



GT Experiences

A REALM OF UNFORGETTABLE TRAVEL

CROATIA





Art Pavillion, Zagreb

HIGHLIGHTS OF CROATIA

13 Days/11 Nights Itinerary

ZAGREB, OPATIJA, PULA, VRH, SPLIT, KRK ISLAND, PLITVICE LAKES, SIBENIK, TROGIR, MOSTAR, DUBROVNIK, MONTE NEGRO

TOUR OVERVIEW

Enjoy the highlights of Croatia and day trips to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro on this 13-day tour spanning across four countries along the Adriatic coastline. Begin the adventure in Zagreb, the vibrant capital city of Croatia. Discover the incredible cuisine of the Istrian region and its Roman history. Be swept away into the fairy tale like landscapes of the cascading lakes in the Plitvice Lakes National Park. Sip coffee alongside locals on Split's Riva or explore the island of Hvar. Walk cobbled streets in Mostar, with the perfect background vistas of the famous Old Bridge over Neretva River. Mingle with locals and visitors alike in the narrow streets of Old Town Dubrovnik and take in the views of the Elaphiti Islands and the Adriatic from the top of Srdj Mountain or visit Montenegro.

DAY 1: Depart for your flight to Croatia.

DAY 2: ZAGREB

Arrive in Zagreb and transfer to your hotel, check in and relax. This evening, enjoy

time at leisure. Overnight in Zagreb!

DAY 3: ZAGREB WALKING TOUR

Zagreb is a great year-round destination attracting more and more visitors with its charming mix of medieval history and a trendy lineup of restaurants, bars, shops and music festivals. Spend the morning discovering the capital city's highlights on a two hour guided walking tour including Zagreb's Upper Town, the Lotrščak Tower, St. Mark's Square, Parliament Building, Stone Gate, Strossmayer Promenade and more. Spend the rest of the day at leisure discovering more of Zagreb independently. **(B)**

DAY 4: OPATIJA ZAGREB – PULA

Today explore the Istrian Peninsula. Visit Pula and its landmark - the Roman Amphitheatre, built in the 1st century AD. The Arena is the only remaining Roman amphitheater to have four side towers and it is among the six largest surviving Roman arenas in the World. A rare example among the 200 Roman surviving amphitheatres, it is also the best pre-

served ancient monument in Croatia. After a guided walking tour of Pula, we will visit a local family that owns an estate near Pula. The grove primarily olive and they have established themselves as one of the best olive oil producers in Croatia. Their olive oil was placed as world's top 15 olive oils by prestige L' Extravergine magazine. After olive oil tasting and a snack continue to Opatija. Overnight in Opatija! **(B, OT)**

DAY 5: OPATIJA – MOTOVUN TRUFFLE HUNT

Try your hand at the art of detecting these treasured delicacies of the woodlands! Enjoy a scenic drive from Opatija to the pretty village of Vrh, overlooking Lake Butoniga. Here, you will be greeted by the family that originated the tradition of truffle hunting in Istria. Begin with a tasting of wonderful truffle products, such as cheese with truffles and perhaps truffle biscuits. Then, head downhill, led by specially trained dogs, to the famous Motovun forests to experience the adventure of hunting for black and even





Plitvice Lakes

precious white truffles. After searching for truffles for about 45 minutes, you will learn how to prepare a meal with truffles. Your excursion culminates with a tasting of local wine, cheese and truffles. **(B, CT, WT)**



DAY 6: KRK ISLAND & VRBNIK VILLAGE

Depart Opatija toward Krk Island and Vrbnik Village. Vrbnik is undoubtedly one of the most famous Croatian villages. It became famous thanks to its Glagolitic heritage and famous popular song with its special melody. As with the other castles on the island, Vrbnik too is, situated high up, at almost 50 meters and on truly special place, on a cliff that literally dives into the sea. Today the most important product of Vrbnik's fields and of Vrbnik in general, is its golden yellow wine - the Zlahtina; which has become famous even in wider Croatian circles. **(WT)**

DAY 7: PLITVICE LAKES - ZADAR

Depart Opatija in the morning and drive to Croatia's most famous national park, the Plitvice Lakes. Spend the morning on a walking tour of the national park including boat ride on a lake. About a million people, the most of any Croatian park, visit each year and with good reason. Situated in the mountainous Gorski Kotar region, the National Park covers almost 115 square miles of wooded area including 16 lakes. The cascading lakes are divided into 12 Upper and 4 Lower Lakes, all encircled with walking paths that lead through woods, along the lakes, caves and the mesmerizing, seemingly never-ending array of waterfalls that culminates with the Great Waterfall. Depart Plitvice Lakes and enjoy mountainous landscapes giving way to Adriatic vistas on a drive to Zadar. Coastal Zadar offers an intriguing mix of ancient history and modern spectacles like the Sea Organ and Sun Salutation installations. Upon arrival to Zadar, travelers will delve into the history of this unique coastal town on a guided walking tour among its ancient Roman sites, vibrant narrow alleys, and stunning coastal front known to have the most beautiful sunset in the world. Transfer to the hotel, overnight in Zadar. **(B)**



DAY 8: SIBENIK - TROGIR - SPLIT

Depart Zadar and drive to Sibenik, an important place in the Croatian heritage thanks to its well-preserved historical core of the town. A guided walking tour through the old part of the town will show the finest sites including the UNESCO Cathedral of St. James, one of the finest sacral monuments in Dalmatia. Afterwards continue to Trogir. This small town is protected by UNESCO as a whole with some of the finest artwork and architecture in the Adriatic region. Visit the main sites, one of which is St. Lawrence Cathedral with beautiful renaissance carvings. The whole town is like an open-air museum so just to take a stroll through narrow streets will be an unforgettable experience. **(B)**

DAY 9: SPLIT WALKING TOUR

Spend the day exploring Croatia's second largest city, the beautiful coastal Split. Travelers will get to walk among the an





Split

cient monuments in the historic city core on a guided walking tour of the city that grew around the Diocletian's Palace, one of the most imposing remains of Roman architecture in Croatia. A walk through the narrow streets and alleys unveils a vibrant mix of historic buildings and trendy coffee bars, restaurants and shops. Join the locals taking their time sipping coffee on

the famous Riva waterfront and watch the boats go in and out of the harbor. Discover ancient Split at leisure on your own. **(B)**

DAY 10: SPLIT

Enjoy a day at leisure discovering the ancient Split on your own. Located on the Croatian Adriatic coast, below a mountain in the Dalmatian region of Croatia, Split is the second largest city in the country, a large port, and one of the most impressive monuments to the Roman architecture. Stroll through the historic city center, get a taste of the local cuisine on the city market, rub Grugur Ninski statue's big toe for good luck or just relax on a beach. Split has no shortage of entertainments for travelers, but those interested in learning

about the city surroundings can join one of our recommended optional tours and visit Hvar Island. **(B)**

DAY 11: SPLIT - MOSTAR - DUBROVNIK

This morning we depart Split and drive to one of the most famous sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mostar. Home to the Balkan's most famous bridge, Mostar takes its visitors by surprise with charming alleys, Ottoman architecture and its astonishingly diverse historic heritage. Travelers will discover the layers of history of this spectacular city and a UNESCO site on a guided walking tour. The city boasts rows of picturesque, old Turkish houses, the bazaar, mosque, churches and synagogues representing a varied cultural heritage. Afterwards depart Mostar and drive to the Pearl of the Adriatic, Dubrovnik. **(B)**

DAY 12: DUBROVNIK - WALKING TOUR

Today, step into centuries of history among the cobbled streets of the Old Town on a guided walking tour of the city. Known as the pearl of the Adriatic, this walled city is renowned for its breathtaking beauty and more recently, as a popular filming

location for the likes of Game of Thrones, Star Wars and Robin Hood. A great way to scoop out the layout of the city is to take the cable car up to the summit of Mount Srdj, which looks out across the city to Adriatic and back over the mountains of Herzegovina. **(B)**

DAY 13: DUBROVNIK - OPTIONAL MONTE-NEGRO TOUR

Spend the day at leisure and discover your favorite spots around Dubrovnik on your own. Visit the 14th-century Franciscan monastery and its Old Pharmacy Museum, one of the oldest in the world. Climb the steps up and take your time to walk along the City Walls, to enjoy the unparalleled views of the Old Town and the sea. Those wishing to experience more of Dubrovnik's surroundings can join our optional one-day tour to Kotor in neighboring Montenegro. **(B)**

DAY 14: TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT

Return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 11 nights hotel accommodation
- Round-trip airport to hotel transfers
- Breakfast daily
- Guided walking tours of Zagreb, Pula, Plitvice Lakes, Zadar, Sibenski, Split, Mostar and Dubrovnik
- Private motorcoach throughout the itinerary
- Motovun truffle hunt in Istria with cooking and wine tasting
- Visits to Krk Island and Vrbnik village

Optional tours to Hvar Island and Kotor.

Legend

B	Breakfast
CT	Cheese Tasting
OT	Olive Oil Tasting
WT	Wine Tasting

