

CROATIA – PEARLS OF SOUTHERN DALMATIA

E-BIKE TOUR

8-days / 7-nights Moderate cycling, **PREMIUM PLUS** from Trogir (Split) to Hvar, Korčula and Stari Grad



Explore the unique villages and beautiful islands of Southern Dalmatia – the smallest and most sparsely populated region in Croatia – on this exciting cruising and E-bike 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.

We offer different Premium Plus ships for these cruises, all built especially for Bike & Boat cycling tours. These are elegant, modern, comfortable motorised yachts with superior fittings and generous cabins, all with ensuite shower and toilet. Saloons and dining areas are spacious and well-appointed. The comfortable sundecks offer an ideal spot to sit back and relax while under sail, with plenty of chairs and sun-mattresses. A bathing platform at the stern provides easy access for a relaxing swim in the Mediterranean.

Our moderate graded cycling tours require a good level of fitness, which can be acquired from steady cycling practise. E-bikes are an ideal way to neutralise the steeper hills, though of course you will still be pedalling. Tours range up to a height of 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 rest or walk as you choose. You are free to set aside a time each day to swim or relax on board the boat as the mood takes you. We cycle mostly on sealed roads (rarely travelled outside the holiday season) and each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join with the two multilingual tour guides.

Cost from: \$2965 per person (twin share lower deck). **Upper deck Supplement:** \$355 per person

Mid/High season supplement from: \$175 - \$525 per person applies May to September

Single cabin supplement from: Lower deck: \$965 Upper deck: \$1545

Departs: 18th, 25th April, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th May, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th June, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th July, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th September, 3rd, 10th, 24th October 2020

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), **e-bike hire**, English/German speaking tour guide, guided cycling tours as shown in the itinerary, 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), transfers to the ship in Port of Trogir.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



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

Day 1 Saturday Trogir to Hvar Island

Make your way to the ship – check-in is from 2.00pm. If you are arriving into Split airport a private taxi transfer to Trogir harbour can be arranged – ask for price and details. Afternoon welcome and E-bike fitting before the ship departs at 3pm for the short cruise to Hvar Island. Stari Grad is the second largest settlement on the island and in recent years has developed into an artists' colony. We stay overnight in Stari Grad.

Day 2 Sunday Islands of Hvar and Vis cycling @ 20km

In the morning we cycle from Stari Grad, along a 400m high pass road next to lavender fields, gaining wonderful views of the neighbouring islands and the mainland, to visit the island's capital Hvar, home to the magnificent Renaissance Square and the spectacular Spanish Fortress situated high above the city. We rejoin the ship and cruise to Vis Island for our overnight stay.

Day 3 Monday Vis Island cycling @ 35km

The furthest island from the mainland, Vis has been of strategic importance throughout history. Some 2300 years ago the island was a Greek colony known as Issa, and until 1995 this island was a military zone prohibited to tourists. We have the opportunity to explore the island on two wheels, or take an optional tour of the island by jeep (paid locally). Later we cruise to Korčula Island, where we moor overnight in Vela Luka.

Day 4 Tuesday Korčula Island cycling @ 60km

Today we explore Korčula Island. This peaceful island, with its lush vegetation and cypress trees, is one of the most beautiful of the Dalmatian islands. We cycle to the village of Blato, like Rome built on seven hills and to Pupnat Bay for wonderful views. Finally down to Korčula town for a walk in the old town's narrow alleyways. We stay overnight in Korčula town, which vies with Venice for the title of birthplace of Marco Polo.

Day 5 Wednesday Island of Bra cycling @ 30km

A cruise this morning to the island of Bra, famous for the white marble which was used in the construction of the White House in Washington DC and the Reichstag in Berlin. There is time to swim and relax before lunch. Afterwards, we cycle across Bra, starting from the hamlet of Sumartin, with its eponymous church and monastery of St Martin, to the charming fishing village Povelja and on to the picturesque harbor town Ploče.

Day 6 Thursday Omiš, Cetina Canyon and Split cycling @ 45km

After a short cruise to Omiš, cycle into the valley of the Cetina River which has carved its way into the limestone cliffs. There may be an option of a 4-hour rafting tour on the Cetina River (at extra cost). We return to Omiš with its pirate castles by way of small side roads through a varied and interesting rocky landscape. In the afternoon we cruise to Split, where we stay overnight. The old town of Split, built adjoining the famous palace of the Roman Caesar Diocletian, is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Day 7 Friday Šolta Island cycling @ 20km

We cruise to Roganovići on the island of Šolta and cycle past walled fields, olive groves, locust bean and fig trees so typical in Croatia. The herby smells of lavender and rosemary accompany us as we tour this island. Back in Roganovići we load the bikes aboard the ship and enjoy our last cruise to Trogir, where if time permits, you can take a tour of the old town which again is a world heritage listed site. Our final dinner together is a traditional, communal meal and a last get-together with the crew and tour guides.

Day 8 Saturday Trogir (near Split)

Tour ends after breakfast in Trogir.



We offer this as 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. Do please note that whilst non-cycling passengers are always welcome on these departures, no sightseeing provisions are made for non-cyclists on cycling days.

The tour requires a minimum number of passengers to operate – ask for details when making your reservation.

Due to wind, weather or operational requirements the tour itineraries may be changed or operate in reverse. All cycling distances are approximate.

Outdoor Travel offers **Bike & Boat** cruises to many areas of Europe including **Croatia**, the **Aegean Islands of Greece**, the **Lycian Coast of Turkey**, the **Amalfi Coast** or the island of **Sicily in Italy**, and in **Vietnam**.

Bike & Barge cruises are available on many of the canals and rivers of Europe including the **Seine, Loire Valley** and **Burgundy** or **Provence** in France, and on the 2-week route from **Paris and Bruges** or return through the Somme WW1 battlefield and memorial sites in northern France. We offer routes in Holland and Belgium, including the ever-popular **Amsterdam to Bruges** tour, and in Germany along the **Saar, Moselle and Rhine Rivers**, in Austria, Hungary and Romania on the mighty **River Danube**.

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

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

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