CROATIA TOUR "THE THREE LIONS" (SPLIT–SPLIT) – 2027

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights

INTRODUCTION







Croatia is striking at first glance for its unusual shape. The arc-like form of the country is the result of a history and a set of unique circumstances that contribute to the richness and diversity of Croatia today. The nation bridges a long coastline—boasting one of the highest concentrations of islands in the world, shaped by its Mediterranean setting—with the continental Pannonian plains, which are closely linked to the plains of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. These two distinct landscapes are defined by the Julian Alps to the north and the Dinaric Mountain ranges, which stretch all the way down to Greece. Whether along the coast or across the plains, the Croatians have long been a people of traders, benefiting from their position at the crossroads of numerous commercial routes—some dating back to antiquity or even earlier. The town of **Trogir**, for instance, was the site of an ancient Greek colony. The Roman legacy is perhaps best exemplified in the city of **Split**, where the historic center lies within the walls of Emperor Diocletian's palace—a site that has evolved throughout history into a vibrant, ever-changing tapestry of architectural styles.

The country's tumultuous medieval past is reflected in the Venetian influences along the coast, visible in cities such as **Zadar** and **Šibenik**. Croatia's strategic location and wealth have long made it a coveted territory. The nation's inherent joy and melancholy are captured in its highly original "naïve" art—typical of the plains—as well as in the exquisite craftsmanship of Dalmatian stonemasons, whose work sparked true artistic revolutions; notable examples include the Portal of Radovan in **Trogir** and the Cathedral of **Šibenik**, created by George the Dalmatian. Amidst this constant coming and going, the small Republic of **Dubrovnik** developed into an extraordinary city-state, characterized by its distinctive art and architecture, and fiercely guarded its

freedom through exceptional diplomacy.
Bosnia and Herzegovina is a world unto itself, boasting a surprising blend of cultures—which is why the bridge in **Mostar** is known as the "connecting link between East and West."
Traveling through Croatia means discovering a vast array of ever-changing landscapes and regions, each harboring its own unique, robust identity—shaped by the various influences that have left their mark. This journey will transport you as you uncover natural gems, from the islands—such as **Korčula**—to the plateaus of **Plitvice Lakes National Park**. This richness also extends to the palate, manifesting in an appetizing diversity of culinary specialties. From the scents of the Mediterranean coast to the gentle sounds of cascading waterfalls… it is a complete delight for the senses!

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE REGIONS YOU WILL DISCIVER (LINKS PROVIDED BY THE CROATIAN TOURIST BOARDS) :

Plitvice Lakes National Park
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rd30EICG5Qs

The Split region
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqhXqlwqQl0

The Šibenik / Knin region
https://vimeo.com/419883970

Cruises / islands
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uS3PqVGkZs0

Dubrovnik
https://vimeo.com/419903021

Sveta Ana (Video from your agency in Croatia):
https://vimeo.com/305019269

Note: If the link does not open when you click on it, copy and paste it into your search engine.

YOUR TRAVEL ITINERARY



PROGRAM

Day 1: Arrival at Split (or Dubrovnik) airport - overnight stay in Neum

Arrival flight at Split Airport (arrival at Dubrovnik Airport is also an option).
Meet and greet by the tour leader, who will accompany the group throughout the entire tour.
Services of a tour leader for 8 days, including all related expenses (accommodation, meals, transport, etc.).

Audio guide equipment: whisperers provided for the week. The tour leader will be equipped with a microphone.

Transport by tourist minibus (or bus), reserved exclusively for the group for 8 days.

Drive to Neum, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Travel time: 2 hours.
Check-in at the 4-star Hotel Grand Neum.
Dinner at the hotel.
The 4-star Hotel Grand Neum features both an outdoor and an indoor swimming pool, three restaurants, and a spa and wellness center. The air-conditioned rooms are equipped with an LCD satellite TV and a minibar. Each room includes a bathroom with a bathtub or shower and a hairdryer. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the property. The hotel is located in the center of the town of Neum, at the foot of its seaside promenade. Neum is the only municipality in Bosnia and Herzegovina situated on the Adriatic coast, and it interrupts the Croatian coastline. Bosnia and Herzegovina is not a member of the EU.







Day 2: Dubrovnik (UNESCO) – overnight stay in Neum

Breakfast at the hotel.
Drive to Dubrovnik. Travel time: 1 hour.

Services of an English-speaking local guide.
Activity: Guided tour of Dubrovnik's Old Town.

Optional: For a comprehensive Dubrovnik experience, we recommend the "DU PASS," which includes admission to the City Walls, Rector's Palace, Franciscan Monastery, Ethnographic Museum, Maritime Museum, and Modern Art Gallery. With this pass, the Rector's Palace and Franciscan Monastery can be included in the guided tour.

Dubrovnik was a Mediterranean city-state that managed to preserve its freedom and avoid conflicts through skillful diplomacy. It abolished slavery as early as the 15th century, implemented hygiene measures that prevented major epidemics, and ensured that building facades were uniform to forestall social unrest—all remarkable features of a system that was truly ahead of its time. The scale of its former commercial activity is etched into every stone of the city, which stands as one of the best-preserved medieval towns in the world. Known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic" and a UNESCO World Heritage site, it is the premier tourist destination in Croatia; its beauty and exceptional culture—forged at the crossroads of Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Near East—are sure to leave you amazed.





A typical lunch at a restaurant in the historic center of Dubrovnik.

Menu
Starter: fish soup
Main course: seafood risotto
Dessert: ice cream

Free time. We recommend visiting the Rector's Palace, the Franciscan Monastery (with its historic pharmacy), and the Dominican Monastery (featuring a collection of paintings typical of Dubrovnik)—not to mention the impressive city walls!

Return to the Grand Neum Hotel in Neum. Travel time: 1 hour.
Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3: Mostar (UNESCO site) in Bosnia and Herzegovina and an evening in the Neretva River delta – overnight stay in Neum

Breakfast at the hotel.
Drive to Mostar, traveling up the Neretva River canyon.
Travel time: 1 hour 30 minutes.
Tour of Mostar with an English-speaking local guide, including admission to the Koski Mehmed Pasha Mosque. You will walk through the historic tanners' and goldsmiths' quarters. Highlights include the bridge over the Neretva—built by the architect Hayruddin—and the bazaar with its Turkish influences.



The city of Mostar is a UNESCO World Heritage site, as it exemplifies a highly distinctive blend of Eastern and Western cultures. This fusion is reflected in the people's expressions, the architecture, the bazaar—an unsettling atmosphere that challenges all one's familiar points of reference.

Lunch featuring local specialties at a restaurant located near the old bridge.

Menu

Appetizer: Cheese pita

Main course: Traditional grilled rolls of spiced minced meat, stuffed vine leaves, stuffed peppers and onions, and meat stew

Salad

Dessert: Baklava (pastry with nuts and honey)

Free time in Mostar.

Travel to the village of Vid, located in the Neretva River delta.
Travel time: 45 minutes.
Explore the Narona Museum—one of the few Roman museums located *in situ*. The museum showcases archaeological finds from the ancient Roman city of Narona, which once stood on this site. The tour is led by an archaeologist from the museum (in English). Admission to the Narona Museum is included.





The Neretva Delta is a wetland covering an area of over 300 km². Beginning in the 19th century, the land was drained by a network of canals, creating a highly fertile agricultural landscape of the watergardens where citrus fruits, such as mandarins, oranges, and lemons, as well as a variety of vegetables, are cultivated. The vegetation is characterized by reed beds and fields of water lilies, which provide a habitat for more than 150 species of birds and amphibians, as well as the eel. During the Middle Ages, this territory served as a stronghold for pirates who navigated the waters in distinctive, heavy, flat-bottomed boats known as "lađa." To this day, lađa rowing races remain a unique feature of the local culture, and the winners enjoy great renown.



Board large, flat-bottomed boats—typical of the historic Neretva wetlands—and navigate through a network of canals and reed beds, accompanied by a musician playing the accordion. The journey leads to a restaurant in the village of Momići. A local aperitif (brandy and various liqueurs) is served on board. The duration of this short cruise through the marshlands is 45 minutes.

Traditional dinner, always accompanied by a musician performing festive Dalmatian songs.

Menu

Appetizer: A platter of Dalmatian smoked ham and cheese

Main course: Spit-roasted lamb served with potatoes cooked on a bed of embers under a metal dome, accompanied by a seasonal salad

Dessert: Homemade cake

Beverage package: 1/4 L of wine and 1/2 L of water per person



Return to the Grand Neum Hotel in Neum. Travel time: 45 minutes.

Day 4: Korčula, the birthplace of Marco Polo, and wine tasting on the Pelješac peninsula – overnight stay in Neum

Breakfast at the hotel.
Drive to Orebić. Travel time: 1 hour 15 minutes.
Boat transfer (reserved for the group) from Orebić to the town of Korčula. Crossing time: 20 minutes.
Services of a local English-speaking guide. Includes: A guided tour of the historic center of Korčula. Admission included for St. Mark's Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace.



Korčula captures the spirit of the Dalmatian islands, shaped by a Venetian presence and the influences of the Republic of Dubrovnik. Its history is defined, in particular, by its confraternities—lay religious brotherhoods that remain active to this day. An important maritime hub during the Middle Ages, the island is also the birthplace of the great merchant and traveler Marco Polo. It is renowned for its olive oil and wines. Ferry services connect the island to Mljet and Hvar, as well as to the cities of Dubrovnik and Split. Its waters are exceptionally clear, making them a true paradise for swimming.

Lunch featuring local specialties at a restaurant in Korčula.

Menu
Starter: Caesar salad
Main course: Grilled scorpionfish fillet served with Dalmatian-style vegetables
Dessert: Carob cake

Boat transfer reserved for the group from Korčula to Orebić. Crossing time: 20 minutes.
Scenic drive across the Pelješac Peninsula to the village of Ponikve. Travel time: 1 hour.
Pelješac is the longest peninsula in Croatia, a land of wild beauty featuring coves with crystal-clear waters. It is renowned for its wines—most notably Dingač, produced in the vineyards of Potomje—which rank among the best red wines in the country.





Wine and olive oil tasting at a winemaker's family estate.



The experience begins with a warm welcome and a brief introduction to viticulture on the Pelješac Peninsula, followed by a tasting of liqueurs, then white wine accompanied by an olive oil tasting. Next, you will sample two types of red wine made from the indigenous Plavac Mali grape, served with cheese aged in olive oil. For generations, the family has relied exclusively on viticulture for their livelihood. Their production is entirely organic, blending traditional methods with modern oenology to create wines of exceptional quality.

Return to the Grand Neum Hotel in Neum. Travel time: 40 minutes.
Dinner at the hotel.

Day 5: Split (UNESCO) and Trogir (UNESCO) – overnight stay in Biograd na Moru

Breakfast at the hotel.
Drive to Split. Travel time: 2 hours.
Services of a local English-speaking guide. Activity: Guided tour of the old town of Split.



Split is a unique monument in that it is truly alive. The original Roman palace has undergone continuous transformation throughout history, with each era leaving its mark to create a vibrant, ever-evolving fusion of architectural styles. Today, it forms the heart of Croatia's second-largest city and its second-largest port. Its cathedral—the oldest in the world—perfectly captures the spirit of Split, as it once served as the mausoleum for the man who was the greatest persecutor of Christians: Emperor Diocletian. The remarkable, albeit paradoxical, state of preservation of Emperor Diocletian's palace earned it a place as a UNESCO World Heritage site. You are about to discover an extraordinary monument!

Lunch featuring local specialties in Split city center.

Menu
Starter: vegetable soup
Main course: pašticada (a Dalmatian specialty: beef cooked in a sauce with vegetables) served with gnocchi
Dessert: semifreddo

Drive to Trogir. Travel time: 45 minutes.
Services of a local English-speaking guide. Includes: Guided tour of the old town of Trogir.



Trogir is situated on a small island very close to the mainland, to which it is connected by a bridge. Another bridge links Trogir to the neighboring island of Čiovo! The island of Trogir was once a Greek colony, founded in the 4th century BC. Its commercial history is reflected in the rich architecture of its palaces and its cathedral—the latter featuring a portal that was revolutionary for its time. Part of the old town's charm lies in getting lost within its maze of medieval alleyways, where the past coexists with the present. This constant, pervasive beauty explains why the site was granted UNESCO World Heritage status; it is also where a bas-relief was discovered depicting the Greek god Kairos—the god of the "happy moment"—though be warned: he runs very fast!

Drive to Biograd na Moru. Travel time: 1 hour 30 minutes.
Check-in at one of the hotels in the Ilirija 3*/4* complex. Dinner at the hotel.
The Ilirija complex is located in the beautiful Dalmatian village of Biograd na Moru, right by the sea. It offers two options: a "no-name" 3-star or 4-star package. This means that the group could be accommodated in any one of their 3-star or 4-star hotels; the specific hotel will be confirmed no later than 15 days before the date of travel. The complex features an outdoor swimming pool and a wellness/spa area, which are accessible to guests of all the hotels.







Day 6: Zadar (UNESCO) and Šibenik (UNESCO) – overnight stay in Biograd na Moru

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive to Zadar. Travel time: 45 minutes.

Services of a local English-speaking guide. Activity: Guided tour of Zadar's old town.



Zadar boasts an ancient heritage dating back to antiquity, now recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Its main square is a Roman forum, featuring a complex built by Saint Donatus in the 9th century; the church there was modeled after the one in Aachen, illustrating close political ties to Charlemagne. The Benedictine nuns of Zadar have preserved an important collection of precious metalwork known as "Gold and Silver." Zadar is a dynamic city that has also introduced modern landmarks—such as its "sea organ," integrated into the waterfront, where the sea and wind "play" a mystical, organic melody.

Typical lunch at a restaurant in the historic center of Zadar.

Menu

Starter: fish soup

Main course: fried calamari with French fries + salad

Dessert: mille-feuille cake

Drive to Šibenik. Travel time: 1 hour 15 minutes.

Services of a local English-speaking guide. Activity: Guided tour of the old town of Šibenik.

Admission to Šibenik Cathedral included.



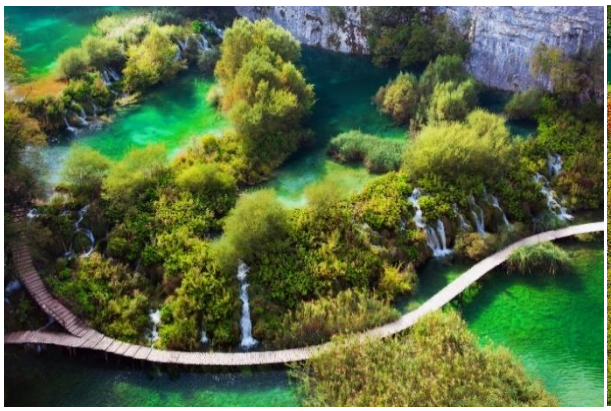
Šibenik is a picturesque Dalmatian town founded by the Croats—unlike other Dalmatian towns, which date back to antiquity. A royal city home to numerous fortresses, it is famous for the Cathedral of St. James, an architectural marvel that earned it a place as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Šibenik is one of the few cities in Croatia that boasts a beautiful beach near its historic center.

Return to Hotel Ilirija in Biograd na Moru. Travel time: 1 hour.

Dinner at the hotel.

Day 7: Plitvice Lakes National Park (UNESCO) – overnight stay in Biograd na Moru

Breakfast at the hotel.
Travel to Plitvice, located in the mountains of the Lika region. You will experience a complete change of scenery and climate!
Travel time: 2 hours 30 minutes.
Visit the national park, including the travertine waterfalls in the upper section, an electric boat ride across the large central lake (Kozjak), and the lower canyon featuring the Great Waterfall.
Total duration of the walk: 4 hours.
Admission included.
The Plitvice Lakes are located in the Lika region, in the mountains of Croatia. This UNESCO-listed natural phenomenon consists of 16 lakes with crystal-clear water that cascade into one another, creating magnificent waterfalls. A natural paradise.




Lunch in the national park to break up the walk.

Menu
Starter: mushroom soup
Main course: grilled trout with steamed potatoes and Swiss chard
Dessert: apple pastry

Return to the Ilirija Hotel in Biograd na Moru.
Dinner at the hotel.

Day 8: Departure from Split (or Dubrovnik) airport

Breakfast at the hotel.
Transfer to Split Airport. Travel time: 1 hour 30 minutes.
Return of audio guides.
Departure flight (it is also possible to depart from Dubrovnik Airport, provided the flight is in the afternoon).

TOUR PRICE

Prices are per person, in euros, net and inclusive of all taxes.

period of the year 2027	room type	number of participants					
		20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
03 - 23.04	1/2	1314 €	1211 €	1142 €	1092 €	1055 €	1026 €
	1/1	1545 €	1442 €	1373 €	1323 €	1286 €	1257 €
24.04 - 21.05	1/2	1370 €	1266 €	1196 €	1146 €	1109 €	1080 €
	1/1	1631 €	1526 €	1457 €	1407 €	1370 €	1341 €
22 - 31.05	1/2	1391 €	1287 €	1217 €	1167 €	1129 €	1100 €
	1/1	1662 €	1557 €	1487 €	1437 €	1400 €	1371 €
01 - 18.06	1/2	1456 €	1350 €	1280 €	1230 €	1192 €	1163 €
	1/1	1749 €	1643 €	1573 €	1522 €	1485 €	1455 €
04 - 17.09	1/2	1471 €	1365 €	1294 €	1244 €	1206 €	1176 €
	1/1	1776 €	1670 €	1600 €	1549 €	1512 €	1482 €
18 - 30.09	1/2	1406 €	1301 €	1231 €	1181 €	1144 €	1115 €
	1/1	1676 €	1571 €	1501 €	1451 €	1414 €	1384 €
01 - 15.10	1/2	1338 €	1234 €	1165 €	1115 €	1078 €	1049 €
	1/1	1582 €	1478 €	1409 €	1359 €	1322 €	1293 €
16 - 30.10	1/2	1265 €	1162 €	1093 €	1044 €	1007 €	979 €
	1/1	1473 €	1370 €	1301 €	1252 €	1215 €	1186 €

1/2 = accommodation in double rooms
1/1 = accommodation in single rooms

The price includes:

- Half-board accommodation (breakfast and dinner) for 7 nights: 4 nights at the 4* Grand Neum Hotel in Neum (with one dinner taken off-site) and 3 nights at one of the 3*/4* Ilirija hotels in Biograd na Moru.
- Transportation by tourist coach, including all associated costs (tolls, parking, ferry fees, etc.).
- Round-trip boat transfers, reserved exclusively for the group, between Orebić and Korčula.
- Services of aa English-speaking tour escort (including their accommodation).
- Services of local guides in Dubrovnik, Mostar, Trogir, Split, Šibenik, and Zadar.
- Admission fees for the monuments specified in the itinerary.
- Lunches in Dubrovnik, Mostar, Korčula, Split, Zadar, and Plitvice.
- Wine tasting on the Pelješac Peninsula.
- An excursion to the Neretva River Delta, featuring a gourmet dinner with an included beverage package and musical entertainment.
- Use of an audio-guide system for the duration of the week.
- Tourist taxes, insurance and assistance coverage, and the organizational services of the Sveta Ana agency.

DRINK PACKAGE SUPPLEMENT

¼ L of wine, or 1 beer, or 1 juice + ½ L of water + coffee or tea for the 6 lunches
¼ L of wine, or 1 beer, or 1 juice + ½ L of water for the 7 dinners
Price per person, in euros, net, all taxes included = €130

DUBROVNIK PASS SUPPLEMENT

Price per person, in euros, net, all taxes included = €45

NOTES:

- The sample itinerary has been prepared based on price lists provided by service suppliers; however, the Sveta Ana agency does not guarantee either the prices or the availability. These will be confirmed upon request for specific dates, at which point the agency will place options to secure the terms of the trip. Without such options, the prices provided in this offer are for reference only.
- Travel times are estimated based on normal driving conditions and are provided for guidance purposes only; they may vary due to unpredictable factors such as roadworks, accidents, traffic congestion, or adverse weather conditions.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Any cancellation must be made via email to the local agency. Cancellation fees vary depending on when the cancellation occurs:

- more than 31 days before departure: 30% of the trip price,
- between 30 and 16 days before departure: 50% of the trip price,
- between 15 days before departure and the day of arrival: 100% of the trip price.

