

## **ACUA Ukrainian Arts & Culture Tour | 2020**

June 30 – July 14, 2020 | 15 Days

We would like to show you how versatile and beautiful Ukraine is. Taking this trip from East will allow you to see and feel its richness and experience its hospitality. From the small villages to the big cities...

everything is an integral part of this great country.

Engage in folk art, visit cultural attractions... feel like a part of a big family!

### Kyiv - Chernivtsi - the Carpathian Mountains - Lviv

### Sightseeing | Workshops | Cultural Experiences | Zabavas







#### Day 1 TOUR START DATE | Tuesday, June 30: Arrive in Kyiv (-/-/D)

Arrive in Kyiv – the capital of Ukraine! Transfer to your hotel in the heart of the city! Enjoy free time until the evening when we will get together for a **Welcome Dinner** in one of the special local restaurants.

Kyiv is a heart of Ukraine, the city situated on the hills and both banks of Dnipro River!

One of the most ancient of Slavic cities, Kyiv for centuries has remained a major historic and cultural center. Nowadays the cultural life of the Ukrainian capital is extremely rich and diverse and represents a wide range of experimental and traditional styles.



#### Day 2| Wednesday, July 01: Kyiv (B/L/-)

After breakfast in the hotel, we will take you on a **guided walking city tour** to get better acquainted with Kyiv, explore its history, architecture and traditions. 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! Travellers throughout Ukraine and abroad come to this Pilgrimage destination to see 1000-year-old frescoes and mosaics.

Also, *St. Michael's Cathedral*, will surely impress you with its skyblue exterior and glittering golden domes which add a stunning layer to a cityscape.



Lunch in a specially chosen local restaurant, followed by a guided tour to the **Ukrainian Institute of Fashion History**, the first interactive center of historical and modern clothing in Ukraine. The Institute is a space for temporary exhibitions, thematic and educational activities and research projects in the field of fashion.

You will have the opportunity to admire the diversity and richness of costumes of the inhabitants of Ukraine, spanning the periods from ancient times to the present day.

After the tour we will transfer back to our downtown hotel. Spend the rest of this day on your own, exploring, shopping or relaxing. Your tour leader will help you with the suggestions of good cafes and restaurants for dinner.

#### Day 3 | Thursday, July 02: Kyiv (B/-/D)

Today you have the chance to visit and have a guided tour around one of the largest Christian holy places in the country - *the Kyiv Pechersk Lavra* – a world famous historical and architectural landmark. The monastery's gold - domed churches are a real feast for the eyes: the Scythian gold could rival that of the Hermitage! The tour takes you down into the underground labyrinths filled with ancient mummified monks - intriguing to say the least!



After this tour, we will transfer back to the vibrant downtown area where you will have free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we will take you for shopping to **Andriyivsky Uzviz (Descent)** – the winding street that's home to the city's artisans, craftsmen and vendors. Explore all kinds of items on their stalls, from souvenir trinkets to authentic costumes, and antique Soviet times' memorabilia

In the evening, we have a special treat – a traditional **Ukrainian Zabava** (dinner & entertainment), where everyone will have a chance to learn some traditional central Ukrainian songs and dances during our private concert with **Rozhanytsia Folk Band**!

#### Day 4 Friday, July 03: Kyiv (B/L/-)

This morning, after breakfast in the hotel, we will have an excursion to **Pyrohovo Open-Air Museum**. The exposition displays traditional Ukrainian architecture brought from various parts of Ukraine. Pyrohovo is a kind of fairy tale where you find Ukrainian huts, wide fields, shady trails, windmills, pagan stone idols and Orthodox churches. It is a nice place to relax in the picturesque outskirts of Kyiv.

On the grounds of the museum, we'll also have delicious Ukrainian lunch before returning back downtown.

Enjoy some free time for the last-minute shopping on **Khreshchatyk Street**, the main shopping street in Kyiv. Take in a lovely stroll and admiring the colorful restaurants and little stalls offering coffee and snacks. Visit souvenir stores, the iconic TSUM (Central Shopping Mall). Your Tour Leader will give you suggestions of places to visit and also accompany you on an excursion to the local supermarket to buy some snacks for your overnight train adventure!

In the evening, we will transfer to the train station and catch the train to the capital of Bukovyna – **Chernitvsi!** 

Accommodation:

Number of Nights:

Tours & Museums:

Hotel 'Dnipro' https://www.dniprohotel.ua/en/

3 Nights

Zabava with Folk Band

Highlights:

Kyiv City Tour Ukrainian Institute of Fashion History Andriyivskyi Descent Pyrohovo Open-Air

Museum

Kyiv Pechersk Lavra

Overnight sleeper train Kviv – Chernivtsi

(First Class, 2 beds/room)

1 Night

#### Day 5 | Saturday, July 04: Chernivtsi (B/-/D)

Welcome to the **city of Chernivtsi** – the Capital of Bukovyna! This sophisticated city is one of Ukraine's art, cultural, educational and architectural centers. It boasts an energetic vibe and elegant architectural structures.

Chernivtsi Art can be experienced everywhere, thanks to the rich history evident of its Austro-Hungarian structures and bunches of traditional Moldavian architectures.



Upon arrival in Chernivtsi, we will check in at the hotel and enjoy Breakfast and take some time to relax. We then take you on a **guided city tour**. The first must-visit place in Chernivtsi is the local **Hogwarts-like University** – 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.

We'll then proceed to the city centre to continue learning about Chernivtsis' fascinating multicultural history and visit the most beautiful and notable sights the city has to offer.

Free time for lunch. Your guide will recommend some great cafes and restaurants for lunch.

In the evening, we have a special treat – a **private performance of a local vocal folk ensemble**! You don't want to miss this! And to complete this perfect day – a **Bukovynian-style Zabava** (dinner & performance)!

#### Day 6 | Sunday, July 05: Chernivtsi (B / L / -)

Breakfast in the hotel then we'll take you a tour of the local **Museum of folk architecture and rural life** to see examples of the region's folk architecture. The museum presents the lifestyle of everyday Ukrainians, with many examples of furniture and clothing displayed in the various buildings.

After the tour, we will return downtown for lunch.

Later in the afternoon, we will visit the **Buko Arts Museum**, where you can admire an impressive collection of regional folk art, crafts, and costumes, in addition to participate in a beading workshop! Learn how to make a traditional 'Gerdan' – a beaded necklace.



Enjoy the rest of the evening at your leisure.

Accommodation:

Hotel 'Bukovyna' or similar http://bukovyna-hotel.com/en/

2 Nights

Number of Nights:

Highlights:

Bukovynian-style Zabava with Folk Band Beading workshop Tours & Museums:

City + University tour Museum of folk architecture Buko Arts Museum

#### Day 7 | Monday, July 06: Chernivtsi - Kosiv (B/L/-)

After breakfast and checkout, we are leaving beautiful Chernivtsi and moving on to relax in the majestic Carpathian Mountains!

On the way to our hotel, we will make a stop in a small town called **Kosiv** to visit **a woodcarver's family** - see their works and get to know their craft. You will learn how to carve a traditional Hutsul-style cross pendant, and have the opportunity to buy some souvenirs. Lunch included.



After lunch, we'll continue on travelling deeper into the mountains, passing through the local towns and villages, observing local rural life, taking pictures of the stork nests on utility poles on our way to our hotel. After arriving in Tiudiv and check in to our hotel, you'll have some free time to relax.

In the evening, upon arrival to your hotel, prepare yourself for the festive traditional **Ivana Kupala Celebration**. This holiday traces its roots to pre - Christianity, pagan Ukraine. Experience Kupala and Christian rituals and traditions! Stop by the river next to your hotel to weave wreaths and set them afloat in the quest for happiness and wealth! On top of that, couples who are in love can jump over a bonfire, on the grounds of hotel, in a bid for your future togetherness!

#### Day 8 Tuesday, July 07: Kosiv - Yavoriv - Bukovets (B/L/-)

In the morning after breakfast, we'll travel to the village of **Yavoriv**, famous for its craftsmen making their unique products – **lizhnyky** (woolen blankets). See how they are made in the same traditional manner handed down for

generations. You will also have a chance to buy some, do not hesitate to buy one – you'll definitely need one for the Candadian cold winters back home!

Next stop, is the village of **Bukovets**, located higher up in the mountains, where inhabitants preserving their ancestors' traditions! There, you'll be cordially invited to a traditional **Hutsul Wedding**. Learn traditional songs and customs, get to dance the 'Arkan' and 'Holubka', enjoy rich and absolutely natural home-made Hutsul food and observe Hutsul wedding Mass in a local wooden church! We're sure you've never been to a Zabava like this!



*Optionally:* In the evening, we invite you to **celebrate the city day of Kosiv at the 'Ludine' Festival**. It is designed to showcase the diversity of the folk costumes in the villages of Hutsulshchyna, the skills of the folk craftsmen working in this area, to attract young people to authentic clothing, and to showcase to tourists and visitors alike, that the region of Kosiv is the largest center of applied arts.

Attend the music concert in the town center and be filled with the Hutsul energy!

Day 9| Wednesday, July 08: Kosiv – Kolomyia – Kosiv (B/L/-) Today we will visit a quaint little town called Kolomyia, the centre of the region of Pokuttya. You will visit the world's only **Pysanka (Easter egg) Museum**, where you will have a guided tour and also learn how to make your own Pysanka in a special workshop.

Later on, to get acquainted with the life of Ukrainian ancestors with a visit to the **Hutsul Culture and Art Museum**, followed by lunch in one of our favorite restaurants in Kolomyia.



After the transfer back to your hotel, you can enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure.

**Optional**: In the evening you may take some SPA treatments, including relax in purifying sauna or massage; otherwise, you may go or a walk around the territory of the hotel surrounded with mountains! (Please book at the beginning of your tour with your Tour Leader)

#### Day 10 Thursday, July 09: Kosiv (B/L/-)

In the morning after breakfast, we will visit famous **Kosiv Arts College**, where you'll see how the future artisans are taught. Be amazed by the woodcarving, pottery, weaving and embroidery works you'll see there!

Later on, we will visit the local **Kosiv Mini bazaar**, where local artisans skillfully produce Easter eggs, jewelry boxes, spoons, pottery, embroidery, leather goods, and many other goods.

After some quality shopping, we'll drive back to our hotel for some free time to relax. In the evening a local **Zabava** in traditional Hutsul style together with local folk band. By now on the tour, you know that a Zabava is much more than just a dinner and performance.

Accommodation:

Hotel 'Sokilske' or similar <a href="http://sokilske.com.ua/en/">http://sokilske.com.ua/en/</a>

Number of Nights:

4 Nights

Highlights:

Pysanka making workshop Lizhnyky workshop

Woodcarving workshop

Hutsul Wedding Hutsul-style Zabava Tours & Museums:

Pysanka Museum Hutsulshchyna Museum Kosiv Arts College

#### Day 11 Friday, July 10: Kosiv - Lviv (B/L/-)

Today we are leaving picturesque mountains and taking a scenic drive to Lviv!

Lviv is a centre of Galicia region and a city with a charming medieval atmosphere, delicious coffee, chocolate, beer and sincere, open-minded people!

It has been a cultural, literary, and historical jewel of Ukraine for many centuries. Today, it enters the new stage of development, aiming to impress even the most sceptic connoisseur of beauty.



Upon arrival to Lviv, we will have lunch, then check in to your hotel with some free time to relax.

In the afternoon, we will provide a brief **city orientation**, so you will know the closest exchange places, ATMs, best souvenir stores and the restaurants with most delicious food! Then to reveal the historical and romantic sides of this city we will take you on a **retro train excursion**. The train starts from the Central Square and makes a one-hour circle ride around the city centre area – just perfect for the first acquaintance with the city.

Use the rest of this evening at your discretion. Your guide will help you with the suggestions of places to explore, things to do and places to dine.

#### Day 12 | Saturday, July 11: Lviv (B/L/-)

In the morning after breakfast, we will continue 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 will have lunch together and then you'll be able to explore the city on your own. You may also take advantage of shopping in the city: numerous souvenir stores, art galleries and an open-air craft markets offer a variety of artwork, embroidery, woodcarving and more! Your Tour Leader will give you lots of suggestions what to do and where to go in Lviv, from exploring to relaxing!

#### **Day 13** | **Sunday, July 12**: Lviv (B/-/D)

In the morning - optional church visit for those, who want to experience the spiritual side of Lviv.

On this day we'll take you on another adventure, we will bus over to visit the famous **Shevchenkivskyi Hai** – an open-air museum, where samples of housing from different parts of Ukraine are collected. You will be able to experience a music instruments workshop.

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 borsch, varenyky, pampushky and other dishes in a cozy atmosphere, comfortable environment and lots of friendly conversation! Dinner of all the delicious fresh cooked dishes is included.



#### Day 14 | Monday, July 13: Lviv (B/-/D)

In the morning after breakfast, enjoy the **Vytynanka (paper-cutting) workshop** with a local paper artist. In the past, vytynanky were used to decorate windows, walls, shelves and stoves. Traditionally, a vytynanka tells a story of village life: celebrations, weddings and births. During the workshop the secrets of this unusual art will be revealed and you will have the chance to make your own vytynanka in a **workshop**.



Later on, we will take you to a small private **ethno gallery** of Roksolyana Shymchuk, a designer of unique jewelries in the Ukrainian ethnic style,

dolls maker, collector of authentic old Ukrainian clothes, and owner of the ethno-gallery. Her works are represented in private collections on all continents.

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 15**| **Tuesday**, **July 14**: **Lviv** (B/-/-)

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy your last day in Ukraine, sneak in some last-minute shopping until time for your transfer to the airport where, sadly, it is time to say Goodbye and go back home or continue on to new exciting destinations.

Accommodation:

Hotel 'Lviv' or similar https://hotel-lviv.com.ua/en

Number of Nights:

4 Nights

Highlights:

Sil' Ukrainian cooking

class

Vytynanka workshop

Lviv-style Zabava

Tours & Museums:

Lviv retro train tour Lviv walking city tour Shevchenkivsky Hai Shymchuk Ethno-gallery

Thank you for travelling with Cobblestone Freeway!

## THERE IS SO MUCH INCLUDED:

#### **SERVICES:**

- Airport transfers
- Fully Escorted tour from beginning to end!
- Tour in English
- Workshops as listed on the itinerary
- Entrance fees
- Meals as listed in Itinerary

#### ACCOMMODATIONS:

- 13 nights in quality hotels
- 1 Night in a sleeper train from Kyiv to Chernivtsi (First class, 2 beds/cabin)

#### TOURS, TRANSPORTATION & GUIDES:

- Tours and Events included in the itinerary
- All land transportation
- Experienced guides throughout the tour
- Cobblestone Freeway t-shirt

#### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Alcoholic Drinks
- Meals not listed on the Itinerary
- Flights
- Laundry & Telephone Services
- Tours & Attractions not included in the itinerary or marked Optional
- Tips for guides / drivers/ maids
- Travel Insurance
- Personal Expenses

#### **HOTELS:**

City	Hotel	Check in	Check out	Nights
Kyiv	'Dnipro' Hotel or similar https://www.dniprohotel.ua/en/	June 30	July 03	3
Overnight train	#117K Kyiv - Chernivtsi	July 03	July 04	1
Chernivtsi	Hotel 'Bukovyna' or similar http://bukovyna-hotel.com/en/	July 04	July 06	2
Kosiv	Hotel 'Sokilske' or similar http://sokilske.com.ua/en/	July 06	July 10	4
Lviv	Hotel 'Lviv' or similar https://hotel-lviv.com.ua/en	July 10	July 14	4

# On our Cobblestone Freeway Tour, enjoy:

Enjoy exclusive Folk dance/ music performances



Enjoy exclusive workshops



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



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





## Plus!

Every time you travel with us you get a stamp in your Cobblestone Freeway passport.

Once your passport is full - you are entitled to a free trip with us!

## Options while in Kyiv

Be a Kozak for a day, and the

Mamajeva Sloboda Kozak

Village!

Visit the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and abandoned town of Prypiat.



Learn more about Ukraine's complicated past at the WW2 Memorial and Museum.



Take a river cruise down the



Dnipro River.



Visit Mezhyhiria - the Museum of Corruption.

Visit poet Taras

Shevchenko's Burial

Place in Kaniv.





# Options while in Lviv

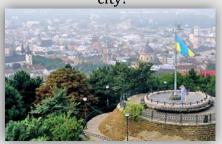
Wander the mysterious Lychakiv Cemetery.



Taste the best varieties of local beer and learn its long history in Lvivarnya Beer Museum



Visit the High Castle Hill to get scenic panoramic view of the city!



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



Visit the weapon museum located in the former City Arsenal



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 (please book with our office 2-6 months prior).

#### Moving Forward on the Cobblestone Freeway in 2 easy steps:

- 1. Review your Custom Specialty Booking Agreement for all your Terms & Conditions proceeding with registrations and deposits is acceptance of terms in Booking Agreement for this tour.
- 2. Send this Itinerary with your custom Online Registration Link to all your contacts for your group.

#### ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK for ACUA Folk Arts and Culture 2020 Tour

https://cobblestonefreewaytours.wufoo.com/forms/registration-acua-ukraine-tour-2020/

Register Now! Reserve your space on this tour today. Click on the link above and complete your online registration form. Upon completion of the form, you will be prompted to enter your Visa or MasterCard for your \$500 USD deposit.

#### **EARLY BOOKING INCENTIVE: SAVE!**

Book by Friday, January 24th, 2020 (with online registration and deposit) and SAVE \$100 USD per person!

#### **LAND PACKAGE PRICE:**

\$ 3250 USD per person

The price is based on tour minimum of 12 – 19 travellers, double occupancy\*

\$ 3111 USD per person

The price is based on 20 -23 travellers, double occupancy\*

\$ 2983 USD per person

The price is based on 24 -29 travellers, double occupancy\*

\$ 2794 USD per person

The price is based on 30 or more travellers, double occupancy\*

Single Supplement \$996 USD

NOTE: **The more travellers that book, the more you save!** The price will be adjusted to a lower price at time of final payment (90 days prior to travel date).

NOTE: If group minimum is not met, then package will be repriced based on lesser number of travellers

- \* Price is based on registered bookings received by Cobblestone Freeway Tours (CFT) by your Group Deposit Date of Friday, January 24, 2020\*\* Price is not guaranteed past this date if minimum number is not met..
- \*\* We welcome booking requests made after your Group Deposit Date of January 24, 2020. Price and availability will need to be verified for those booking after this date and price may increase.

#### **PAYMENTS & PAYMENT POLICY:**

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Please make payments to Cobblestone Freeway Tours Ltd. according to the following dates: DEPOSIT prior to Friday, January 24, 2020 of \$500 USD per person done online with registration link. FINAL PAYMENT due by Friday March 27, 2020

NOTE: All payments must be made in USD or CAD equivalent (based on the currency exchange rate on day of payment). Please make payments out to COBBLESTONE FREEWAY TOURS LTD in the form of Cheque, Money Order, Bank Draft. Credit card payments can be called into our office or made online at www.cobblestonefreeway.ca/payment or call our Edmonton office during business hours. (Visa or MasterCard)

#### LATE PAYMENT

A Late Payment Fee will apply if payment is made more than 7 days after final payment due date.

- Payments received 7 -30 days after final due date \$500 USD administration fee will apply
- Payments received more than 30 days after final due date the tour may be considered cancelled and cancellation terms will apply

#### TOUR ITINERARY CHANGE POLICY

Changes in your custom tour made after first deposited passenger will need to be repriced and may result in price increase.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

Cancellation notice must be in writing to Cobblestone Freeway Tours Ltd.

- Cancellation between 179 and 90 days \$500 USD per person cancellation fee will apply.
- Cancellation between 89 and 60 days prior to departure cancellation fee of 50% of land tour cost will apply.
- Cancellation between 59 and 30 days prior to departure cancellation fee of 75% of land tour cost will apply.
- Cancellation within 29 days of departure or no-show 100% of the tour cost is non-refundable.

<u>NOTE</u>: While on tour, any unused services such as: transfers, sightseeing, meals, hotel accommodations, entrance fees, or any other services listed in the tour itinerary are non-refundable and non-transferable.

#### **FLIGHTS:**

Flights are not included in our land prices. They may be purchased through a travel agency recommended by *Cobblestone Freeway Tours, Ltd* or a travel agency of your choice. You may decide to arrange for all passengers to travel together. Please contact us to receive more information.

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE NOTICE:

Travel insurance is **not** included in the tour price. *Cobblestone Freeway Tours Ltd.* **strongly** recommends the purchase of a comprehensive travel insurance package, which covers health, luggage and trip cancellation. Please consult a licensed travel consultant to purchase your Travel Insurance. Please note that we cannot accept responsibility for any losses or expenses, which you or any member of your party may incur as a result of failing to secure adequate coverage.