



Croatia

15 days – Aug 2024

DAY 1 – 03 AUG

ZAGREB

Welcome to Croatia. Your day is at leisure before meeting your Host and Tour Director. Overnight and dinner at the hotel. (D)

DAY 2 - 04 AUG

ZAGREB - TRAKOŠĆAN - ZAGREB

Zagreb is home to a mix of 18th and 19th century buildings with many charming parks, squares and city markets. You will discover Ban Jelačić Square and medieval settlements of Gradec and Kaptol. See the Cathedral, Dolac Market, Tkalčićeva Street, Stone Gate and St Mark's Church. Proceed through the Hrvatsko Zagorje region to visit Trakošćan Castle dating back to the 13th century. It is Croatia's most celebrated and romantic castle due to the surrounding parklands and lake. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner in one of Zagreb's most loved restaurants. (B, D)

DAY 3 - 05 AUG

ZAGREB - LJUBLJANA

Head to the Slovenian capital city of Ljubljana. Ljubljana lies in a basin between the Karst and Alpine region. This city with a soul features the Baroque Old Town nestled at the foot of Castle Hill, the Art Nouveau mansions and masterpieces of the renowned architect Jože Plečnik. We visit the local markets and explore the city before taking funicular train to Ljubljana Castle, for lunch at local Slovenian restaurant. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 4 – 06 AUG

LJUBLJANA - BLEĐ - RADOVLJICA - LJUBLJANA

Lake Bled, together with its surroundings ranks among the most beautiful alpine resorts. Enjoy a Pletna boat ride along the lake to Bled Island. See St Mary's Church and later continue to the old medieval castle up on the cliff. The enchanting views and fairy-tale beauty are sensational. After sightseeing, enjoy a memorable lunch in Bled. Continue to visit a local producer of honey, to learn about the beekeeping

tradition in Slovenia and to sample their products. Before returning to Ljubljana for an evening at leisure, we stop in Radovljica for a stroll through this magical little town. (B, L, T)

DAY 5 – 07 AUG

LJUBLJANA - POSTOJNA - PREDJAMA - MOMJAN - POREČ

Postojna Cave is one of the world's largest karst monuments. For 140 years train journeys have been taking visitors through the caves to see the spectacular subterranean world. Photo stop in Predjama Castle before arriving to the small village of Momjan where we visit an award-winning winery of famous local wines. This evening, dinner is at the hotel in Poreč. (B, T, D)

DAY 6 – 08 AUG

POREČ - MOTOVUN - POREČ

The seaside town of Poreč is home to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Euphrasius Basilica from the 6th century AD. The apse of the Basilica is ornately decorated with figural mosaics noted as one of the most remarkable examples of mosaic art in Europe. Proceed to the gorgeous hilltop town of Motovun, possibly the most picturesque medieval hilltop town of inner Istria. Lunch will be served in locally, where you will experience a tasting of Istria's most famous delicacy, their truffles. Upon arrival back to Poreč, evening is at leisure. (B, T/L)

DAY 7 – 09 AUG

POREČ - ROVINJ - PULA - VODNJAN - POREČ

Rovinj is one of the most romantic towns on the Mediterranean, with its cobbled streets, squares and picturesque buildings. Enjoy a tour and some free time here to explore the town and its must-see local markets, before meeting for lunch at a local restaurant. Continue to Pula with its impressive Roman Amphitheatre, the Temple of Augustus and the Arch of Sergii. There is a long tradition of olive oil making in Istria and we get a taste of this in Vodnjan where we visit a renowned family producer of olive oil. Return to Poreč where the rest of your day is at leisure. (B, L, T)

DAY 8 – 10 AUG

POREČ - VENICE - POREČ

Enjoy a day trip to Venice. A walking tour will show you the highlights including St Mark's Square, St Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace, Bell Tower and Bridge of Sighs. Visit a glass blowing factory and watch a master artisan demonstrate this traditional Venetian art. The rest of your day is at leisure to experience Venice. Late afternoon return to Poreč for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 9 – 11 AUG

POREČ - OPATIJA - RASTOKE - PLITVICE LAKES

Today we depart for the Plitvice Lakes. Enroute stop in Opatija, one of the most popular seaside resorts on the Adriatic. It is often referred to as Croatia's Monte Carlo and was once the playground of the Austro-Hungarian nobility. Continue to Plitvice with a stop in Rastoke. Rest of the day is at leisure before dinner this evening. (B, D)

DAY 10 - 12 AUG

PLITVICE LAKES - ZADAR - ŠIBENIK

The Plitvice Lakes are Croatia's most popular tourist attraction. The beauty lies in its sixteen lakes, interconnected by a series of waterfalls, set in deep woodland populated by deer, bears, wolves, boars and rare bird species. After discovering the National Park we continue to the Dalmatian coast for our visit of Zadar, one of the most charming old Dalmatian cities dating back to Roman times. Steeped in history, visit the Roman Forum and St Donatus Church, the Romanesque St Grisigono's Church, St Mary's Bell Tower and St Anastasia Cathedral. Take a stroll along its beautiful promenade with Sea Organ & Greetings to the Sun, a sound and light spectacle and award-winning architectural space. We depart

Zadar and travel along the Dalmatian coastline where our next stop is Šibenik. Upon arrival the rest of the day is at leisure before dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

DAY 11 – 13 AUG ŠIBENIK - SKRADIN - KRKA WATERFALLS - PLASTOVO - ŠIBENIK

Discover the oldest Croatian city on the Adriatic and see Croatia's most beautiful monument, St James Cathedral. We visit quaint town of Skradin before continuing to the Krka Waterfalls National Park. Experience the natural beauty of the largest of the seven waterfalls, Skradinski Buk on Krka River. Visit the authentically restored ensemble of small stone houses, workshop, exhibits and watermills, and enjoy a beautiful walk through forest pathways and wooden bridges. We continue to the village of Plastovo to visit one of Croatia's most famous wineries, for an unforgettable lunch and wine tasting. Late afternoon arrival back to Šibenik, the rest of your day is at leisure. (B, T/L)

DAY 12 - 14 AUG ŠIBENIK - SALONA - KLIS - SPLIT

This morning we are transferred to the ancient Roman ruins of Salona before arriving to Klis. The medieval fortress, built by the Illyrians over 2,000 years ago, overlooks the village and offers breathtaking views of Split and the Adriatic Sea. We continue to a unique family owned estate where we partake in a cooking class lunch, visit their ethno-village and learn about traditional Dalmatian life, and the production of local delicacies. Upon return to Split the rest of the afternoon is at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 13 - 15 AUG SPLIT - BOKOVO - TUČEPI - DUBROVNIK

Breakfast at the hotel and departure to Dubrovnik. Enroute stop at the Biokovo Nature Park for a visit of the Skywalk. Take in the impressive views of the Makarska Riviera and Islands before a lunch stop at a local restaurant in Tučepi. Later proceed to Dubrovnik with a photo stop in front of the Pelješac Bridge. Overnight in Dubrovnik with evening at leisure. (B, L)

DAY 14 - 16 AUG DUBROVNIK

Morning at leisure to explore Dubrovnik at your own pace. In the afternoon enjoy a folklore show representing a rich traditional culture, musical and dance heritage of the Dubrovnik region and Croatia. This evening experience local cuisine and spectacular views of the fortified Old Town, all from the dinner table. (B, D)

DAY 15 - 17 AUG DUBROVNIK

This morning after breakfast farewell the beautiful city of Dubrovnik. For those of you returning home, or travelling onwards you will be transferred to Dubrovnik Airport. We are sure you will have made many friends and have a wealth of memories to treasure and take home with you. Sretan Put. (B)

Can be combined with our Croatia Small Ship Cruise

COST

NZ\$13,075 per person twin share

NZ\$16,575 single

Twin-share options for solo travellers, subject to availability.

INCLUSIONS

- Kiwi/Croatian Travel Host
- 14 Nights in mainly 4* hotels
- All transfers as per itinerary
- 14 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 7 Dinners (B, L, D)
- Tour Director / Local Guide
- Modern A/C motor coach
- Service charges & hotel taxes
- Authentic Food & Wine Experiences (T)
- Porterage & Tipping
- Authentic dining experiences at local restaurants
- Traditional Pletna boat ride along Lake Bled
- Visit a traditional Slovenian apiary & learn about their beekeeping traditions
- Wine tasting in Momjan
- Truffle Tasting lunch in the heart of the Istria region
- Olive Oil Tasting at a family owned estate
- Venice full day excursion
- Wine Tasting & lunch at one of Croatia's most renowned Dalmatian wineries
- Visit to Salona & Klis Fort, followed by a cooking class of traditional Dalmatian cuisine
- Sightseeing with local guides & entrance fees

EXCLUDES

- International airfares
- Travel Insurance
- Items of personal nature
- Meals not specified
- Optional sightseeing