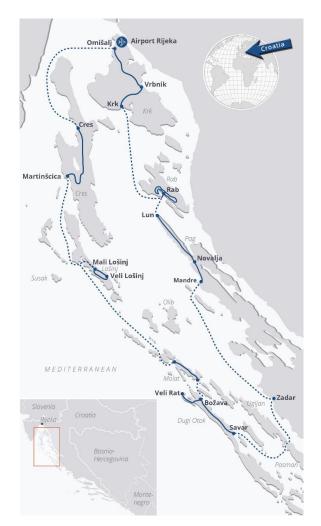


# **CROATIA 2025** Kvarner Bay PLUS

Guided Tour Guide cycling with group | 196 km/119 mi | 7 nights / 8 days



Guarded by the towering Velebit Mountain Range in the east and hugged by the Istrian Peninsula in the northwest lie the Kvarner Bay Islands. Quiet coves of crystal-clear water surround the dramatic landscapes of the Kvaner 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.

The 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 panorama road 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.

# Day 1 (Fri) Omišalj (Embarkation) – Cres

Individual arrival in Omišalj, a nice little harbor village on the island of Krk. If you're planning to arrive by car, we will organize a safe parking space for you. Check-in on the motor yacht between 2 and 2:30 pm. At approx. 3 pm the ship takes us to the island of Cres in about four hours. On Cres we take a walk through the Venetian old town in the evening.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> day (Sat) Islands of Cres and Lošinj

After breakfast we start our tour from the city of Cres to Martinšćica. The boat awaits our 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 wellness harbor 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

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 take part in another short cycling tour. The night is spent in a quiet harbor on the Island.

# 4<sup>th</sup> day (Mon) Island of Dugi Otok

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 an almost traffic free road. Our ride takes us first to a beautiful viewpoint at the northernmost point of the Island where the old Austrian lighthouse of Veli Rat resides. From here we continue by bike along the island ridge with beautiful panoramic views of the surrounding island landscapes all the way to the bay of Savar where the boat awaits us for a cruise to Zadar. Zadar has been the political, cultural and spiritual centre of Dalmatia for centuries. 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 and 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

After a long crossing by boat 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 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 a symbol of the adorned beauty of the town. After dinner we can explore the narrow alleys with numerous cosy cafés.

### 6th day (Wed)

# Island of Rab

Today we get to know the charming island of Rab on a lovely ride around the island. At lunchtime the ship awaits us in the harbour directly in front of the old town of Rab. We cruise towards the island of Krk and anchor along the way for a refreshing swim stop from the boat. In the late afternoon we reach the island of Krk where we spend the evening in the historical town of Krk.

# 7<sup>th</sup> day (Thu) Island of Krk,

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 Zlahtina white wine. Another peculiarity that Vrbnik has to offer is the second narrowest alley in the world. Our tour 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. A cheerful evening meal on board the boat gives you time to celebrate the success of the week with our fellow travellers and tour guides.

# (approx. 20 mi. /32 km)

(approx. 12 + 6 mi. /20 + 10 km)

#### (approx. 12 mi. /20 km)

#### (approx. 14 mi. /22 km)

## (approx. 18 mi./28 km)

# (approx. 29 mi. /47 km)

TOUR ITINERARY

#### 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.

#### **Requirements for e-bikers (level 1):**

E-bike tours suitable for people with a good basic level of fitness. The tours and the elevation gain are very manageable with an e-bike (18 – 37 mi. / 30 - 60km and 1312 – 2296 ft. / 400 - 700 m of elevation gain per day). All tours require participants to have a certain basic level of fitness and be able to ride their bikes safely. There is always enough time to complete the tours. Our tour guides will inform you in detail each day about the level of difficulty of the planned daily tour. These are primarily designed as guided e-bike tours. In principle, nothing stands in the way of individual e-bike tours after prior consultation with our tour guides and the selection of a suitable route.

#### Guided group 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 gravel bike should have the necessary physical condition to keep up with this pace. We thank you for your understanding.

#### Requirement to wear a helmet

Helmets are mandatory on our bike tours. It is advised to bring your own, well fitted, helmet with you as our rental helmet numbers are limited (reservation required).

#### 2025 TOUR DATES & COSTS

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

Dates Tour Price per person in a twin cabin below deck 18.04. - 25.04.2025 1820 02.05 - 09.05.2025 2020 2020 16.05 - 23.05.2025 30.05 - 06.06.2025 2220 27.06. - 04.07.2025 2220 11.07. - 18.07.2025 2020 25.07. - 01.08.2025 1820 08.08. - 15.08.2025 1820 22.08. - 29.08.2025 2220 05.09. - 12.09.2025 2220 17.10. - 24.10.2025 2020

Participants: Minimum: 14 Maximum 36+ Gravel bike €215 e-bike: €260

\*Children up to the age of 16 receive a discount of 200 euro on the tour base price (double occupancy, not combinable with other discounts).

#### Additional optional services (on request)

- Shared twin cabin (no surcharge, on request)
- Above deck cabin, surcharge: 250 euro/person
- Double cabin for single use below deck, surcharge: 50% on the tour base price (limited)
- Double cabin for single use above deck, surcharge: 50% (tour base price + above deck surcharge x 1.5) (limited)
- Special dietary requests (lactose free / gluten free / vegan), surcharge: **70 euro** (must be communicated in advance, payment on board)



#### WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

#### Services included:

- 8-day trip on a motorized yacht with crew
- 7 nights in a twin cabin below deck with shower/toilet
- 2 x full board and 5 x half board
- Guided cycling tours as described in the itinerary
- Overview-maps for the daily tours (on board)
- Plus-tour specials
- Bed linen and towels
- English speaking tour guide

### Not included in the tour price:

- Journey to Omišalj/Krk Island
- Flat rate for drinking water and tourist taxes 60 euro per person. For children up to age 16, 30 euros (to be paid to the captain)
- Beverages on board (tally sheet; to be paid to the captain)
- Meals and beverages ashore
- Tips for crew and tour guides

#### 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.



#### Rental of Road or Gravel bikes are €215

#### Rental of Electric bikes are €260



Clients who wish to be supported by a tailwind 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 bike-brand in advance.

# Helmet use is mandatory on all bike tours in Croatia. You are strongly encouraging 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 in these tours on a gravel bike should have the necessary physical condition to keep up with this pace. We thank you for your understanding.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### 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 2 Day x full board and 5 Day x half board. Catering starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day.

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): Prices on request. 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 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. Prices on request. Reservation required two weeks in advance, booking incl. transmission of flight details.