



Tastes of Croatia & Slovenia

A Croatia Times Travel Hosted Tour & Cruise

Tour & Cruise Sun 08 Jun - Sat 28 Jun 2025

Tour Sun 08 Jun - Sat 21 Jun 2025

Cruise Sat 21 Jun - Sat 28 Jun 2025



21 days from Zagreb to Dubrovnik

Prepare to enrich your palate and rejoice in history, nature, and culture as you discover one of the most interesting areas of Europe! Spend 13 remarkable days touring Croatia and Slovenia with a touch of Italy, followed by 8 days onboard a relaxing Deluxe Small Ship cruising the gorgeous Adriatic coastline.



Your Tastes of Croatia & Slovenia Host

Ela Patajac

Having guided tours across Europe before making New Zealand her home, Ela is looking forward to sharing her passion for European history, culture and great food with you all on this fabulous tour.

History & Culture

Throughout our tour we will be joined by local guides who will intrigue us with their tales of local history and culture. Together we will visit seven of Croatia's ten UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Landscapes & Nature

Imagine impressive mountain ranges, breathtaking National Parks, and the crystal clear Adriatic Sea.

Food & Wine

Experience the traditional flavours and cuisines of each region we visit, whether dining in a local restaurant for lunch or dinner, or enjoying a unique tasting.

Tastes of Croatia & Slovenia 21 days / 20 nights

Hosted Tour & Cruise on Deluxe Superior Small Ship MS Rhapsody

Tour & Cruise Includes

- Croatia Times Travel Host
- 14 Nights in 4-5* hotels
- All transfers as per itinerary
- 20 Breakfasts, 12 Lunches, 9 Dinners (B, L, D)
- Tour & Cruise Director
- Modern A/C motor coach
- Service charges, hotel taxes & Portorage
- Authentic Food & Wine Experiences (T)
- 7 nights on luxury Small Ship
- Ship Welcome Reception & Cocktail
- Daily cabin service
- Free WiFi on ship (restrictions may apply)
- Visitor taxes & port fees
- Tipping

Highlights

- Authentic dining experiences at local restaurants
- Unique stays in centrally located hotels
- Traditional Pletna boat ride along Lake Bled
- Visit a traditional Slovenian apiary & learn about their beekeeping traditions
- Wine tasting in Momjan
- Truffle Tasting lunch in the heart of the Istria region
- Olive Oil Tasting at a family owned estate
- Venice full day excursion
- Walk the scenic paths of Plitvice Lakes NP
- Wine Tasting & lunch at one of Croatia's most renowned Dalmatian wineries
- Visit to Salona & Klis Fort, followed by a cooking class of traditional Dalmatian cuisine
- Wine Tasting on the Island of Hvar
- Visit & Tasting at Ston Oyster Farm
- Captain's Dinner with live entertainment
- Cable car ride in Dubrovnik with sensational views of the Old Town

Sightseeing with Local Guides

- Zagreb
- Bled
- Rovinj
- Plitvice NP
- Krka NP
- Split
- Korčula
- Trakošćan
- Poreč
- Pula
- Zadar
- Salona
- Trogir
- Dubrovnik
- Ljubljana
- Motovun
- Venice
- Šibenik
- Klis
- Hvar

Entrance Fees

- Zagreb - Funicular & Trakošćan - Castle
- Ljubljana - Funicular, Castle
- Bled - Castle, Pletna Boat, Church, Beekeeping Museum
- Postojna - Cave
- Poreč - Euphrasius Basilica
- Motovun - Shuttle Bus, Town Walls
- Pula - Amphitheatre Arena
- Plitvice Lakes - National Park
- Šibenik - Cathedral & Krka - National Park
- Salona - Roman Ruins & Klis - Fortress
- Split - Diocletian Palace Cellars
- Mljet - National Park & Hvar - Fortress
- Dubrovnik - Cable Car

Note: Refer to our website for Tour Only & Cruise Only itinerary & inclusions.



MS Rhapsody

Visiting Zagreb, Trakošćan, Ljubljana, Bled, Radovljica, Postojna, Predjama, Momjan, Poreč, Motovun, Rovinj, Pula, Vodnjan, Venice, Opatija, Rastoke, Plitvice Lakes, Zadar, Šibenik, Skradin, Krka, Plastovo, Salona, Klis, Split, Trogir, Bol, Hvar, Biševo, Vis, Korčula, Mljet, Slano, Ston & Dubrovnik

Day 1, Sunday: Zagreb

Welcome to Croatia. Your day is at leisure before meeting your Host and Tour Director. Overnight and dinner at the hotel. (D)

Day 2, Monday: Zagreb - Trakošćan - Zagreb

Zagreb is home to a mix of 18th and 19th century buildings with many charming parks, squares and city markets. You will discover Ban Jelačić Square and medieval settlements of Gradec and Kaptol. See the Cathedral, Dolac Market, Tkalčićeva Street, Stone Gate and St Mark's Church. Proceed through the Hrvatsko Zagorje region to visit Trakošćan Castle dating back to the 13th century. It is Croatia's most celebrated and romantic castle due to the surrounding parklands and lake. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner in one of Zagreb's most loved restaurants. (B, D)

Day 3, Tuesday: Zagreb - Ljubljana

Head to the Slovenian capital city. Ljubljana lies in a basin between the Karst and Alpine region. This city with a soul features the Baroque Old Town nestled at the foot of Castle Hill, the Art Nouveau mansions and masterpieces of the renowned architect Jože Plečnik. We visit the local markets and explore the city before taking funicular train to Ljubljana Castle, for lunch at local Slovenian restaurant. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

Day 4, Wednesday: Ljubljana - Bled - Radovljica - Ljubljana

Lake Bled, together with its surroundings ranks among the most beautiful alpine resorts. Enjoy a Pletna boat ride along the lake to Bled Island. See St Mary's Church and later continue to the old medieval castle up on the cliff. The enchanting views and fairy-tale beauty are sensational. After sightseeing, enjoy a memorable lunch in Bled. Continue to visit a local producer of honey, to learn about the beekeeping tradition in Slovenia and to sample their products. Before returning to Ljubljana for an evening at leisure, we stop in Radovljica for a stroll through this magical little town. (B, L, T)

Day 5, Thursday: Ljubljana - Postojna - Predjama - Momjan - Poreč

Postojna Cave is one of the world's largest karst monuments. Opened as a show cave in 1819. Then in 1872 the first documented underground railway opened to visitors, showcasing the spectacular subterranean world. Photo stop in front of the Predjama Castle before arriving to the small village of Momjan to visit an award-winning winery. This evening, dinner is at the hotel in Poreč. (B, T, D)

Day 6, Friday: Poreč - Motovun - Poreč

The seaside town of Poreč is home to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Euphrasius Basilica from the 6th century AD. The apse of the Basilica is ornately decorated with figural mosaics noted as one of the most remarkable examples of mosaic art in Europe. Proceed to the gorgeous hilltop town of Motovun, possibly the most picturesque medieval hilltop town of inner Istria. Lunch will be served in locally, where you will experience a tasting of Istria's most famous delicacy, their truffles. Upon arrival back to Poreč, evening is at leisure. (B, T/L)

Hosted Tour & Cruise		Per Person NZ\$	
2025 Departures		Twin Share	
Start Dates	End Dates	VIP Upper Deck	Lower Deck
Sun 08 Jun	Sat 28 Jun	19,050	17,200
Single Supplement		8,155	6,305

Hosted Tour		Per Person NZ\$	
2025 Departures		Twin Share	Single
Start Dates	End Dates		
Sun 08 Jun	Sat 21 Jun	12,410	15,735

Hosted Cruise		Per Person NZ\$	
2025 Departures		Twin Share	
Start Dates	End Dates	VIP Upper Deck	Lower Deck
Sat 21 Jun	Sat 28 Jun	6,640	4,790
Single Supplement		4,830	2,980



Day 7, Saturday: Poreč - Rovinj - Pula - Vodnjan - Poreč

This morning take a tour of Rovinj, one of the most romantic and much photographed towns on the Mediterranean. There is free time to explore the town and its market before lunch at a local restaurant. Continue to Pula and visit the impressive Roman Amphitheatre, the Temple of Augustus and the Arch of Sergii. Later we get a taste of the long tradition of olive oil making in Istria when visiting a renowned family producer of olive oil in Vodnjan. Return to Poreč with evening at leisure. (B, L, T)

Day 8, Sunday: Poreč - Venice - Poreč

Enjoy a day trip to Venice. A walking tour will show you the highlights including St Mark's Square, St Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace, Bell Tower and Bridge of Sighs. Visit a glass blowing factory and watch a master artisan demonstrate this traditional Venetian art. The rest of your day is at leisure to experience Venice. Late afternoon return to Poreč for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 9, Monday: Poreč - Opatija - Rastoke - Plitvice Lakes

Today we depart for the Plitvice Lakes. Enroute stop in Opatija, one of the most popular seaside resorts on the Adriatic. It is often referred to as Croatia's Monte Carlo and was once the playground of the Austro-Hungarian nobility. Continue to Plitvice with a stop in Rastoke. Rest of the day is at leisure before dinner this evening. (B, D)

Day 10, Tuesday: Plitvice Lakes - Zadar - Šibenik

Croatia's most popular natural attraction is the Plitvice Lakes National Park. Its beauty lies in the sixteen lakes, connected by a series of waterfalls. Set in deep woodland and home to rare bird species and wildlife such as the brown deer. Later we continue to the Dalmatian coast and the charming town of Zadar, dating back to Roman times. Steeped in history, visit the Roman Forum, St Donatus Church, the Romanesque St Grisigono's Church, St Mary's Bell Tower and St Anastasia Cathedral. We walk along the promenade, to the Sea Organ & Greetings to the Sun, awarded for its use of architectural space. Continue to the coastal town of Šibenik with free time before dinner at your hotel (B, D)

Day 11, Wednesday: Šibenik - Skradin - Krka Waterfalls - Plastovo - Šibenik

Discover the oldest Croatian town on the Adriatic and see Croatia's most beautiful monument, St James Cathedral. We visit quaint town of Skradin before continuing to the Krka Waterfalls National Park. Experience the natural beauty of the largest of the seven waterfalls, Skradinski Buk on Krka River. Visit the authentically restored ensemble of small stone houses, workshop, exhibits and watermills, and enjoy a beautiful walk through forest pathways and wooden bridges. We continue to the village of Plastovo to visit one of Croatia's most famous wineries, for an unforgettable lunch and wine tasting. Late afternoon arrival back to Šibenik, the rest of your day is at leisure. (B, T/L)

Day 12, Thursday: Šibenik - Salona - Klis - Split

This morning we are transferred to the ancient Roman ruins of Salona before arriving to Klis. The medieval fortress, built by the Illyrians over 2,000 years ago, overlooks the village and offers breathtaking views of Split and the Adriatic Sea. We continue to a unique family owned estate where we partake in a cooking class lunch, visit their ethno-village and learn about traditional Dalmatian life, and the production of local delicacies. Upon return to Split the rest of the afternoon is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 13, Friday: Split

Day at leisure to explore Split at your own pace. This evening enjoy a walk on the Split Riva following a Dalmatian dinner treat at a local restaurant. Overnight in Split. (B, D)

Day 14, Saturday: Split

Today our small ship cruise begins. After joining our vessel, enjoy a guided tour of Split, a historic town under UNESCO protection and part of the world heritage with an abundance of Roman architecture, including Roman Emperor Diocletian's Palace and his cellars. This evening enjoy a welcome cocktail and dinner to meet your Captain, crew & fellow cruise passengers. (B, D)

Day 15, Sunday: Split - Trogir

Our first day of cruising the Dalmatian coast begins. We visit a gorgeous bay to enjoy a dip in the Adriatic Sea before our lunch is served. Continue to Trogir, a UNESCO World Heritage protected historic stone town, often described as an open-air museum. We explore the charming town with its narrow alleyways and view the Cathedral of St Lawrence and the magnificent Kamerlengo Tower. Enjoy your evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 16, Monday: Trogir - Bol - Hvar

This morning we take a refreshing swim stop and visit the most famous beach in Croatia, Zlatni Rat near Bol on the Island of Brač. Following lunch, we continue to Hvar, the longest and sunniest island in the Adriatic. We explore its old town, then take an excursion to a renowned family owned winery, we learn about its history of wine making and sample the local Dalmatian wine. One last stop takes us to the must-see Spanish Fortress which offers incredibly scenic views of the town and Pakleni Islands. This evening experience the electric atmosphere of Hvar's famous night life. Dine at a local restaurant or visit the bars and cafes which are open long into the night. (B, L, T)





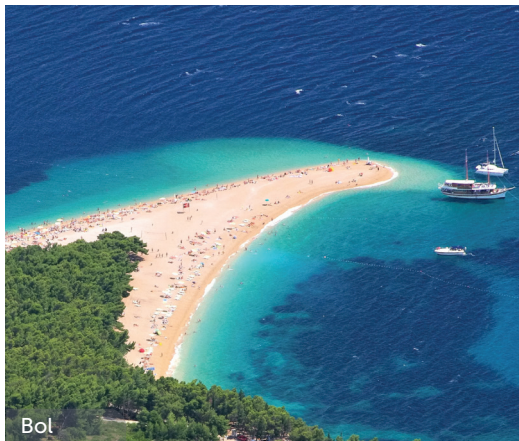
Plitvice Lakes National Park

Day 17, Tuesday: Hvar - Biševo - Vis

Cruise towards Biševo to visit the Blue Cave, a magnificent natural phenomenon (visit is weather dependent). Vis was once a naval base and closed to tourists. Due to this isolation, it has a unique charm. On arrival to Vis Town, your time is at leisure. Visit the remains of the Roman thermal place, town museum, or simply enjoy the surrounds. This evening make sure to dine at a local fish restaurant to sample fish and seafood prepared in traditional Dalmatian style. (B, L)

Day 18, Wednesday: Vis - Korčula

Cruise towards Korčula, the birthplace of Marco Polo. Lunch is in a secluded bay enroute. A fishbone street pattern design was used in Korčula Old Town to reduce effects of wind and sun and provide citizens with sheltered and comfortable accommodation. Discover the town and later there are many wonderful restaurants to dine at or an optional excursion to a small village near Korčula where you will enjoy dinner and hear about history and true local life. (B, L)



Bol

Day 19, Thursday: Korčula - Mljet - Slano - Ston - Slano

Continue to Mljet. Join the Cruise Director for a stroll to the saltwater lakes in the National Park and enjoy a boat ride to St Mary Isle to visit an ancient Benedictine monastery. Depart to Slano a peaceful fishing village and the starting point to Ston, a once fortified small town, famous for its medieval ramparts, saltworks and oysters. After exploring the town our excursion takes us to a family owned oyster farm for a special tasting and experience. Return to the ship for Captain's farewell dinner with live entertainment. (B, L, T, D)

Day 20, Friday: Slano - Dubrovnik

Discover the charm and fascination of Dubrovnik. We cruise along the city walls for lunch, before docking in Gruž Port. Transfer to the Old Town for a walking tour to see Onofrio's Fountain, the Franciscan & Dominican monasteries & Rector's Palace. Take the cable car from the Old Town to Mount Srđ for incredible scenic views of the city and Elaphiti Islands. A walk along the city walls is a must do. Enjoy your evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 21, Saturday: Dubrovnik

Check out is by 0900HRS. Say farewell to your crew and fellow travellers. For those of you returning home or travelling onwards you will be transferred to Dubrovnik Airport. We are sure you will have made many friends and have a wealth of memories to treasure and take home with you. Sretan Put. (B)



MS Rhapsody

Cruise Information

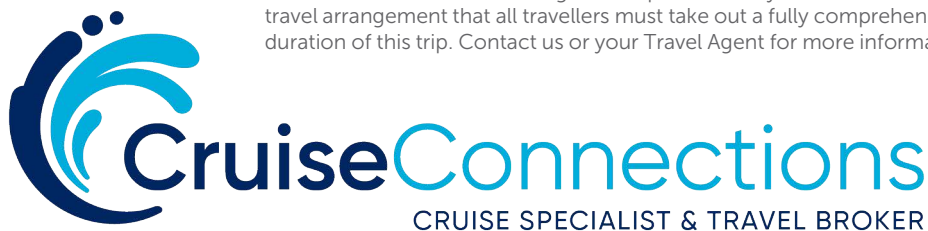
VIP Cabins are on the Upper Deck. Upper Deck Cabins are above the Main Deck. Lower Deck Cabins are in the hull of the ship, below the Main Deck. All cabins are allocated according to availability. Most port arrivals are in the late afternoon. Cruising time is approximately 4-5 hours a day. Guests are obliged to follow ship rules. Due to specific mooring conditions and requirements in some Croatian Ports, ships are moored side by side. This makes it necessary to cross from one ship to the other where there are gaps in between each ship. Special care must be taken at all times when crossing between the vessels and guests do this at their own risk. Crew assistance will be given to those needing and requesting it. View from cabin windows and balconies may be obstructed when moored in port and alongside other ships. Cruises are not recommended for those in wheelchairs or with limited mobility.

Booking Terms & Conditions

Deposits: Upon confirmation a non-refundable deposit of NZ\$1,500 per person is payable. **Final Payment:** Final payment is due no later than 90 days prior to departure from New Zealand. **Prices:** All prices are in NZ\$ based on twin share per person. Airfares and any costs not stated are not included. **Solo Travellers:** To guarantee a private room/cabin, solo travellers must book the 'single use' price. If you agree to share with another passenger of the same gender you will pay the 'twin share' price if available. **Group Size:** Tour & Cruise up to 25. Cruise only up to 38. Guaranteed departure based on minimum 10 guests. Additional cost will apply if group size is below minimum numbers.

Tour Arrangements: We reserve the right to alter the routing, change accommodation and services if required. The cruise operator reserves the right to alter the route due to weather or other conditions and cancel or change the ship if necessary. **Travel Insurance:** It is a requirement of this travel arrangement that all travellers must take out a fully comprehensive travel insurance for the full duration of this trip. Contact us or your Travel Agent for more information.

MS Rhapsody (2020) Capacity 38 passengers, A/C, 11 VIP Upper Deck Cabins with Private Balconies, 8 Lower Deck Cabins with ensuite, length 50m, width 8.63m, 220V, restaurant, bar, lounge, SAT TV, covered terrace, sun deck, jacuzzi, swimming platform.



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