

High Peaks of the Balkans

Trip Code: HPB

Version: HPB High Peaks of the Balkans



WALK & TREK



GUIDED GROUP



CHALLENGING



HIGHLIGHTS

- An amazing trekking journey through the heart of the undiscovered Balkans
- Climb the mighty three - Korab (2751m), Gjeravica (2656m) and Zla Kolata (2534m)
- Boat across Lake Koman and overnight in bustling Tirana, Albania's capital
- A real off the beaten track experience in the land of the Via Dinarica trail

AT A GLANCE

- 5 days walking
- Max altitude - 2751m
- Join at Tirana

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- All meals included
- 2 nights Hotel
- 1 nights Traditional Hut
- 3 nights Guesthouse
- 1 nights Camping

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This Classic KE 8 day holiday includes an amazing trekking journey through four of Europe's most exciting countries with the opportunity to climb to spectacular summits in each. In the heart of the Balkans - Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and Macedonia offer a rich melting pot of culture, cuisine and history combined with spectacular alpine scenery. We start our adventure in welcoming Albania and kick off the week in true KE style by summiting its tallest peak - Mount Korab (2751m). Located on the border between Albania and Macedonia, Korab sits in the Korab-Kortinik National Park. Next we head to the Republic of Kosovo with its rich traditions and simple lifestyle. Kosovo is a true undiscovered gem and we climb Mount Gjeravica (2656m), the second highest in the Dinaric Alps range. After Kosovo we cross-border trek between Albania and Montenegro through a remote and wild landscape before finishing our adventure by summiting the highest point in Montenegro - Zla Kolata (2534m). Finally we take a ferry through the fjord landscape of Lake Koman and a final night in Tirana sees us celebrate in the bustling capital of Albania. If you are looking for a new trekking holiday that is a KE classic - dramatic peaks to summit, amazing scenery and a spot of "the undiscovered," then this is the perfect choice!

Is this holiday for you?

This is a real mountain journey with significant amounts of ascent and descent on each day. Trails are generally good underfoot but you need to be prepared for difficult sections with no obvious path to follow and overgrown terrain. There are steep ascents and descents which cannot be avoided as we trek from one valley to another and include a number of summits. You need to be prepared for continuous sections of stony ground, scree, narrow mountain paths and brief sections of scrambling. Occasionally there may be the snow patches to cross. Each day you'll carry a daypack with everything you need for a full day in the mountains whilst your main kitbag is transported by horses. You will be hiking through a remote area and need to be prepared to walk for an average of 7 to 8 hours each day and for several days continuously. Each overnight has basic facilities so this holiday is suitable for fit and experienced hill walkers who are looking for a challenging mountain journey with a simpler style of accommodation. (Please note that early booking is recommended so we can secure your permits for Kosovo).

Itinerary

Version: HPB High Peaks of the Balkans

DAY 1

Meet at Tirana Airport. Transfer to the foothills of Mount Korab.

The group will meet at Tirana Airport before transferring (3 hours) to the remote hamlet of Tejze (1100m) in the far North-West corner of Albania. Our journey takes us along the 'Road of Nation', a scenic motorway connecting Albania to Kosovo which cuts through the middle of the Mirdita Highlands. Tejze is located at the base of Mount Korab and is the main gateway to the mountain. A cluster of houses above the village of Radomire, this is the end of the road and tomorrow we'll walk directly from our accommodation. Transferring from Tirana Airport in the evening, we will stop for dinner at a roadside restaurant en-route to our family run guesthouse in Tejze. During dinner we'll be briefed on the week ahead.

Meals: **D**



Accommodation
Guesthouse

DAY 2

Ascent of Mount Korab (2751m). Transfer to Gjakova in the Republic of Kosovo.

Today starts with an early breakfast before we head off on our first full day of walking. We have the added bonus of walking directly from our accommodation on a woodland trail that is soft underfoot and takes us over rolling hills covered in fir trees. An hour after leaving the guesthouse we'll reach an open plateau. For the next couple of hours the trail climbs slightly more steeply towards higher ground and we walk over a pass known as The Korab Gate. This spectacular pass is southwest from the main summit and our trail offers superb views towards Little Korab (2500m) which is opposite the main Korab summit. We'll also have a fantastic panorama across to Macedonia's Mavrovo National Park. The final part of the climb is on a "goat trail" which is not exposed and ascends gradually all the way to the summit. From the top the views are fantastic and after the all-important summit photos we'll start our descent which takes approximately 3 hours. We'll return back down to the village hopefully in time for a welcoming cup of mountain tea. After brief refreshments we'll transfer (3 hours) to Gjakova in the Republic of Kosovo where we overnight in a hotel near the historic ottoman bazaar. Over dinner we'll be briefed on the plan for tomorrow when we head into the heart of the mountains and leave civilization behind!

Meals: **B L D**






	Accommodation Hotel		Ascent 1500M		Descent 1500M		Time 8 - 9 hrs trekking		Distance 16KM
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DAY 3

Ascent of Mount Gjeravica (2656m) before trekking to the Doberdol Plateau.

After breakfast, we drive (2 hours) in 4WDs until the end of the mountain road. Here we leave our vehicles and start on the trail to Mount Gjeravica. From now until the end of the trek we'll be hiking through a remote area as our kit bags are carried by horses. For the first hour the trail is easy underfoot as we head off on a footpath that is just above the tree line. Once we are above the tree-line and over the next two hours, the climb becomes slightly steeper as we approach a beautiful section of the trail which traverses a wide ridge. There are awesome views over the Sulbica gorge on our left and the pretty Gropat e Erenikut Meadows on our right. This is one of the main routes to the top of the second highest point in Kosovo and as we contour the shore of the splendid alpine Lake of Gjeravica. The final section of the path (approximately 1 hour) towards the top becomes steeper and slightly more rugged underfoot. From the summit we are rewarded with breathtaking views including the Accursed Mountains of Albania. After the all-important summit photos and our picnic lunch, we'll start our descent towards Albania on wide open trails and across grassy slopes. The descent (2.5 - 3 hours) includes views of three lakes which are part of the Doberdol-Sulbica plateau - the lakes of Dashi, Sulbica and Verdhe. Tonight we overnight on the Doberdol Plateau (1600m) in simple but traditional shepherd's huts. These basic structures offer a "camping" experience without a tent and are similar to a "Scottish mountain bothy." Managed by a local shepherd, each hut has a basic kitchen and dormitory style accommodation. Tonight's dinner will be prepared in the hut.

Meals: **B L D**

	Accommodation Traditional Hut		Ascent 1050M		Descent 1050M		Time 7 - 8 hrs trekking		Distance 18KM
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DAY 4

Trekking from the plateau of Doberdol to the alpine village of Çeremi (1200m).

This morning we may wake up to the sound of the resident cows and sheep! This whole area is used by mountain shepherds who head up to high pastures during the summer months to provide their flocks and herds with alpine meadows to graze, before returning to the valleys in the autumn. After breakfast we'll start on the trail which is mainly undulating and good underfoot for the majority of the day (6 - 7 hours). Today is really interesting and historically important as we cross-border hike between Albania and neighboring Montenegro. We'll be walking on dirt tracks that were used in the times of the Communist regime to patrol the border with Montenegro. During the day we'll hike along a gentle ridgeway overlooking the Gashi River Valley and its protected area. The Gashi River starts in the glacier area of Doderdol and flows in the area of Valbona. The valley is famed for its oak, coniferous and beech forests which are home to brown bears, chamois, wolf and eagles. Towards the end of our trekking day we'll

leave Montenegro and descend gradually into Albania as we follow a gravel road which runs alongside the Markofsha stream. Finally we reach the small village of Çeremi (1200m) and our simple guesthouse with a welcoming hot shower! We are surrounded by un-spoilt nature in a village which is only used in the summer months - a peaceful end to a fantastic day of walking.

Meals: **B L D**






	Accommodation Guesthouse		Ascent 525M		Descent 1100M		Time 7 hrs trekking		Distance 16KM
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DAY 5

Ascent of Zla Kolata (2534m) the highest peak in Montenegro.

After breakfast we leave the village of Cerami and start along a beautiful forest trail for the first hour of the day. Rich in birch trees and densely forested, this wonderful woodland has meandering streams running through it. After leaving the woodland we reach a grassy plateau which has views towards the Kollata massive and for the next two hours we'll pass meadows which lead us to the Bori Pass, the natural border into Montenegro. After crossing into Montenegro the next part of the route (1 - 1.5 hours) is slightly more technical. Here we'll make our way through a dramatic limestone landscape which contains narrow trails and brief scrambling sections. The final steep climb brings us to the summit of Zla Kolata - Montenegro's highest peak. Here our hard work is treated to amazing views not only towards Montenegro "Black Mountains" but also across The Accursed Mountains, the most dramatic part of the Albanian Alps. Our descent takes approximately two hours as we initially head down the same way before making a detour off after the area of limestone. This trail takes us to the wild and remote area of the "Lugu i Persllopit Trough" (1500m). This narrow alpine basin is truly off the beaten track and sees very few walkers. Our luggage and tents will have already arrived so whilst the leader and camp staff organise dinner, we'll have time to prepare for a night under canvas.

Meals: **B L D**

	Accommodation Camping		Ascent 1500M		Descent 1100M		Time 7 - 8 hrs trekking		Distance 15KM
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DAY 6

Morning hiking before an afternoon spent relaxing or walking in the local area.

After the past few days of relatively challenging trekking today is shorter (about 3 hours). This morning we'll wake up in a wonderful setting and have breakfast before we start our descent to the Valbona Valley. Initially we walk on a forest trail that is soft underfoot and make our way through a beautiful area of woodland. This trail brings us to the elevated mountain terrace of Bregu i Rrethit. A rocky plateau provides spectacular views down onto the Valbona Valley and across to the rocky dome of Mount Jezerca (2694m) the highest peak in this range. Finally our trail descends steeply into the secluded

hamlet of Kukaj, before reaching the bottom of the Valbona Valley (800m), and our guesthouse which we will reach by midday. The afternoon is free to relax in the picturesque surroundings, relax with a book or just lie back and enjoy and solitude. If you're feeling energetic you can explore the local area on walking trails that lead to the higher meadows of Grykat e Hapura just above the tree-line.

Meals: **B L D**


	Accommodation Guesthouse		Ascent 70M		Descent 650M		Time 3 hrs trekking		Distance 3KM
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DAY 7

Lake Koman and Tirana the capital of Albania.

An early morning start today as we leave the narrow valley of Valbona and take a transfer (1 hour) to the tiny port of Fierza. Here we board a local ferry boat to travel across the spectacular Lake Koman. Our journey lasts for almost 3 hours and this is a wonderful way to experience a fjord style landscape. With its steep sides, high mountains and occasional farmstead the lake is perfectly still and gives a feeling of stepping back in time. Originally created by the River Drin this wonderful area used to be the main transport link for local people until the Kosovo motorway was built. After the end of our journey on Lake Koman we transfer (3 hours) to the bustling capital of Albania - Tirana. Here we'll stay near in the centre and after checking in at the group hotel we'll head out to stroll through Tirana on foot. We'll wander through large boulevards of Italian, Communist and Ottoman architecture and experience Tirana coming to life at night. Dinner tonight will be in the lively area of Blloku which is the most popular place for local Albanians to head to in an evening. Here we'll celebrate with dinner in a local restaurant and a few drinks including, for the brave, the local raki!

Meals: **B L D**

	Accommodation Hotel
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DAY 8

Departure Day.

Your holiday ends after breakfast. You may wish to do some further exploration of Tirana or extend your stay here before making your way to the airport by taxi in time for your departing flight. If you would like to extend your stay in the capital of Albania then please contact the KE office and we can assist with this.

Meals: **B**

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Single timed airport transfer on arrival
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- All land transport required by the itinerary
- National park entrance fees
- All excursions mentioned in the itinerary

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Departure airport transfer
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the hotel in Tejze.

A single timed transfer is provided from Tirana Aiport in the early evening of Day 1.

On the last day of the itinerary airport transfers are not included. Getting to Tirana Airport by taxi or shuttle bus is straightforward.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All meals are included in the holiday price, from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8.

Food & Water

Many places on this holiday have drinkable water from the tap to fill your personal water bottles. Please check with the leader at the various locations. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) for days when drinking water out of the tap is not available. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

The food of the Balkan is a real mix of Turkish and European and during this holiday there will be plenty of freshly cooked food using local ingredients. Breakfasts are simple in style, with bread and jam, tea, coffee and sometimes eggs or cheese. Packed lunches are provided (bread, meats, cheeses, tomatoes, cucumber, fruit and biscuits). The simple accommodation on this holiday is deep in the heart of the mountains and the lifestyle is very basic. Therefore “packed lunches” will not be the same as you are used to at home. If you’re someone who enjoys chocolate/sweets/nuts on the trail then please feel free to bring extra snacks from home. What is prepared is freshly cooked and evening meals are based on what local families would have themselves - traditional soups and bread, locally-grown vegetables and salads, dairy produce, rice and meat. Although simple the guesthouses will also provide a vegetarian alternative but please note that cheese, eggs and other dairy produce is used frequently in Balkan dishes. Water is provided, but very often this is from local wells or mountain streams and is not chlorinated. If you are concerned about drinking untreated water, we suggest you bring a supply of water treatment tablets.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Accommodation

During this holiday, the group will spend 2 nights in comfortable 3* tourist class hotels in Tirana and Gjakovo.

There will be 3 nights in simple village guesthouse/lodge accommodation with dormitory rooms of between 4 and 6 people per room. It may be necessary for male and female group members to share, depending on the make-up of the group. Each guesthouse is run by a local family and whilst charming, they have basic facilities. However the warm welcome and location more than makes up for the lack of hotel facilities!

There will be 1 night of camping and 1 night staying in shepherd accommodation which can be compared to a Scottish or mountain bothy - "camping without a tent." These huts are managed by local shepherds during the summer months. Although basic the sleeping area has proper mattresses on the floor, blankets are provided and there is a rustic toilet. Food is prepared by one of the local shepherds alongside the leader and staying here offers a fantastic opportunity to overnight in a remote location.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex for the 2 hotel nights. Single rooms are available for a supplementary cost for these 2 nights. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotel are available on request.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied throughout by a professional English-speaking local mountain guide and a driver for transfers etc. In addition the group will be supported on trek by baggage animals (horses) and their handlers who will assist with chores when camping.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

Approximately £100 should be allowed for miscellaneous expenses including drinks and reasonable tips to the support crew. If you intend to buy expensive souvenirs, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect). Kosovo & Montenegro use the Euro, and the Lek is the currency of Albania. You should obtain Euros for this holiday. By far the easiest way to obtain your travel cash is from ATM's using a credit card or a debit card. ATM's are available in the arrivals hall at the airport in Tirana.

Guidance on Tipping

Tips do not form part of the wages of local staff but they are very much appreciated. It is important to remember that tipping is voluntary and should be dependent on good service. It is best if the tip is given at the end of the trip by the group as a whole. We recommend that each group member contributes around £30 and that tips are then distributed between the guide and support staff as the group feels is appropriate.

Additional Information

During this holiday we trek across the borders of Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro. A trekking permit will be applied for on your behalf by our local agent. Please send a copy of your passport into the KE office after you have been confirmed on the holiday.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage, which should be a soft duffel bag, and a daypack. Your bag while on trek will be carried by a team of horses. The packed weight of your trek bag whilst trekking including your sleeping bag /sheet liner and and camping mattress should be no more than 16 kg. There is no weight restriction as such on this holiday other than that imposed by your international carrier.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

For this holiday we require a scanned copy of the main pages of your passport. Please email this to the office when your holiday is guaranteed to run.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella, along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

Currency

The unit of currency in Albania is the Lek.

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

Preparing for your Holiday

It makes a lot of sense to spend time before coming on a trekking holiday getting some additional exercise. Regular walking in hill or back country is the best preparation whilst running and swimming are also good for developing better cardiovascular fitness and stamina. It makes sense to have some long days in the mountains walking in the boots you will be using on the holiday.

Climate

Daytime temperatures in the lower valleys will vary between 15°C and 30°C at the times of year we operate this trip. The weather in summer is generally excellent - with hot days, clear skies and little rain. Note that temperatures do drop in the evenings in the mountains by several degrees. High up, we will encounter cooler conditions and stormy weather cannot be ruled out at any time of year in this wild mountainous region.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](https://www.travelaware.gov.uk)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

- Western Balkans Lonely Planet
- Southeastern Europe Lonely Planet
- The Accursed Mountains - Robert Carver
- Broken April - Ismail Kadare
- High Albania - Edith Durham
- The Mountains of Montenegro - A Walkers and Trekkers Guide. Rudolf Abraham. (Cicerone)
- Kosovo Bradt guide

Maps

Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro

1:600,00. Detailed, double-sided road map of Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, with index and city centre street enlargements of Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Ljubljana. Clearly shows the national road network and selected provincial and local roads, with each class of road clearly indicated and road numbers shown. Intermediate driving distances between locations are shown in kilometres alongside the road, motorway filling stations are shown and motorway junctions are indicated.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

The following checklist should help you with your packing. As a general rule, you should always try to keep the weight of your equipment to a minimum.

You must bring the following items:

- Hiking boots
- Socks
- Trekking trousers
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear
- Baselayer shirts (1 short sleeve, 1 long sleeve)
- Light fleece shirt or mid-layer
- Warm fleece jacket or jumper
- Waterproof jacket
- T-shirts or casual shirts
- Lightweight thermal gloves
- Sunhat
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 30 litres
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including for lips)

- Water bottles 1 Litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)

Water purification tablets (Water is provided, but very often this is from local wells or mountain

- streams and is not chlorinated. If you are concerned about drinking untreated water, we suggest you bring a supply of water treatment tablets.)

- Washbag and toiletries

- Travel towel

- Antibacterial hand wash

- Small padlock (to lock your KE trek bag)

- Thermarest or similiar lightweight camping mattress

- Sleeping bag

- Name and address label for your trek bag (for Customs when the bags travel across borders by vehicles unaccompanied by their owners)

Basic First Aid Kit including Insect repellent (DEET); antiseptic cream; throat lozenges; diarrhoea

- treatment (Diocalm or Immodium); painkillers; plasters and blister treatment; and re-hydration salts (Dioralite). Glucose sweets and vitamin tablets are a useful addition.

The following items are optional:

- Trainers or sandals

- Spare laces

- Shorts

- Travel clothes

- Trekking poles

- Camera

- Pen-knife
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers. [>> Find out more](#)

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary, joining at the guesthouse in Tejze. A single timed transfer is included from Tirana Airport on arrival.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London Heathrow to Tirana, Albania. Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the early afternoon, arriving in the early evening of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary. Return flights will depart in the early evening of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK later that same evening.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Pioneered by KE leaders, an exclusive to KE holiday, with a maximum group size of 12. This superb Balkan adventure is an adventure classic - awesome peaks to summit, genuine mountain days, dramatic landscapes, wild regions, expert mountain guides and all meals. Want to know more? Speak to Emily our High Peaks expert before securing your adventure. You can also read about, journalist, Ben Lerwill's fantastic Balkan experience with KE in the Sunday Observer Magazine

Please Note This document was downloaded on 18/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change