



Croatia has more than **1000** islands to discover! Start with a couple of days in the capital Zagreb before heading Adriatic Sea to catch a glimpse of this ancient Venetian Territory. Look forward to boating along the pristine coastline with clear blue waters. Hospitable Croats offer up local products such as lavender, olive oil, feta cheese, and uniquely rare wine varietals which are enjoyed together by the sea. This tour takes you through the whole history of Croatia, from Austria-Hungary to Venice to Yugoslavia to the new independent state, longstanding protectorate of Catholicism in Eastern Europe.

## Coasting Thru Croatia

Zagreb \* Sibenik \* Hvar \* Dubrovnik

**May 4-15, 2019**

Land Package \$3900 CDN (10 pax)

Land Package \$4275 CDN (8 pax)

*In double occupancy No taxes apply*

This tour starts in Zagreb on May 4 and ends in Dubrovnik on May 15.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Air Fare and airport transfers, meals not mentioned, wine with meals unless mentioned, cancellation insurance, tips and gratuities.

Activity Level: Leisure ○○○○○ Adventure

### WHAT IS INCLUDED?

#### Lodging:

- 3 nights in Zagreb
- 1 night in Zadar
- 2 nights in Sibenik
- 3 nights in Hvar
- 2 nights in Dubrovnik

#### Meals:

- 9 breakfasts
- Cooking school in Hvar with wine
- Welcome and Farewell meals

#### Transport:

- Ferries: Split to Hvar/Hvar to Dubrovnik
- Ground Transport in Minibus

#### Sites:

- Guided visit of Zagreb
- Day in Samabor - Kristal demo
- Wine taste near Zagreb
- Plitvice Lakes National park
- Musical Organ - Zadar
- KRKA National Park
- Wine tasting - Tomic winery on Hvar
- Dubrovnik's Medieval Wall
- Dubrovnik's Gondola

**Personal Guide - Natascha**

### **VM TravelAdventures**

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**Day 1 Sat. May 4 ZAGREB** Arrival in Zagreb. Transfer to the Palace Hotel. Welcome cocktail with your guide.

**Day 2 Sun. May 5 ZAGREB (B)**- Meet your local Canadian-Croatian guide Melita at the Palace Hotel. Embark on an historical walking tour of the city center and enter the St Stephen's Cathedral, the tallest building in the country. Next, climb up to the old town to see Zagreb's views and ancient landmarks such as St. Mark's Church. Afternoon to visit the parks and museums. Evening to explore the Promenade to see the buskers and night life.

**Day 3 Mon. May 6 ZAGREB (B,L)** Today is an excursion into the hills around Zagreb to partake in a wine taste and to visit Samabor, home to lead crystal. Enjoy the center of this Austrian style town with its many boutique shops before enjoying a traditional meal of wild boar at the reputed restaurant since 1929, Gabreku. Return to Zagreb for the evening.

**Day 4 Tues. May 7 ZADAR (B)** Heading cross country towards the Adriatic a midpoint stop at the Plitvice lakes National Park is a must! Enjoy a picnic lunch as you walk along the wooden bridges with waterfalls as the backdrop. Continue on to Zadar to check into your hotel before discovering the limestone walking streets of this university town. A special walk along with boardwalk will introduce you to the music of the sea organ built in 2005 which plays to the tune of the waves of the sea. Overnight in Zadar.

**Day 5 Wed. May 8 SIBENIK (B)** After breakfast your private transport will take you to Sibenik, another coastal city just 1.5 hours south of Zadar. Afternoon to settle into your apartments before exploring the boardwalk and St James Cathedral. One of the best restaurants in Croatia, The Pelligrini is close by if you choose to enjoy a gourmet meal.

**Day 6 Thurs. May 9 SIBENIK (L)**

Full day excursion to the KRKA National Park. In the park enjoy a guided walk that will lead you past exotic waterfalls. You have the option to dip in for a quick swim. This excursion will take you to the non-touristy region of the falls for some walks, views of the Monastery and other falls while enjoying lunch at a local tavern with their cold cuts and local wine. After a visit to a practicing Monastery where Paul preached to the Christians in its catacomb the minibus will take you back to Sibenik for the evening. Option to prepare meals.

**Day 7 Fri. May 10 HVAR** Take the coach along the sensational coastal road to Split. Visit the Diocletian's Palace before taking the 1 hour ferry to the town of Hvar on the Island of the same name. Nestle into your lodging at the Hotel Croatia before taking walking to the town to catch dinner in many of the unique restaurants. Views of the archipelago await among the clear blue waters.

**Day 8 Sat. May 11 HVAR (B,L)** Today is an adventure into the countryside to participate in cooking adventure among the ruins of an old village. This young couple presents a hands on cooking experience from bread to the famous Peka (meats and vegetables cooked in fireplace under a bell and desert of course - all Croatian dishes. Continue on to the Tomic winery for a tasting of 6 wines paired with local cheeses. Evening back in Hvar to enjoy the sunset.

**Day 9 Sun. May 12 HVAR (B)**

Free Day to visit the local Islands or spend the day in Hvar, perhaps walking up to the castle or take a local water taxi to the Island of Palmizana just 20 minutes away to enjoy the day sunning on the rocks and dining in a seaside resort amongst the yachts. Time to relax and enjoy the rich red wines from the ancient wine producing island of Hvar.

**Day 10 Mon. May 13 DUBROVNIK (B)**

Take the morning ferry to the neighbouring Island of Kortula and carry on to the capital city, Dubrovnik surrounded by its medieval wall. Check into the Hotel Adria and opt to participate in the Game of Thrones tour before walking the Medieval Wall. Enjoy a sensational sunset in Dubrovnik's old Port.

**Day 11 Tues. May 14 DUBROVNIK (B,D)**

Free Day for sightseeing and shopping. Evening ride up the gondola to view the medieval walled city against the sea. Capture the sunset while you enjoy a gourmet dinner overlooking the vista... now that you have fallen in love with the azure waters of the Croatian coast!

**Day 12 Wed. May 15 IN FLIGHT (B)**