

Cycling Safaris

CROATIA

Southern Dalmatian Islands **PLUS** from/to Trogir 2018

Guided Tour

Guide cycling with group | 230 km/144 mi | 7 nights / 8 days



Our cycle tours in Southern Dalmatia, which is the smallest and most sparsely populated region of Croatia, will take us past unique little towns and the beautiful island countryside.

This tour belongs to our “Plus” tours offering deluxe or first class motor sailor. On our South Dalmatia Plus Tour we will show you the beauty of the South Dalmatian coastline and island world in company of our deluxe ship, the majestic Princeza Diana or of our first class ship Melody.

Highlights of the tour such as the Diocletian Palace in Split, the picturesque old town of Korčula and the lavender island of Hvar along with many other scenic islands make this journey an unforgettable experience. Culture does not fall by the wayside.

This tour is in many ways similar to our regular South Dalmatia tour, making the Plus Tour a great alternative should your dream tour date in South Dalmatia already be booked out. Depending on wind and weather we reserve the right to run this tour in reverse.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 (Sat) Trogir (Embarkation) – Hvar Island

Individual arrival by car to Trogir or by plane to Split airport, which is about 5 km away from the harbor of Trogir. After check in on the motor yacht between 2 and 2:30 pm the first cruise starts about 3 pm from Trogir to Hvar Island. Stari Grad is the second largest settlement on the Island of Hvar and well known for its important harbor. Overnight stay in Stari Grad.

Day 2 (Sun) Islands of Hvar and Vis (approx. 12.5 mi. + 15 mi. / 20 km + 22 km)

Today's first cycle tour leads us along the almost traffic free pass road through nicely set small villages. After breakfast in Stari Grad we do a second cycle tour to the quaint harbors of Jelsa and Vrboska. Afterwards we return to Stari Grad, which has become a Mecca for artists and art lovers in the past few years. A second cycle tour leads us to the islands capital Hvar, where we visit the magnificent Renaissance Square and enjoy the view at the Spanish Fortress which is situated high above the city. We hop on board again and cross over to Vis Island at about 6 pm. Overnight stay on Vis.

Day 3 (Mon) Vis Island (approx. 20 mi. / 32 km)

Vis is the furthest island from mainland Croatia. A Greek colony called Issa has been on the island 2,300 years ago. Due to its strategic location it was a military zone until 1995 and prohibited for foreign tourists. Today we have the opportunity to explore the lovely island by bicycle. Alternatively, there is a possibility to participate in a three hour jeep tour around the Island (about 35 euro). After cycling the boat takes us to the Island of Korčula. Overnight stay in Vela Luka.

Day 4 (Tue) Korčula Island (approx. 39 mi. / 62 km)

Today we discover the island of Korčula by bicycle and enjoy our lunch break in one of the local restaurants. The calmness and remoteness of the vast vegetation and cypress gardens have given the shape to the probably most beautiful Dalmatian island. Our cycle tour leads us via the village of Blato, like Rome built on seven hills, along a pass road across Pupnat bay and finally to Korčula town, where we have time to take a walk through the wonderful old town with its narrow "fishbone like" alleys. We stay overnight in Korčula town.

Day 5 (Wed) Brač Island (approx. 17 mi. / 27 km)

Today we cruise to the island of Brač, which is famous for its radiant marble that was, among others, used for the White House in Washington or the Reichstag building in Berlin. After an extended swim break followed by lunch, we start our cycling trip in Sumartin, leading us to Selca and on to the picturesque harbour town Pučišća.

Day 6 (Thu) Omiš - Split (approx. 16 to 27 mi. / 25 or 44 km)

Short crossing to Omiš. We cycle from Omiš through the valley of the Cetina River which is surrounded by steep rocks. After 11 mi. / 18 km we have the choice to take part on a four hours rafting tour on the Cetina River (not included in the tour price) and afterwards a small cycle tour of about 4 mi. / 7 km back to the boat - or to expand the cycling tour (no rafting) for 27 mi. / 44 km along small side roads and versatile landscapes until reaching Omiš and its pirate castles. In the afternoon our ship takes us to Split. The old town of Split, built adjoining the famous palace of the Roman Caesar Diocletian, is a world heritage site. Overnight stay in Split.

Day 7 (Fri) Šolta Island (approx. 12 mi. / 19 km)

After crossing over to Stomorska on the island of Šolta we commence our last cycle tour. Walled fields, numerous olive groves, locust bean and fig trees line the roads. The herb smells of lavender and rosemary accompanies us along our tour through this island. We load the bikes onto the ship in Maslinica and enjoy our last crossing back to Trogir where, if time permits, we can take a tour of the old town which is a world heritage site. The last evening aboard our ship follows a nice tradition. While enjoying the communal dinner in a cosy atmosphere you will have the chance for a last get-together with your crew and your tour guides.

Day 8 (Sat) Trogir (Disembarkation)

After breakfast disembarkation until 9 am and individual trip home or extended stay in Dalmatia/Croatia.

Alterations:

We reserve the right to make alterations to the planned route due to changing wind and weather conditions, and where required by organizational necessities.

2018 TOUR DATES & COSTS

Deluxe Ship Princeza Diana Departures (Saturdays)

April 21*
May 5*, 19
June 2, 16, 30
July 14
August 18
September 1, 19, 29
October 13*

€1470 per person sharing cabin below deck
€1620 per person sharing cabin on deck
+ €500 per single cabin below deck
+ €700 per single cabin on deck

* €100 reduction on these departure dates



First Class Boat Melody Departures (Saturdays)

April 28*
May 12*, 26*
June 9, 23
July 7, 28
August 11, 25
September 8, 22
October 6*

€1570 per person sharing cabin below deck
€1770 per person sharing cabin above deck
+ €500 per single cabin below deck
+ €800 per single cabin on deck

* €100 reduction on these departure dates



THE BOATS

Deluxe Ship PRINCEZA DIANA (all cabins with shower/toilet)

At 40 x 8.5m the Princeza Diana is a 3-mast deluxe class motor yacht that was launched in 2011.

This ship is the princess of our fleet, an epitome of pure elegance. 16 spacious guest cabins with air conditioning, shower cabins and WC are at the guest's disposal.

The spacious salon as well as the canopied quarterdeck, with upholstered seating, are situated on the top deck. You're invited to play music on the piano and to relax you will find sunning mats and deckchairs on the sun deck.

The jacuzzi on the top deck is a highlight with its 360° panoramic view.

First Class Boat MELODY (all cabins with shower/toilet)

Built in 2014/2015, the 42 m long and 8,30 m wide Melody is a floating deluxe hotel, which accompanies you to Croatia's most beautiful harbour towns.

Her exquisite décor and elegant form conjure a regenerative atmosphere for the comfort of small groups of up to 31 people. The 15 capacious guest cabins are characterized by a high-class interior with air conditioning, shower cabins, WC and safe.

Relaxation is limitless on the spacious sundeck, in the wellness room or in the jacuzzi on the top deck. Eight crew members are registered under captain Pave to cater for the wellbeing of the passengers on board.

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 nights accommodation on the boat in a cabin with private shower
- Bed linen and towels
- 4 x full board, 3 x half board (option to have a picnic for lunch)
- Maps for the daily routes
- Bike hire – 27-speed hybrid bike with pannier bag
- English/German speaking guide cycling with the group
- Sightseeing entrance as described in itinerary

Not included in the tour price:

- Journey to Trogir
- Water flat rate, Visitor's tax and local charges €40 or €20 for children up to age 16 (to be paid to the captain)
- Drinks onboard (Tally sheet, to be paid to the captain).

Optional Extra's

- Taxi from Split airport to the ship in Trogir (approx €15.00 one way)
- E-bike available for an additional €80
- Tips for crew & tour guide
- Insurance against theft and damage of the rental 21-speed hybrid bike €10 / per week or rental E-bike €20 / week (not insured deliberate damages)

If you wish to bring your own bike there is a reduction of €80



Bike hire is included in the tour package.

- **Frames** - Bicycles are available in four different frame sizes; 2 ladies (for up to 160cms (5 ft. 3 in.), and above that) and 2 men's (up to 6 ft., and above) to cater for all body heights.
- **Wheels** - Very stable 28 inch hollow chamber rims with Top Touring tyre (easy turning and solid).
- **Gear change** - 27-gear derailleur, Shimano
- **Further Equipment** - Tektro alloy brakes with strong "bite", partly inclination-adjustable stem, carrier, comfortable touring saddle of Bontrager H1, and safety mudguards with releasing mechanism. Rear Ortlieb pannier bag rear rack, kickstand, and water bottle cage.
- **Please Note:** You can bring your own saddle (without the post) or your own click pedals, and the tour guide will attach them to your rental bicycle.

The Bike tours require basic level of fitness from participants, which they should have acquired from steady cycling. The day tours from 20 – 60km will take you through hilly and mountainous terrain and may be completed without any time constraints. Participants will also need to master long and steep climbs during which they are, however, also permitted to push their bikes.

You are free to set aside a half or full day swim or spend on board the boat, instead of taking a planned bike tour. We will traverse mostly asphalted roads, which are rarely travelled on outside the holiday seasons.

Each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join the tour guides and other participants.

Helmet use is mandatory on all bike tours in Croatia. You are strongly encouraged to bring your own (well fitted) helmet. Rental Helmets are available on board in limited number (reservation requested).

WHAT TO BRING

Specialised cycle clothing may be handy but not strictly necessary. What you do need (among other things) is the following:

- shorts/ long trousers/ track suit/ leggings
- shirts/ sweater/ rain clothing
- good shoes plus shoes for use on deck only
- sunglasses/ cap/ swimming costume
- extra towel for swimming
- soap/ insect repellent
- own helmet

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meals

The cook that travels along is a member of the crew and prepares breakfast and two warm dishes a day which take into account the requirements of active cyclists. The ample breakfast comprises bread, butter, jam, cheese, sausages, coffee, and tea as well as some extras. For lunch, the cook will generally prepare a light meal and for dinner you can expect a great menu of several courses that often includes fish or seafood as its central dish. Please let us know beforehand if there are any foods you may or will not eat, and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes and to provide alternatives.

Electricity, water and telephone on the ship

Electricity and water are available on board, of course, but within limits. All ships have a generator for 220V, which will however not work around the clock, e.g. to ensure your night's rest it will be switched off overnight.

The plugs are ordinary flat European plugs with two round pins of 4.8 mm in diameter.

The water tanks are large enough to provide sufficient cold and warm water for washing and showering for everyone, if it is used with consideration, i.e. if you turn it off while washing, and do not leave it on unneeded.

All countries have access to a local GSM 900 mobile telephone network that you can log into if your phone is GSM compatible.

Arrival to tour start

- Taxi transfer from the airport of Split to the ship in Trogir (one way ca. 15 Euro per person)
- There are no direct flights from Ireland to Split, but we recommend you use www.skyscanner.net to find the most convenient route for you.
- There is an option to fly into Zadar Airport and from here get the airport bus into Zadar station, and a coach from Zadar to Trogir should take under 2 hours.