

# Croatia Island Express

## 6 Days | Dubrovnik to Split



*CRUISE HOLIDAY: Setting off from the walled city of Dubrovnik, this express tour takes in the stunning islands of Korcula and Hvar before arriving in UNESCO-listed Split. Swim at the secluded Pakleni Islands and relax on Zlatni Rat beach and enjoy plenty of free time relax, explore and soak up the sun.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Dubrovnik - Discover the charming walled city independently or opt for a guided tour
- Korcula - Take in the narrow streets of the quaint medieval town which was also the birthplace of the legendary explorer Marco Polo
- Hvar - Choose to see the Renaissance cathedral on a guided tour or relax in a wine bar at leisure
- Pakleni Islands - Swim in the turquoise waters of the Adriatic and relax on the secluded beaches
- Split - Stop for a swim en route to the UNESCO-listed town where you can join a guided tour of sites including Diocletian's Palace

- Brac - Relax on the most famous beach in Dalmatia as you soak up the sun on Zlatni Rat beach

#### What's Included

- Continental breakfast daily and 4 (3-course) lunches
- 5 nights accommodation aboard a 'Traditional En suite Ship' - A/C en-suite cabins with bunk beds (see Trip Notes for further details about ship category inclusions)
- 5 days sailing off the Dalmatian Coast in the Adriatic Sea
- Opportunities to swim, snorkel and soak up the sun
- Services of captain and onboard crew
- Complimentary WiFi onboard
- 2 towels for personal use
- Linen and bedding
- Most port taxes and visitor fees
- Onboard water dispenser
- Below deck cabin (option to upgrade to upper/main deck available)

#### What's Not Included

- Tip for your crew. We recommend you allow EUR 5-10 per day, per traveller. Tipping is an entirely personal gesture
- International flights and visas.
- Port tax of EUR 40 per traveller, to be paid upon check-in, in cash

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Dubrovnik



Monday. Welcome to the charming walled city of Dubrovnik! Check-in commences after 14:00. There's free time to explore the city independently, stroll along Stradun Main Street or head to the top of the city walls for some great views.

You may wish to join an optional guided tour of the city, or take a ride on the cable car to Srd Mountain. From the summit you can enjoy spectacular views of the Old Town, which starred in the hit TV show Game of Thrones. The evening is free in the city, before we set off tomorrow.

#### Overnight - Dubrovnik - onboard

#### Day 2 : Sipan or Trstenik

Dubrovnik - Sipan or Trstenik. This morning is free to relax onboard or wander back into Dubrovnik to further independently explore.

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We then cruise to either Sipan island or Trstenik. Sipan was a popular getaway for wealthy Dubrovnik families in the 15th century and there are many sprawling palaces on the island. The beaches are always quiet so it's a fantastic place to relax and soak up some sun.

If we head to the pretty harbour town of Trstenik, then you can expect to see beautiful coves and unspoiled beaches. This quaint fishing village is located on the tip of the stunning Peljesac Peninsula and there are plenty of waterfront bars and restaurants for you to relax in. There's time for a swim in the afternoon and we may be able to visit a local winery.

**Overnight - Sipan or Trstenik - onboard** (B, L)

## Day 3 : Korcula



Sipan or Trstenik - Korcula. After breakfast, we set off for the island of Korcula and the town of the same name, arriving shortly after lunch. Korcula is famous for being the birthplace of the legendary merchant, explorer and writer, Marco Polo. The ancient walls of the town remind many travellers of Dubrovnik and the old town is very well preserved and full of architectural delights, including palaces and museums.

There's an optional tour of the town and you can join a visit to a local winery. Alternatively, feel free to explore the narrow streets at your own pace and find a scenic seafront restaurant for dinner.

**Overnight - Korcula - onboard** (B, L)

## Day 4 : Pakleni Islands & Hvar



Korcula - Pakleni Islands - Hvar. We cruise to the pristine and secluded Pakleni Islands, home to lush pine forests and crystal-clear waters. Enjoy lunch with a view and swim in the turquoise waters of the Adriatic before we continue to Hvar, famous for its sunshine, lavender and wine.

There's an optional sightseeing tour of Hvar town to see the amazing Renaissance cathedral, and the evening is free to relax in a bar or explore at leisure.

**Overnight - Hvar - onboard** (B, L)

## Day 5 : Brac & Split



Hvar - Brac - Split. Today we enjoy a visit to the most famous beach in Dalmatia, Zlatni Rat. The beach is located near the village of Bol, on Brac Island. After time to relax and explore this incredible setting we begin the final leg of our journey to Split, stopping for a swim in a secluded bay en route.

There's an optional tour of UNESCO-listed Split on arrival, including the mighty Diocletian's Palace. The final evening of your holiday is free to explore Split your way.

**Overnight - Split - onboard** (B, L)

## Day 6 : Split



Saturday. Our Croatian cruising adventure comes to an end today after breakfast.

(B)

## Visitor's Tax & Port Fees

Visitor's tax and port fees are not included and must be paid on arrival in cash at a cost of EUR40 per person.

## Ship and cabin category options

### TRADITIONAL ENSUITE SHIP:

Wooden ship, air-conditioned cabins with private shower/toilet - mostly bunk beds.

**Included services:** Continental breakfasts, three course lunches, water dispenser, complimentary Wi-Fi on board.

### PREMIUM SHIP:

Premium steel hulled vessels with modern traditional look. Accommodation in air-conditioned, spacious en-suite cabins with double or twin beds, hair dryer and safety deposit box. Ships are from 29 to 35m in length with cabins 8 to 14m<sup>2</sup> in size.

**Included services:** Hot and cold buffet breakfasts, three course lunches with salad and cheese bar, drink with lunch, Captain's dinner with live music, dinner in a typical Croatian setting, English speaking tour manager on board, guided tour in Dubrovnik, daily cabin service, mid-week fresh set of towels and bed linen, luggage handling, olive oil and wine tasting on board, afternoon tea and coffee, water dispenser, complimentary Wi-Fi.

### PREMIUM PLUS SHIP:

Premium superior vessels are recently built mini deluxe vessels featuring similar comfort

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– 38 to 41m in length. Air-conditioned cabins are 8 to 14m<sup>2</sup> in size with double or twin beds, hair dryer and safety deposit box.

**Included services:** Hot and cold buffet breakfasts, three course lunches with salad and cheese bar, drink with lunch, Captain's dinner with live music, dinner in a typical Croatian setting, English speaking tour manager on board, guided tours in Dubrovnik, Korcula and Hvar Town, daily cabin service, mid-week fresh set of towels and bed linen, luggage handling, olive oil and wine tasting on board, afternoon tea and coffee, water dispenser available, complimentary Wi-Fi, luggage handling.

## Life onboard

Luggage?

You will need to use a large holdall or rucksack rather than a suitcase due to limited space in the cabins.

What will I eat?

Aboard the cruise, Continental breakfast and lunch are provided. Continental breakfast will comprise tea or coffee, fruit juice, bread, butter and preserves, plus cold cuts and cheeses. Lunch will include a starter of home-made soup or pasta and a main course comprising either fish, meat or chicken with a minimum of two sides (potatoes, cabbage, other vegetables) and side salad and dessert. Dessert will be either seasonal fruits or perhaps pancakes. All menus are designed and cooked by the on board cook.

Is there a bar onboard?

A bar operates on board all boats. Prices are in line with those one will pay in port at bars/cafes for beers, wines, basic spirits, mixers, soft drinks and bottled mineral water. Since there is a bar aboard, it is not possible to consume personal supplies of alcohol or beverages not purchased aboard. If you were found to be flouting this rule, you would be asked to consume such personal supplies when ashore. The same would happen if you were drinking BYO drinks in a hotel lobby - you'd be asked to consume the drink(s) beyond the confines of the hotel.

Can I smoke onboard?

Smoking is restricted to outside only – On deck.

## Optional excursions and extras

Below are some optional extras and tours available locally (booked and paid locally in Croatia Kuna only, prices are subject to change). There are many others and the full list is available on board your ship.

- English breakfast supplement: EUR 40/person - includes 2 eggs, bacon, tomato and mushrooms, or fruit and yoghurt or similar. Premium and Premium Plus boats include a cooked breakfast.

- Captain's dinner: EUR25/person - your choice of fish or meat menu – prepared in each ship's own style/specialty. A Captain's dinner is included on Premium and Premium Plus boats.

- Extra Towels: Two towels are provided on Traditional Ships weekly. Extra towels can be rented for EUR3 and beach towels EUR5 per week per towel. Beach towels can also be purchased on arrival for EUR10.

- Daily Cabin Cleaning: EUR15 per person per week - daily cabin servicing, fresh bed linen and towels midweek.

**GAME OF THRONES TOUR IN DUBROVNIK - 2 hours EUR27 per person**

On this tour, you will be taken through all the parts of the Old City where some of the most memorable scenes from the ongoing cultural phenomenon were filmed.

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### Our local partner

**This cruise is operated by a trusted partner and you will join travellers who booked through different operators, not solely On The Go.**

### What to pack

Our Croatia cruises are casual and there is no dress code. We recommend packing a comfortable pair of walking shoes and some footwear that is suitable for the beach/sea

because the beaches in Croatia are pebbly (not sandy). Casual cotton clothes, sandals, sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat and swimwear are a must. The average temperature during July and August is 28 °C. Be sure to bring some clothing for possible cooler evenings (e.g. a jacket and some trousers) for spring and autumn departures. Fishing equipment, scuba diving masks etc. are available onboard, but in limited quantities. You can bring your own or buy it at places along the route.

## Dietary requirements

The cuisine on board our cruises is a combination of Mediterranean and international cuisine, with traditional Croatian dishes, and includes seafood typical of the region. Please let us know as early as possible if you any dietary requirements to enable the chef to make every reasonable effort to accommodate your dietary needs. If you have not already made us aware of your dietary requirements, please contact us immediately and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

## Food on board

Food on the vessels is similar to traditional Croatian food. Deluxe Superior, Deluxe, Premium Plus and Premium category vessels include a hot and cold buffet breakfast. Traditional En suite & Traditional category vessels include a continental breakfast which consists of tea and coffee, fruit juice, bread, butter, jam, and eventually ham and cheese. If you want an English breakfast, it is possible pay for it locally.

All Deluxe vessels include four course lunches with drink, all Premium & Traditional vessels have three course lunches. A typical lunch could include a starter of home-made soup or pasta and a main course comprising either fish, meat or chicken with a minimum of two sides (potatoes, cabbage, other vegetables), a side salad and dessert. Dessert is often seasonal fruits or perhaps pancakes Dinner is not included because we encourage you to explore local restaurants.

Passengers are not permitted to bring food and drinks aboard the boat. This includes

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all drinks and food products purchased on shore in ports of call. The only exceptions are personal care products, liquid medicine, food products specifically for infants and food products for special diets. Typical regional products purchased during visits to the ports will be stored onboard and returned to passengers at the end of the cruise.

## Captain's dinner

Once a week there is a "Captain's dinner" on board with a meat or fish menu, which is a chance for guests and the crew to get together. The Captain's dinner is included on all Deluxe and Premium vessels. For Traditional En suite & Traditional vessels the "Captain's dinner" can be booked and paid for locally. The dress code is Smart Casual.

## Drinks on board

A bar operates on board all boats. Prices are in line with those one will pay in port at bars/cafes for beers, wines, basic spirits, mixers, soft drinks and bottled mineral water. Since there is a bar aboard, it is not possible to consume personal supplies of alcohol or beverages not purchased aboard.

Even though the tap water on board is of good quality, we would not recommend you drink it. 1 liter of water is provided per guest per day and further bottles are available for sale on the vessel

Drinks purchased from the vessel bar can be paid in EUR or KN. You will get a daily record of drinks consumed from previous day and can pay for all drinks at the end of the cruise. On all Deluxe and Premium vessel categories you can pay by credit card.

## Electricity & WiFi

Standard European sockets are used throughout Croatia (Type F) - 2 pins, grounded, 16 A, 220 V. Sockets are compatible with plug types - C, E & F.

The ships have free WiFi board but it is not as speedy as you might have at home because it's connected via satellite.

## Families

On occasion family groups, including parents with children may form part of your sailing

group. If you specifically do not wish to travel with one or two children onboard, please let us know at time of booking so we can aim to make the necessary arrangements of your request.

## Tipping

We believe that tips should reflect good service and your satisfaction with the guide/cruise manager, crew and overall tour. Crew gratuities are equally distributed among the crew. Tipping is voluntary and completely at your discretion. Your own currency or Croatian Kuna is acceptable.

As a suggestion we recommend that you budget the following -

- Crew (all ship services and assistance with luggage): EUR 5-10 per person per day
- Cruise Manager: EUR 2-5 per person per day
- Local guides (if applicable): EUR 1-2 (10-15 KN per half day of sightseeing)
- Restaurants & Cafes: If not included, tip 10%-15% of the check, depending on the quality of service
- Taxis: Tip up to 10% of the fare (We recommend you book taxis via your tour/cruise manager and pre-negotiate taxi fares to avoid unpleasant surprises at the end of the journey)

Tipping is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

## Currency & payments

Even though Croatia joined the EU in July 2013, the main currency accepted is the Croatian Kuna. Where possible, exchange your money in a bank or retrieve money from an ATM.

Port fees and visitor's tax (included on Deluxe & Deluxe Superior ships) must be paid locally in cash only (KN or EUR), but all extra services such as transfers, excursions, drinks on board can be paid in local currency KUNA or by credit card (Visa or MasterCard). Please note that it is not possible to pay by credit card on traditional and traditional en-suite category ships.

Most major towns and islands in Croatia such as Opatija, Dubrovnik, Split etc. will have ATMs that are linked to international networks; however, smaller towns may not have ATM facilities available. Credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard are widely recognised and are accepted in most tourist areas; however, it is always wise to have a small amount of cash if you are travelling off the beaten path.

## Captain's call

The captain has the right to change the scheduled route at any point in time to ensure the safety of all travellers and to ensure the cruiser stays on schedule. Changes may become necessary due to weather, sea conditions, port regulations or any other reason.

Please note that all boats have an onboard motor which they tend to use for the majority of the time, rather than the sails.

## Smoking

Smoking in the restaurant area and in the cabins is not allowed. Smoking is permitted on deck but passengers must not throw cigarette butts in the sea.

## Croatia Country Guide

### Visas and passports

Visa requirements are subject to change and visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Visa requirements are subject to change, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the Croatian Embassy before travel. For information about visas, head to [www.onthegotours.com/Croatia/Visas](http://www.onthegotours.com/Croatia/Visas)

Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Croatia.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book all services.

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## Essential packing

Please check local temperatures so you can pack accordingly. Visit [www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com)

- Lightweight cotton garments in summer, warm clothing for Spring and Autumn (temperatures can get quite low at night)
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Universal travel adaptor
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- First aid kit including Dioralyte
- Tour Voucher and a copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume, torch and money belt
- Either a rucksack or suitcase is suitable. A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- A towel for swimming/showering (unless stated as included under the Trip Notes 'Inclusions' section on page one of these Trip Notes)

## Health requirements and water

You should seek medical advice for vaccinations and about medications before travelling.

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.

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