

« PLATINUM TOUR » FROM ZAGREB TO DUBROVNIK BY THE ISTRIAN PENINSULA, PLITVICE NATIONAL PARK AND THE ISLAND OF KORČULA - 15 DAYS

YOUR ITINERARY



Sveta Ana d.o.o.

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PROGRAM

Day 1: Arrival at Zagreb airport – overnight in Zagreb

Arrival at Zagreb airport and vehicle pick up.

Road to Zagreb. Travel time: 30min

Check in at boutique Palace 4*

The 4 Palace hotel is a typical secession palace from the 19th century. The hotel is an eclectic blend of modernism and the spirit of Zagreb's history. It is located in the city centre at the end of the green Zrinjevac park.*



Day 2: The capital city of Zagreb - overnight in Zagreb

Breakfast.

Visit Zagreb.

Discover the two hills that mark the history of the Croatian capital and the green market - the Bishop's Hill Kaptol and the Lords' Hill Gradec or Grič, where the Croatian government and Parliament are still located today.

We suggest visiting the Croatian Naive Art Museum and the Cathedral.

We recommend the restaurant Kaptolska Klet near the cathedral offering specialties from Zagreb region or the microbrewery Medvegrad, favourite spot for the locals.

Overnight in Zagreb.



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Day 3: The luxurious Opatija and Pula on the Istrian peninsula – overnight in Pula

Breakfast.

Road to Opatija. Travel time: 2h30

Opatija was one of the first cities to develop tourism in Croatia and on the Adriatic Sea. Austrian secession architecture is the predominant building style, a reminder of the mid-19th century when the main visitors were Central European upper class and political elite. Opatija still today remains a synonym for a stylish travel destination.

We advise you to stroll on the Lungomare, a seaside promenade (the longest in Croatia with 12km) connecting the old abbey, the Imperial hotel and the villa Angiolina.



Continue to Pula. Travel time: 45min

Check in hotel Galija 3*, a small family owned hotel located in the heart of the historic center of Pula renowned for the Istrian cuisine and warm ambiance.



Visit Pula.

Pula is a Roman city with one of the best-preserved amphitheatres in the world dating back to the 1st century AD. The amphitheatre is still in use for concerts and theatre performances. The nearby old town has also beautiful monuments from the Roman past. You can enter the old town through the Roman triumphal arch, the main square is a Roman forum with the temple of Augustus, now converted into a museum. You can also visit the 17th century Austrian fort in the upper part of the city.



For history lovers we recommend the multi-museum card which gives grants entrance to the amphitheater and its archaeological museum and the city museum located in the ancient temple of Augustus.

Overnight in Pula.

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Day 4: Rovinj and Poreč (UNESCO) – overnight in Pula

Breakfast.

Road to Poreč. Travel time: 45min

You can park your vehicle near the main bus station.

Visit Poreč. We recommend the visit to the early Christian complex built by Bishop Euphrasius.

Poreč is a picturesque coastal town with long history, dating back to Roman Antiquity. Poreč harbours the famous basilica of Bishop Eufrasius, one of the finest examples of pre-Christian architecture of the 3rd century AD with magnificent mosaics. The basilica is part of the UNESCO World Heritage. During the visit you will discover different areas of this dynamic and rich complex.



Continue to Rovinj by the Lim canal.

Travel time: 1h

Visit Rovinj.

Rovinj developed on a peninsula dominated by the bell tower of a church dedicated to Saint Euphemia. According to a legend, her tomb appeared on the beach and despite all efforts nothing and nobody could move the sarcophagus. Only a shepherd's child managed to push the tomb to the top of the peninsula where today stands the church. Rovinj's narrow and twisted alleys are crowded with life, shops, stalls of artists and craftsmen. The architecture is a nice example of Venetian heritage. The market is one of the liveliest in Istria. Rovinj is a city full of colours and surprises.

Return to Pula.



Day 5: Island of Krk – overnight in Jezerce near Plitvice

Breakfast.

Road to the town of Krk. Travel time: 1h

Visit Krk.

The island of Krk was home of the Frankopans, the most powerful Croatian family. The island is connected to the mainland by a spectacular bridge. Krk is the largest island of the country and harbours magnificent sites such as the island Košljun monastery or the village Vrbnik perched on a steep cliff. The town of Krk is built in stone with ancient lush palaces next to simple fishermen's homes.



Continue to Jezerce passing through the coastal town of Senj before climbing on the Dinaric mountains of the Lika region. During the ascent toward the Vratnik saddle you will enjoy beautiful views of the Kvarner bay. Travel time: 3h



Check in at Etnohouse Plitvice.

The Etnohouse Plitvice is a guesthouse consisting of two traditional stone houses in a fairy tale setting within the Plitvice National Park. The furniture of the rooms is made by hand from local wood. The guesthouse features an outdoor swimming pool and a restaurant serving local specialties.

Day 6: Plitvice lakes national park (UNESCO – overnight in Jezerce near Plitvice

Breakfast.

Road to Plitvice. Travel time: 15min

Visit the national park.

The Plitvice Lakes are located in the mountainous Lika region, near the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. The national park is a natural phenomenon, part of UNESCO Natural World Heritage sites. It consists of 16 lakes with crystal clear waters which flow into each other in magnificent waterfalls. A paradise of nature.



In the roadbook you will find recommendation on the best way to discover the entire park with travertine waterfalls in the upper part, the electric boat on the big central lake Kozjak and the lower canyon. A rest area is found in the national park with bistros offering drinks and simple dishes. We advise you to buy the entrance ticket to the national park online, at least two days in advance. The link for the purchase of the tickets will be given in the roadbook. Return to Jezerce.

Day 7: Island of Pag and Zadar (UNESCO) – overnight in Zadar

Breakfast.

Road through the green Lika region to the Vratnik saddle. Scenic descent towards the coast to the port Prizna. Travel time: 2h

Board a ferry boat and sail to the island of Pag. Crossing time: 20 min

Disembark in the port of Žigljen and continue to the town of Pag through the lunar landscape of the island. Travel time: 45min

Pag is a typical island of the Kvarner bay. It has with two faces: a green west side and a rocky, lunar side facing the Velebit mountain chain. Velebit is notorious for the violent "bura" wind descending the steep slopes of the mountain and then carrying sea spray, thus "burning" the vegetation on the island with salt. The animals living on the island have a naturally salted meat and milk enriched with aromatic herbs, the only plants that can survive in this hostile environment. This special salty flavour is the reason why cheese and meat products from the island of Pag are renowned. The town of Pag is famous for its saltworks and a very particular urbanism implemented by one of the greatest Croatian architects and sculptors, Georges from Dalmatia in the 15th century. The island is also famous for its embroidery.



Drive towards the mainland by the lagoon and the salt marshes of Pag. Cross the impressive Pag bridge and continue to Zadar.

Travel time: 1h15

Visit Zadar.

Zadar's historical heritage dates back to ancient times. Zadar's main square is a Roman forum built by Saint Donatus in the 9th century AD. Zadar is a dynamic city with not only ancient but also modern monuments such as the sea organ. This unique instrument is incorporated in the quay of the harbour where the sea is the main organist, playing a mystical melody.



Check in hotel Niko 4*, a *boutique hotel with spacious rooms decorated in an eclectic old style. The hotel restaurant is renowned for fish specialties. The hotel is located on the seafront, a few steps from the beach.*



Day 8: Krka national park and Sibenik (UNESCO) – overnight in Trogir

Breakfast.

Road to Skradin at the entrance of the national park Krka. Travel time: 1h

Board the national park's boat and sail upstream the Krka river canyon. Sailing time: 20min

Instead of taking the boat, you can also walk to the Skradinski buk waterfall (1h).

Walk in the park on paths through the forest infiltrated by the river Krka and enjoy splendid views on the waterfalls.



Visit the small ethnographic museum presenting water mills, a forge and looms.

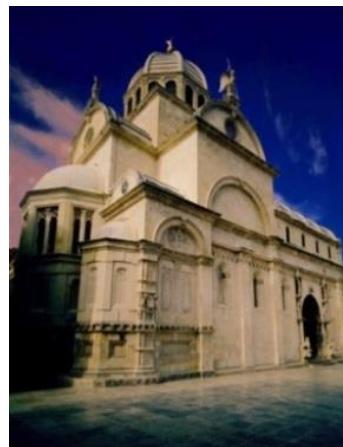
Return to Skradin.

Continue to Šibenik. Travel time: 20min

Visit Šibenik.

Šibenik is a picturesque Dalmatian town founded by the Croats, famous for the Saint James cathedral. The old town is an accomplishment of architecture thus earning the UNESCO Cultural World Heritage status.

We recommend visiting the Saint James cathedral.



Continue to Trogir by the scenic coastal road. Travel time: 1h

Check in hotel Pašike 4*. The hotel consists of 2 stone houses listed as historic monuments, on the island of the old town, connected to the mainland by small bridges. The hotel's restaurant is renowned for Dalmatian specialties. The interior is a blend of antique and modern design, a very charming fusion.



Day 9: Trogir (UNESCO) and Split (UNESCO) – overnight Trogir

Breakfast.

Visit Trogir. We recommend to visit Saint Lawrence Cathedral with the famous portal of master Radovan, one of the first sculptors to interpret the Renaissance spirit in Europe.

Trogir is an ancient Greek colony founded in the 4th century BC, built on a small island connected by a bridge to the mainland. Lush palaces and the beautiful cathedral of Saint Lawrence keep reminding us of the glorious past of the town. To truly appreciate the charm of the old town; one must get lost in a maze of small twisted alleys where past and present meet. This effortless beauty earned Trogir the place on the UNESCO's list of Cultural Heritage, as well as the discovery of the bas-relief of the Greek god Kairos, the divinity of the favourable moments ... but beware: he runs very fast!



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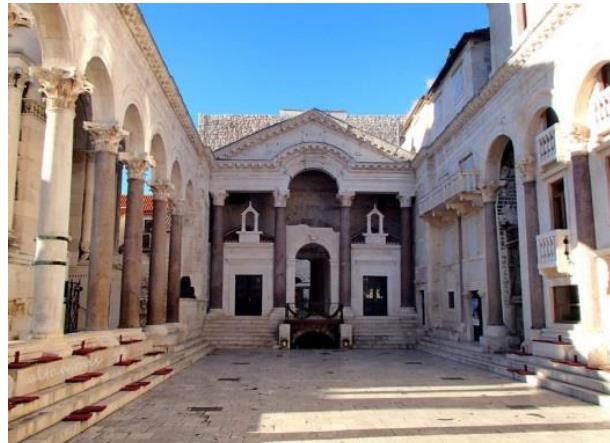
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Drive to the historical centre of Split. Travel time: 30min

Visit Split.

Split is a unique living monument. The original Roman palace was repeatedly transformed throughout history, each era leaving a mark resulting in an astonishing fusion of architectural styles in constant turmoil. This apparently contradictory way of preserving the Emperor Diocletian's palace earned it its UNESCO World Heritage status. Split today is the second largest city of the country and the biggest passenger port.



We recommend the visit of the cathedral, Jupiter's temple (UNESCO) and the Diocletian's palace substructures. You can also stroll on the hill Marijan, listed as park of nature, with splendid views on the city.

Return to Trogir.

Day 10: The island and town of Korčula, Marco Polo's birthplace – overnight in Korčula

Breakfast.

Drive to the port of Split located next to the historical centre. Embark on a ferry for the island of Korčula, regular Split – Vela Luka line. You should be in the line to embark the ferry at least 45 minutes prior to departure. Ferry ticket is included.

We recommend a lunch stop in the port of Vela Luka.

Proceed to the town of Korčula through authentic Mediterranean landscapes.

Travel time from Vela Luka to Korčula: 1h

Check in at hotel Liburna.

Just a 10-minute walk from the Old Town of Korčula, hotel Liburna is located on the shore of the Adriatic Sea. It features an outdoor pool and 2 tennis courts. You can enjoy your meals or have a drink on the terrace with beautiful views on the old town and the nearby islands.



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Visit Korčula.

Korčula embodies the spirit of the Dalmatian islands marked by the Venetian domination especially through the still active brotherhoods, part of today's tradition. Korčula is also the birthplace of the great merchant and traveller Marco Polo. A small town full of heritage and life set on a shore of the turquoise sea, a dreamer's paradise...



We recommend visit to the Icon Museum, the City Museum, the Cathedral and the Palace of Bishops situated in front of the ruins of Marco Polo's house.

Overnight in Korčula.

Day 11: Island of Mljet with the national park, on Odysseus's footsteps – overnight in Korčula

Breakfast.

Stroll to the town of Korčula.

Embark on a fast catamaran (regular line) to the village of Pomena on the island of Mljet.

Travel time: 1h (return ticket included)

Visit Mljet national park.

According to a legend, Odysseus spent 7 beautiful years on the island of Mljet, in the arms of the nymph Calypso. Mljet is covered in pine and oak forests. The main feature of the island are the two joined lakes, connected to the sea by a narrow passage. On the bigger lake there is another island, so we have an island on the island! This spot is perfect for swimming as the water temperature of the lakes is at least three degrees higher than the sea temperature.

The entrance ticket to the national park includes a boat trip to the islet of St. Mary and its old Benedictine monastery.



Return to Korčula.

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Day 12: Morning at leisure, Pelješac peninsula and Ston – overnight in Mlini

Breakfast.

Morning at leisure for relaxation and swimming.

The island of Korčula has variety of walking trails, such as the Kočje reserve in the village of Žrnovo near the town of Korčula.

Villages in the interior of the island have preserved their original identity and appearance. Many small family owned restaurants will enchant you with their typical local cuisine.

Road to the port of Dominče. Travel time: 10min

Embark a ferry to the mainland port of Orebic (ticket included). Crossing time: 20min

Drive to Ston. Travel time: 1h10

Pelješac is the longest Croatian peninsula, a region of wild beauty with crystal clear sea and hidden bays. It is renowned for red wines, in particular Dingač produced in Potomje vineyards. We recommend to make a stop and visit a winegrower on your way to Ston.



Visit Ston.

Ston is located on the Pelješac peninsula, on an isthmus between the open sea and the enclosed bay. A long and high medieval wall connects the two sides and the town of Ston and Ston Mali. The city's grid architecture mirrors the salt marshes on its shore.

Ston is renowned for shellfish farming as one of the rare sites where the Mediterranean oyster has been preserved. Oyster fields can be seen from the town of Ston Mali.



Continue to Mlini. Travel time: 1h15

Check in villa Carmen, a family guesthouse on the edge of a beautiful park overlooking the sea and the beaches of Mlini joined by a beautiful promenade. The villa features a traditional restaurant and an outdoor swimming pool.



Day 13: Dubrovnik (UNESCO) – overnight in Mlini

Breakfast.

Drive to Dubrovnik. Travel time: 20min

Smart and relaxing way to get to the old town:

We recommend you take the regular boat line from Mlini to Dubrovnik Old Town. You will avoid traffic jams and a search for quite expensive parking lots. By boat you will arrive directly in the old town with a splendid view on the Dubrovnik walls.

Dubrovnik was a Mediterranean city-state which managed to preserve its freedom and avoid conflicts by means of a very skilful diplomacy. The prosperity of the old Republic is palpable on every stone in Dubrovnik, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in the world. "The Pearl of the Adriatic" is the part of the UNESCO World Heritage.

We suggest to visit the Rector's palace, the Dominican and Franciscan monasteries, the old pharmacy and of course the outstanding walls.



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Things to do from Dubrovnik:

- swimming on Banje beach, located just on the eastern part of the old town. It is the most famous beach of Dubrovnik where celebrities such as Jackie Kennedy, John Malković, Nick Nolte, Roger Moore and the Queen of England went for a dip in the blue Adriatic Sea.
- take a 15 minutes boat ride to visit the island of Lokrum, a hidden gem of nature famous for the 11th century Benedictine monastery. Napoleon built a fortress on the top of the island which later belonged to the Habsburgs. The island of Lokrum also offers a rich botanical garden which is today a protected nature reserve, uninhabited, with pretty walks, a cafe and a restaurant. Lokrum is the favourite swimming spot for the local population.
- sea kayak tour departing from the old town, around the city walls and to the island of Lokrum or other sports activities (jet ski, parasailing, diving ...)

Return to Mlini.

Day 14: Cavtat, swimming and dinner of local specialties in the region of Konavle – overnight at Mlini

Breakfast

Drive to Cavtat. Travel time: 15min

Visit Cavtat.

Cavtat is one of the most beautiful villages in Dubrovnik region. The specific natural location sheltered by two capes, was decisive for the Romans who chose this enchanting place to found the "Epidaurus" colony.

The Croats stormed ancient Cavtat and forced the inhabitants to leave. The refugees left and founded Dubrovnik, linking closely the history of the two towns. Today Cavtat is a typical fishing village with lush captain's residences. Visit the family Račić mausoleum made by the famous Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović, the house of the impressionist painter Vlaho Bukovac, and the Franciscan monastery. Stroll on the beautiful seaside promenade around the capes.



Return to the hotel, afternoon at leisure.

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Drive to the river Ljuta (= the angry) and the Vinica Monković family restaurant in the region of Konavle, a rural area known for exceptional cypress forests, viticulture and authentic stone villages. Travel time: 30min

Traditional dinner in a magical setting by the river. This meal has to be ordered in advance and is therefore included in the price (drinks are not included).

The meal reveals the typical „under the bell“ cuisine: veal, lamb and potatoes are put on a metal platter, on a bed of embers and covered with a metal bell-shaped lid. The meal is cooked for 3 hours in the stew. Food becomes crisp on the surface but melts on the inside. Order good local wine and experience true gastronomical pleasure!



Return to Mlini.

Day 15: Departure from Dubrovnik airport

Breakfast.

Drive to the airport. Travel time: 15min

Vehicle drop off.

Departure flight.

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VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

For 2 persons: air-conditioned B category car, Opel Corsa, Suzuki Swift, Chevrolet Aveo, Renault Clio or similar.



For 4 persons: air-conditioned H standard category car, Skoda Octavia or similar.



For 6 to 8 persons: air-conditioned Van category car, Opel Vivaro 8+1, Renault Trafic 8+1 or similar.



You can of course rent any other category of vehicle.

RENTAL CONDITIONS:

- Unlimited mileage.
- Ferry crossings to the islands without extra rental fees (included in price).
- CDW insurance: the car rental company waives the right to collect a high deductible from you if the car is damaged, and most importantly it covers most of the damage in case of an accident. Theft insurance. The cost depends on the category of the vehicle.
- 1 additional driver included without extra rental fees (included in price).

NB: It is mandatory to own a credit card for the vehicle rental. A security deposit will automatically be pre-authorised on your credit card and will be returned after the rental of the vehicle ends.



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TOUR PRICE

THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation for 14 nights in hotels or guesthouses, category 3* and 4* with breakfast, namely 2 nights in hotel Palace 4* in Zagreb, 2 nights in hotel Galija 3* in Pula, 2 nights in guesthouse Etnohouse Plitvice 3* in Jezerce, 1 nights in Niko 4* in Zadar, 1 night in hotel Pašike 4* in Trogir, 2 nights in hotel Liburna 4* in Korčula and 3 nights in villa Carmen 3* in Mlini
- Car rental for 15 days (please see « vehicle description »)
- Ferry and catamaran tickets mentioned included in the program
- Diner of specialties in typical restaurant of Konavle region
- A roadbook including the detailed itinerary, a presentation of tourist sites to be visited (history and information) and various practical information on the town or site you visit (references of restaurants, parking lots...)
- 24/7 assistance in English by Sveta Ana travel agency. You will be provided with an emergency telephone number in case of incidents or any other major problem
- Assistance, insurance and organization costs of Sveta Ana travel agency

NOTES

- Sveta Ana travel agency checks the availability of hotels before writing the offer but does not guarantee the availability of the hotels prior to the definitive confirmation from the customer. If at the time of confirmation, the hotels are no longer available, Sveta Ana travel agency will undertake necessary steps to find similar accommodation, nearby the hotels listed in the initial offer. The prices listed above are subject to change and will be confirmed upon request for specific dates.
- Travel distances and times are given for regular driving conditions and for reference only. They can vary depending on random factors such as road works, accidents, traffic jams, bad weather...

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Child seat.¹
- Fuel.
- Road tolls and parking fees.
- Deductible cancellation and other services.
- Entrances to the monuments and national parks mentioned in the program.
- Flights and airport taxes.
- Meals not mentioned in the program as "included".
- Repatriation assistance / insurance.
- Drinks and personal expenses.
- Tips.

¹. Available on explicit client request.

OPTIONALS:

Sveta Ana travel agency provides the following additional optional services:

- Child seat = 7 € per day
- GPS (English) = 7 € per day
- Local English-speaking licensed guides providing visits of tourist sites: 115,00 € per visit of 1.5 hrs approximately
- “Private Travel” package with an English-speaking driver – guide. The package includes driver-guide’s daily costs and the costs of the vehicle (accommodation, food, petrol, tolls, parking fees) = € 330.00

Please note: the above prices are fixed costs are to be divided by the number of participants (the costs are not per person).

CANCELLATION TERMS

Cancellations must be written and sent by email to the local agency. Cancellation fees vary depending on when the cancellation occurs:

- more than 30 days prior to departure: 25% of the price of the trip,
- from 30 to 7 days prior to departure: 50% of the price of the trip,
- from 7 days prior to departure to the day of the departure of the trip: 100% of the price of the trip