

BEST OF SLOVENIA AND CROATIA

Ljubljana – Zagreb – Plitvice – Split – Hvar – Dubrovnik

11 days / 10 nights



ITINERARY:

DAY 1 – Arrive Ljubljana

Arrival to Ljubljana airport. Private transfer from Ljubljana airport to the hotel in Ljubljana area.

Overnight at Ljubljana, Hotel Slon 4* or similar.

DAY 2 – Ljubljana Sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel.

Ljubljana sightseeing tour (Duration approx. 2hrs)

The capital city of Slovenia lies in a basin between the Karst and the alpine region at 298 meters above sea level. We like to say it is sufficiently large to contain everything that a capital should have, and small enough to preserve the individuality of its inhabitants. It is a city with a soul, featured by the Baroque Old Town which is nestled at the foot of Castle Hill, the Art Nouveau mansions as well as some of the masterpieces of the world renowned architect Jože Plečnik. Ljubljana nowadays presents the political, cultural, scientific and university centre of Slovenia. Adding an open-air market, Ljubljanica River that meanders through the city and a mighty castle rising above the narrow streets – all that and much more you can admire in Ljubljana.

Afternoon at leisure.

Overnight at Ljubljana, Hotel Slon 4* or similar.

DAY 3 – Ljubljana to Bled to Zagreb

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer from Ljubljana to Bled. (duration approx. 1 hr)

Bled sightseeing tour with local guide (duration approx. 1,5hrs);

BLED; is famous for the Lake Bled, which makes it a major tourist attraction. Perched on a rock overlooking the lake stands the Bled castle. The Bled castle is built on top of a 130-meter cliff. It is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Slovenia.

Pletna boat ride included.

Free time for personal exploring.

Transfer continues to Zagreb (duration approx. 2,5 hrs)

Overnight at Zagreb, *Hotel Astoria 4* or similar.*

DAY 4 – Zagreb Sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel.

Zagreb sightseeing tour with local guide (duration approx. 2 hrs)

Zagreb grew up on two neighboring hills: Kaptol - the center of spiritual and religious life of north-western Croatia and Gradec - the commercial center of skillful tradesmen and craftsmen. Take an easy walk with your guide, visiting the Upper Town with its Gothic Cathedral, the beautiful and ornate St. Catherine's church or the massive St. Mark's church with its famous color-tiled roof. Continue to the medieval Stone Gate and "Dolac", the open-air market which are a must for all visitors.

Rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight at Zagreb, *Hotel Astoria 4* or similar.*



DAY 5 - Zagreb to Plitvice National Park

Breakfast at the hotel. Private transfer from Zagreb to Plitvice National Park. (duration approx. 2 hrs)

Visit of Plitvice national park on own – entrance fee included

Plitvice National Park is one of the most beautiful and best-preserved national parks in the country. This is why the entire lakes and surrounding area were declared a national park in 1949 and are listed on the UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites because of its exceptional beauty. It is a valley situated between high forested mountains in which lie, one below another, a string of sixteen beautiful lakes of crystal blue and green waters. Fed by small streams and brooks, they spill into each other in 92 foaming cascades and thundering waterfalls. The lakes themselves cover about 2 square kilometers and the entire national park covers 200 square kilometers.

Free time for personal exploring.

Overnight at Plitvice, *Hotel Degenija 4* or similar.*

DAY 6 - Plitvice to Zadar to Split

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer from Plitvice to Zadar (duration approx. 2 hrs)

Zadar sightseeing with local guide (duration approx. 2 hrs)

The Zadar peninsula still preserves very old network of narrow and charming city streets, as well as a Roman forum dating back to the first century AD. The pre-Romanesque Church of St. Donat dates back to the ninth century and it is certainly Zadar's most famous spot. The town is fortified with medieval walls, distinguished for their pretty and impressive ports – entries in the city all dating back to the sixteenth century. Even Alfred Hitchcock was impressed and supposedly said that the sunset here is more beautiful than in California. Countless buildings and monuments attest to the rich intellectual and cultural heritage of the city. At the end of the Western Quay is Zadar's newest feature, the Sea Organ. This unusual organ is powered by the wind and the sea. When the sea pushes air through the whistles, a series of melancholy chords are played, with the sound emerging through the perforated stone stairs. Next to the Sea Organ is the Sun Salutation also designed by Nikola Basic. This circle of glass collects the sun's rays by day, stores the energy, and emits it as a flickering light show after dark.

Free time.

Transfer continues to Split (duration approx. 1,5 h)

Overnight at Split, Hotel Art 4* or similar.

DAY 7 – Split to Hvar

Breakfast at the hotel.

Split sightseeing tour with local guide (Duration approx. 2 hrs)

The old town of Split is built on and around the spectacular Roman Palace erected by the Roman Emperor Diocletian (born in Salona – today's Solin) in the 4th century. The walking tour starts with a visit to the cellars of the Palace that are still very well preserved. The cellars offer a good view at how the life in the Palace was organized. Other sites such as the Golden Gate, the Silver Gate, the Peristyle Square etc. will be seen from the outside.

Free time.

In the afternoon, transfer to Hvar via public ferry / catamaran.

Hvar sightseeing tour (duration approx. 1,5 hr)

Enjoy a tour of the culture, art and history of Hvar, one of the principal destinations on the Dalmatian Riviera. Hvar is home to fiercely proud, determined and courteous people, who are eager to show off their city. Walk around historical center of Hvar, called Groda, visit the city square, the arsenal, the theater and the cathedral.

Overnight at Hvar, Hotel Amfora 4* or similar.



DAY 8

Breakfast at the hotel.

OPTIONAL: Blue and Green Cave excursion – Seat in coach basis (duration approx. 8 hrs – Cost Euro 80)

This unique day on the sea starts with the majestic Green and Blue caves and includes Vis and the Pakleni islands! We'll begin by cruising between Hvar and the islets of Ravnik and Biševo. First we will visit the Green Cave where we will get a chance to swim inside and enjoy the emerald light show!. Then we'll discover a picturesque hidden inlet called Stiniva, where you can enjoy a delicious swim or just relax and sun bathe. After Stiniva, it's off to experience the world-renowned Blue Cave, whose ethereal silveryblue color is created by the sun as it bathes the inside of the cave through an opening in the roof and is reflected back by the sandy surface below. Widely regarded as one of the world's most beautiful natural phenomena, this cave is a mustsee. Our trip continues to the legendary island of Vis and the authentic fishing village of Komiža. We will have an hour of free time to explore this charming seaside hamlet before we take off to enjoy the Paklinski Islands. We'll stop at one of the archipelago's most popular bays, Vinogradišće at Palmižana, where you can have a seaside lunch at some of the best restaurants in the Adriatic! After lunch, you can swim, relax or even go dancing at the Laganini lounge club beach bar, a famous island hangout where Bono enjoyed THAT 10-course lunch!

Overnight at Hvar, Hotel Amfora 4* or similar.

DAY 9 - Hvar to Ston to Dubrovnik

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from Hvar to Sucuraj (Duration approx. 1,5 hrs)

Embark the local ferry to Drvenik (duration approx. 30 mins)

Transfer from Drvenik to Ston (duration approx. 1,5 hr)

Stop in Ston for personal exploring:

Ston is a small town on a narrow isthmus connecting the peninsula of Peljesac with the mainland, known for their traditional salt production, construction of a huge, fortified complex encompassing the settlements of Mali and Veliki Ston and high-quality oysters/mussels. The best oysters in Croatia and the world come from Mali Ston bay, which has been famous for seashell cultivation since the Roman Empire days.

Transfer continues to Dubrovnik. (duration approx. 1 hr.)

Overnight at Dubrovnik, Grand Hotel Park 4* or similar.

DAY 10 – Dubrovnik Sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel.

Dubrovnik sightseeing tour with local guide (Duration approx. 2 hrs)

“Those who seek paradise on earth”, George Bernard Shaw once wrote, “should come to Dubrovnik”.

The old city of Dubrovnik has remained basically unchanged since the thirteenth century. Its medieval ramparts encircle the city which pedestrians can enter through one of two gates - either way, they find themselves joining the evening promenade Stradun which you can either join or watch, a drink in hand, from one of the various cafes and restaurants along the way. The city is alive with open air markets, artisans' shops and studios of artists, Baroque churches and Gothic-Renaissance palaces, unexpected courtyards, and covered loggias. In the summer, music fills the air as the internationally renowned Summer Festival reveals the

magic of theatre, music and dance. In the fall and spring, the squeals of schoolchildren travel up and down the stone alleys and the younger generation discovers the unparalleled freedom of a city where no cars are allowed and the stone-faced houses and orange-tiled roofs have remained unchanged for centuries.

Afternoon at leisure.

Overnight at Dubrovnik, Grand Hotel Park 4* or similar.

DAY 11 – Depart Dubrovnik

Breakfast at the hotel. Private transfer to Dubrovnik airport.

COME HOME WITH WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF THE TOUR!

Highlights:

Visits of Ljubljana, Bled Lake, Zagreb, Plitvice National Park, Zadar, Split, Hvar, Ston, Dubrovnik

Inclusions:-

1. Accommodation as mentioned above with Breakfast
2. Private one-way transfers with a/c vehicle as follows: -
 - Ljubljana airport – hotel in Ljubljana area
 - Ljubljana - Bled – Zagreb
 - Zagreb – Plitvice
 - Plitvice – Zadar – Split
 - Hotel in Split area – Split port
 - Hotel in Hvar area – Sucuraj; Drvenik – Ston – Dubrovnik
 - Hotel in Dubrovnik area – Pile – hotel in Dubrovnik area (Dubrovnik sightseeing tour)
 - Hotel in Dubrovnik area – Dubrovnik airport
3. Local guides:
 - Ljubljana sightseeing tour
 - Bled sightseeing tour
 - Zagreb sightseeing tour
 - Zadar sightseeing tour
 - Split sightseeing tour
 - Hvar sightseeing tour
 - Dubrovnik sightseeing tour
4. Entrance fees:
 - Bled Pletna boat ride
 - Plitvice National Park
 - Split: Diocletian's Palace
5. Ferry / catamaran tickets:

- Ferry / catamaran Split – Hvar
- Ferry Sucuraj – Drvenik

Not included:

1. International Air tickets and taxes
2. Visa fees
3. Travel Insurance
4. Tour leader
5. Meals and drinks (apart from breakfast)
6. Excursion to Blue & Green Cave
7. Porterage , Tips, telephone bills etc
8. Any other service not mentioned above
9. 5% GST on total Package amount