

Self-Drive Classic Tour Through Croatia

Country(ies): Croatia

Tour type: Overland

Transport: Self-drive rental car

Group size: Min: 0 | Max: 0

Days: 14 days

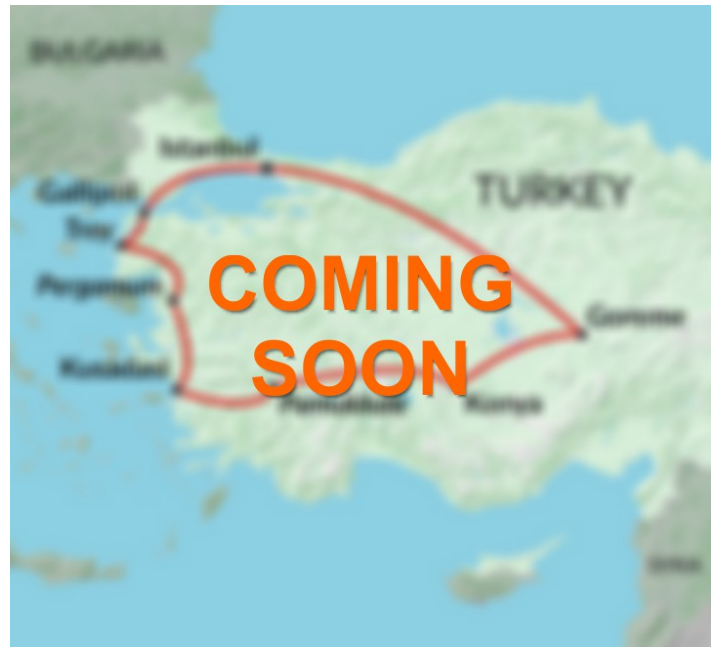
Start Location: Zagreb, Croatia

End Location: Dubrovnik, Croatia

Meals: Breakfasts - 13, Lunches - 0, Dinners - 0

Highlights:

TBC



Itinerary

Day 1: Zagreb Airport – Zagreb (15km, 20min)

Your adventure will start in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia. Upon arrival at the airport, you will pick up your rent-a-car and the journey can begin! Drive to the hotel to settle in and relax after your flight. This day is yours to spend as you like. The city centre is easily walkable and all the main attractions and restaurants are within walking distance.

OVERNIGHT: Zagreb

MEALS: None

EXTRAS:

Day 2: Zagreb full day

Enjoy your breakfast and get ready to meet the city with the local guide. You will meet your guide at the main square of Ban Jelacic and walk your way through all the small streets in the oldest parts of Zagreb. Visiting the Cathedral, Tkalčićeva Street, Stone Gate and St. Mark's Church with its famed multi-colored roof will make you feel the city in your soul. There, on the top of Upper Town, you'll learn why the Grič cannon fires from the Lotrščak Tower every day at noon. To spare you some walking steps, you will take the funicular down to Lower Town which is an area made of beautiful parks and boulevards. Take some time to explore part of Ulica Street, one of the longest streets in Zagreb and enjoy shopping, cultural sites and some good food at the nearby restaurants. If you're interested in museums, we recommend visiting the Homeland War Museum, Nikola Tesla Technical Museum or the most popular Museum of broken hearts.

OVERNIGHT: Zagreb

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Zagreb – Plitvice Lakes (130km, 1h 50min)

Today, you will drive south to Plitvice Lakes National Park. It is the most popular park in the whole country. On the way make sure you make a stop at Rastoke village. A watermill village situated where the blue-green waters of river Slunjčica flows into the Korana river. It is small and known for beautiful old watermills and waterfalls. Only half an hour drive later you will arrive at Plitvice Lakes National Park. Make sure you will leave Zagreb early enough so you can explore the park all the afternoon at your leisure. This is a must-visit attraction for any traveller to Croatia as it's the UNESCO protected park that is rich with more than 16 emerald green and blue lakes and more than 90 waterfalls. You will pick up the tickets at the entrance 1 of the Park. From there you will choose one of 4 routes, ranging from three to eight hours in duration. You may wish to bring a bought lunch with you to enjoy a picnic. But if you rather want to try some warm traditional lunch, there is also a restaurant situated inside the Park.

OVERNIGHT: Plitvice National Park

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Plitvice Lakes – Zadar (120km, 1h 30min)

In the morning, after your rich breakfast and warm coffee or tea, continue your drive to the south towards ancient Roman city named Zadar. It is known for its beautiful coastline full of islands and blue waters and one of the prettiest sunsets at the coast which you'll have a chance to see by yourself. Today, stroll along the Zadar Riva with green parks on one side and wavy sea on the other and explore the city by yourself. Make sure you don't miss seeing the Old gate and St' Donat church. You must not miss a legendary sunset, an epic smouldering visage of red and pink colours. Alfred Hitchcock famously declared it the most beautiful sunset in the world. Zadar's Sea Organ and Greeting to the Sun are one of the best places to watch it. Enjoy!

OVERNIGHT: Zadar

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Zadar full day (daily trip to Kornati)

Today, you will take a full day boat trip to Kornati National Park. It is the densest island cluster on the Mediterranean, made of 150 islands. If you feel like swimming, pack your swimsuits and towels and be ready to enjoy the day. You will see 80 metres tall cliffs, hundreds of yards of drywalls and sandy beaches. We guarantee you will experience the true magnitude and grandiose power of the nature.

During the trip you will be served with aperitifs, sandwiches, lunch, wine and juice. This will really be a day to remember!

OVERNIGHT: Zadar

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Zadar – Krka National Park (76km, 55min) – Šibenik (12km, 17min) – Split (87km, 1h 5min)

Krka national park is an hour drive away from Zadar. It is a nice place to visit in the morning before it becomes crowded so make sure you will leave hotel early enough. The Park has 7 waterfalls. The largest (24 meters) and most impressive is called Skradinski Buk which makes Krka National Park one of Croatia's top rated parks. You will walk on the wooden paths by the emerald pools and river islands. It is the only national park in Croatia where swimming is allowed so take a dip in one of the lagoons if you'd like. Enjoy the restaurants, snack stands and ice cream shops at this beautiful location.

After spending some time in the nature, continue your way to Šibenik which is most famous for Saint James Cathedral, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage list, as the city walls are from the Venetian era. This is definitely the place to start your visit. If the time will be right for lunch, you should have one in Pelegrini restaurant which is just above the cathedral. Just across the square you will find the splendid old two-story Šibenik Town Hall which is also worth a visit. Here's one interesting fact. If the city looks familiar, and you are a fan of Game of Thrones, you'll be pleased to know that the city appeared as a film location in three episodes of Season 5.

Later, travel further south to Split, settling into your hotel and take enough rest for exploring the city tomorrow.

OVERNIGHT: Split

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 7: Split full day

This day is fully reserved for exploring the city of Split. An ancient coastal city founded 1,700 years ago by Roman Emperor Diocletian, Split's Old Town includes a number of impressive sites. Including the Cathedral of St. Dominus and Diocletian's Palace, one of the best-preserved Roman buildings in the world. You will start the walking tour in Peristyle Square with your local guide who will make sure that you keep this day in memory forever.

If the time allows, climb the Romanesque bell tower of the Cathedral of St. Dominus, considered the oldest Catholic cathedral still in use. You will experience some stunning views over the city and Adriatic Sea. The old town of Split is the maze of streets and cobblestoned lanes that surround Diocletian's Palace. People's square is the heart of the old town.

Make sure you grab some coffee or lunch as it's full of restaurants and bars. In the evening, stroll down the Riva promenade which is the harbour of Split. Surrounded with palm trees, colourful buildings and views out to the sea, this place is a popular place to enjoy the moment. In case you'll finish exploring Split early enough, you can drive 35 minutes away to small city called Trogir. The entire old town is located on the island so you can tour it in an hour or two.

OVERNIGHT: Split

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Split – Hvar (62km, 2h)

Take the morning to check out Split's Green Market, a lively fruit and vegetable outdoor market just east of the Diocletian Palace. This is a great place to see how the locals shop and to pick up some fruit for your ferry ride to Hvar island.

When arriving, settle to the hotel and relax. The rest of the day is yours to explore at own pace.

OVERNIGHT: Hvar

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 9: Hvar full day (day trip to Green and Blue cave)

This unique day on the sea will start with the visit of majestic Green and Blue caves, including Vis and Pakleni islands. The trip will start around 10am at one of the meeting points you'll be informed earlier. First you will visit the Green Cave where you'll have a chance to swim and enjoy the emerald light show. Then you'll discover a magnificent hidden inlet called Stiniva. After enjoying and relaxing there, you'll be off to experience the world-renowned Blue Cave whose ethereal silvery-blue colour is created by the sun. It surely is one of the worlds most beautiful natural phenomena. Your trip will continue to the legendary island of Vis. There you'll have an hour of free time to explore the charming hamlet before taking off to Pakleni islands. Arrival back to Hvar port is expected around 6pm.

Please note that entrances to both caves must be paid on spot with cash and are not included in the price of the trip.

OVERNIGHT: Hvar

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 10: Hvar – Korcula (62km, 1h 40min)

After breakfast collect your things and catch a ferry to Korcula. Once you get there, the afternoon and evening are all yours to discover this gorgeous little island. It has numerous restaurants, taverns, shops and bars. You will be amazed by the beautiful grey stone houses, churches and squares.

OVERNIGHT: Korcula

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 11: Korcula full day

Today you will get to know this island with the local guide. Kor?ula is a stunning medieval town. The tiny Old Town sits on a limestone promontory straight out of a fairy tale. Everywhere you look, you'll find limestone carvings - above doors, all around windows, on balconies. As you stroll, you'll learn about the strategic position of the town, and where all that limestone was hauled from. The guide will take you along the streets laid out in a fishbone pattern, pointing out the key elements of an ingenious urban construction. Stopping at the museum and St. Mark's cathedral, you'll also visit Marco Polo's birth place. If you don't believe he was born there, it's all right. After you hear the story, you'll change your mind. After you finish the tour, you should drive into the vineyard-draped hills to taste local wines and visit rustic villages where folk tradition is still strong.

If beaches are what you're after, rent a bike or scooter or ride the bus for 8 km to the sandy beaches of Lumbarda.

OVERNIGHT: Korcula

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 12: Korcula – Ston (66km, 1h 50min) – Dubrovnik (55km, 55min)

Today, make your way to the ferry Domince-Orebic to arrive on the Peljesac Peninsula where you must stop for Ston's famous fresh oysters or mussels accompanied by a glass of local Dingac at the Oyster farm. If time permits you can visit the Ston fortress with its wonderful view.

After, continue your way towards Dubrovnik. When arriving, check into your hotel and you'll want to go out and explore the city!

OVERNIGHT: Dubrovnik

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 13: Full day Dubrovnik

Today, start the day early. We recommend going out around 8am to avoid the crowds. Meet your expert local guide who will show you all the must-see places in the city. You will meet him at the entrance to this charming medieval city, at the 16th century Pile Gate. You will see Onofrio's Fountain, the 15th century Rector's Palace, Luza Square, the St. Vlaho church and the café-lined streets. You'll also head for the city's impressive defensive walls which are the second-largest set of city walls in the world.

For the rest of the afternoon, explore the city on your own or enjoy the sun at nearby beaches. You must not miss the cable car ride up to Srd Mountain early enough to see stunning panoramic views over the city and Adriatic. After descending back down have some delicious dinner at one of Dubrovnik greatest restaurants.

OVERNIGHT: Dubrovnik

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 14: Dubrovnik – Dubrovnik Airport (22km, 30min)

Depending on when you depart, you may have time to visit one of Dubrovnik's museums, like the Franciscan Monastery and Museum. This large complex houses many treasures, including the world's third oldest pharmacy dating from 1317. Drive to Dubrovnik Airport, drop off the car and catch your flight back home.

OVERNIGHT: N/A

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

TBC

Excluded:

TBC

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements - full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

No Options

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Note: Please [download an up-to-date copy](#) of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
