

CROATIA –SOUTHERN DALMATIA FROM DUBROVNIK

8-days / 7-nights of moderate cycling (with one or two challenging ascents) from and back to Dubrovnik



Our cycling-tours in Southern Dalmatia - the smallest and most sparsely populated region in Croatia - will take us past unique little towns and through beautiful island countryside. With the addition of the UNESCO world heritage listed town centre of Dubrovnik, with its imposing city wall and narrow alleys, this becomes the perfect introduction to the Dalmatian Coast. Other highlights include the splendid island of Korčula with its picturesquely situated old township, the wine growing peninsula of Pelješac and to the south of the peninsula the island of Mljet, with its impressive national park.

We offer one of our newest Premium Plus boat for this cruise, an elegant, modern, comfortable motorised yacht with generous cabins & superior fittings.

Our moderate graded cycling tours are all-inclusive. They require a good level of fitness, which can be acquired from steady cycling practise. The tours will range up to a height of 200 - 500m above sea level. The daily itineraries of 20 - 40km will take you through hilly, sometimes mountainous terrain without any time-constraints. There are long and steep climbs but there is plenty of time to rest or walk as you choose. You are free to set aside a time each day to swim or relax on board the boat as the mood takes you. We will travel mostly on sealed roads (rarely travelled outside the holiday season) and each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join with the two multilingual tour guides.

Premium Plus cruise: AU\$1710 per person (twin share lower deck cabins). Single cabin supplement: \$485

Upper deck: Supplement: AU\$85 per person (twin share). Single cabin: AU\$170

Departs: 15, 22 Apr, 6, 20 May, 3, 10, 17* Jun, 8*, 23 Sep, 7, 14, 21* Oct 2012

* Denotes special departures or different itineraries – ask for details

Cruise includes: 8-days on a motor yacht with crew, double / twin or single cabins with shower/toilet, bed linen and towels, full board on the ship which includes breakfast, lunch & dinner, English-German speaking tour guide & 7-guided cycling tours as described in the itinerary with bicycle hire (bicycle insurance can be pre-purchased if required), City tour of Dubrovnik, entrance fees for the National Park of Mljet, overview-maps for the daily tours (available on board).

Not included in tour: Personal expenses, gratuities, local fees, port taxes (@ € 20pp paid to captain), drinks – tally sheet onboard to be paid at end of trip. Taxi transfer airport/ship in Dubrovnik (one way @ € 40 paid locally)

CALL OUTDOOR TRAVEL ON 1800 331 582 FOR DETAILS OR RESERVATIONS



SUGGESTED ITINERARY – subject to weather & sailing conditions

Day 1 (Sunday) Arrive Dubrovnik and cruise to Šipan Island

(Cycling @ 10 km)

Make your own way at 11am to board the boat at the Dubrovnik harbour. After lunch, take a short cruise to the island of Šipan, the largest of the Elaphiti Islands. A pleasant afternoon bike ride takes you past the numerous luxury villas of Dubrovnik's rich, through green forests, fertile valleys and subtropical parks. Overnight on Šipan.

Day 2 (Monday) Mljet Island

(Cycling 35 km)

In the morning, the ship makes a 2-hour-crossing to the "honey island" of Mljet. From the ferry harbor of Sobra, we cycle to Pomena, to meet the boat for lunch. Most of Mljet Island is covered by forest and it is one of the most densely wooded islands in the entire Mediterranean. Homer mentioned it in his Odyssey, as the home of the nymph Calypso, who kept the famous hero there for seven years. Take short afternoon bike tour into the National Park of Mljet, where in the 12th century, Benedictine monks founded a monastery, in a fabulous location on a small island, which can be reached by a small boat.

Day 3 (Tuesday) Lastovo Island

(Cycling 30 km)

Lastovo is one of the smallest inhabited islands in the Adriatic. The emperor Augustus appreciated its mild climate and in Roman times it was even named "Augusta Insula" after him. The islanders, little more than 1000, still make a living fishing, farming or in viticulture. The yellow-golden white wine "Marastina" grapes are grown here, a wine known well beyond Croatia's borders. After an extensive exploration of the island, the ship takes a long cruise to the island of Vis.

Day 4 (Wednesday) Vis Island

(Cycling 32 km)

Vis is the Croatian island located furthest from the mainland. 2000 years ago it was a Greek colony called Issa. Strategically important, along with Lastovo it was a military zone prohibited to foreign tourists until 1995. After lunch, the ship takes us to the island of Hvar. The island capital of the same name is one of the high points of every journey to Dalmatia. On a long walk, become acquainted with the beautiful medieval town centre and the Spanish Fortress rising high above it. Afterwards there is the chance to end the day in a cosy wine bar.

Day 5 (Tuesday) Korčula Island

(Cycling 26 + 12 km)

After cruising to the Island Korčula, cycle first from Vela Luka to Prigradica and meet the boat for lunch. In the afternoon explore the eastern part of the island, which is known as one of the most beautiful in Dalmatia. A short bike tour on an even road leads us from Racišće to Korcula town. The island capital vies with Venice for the honour of being the birthplace of Marco Polo. There is plenty of time to discover the fantastic old town with its fish bone like alleys.

Day 6 (Friday) Pelješac Peninsula

(Cycling 30 km)

The morning starts with a cruise along the Peninsular Pelješac to Trstenik. Pelješac, with the 1.000m high Sv. Ilija massif, is impressive from quite a distance. The lovely Plavac and Dingač wines originate from the local winegrowing area. Today's bike ride takes us from Trstenik to Prapatno, where you meet the boat for lunch. In the afternoon the boat sails to Slano on the Croatian mainland.

Day 7 (Saturday) Mainland around Slano

(Cycling 20 km)

After breakfast we cycle from Slano to Trsteno, where the boat meets you for the last cruise to Dubrovnik. After lunch, the boat moors in Dubrovnik, so there is enough time to take the guided tour through this World Heritage site listed town and for a walk to the impressive city walls. The last evening aboard includes a communal dinner and a last get-together with crew and tour guides.

Day 8 (Sunday) Disembark

Tour ends after breakfast in Dubrovnik.



We offer this as a Bike & Boat cycling tour however, you can decide each day if you want to join the bike ride cycling as part of the group with the guide or independently or not to ride at all if you prefer to stay with the boat. The tour requires a minimum number of passengers to operate.

Outdoor Travel offers Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, the islands of Greece, the Lycian Coast of Turkey, in several locations in Italy and in Vietnam.

Bike & Barge cycling cruises are available on many of the canals & rivers of Europe including the Seine, Loire Valley & Burgundy or Provence in France & on the 2-week route between Paris & Bruges through the Somme WW1 battlefield & memorial sites in northern France. We also offer several routes in Holland, Belgium & Germany – along the Saar, Moselle & Rhine or in the Venice region of Italy.

Inn-to-inn cycling tours are available in most destinations in Europe, Australia & New Zealand - ask for details

Contact the experienced staff at Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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