

Cycling Safaris

CROATIA Highlights of the Dalmatian Islands 2024 From Split to Dubrovnik

Guided Tour

Guide cycling with group | 233 km/144 mi | 7 nights / 8 days

If you would like to experience the region of South Dalmatia in all its glory as well as Dubrovnik with its amazing city walls, this e-bike and boat tour is an excellent choice for you! Discover this sparsely populated area of Croatia on board a charming motor yacht. Breath-taking scenic experiences and cultural attractions await you. The highlights of the trip include the town centre of Dubrovnik and Split, both of which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. We cycle the islands of Mljet, Vis, Korčula, Hvar, and Brač and get the opportunity to experience sea and land, culture and nature firsthand.

This tour expands our Islandhopping-Plus-Program, matching activity with comfort. Our proud motor yacht Harmonia is your home for this unforgettable week. Welcoming, roomy cabins with private bathrooms, a comfortable sundeck as well as a stylish salon are all at your disposal onboard the ship. The direction of this tour alternates each week.



TOUR ITINERARY

1st Day (Fri) Split (Embarkation)

Individual journey to Split. Check-in on board starts between 2.00pm and 2.30 pm at Split harbour. At about 4.30 pm, a guided city tour offers the chance to see inside the former Palace of Emperor 1st Day (Fri) Split (Embarkation)

Individual journey to Split. Check-in on board starts between 2 and 2:30 pm at Split harbour. On a guided city tour at 4:30 pm, we get the opportunity to see inside the former Palace of Emperor Diocletian and learn about its transformation into the city it is today. The boat overnights in Split offering the guests an opportunity to experience Split's nightlife.

2nd Day (Sat) Split - Insel Brač: Pučišća - Bol - Island Hvar: Jelsa (aprx. 14 mi./23 km)

In the morning we cruise to the island of Brač, famous for its radiant, precious limestone that was used in part for the White House in Washington as well as for the construction of the German Reichstag building in Berlin. Once on Brač, we cycle from the picturesque harbour town of Pučišća, known internationally for its stone masonry college, across the island to Bol. Close by lies the famous "Golden Horn", a popular Croatian beach famous for its unique shape. Water lovers can enjoy a swim here before we continue on by boat to Jelsa on the island of Hvar.

3rd Day (Sun) Hvar Island: Jelsa - Stari Grad - Hvar - Island Vis (aprx. 22 mi./35 km)

Today's cycling tour on the Island of Hvar leads us first from Jelsa to Stari Grad. After a short break we continue on by bike through lavender fields and small villages to the island's capital, Hvar, on the opposite side of the island. Marvel at the magnificent Renaissance Square and enjoy a view up to the Spanish Fortress, towering high above the town. Make sure to take the time to go for a little stroll through Hvar town before boarding the boat for the next crossing. From Hvar we continue by boat to the island of Vis where we spend the night.

4th Day (Mon) Island Vis - Island Korčula (aprx. 20 mi./32 km)

Vis is the furthestmost inhabited island from mainland Croatia. A Greek colony called Issa settled 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. From the town of Vis we cycle once around the entire island with a coffee stop in the harbour of Komiza and a possibility for a traditional lunch along the way before returning to the boat. After the tour, the boat takes us to the harbour of Vela Luka on the Island of Korčula where we spend the night.

5th (Tues) Day Korčula Island: Vela Luka - Korčula town (aprx. 37.5 mi./60 km)

Today's cycle tour leads us across the charming island of Korčula all the way to Korčula town. A mild Mediterranean climate and a vast variety of different landscapes await us on this spectacular island. Take your time and don't forget to take a break to enjoy the view over the deep blue sea and neighbouring islands. The picturesque town of Korčula competes with Venice for the honour of being the birthplace of the famous explorer Marco Polo. Spend the evening wandering through the fishbone alleyways and soak up the atmosphere of this stylish town. A guided city tour will give you an overview of the city and its history.

6th Day (Wed) Island Korčula - Pelješac Peninsula: Orebić - Trstenik - Island Mljet (aprx. 16 mi./25 km + up to 18 mi./30 km)

During breakfast a short cruise brings us to the harbour of Orebić on the Pelješac Peninsula. Pelješac can be recognised from far away with its impressive 3280 ft./ 1.000m high Sv. Ilija mountain range. The famous local wines named Plavac and Dingač originate from this unique wine region where vineyards can be found firmly rooted into the steep mountainside. Today's bicycle ride takes us along the coastline from Orebić to Trstenik where the boat will wait for us with a delicious lunch (a short 4km distance of the tour is ridden on gravel roads to avoid the traffic of the busy main road). With lunch on board we set off towards the green island of Mljet where we can enjoy an afternoon bike tour or a hike through the Mljet National Park with its two salt lakes. The night is spent in the harbour of Pomena.

7th Day (Thurs) Mljet Island – Dubrovnik (aprx. 17.5 mi./28 km)

From Pomena, we cycle the length of the island to Sobra. With 70% of its landmass being covered by woodland it is the most forested island in the Mediterranean region. Homer mentioned this lovely island in his epic poem the “Odyssey”, making it the home of the Nymph Calypso and the legendary Greek king Odysseus, who, unable to resist Calypso, stayed on Mljet for seven years. Boarding the boat in Sobra, we can look back on an eventful week whilst enjoying our last cruise to our final highlight of the week: the city of Dubrovnik! After our arrival in Dubrovnik there is plenty of time to explore the UNESCO World Heritage city and to take part on a guided city tour. A cheerful evening meal on board the boat provides plenty of time to celebrate the wonderful week with fellow travellers and tour guides.

8th Day (Fri) Dubrovnik (Disembarkation)

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

Itinerary changes

We reserve the right to make changes to the planned itinerary due to changing wind and weather conditions as well as organizational requirements.

2024 TOUR DATES & PRICES

Deluxe Boat ~ Harmonia

Split ~ Dubrovnik

Tour dates (Fridays)

April 12

May 10, 24

June 7, 21

July 5, 19

August 2, 16

Per person sharing – below deck

€1690 low season 1

€1790 low season 2

€1890 Mid season

€1990 High season

Extras

Per person sharing – above deck : + €250

Single supplement- below deck : + €600

Single supplement- above deck: + €800

Reductions are available for a third person in a cabin. Please contact us for more information:
info@cyclingsafaris.com

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 8 days onboard a motorized yacht with crew
- 7 nights accommodation in a twin bed cabin with shower/toilet
- 2 x full board (breakfast, lunch & dinner) , 5 x half board (breakfast & lunch)
- Overview maps of the daily routes
- English speaking guide cycling with the group
- City Tour in Dubrovnik, Korcula and Split
- Bed linen and towels
- Guided cycling tours as described in the itinerary

**** Not included in the tour price:**

Note that for 2024 bike hire is separated out / not included in the tour price

€230 Electric - bike with water bottle cage, lock and a small pannier bag

€185 Road bike or Gravel bike with water bottle cage, lock and a small pannier bag (if bike has rack)

- Journey to Split/from Dubrovnik
- Flat rate for bottled water and tourist taxes, €60 for adults or €30 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

- Meals ashore
- Taxi from Split airport to harbour (approx. €20 one way)
- Taxi from Dubrovnik to Dubrovnik airport (approx €40 one way)
- Insurance against theft and damage of the rental E-bik or road/gravel bike e €25 / week (not insured deliberate damages)
- Tips for tour guides and crew
- Entrance fees for sights not included in the tour price

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
- sunglasses/ cap/ swimming costume
- extra towel for swimming
- soap/ insect repellent/ sunscreen
- own helmet

THE BOAT - Deluxe Boat Harmonia

At 38 x 8.3 m the MY Harmonia is an elegant, pearly-white motor yacht. This two masted beauty meets the highest expectations with her 16 luxurious guest cabins including tiled bathrooms with shower cabins/WC, The salon and numerous sun mats and beds on deck are at the guests disposal. With the bathing platform at the stern, taking a dip in the sea is uncomplicated – unrestricted bathing fun is guaranteed. The Harmonia is the second boat of the Serka family that enriches our deluxe fleet. The experienced crew and the captain offer a warm-hearted and considerate service, leaving no wish unattended.



Catering:

The cook on board is a member of the crew and prepares the breakfast and two warm meals a day. The catering consists of 2x full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) and 5x half board (breakfast and dinner). It starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day.



GROUP, GUIDE AND BACK-UP SERVICE

On this tour there will be a guide cycling with the group.

There is no support vehicle available on this tour, but there is no time pressure to finish the stages. Our tour guides will inform you beforehand of the nature and difficulty of the tour so you are able to decide if you want to cycle with or rather relax on board. If you would like to cycle on your own, we can provide you with maps and tips for routes.

On our e-bike tour programs, the riding pace is determined by the cyclists on e-bikes. Guests who are taking part on these tours on a gravel bike should have the necessary physical condition to keep up with this pace. We thank you for your understanding.

Children We believe that only children with a good physical condition and previous bicycle tour experience and a minimum age of 10 are able to master the cycle tours with their own strength. Please note that the minimum height for a rental e-bike is 1.50 m (4.9 ft.). Follow-me bikes, bike seats and bike Bungees can also be hired for accompanying children. Our reservation experts are happy to provide you with more detailed information on request.

BIKE & FITNESS

Electric bikes are an additional €230



Clients who wish to be supported by a tail-wind and seek to hire an e-bike will receive a high-quality cycle, powered mainly by a Bosch motor capable of covering long distances, and characterized by their light weight and great components. Alternative drive systems may also be used. Standard components of our e-bikes in varying frame sizes include, 28 inch hollow chamber rims with puncture-proof touring tires, high-quality

derailleur gears and break systems, a carrier and a sturdy bike stand, touring saddle as well as mudguards and a pannier rack. With our e-bikes you will conquer the hills with a smile, they are a true declaration of independence for all who wish to cycle and seek the support of a little push.

Unfortunately there is no possibility to reserve one particular bike-brand in advance.

Requirements for e-bikers (level 1): E-bike tours suitable for Islandhoppers with a good basic level of fitness. The tours and the elevation meters are very manageable with an e-bike (30-60km and 400-700 elevation meters per day).

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).

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 an 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 soaping, 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

- Nearest airport for the arrival is Split (distance to Dubrovnik: 4,5 hours)
- Nearest Airport for departure is Dubrovnik Airport, which is about 15 km from your departure port. From the ship you can take a taxi to the Airport (approx. 15 km/40 euro).