

## CROATIA – SOUTHERN DALMATIA

8-days / 7-nights moderate to challenging cycling from near Split **PREMIUM PLUS**



Explore the unique villages and beautiful islands of Southern Dalmatia – the smallest and most sparsely populated region in Croatia – on an exciting cruising and cycling holiday. Experience the splendid island of Korčula with its picturesque old township and the lavender-covered island of Hvar. Sail and cycle with an experienced tour guide to the charming towns of Trogir, Hvar, Korčula and the artists' colony at Stari Grad.

Our moderate graded cycling tours require a good level of fitness, and regular cycle training beforehand. Elevations range to 200 - 500m above sea level. The daily itineraries of 20 - 50km will take you through hilly, sometimes mountainous terrain without any time-constraints. There may be long and steep climbs but there is plenty of time to take a rest too. Set aside a time each day to swim or relax on board the boat. We cycle mostly on quiet sealed roads and each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join with the multilingual tour guides. E-bikes are an ideal way to neutralise the steeper hills.

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| <b>Cost from:</b>                  | <b>\$2945</b> per person (twin share lower deck)                                  |
| <b>Upper deck supplement from:</b> | <b>\$355</b> per person (twin share)  |
| <b>Mid/High season supplement:</b> | From: <b>\$175-\$350</b> per person applies May, June, August and September       |
| <b>Single cabins:</b>              | Single cabins are available with a supplement on request - ask for details.       |
| <b>Departs:</b>                    | 26 April, 10, 31 May, 7, 21 June, 5 July, 23 August, 6 September, 11 October 2024 |

**Includes:** 7-nights on a crewed motor yacht, comfortable cabins with shower/toilet, 2 days at full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner), 5 days at half board (breakfast and either lunch or dinner), multilingual (English/German speaking) tour guide, guided cycling tours as shown in the itinerary, hybrid bicycle hire, maps for the daily tours (available on board).

**Not included:** Personal expenses, gratuities, local fees, drinking water and local port & tourist taxes (approx. €60 per person paid to captain), meals taken ashore on half-board days, drinks (tally sheet onboard to be paid at end of trip), bicycle insurance (available for additional cost), transfer to/from the ship in Trogir. E-Bike hire available at extra cost (on request).

*This is a Bike & Boat cycling tour however, you decide each day if you want to cycle with the group and guide, ride independently (using the maps provided), or not cycle at all and relax onboard the boat. Non-cycling passengers are welcome on these tours (but no sightseeing is provided for non-cyclists on cycling days).*

*This tour is also offered as a **Premium Plus E-Bike** tour – a similar itinerary, with longer cycling distances, onboard Premium Plus boats – ask for more details.*

**CALL OUTDOOR TRAVEL ON 1800 331 582 FOR DETAILS OR RESERVATIONS**



**Suggested itinerary** – subject to weather and sailing conditions at the discretion of the captain / tour guide

**Day 1 Friday: Trogir – Island Solta**

Arrive in Split and make your way to the harbour of Trogir (about 5km by taxi) to board the ship between 2.00pm and 2.30pm. At 3pm we cruise to a quiet harbour on the Island of Solta, with time for a swim after a day of travelling. Overnight stay at Island of Solta.

**Day 2 Saturday: Island of Vis**

**cycling @ 31km**

Start the day with a cruise to the furthest inhabited island from mainland Croatia, the Island of Vis. A Greek colony called Issa inhabited the island 2,300 years ago. Due to its strategic location, it was a military zone until 1995 and prohibited for foreign tourists. Now though we have the opportunity to explore the lovely island by bicycle. We have plenty of time to enjoy the island and spend the night here.

**Day 3 Sunday: Island of Korčula**

**cycling @ 30km**

The peace and remoteness, the lush vegetation and myriad cypress trees make the island of Korčula perhaps the most beautiful of the Dalmatian islands. Our cycle tour leads us to the village of Blato, like Rome built on seven hills. We return to Vela Luka where the ship is moored overnight.

**Day 4 Monday: Island of Hvar: Hvar Town – Stari Grad – Jelsa – Stari Grad**

**cycling @ 22 + 20km**

Start the day with a cruise to Hvar town on Hvar Island. Before we begin our cycle tour there is time to visit the magnificent Renaissance Square and enjoy the view from the Spanish Fortress situated high above the city. We cycle along an almost traffic-free road through small villages and over the pass to Stari Grad. In the afternoon cycle through vineyards on the Stari Grad plains and then a picturesque coastal road to the quaint harbors of Vrboska and Jelsa, known locally as “little Venice”, before returning to Stari Grad, which has become a Mecca for artists and art lovers in the past few years.

**Day 5 Tuesday: Brač Island: Milna – Postira**

**cycling @ 30km**

We cruise to the island of Brač, which is famous for its shining white marble used for the White House in Washington DC and the Reichstag in Berlin. We start our bike tour in Milna, cycling through small, charming villages and past local architectural relics before hugging the coast taking in the views across the channel to the mainland, then onto the neighboring town of Postira. The night is spent in the quiet harbour of Postira.

**Day 6 Wednesday: Split or Omiš and Cetina Canyon**

**cycling @ 20km**

After a cruise to Split, either cycle through the Marian Forest Park in Split with a swim break at a local beach or take an optional 4-hour rafting tour on the Cetina River (at extra cost) and a tour of Omiš with its pirate castles, through a varied and interesting rocky landscape. In the afternoon we re-group to explore Split, where we stay overnight. The old town of Split, built adjoining the famous palace of the Roman Caesar Diocletian, is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

**Day 7 Thursday: Šolta Island - Trogir**

**cycling @ 20km**

This morning we cruise to the island of Šolta for a 4.5km hike, with a visit to the local beekeeper, Goran along the way. Goran has worked with bees his whole life; he teaches of their importance to the world and allows his guests to sample the delicious honey products that he makes. We ride past the fields, olive groves, and fig trees lining the roads of Šolta, accompanied by the sharp scent of rosemary. We return to the ship to load the bikes then cruise past the red cliffs of the Čiovo Peninsula to Trogir. If time permits, you may take a tour of the old town which again is world heritage listed. Our evening dinner together is a traditional get-together with the crew and tour guides.

**Day 8 Friday: Disembark**

Tour ends after breakfast in Trogir. Split Airport is just a short taxi ride away for your onward connections.



**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 Tuscany, Amalfi or Sicily in **Italy**. Bike & Barge cycling cruises are available in the **Seine, Loire Valley** and **Burgundy** or **Provence** in France and on the **Paris to Bruges** route through the Somme WW1 battlefield and memorial sites. We offer several routes in Holland, Belgium including the **Amsterdam to Bruges**, or the **Saar, Moselle, and Rhine Rivers** in Germany.

**Inn-to-inn cycling tours**, guided in groups or self-guided with luggage transfers, are available in most destinations in Europe, China, Japan, Canada, the USA, in South Africa and in New Zealand - ask for details.

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

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