

Croatia Family – Dalmatian Coast



Trip Summary

Once overlooked, Croatia has quickly reclaimed its reputation as one of Europe's must-see destinations. Renowned for its crystal-clear coves, wooded islands, vineyard-clad hills and picturesque harbor towns, the Dalmatian Coast is an adventurer's paradise.

Itinerary

Day 1: Hvar Town

We meet in the morning in Split before we ferry to beautiful Hvar Island, disembarking at the quaint harbor town of Stari Grad, home to the fortified Tvrđalj castle, the impressively restored Bianchini Palace and a Dominican monastery • Mount up and pedal to Jelsa, admiring the octagonal Renaissance Church of Saint John and the turquoise, pine-fringed waters of Mina Bay and Grebišće • Continue on to Vrboska, also known as "Little Venice" for its plethora of small bridges • Explore the 16th century church of Saint Mary of Charity and the Renaissance works of Veronese and Bassano at the Church of Saint Lawrence • Finish your ride in Hvar, whose long waterfront promenade, yacht-lined quays, traffic-free marble streets and tasteful harbor-front bars and cafés offer the perfect retreats for relaxing and people-watching • Explore beautifully ornamented Gothic palaces, a Franciscan cloister and a historic Arsenal before climbing to a Spanish Fort for spectacular views of the city at sunset • This evening we gather for a festive welcome dinner • *Overnight at Hotel Adriana (L, D)*

Day 2: Hvar Town

This morning we set off to explore the peaceful Pakleni Otoci Islands by sea kayak • Scattered off the southwest coast of Hvar and blanketed in low pine forest, the archipelago originally derived its name from the native *paklina*, a pine resin once used as a ship sealant • Paddle the idyllic bays of Marinkovac Island and savor the ubiquitous scent of pine, lavender and rosemary as you coast along the sandy beach at Sv Klement Island • This evening enjoy a cooking class and dinner at a local restaurant, and try your hand at a Croatian specialty such as *čevapčići* (spiced sausages) with ajvar sauce, mussels and black risotto • *Overnight at Hotel Adriana (B, L, D)*

Day 3: Korčula Town

Travel by private boat from Hvar Town to Vela Luka on Korčula Island for a day of biking • Set on a tiny peninsula on the Pelješac channel, Korčula was first home to Slavic pirates who used the island as a base from which to attack passing ships; in the year 1000 it was taken over by Venice, marking the start of an 800-year on-and-off Venetian rule • Today, the island is renowned for its gorgeous, white quarried stone, countless secluded bays, small, uninhabited islands and breathtaking views • Make a stop in Smokvica to enjoy lunch as a group • Explore several small villages on today's ride, which culminates in the medieval walled town of Korčula, whose Old Quarter boasts a harmonious mix of 15th century Gothic and 16th century Renaissance trimmings • Visit the home of Marco Polo, Saint Mark's Cathedral with paintings by Tintoretto, the Town Museum, and the Byzantine Icon Museum • Feast on some fresh and authentic Croatian seafood tonight at Restaurant Riblji • *Overnight at Hotel Liburna (B, L, D)*



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Day 4: Korčula Town

Travel by private boat to Pelješac Peninsula, home to two of Croatia's best wines, the hearty Dingač and Postup reds • Hike the trails and forests along the narrow peninsula, affording fine views of the crystal-clear, blue-green waters of the sea bordered by cypresses • Visit the fifteenth century Franciscan Monastery and admire the votive gifts which for centuries were donated by sailors after being saved from shipwreck, storms or pirates • Fuel up at a group lunch in a very special place before descending into the town Orebič for our boat ride back to Korčula • Why not swim in the Adriatic from the beach near the hotel? • Dinner this evening is on your own • *Overnight at Hotel Liburna (B, L)*

Day 5: Korčula Town

Today we start with an exciting buggy safari heading for Lumbarda beach • Follow your guides along the coastal gravel roads above Lumbarda and Žrnovo villages, pausing to admire the spectacular views and to swim and snorkel in two hidden bays • Admire the tranquil waters and look for wildlife as you enjoy lunch on the boat • The adults can enjoy a wine tasting before making your way back to Korčula Town by bike • This evening we gather for a delectable farewell dinner • *Overnight at Hotel Liburna (B, L, D)*

Day 6: Dubrovnik

Enjoy one last breakfast before you are transferred to the Dubrovnik airport or Dubrovnik town • Most will opt to spend a night in Dubrovnik to explore its picturesque town center which has been named a UNESCO World Heritage Site • *No overnight (B)*

**Trip itineraries are subject to change without notice due to road, weather and other factors outside of our control, for the safety and enjoyment of our guests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by Austin Adventures.*

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Activities

Biking: 8-31 miles, moderate to challenging terrain

Walking/hiking: 1-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain

Kayaking: Calm waters, no experience necessary

Other activities: Swimming, snorkeling, buggy driving, cooking class, wine tasting

Discovery: Renowned for its crystal-clear coves, wooded islands, vineyard-clad hills and picturesque harbor towns, the Dalmatian Coast is an adventurer's paradise. Explore the sun-drenched town of Split, a treasure trove where you can discover which walls date back to Roman times. Its palace was built for the Roman emperor Diocletian as a retirement home. Marvel at Hvar Town's magnificent Venetian architecture, including the Arsenal which once served as a repair station for war galleons and in 1612 the Renaissance Theater was built on top of it. Sea kayak the peaceful waters around the Pakleni Otoci islands. Climb the historic walls of the ancient port city of Dubrovnik, which for so many centuries, was an independent republic and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. If you look closely, you will discover damage from the mortar shells during the recent Yugoslavian civil war (1991-92).

Austin Adventures guides are experienced facilitators and regional experts. They will take the time to explain the details of each activity, answer any questions, and demonstrate the use of all equipment. Each activity has been carefully planned to include options for all levels.

Distinctive Accommodation

Nights 1 & 2: Adriana

Perched on a marina overlooking the city center of Hvar, the Hotel Adriana is Croatia's first and only member of The Leading Small Hotels of the World. Deluxe rooms, a rooftop salt-water pool, spectacular lounge, garden terraces and Sensori Spa make the Adriana a perfect place to unwind after an active day.

Nights 3 – 5: Hotel Liburna

Recently renovated, the four-star Hotel Liburna on the island of Korcula boasts an outdoor pool, tennis courts, wellness center and fitness center. Spacious, comfortable and a short stroll from the center of town.

Meals

The hallmark of an Austin Adventures vacation is our exceptional dining. All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions are included as indicated by itinerary. (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner). Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities are not included in the trip price.



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Arrival & Departures

Prior to the trip, arrive at your own convenience in Split. On Day 1, we will meet you in the lobby of Hotel Park in Split at 7:30 a.m. (or at the ferry at 8:00 a.m. if you are staying at a different hotel).

After a two-hour ferry ride to Stari Grad on Hvar Island, the cycling begins. After breakfast on Day 6, we take you to the hotel of your choice in Dubrovnik (2.5-hour transfer) or the Dubrovnik airport (3 hour transfer).

Trip Price

\$3,598 (\$680 single supplement)

Children: \$2,878 to \$3,238

Trip Length

6 days/5 nights

2020 Dates

June 6 - 11

June 20 - 25

July 4 - 9

July 25 - 30

August 8 - 13

August 29 - September 3

Host City

Begin: Split, Croatia (SPU)

End: Dubrovnik, Croatia (DBV)

Reservations & Availability

1-800-575-1540

*Come explore the Pearl of the
Mediterranean*

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Trip Reservations

Reservations, Deposits and Balances Due

To make a reservation, contact Austin Adventures with your choice of trip and dates. A \$500 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation. **Some Custom and International programs may require additional deposits.** Full payment is required at the time of booking if your trip departs within 90 days. Choose one of the following contact methods:

Toll free: 800-575-1540

Phone: 406-655-4591

Online: austinadventures.com

Email: reservations@austinadventures.com

Mail: Austin Adventures, P.O. Box 81025, Billings, MT 59108

* You may also book your Austin Adventure with your preferred travel professional.

** We accept most major credit cards and personal checks (U.S. funds made payable to Austin Adventures). Please do not send cash.

Included in the Trip Price

- Double occupancy rooms with private baths.
- All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions.
- Fully trained, first-aid certified professional guides and knowledgeable local partners.
- Any necessary equipment – all safe and well maintained.
- Vehicle support and land transportation during the trip.
- Austin Adventures T-shirt, water bottle, luggage tags and luggage service.
- Pre-departure and packing information.
- Incidental expenses such as taxes, dining and housekeeping gratuities, local partner and expert gratuities and national park entrance and permit fees.

Not Included in the Trip Price

- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides.
- Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities.
- One dinner during trip.
- Pre-and post-trip accommodations and associated expenses.
- Air and land transportation to/from host cities.
- All types of personal insurance.
- Personal expenses.

Pre-departure Information

After receiving your reservation and deposit, we'll send you a pre-trip planner with general information about the area you'll be visiting, a packing list, exercise guidelines, a guest information questionnaire and a liability release agreement for you to sign and return within 10 days.



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Private Custom Trips

Maybe your vacation schedule doesn't fit our list of trips and dates. Or perhaps you'd prefer a slightly different itinerary or level of luxury and activity. A Custom Adventure is the perfect answer. You pick the date and destination and brief us on the size of your group, what activities you want, your "must haves" and just how you like to relax and unwind. No detail is too small, no idea too outrageous. Our staff of experts will help create a tailor-made vacation that's just right for you and your group. In short, if you can dream it, we can make it happen.

Solo Travelers

All trip prices are based on double occupancy. Single rooms are available for an additional charge, referred to as a "single supplement". If you're traveling alone and wish to share a room, make the request at the time of booking. We at Austin Adventures will do our best to match you with a suitable roommate of the same gender before departure. If you book 90 days or more before the trip and we cannot find you a roommate, 50% of the private room cost will be due at final payment time. If you book within 90 days of departure and we cannot find you a roommate, the full private room charge will be applied. If we do find you a roommate between final payment and before the trip departs, we will refund the single supplement amount paid. Some exceptions apply.

Child Age and Pricing on Family Adventures

Family Adventures are suitable for children seven years old and up (six years and older for our Costa Rica and Yellowstone Family Adventures). Children who share a room with one or more adults receive reduced rates. The minimum age on our non-family designated adult and teen adventures is sixteen years old.

Cancellations and Refunds

The following cancellation policies and cancellation fees are in effect:

***As with deposits on some international and custom programs, refund schedule may vary, speak with your Adventure Consultant for details.

Cancellation 91 days or more before trip departure – Full trip payment refunded less a \$300 per person administration fee

Cancellation 61-90 days before trip departure – Full trip payment less 25% per person is refunded

Cancellation 31-60 days before trip departure – 50% of the trip payment is refunded

Cancellation 0-30 days before trip departure – No refund is given

Our Guarantee

Exceeding your expectations is our number one priority. In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied with something during your trip, immediately notify your guide(s). If he or she is unable to resolve the issue, call our main office and give us the details of the problem, and a chance to correct it. We will do our best to find a resolution. If we are unable to do so during your trip, we will work with you upon your return home to arrive at a fair and equitable solution, including up to a full refund.