

# Cycling Safaris

## CROATIA 2024 Kvarner Bay PLUS

Guided Tour

Guide cycling with group | 190 km/119 mi | 7 nights / 8 days



Guarded by the towering Velebit mountain range in the east and hugged by the Istria Peninsula in the northwest lie the Kvarner bay islands. Quiet coves of crystal clear water surround the dramatic landscapes of the Kvarner bay islands; green hills and rocky moon landscapes give way to small harbour towns rich in history and culture. Discover the charm of the Adriatic Sea for yourself by bike and boat on board one of our romantic motor yachts.

Each day begins with a well-rounded breakfast leaving you fit to explore the diversity of the Kvarner bay islands on a guided bike tour. Be it the medieval city of Rab, the car-free road in the sky on Dugi Otok or the contemplative life of the dwellers on the flower island of Molat, each day brings with it new discoveries. Evenings are mostly spent in picturesque harbour towns with winding alleyways where a great range of bars and cafes stand host for a relaxing evening.

## TOUR ITINERARY

### **Day 1 (Fri) Omišalj (Embarkation) - Cres**

Individual arrival in Omišalj, a nice little harbour village on the island of Krk. Check-in on the motor yacht between 2 and 2:30 pm. At 3 pm the ship takes us on a four hour cruise to the island of Cres where we take a walk through the Venetian old town in the evening.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> day (Sat) Islands of Cres and Lošinj (approx. 18 mi./28 km)**

After breakfast we start our tour from the city of Cres to Martinšćica. The boat awaits your arrival and lunch is served during the cruise to the island of Lošinj. If the weather is good, the captain will arrange a swim stop along the way before tying off in the harbor wellness town of Mali Lošinj. The port with its colourful facades and numerous cafes offers its visitors a welcoming atmosphere for a relaxed evening.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> day (Sun) Islands of Lošinj and Molat (approx. 12 + 6 mi./20 + 10 km)**

We cycle along the seaside promenade to the south of Lošinj and visit the picturesque small harbour town of Veli Lošinj before we meet the ship for lunch. In the afternoon we cross over to the island of Molat where we can do another short cycling tour. Finally we stay overnight in the quiet harbour of Molat Island.

### **4<sup>th</sup> day (Mon) Island of Dugi Otok (approx. 26 mi./42 km)**

During breakfast the ship leaves Molat and takes us past many small islands to the "spice island" of Dugi Otok. Our bike tour starts in the bay of Božava which is surrounded by pine woods, agaves and tamarisk trees. We ride on a road almost free of traffic. Our ride along the islands "Road in the Sky" takes us to Sali, where the boat awaits us for a sail to Zadar, which, for centuries, was the political, cultural and spiritual centre of Dalmatia. 3000 years of history have left their imprint on the character of this town and there are many things to be admired: the mighty fortified walls with their bastions, the loggia but also the early Romanesque St. Donatus Basilica. In the evening our tour guide takes us on an extensive walk through the lively city centre.

### **5<sup>th</sup> day (Tue) Island of Pag - Rab (approx. 12 mi./20 km)**

After a long crossing in the morning we reach the island of Pag. In the harsh but delightful landscape of the island we come across many fig and olive trees. Over the centuries the inhabitants have built numerous stone walls for protection against the wind. Starting from Novalja we cycle on the narrow peninsula until we reach the sea from where the ship takes us to Rab. The island of Rab is one of the sunniest places in Europe. The town of Rab, the fortified capital of the island, was built in the Middle Ages on a wedge shaped headland and marks one of the highlights of the trip. The four famous bell towers are the symbol of the adorned beauty of the town. After dinner we can explore the narrow alleys with numerous cosy cafes.

### **6<sup>th</sup> day (Wed) Island of Rab (approx. 15 mi./25 km)**

Get to know the charming island of Rab on a lovely ride around the island. At lunchtime the ship awaits us in the harbor directly in front of the old town of Rab. We cruise to Jablanac near the picturesque Zavratinca fjord. Later on the ship takes us over to the neighboring island of Krk where we spend the evening in the historical town of Krk.

### **7<sup>th</sup> day (Thu) Island of Krk, (approx. 28 mi./45 km)**

We cycle over the ridge of the island which is covered by fragrant macchia to a valley of vineyards and then onwards to the small museum town of Vrbnik in the northeast. The town built on a 50-meter-high cliff and surrounded by vineyards is the home of the famous white wine Zlahtina. Another peculiarity that Vrbnik has to offer is the second narrowest alley in the world. The way leads us across the island through old villages and rich vegetation to Omišalj. On our way we have a chance to swim in the bay of Soline. The last evening aboard takes place traditionally and includes the communal dinner and a last get-together in a cosy atmosphere with crew and tour guides.

### **8<sup>th</sup> day (Fri) Omišalj (Disembarkation)**

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

*We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary, depending on wind and weather conditions or organizational requirements.*

### Group riding pace

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 regular bicycle should have the necessary physical condition to keep up with this pace. We thank you for your understanding.

## 2024 TOUR DATES & COSTS

### Deluxe Ship Andela Lora (Departs - Fridays)

#### KVARNER BAY PLUS TOUR 2024

#### Deluxe Boat Andela Lora

Starting:

€1690 per person sharing below deck April 26

€1790 per person sharing below deck July 5, 19,

Aug 2, Oct 11

€1890 per person sharing below deck May 10, 24,

31, June 7, 21

€1990 per person sharing below deck Aug 16, 30,

Sep, 13, 27

+ €250 supplement per person above deck

+ €500 single supplement below deck

+ €700 single supplement above deck



## WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

### Services included:

- 8-day-trip on a motor yacht with a crew of four
- 7 nights in a twin bed cabin with breakfast
- 4x full board and 3x half board
- Plus-tour specials
- English-speaking tour guide
- 7 guided cycling tours as described in itinerary
- Maps of the single cycling trips

### Not included in the tour price:

**Note that for 2022 bike hire is separated out / not included in the tour price**

€180.00 Road or Gravel Bike

€225.00 Electric - bike with water bottle cage, lock and a small pannier bag

- Journey to Omisalj
- Water flat rate & Visitor tax and local charges: €50 per adult or €25 for children up to age 16 (to be paid to the captain)
- Drinks onboard (Tally sheet to be paid to the captain).
- Meals ashore
- Entrance fee to attractions (individual visits)
- Tips for crew and tour guides

### Optional extra's

- E-bikes available for a supplement of €180
- 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)

## BIKE & FITNESS

*Road or Gravel bikes are an additional €180.00*

*Electric bikes are an additional €180.00*



Clients who wish to be supported by a tail-wind and seek to hire an e-bike will receive a high-quality pedelec, 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.

These high-quality hybrid bikes are rented for 180 euro per week. Unfortunately there is no possibility to reserve one particular bike-brand in advance.

**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).**

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 able 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.

## THE BOAT

### **Deluxe Ship Andela Lora (all cabins with shower/toilet)**

The 2012 finished Andela Lora is an extraordinary elegant steel ship. With an impressive length of 40 m and a width of 8.50 m, it is one of the largest ships in our Croatian fleet.

17 spacious guest cabins with air conditioning as well as shower/toilet are at the guest's disposal. The ship has a swimming platform at the stern, which enables an easy access to the sea .

In addition to that the Andela Lora offers a cozy salon on the top deck and numerous comfortable spaces to relax on the sun deck.





## 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
- own helmet

## 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 have 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.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### Meals

The cook on board is a member of the crew and prepares the breakfast and two warm meals a day. The catering consists of 4 Day x full board and 3 Day x half board. Catering starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day. The ample breakfasts comprise of 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 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.

### Bringing Children:

We believe that only children in a good physical condition and of a minimum age of 10 and previous bicycle tour experience are able to master the bike-tours on their own strength. Please note that the minimum height for a rental bike is 1,20 m (4ft.)

### Arrival to tour start

- Kvarner Bay: it is possible to fly to the airport of Rijeka, which is close to port of embarkation Omisalj, on the island Krk. We can organize (taxi) transfers between Rijeka airport and boat in Omisalj (on day of embarkation/disembarkation only): 20 euro person/way. Reservation required. Please let us know your exact flight details.
- Another possible airports is Zagreb (transfer time to Omisalj: 2 hours) or Zadar (transfer time to Omisalj: 3 hours)
- Or also Split, (transfer time to Omisalj: 3.5 hours) There are no direct flights from Ireland to Split, but we suggest you use [www.skyscanner.net](http://www.skyscanner.net) to find the most convenient route for you.
- Option to book collective transfer from /to Zagreb and Omisali on day of embarkation/disembarkation only (11:30am from Zagreb Centre or 12.15pm from Zagreb Airport / return transfer from Omisalj to Zagreb Airport starts at 8am: €60 per person/way and €60 per bicycle per way. Reservation required two weeks in advance, booking incl. transmission of flight details.