



Exploring Adriatic: From Dubrovnik to Split, Private Gulet Cruise



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Dubrovnik

Welcome to Croatia! Upon arrival at Dubrovnik Airport, you will be welcomed by your chauffeur and have a private transfer to Hotel Villa Dubrovnik 5*, one of Croatia's most exclusive and most awarded boutique hotel. Prominently positioned on the cliffs above Dubrovnik's prestigious St. Jacob's beach, Villa Dubrovnik is minutes away from the fortified beauty of the Old City's cultural landmarks and a few steps from everything that Dubrovnik offers to its guests. With spectacular views of the Old City and the Island of Lokrum, Villa Dubrovnik provides exceptional service as it embodies contemporary luxury and refined elegance.

Settle in and enjoy the remainder of your first day in Croatia at leisure.

Hotel: Villa Dubrovnik 5*

Day 2 : Secrets of Dubrovnik Old Town – Private guided walking tour

After breakfast, meet up with your local guide and head on a pleasant walk through Dubrovnik Old Town. George Bernard Shaw was enchanted by this beautiful city, about which he said "those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik and see Dubrovnik", as well as, famously, describing it as "the pearl of the Adriatic". Dubrovnik truly is a stunning city with its amazing Old Town, which became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1979. A magnificent curtain of walls surrounds marble streets and baroque buildings that exude a pearly light in the Adriatic sun. The main pedestrian thoroughfare, Placa, is a mélange of cafés and shops with outstanding monuments at either end. Churches, monasteries and museums ornamented with finely carved stone recall an eventful history and a vibrant artistic tradition. After the tour (approx. 2,5hour long), enjoy exploring Dubrovnik on your own and the remainder of the day at your leisure.

In the late afternoon, you can explore the city walls, on your own.

Hotel: Villa Dubrovnik 5* Meals: breakfast

Day 3: Dubrovnik - Slano - Embark your yacht- Elaphite Archipelago

Check out of your hotel in the late morning hours. You can leave your luggage at hotel's storage room until your transfer to Slano. Meet with your private chauffeur and continue to Slano (approx. 35 km, or some 45 min long transfer) where you will board your Gulet Lauran by 5 pm.

Start your Adriatic sail and head toward Elaphite Archipelago. This picturesque archipelago in the vicinity of Dubrovnik comprises 13 islands, islets and rocks, all closely bound to Dubrovnik and its past. In Greek, "Elaphite" means Deer, which may either mean that there was deer on the islands once, or it is because the archipelago, on the map, somewhat resembles a deer in jumping motion. The Elaphites have always been the home of the captains and sailors of the Dubrovnik Republic, as well as the present day Dubrovnik. Regular traffic in Šipan allows for more exploration, to see the exemplary piece of the Dubrovnik Summer Residence architecture or savor some excellent local fish and seafood specialties. The rugged coast of each island is a web of rocks, caves, hidden beaches and coves, so you never have really to step foot on land if you prefer not to! Overnight in Šipan.

Meals: breakfast

Day 4 : Elaphite Archipelago – Mljet NP Island

Enjoy your morning at leisure, relaxing or exploring Elaphite Islands. Soak up the gentle sun and the scents of the Mediterranean while enjoying the view of fascinating, intact nature.

Afterwards, sail out toward the island of Mljet. Mljet is the most southerly and easterly of the larger Adriatic islands of the Dalmatia region of Croatia. The National Park is at the western part of the island, covering an area of 54 km², including Veliko jezero (The Great Lake), Malo jezero (The Small Lake), Soline Bay and a sea belt 500m wide from the most prominent cape of Mljet. The central parts of the park are Veliko jezero with the Isle of St. Mary, Malo jezero and the villages of Govedari (179 inhabitants), Polače (123 inhabitants) and Pomena (50 inhabitants). Leave your boat and explore Mljet National Park on your own.

Overnight in Polače Bay.

Day 5: Mljet – Korčula Island

After indulging yourself in a morning coffee on Mljet, sail toward the island of Korčula.

Leave your boat and explore the magical Korčula Old Town. The island of Korčula belongs to the central Dalmatian archipelago, separated from the Pelješac peninsula by a narrow strait of Pelješac. It is the sixth largest Adriatic island and second most populated island in Croatia, with 16,180 inhabitants. Korčula town is the main town on the island, famous for its medieval walls and a succession of narrow streets that branch off the spine of the main street like a fish bone, a shape that was used to reduce the effects of wind and sun, and provide citizens with sheltered and comfortable accommodation. The architecture of the Old Town is mainly influenced by Venetian Renaissance. A place well worth seeing also is the splendid St Mark's Cathedral built in the Gothic-Renaissance style, completed in 15th century and Marko Polo's alleged house of birth. Overnight in Korčula.

Day 6: Korčula Island – Hvar Island

Today sail toward Hvar Island.

Blessed with 2724 hours of sunshine every year, the lavender island of Hvar is called 'Croatian Madeira'.

The sunny days, the surrounding crystal blue waters with nearby seductive islands, ancient villages, lavender fields, olive farms and vineyards, enchanting stone streets and old Venetian palaces...And what a glorious arrival! A storybook bay filled with gleaming yachts, sailing gullets and simple working skiffs, all crowned with a cliff top Venetian fortress surrounded by lush pines.

Leave your boat and discover Hvar Old Town on your own.

Overnight in Hvar Bay or anchore in Palmizana Bay on Pakleni Islands.

Day 7: Hvar Island – Biševo – Vis

Leave Hvar Island in the morning and sail toward a small island of Biševo. Its area is 5.8 km, and it has only 19 inhabitants. The island has several caves, the most famous being the “Blue Cave”, which is accessible since 1884, and only by boat. It is 18 meters long, 6 meters deep and 6 meters high. The cave’s entrance is only 1.5 meters high and 2.5 meters wide. The interior is an indescribable intense blue colour due to rays of the sun which penetrate through a single crack in the rock. The lighting effects will be like no other you have ever experienced! Add to that the island's stunning nature and splendid sandy beaches, and it is little wonder all our guests leave Biševo short of breath at such wondrous sights! Because the cave is so small, we will disembark and use a smaller craft to actually visit the interior. Because the Blue Cave is such a magnet for visitors, access is managed by local port authorities and we may have to wait for some 30 minutes before being allowed in.



Afterwards continue towards the island of Vis, the destination of choice for those visitors who desire the experience of the unique, today largely lost, true Mediterranean atmosphere and way of life. A unique cultural and historical heritage, crystal clear sea; beautiful, secluded beaches, and many small coves and isles will leave you breathless. Vis is the most utterly lying larger Croatian island in the Adriatic Sea. Its turbulent history goes back to the time of Neolithic’s, through the Greek period to the time when Venice was governing the island. After the 2nd

WW it was closed to the public, due to its use as a military base for the Yugoslav army. After Croatia's independence, Vis today is an island proud of its limpid waters and protected submarine world, rich with sunken ships and magic marine images that have been hidden for years. Arrive in Vis Town in the afternoon and spend the night there.



Day 8: Vis – Pakleni Archipelgo

Enjoy your morning at lesiure and exploring Vis on your own.

Afterwards, sail toward Pakleni Archipelago. Pakleni Islands are located off the southwest coast of the island of Hvar, opposite the entrance to the Hvar town. The name is popularly translated as Hells' islands (pakleni: hellish), but it originally derives from paklina, an archaic word, from which pakleni too is derived, that means "tar", and in this case refers to the pine resin once used to coat ships that was harvested on these islands. Overnight in Palmižana.



Day 9: Pakleni Arhiplego – Šolta – Split

Sail out after breakfast toward the island of Šolta. “The island of olives” is one of the most beautiful in Croatia, known for its numerous beautiful bays, unspoiled natural environment, rocky coastline and charming rustic villages. Šolta has only a handful of villages--Grohote, in the center of the island, Maslinica, a fishing village, Rogač, the main ferry port, Nečujam, a tourist village and Stomorska, a fishing village. But with its 24 bays Šolta is the first port of call for a growing number of yachts and charter boats; while its pristine nature, spectacular rocky beaches and rugged terrain draw legions of nature lovers from all over the world. Although there are far less olive trees than there were centuries ago, the island is still considered by many to produce Croatia’s finest olive oil.

Overnight in Maslinica.



Day 10: Split

Treasures of Split and Trogir followed by exclusive 'behind the closed doors' lunch with chef Tatjana in Trogir

Disembark your boat by 10 am in Split.

Meet your private chauffeur for a transfer to Hotel Judita Palace 4* (if the rooms are not ready for early check in, your luggage will be stored by the time of check in)

A hotel for architecture lovers, it is an extensive four-story building. On each elevation the fundamental historical and cultural periods of medieval and modern Europe can be observed: Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance. The access to this spacious patrician home is through the internal court in which, even today, there is an old wellhead. The staircase leads to the upper floor that is reserved exclusively for guests of the Judita Palace Hotel. From the hotel balcony guests of the Judita Palace can enjoy amazing views of the old town.



Meet up with your local guide for a pleasant walk of Split's historical city center, markets, squares, authentic stores and shops. Split is one of the Adriatic's most amazing seaports and also Croatia's second-largest city. Diocletian's Palace, as the

ancient heart of Split, is one of the best-preserved Roman royal residences on the planet. Originally the palatial walled summer residence of the Emperor Diocletian, Split became a city after Salona, the Roman capital of Dalmatia just 6km north, was sacked in 7th Century. Fleeing refugees were given asylum inside the two-meter-thick walls of the palace and over the next 1000 years, the “city” of Split was such a safe haven, it never grew beyond the same walls that exist today! As a result, the remarkable ensemble of Roman, Gothic, Romanesque, Renaissance and other architectural remains are all still here—and so are more than 3,000 people still living inside these ancient walls.

But Split is more than its walled palace; it’s about enjoying the local way of life. After the tour of Split, continue with your guide and chauffeur to Trogir – UNESCO protected small islet town some 20 minutes long drive north from Split. After the tour of Split, continue with your guide and chauffeur to Trogir – UNESCO protected small islet town some 20 minutes long drive north from Split. Here you will be welcomed by your special host, Mrs. Tatjana Ciciliani, one of the most amazing and creative chefs in the region, published in the April 2014’s Saveur Magazine and 2015’s Andrew Zimmern’s Bizarre Foods show.

Where better to discover the secrets of Dalmatian cuisine than with one of the most creative, charismatic and charming chefs in the region, cooking within the walls of her 13th century palace home? Tatjana will bring the food, the philosophy of food, and the essence of Dalmatia to life, as she takes you on a journey of discovery and indulgence of your senses.

After lunch with Tatjana in her home, return transfer to Split. Enjoy your evening at leisure.

Hotel: Judita Palace 4* Meals: breakfast, lunch with wine



Day 11: Split

Enjoy your day at leisure, exploring Split on your own.

Hotel: Judita Palace 4* Meals: breakfast

Day 12: Fly home

Check out after breakfast, meet your private chauffeur for a transfer to Split Airport.

Meals: breakfast

The sailing route is a suggestion only and the final route will be finalized directly on spot with your crew, based on the weather and sea conditions, your preferences and interests.