

Croatian Holiday - 11 Day Affordable Croatia & Slovenia September 2023 – April 2024

From: \$1899* pp dbl including Air

*call for dates and rates from your departure city



DAY 1, Sunday - Depart for Italy

Depart for Italy



DAY 2, Monday - Arrive in Venice and Transfer to Opatija

Arrive in Venice and transfer to your hotel in the seaside town of Opatija. A gem on Croatia's Adriatic coast, nestled along the striking Gulf of Kvarner. Afternoon is at leisure to explore the town on your own. Perhaps take a stroll along the "Lungo Mare" seafront and enjoy beautiful views of the Gulf, sheltered by soaring mountains. Tonight, Welcome Drink and Dinner with your fellow travelers, followed by an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager on the journey that awaits you in Croatia and Slovenia

Overnight: Opatija

Meals: Dinner



DAY 3, Tuesday - Full Day in Opatija

Enjoy a full day at leisure in the seaside town of Opatija, with its rich history, picturesque surroundings and gorgeous beaches, once a gathering spot for the Austro-Hungarian nobility. Alternatively, join the *optional* tour to the Istrian Peninsula that begins in Pula, a strategic port since the times of the ancient Romans. Afterwards, the tour continues to the resort town of Rovinj. Tonight, return to Opatija and explore the charming town with its wealth of fine seafood restaurants

Optional: Full Day Istrian Peninsula (AM)

Overnight: Opatija

Meals: Breakfast



DAY 4, Wednesday - Zadar City Tour en Route to Split

Depart today for a long drive along the dramatic Adriatic coast to Split. En route stop at the historic old town of Zadar; highlighted by ruins of a Roman forum, medieval churches, cosmopolitan cafes and museums. This city is a wonderful combination of beautiful Roman architecture, Habsburg elegance, and a picture-perfect seafront. View the Cathedral and St. Donat Church before driving to the UNESCO protected seaside town of Split, the second largest city in Croatia. Upon arrival, in the early evening, enjoy a leisurely stroll along the scenic waterfront promenade

Overnight: Split

Meals: Breakfast



DAY 5, Thursday - Depart Split, Arrive in Dubrovnik

Walk along the cobbled streets of the Old Town featuring the historic inner city with its dominating Roman influence, built around the astonishing 4th century Palace of Diocletian. This spectacular palace is the largest and best preserved Roman palace in the world, built for the Emperor Diocletian, representing a precious example of Roman architecture. See the remains of the Roman Peristyle, the unusual Cathedral of St. Domnius built in the Middle Ages, and the Temple of Jupiter, with its headless black sphinx guarding the entrance. Spend time discovering the town independently before continuing along the coast to the spectacular walled city of Dubrovnik where you will have the opportunity to see the amazing views of this city known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic". Tonight, dinner is at your hotel

Overnight: Dubrovnik

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



DAY 6, Friday - Dubrovnik City Tour

Enjoy the many delights of Dubrovnik today. The city's splendid medieval ramparts are considered to be one of the most grandiose fortification monuments in Europe, and its magnificent Old Town was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The walking tour of "Old Dubrovnik" highlights the city's treasures within the 800-year-old walls including the Rector's Palace, an outstanding blend of Gothic and Renaissance architecture and the monumental Sponza Palace, preserved with its original beauty. Under the City Bell Tower on Luza Square stands Orlando's Tower, dedicated to the knight that saved the city in the 9th century. Continue to the Dominican Monastery, whose museum is a major treasury of culture and visit the Franciscan Monastery with exhibits from the world's third oldest functioning pharmacy. The rest of the day is yours to wander the never-ending lanes of the Old Town or take a walk along the city walls. Tonight, perhaps attend the *optional* Traditional Croatian Dinner. Take a short drive from Dubrovnik through the Croatian countryside to a lovely homestead, where you will be welcomed with tasty samplings such as local cheese and Dalmatian prosciutto. Take in the lush surroundings while savoring a traditional meal consisting of time-honored dishes, carefully prepared with fresh ingredients from the farm

Optional: Traditional Croatian Dinner (PM)

Overnight: Dubrovnik

Meals: Breakfast



DAY 7, Saturday - Full Day in Dubrovnik

A full day at leisure to explore Dubrovnik independently. Perhaps visit the Maritime Museum in St. John's Castle, linger in the historic Old City, or, people-watch at a charming cafe.

Alternatively, join the *optional* full day tour to Montenegro, the "Jewel of the Mediterranean" nestled on the gorgeous Adriatic coast. Drive towards the stunning Bay of Kotor, the longest and deepest fjord in southern Europe. On to the charming coastal town of Perast where a short boat ride takes you to the 15th century "Our Lady of the Rocks" Church perched on an islet in the bay. Once there, visit the Roman Catholic Church whose interior is decorated with 68 paintings by Tripo Kokolja, a famous 17th century painter from Perast. Proceed to the charming city of Kotor for a guided walking tour. View the Cathedral of St. Tryphon, Maritime Museum, numerous Palaces and Old Square and get to feel the atmosphere of this unique medieval town.* Leisure time to walk the winding cobblestone lanes of the Old City before returning along the Dalmatian Coast to Dubrovnik. Tonight, enjoy a walk along Dubrovnik's cobbled streets; see the glowing buildings and the fortifications accented against the night sky **Due to the new EU regulations, expect significant delays during border crossings between Croatia and Montenegro.*

Optional: Full Day Montenegro Tour (AM)

Overnight: Dubrovnik

Meals: Breakfast



DAY 8, Sunday - Pakovo Selo, Krka National Park, Sibenik

This morning, enjoy a scenic drive north to the quaint Dalmatian village of Pakovo Selo. After a light lunch, continue towards the breathtaking Krka National Park. Admire the lake and waterways at one of Croatia's most famous sights, including Skradinski Buk Falls. Arrive this evening in Sibenik, a city on the Adriatic coast of Croatia known as a gateway to the Kornati Islands. Dinner tonight is at your hotel

Overnight: Sibenik

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 9, Monday - Travel to Zagreb, and Arrive in Bled

After an early breakfast, travel inland through wooded mountains and lush vegetation to Zagreb, capital of Croatia. Upon arrival, enjoy a sightseeing tour of Zagreb. View Ban Josip Jelacic square and the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. Continue to the medieval section of the Upper Town with its Presidential Palace, Stone Gate, St. Mark's church and the Pope's tower. In the afternoon, depart for the lovely city of Bled, exquisitely set amidst the Julian Alps. Bled, with its rich natural beauty ranks among the world's most beautiful alpine resorts and is also renowned for its mild, healing climate and its thermal lake waters. With its emerald-green lake, picture-postcard church on an islet, a medieval castle clinging to a rocky cliff and some of the highest peaks of the Julian Alps, Bled is Slovenia's most popular resort. Tonight, an *optional* dinner at a charming and popular country inn in the tiny medieval town of Radovljica, highlighted by a selection of traditional Slovenian dishes and wine

Optional: Tour of Radovljica with dinner (PM)

Overnight: Bled

Meals: Breakfast



DAY 10, Tuesday - Resort City of Bled

Surrounded by high peaks, Bled has enticed travelers since the mid-19th century for its pure air, magnificent scenery and healing thermal springs. Today, Bled is a sparkling all-seasons resort with delightful hotels, villas, and restaurants nestled on the lakefront. A tour through this charming town continues along the shores of the lake before ascending to imposing Bled Castle, perched on a cliff with soaring views. Spend the rest of the day exploring this stunning city on your own. Perhaps join the *optional* tour to the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana. View the most significant sights of the old city center, with its unique mixture of Baroque and Art Nouveau architecture. Stop at the picturesque open-air market, Three Bridges Square, the Town Hall, and Robba Fountain, one of the city's best known Baroque monuments. Tonight, enjoy a Farewell Dinner with your newfound friends and Tour Manager

Optional: Ljubljana City tour (PM)

Overnight: Bled

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



DAY 11, Wednesday - Depart Italy

Transfer to the Venice airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Escorted Package Includes

- Round trip flights New York-Venice, Venice-New York
Other departure cities available. Click on date of departure for selection and prices
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges
- 9 nights First Class accommodations
 - 2 nights Opatija
 - 1 night Split
 - 3 nights Dubrovnik
 - 1 night Sibenik
 - 2 nights Bled
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel portorage
- All transfers included only with airfare purchase on package arrival & departure dates†
- 14 meals: 9 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 4 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager
- Services of local guides in Split, Dubrovnik and Zagreb
- Entrance fees per itinerary

Special Features

- Explore seaside Opatija, with its rich history and picturesque surroundings
- In Zadar, one of the oldest cities on the Adriatic, view the 16th century Venetian defensive walls
- Walk the cobbled streets of Split and marvel at the impressive Diocletian's Palace, a precious example of Roman architecture
- Tour magnificent Dubrovnik, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site and visit Franciscan monastery with world's third oldest functioning pharmacy

- Experience a traditional Dalmatian welcome ceremony and savor local delicacies at a family-run Ethno Village
- Relax in the green oasis of Krka National Park, while admiring the travertine Karst waterfalls
- See the Upper and Lower Towns in the two-tiered Croatian capital city of Zagreb
- Visit Bled Castle, a beautiful medieval fortress, perched atop a steep cliff above the picturesque lake

†Transfers are available for purchase for land only or on alternative flight dates

Is This Trip Right for You?

This program is active. The pace is fast as numerous sites will be included on the walking tours where you will encounter some slopes and uneven surfaces such as cobbled streets. There are three long days spent on the bus: from Opatija to Split, Dubrovnik to Sibenik, and Sibenik to Bled, the latter being the longest. For your comfort, several stops will be made along the way, including a lunch break. This is an Off Season program.

Bristol Hotel, Opatija



This first class hotel is located in the heart of the city just steps away from the Adriatic.

Hotel Atrium, Split



This deluxe hotel is situated nearby Split's central shopping district.

Lacroma Hotel, Dubrovnik



This first class hotel is located close to the beach.

Amadria Park Hotel Jakov, Sibenik



This first class hotel overlooks the Adriatic Sea.

Park Hotel, Bled



This first class hotel is located in the center of Bled, on the shore of Lake Bled, near the famous Bled promenade.

Book your Optional Tours before you travel. See more, save time, save money.

- Tours purchased while travelling may cost an extra 10% or more
- Tours often sell out. Avoid disappointment
- Save your cash. Credit card processing may not be possible locally
- Travel insurance only covers services purchased prior to departure
- Book Online or call to book these tours up to 1 week before your departure
- The day the optionals operate varies by the day of the week

Full Day Istrian Peninsula

Begin with an orientation tour of Pula, a strategic port since the times of the ancient Romans. Visit a Roman Amphitheater, the sixth largest of its kind to be preserved in the world today. Afterward, proceed to the beautiful resort town of Rovinj where you will enjoy free time exploring the old town and its narrow lanes before returning to Opatija.

Pick-up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 8 hours.

Day #3

01 Sep 2021 - 31 May 2022

\$65.00



Traditional Croatian Dinner

This evening, take a short drive from Dubrovnik through the Croatian countryside to a lovely homestead for dinner, where you will be welcomed with tasty starters, such as local cheeses and Dalmatian prosciutto. Take in the lush surroundings while savoring a traditional meal consisting of time-honored dishes, carefully prepared with fresh, local ingredients.

Pick-up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 2.5 hours

Day #6

01 Sep 2021 - 31 May 2022

\$55.00



Full Day Montenegro

Drive towards the stunning Bay of Kotor, the longest and deepest fjord in southern Europe. On to the charming coastal town of Perast where a short boat ride takes you to the 15th century "Our Lady of the Rocks" Church perched on an islet in the bay. Once there, visit the Roman Catholic Church whose interior is decorated with 68 paintings by Tripo Kokolja, a famous 17th century painter from Perast. Proceed to the charming city of Kotor for a guided walking tour. View the Cathedral of St. Tryphon, Maritime Museum, numerous Palaces and Old Square and get to feel the atmosphere of this unique medieval town. Leisure time to walk the winding cobblestone lanes of the Old City before returning along the Dalmatian Coast to Dubrovnik

Pick-up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 10 hours.

Day #7

15 Sep 2020 - 31 Oct 2021

\$65.00

01 Nov 2021 - 31 May 2022

\$65.00



Tour of Radovljica with dinner

This evening, visit the little medieval town of Radovljica and take a short walk through its old section. Later, stop at a popular and traditional country inn. Your dinner will include a selection of traditional Slovenian dishes and wine.

Pick-up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 2 hours.

Day #9

01 Sep 2021 - 31 May 2022

\$55.00



Half Day Ljubljana City Tour

Embark on a city tour of Ljubljana with a local guide that will take you through the city's major attractions. View Ljubljana's vast open-air market, the Baroque Venetian inspired City Hall, Robba Fountain, inspired by Bernini's Four Rivers Fountain in Rome; the Triple Bridge, which connects the old and new cities and the Parliament.

Pick-up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 2 hours.



For more Information and Reservations contact:

Earl Pike – Group TravelMasters

Phone: 888-293-3330

Email: earl@grouptravelmasters.com