

CROATIA – DUBROVNIK ISLAND HOPPING **GREAT VALUE HOLIDAY**

8-days / 7-nights or 5-days / 4-nights Sea-kayaking from Dubrovnik to Kolocep, Sipan and Elaphite Island



Explore the clear blue Adriatic Sea, Dubrovnik and the many Elaphite islands of Croatia by sea-kayak. With simple yet comfortable guesthouse / villa-style accommodation join our friendly guides on our regular small group holidays paddling past Dubrovnik's old city walls to some of the many small unspoiled islands nearby. We offer an island hopping week or a short break for those with less time.

Duration: 8-days / 7-nights sea-kayaking week or 5-days / 4-nights sea-kayaking short break

Cost from: Sea-kayaking week: **\$1530** per person twin share Single supplement \$275
\$80 per person High Season Supplement (July and August)

5-day short break: **\$1045** per person twin share Single supplement \$185
\$80 per person High Season Supplement (July and August)

Departs: Saturdays 11th, 18th May; 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th June; 6th, 13th, 20th July, 2019
Sundays 28th July; 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th August, 2019
Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th September; 5th October, 2019

Includes: 4 nights of private guesthouse accommodation in Lopud (both tours), 3 nights private guesthouse accommodation on Sipan Island (week tour only), 7 or 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 or 1 dinners in local restaurant, 5 or 3 days guided sea kayaking, fully-equipped sea-kayaks (paddles, life jackets, spray deck), ferry tickets and local transfers as indicated

Not Included: Meals not mentioned, drinks, optional sightseeing or personal expenses

Difficulty: Moderate

A typical day: Morning: Our base is a guesthouse where we stay overnight and meet each morning for breakfast. The main activity is paddling and we stop en route at hidden beaches and caves for swimming, snorkelling and exploring.

Lunch: We take a break from kayaking at typical local taverns and restaurants where the food is delicious and the prices reasonable. On the islands there are also shops to buy sandwiches or snacks.

Afternoon: After lunch we usually take a siesta as it is the hottest part of the day. We can swim, snorkel, explore the island or simply relax in the shade and enjoy a coffee. After siesta we continue our kayaking tour.

Late afternoon: We return to the guesthouse usually in plenty of time to shower and relax before dinner.

Evening: We usually dine in a traditional local restaurant. Two dinners are included in cost for the full week program and the food is usually typically Mediterranean with meat or seafood specialities, fresh vegetables seasoned with olive oil, and salad. Vegetarian dishes are usually also available.

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Suggested Itinerary: *The daily program is an outline and is determined by the tour guide each day.*

Day 1 Arrival in Dubrovnik

Free time in Dubrovnik until we meet at Dubrovnik's port of Gruz in the late afternoon or early evening for the short ferry to the island of Lopud. Lopud with its rich vegetation and mild Mediterranean climate offers two splendid sandy beaches and with the exception of a few bikes there is no traffic. Highlights include two 16th Century castles and typical stone houses. Meet other tour members and get the basic information about your holiday from our guide. We stay in a family-run guesthouse in Lopud.

Day 2 Paddling around Lopud

Paddling distance @ 8km

After breakfast served on the terrace of the local restaurant, we introduce you to kayaking in Croatia in a shallow protected bay: our guide will explain safety procedures and give tips on paddling and technique. We then kayak along the scenic part of Lopud to the sandy beach at Sunj where we stop for a swim and perhaps a traditional local game of 'picigin'. In the afternoon there is free time to explore Lopud on foot. Dinner is included this evening. Around one hour introduction to kayaking, three hours paddling, two hours snorkelling or swimming.

Day 3 Paddling: Kolocep – Lopud

Paddling distance @ 16km

After breakfast and a short walk to Sunj we paddle to the island of Kolocep, which offers a stunning coastline. We kayak along the wild dramatic coastal side facing the open sea with views of green forests, stunning steep cliffs, breathtaking blue caves and rock formations. We stop for a swim at the Blue Cave and to explore the picturesque village of Donje Celo with free time for lunch. There is free time to relax on the beach or stroll around the island. In the late afternoon we paddle back to Lopud. Around three hours of paddling, three hours of snorkelling and swimming.

Day 4 Paddling: Lopud – Trsteno

Paddling distance @ 15km

After breakfast we kayak across the Kolocep Channel to Trsteno (on the mainland). Trsteno is an old seaside village with a rich history, famous for its 15th Century Renaissance park with many exotic trees and plant species. It is in the style of a Dubrovnik summer manor with a villa, pavilion, aqueduct, and Baroque period fountain. The shady arboretum is a perfect place to relax. There is plenty of time for a leisurely lunch and for snorkelling and swimming. In the afternoon we return to Lopud. Approximately three hours of paddling, two hours of swimming, snorkelling, and walking.

Day 5 Paddling: Lopud – Sipan (Short tour ends with a transfer to Dubrovnik)

Paddling distance @ 15km

Your luggage will be transferred from Lopud to the accommodation in Sudjuradj (island of Sipan) today. After breakfast we paddle to Sipan, sometimes called the Golden Island, the largest and most populated of the Elaphite Islands. Much of the island is overgrown with Mediterranean maquis, but there are also many vineyards and olive groves. The charming fishing village of Sudjuradj with traditional limestone houses and Renaissance castles is a delightful place to explore. We dine at local restaurant in Sudjuradj and stay overnight. Approximately two hours of paddling, three hours of snorkelling, swimming and walking.

Day 6 Paddling: Šipanska Luka – Sudjuradj

Paddling distance @ 20km

We take the local bus across Sipan Island to Luka Šipanska, once the centre of Authority of the Dubrovnik Republic. Sipan has an exciting history - including conquerors, aristocrats, and pirates. There are many historic and cultural sites: a fortress, summer manor houses, a monastery and numerous Renaissance and Baroque churches. From here we paddle along the protected side of the island, passing small islets and bays where the green pine trees touch the crystal clear water. We arrive back in Sudjuradj in the afternoon. Approximately four hours of paddling, two hours snorkelling and swimming.

Day 7 Paddling Sipan and Ruda

Paddling distance @ 11km

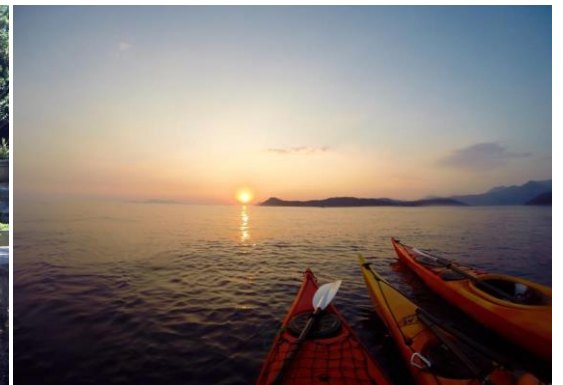
After breakfast we paddle to the uninhabited islet of Ruda, with views of a lovely landscape with secluded coves, covered with maquis. We stop for a swim and to visit the Green Cave, a cool, refreshing grotto on Sipan. Once we reach Ruda we spend time exploring the island on foot. In the afternoon we return to Sudjuradj for the last night of our tour. Approximately two hours of paddling, two hours swimming, snorkelling and walking.

Day 8 Departure: Transfer after breakfast from the island of Sipan back to Dubrovnik Airport by ferry / minivan.

These holidays are a perfect accompaniment to our many Bike & Boat cycling cruises or centre-based walking holidays in Croatia. **Outdoor Travel** offer guided or self-guided walking or cycling holidays in many areas of Europe including the **Camino de Santiago**, **Mont Blanc**, cycling in the **Loire Valley** or along the **River Danube**.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations

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