

CROATIA – PEARLS OF SOUTHERN DALMATIA

8-days / 7-nights moderate to challenging cycling from near Split **STANDARD PLUS / PREMIUM PLUS**



Explore the unique villages and beautiful islands of Southern Dalmatia – the smallest and most sparsely populated region in Croatia – on an exciting cruising and cycling holiday. Experience the splendid island of Korčula with its picturesque old township and the lavender-covered island of Hvar. Sail and cycle with an experienced tour guide to the charming towns of Trogir, Hvar, Korčula and the artists' colony at Stari Grad.

The **Standard Plus** cruise is aboard a comfortable and spacious traditional style wooden motorised yacht with above and below deck cabins, some with bunks, each with ensuite shower and toilet. Our **Premium Plus** cruises offer elegant, modern, comfortable motorised yachts with generous cabins and superior fittings.

Our moderate graded cycling tours require a good level of fitness, and regular cycle training beforehand. Elevations range to 200 - 500m above sea level. The daily itineraries of 20 - 50km will take you through hilly, sometimes mountainous terrain without any time-constraints. There may be long and steep climbs but there is plenty of time to take a rest too. Set aside a time each day to swim or relax on board the boat. We cycle mostly on quiet sealed roads and each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join with the multilingual tour guides. E-bikes are an ideal way to neutralise the steeper hills.

Standard Plus cruise from: **\$1720** per person (twin share, lower deck). **E-bike hire is available**
Mid/High season supplement from: \$175-\$350 per person applies May to October
Upper deck supplement: \$175 per person (twin share)

Departs: 25th April, 9th, 23rd May, 6th, 20th June, 22nd August, 5th, 19th September, 3rd October, 2020

Premium Plus cruise from: **\$2070** per person (twin share lower deck). **E-bike hire is available**
Mid/High season supplement from: \$175-\$525 per person applies May to mid-October
Upper deck Supplement: \$265 per person (twin share)

Departs: 18th April, 2nd, 16th, 30th May, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th June, 11th, 25th July, 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 12th, 19th, 26th September; 10th, 17th, 24th October, 2020

Single cabins: Single cabins are available with a supplement on request - ask for details.

Includes: 7-nights on a crewed motor yacht, double / twin or single cabins with shower/toilet, 4 days at full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner), 3 days at half board (breakfast and either lunch or dinner), multilingual (English/German speaking) tour guide, guided cycling tours as shown in the itinerary, hybrid bicycle hire, maps for the daily tours (available on board).

Not included: Personal expenses, gratuities, local fees, drinking water and port taxes (approx. €50 per person paid to captain), meals taken ashore on half-board days, drinks (tally sheet onboard to be paid at end of trip), bicycle insurance (can be pre-purchased if required), transfer to/from the ship in Trogir.

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Suggested itinerary – subject to weather and sailing conditions at the discretion of the captain / tour guide

Day 1 Saturday Trogir to Split

Arrive Split and make your way to the harbour of Trogir (about 5km by taxi) to go aboard in between 2.00pm and 2.30pm. There is a short cruise at 3pm to Split, with time there to explore the UNESCO World Heritage listed old town centre and the palace of the Roman Caesar Diocletian. Overnight stay in Split.

Day 2 Sunday Island of Hvar Cycling @ 20km

Start the day with a cruise to the natural harbour of Stari Grad on the island of Hvar. In the afternoon cycle through vineyards on the Stari Grad Plains and then a picturesque coastal road to the quaint harbors of Vrboska and Jelsa, known locally as “little Venice”, before returning to Stari Grad, which has become a Mecca for artists and art lovers in the past few years.

Day 3 Monday Hvar and Korula Islands Cycling @ 22km

We cycle along an almost traffic-free road through small villages and over the pass to the island's capital Hvar. Here we visit the magnificent Renaissance Square and enjoy the view from the Spanish Fortress situated high above the city. After our cycle tour the boat takes us to Korula Island, where we moor overnight in Vela Luka.

Day 4 Tuesday Korula Island and Makarska Cycling @ 37km

Today the chance to explore the island of Korula. The peace and remoteness, the lush vegetation and myriad cypress trees make this perhaps the most beautiful of the Dalmatian islands. Our cycle tour leads us via the village of Blato, like Rome built on seven hills, and onto Prigradica harbour where the boat awaits our arrival at lunch and we set off for Makarska. If the weather permits we will organise a swim stop in a nice bay. The evening can be enjoyed along the famous Makarska Riviera.

Day 5 Wednesday Cetina Canyon and Omiš Cycling @ 44km

After a morning sail to Omiš we cycle into the valley of the Cetina River which has carved its course deeply into the limestone cliffs. There may be an option of a 4-hour rafting tour on the Cetina River (at extra cost), or, if you choose not to raft, return to Omiš with its pirate castles by way of small side roads through a varied and interesting rocky landscape. Those who do take part in the rafting trip have a shorter journey back to the ship. In the afternoon there is time to explore Omiš or go for a swim at the nearby beach. The night is spent in Omiš.

Day 6 Thursday Bra and Šolta Islands Cycling @ 32km

We cruise to the island of Bra, which is famous for its shining white marble used for the White House in Washington DC and the Reichstag in Berlin. After lunch we cycle to the lovely fishing village Povelja or to the picturesque town Puišća, then onto the neighboring town of Postira. From there, cruise to the island of Šolta for a 4.5km hike, with a visit to the local beekeeper, Goran along the way. Goran has worked with bees his whole life, he teaches of their importance in the world and allows all of his guests to try the delicious bee products that he makes. We spend the night in the harbor of Rogan on Šolta.

Day 7 Friday Šolta Island and Trogir Cycling @ 20km

After breakfast we ride past fields, olive groves, and fig trees line the roads on Šolta accompanied by the herbal scent of rosemary. We return to the ship to load the bikes then cruise past the red cliffs of the Dugi Peninsula to Trogir. If time permits, you can take a tour of the old town which again is world heritage listed. Our evening dinner together is a traditional get-together with the crew and tour guides.

Day 8 Saturday Disembark

Tour ends after breakfast in Trogir. Split Airport is just a short taxi ride away for your onward connections.



This is a Bike & Boat cycling tour however, you decide each day if you want to cycle with the group and guide, ride independently (using the maps provided), or not cycle at all and relax onboard the boat. Non-cycling passengers are welcome on these tours (but no sightseeing is provided for non-cyclists on cycling days).

*This tour is also offered as a **Premium Plus E-Bike** tour – a similar itinerary, with longer cycling distances, onboard Premium Plus boats – ask for more details.*

Outdoor Travel offers Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, the **islands of Greece**, the **Lycian Coast of Turkey**, in Tuscany, Amalfi or Sicily in **Italy**. Bike & Barge cycling cruises are available in the **Seine, Loire Valley** and **Burgundy** or **Provence** in France and on the **Paris to Bruges** route through the Somme WW1 battlefield and memorial sites. We offer several routes in Holland, Belgium including the **Amsterdam to Bruges**, or the **Saar, Moselle and Rhine** Rivers in Germany.

Inn-to-inn cycling tours, guided in groups or self-guided with luggage transfers, are available in most destinations in Europe, China, Japan, Canada, the USA, in South Africa and in New Zealand - ask for details.

Contact the experienced staff at Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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