

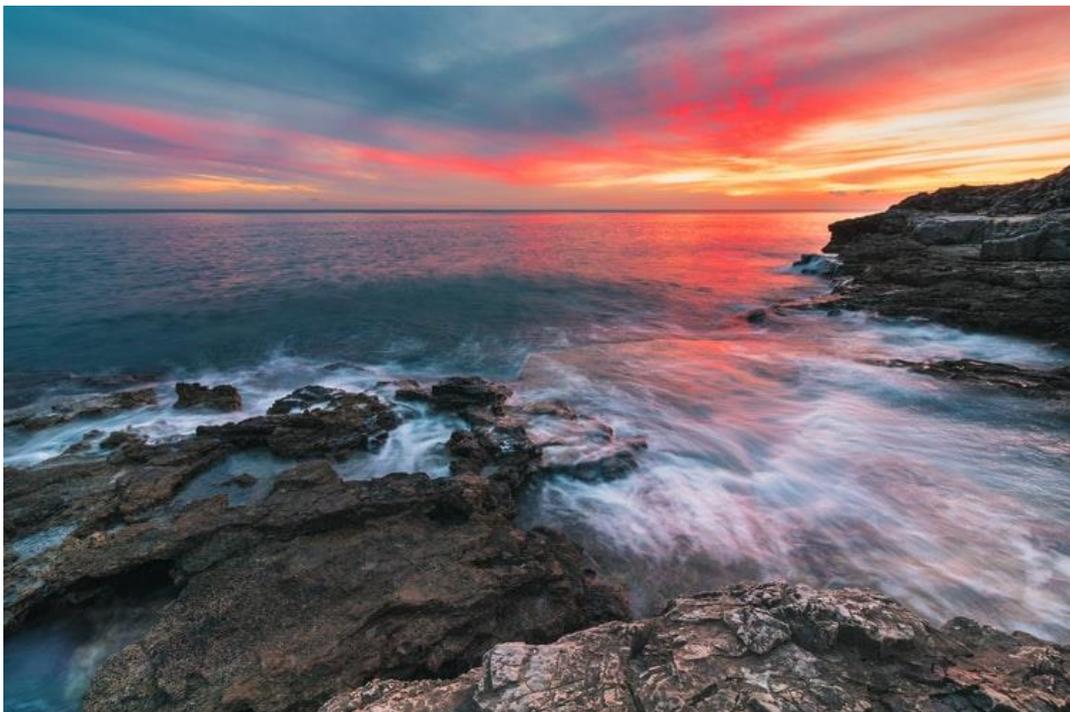
FOR GROUPS: « THE PEARLS OF THE SOUTHERN ISLANDS» IN 8 DAYS

Over 1200 islands adorn the Croatian coast like a pearl necklace, making it the most remarkable feature of the country. The climate is mild with hot summers. This tour is recommended from April to October. With "The Pearls of the Southern Islands" you will discover the Dalmatian islands, the southern part of the Croatian coast with the most renowned sites marked by the Mediterranean mildness opposed to rough mountains plunging directly into the sea. The hiking trails are a blend of famous sites such as the national park of Mljet island or Vidova Gora, the highest peak of the Croatian archipelago, with exclusive, off the beaten path trails such on the island of Hvar and on the Elaphiti archipelago. You will also discover the main historical sites of the country: Split, Korčula, Dubrovnik and small typical villages away from the crowds. Each Croatian island has its own, marked identity.

These walks are level 2 to 3, accessible to all. Our English-speaking guides are professionals, cherishing travel and nature.

The number of participants is between 4 and 15 The minimum number of bookings required is 4.

For up to 7 travellers, the tour will be done by van (8 + 1 seats) with a driver - guide. From 8 travellers, the tour will be done by local carriers, with a driver and guide



YOUR ITINERARY



PROGRAM

Day 1: Arrival at Split airport – overnight in Trogir

Arrival at Split airport in Croatia.

Meeting with an English-speaking tour guide.

Transfer by van or minibus to Arbanija on the island of Čiovo.

Travel time: 15 min

Dinner in hotel restaurant.

Sveti Križ is a 4* hotel, located on the island of Čiovo connected by bridges to the island of Trogir and to the continent. The hotel is easily accessible, set on a peaceful location near the sea and the beach. The hotel features an outdoor swimming pool, a wellness, spa and fitness area. A convenience store is located below the hotel. Trogir old town is a 5 to 10 minutes' drive.



Day 2: The island of Brač – Bol and the Vidova Gora peak hike – overnight in Trogir

Breakfast.

The guide prepares packed lunch.

Transfer to the port of Split. Travel time: 30min

Board a ferry to the town of Supetar on the island of Brač.

Sailing time: 1h

Transfer to Vidova Gora, the highest peak of the Croatian islands.

Travel time: 30min

Hike to Zlatni Rat beach. Time at leisure for a swim.

Continue to the town of Bol by the seaside promenade.

Elevation: 778m - Distance: 6km - Effective walking time: 2h - Hiking time with breaks: 3h

Level: easy-medium 2-3 / 5

Bol is a typical fishing town made of stone houses. The island of Brač is known for the quarries of the renowned “Brač stone” used for building monuments not only in Croatia but also in the world, such as Vienna’s and Budapest’s parliaments, the upper part of the Sacred Heart basilica in Paris and the facade of the White House in Washington. Stone masonry is a living tradition and attracts numerous artists from around the world. The beach of Zlatni Rat in the town of Bol is ranked among the 20 most beautiful beaches in the world, a dreamlike setting for a brake.

Picnic on the beach.

Transfer to Supetar. Travel time: 45min

Board a ferry to Split. Sailing time: 1h

Return to the hotel.

Dinner in the hotel restaurant.



Day 3: Split (UNESCO) – overnight in Korčula

Breakfast.

Bus transfer to Split. Travel time: 30min

Luggage drop off at the luggage office of Split railway station

Walk on the hill Marjan, a protected park, offering scenic views on the city of Split, Kaštela and the islands Brač and Šolta.



Effective walking time: 1h30 - Hiking time with breaks: 2h - Elevation: 180m - Level: medium 3/5

Time at leisure for a personal discovery of Split and lunch.

The city of Split is part of the Roman emperor Diocletian palace whose presence can still be felt today. During history, buildings of different styles were added to the palace resulting in an astonishing fusion of architectural styles in constant turmoil.



Luggage pickup and boarding a fast boat to the island of Korčula.

Low season - departure: 4.30 p.m. / arrival: 7.10 p.m.

Beginning of June to the end of September - departure: 5 p.m. / arrival: 8 p.m.

Transfer to Hajduk guesthouse. Travel time: 10min

Check in Hajduk guesthouse. Dinner in guesthouse restaurant.

This family owned guesthouse is located in the town of Dominče, 1.5 km from the town of Korčula in the Školjka bay known for its beautiful beach. A seaside promenade connects Dominče to Korčula (30min) There are also private boat transfers from Školjka bay to the town of Korčula. The Hajduk guesthouse offers taxi transfers, traditional home cooking, and features a small fitness room and a large outdoor swimming pool.



Day 4: Korčula and the island of Mljet with the national park – overnight in Korčula

Breakfast.

The guide prepares packed lunch.

Walk on the seaside promenade to the town of Korčula. Walking time: 30min

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 visiting the Icon Museum, the City Museum, the Cathedral and the Palace of Bishops located in front of the ruins of Marco Polo's house.

Board on a fast boat (regular line) to the town of Pomena on the island of Mljet. Sailing time: 30min

Hike in the Mljet national park including the Saint Mary island with the 11th century monastery.

Effective walking time: 3h - Hiking time with breaks: 5h - Difficulty: easy 2/10

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 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.

Picnic lunch.

Return to Korčula by boat and walk to the guesthouse.
Dinner in guesthouse restaurant.

Day 5: Island of Hvar – hike in Hvar – overnight in Korčula

Packed breakfast.

Transfer to Korčula.

Board on a fast boat (regular line) to the island of Hvar.

Departure: 6 a.m. / arrival: 7:35 a.m.

Coffee break on Hvar's the central square after the boat transfer.

The guide prepares packed lunch.

Hike to the Napoleon fortress overlooking the town of Hvar, 227m high. Continue on the hills along the Hvar fields and descend to the Borča bay. Possible swim stop. Walk to Hvar by a path following the coast.
Distance: 15km



Effective walking time: 5h - Hiking time with breaks: 7h - Elevation: 485 m - Difficulty: easy-medium 2-3 / 5

Stop for a picnic lunch during the walk.

Time at leisure for a personal discovery of Hvar.

Hvar is an island with a very mild climate and lots of sunshine, favourable for lavender growing and extraction of essential oils used in medicine and perfume industry. Tourism developed in Hvar at the end of the 19th century, similar to Opatija and Dubrovnik. The town of Hvar is a typical Dalmatian port built in stone houses and palaces with strong Venetian influence. Hvar is an elite tourist destination attracting the world's jet setters for more than a century.



Board on a fast boat (regular line) to Korčula.

Low season: Departure at 5:35 p.m. – arrival at 7:10 p.m.

Beginning of June to the end of September: departure: 6:05 p.m. / arrival: 8:00 p.m.

Transfer to Korčula and the Hajduk guesthouse. Dinner in guesthouse restaurant.

Day 6: Dubrovnik (UNESCO) – overnight in Plat near Dubrovnik

Breakfast.

Transfer to Korčula.

At 10:00 a.m. embark on a fast boat (regular line) to Dubrovnik.

At 12:05 a.m. arrival to Dubrovnik.

Transfer to Dubrovnik old town.

Travel time: 15min

Time at leisure for a personal discovery and lunch.

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 of Dubrovnik, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in the world. "The Pearl of the Adriatic" is the part of the UNESCO World Heritage.



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 and with pretty walking paths, 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...)

Proceed to the hotel Villas Plat. Travel time: 15min

Check-in in one of the Villas Plat.

Dinner in hotel restaurant.

The Villas Plat hotel is a 3 hotel complex consisting of 4 villas with apartments and 2 villas with rooms located in the Plat village, set by the sea and surrounded by nature. The rooms have a balcony with sea-view. The hotel features a swimming pool, a restaurant by the sea and a small shop.*



Day 7: The island of Koločep in the Elaphiti archipelago – overnight in Plat near Dubrovnik

Breakfast.

Transfer to the port of Dubrovnik.

Travel time: 20min

You will see the local market located in the harbour. The guide prepares packed lunch.

Embark on a regular boat line for the Elaphiti archipelago.
10h00-10h30

Sail to the village Donje Čelo on the island of Koločep.
Walk on the island through the magnificent Mediterranean landscapes by the famous cliffs to the village of Gornje Čelo.
The island of Koločep is a protected nature park.

Walking time: 4h30 - Distance: 10km - Elevation: 100m
Picnic lunch during the walk.
Short stop for a swim on the sandy beach of Gornje Čelo.

15h50-16h20. Return to Dubrovnik by a regular boat line.
Transfer to the hotel.
Dinner in hotel restaurant.



Day 8: Departure from Dubrovnik airport

Breakfast.

Transfer to the airport: 30min

Departure flight.

TOUR PRICE

The price includes:

- Accommodation for 7 nights in guesthouses or small 3* hotels with half-board. Namely: 2 nights in hotel Sveti Križ 4* in Trogir, 3 nights in guesthouse Hajduk in Korčula and 2 nights in hotel Villas Plat 3* in Plat
- 4 packed lunches
- Entrances for the national park on the island of Mljet
- Transfers by van (up to 7 travellers) or minibus with associated costs (tolls, parking fees, driver)
- Boat transfers
- English speaking tour leader with associated costs
- Assistance, insurance and organization costs of Sveta Ana travel agency

Note: at this stage Sveta Ana does not guarantee the accommodation in hotels mentioned in the program, options are not taken in advance. The accommodation will be confirmed after partner's request for specific dates. If at the time of confirmation, the accommodation listed in the program is no longer available, Sveta Ana travel agency will undertake necessary steps to find similar accommodation, nearby the hotels listed in the initial offer. Travellers may be accommodated in different but neighbouring hotels.