

Cycling Europe

CROATIA BIKE & BOAT or JUST CRUISE

ex DUBROVNIK 2020

STANDARD BOAT OTAK NIKOLA SELF-GUIDED ISLAND CYCLING OPTION

Lord Byron gave Dubrovnik its title “the pearl of the Adriatic” while George Bernard Shaw famously said “those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik”. We couldn’t have put it better ourselves.

Dubrovnik is a truly stunning city and as the first pearl of this tour, it will not disappoint. Dubrovnik’s Old Town became a World Heritage site in 1979 and its 1,940 metre long city walls are among the most beautiful and best preserved middle-age fortifications in Europe. There are no cars in the Old City and the cobbled streets are packed with charming restaurants and lined with beautiful examples of Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque architecture.

From Dubrovnik we island hop starting with the dazzlingly green Island and National Park of Mljet. Visit the Benedictine monastery on St Mary’s Island and uncover the historical tales of Odysseus’ shipwreck.

From Mljet cruise the clear azure sea to the island of Hvar and the historical town of Jelsa. The island of Hvar is famous for its mild climate, olives, wine and wealth of historical highlights. Soak up the sights then head to Brac for a dip in the crystal clear sea before making our way to the magnificent imperial city of Split and free time to explore. Next morning sail to the Island of Korčula, the reputed birth place of Marco Polo (1254-1324) - narrow walkways, tiny villages and hamlets, quiet coves and marble streets.

Join us for this never-to-be-forgotten week cycling, swimming, sunbathing, snorkelling, cruising and exploring the idyllic bays and picturesque towns and islands of Croatia



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moored the night at Dubrovnik's port of Gruz which is just 3kms from the Old Town - close enough for you head out after dinner and experience the nightlife.

Overnight: Dubrovnik

Meals on board: Welcome dinner

DAY 2 Sunday DUBROVNIK

After breakfast spend time getting lost in the streets of Dubrovnik. Take an exhilarating cable car ride to the top of the hill above Dubrovnik for a stunning birds-eye view of city and sea. Visit the Dubrovnik Art Gallery set in a 1930's mansion just outside the Old Town. See wine-producing vines believed to be more than 100 years old. Lunch on board then the afternoon's free time for beach or sightseeing.

Overnight: Dubrovnik

Meals on board: Breakfast and lunch



DAY 3 Monday DUBROVNIK – MLJET ISLAND (POMENA)



After breakfast we set sail from Dubrovnik to Pomena, a tiny village and hidden harbour on the west coast of the idyllic island of Mljet (pronounced 'mil-yet'). Covered in olive groves, vineyards and dense forest, Mljet is known as the greenest island of Croatia. Thirty-seven kilometres (23 mi) long, there are several villages, two salt water lakes and a Benedictine Monastery on St Mary Island. Most of the villages on Mljet were founded between the 15th and the 18th century and according to legend, the nymph Calypso kept Odysseus captive for seven years. It's a heavenly place to explore by foot or bike.

NOTE: Entrance to Mljet National Park Mljet and boat across the lake will be approx. €15 (112kn) per person to be paid direct.

Overnight: Pomena

Meals on board: Breakfast and lunch. Option of a barbecue dinner on board (€20 per person).



DAY 4 Tuesday MLJET ISLAND – HVAR ISLAND (JELSA)

This morning we head for Hvar; not only the longest and sunniest Croatian island but also one of the most beautiful in the world. Just over 68km long and 10.5km wide, Hvar's gently rolling hills are painted brilliant purple by fields of lavender while lush vineyards nestle at the foot of the

island's rugged mountains. Hvar's location at the centre of the Adriatic sailing routes made it an important base for trade. During the Middle Ages when the Venetians ruled over most of the Adriatic, Hvar's importance grew. After lunch explore Hvar town, set between towering peaks

and the sparkling Adriatic. Take your togs and take the 3km coastal walk where you can stop off for a swim in one of the many stunning coves along the way.

Overnight: Jelsa

Meals on board: Breakfast and lunch



DAY 5 Wednesday HVAR ISLAND - BRAČ ISLAND - SPLIT

After breakfast sail to Dalmatia's most famous beach of all – Zlatni Rat (Golden Horn). Stretching almost vertically into the sea, the glorious Zlatni Rat beach changes shape depending on the winds, as if it were made of liquid gold. During lunch on board cruise to Split, The old town of Split, built adjoining the famous palace of the Roman Caesar Diocletian, is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Free time to discover the fascinating Old Town .

Overnight: Split

Meals onboard: Breakfast and lunch



DAY 6 Thursday SPLIT – KORČULA

After breakfast we sail around the east end of Hvar island towards Pelješac Peninsular and the most inhabited island in the Adriatic sea, Korčula. Supposedly the birthplace of Marco Polo, the medieval walled town of Korčula sits on a small headland. Immerse yourself in the town's narrow walkways, Venetian architecture, defensive walls, attractive pan tiled rooves and many monuments. Climb to the top of St Mark's Cathedral for spectacular views of the town, the Peljesac peninsular and the sparkling Adriatic Sea. A leisurely stroll west from the old town along Sveti Nikola takes you to the bay of Medvinjak.

Overnight: Korčula

Meals onboard: Breakfast and lunch



DAY 7 Friday KORCULA – PELJEŠAC PENINSULA - SLANO

In the morning we will leave this magnificent island and continue our cruise towards the little seaside village of Trstenik on the Pelješac peninsula. This area is well known for its excellent red wines named after the slopes on the southern side of the peninsula - Postup and Dingac. Trstenik is a beautiful village nestled between the hills of Pelješac and crystal clear sea. Wander the town, visit Grgish Winery set in a restored former fortress on the steep hills of Trstenik and take a walk along the seafront promenade dotted with palm trees, stone houses and seafront terraces. Back on board we sail down Mljet Strait to the Elaphiti Archipelago, a group of 14 idyllic islands and islets, where we stop for lunch and swimming on long sandy beaches. In the late afternoon we continue to the deep bay and town of Slano, 37 kilometres north of Dubrovnik. If you enjoy seafood, try Restaurant Kolarin or for a great pizza with sea views or Peronospora Restaurant.

Overnight: Slano

Meals onboard: Breakfast and lunch



DAY 8 Saturday SLANO – DUBROVNIK

If you have a morning flight you can transfer by road to Dubrovnik Airport which is approx. 52kms away. The boat then cruises from Slano, sailing below the mighty city walls of Dubrovnik's Old Town and to the Port of Gruz where arrangements end at 1pm.

Meals on board: Breakfast



2020 SCHEDULE & COSTS – PER PERSON IN EURO - CRUISE ONLY

MS OTAC NIKOLA (Standard)	Lower Deck	Upper Deck
2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 May	€818	€930
6, 13 & 20 June; 12, 19 & 26 Sep	€875	€985
27 Jun; 4 Jul; 15, 22 & 29 Aug; 5 Sep	€908	€1020
11, 18 & 25 Jul; 1 & 8 Aug	€935	€1050

Single use cabin +50%

Third person in a cabin -25%

SELF GUIDED ISLAND CYCLING OPTION: ADD €140 per person

Your bike (21speed will be delivered to the ship on Mljet Island (24 speed) , Brač Island (21 speed) and Korčula Island (24 speed) (instead of Korcula Island you can choose to cycle Day 2 in Konavle 22 km southeast of Dubrovnik). Route notes will be supplied for you to explore these beautiful islands at leisure.

Price includes bike, helmet, repair kit and recommended routes.

Electric bikes available on islands – not available in Konavle!

TOUR INCLUDES:

- 7 nights cruise as per itinerary
- 7 nights airconditioned cabin with ensuite
- Welcome drink and dinner
- Half Board – 7 breakfast and 6 lunches
- Daily cleaning of cabins & towel replacement once per week
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NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST:

- **Visitors & Harbour Tax €28 per adult** (to be paid onboard)
- Bike rental option

TRANSFERS (Transfers need to be pre-booked)

Dubrovnik Airport to Port of Gruz (per vehicle, one way)

- €35 for 1-3 passengers
- €45 for 4 – 8 passenger

Slano to Dubrovnik Airport (per vehicle, one way)

- €66 for 1-3passengers
- €74 for 4-8passengers

MS OTAC NIKOLA

SHIP FEATURES

- 14 fully air-conditioned cabins with ensembles
- Saloon with a bar
- sun deck with deck chairs
- platform on the stern for easy access into the sea

Lower Deck (cabins:8.5sq mtrs)

Fixed portholes

3 twin cabins (twin beds)

3 double cabins (queen beds)

Upper Deck (cabins: 9sq mtrs)

Opening portholes

4 double cabins (queen+extra bed 8.5 sqm)

4 double cabins (queen beds 7.5 sqm)

Your cruise ship MS Otac Nikola was built in 2006 especially for cruises in the Adriatic. The vessel is 26m long, 7.8m wide, with a cruising speed of 9 -10 knots. It has capacity for up to 32 passengers.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Boarding at 5.00 pm, at Port Gruz, Dubrovnik You can leave bags on the boat from 2.00 pm and explore the city.
- Cash bar available on board. Own drinks cannot be brought on board.
- Guests must abide by the ship's rules.
- This cruise may not be suitable for persons with restricted mobility.
- Every effort will be made to adhere to the itinerary as stated. However, due to the schedule changes beyond the organiser's control, we reserve the right, without prior notice, to change the route or alter the shore excursions.
- In some ports the ship may be moored sideways to the other boats. In this case guests will need to walk across other boats to reach the pier. Guests with walking disabilities might find crossing other boats challenging. Although every effort will be made to assist, please be aware that crew availability is severely limited in most circumstances and therefore a physically challenged guest will require the services of a responsible adult.
- **OTAC NIKOLA** - Cabins are cleaned once a week before embarkation and fresh linen supplied ... the cost for towel replacement during the week is €3 (23kn); sheet replacement costs €12.5 (95kn)
- Port fees of €28 per person per week are payable on the boat.

ARRIVAL BY PLANE

Airport Dubrovnik is located approximately 16 km southeast of Dubrovnik. There is taxi stand in front of the arrival hall or we can organise transfers for you.

ARRIVAL BY BUS

Dubrovnik Bus Terminal is situated in Gruž, in the harbour where the boats are docked. From the bus terminal the boat is an approximate 10 minute walk or you can take a taxi.

ARRIVAL BY CAR

You can park your car at Port of Gruz while you are on the boat. The cost is approx. €13 per day with discounts for weekly parking.

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