

# *Exploring Croatia's Dalmatian Coast & Dubrovnik*

*Sept 24 – Oct 8, 2024*

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*If you enjoy the Sea, Lagoons, Beautiful Beaches & Landscapes with fascinating history you will appreciate what the Dalmatian Coast has to offer.*

*Croatia has over 1000 islands & archipelagos in the Adriatic Sea.*

*This is my fifth Croatia tour to different parts of this diverse, gorgeous country. As you may be aware, tourism has woken up to the secrets of Croatia and gradually become a prime tourist destination.*

*Our trip is at the end of the season & within the limits of the ferry schedule.*

*We will be spending three nights on each island but four nights in Dubrovnik to allow enough time for the highlights & a day trip to Medieval Mostar & Kravice Waterfalls in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Our shortest stay is one night in Split, where we begin. We have a luxury hotel there in middle of Old Town and the Diocletian's Palace.*

*Rather than adding descriptions of each island, I will list the day trips and our lodging towns. For this reason: Even though they all have their very unique history, heritage with medieval architecture & spectacular coastal scenery, the Adriatic Sea is gorgeous everywhere!! A description of “a million shades of blue & turquoise” fits each island.*

Our schedule also allows you the freedom of choosing your favorite activities: Snorkeling, diving, kayaking, hiking, swimming, boating, caving, parachute-sailing, museums or wine tasting. I have done wine tours in the past but not everyone is fond of them or cares for wine so I let this be a personally chosen activity with an exception of one tour on Korcula.

I have carefully chosen the best guides for our "Walking Tours" and "Day Trips" so we will have the most comprehensive information. So let's travel!!



**Tues. Sept. 24:** Arrive in **Split, Croatia**, on the Adriatic-Dalmatian Coast. It's an easy flight to Split from a major European Hub and I can assist with information about flights & special prices. Meet up at Hotel Jupiter Luxury Hotel, Grabovceva Sirinija, in the heart of Diocletian's Palace in Split.

([www.lhjupiter.com](http://www.lhjupiter.com)). **Evening:** Get Acquainted Meet-Up.

**Wed. Sept. 25:** A Morning privately guided tour of **Diocletian's Palace**. Early afternoon, a 3-hr. ferry to **Vis Island**, (includes a short stop at Hvar port for passengers). Check into Mira Sea Front Guesthouse, town of Komiza, (Ko Mee zha), known for a Mediterranean year-round climate & lovely beaches & the village where fishing was born on the eastern Adriatic. This pride is shown in the Fisherman's museum in the Venetian tower, (the only one in Croatia).

This island of Vis, one of the oldest urban centers in Croatia, is famous for the film, "Mama Mia" & "Blue Caves" & was founded by Dionisius about 397 B.C. as a base for the Greek colonization of the Adriatic Sea. Afternoon is free.

**Thurs. Sept. 26:** In the AM, a privately guided island tour in an off-road vehicle, taking us to 19th-century Ft. George, Cold War-era tunnels & monuments, Franciscan monastery, spectacular coastal scenery & island views from Mt. Hum. Afternoon free.

**Fri. Sept. 27:** Half day boat tour of Blue Lagoon, Green Cave, Stinina Bay & Pristiscina Bay. Boat has comfortable seating, fridge, wi-fi, snorkeling equipment, life jackets & (most importantly) a toilet.

There will be stops to swim & snorkel.

**Sat. Sept. 28:** 50-minute ferry to Hvar Island, known to be a “little piece of Heaven on Earth” & listed as one of the 10 most beautiful islands in the world as it is lushly covered in lavender & rosemary. It was founded by the Greeks in 384 B.C. We check into lodging in the historic Old Town Hvar center.

**Afternoon:** Guided private walking tour with a “Stjepan”, a local, as he shares the fascinating history of this town, also known as a melting pot of Renaissance architecture & a very active “nightlife”. Rest of the day is free to wander.

**Sun. Sept. 29:** Half-day tour of the ancient villages of the island, agricultural areas of vineyards & olive groves with stops for photos of the breathtaking views of the other islands.

**Mon. Sept. 30:** Free day to choose your favorite activities.

**Tues. Oct. 1:** One hour ferry to the enchanting island of Korcula, known as the birthplace of Marco Polo. Check into Aminess Liburna Hotel near Old Town. We start off with a private walking tour with Toni, a local historian who has a very interesting life history himself.

**Wed. Oct. 2:** A private guided exploration of the island's landscapes & wineries, including a four course Mediterranean lunch on a private family estate.

**Thurs. Oct. 3:** Free day for your chosen explorations.

**Fri. Oct. 4:** Two & half hour ferry to port of Dubrovnik. Shuttle to the Peljesac Peninsula, Lapad on the Adriatic Bay to our lodging, Hotel Splendid. This is a non-traffic area, tree & restaurant lined Promenade. Our hotel has a private beach. Just a ten-minute walk to the bus stop for a 15 min ride to Old Town Dubrovnik. There are taxis across the street from our hotel with about same travel time. The Promenade leads up the coast in the opposite direction for a peaceful, scenic walk lined with restaurants.

**Sat. Oct. 5:** AM, a privately guided tour with Marko, an entertaining local, for an appreciation of the rich history as a major maritime power, captivating architecture & art from the Roman, Byzantine & Habsburg eras.

Dubrovnik is “the Pearl of the Adriatic”, with 800-year-Old City Walls where we can walk a traffic-free promenade. Your afternoon is free and I will email a list of sights to visit around the city.

*Sun. Oct. 6:* Day trip to Mostar & Kravice Waterfalls in Bosnia. We travel by bus through inland lush scenery of Neretva River Valley. Forty-five minutes from Dubrovnik, we arrive at the waterfalls, located on the Trebizat River. There is a lake at the base where you have the opportunity to swim as we have one hour there. It has been described as “something out of a Lord of the Rings novel”.

In Mostar, we have a short guided tour to acquaint us with this beautiful Balkan city. We then have the remainder of the three hours to explore.

*Mon. Oct. 7:* Free day to explore Dubrovnik. Much to visit inside the city walls.

*Tues. Oct. 8:* Shuttles to the airport for home departure.

**Details:** Max of 11 travelers                      Travel Insurance encouraged

[For options, see pull down on menu insurance page, www.toursbysierra.com.](#)

**Fee:** \$2150 Double Occupancy; \$2650 Single Occupancy

\$300 to register, (50% refundable until June 24, 2024).

Balance due June 24, 2024. No refunds beyond that date unless space is filled.

**Includes:** 14 nights lodging, 8 breakfasts, 9 day tours, four course lunch, designated ground transportation, 4 ferry trips, departure airport shuttle.

**PAYMENT METHODS:** Checks to Tours by Sierra; P.O. Box 912, Green Valley, AZ 85622. Zelle or credit card (add 3%).

\*Fee does not include: Airlines, arrival shuttle or Tips for Guides

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