

Tour to Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova

Key information

Duration: 16 days / 15 nights

Best season: May - September

Tour type: Small group / individual (starting from 2 persons)

What's included:

Airport transfers, Accommodation in 3* hotels, Meals: breakfast, All transfers (vaccinated drivers), English speaking guide service for all days (vaccinated guides), All admission fees, Excursion on Ales Los farm, Musical performance, Drinks and meal on the farm, Visit to Brest Fortress, Visit to Missil Museum, Excursion at Chernobyl Exclusion zone

What's not included:

Flights, Visa fee, Medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival - Minsk City Tour

Day 2 - Minsk - Hrodna

Day 3 - Brest - Brest City Tour

Day 4 - Brest - Lviv

Day 5 - Lviv - the Carpathians

Day 6 - Verkhovyna - Chernivtsi

Day 7 - Chernivtsi City Tour - Kamianets-Podilskyi

Day 8 - Ukraine-Moldova boarder - Chişinău

Day 9 - Cricova - Orhei Vechi

Day 10 - Chişinău City Tour - Tiraspol - Odesa

Day 11 - Odesa City Tour

Day 12 - Odesa - Kyiv

Day 13 - Kyiv City Tour

Day 14 - Chernobyl - Kyiv

Day 15 - Kyiv City Tour

Day 16 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

After your arrival in Minsk, you will have a transfer to the hotel and check-in. Your first day in Belarus will start with a sightseeing tour around its capital, Minsk, a city with an interesting history and cozy atmosphere. Modern Minsk with its wide avenues and green parks is a truly European city, convenient and comfortable for travelers. The tour will start from the city's main landmark and a city symbol – the Gates of Minsk. You will continue your walk to Independence Avenue, the main street of Minsk with a number of key attractions. Here you will stop to admire Independence Square - one of the biggest squares in Europe; it is a central location of the seat of government and the historical scene of numerous demonstrations. Your further tour program will include many important historical, cultural and religious attractions like the Church of St. Simon and St. Helena, the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, the Orthodox Peter and Paul Church to the Trinity, the October Square, and the Belarusian National Library. Founded in 1922, this “diamond of knowledge” will surprise you with its rich collections of books, printed and electronic resources. The building of the library offers an amazing observation deck with the best view of the city.

Overnight: *Hotel in Minsk*

Day 2

In the morning you will explore the last important attractions of Minsk. The first site to visit will be a well-known graffiti street - a wonderful extraordinary place for young people and for those who appreciate creativity and street art. The street is known not only for its colorful graffiti made by Belarus and Brazilian artists but also for its cafés and bars. The city tour will end with a visit to the attractive Centralny shopping arcade to indulge in the country's culinary delicacies. After a while, the noisy megapolis will be left behind as you will head to Hronda city through beautiful and quiet natural areas. On the way, there will be a stop in the midst of green forests where the famous Belarussian musician Ales Los lives. He will invite you to his house and introduce to his musical instruments and even perform some beautiful Belarussian motifs for you. During lunch consisting of traditional dishes, Ales will tell you about his artist life. Your last tour destination is Hronda city located in the border triangle with Poland and Lithuania. It has its own architectural style not similar to the Soviet architecture of other cities. You will stroll along its Soviet Street and admire the old houses, cafes and boutiques. You won't miss its main landmark, the Orthodox Boris and Gleb Church, which is one of the oldest in Belarus.

Overnight: *Hotel in Hrondo*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 3

The day will start with a trip to Brest - a cozy well-groomed city in the southwest of Belarus, a regional center with a rapidly developing economy and a rich cultural life. The sightseeing tour will let you plunge into the city's 1000-year history and admire its main attractions, beautiful flowers, and old monuments. Of course, you won't miss its main sight - the Brest Fortress Complex - one of the most important monuments of Soviet military history. The fortress witnessed the tragic events of the Second World War and was a site of the first battles. Nowadays the monumental sculptures, places of bloody battles, and the Museum of Defense opened in the restored barracks, remind us of the feat and bravery of the Brest soldiers.

Overnight: *Hotel in Brest*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 4

In the morning you will head to the border with Ukraine and proceed with your trip to Lviv - the seventh-largest city in the country and one of the main cultural centers. Lviv will surprise you with its unique European atmosphere, cobbled streets, bean-perfumed coffeehouses, and colorful trams. With the help of your guide, you will start acquaintance with the city and its main sights. The city tour will let you visit Rynok Square, see typical Austrian streets and walk around the medieval part



of Lviv known for its Market Square.

Overnight: Hotel in Lviv

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5

After breakfast, your acquaintance with Lviv will continue. On this day you will visit the Opera House and High Castle Hill which is the highest point in the city with the best view. Later you will see the former Austrian casino and St. George's Cathedral distinguished by its rococo architecture. After lunch, you will have a pleasant trip to the Carpathians which are the beloved recreation site of Ukrainians and travelers from all over the world. The highlands delight with their incredible mountain lakes, fresh air of dense pine forests, and adorable alpine villages. On your way, you will make a stop at a local lady's home who keeps the tradition of weaving woolen blankets. You will watch the weaving process and then have a dinner consisting of homemade dishes.

Overnight: Hotel in Verkhovnya

Meals: Breakfast

Day 6

This day you'll enjoy the beauty of the Carpathian highlands and visit Verkhovnya village. Your adventures will start early in the morning with a cheerful trip by an off-road truck. Then you will have a 40-minute hike to pastures where you will meet friendly shepherds and watch the process of milking animals and cheese production. After enjoying lunch with shepherds you will head to Chernivtsi. On the way, there will be a stop at a museum of Hutsul Everyday Life. Hutsuls is an ethnic group in Ukraine, which have their interesting traditions. The museum is ethnographical, it hosts exhibits that have been collected during 30 years, those are everyday objects, ancient Hutsul clothes, tools etc.

Overnight: Hotel in Chernivtsi

Meals: Breakfast

Day 7

Your day will start with a sightseeing tour around Chernivtsi historical center. Chernivtsi is a city located in western Ukraine, in the Ukrainian part of Bukovina region. You'll stroll along Kobylianska Street; see the City Hall, Teatralnaya Square. You will also taste Bokovinian dishes which have their own specific peculiarities. The last sight to visit in this area will be the National University. Next you will head to Kamianets-Podilskyi – a beautiful city surrounded by a horseshoe-shaped canyon. After visiting the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Paul and the St. Nicolas Armenian Church you will reach the main attraction of this city - Kamianets-Podilskyi Castle – a fascinating structure from a fairy tale. It was founded in the 14th century on a giant rock surrounded by a deep canyon. Here you will have a chance to travel back in time and observe gates, bastions and viewpoints.

Overnight: Hotel in Kamianets-Podilskyi

Meals: Breakfast

Day 8

In the morning you will leave Kamianets-Podilskyi and head to the border with Moldova. After passing the customs you will make your way to Chişinău – a wine-and-food loving capital of Moldova, the city where grandiose Soviet architecture is mixed with gloriously brutal modernity. On the way, there will be a stop at Khotyn Fortress which is an attractive old fortification complex with a stunning view of the Dniester River.

Overnight: Hotel in Chişinău

Meals: Breakfast



Day 9

This day you'll visit the famous Cricova Winery for a tour and wine tasting. The winery is a gem of Moldovan wine production. Annually it attracts a number of tourists due to its unique underground city with labyrinths and excellent wine. The Cricova wine cellars are the second-largest cellars in the country and the labyrinths stretches for 120 km. The trip will continue to Old Orhei – a historical and archaeological complex in the open air. It is known for ancient monasteries and eco-villages. Here one can explore the traces of old civilizations, the remains of old fortresses, as well as well-preserved cave monasteries. There is also a beautiful functioning Orthodox monastery inhabited by monks.

Overnight: *Hotel in Chişinău*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 10

The morning will start with a sightseeing tour around Chisinau. With the help of your guide, you will learn the cultural, historical facts and legends. The tour will include the central part of the city with great administrative buildings and cultural centers like the Presidency, the Parliament, the National Theatre M. Eminescu, the Organ Hall, and the Theatre of Opera and Ballet. Your journey will continue to Odesa town, Ukraine. On the way, there will be a stop in Tiraspol – the center of the unrecognized Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic. The atmosphere of this interesting city will let you travel back in time to the USSR.

Overnight: *Hotel in Odesa*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 11

That will be an unforgettable day as you're going to explore Odesa - an energetic, atmospheric, boom city located on the shores of the Black Sea. Odesa is a gem of Ukraine with its own specific atmosphere. This seaport is known for its rich history, delicious cuisine, splendid architecture and lots of places for beach holidays. You will stroll along its old-aged streets and see attractive art buildings like the Opera and Ballet Theater, archaeological and marine museums and others. You'll also visit Primorsky Blvd. – one of the main symbols of Odesa. After enjoying the fascinating view of the marine terminal and seaport your excursion will end and in the afternoon you will have a free time to enjoy the city by yourself.

Overnight: *Hotel in Odesa*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 12

After breakfast, you will start your trip to Kyiv – the capital of Ukraine and its most populous city. On the way, there will be a stop at the Cold War-era nuclear missile base. You'll walk down a 150-meter long underground corridor and take a lift 12 floors down to the “Red” button of the Unified Launch Control Center.

Overnight: *Hotel in Kyiv*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 13

Your day will be devoted to the exploration of the gems of Kyiv. Being an important industrial, scientific, educational and cultural center of Eastern Europe, Kyiv is a beautiful city where modern architecture is harmoniously combined with old buildings, unusual museums coexist with ancient monuments, and Orthodox churches peacefully stand along with Gothic castles. Your tour program will include visits to such important attractions as the Golden Gates, St. Sophia Cathedral, St. Andrew Church, and St. Michael Golden-Domed Church. You'll also walk along Khreshchatyk Street – the shortest yet widest main street in the world. The tour will end at Maidan Square where all the Ukrainian revolutions had started.

Overnight: *Hotel in Kyiv*

Meals: *Breakfast*



Day 14

This day you will head to Chernobyl - a partially abandoned city in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. The city was evacuated in 1986 when a tragic nuclear disaster happened. The Chernobyl Zone beckons visitors, and no wonder - many people want to feel the atmosphere of the abandoned city, walk along its abandoned streets, look into abandoned houses and, plunge into this tragic and mysterious part of history. You'll also visit the ghost city Pripjat located near Chernobyl. Then you'll continue your way to Kyiv.

Overnight: *Hotel in Kyiv*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 15

The morning will start with the second part of Kyiv city tour. The first visit will be to Kyevo Pecherska Lavra – an amazing golden-domed monastery that attracts pilgrims from different corners of the world. It is one of the most important Orthodox shrines, founded in 1051 and now protected by UNESCO. Later you will discover the largest monument in Kyiv - the Motherland Statue, and then, proceed your tour to the museum devoted to the WWII. After the end of the excursion, you will return to your hotel and have a free time. A farewell dinner will be a pleasant end of your tour.

Overnight: *Hotel in Kyiv*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 16

Transfer to the airport, departure.





Booking terms and conditions

Once we received your application, confirmed all tour details with you, we will send a deposit invoice. After the deposit of 50-100 euro per person (depending on the tour price) is received, we will start your hotel reservation and other service booking and will send your Tour Voucher with all the trip details.

Payment Terms

After you have booked the tour, it is necessary to make a non-refundable deposit of 50-100 euros, which will provide our coordinators with the possibility to start organizing a trip (hotel reservation, food, transportation, etc.). Final payment could be made after your arrival on the spot. We reserve the right to cancel your booking and apply the relevant cancellation charges (detailed below) if we do not receive all payments at the due time.

Cancellation of the tour

If you or a member of your group wants to cancel the tour, please, inform our company as soon as possible in writing form. Please, note that the prepayment (50-100 euros) is non-refundable; however, you can use it throughout the year and book another tour. In this case, our company will have to charge an extra 100 euros for re-booking the hotel.

Rights and obligations

Tours provided by our company are planned for many months before its inception and are not the subject of change or cancellation. Under the obligation of forced circumstances (weather, holidays) we can make some changes in the itinerary, however, all that relates to services and attractions will remain unchanged.

Please note, that our tours require a minimum number of participants – 2 persons. We reserve the right to cancel the trip, if any tour will not have the minimum number of participants. We will inform you about the cancellation of the tour no later than 30 days before the start and will do the full refund of the amount paid, including the prepayment.

We also request immediately and promptly report all complaints and any claims during the tour. If possible, all problems will be solved. If the tourist does not report any complaint, the compensation will not be implemented.

Please, also note that the company AraraTour is not liable for services not included in the tour price. Our responsibility is limited only to the extent provided by our tour.

Force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control and which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part frees both parties from liability or obligation. In case of Force majeure, we don't issue any refund.

Insolvency or bankruptcy insurance

Tour operator Arara guarantees the refund of clients' money for unfulfilled services even in the case of company's own insolvency or bankruptcy.

