Ukrainian food on a **culinary workshop** with Sil' Ukrainian cooking class. They will reveal the secrets of cooking delicious borsch, varenyky (pierogi), pampushky (doughnuts) and other dishes in a homely atmosphere, and lots of friendly conversation! Eat a dinner of all the delicious fresh cooked food you created.

Day 13 | Lviv Departure

After a free morning to stock up on souvenirs we will transfer you to the airport where, sadly, we will have to say our goodbyes!

Tour Details

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Airport Transfers
- All land transportation
- Escorted tour with full time Tour Leader
- Tour in English
- 2 meals a day
- 7 nights in hand-Selected hotels
- 1 Overnight Train ride Kyiv-IF
- All Events included in the Itinerary
- Internet in hotels when possible
- Interaction with local artists, craftsmen, and performers
- Special events exclusively for Cobblestone travellers
- 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

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS:

- Extend your trip
- Upgrade your room / Get a single room
- Do a side trip – visit Family
- Ukrainian Family History researched with our Genealogy service

On our Cobblestone Freeway Tour, enjoy:

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



Enjoy exclusive Folk dance/ music performances



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



INTRO TO UKRAINE TOUR 9 Days / 8 Nights

TOUR DATES & PRICES:

May 10 – 18, 2022*	\$2,596 USD*
Jun 7 – 15, 2022	\$2,730 USD
Sep 6 - 14, 2022	\$2,730 USD

TOUR LAND PRICE:

Per Person, Based on Double Occupancy
Single Supplement \$ 530 USD

Early Bird Discount: Save \$200 USD if you book at least 6 months prior to tour date.

Does not include Airfare or Travel Insurance

Prices subject to change.
Secure this price with your full \$500 USD deposit.



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