

CROATIA – PEARLS OF DALMATIA - SPLIT TO DUBROVNIK or v.v. 8-days / 7-nights moderate cycling to Korčula, Mljet, Šipan and Lastovo Island **E-BIKES AVAILABLE**



A one-way tour in Southern Dalmatia, the smallest and most sparsely populated region in Croatia, a journey of unique little towns and beautiful island countryside, with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage listed walled city of Dubrovnik. Experience the splendid island of Korčula with its picturesque old township, and the lavender-covered island of Hvar, visiting the artists' colony at Stari Grad. We cycle on the 'honey island' of Mljet with its impressive national park and relaxed, peaceful Lastovo island.

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 - 60km 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 the group and guides.

Premium Plus cruise from: \$2945 per person (twin share lower deck).
Upper deck Supplement: \$355 per person
Single cabin supplement: Lower deck: \$965 Upper deck: \$1355

Departs from Split: 12, 26 April; 10, 24 May; 7, 21 June; 5, 19 July; 2, 16, 30 August;
13, 27 September; 11 October 2024

Departs from Dubrovnik: 19 April; 3, 17, 31 May; 14, 28 June; 12, 26 July; 9, 23 August;
6, 20 September; 4, 18 October 2024

Mid/High season supplements: \$175 - \$350 per person,
Applies 10 May to 21 June and 16 August to 27 September 2024

Includes: 7 nights in double/twin or single cabins with shower/toilet, 2 days full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner), 5 days half board (breakfast and either lunch or dinner), English speaking tour guide, guided cycling tours as per itinerary, hire of hybrid touring bicycle, city tours of Dubrovnik, Korčula & Split, overview-maps for the daily tours (available on board).

Not included in tour: Personal expenses, gratuities, local fees, drinking water and port taxes (approximately €60 per person paid to captain), helmet (on request), bicycle insurance (available for additional cost), meals taken ashore on half-board days, drinks, transfers to/from Split/Dubrovnik Airports. E-Bikes are available for additional cost – please ask for details when booking.

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Suggested itinerary: *Cruising and cycling are subject to change at the discretion of the captain and cycle tour guide depending on weather and local circumstances. **Tour operates in reverse on alternate weeks.***

Day 1: Arrive Split

Make your way to Split Harbour to board the boat between 2.00pm and 2.30pm. At around 4.30pm take a guided tour through Split to learn of the town's history and visit sites such as the former Palace of Emperor Diocletian. The boat spends the night in Split offering you an opportunity to relax or experience Split's nightlife.

Day 2: Split – Brač Island – Hvar Island cycling @ 30km + 20km

Cruise to the island of Brač, famous for its marble that was used to build the White House in Washington and the construction of the German Reichstag building in Berlin. We ride from the harbour of Postira along the northern coastline of the island, with expansive views across the Dalmatian islands before we descend to meet the boat at Milna. Lunch onboard as we cruise to the artists' town of Stari Grad on the island of Hvar. Afterwards we have a second cycling tour from Stari Grad to the seaside town of Jelsa. After a quick stop for refreshments and perhaps a swim, we return to Stari Grad where the boat is moored overnight.

Day 3: Hvar Island – Korčula Island cycling @ 25km

From Stari Grad we cycle through lavender fields and small villages to Hvar, the island's capital. Stroll through the city and take in the view from the magnificent Renaissance Square up to the Spanish fortress towering high above the city before boarding the boat. We cruise to our overnight stay in the sheltered bay of Vela Luka on Korčula, regarded as one of the most beautiful islands in Dalmatia.

Day 4: Korčula Island cycling @ 60km

We ride across the charming island of Korčula all the way to Korčula city. Take your time, and take a break to enjoy the view over the deep blue sea and neighboring islands. The picturesque town of Korčula competes with Venice to claim the honor of being the birthplace of the famous explorer Marco Polo. In the evening take the opportunity to wander through the fishbone alleyways and soak up the vibes of this stylish town. A guided city tour will give you an overview of the city and its features.

Day 5: Korčula Island – Lastovo Island cycling @ 30km

We cruise to Lastovo Island, one of the smallest inhabited islands in the Adriatic Sea. The Roman Emperor Augustus appreciated the mild climate, and in Roman times it was named "*Augusta Insula*" after him. The approximately 800 inhabitants continue to fish in the rich waters, farm the land and make wine. Today's ride takes us in a loop around the island. The golden-coloured white wine "*Marastina*" is produced here and we recommend you try it. We spend the night in a secluded natural harbour on Lastovo Island.

Day 6: Mljet Island cycling @ 30km

During breakfast the ship takes us to Mljet, known as the Honey Island. With 70% of its landmass covered by woodland it is the most forested island in the Mediterranean. In Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey* this was home to the Nymph Calypso and the legendary Greek king Odysseus, who could not resist Calypso and stayed on Mljet for seven years. From Pomena harbour we cycle a loop through Mljet National Park.

Day 7: Mljet Island – Dubrovnik cycling @ 35km

We cycle the length of verdant Mljet, enjoying the shade of its many trees on the way. We embark the ship in Sobra for our final cruise, across to Dubrovnik. There is time to explore the UNESCO World Heritage city on a guided city tour. The evening dinner is chance to celebrate the week with fellow travelers and tour guides.

Day 8: Departure day

Tour ends after breakfast in Dubrovnik – ask about additional accommodation or transfers at extra cost.

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We offer this as a Bike & Boat cycling tour however, you can decide each day if you want to cycle as part of the group with the guide, cycle independently or not ride and stay with the boat. Non-cycling passengers should bear in mind that no alternative sightseeing options are planned for cycling days.



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

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