# Cycling Safaris

# **CROATIA 2024**

# The National Parks and Islands of Dalmatia

Guided Tour

Guide cycling with group | 157 km/97 mi | 7 nights / 8 days



Croatia has a beautiful coast with thousands of islands, reefs and bays. Numerous romantic ruins, charming hills, countless natural beauties and phenomena waiting to be discovered. On one of our easier tours, you spend a week on a ship cruising between the mainland and the islands on one of our easiest tours.

Delicious cuisine, beautiful sites, a friendly crew, and knowledgeable tour guides await your arrival. Starting in Trogir, we visit two National Parks as well as the islands of Central Dalmatia.

Highlights of the tour include UNESCO protected old town of Trogir, Primošten, Šibenik with its famous cathedral, Zadar, as well as the National Park Krka-Waterfalls and the Kornati Islands. On a romantic motor yacht, our floating accommodation, we discover the charm of the Adriatic in our own special way.

### TOUR ITINERARY (tour starts on a Friday)

### Day 1 (Fri) Trogir - Rogoznica

Individual arrival either by car to Trogir or by plane to Split. After checking in on the motor yacht between 2.00 pm and 2.30 pm at Trogir our first cruise starts at 3.00 pm leading us to Rogoznica - a village on a small island which is connected to the mainland by a dam, where we spend our first night.

# Day 2 (Sat) Rogoznica - Primošten - Šibenik - Skradin (approx. 20 km/12 mi by bicycle)

In the morning we cycle from Rogoznica to Primošten. From there the boat takes us to the city of Šibenik where the Krka River flows into the Adriatic Sea. After visiting the famous cathedral and the lovely old town we set off again. On the cruise we pass the lower course of the river Krka following the river bend until we reach Skradin, where dock in the village harbour and spend our night.

# Day 3 (Sun) National Park of Krka - Šibenik - Vodice (approx. 36 km/22 mi by bicycle)

The magnificent port of Skradin is today's starting point for our excursion by boat and on foot to the most famous part of the Krka National Park with its unique waterfalls. After our excursion through this lush green wonderland, we enjoy lunch before setting off on our bicycles from Skradin to the well known holiday town of Vodice. The boat will await our arrival and we will spend the night in Vodice.

# Day 4 (Mon) Vodice - Island of Murter - Nature Park Telašćica (approx. 25 km/16 mi by bicycle)

In the morning we cycle from Vodice to Murter Island which is connected to the mainland by the lift bridge at Tisno.

We cycle over the bridge and along the water front, passing by two old coastal villages, until we reach a small landing place where the boat takes us on a cruise through the National Park Kornati. An archipelago in crystal clear water which is known for its rich aquatic realm. Our destination is the Nature Park Telašcica. In the evening a walk through the park leads us along the stunning cliffs of the island. A salt lake and a family of donkey also characterise the natural park and make for a wonderful location to spend a quiet night.

### Day 5 (Tues) Island of Dugi Otok - Zadar

### (approx. 28 km / 17 mi by bicycle)

After breakfast we start our bike tour from the Telašcica Nature Park, along a virtually traffic-free panoramic road. We ride across the whole island. During the ride we're treated to countless unforgettable vistas of the islands in the deep blue sea. We reboard our ship for a crossing to Zadar, which, for centuries, was the political, cultural and spiritual centre of Dalmatia. Our tour guide takes us on an extensive walk through the lanes of the lively old centre. 3,000 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 and the early Romanesque St. Donatus Basilica.

### Day 6 (Wed) Islands of Ugljan and Pašman - Primosten (approx. 33 km/20 mi by bicycle)

During breakfast the boat crosses to the island of Ugljan at the channel of Zadar. Today we have a lot of time to explore both of the islands Ugljan and Pašman which are connected by a bridge. We cycle along the East Coast, with beautiful views to the mainland and the ocean. After our bike tour, we sail back to the city of Primosten on the mainland. Here we can enjoy some time swimming and exploring the quaint seaside village. The night is spent in Primosten.

### Day 7 (Thurs) Island of Solta - Trogir (approx. 15 km/9 mi by bicycle)

In the morning our motor yacht takes us to the island of Solta. Olive and fig trees and farmland surround the streets. The spicy smell of lavender and rosemary will follow us throughout the whole tour around this peaceful island until we reach the village Grohote. Our last cruise takes us back to Trogi, where we have enough time to visit the world cultural heritage old town. After dinner it is time to say good bye to crew and travel guides.

### Day 8 (Fri) Trogir (Disembarkation)

After breakfast disembarkation 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.

### **2024 TOUR DATES & COSTS**

# Premium Ship San Snova Departures (FRIDAYS)

<mark>May 3</mark> June 14

June 28

August 16 October 4

€1490 per person sharing below deck cabin low 1 season €1590 per person sharing below deck cabin low 2 season €1690 per person sharing below deck cabin mid season

€1790 per person sharing below deck cabin high season

+ €200 per person sharing above deck cabin on all seasons

+ €500 single supplement below deck cabin on all seasons

+ €700 single supplement above deck cabin on all seasons



It is possible for a third person in a cabin on the San Snova (double and single bed). Please email our office for the price on third person (approx 50% discount)

### THE BOATS

### Premium Ship San Snova (shower/toilet in each cabin)

At 31 x 8 m the MS San Snova is our most modern wooden motor yacht launched in 2009 and was made exclusively for Islandhopping cruises. This ship, constructed entirely of oak, was built by the Serka family over three years in their own carpentry as a family project. The wooden boarded salon spreads a cosy atmosphere accentuated by the various outdoor lounging areas and the meadow of sunning mats on the top deck. The 14 spacious cabins are air conditioned and fitted with shower and toilet. The crew and the captain care for an immaculate appearance and a fun loving atmosphere on board the ship.

### WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

### Services included:

- 7 nights accommodation on the boat in a twin share cabin with shower / toilet
- 8 day trip on a motorized yacht with a crew of four
- Bed linen and towels
- 2 x full board (breakfast, lunch & dinner), 5 x half board (breakfast & lunch)
- Maps for the daily routes
- English/German speaking guide cycling with the group
- Sightseeing entrance as described in itinerary

### Not included in the tour price:

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

€ 85 21 speed touring bike with water bottle cage, lock and a small pannier bag €230 Electric - bike

- Journey to Trogir
- Water flat rate and visitor's tax €60 per adult or €30 for children up to age 16 (to be paid to the captain)
- Drinks onboard (Tally sheet, to be paid to the captain).
- Meals and beverages ashore
- Entrance fees to attractions not included in the tourist price (individual visits)
- Tips for crew and guides

## Optional extra's

• Insurance against theft and damage of the rental 21-speed hybrid bike €15 / per week or rental E-bike €25 / week (not insured deliberate damages)

### **BIKE & FITNESS**

### Hybrid bikes are an additional €85



Those choosing to rent a hybrid bike will receive a reliable, low maintenance, aluminum frame bike in the suitable size. Our hybrid bikes are equipped with 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. All components are selected based on our twenty years of experience in bike tourism, insuring that they fulfill the necessary criteria to provide the rider with an uncompromised cycle experience.

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

### 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 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. 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 encourages 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
- sunglasses/ cap/ swimming costume
- extra towel for swimming
- soap/insect repellent/ sunscreen
- 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.

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.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### Meals

The cook that travels along is a member of the crew and prepares breakfast and one or 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.

The catering consists of 4x full board and 3x half board. Catering starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day.

### 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.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Requirements:**

The bike routes require a basic level of fitness, which you should have acquired by occasional or daily cycling. The routes can reach an altitude of 100 – 300 meters. The daily routes, of 15-50 km (9 to30 mi.), cover hilly terrain and can be completed without time constraints. You will also come across some rather steep climbs, where walking your bike is of course permitted. The roads are mostly asphalted and there is little traffic outside of holiday periods. You can decide every day for yourself, whether you would like to cycle individually, using the maps provided, or join one of the tour guides (or individual participants). Bike helmets are required on all cycle tours. Bike helmets are available on board in limited number (reservation requested).

### **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. For children with a body height of minimum 1,20 m (4 ft.) special children bicycles are offered. Children that are younger than 16 years are obliged to wear a helmet by the Croatian law.

### **Catering:**

The cook on board is a member of the crew and prepares the breakfast and two warm meals a day. The full board starts with the lunch on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day.

### **Guided tour:**

On these tours you cycle with the guide. If you would like to cycle on your own, we can provide you with maps and tips for routes.

### Arrival to tour start

- Taxi transfer from the airport of Split to the ship in Trogir (one way ca 20 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.