

CROATIA 2024

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22-SATURDAY, JUNE 1



DAILY ITINERARY

*****Subject to change*****



DAY ONE - MEET AT DULLES IN EARLY EVENING FOR OVERNIGHT FLIGHT

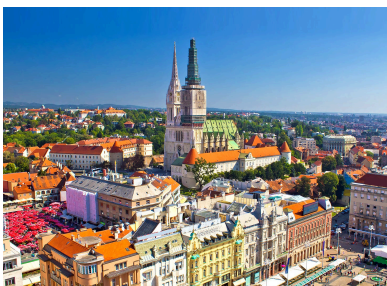


Our adventure begins at Washington Dulles Airport (IAD) for our overnight flight to Zagreb. With a scarcity of direct flights to Croatia, we will have a couple hours layover somewhere in Europe where we make our connecting flight.



TRAVEL TIP: If at all possible, try to get at least a few hours sleep on the plane as we will be “hitting the ground running” the next day in Zagreb. This will help you avoid any semblance of jet lag as your body adjusts to the local time.

DAY TWO - AFTERNOON ARRIVAL IN ZAGREB, SECRET FOOD TOUR WITH GUIDE

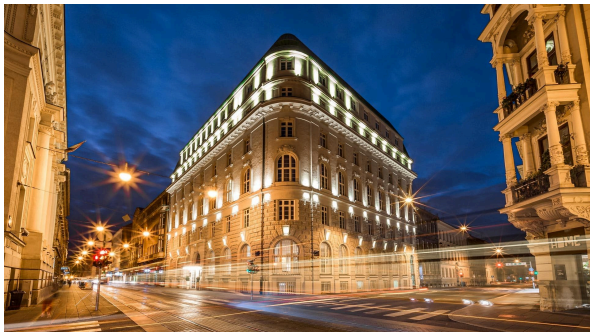


Upon our arrival in Croatia's capital city in mid-afternoon, our private bus will be there at the airport to take us directly to Zagreb's city center.

Zagreb is one of the oldest Central European cities and a perfect combination of rich heritage, lively rhythm of street life, and a multitude of attractions that will awaken all your senses.

What better way to awaken those senses than going on what has been a highlight of our past travels– a Secret Food Tour. These tours are designed to allow visitors the chance to gain new perspectives on a city and its surroundings by exploring the various out-of-the-way restaurants and eateries that are known only to the local population.

As evening descends, your stomach will be full and you will definitely be ready for a good night's sleep. Located in the heart of the old city, the historic Hotel Capital should provide the perfect venue for the night.



HOTEL CAPITAL – In the very heart of Zagreb lies Amadria Park Hotel Capital, a heritage hotel deeply immersed in local history, displaying utmost luxury in a combination of Art deco, secession and true Zagrebian spirit. More than just an accommodation, heritage Hotel Capital hotel comes with a historical narrative that is elevated to give you a superb experience, perfected by all the modern commodities you need and desire.

DAY THREE - VISIT TO KRKA NATIONAL PARK, OVERNIGHT IN SPLIT



Be sure to have some extra coffee at breakfast as we have a full first day in Croatia! But it is sure to be unforgettable. We board our bus early for our journey to the Croatian seaside town of Split, but with a couple stops along the way.

Our first stop is the breathtaking Krka National Park. Running along the Krka river, Krka National Park extends from the Adriatic to the mountains in the interior. This park resembles a magical fairytale with many gorges, waterfalls, and gushing rivers along the karstic canyon.

Seeing all of that water has probably built up a thirst so it's a good time for our first introduction to Croatian wines. Croatia is one of the world's top emerging wine producing countries. Get ready for what they call the "superb experience" at Bibich Winery.

Our final destination this day is Split. Croatia's second-largest city has some first-class charms. Split (pronounced like it's spelled) is located on the glittering Adriatic Sea in central Dalmatia. Its rolling terrain slopes down to pebbly beaches and turquoise waters, which look out onto neighboring islands.

DID YOU KNOW? Did you know Split was founded by a Roman emperor? Or that some of the scenes from Game of Thrones are filmed in Split? Or that Split is considered to be one of the sportiest cities in the world? These are just a few interesting facts about Split



DAY FOUR - MORNING IN SPLIT, ONTO DUBROVNIK WITH WINERY STOP ALONG WAY



We'll have a couple hours in the morning to explore Split's historic center before heading to Dubrovnik, home of our luxury villas for the week. And, of course, another stop at a Croatian winery for a tasting & lunch along the way.

Diocletian's Palace is the main attraction in the center of Split. It actually covers the entire city centre forming the heart of today's Split. You can see the Roman and some medieval remains of Roman emperor Diocletian's

former palace if you walk along the narrow streets just off the Riva promenade.

A stop at Kovac Winery enroute to Dubrovnik should not disappoint. A selection of local dishes will accompany their fine wines.

A few hours away Just north of Dubrovnik, our three luxury villas (all in very close proximity) await. All of the bedrooms feature ensuite bathrooms and splendid views of the Adriatic Sea. We will finish this day with our first meal together prepared by our private chef for the week.



KOVAC WINERY REVIEW: *"We had an amazing and unforgettable day at this wine tasting. The owner was an exceptional guide. Wine and food was delicious and it was also a very educational day. We are giving our warmest recommendations."* –TRIP

ADVISOR

DAY FIVE - DAY TO EXPLORE DUBROVNIK CAPPED BY SUNSET CRUISE



Situated on the southern Adriatic Sea coast, Dubrovnik is usually regarded as the most picturesque city on the Dalmatian coast and is referred to as the “Pearl of the Adriatic.” Dubrovnik occupies a promontory jutting into the sea under the bare limestone mass of Mount Srdj.

If there’s one thing that you absolutely *have* to add to your Dubrovnik itinerary, it’s walking the city walls. The views of both Dubrovnik and the surrounding Adriatic Sea are absolutely unparalleled from these vantage points (don’t forget to climb the Minčeta Fortress while you’re up there!) and walking the walls is a truly unforgettable experience.

Dubrovnik’s Old Town is absolutely beautiful and is surprisingly densely packed with things to do considering how small it is.

In the evening, we will enjoy a sunset cruise on a Karaka ship while enjoying a glass of bubbly. The perfect way to end our first day in Dubrovnik!



TRAVEL TIP– GO LOCAL! On your own for lunch and need to find a good place to eat? If many of the locals are eating there, you’ve probably found someplace good. Better yet, find a local shopkeeper and ask their opinion of where to go.

DAY SIX - DAY AT OUR VILLAS, SWIMMING, RELAXING, DRINKING, EATING

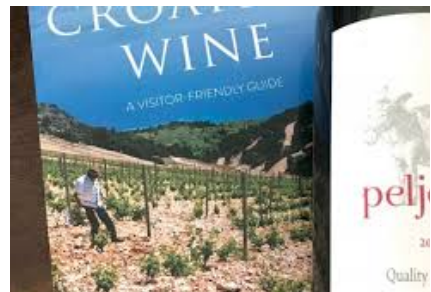


With three awesome villas perched along the Adriatic Coast, it makes perfect sense to take a day to catch our breath.

We will schedule time in the morning for a trip to the market for those wishing to “provision up” with the necessities (wine, snacks, etc.). But mostly this day is all about swimming in the pools at the villas, taking a walk to the beach, relaxing in the sauna, and recharging your batteries amidst one of the best views you can imagine.

In the evening, our group will enjoy a live musical performance of local folklore on site at our villas.

DAY SEVEN - DAY TRIP TO THE PELJESAC PENINSULA. A TOP WINE REGION



A full day spent in the Peljesac wine region will be a welcome experience for those who enjoy robust red wine, but this Adriatic peninsula offers so much

more— an awe-inspiring natural landscape and some of the best seafood in the world.

Our day begins with a visit to the small village of Ston, known for its well preserved walls and famous salt pans. We then continue to Trstenik for a very special seafood lunch. The afternoon is dedicated to sampling wines from a couple of the region's best wineries.

PELJESAC WINE REGION: The Peljesac Peninsula is a wine region on the Adriatic coast of Croatia between the popular tourist destinations of Split and Dubrovnik. It produces some of Croatia's best-known wines, most notably the weighty Plavac Mali-based reds of the Postup and Dingac appellations.



DAY EIGHT - ISLAND HOPPING IN THE ADRIATIC SEA, FULL DAY BOAT CRUISE



We set sail once again on the Karake ship, but this time for a full day adventure to three different islands off the coast of Dubrovnik.

We depart from Gruz port and make stops at the islands of Kolocep, Sipan, and Lopud. There will be opportunities for both swimming and snorkeling during the day. At each island stop you will have an opportunity to leave the boat and explore .. or just spend time on the beach.



ABOUT THE KARAKE: A carrack (Portuguese: nau; Spanish: nao; Catalan: carraca; Croatian: karaka) is a three- or four-masted ocean-going sailing ship that was developed in the 14th to 15th centuries in Europe, most notably in Portugal and Spain

IMPORTANT NOTE: THIS DAY'S SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND DEPENDENT UPON BORDER CROSSING TIMES. WE WILL MONITOR THE WAIT TIMES –WHICH CAN RUN INTO THE HOURS– AND MAKE A DECISION ONCE ON THE GROUND IN CROATIA.

DAY NINE - EXCURSION INTO BOSNIA, TOUR MEDIEVAL VILLAGE OF MOSTAR



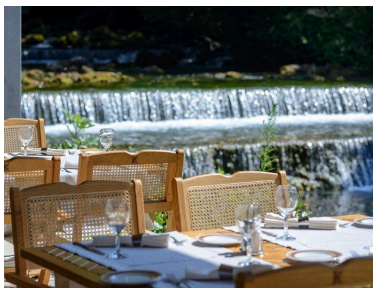
This day we venture into the Balkan country of Bosnia and Herzegovina and visit the medieval town of Mostar.

Mostar offers the most accessible and enticing taste of Bosnian culture. Ideally located a short drive from the Dalmatian Coast, this charming, manageably compact small city — with a scenic setting, beautiful Turkish-style architecture, a dynamic history, and an iconic bridge — feels like Bosnia with training wheels. And despite the scars of war, Mostar is still stunning, straddling the banks of the gorgeous Neretva River, with tributaries and waterfalls carving their way through the rocky landscape.



MORE ABOUT BOSNIA: Bosnia and Herzegovina is a Southeastern European country located in the western Balkans, bordering the Adriatic Sea, it was formerly one of the states of the former federation of Yugoslavia until it declared its independence in March 1992.

DAY TEN - SOUTH TO KONAVLE, 'TUSCANY OF CROATIA'



On our final day we head south to the Konavle region (Often referred to as the Tuscany of Croatia) and the picturesque seaside town of Cavtat.

Hemmed in by mountains and lush swathes of pine and cypress forest, Cavtat is pretty from all angles. Add a seafront promenade lined with fishing boats, artisan shops, and pebble beaches, and it's clear why travelers stop off at Croatia's southernmost resort.

Lunch is a real treat at the restaurant Konavoski Dvori and its signature dish of Peka, lamb and veal cooked under an iron bell.

We will sample wines and toast a great trip at our final winery stop at Crvik Winery.

WHAT IS PEKA?: The word *peka* comes from *peći*, which means to roast or bake. When we say *peka* in Croatia, we mean two things. A roast meal of either meat or seafood with potatoes and assorted veggies. *Peka* also refers to a bell-shaped lid (usually steel or cast iron) that sits on top of a tray with food. Roasting *peka* style uses embers and hot ashes from above, and the heat from the hearth from below.

DAY ELEVEN - RETURN TO THE USA



OUR 'HOME AWAY FROM HOME' FOR THE WEEK - THREE LUXURY VILLAS ON THE ADRIATIC COAST



As with all Olney Adventures vacations, a main feature of our travel is a week-long stay in a luxury villa which becomes our base for our various day trips throughout the week. Two of our villas are pictured above and the third is within short walking distance.

We will still enjoy our dinners together with one of the villas set up with a large table to seat everyone. As always, we will enjoy a wide range of culinary delights prepared by our own personal chef. Located just north of Dubrovnik, all three villas feature spectacular views and are within walking distance of local shops.

TRIP DETAILS

CROATIA II (May 22-June 1)

Our Croatian adventure departs from and returns to Washington DC/Dulles Airport (IAD). Travelers are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from Dulles.

ALL-INCLUSIVE COST PER TRAVELER: \$4995