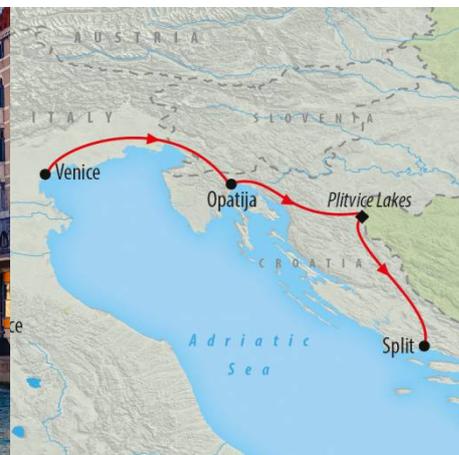


Venice to Split

4 Days | Venice to Split



From Venice discover the coastal town of Opatija and the glorious Plitvice Lakes before ending in stunning Split in time to start your Croatian sailing cruise.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Opatija - discover the delights of this beautiful 19th-century seaside resort on the Kvarner Riviera
- Plitvice Lakes - take a scenic walk through this stunning national park which consists of 16 crystalline lakes all connected by a series of cascades and waterfalls
- Split - uncover the highlights of this vibrant and historic port city on the Dalmatian Coast
- Venice - explore this beautiful canal city independently

What's Included

- Guided sightseeing in Opatija, Plitvice Lakes and Split
- Transportation in a private air conditioned vehicle
- Arrival transfer from hotels in the Venice area (excluding Venice Island hotels) or from Venice Airports (Marco Polo or

Treviso), Santa Lucia Train Station or Tronchetto Bus Station

- 3 nights 4 star accommodation
- 3 breakfasts and 1 dinner

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Entrance fees to sites, other than those listed
- Tip for your tour guides.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Venice



Wednesday. Venice - Opatija. Upon arrival into Venice international airport or Venice train station you will be met and transferred by road to the attractive coastal resort of Opatija on the Croatian Riviera. A transfer is also offered at 11am from Tronchetto Bus Station or from hotels in the Venice area (excluding Venice Island). After hotel check-in there's

free time to relax before dinner this evening.

Overnight - Opatija (D)

Day 2 : Opatija



This morning we have a short guided tour of Opatija, a famous summer and winter resort of the 19th century Austro-Hungarian elite such as Wilhelm II, Franz Josef, Gustav Mahler and Isadora Duncan, which is dotted with stunning Hapsburg era villas. Learn about the rich history of Opatija as we explore the town with our guide, taking in its beautiful architecture, parks and fountains. We'll pass the beautiful Villa Angiolina and while strolling along Lungomare promenade we'll see the Croatian Walk of Fame, inspired by the Hollywood Walk of Fame, which honours famous Croatians in fields ranging from science to sport. The rest of the day is free for you to continue exploring the town or head to the beach to enjoy some rest and relaxation. **Overnight - Opatija (B)**

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Day 3 : Plitvice Lakes



Opatija - Plitvice Lakes - Split. We bid farewell to Opatija this morning and travel to the spectacular Plitvice Lakes National Park. This stunning national park consists of 16 lakes all connected by a series of waterfalls. Discover the beautiful scenery on a 3 hour walk across walkways and around the turquoise blue waters. Later we'll enjoy a boat ride on Kozjak Lake, the largest and lowest lake in the national park. After experiencing this pristine setting we take a street train back to the entrance.

Departing Plitvice Lakes we continue our journey to Split and arrive in the early evening. After hotel check-in spend the rest of the evening at leisure in this vibrant city, where you can enjoy a taste of Dalmatian life.

Overnight - Split (B)

Day 4 : Split



Saturday. This morning we enjoy a guided tour of Split including the Diocletian Palace, originally built as a retirement palace in the 4th century for the Roman Emperor, the remaining architecture forms roughly half of the old town of Split. In 1979 the historical old town of Split was granted World Heritage status by Unesco. We return to our hotel later this morning before checking out. (B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Hotel Palace Bellevue

Ideally situated just a stone's throw from the beach Hotel Palace Bellevue is an ideal base for a relaxing stay in Opatija. The hotel, housed in a beautiful historical building, boasts a blend of tradition and modernity with amenities such as flat screen TV's and an indoor swimming pool. The bedrooms are decorated in subtle pastel colours and luxurious furnishings with private ensuite bathrooms. A large terrace offers al fresco dining during the evening.



Hotel Bristol

The Hotel Bristol has been carefully restored to its former glory. This hotel is set in an imposing building of imperial Austro-Hungarian architecture, looking out across Angiolina Park to the Adriatic Sea. Spacious, bright and well decorated rooms offer free wifi and ensuite facilities. The restaurant serves delicious local and international dishes on a terrace with a stunning view.



Hotel Cornaro

A seamless fusion of traditional and modern, Hotel Cornaro is well known for its professional and friendly service, with an enviable location right in the heart of the city. Diocletian's Palace and the Split City Museum are a 2 and 8 minute walk from the

hotel, respectively. The rooms are stylishly decorated with large beds and elegant furnishings and flat screen TV's. At this hotel you'll find an inviting rooftop bar which offers wine tasting of local Croatian wines.



Our partners

This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers who booked through different operators, not solely On The Go.

The sightseeing group may vary in size from 2 – 38 persons.

Joining arrangements on day 1

If arriving into Venice by train or air on day 1 you will be met by our representative carrying a sign with your name on it.

If you are already in Venice and staying at one of the Mestre hotels a transfer will be arranged at 11am in front of the hotel. Please note that transfers are NOT included from hotels on Venice island. If you are staying at a hotel on Venice Island you will need to make your own way to Tronchetto Bus Station (address: Isola Nova del Tronchetto, 33, 30135 Venezia, Italia) at 10.45am for an 11am departure. The exact meeting place will be the People Mover Terminal at Tronchetto Station. Please look for a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months

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from your planned date of departure from Croatia.

UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and USA passport holders don't require a visa for a stay of less than 90 days.

South African passport holders REQUIRE a visa (issued before departure). Requirements for the procurement of a Croatian visa are subject to change but application requirements include the need to show proof of sufficient funds to cover duration of stay, proof of pre-paid accommodation or documentation regarding the purpose and means of travel (such as a return or onward ticket, details of holiday arrangement etc).

Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Croatia from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Diphtheria, Hepatitis A and Tetanus is strongly recommended. The tap water in Croatia is generally considered safe to drink, but as a precaution against stomach upsets you may want to drink bottled mineral water, which is readily available from shops, hotels and restaurants.

Holiday Money

The official currency in Croatia is the Croatian Kuna.

Any money paid locally for optional excursions that you may wish to partake in can be paid in local currency only - Kuna.

If travelling with Euro, British Pounds, US Dollars and other major currencies these can be exchanged locally or in advance of departure. Internationally recognized debit/credit card can be used for cash machine withdrawals (available in all bigger towns). It's advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended as they're often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

Time & Voltage

Croatia is 1 hour ahead of Greenwich Meantime (GMT). From the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October, Croatia observes Daylight Saving and is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Standard voltage is 220 volts, AC 50Hz. Primary sockets generally require European plugs, of the two round pin variety. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

Croatia is a northern hemisphere destination with Mediterranean and continental climatic conditions. The continental climate is predominant with hot summers and cold winters. Along the Adriatic coast, dry summers are experienced with mild winters. Our cruises operate during the Croatian summer, when temperatures are generally high (particularly from June through September), so pack sunscreen and a hat, as the sun can be strong.

Croatia Country Guide

Croatia: Fact File

Official Name: Republic of Croatia

Capital: Zagreb

Population: 4.5 million

Total Area: 56,542 square kilometres

Official Languages: Croatian (others Serbian, Italian, Slovenian, Hungarian, Czech) English is widely spoken in the main cities, If you tour also spends time in smaller towns and villages you may wish to bring along a phrasebook to help you pick up a few words of the local language.

Religion: Roman Catholic 88%, Orthodox 4.4%, Muslim 1.3%

Voltage: 220-240V. Sockets are of European two pronged round pin variety.

Time Difference: GMT/UTC + 1. For all time differences please visit www.timeanddate.com

Croatia: Brief History

Croatia was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until the end of World War I. In 1918, the Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes formed a kingdom known as Yugoslavia. Following World War II, Yugoslavia became a federal

independent Communist state under the strong hand of Marshal TITO. Although Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, it took four years of sporadic, but often bitter, fighting before occupying Serb armies were mostly cleared from Croatian lands. Under UN supervision, the last Serb-held enclave in eastern Slavonia was returned to Croatia in 1998.

Croatia: Geography and weather

Croatia is situated in southeastern Europe, bordering the Adriatic Sea, between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia. Geographically diverse, the country has flat plains along the Hungarian border, low mountains and highlands near Adriatic coastline and islands. The climate is predominantly continental with hot summers and cold winters, although the coast is more Mediterranean with mild winters and dry summers.

Croatia: Visas

Many nationalities (including citizens of the UK, Australia, Canada, the US and EU citizens) do not need a visa to enter Croatia or Slovenia. However, visitors must hold an onward ticket, all documents required for their next destination and sufficient funds. If your nationality is not listed please consult your nearest Croatian consulate before you travel.

Croatia: Money

Croatia: Money

Prices quoted in this country dossier are in euros unless otherwise specified.

ALL prices mentioned are for guidance only and are subject to change.

Local currency

The monetary unit in Croatia is the kuna (HRK). For up to date exchange rates with your own currency visit www.oanda.com or www.xe.com. You might find kuna difficult to obtain overseas, however it should be no problem to change currency on arrival

Changing money, credit cards & ATMs

The easiest way to obtain money in Croatia is to draw it out of an ATM (cash machine) on a credit or debit card (e.g. visa or cirrus). ATMs

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are widely available throughout Croatia and credit cards are accepted in many restaurants and shops. Another option is to bring cash, in either US dollars or euros (pounds sterling and other currencies cannot always be easily changed) but we advise against bringing all your money in this form, in case of theft. In all of the cities that we visit there are many places to change money and your tour leader will be able to show you where to get the best rates of exchange.

Tipping

In a restaurant, round up the bill unless a service charge has already been added or the service was not up to standard. You should also round up bar bills and taxi fares.

Croatia: Optional excursions

A full list of the main excursions available on each tour can be found in the daily itinerary on these trip notes. All prices given are approximate and are subject to change due to local inflation or exchange rates.

Croatia: Security

Most people find Croatia a very friendly and safe and feel quite comfortable wandering around alone during the day. However, as with any area you are not familiar with (particularly in the capital cities) it is recommended that you exercise more caution at night especially if you are a lone female.

Croatia: Local food and drink

Some breakfasts are included in your tour. Breakfasts can be basic so if you tend to get hungry it may be a good idea to buy some fruit or snacks to eat during the day. All other meals, extra snacks and drinks on the tour are at your own expense.

Ask your tour leader if they can recommend any restaurants in the area to suit your taste or budget or have fun exploring independently.

Food

Croatian specialities include Dalmatian or Istrian prosciutto, Pag or Lika cheese, sheep's cheese, Slavonian paprika-flavoured salami ("kulen" and Samobor or Zagorje garlic sausages). There is also a wide selection of meat dishes, including turkey with a special pasta known as "mlinci",

roast lamb, roast suckling pig, and boiled or baked "#trukli" (pasta with cheese). Croatian vineyards produce reasonable wine – particularly red and you will almost certainly come across plum brandy, a national favourite.

Drink

All drinks such as bottled water or soft drinks are at your own expense at all times and are fairly inexpensive. Alcoholic drinks vary in price, with wine and beer generally being the cheapest options.

Croatia: National holidays

1 January - New Year's Day

6 January - Epiphany; Easter Sunday & Easter Monday

1 May - Labour Day; Corpus Christi

22 June - Anti-Fascist Resistance Day

25 June - Statehood Day

5 August - Victory Day and National Thanksgiving Day

15 August - Assumption Day

8 October - Independence Day

1 November - All Saints' Day

25-26 December - Christmas Holidays

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