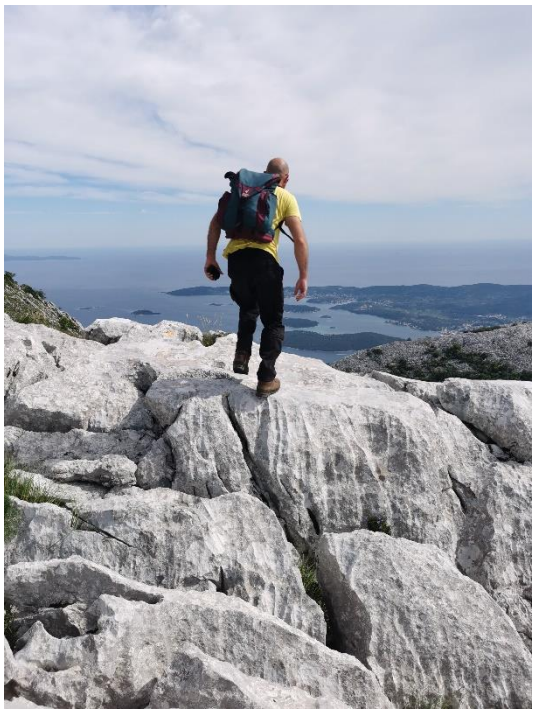
THE TOUR "ESSENTIAL CROATIA"
FROM ZAGREB TO DUBROVNIK IN 10 DAYS – 2027

The Essential Croatia tour reveals all the great landscapes of this country of a thousand faces:

- The continental Pannonian plains, beginning around Zagreb
- The Dinaric mountains that form the Balkans
- The Mediterranean Dalmatian coast with its 1,200 islands

This great diversity of landscapes makes for a rich experience in which every day brings a new surprise. To capture it even better, the adventure also includes visits to the capital Zagreb, Split, Korčula, Hvar and Dubrovnik, as well as a wine tasting.



The hiking trails combine "must-sees" in the national parks with exclusive off-the-beaten-track routes designed by Sveta Ana, such as in Samobor, on Hvar and on Korčula.

The walks are rated level 2 to 3 and are suitable for everyone. They are led by one of our English-speaking guides – professionals, but above all lovers of travel and nature.

Groups range from 4 to 15 participants. For up to 7 travellers, transport on days 1 to 5 is by 8+1-seat van with a driver-guide, and thereafter with local transport companies. From 8 participants, the entire tour is run with local transport companies, i.e. with both a guide and a driver.



Travellers are required to bring an airtight plastic food container for their packed lunches, as well as a reusable water bottle, which they fill themselves from the hotel taps before setting out on each day's excursion (water not provided).

Travellers must bring suitable hiking gear: long trousers, a hat, a daypack for excursion essentials (packed lunch, water bottle…) and walking boots.

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE REGIONS YOU WILL DISCOVER (LINKS PROVIDED BY THE CROATIAN TOURIST BOARDS):

Zagreb
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wiic1Cuj2n0

Zagreb County
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rW85-yLN-8o

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

The Split region
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqhXqIwqQl0

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

Dubrovnik
https://vimeo.com/419903021

Sveta Ana (a video by your agency in Croatia):
https://vimeo.com/305019269

NB: if a link does not open when clicked, copy it into your browser.



YOUR TOUR ROUTE



PROGRAMME

Day 1: Arrival at Zagreb Airport and Samobor – overnight in Samobor

Arrival flight to Zagreb Airport.
Welcome by your English-speaking tour guide.
Services of a tour guide for 10 days and associated costs (accommodation, meals, transport...).

Transfer to Samobor by 8+1-seat van (groups of 3 to 7) or by minibus with driver (groups of 8 to 15).
Travel time: 30 min.



Check-in at Hotel Lavica 3*.
Dinner at the hotel.
Hotel Lavica is a 3-star hotel housed in a listed historic building. It stands on the bank of the Samobor river, lined by a lovely promenade, just a stone's throw from the town's Baroque square, famous for its gastronomy. The rooms are simple and rustic, and the atmosphere is warm and friendly.

Free time to explore Samobor.
Samobor is a typical small town of the Zagreb region, lying at the foot of the mountain range that bears its name and forms the border with Slovenia. It was once a favourite retreat of Zagreb's nobility, and its Baroque façades, scenic setting and charm still draw residents of the Croatian capital today. A beautiful promenade follows the river that runs through the town, from the main square lined with restaurants and cafés up to the Stari Grad fortress, a ruined castle with fine views of the town, the forested valley and the Zagreb plain. The town is especially renowned for its food: its beer, charcuterie and game dishes, but above all for its custard slice, Kremšnita, whose recipe is listed as Croatian heritage.





Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 2: Samobor Nature Park with Okić Fortress, and Zagreb – overnight in Samobor

Breakfast at the hotel.
Transport by 8+1-seat van or 15-seat tourist minibus reserved for the group for 5 days.
Drive to the village of Klake. Travel time: 45 min.
Walk along the educational trail that circles the striking hill crowned by Okić Fortress, with information boards on the history of the site. You pass through a pretty forest to a mountain hut, followed by a short, slightly adventurous climb to the summit and the ruins of Okić Fortress (altitude 411 m). It was a strategic defensive stronghold, notably against the Ottomans, from the 12th century until it was abandoned in the 17th century. From the top there are magnificent views over Zagreb and the whole region.
Descent from Okić, then the trail leads through the forest to the ethnographic house.
Actual walking time: 1h30 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 2h00
Difficulty: easy 2/5 (the climb up Okić: 3/5) – Elevation gain: 100 m





Visit to the Slakoper ethnographic house, showing the traditional way of life in the region (entrance fee included)

Return to Hotel Lavica in Samobor.
Lunch at the hotel restaurant (3 courses)

Drive to Zagreb.
Travel time: 30 min.
Free time to explore Zagreb.



Zagreb was a crossroads of trade routes between the mainland and the sea, and a gateway from Central Europe to the Balkans. Its fair was famous in the Middle Ages. For a long time it was Europe's easternmost Catholic diocese, which explains its distinctive fortified cathedral. The city's history was shaped by the rivalry between Kaptol hill, the seat of the Church, and Grič hill, the centre of secular power, which grew together into the capital of Croatia. Zagreb is a green city with many parks, enlivened by

street events all year round. It was also an important artistic centre, and we particularly recommend its museum of Croatian naïve art.

Return to Hotel Lavica in Samobor.
Dinner at the hotel.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 3: Plitvice Lakes National Park (UNESCO) – overnight in Otočac

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Drive to the Plitvice Lakes. Travel time: 2h30
Plitvice entrance fee included.
Visit to the national park: the travertine cascades of the Upper Lakes, the large central Lake Kozjak and the lower canyon with the Big Waterfall.

Distance: 12 km. Actual walking time: 4h00 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 5h00 – Difficulty: 2/5
Plitvice Lakes National Park lies in the Lika region, Croatia's mountainous heartland. This UNESCO-listed natural wonder consists of 16 crystal-clear lakes that flow into one another through magnificent waterfalls – a true natural paradise. You will see the whole park: the travertine cascades of the Upper Lakes, the electric boat across the large central Lake Kozjak and the lower canyon with its 70 m Big Waterfall. There are rest areas within the park with bistros serving grilled food and a few simple dishes. The trails are easy and accessible. Protected since the late 19th century, it is one of Croatia's most beautiful natural sites.




Picnic in the national park during the hike.

Drive to Otočac. Travel time: 40 min.
Check-in at Hotel Mirni Kutak 3*.
Dinner at the hotel



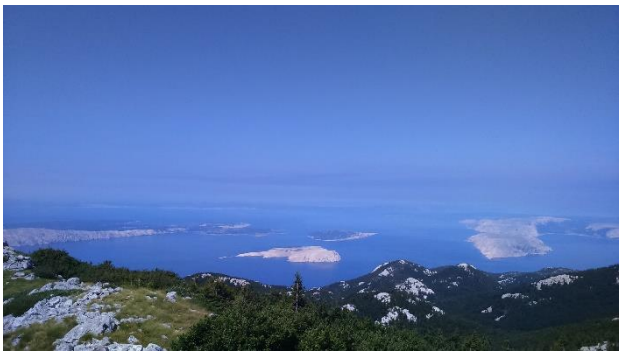
Set in the peaceful Gacka river valley, 1.5 km from the centre of Otočac, Hotel Mirni Kutak is a family-run 3-star hotel with 2 terraces. The air-conditioned rooms, family rooms and suites have a minibar, hairdryer and desk. The restaurant serves local and international specialities. The hotel is the perfect base for trout fishing on the Gacka river.

This accommodation has signed up to our sustainable-development code of conduct for partners, in line with your vision of ethical and responsible tourism.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 4: Velebit National Park – overnight in Otočac

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Drive to Zavižan, one of the gateways to Northern Velebit National Park.
Travel time: approx. 1h00
Velebit entrance fee included.



Walk along the Premužić Trail, named after the forester who built it in the early 20th century. Winding between limestone rocks sculpted by water, it offers unforgettable views of the Kvarner Gulf – a true feat of human engineering.
Distance: 15 km – Difficulty: moderate 3/5 – Actual walking time: 5h30 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 6h30 –
Elevation gain: 300 m



Velebit is Croatia's largest mountain range, stretching almost 200 km, with peaks of up to 1,800 m. It separates the Kvarner Gulf from the mainland and offers views over its exceptional archipelago. Its steep slopes create a great many different habitats within short distances, giving it a rich flora. Brown bears, wolves, lynx, deer, grouse and otters are commonly found here…

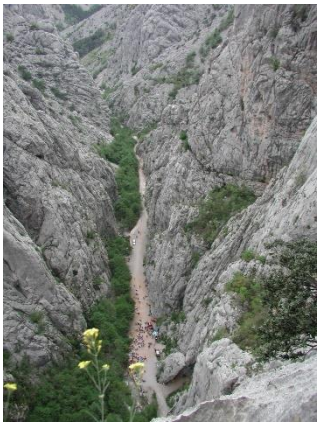
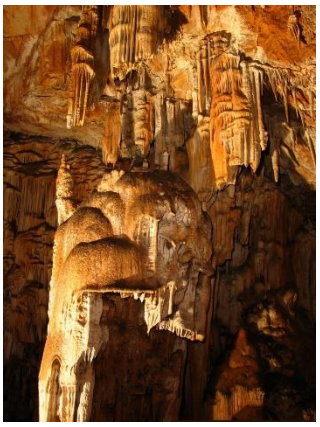
Picnic in the national park during the hike.
Return to Hotel Mirni Kutak in Otočac.

Dinner at the hotel.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 5: Paklenica National Park and Split (UNESCO) – overnight in Split

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Drive to Starigrad, the entrance to Paklenica National Park. Travel time: approx. 2h00
Entrance to Paklenica National Park and Manita Peć Cave included.
Walk through the narrow canyon with its towering vertical walls and climb up to Manita Peć Cave to visit its impressive chambers, where water has created stalactites, stalagmites and columns – a true underground cathedral of organic shapes.
Actual walking time: 3h00 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 4h30 – Elevation gain: 340 m
Difficulty: easy to moderate (2–3/5).
Paklenica National Park lies in the southern part of Velebit, Croatia's largest mountain range. It consists of two impressive gorges, Velika and Mala Paklenica, whose sheer walls host rare pioneer vegetation and are famous for rock climbing. It also has unusual karst formations, remarkable caves and a highly varied flora and fauna thanks to its strong climatic contrasts. A lovely footpath runs through the wild Velika Paklenica gorge, once used by locals to trade fish, salt and olive oil from the coast for wool and cheese from the mountains.

Picnic in the national park in front of Manita Peć Cave.

Drive to Split. Travel time: 2h00
Free time to explore Split.



Split is an unusual monument in that it is alive. The original Roman palace has been continuously transformed throughout history, each era leaving its mark to create a vibrant blend of architectural styles – today the heart of Croatia's second-largest city and second-largest port. Its cathedral is considered the oldest in the world still in use and perfectly captures the spirit of Split, as it was originally the mausoleum of Emperor Diocletian, the greatest persecutor of Christians. The remarkable preservation of Diocletian's Palace earned it a place on the UNESCO World Heritage List. A truly extraordinary monument awaits you!

Drive to the hotel in Split. Travel time: 10 min.
Check-in at Hotel Art 4*. Dinner at the hotel.
Hotel Art is a 4-star hotel with a 3-star annex. It is located in modern Split, 900 m from the historic centre – about a 15-minute walk. Facilities include a rooftop pool, a wellness area with sauna and hot tub, a fitness room, a small conference room for around 60 people and a restaurant. It is an attractive city hotel with spacious rooms, ideal for those who want to focus on exploring the city and its surroundings.





Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 6: The island of Hvar – overnight in Dominče on the island of Korčula

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Transfer to Split harbour. Travel time: 10 min.
Boarding of the scheduled fast catamaran to Hvar with luggage. Ticket included.
Luggage left at the left-luggage office in Hvar.



Hike up to the Napoleon Fortress overlooking Hvar town from its 227 m vantage point. Continue along the ridge above the Hvar plain, then descend to Borča Bay, with the option of a swim. The trail then follows the coast back to Hvar town.
Distance: 15 km – Actual walking time: 5h00 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 7h00 – Elevation gain: 485 m – Difficulty: easy to moderate 2–3/5

Picnic during the walk.



Free time to explore Hvar
Hvar is an island with a very mild climate and plenty of sunshine, ideal for growing lavender, whose essential oils are used in medicines and perfumes. These conditions meant that tourism developed here, as in Dubrovnik and Opatija, from the late 19th century. Hvar town bears strong Venetian influences while keeping the character of a Dalmatian port with its stone architecture. Then as now, Hvar's magical setting attracts the international jet set.

Boarding of the scheduled fast catamaran to Korčula town (ticket included).

Transfer by 8+1-seat van or minibus to Pension Hajduk in Dominče.
Check-in at Pension Hajduk 3*.
Dinner at the hotel.



This family-run guesthouse is located in Dominče, 1.5 km from Korčula's historic centre. Dominče lies in Školjka Bay, known for its lovely beach. A seaside promenade lets you walk from Dominče to Korčula (30 min), or you can take a private boat service between the jetty in Školjka Bay and Korčula town. The guesthouse also offers taxi transfers in vehicles of various sizes, traditional home cooking, a warm welcome from your hosts, and the chance to relax in a small fitness room and a large outdoor pool.

This accommodation has signed up to our sustainable-development code of conduct for partners, in line with your vision of ethical and responsible tourism. It is itself actively committed through concrete measures validated by a label or certificates.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

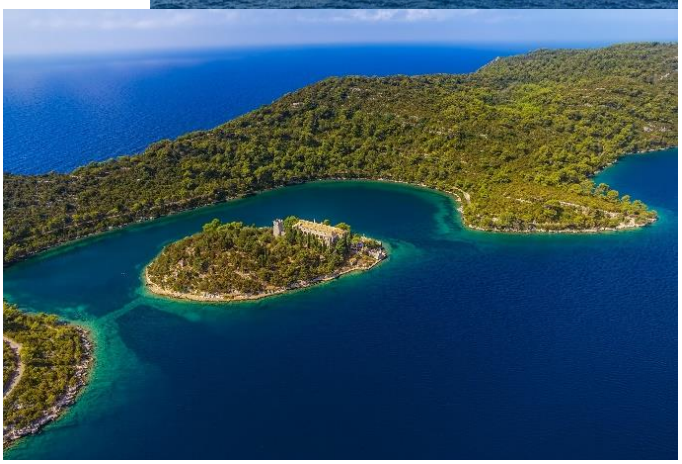
Day 7: Mljet National Park and Korčula – overnight in Dominče

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Walk along the promenade to Korčula. Walking time: 15–20 min.



Boarding of a scheduled fast catamaran to the village of Pomena on the island of Mljet (ticket included).
Crossing time: 30 min.

Hike in Mljet National Park, including a visit to St Mary's Islet with its 11th-century monastery (entrance fee included).
Actual walking time: 4h30 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 6h00 – Difficulty: easy 2/5



This is the island of the Odyssey, where Ulysses is said to have stayed for seven blissful years in the arms of the nymph Calypso. Pine and oak forests cover the island, a third of which is a national park. Its most striking feature is its two lakes, linked to each other and to the sea by a narrow channel. On the larger lake there is yet another island – an island within an island! It is an ideal spot for swimming, as the lake water is at least three degrees warmer than the

sea. Admission to the national park includes a boat trip to St Mary's Islet and its old Benedictine monastery in the middle of the large lake.

Picnic in the national park

Return by catamaran to Korčula (ticket included)

Free time to explore Korčula.
Korčula embodies the spirit of the Dalmatian islands, shaped by the Venetian presence and the influence of the Republic of Dubrovnik. Its history is closely tied to its religious brotherhoods, which are still active today. An important seaport in the Middle Ages, it is said to be the birthplace of the great merchant and traveller Marco Polo. The island is renowned for its olive oil and wines. Boat lines connect it with the islands of Mljet and Hvar and with Dubrovnik and Split. Its exceptionally clear waters make it a paradise for swimming.

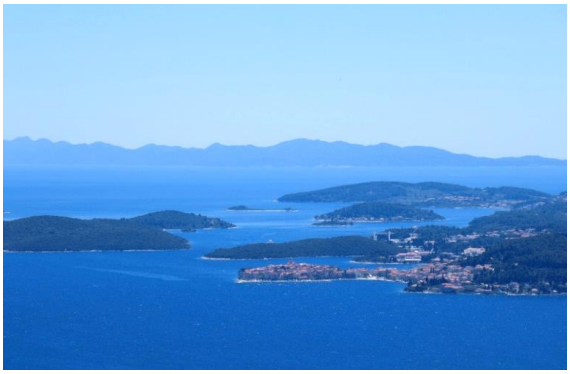



Walk back to the guesthouse
Dinner at the guesthouse.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 8: The Pelješac peninsula – overnight in Dubrovnik

Breakfast at the hotel.
Packed lunch provided.
Transport by 8+1-seat van or 16+2-seat tourist minibus reserved for the group
Minibus to the ferry terminal for Orebić, a village at the tip of the Pelješac peninsula.
Ferry crossing of 20 min. Ticket included.
Another minibus meets the group on the other side.
Continue to the village of Kučište and hike up to the Church of Our Lady of the Angels, with a magnificent



view over Korčula and its archipelago, followed by the option of a swim.
Actual walking time: 1h00 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 1h30 – Elevation gain: 150 m – Difficulty: easy 2/5



Picnic after the hike.

Continue along the Pelješac peninsula, known for producing some of the best wines in southern Croatia, to Ponikve. Wine tasting.

Hike from Ponikve along the road built under Napoleon to the village of Ston.
Actual walking time: 1h00 – Total hiking time incl. breaks: 1h30 – Distance: 5 km – Difficulty: easy 2/5

Free time to explore Ston. Optional oyster tasting at a local restaurant (not included).



Ston is known for having the second-longest defensive walls in Europe and is famous for its shellfish farming, as it is one of the few places where the native Mediterranean oyster has been preserved. You can also see the old salt pans of the Republic of Dubrovnik, which are still in operation!

Drive to Dubrovnik.
Travel time: 1h00
Check-in at Hotel Lero 4* in Dubrovnik.
Dinner at the hotel.



Hotel Lero is a 4-star hotel with 208 rooms set around an outdoor pool, and also offers a wellness area. Its architecture combines simplicity and elegance. Its great advantage is its proximity to the historic Old Town: 5 minutes by bus or a pleasant 15-minute walk. It is also close to the sea and the beach.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 9: Dubrovnik (UNESCO) – overnight in Dubrovnik

Breakfast at the hotel.
You will receive the Dubrovnik Pass, which includes unlimited bus travel for the day and admission to the City Walls, the Franciscan Monastery, the Rector's Palace, the Maritime Museum, the Museum of Modern Art and more…

Walk to Dubrovnik's Old Town. Walking time: 15 min.
Walk on the City Walls with your tour guide. Walking time incl. breaks: 1h00 – distance: 2 km.
Free time to explore Dubrovnik.
Dubrovnik was a Mediterranean city-state that preserved its freedom and avoided conflict through skilful diplomacy. It abolished slavery as early as the 15th century, its hygiene measures spared it from major epidemics, and its façades were all built alike to prevent social unrest – just some of the remarkable measures of a system far ahead of its time. The scale of its trade can be read in every stone of this city, one of the best-preserved medieval towns in the world. The UNESCO-listed "Pearl of the Adriatic" is Croatia's top tourist destination and will surprise you with its beauty and exceptional culture at the crossroads of Europe, the Mediterranean and the Near East.





Free time. We recommend visiting the Rupe Ethnographic Museum, the Rector's Palace and the Franciscan Monastery, known for its old pharmacy.
Lunch at your own expense.
Return to Hotel Lero in Dubrovnik at your own pace (you can take city bus no. 4 back to the hotel).
Dinner at the hotel.

Note: travellers should bring a water bottle and fill it themselves from the hotel taps for their daily needs.

Day 10: Departure from Dubrovnik Airport

Breakfast at the hotel.
Transfer to Dubrovnik Airport. Travel time: 40 min.
Departure flight

TOUR PRICES

Prices are per person, in euros, all taxes included

PAX	Period of year 2027					
	01 - 19.05 14 - 31.10	20 - 31.05 01 - 13.10	01 - 30.06	01.07 - 31.08	01 - 14.09	15 - 30.09
4	2809 €	2911 €	2995 €	3201 €	3121 €	3039 €
5	2505 €	2601 €	2676 €	2861 €	2785 €	2718 €
6	2326 €	2419 €	2490 €	2662 €	2587 €	2530 €
7	2204 €	2295 €	2363 €	2527 €	2452 €	2403 €
8	2261 €	2346 €	2391 €	2499 €	2429 €	
9	2151 €	2234 €	2278 €	2385 €	2315 €	
10	2063 €	2145 €	2189 €	2294 €	2226 €	
11	1992 €	2074 €	2117 €	2222 €	2153 €	
12	1934 €	2015 €	2058 €	2162 €	2094 €	
13	1886 €	1966 €	2009 €	2113 €	2045 €	
14	1845 €	1925 €	1968 €	2072 €	2004 €	
15	1818 €	1898 €	1942 €	2045 €	1977 €	
sup.1/1	365 €	435 €	445 €	510 €	470 €	

PAX = number of travellers
sup. 1/1 = single room supplement

The price includes:

- Accommodation with breakfast and dinner for 9 nights in 3- and 4-star hotels and a guesthouse: 2 nights at Hotel Lavica 3* in Samobor, 2 nights at Hotel Mirni Kutak 3* in Otočac, 1 night at Hotel Art 4* in Split, 2 nights at Pension Hajduk 3* in Dominče, 2 nights at Hotel Lero 4* in Dubrovnik.
- 1 lunch at Hotel Lavica in Samobor.
- Services of a tour guide for 10 days and associated costs (accommodation, meals, transport...).
- Transport by tourist van or minibus reserved for the group, with associated costs (driver's accommodation and meals, fuel, tolls, parking...).
- Entrance fees listed as included in the programme.
- Catamaran transfer from Split to Hvar.
- Catamaran transfer from Hvar to Korčula.
- Return catamaran transfers between Korčula and Pomena (Mljet).
- 6 packed lunches
- Left-luggage storage in Hvar
- Wine tasting on the Pelješac peninsula
- Tourist taxes, and Sveta Ana agency's assistance, insurance and organisation fees.

NOTES:

- This sample programme is based on suppliers' price lists, but Sveta Ana does not guarantee prices or availability. These will be confirmed on request for specific dates, at which point the agency will place options to secure the travel conditions. Until options are placed, the prices in this offer are therefore indicative only.
- Travel times are based on normal driving conditions and are indicative only, as they may vary due to unforeseen factors such as roadworks, accidents, traffic jams or bad weather... Sveta Ana is not responsible for boat cancellations due to bad weather or rough seas.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS

All cancellations must be notified by email to the local agency. Cancellation fees depend on when the cancellation is made:

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

