

Croatia & Slovenia Gems of the Adriatic

June 8 - 21, 2022



From medieval architecture to storybook hamlets, from crystal blue waters to lush verdant forests, Croatia is a land of wonder. And the rich cultural heritage of myths, legends and fables adds to the feeling that you've entered a magical world.

Between the shoulder of the Adriatic Sea and the belly of the Alps Mountains nestles the idyllic paradise of Slovenia, little-known until recently. It is graced with stunning alpine beauty, picture perfect towns, and delectable food and wine. We don't know how it remained a secret for so long.

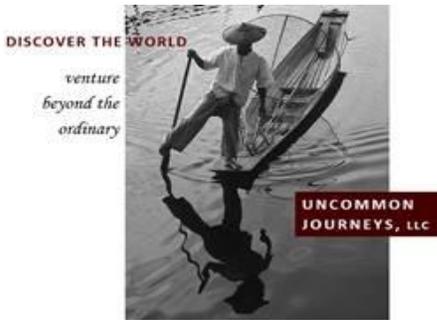
Tour Highlights

- Dubrovnik, "Pearl of the Adriatic"
- Split, "Home of the Gigantic Palace"
- Hvar, "Queen of the Dalmatian Islands"
- Plitvice Lakes National Park, "One of the World's Most Beautiful Spots"
- Bled, "Land of Folk Tales"
- Lake Bohinj, "God's Land"
- Ljubljana, "City of Love"

Tour price per person, based on double occupancy

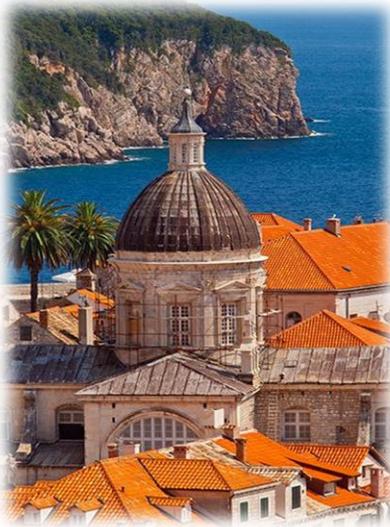
8 – 9 participants:	US\$7,200
10 – 11 participants:	US\$7,000
12 + participants:	US\$6,800
single supplement:	US\$1,119

The tour price **includes** 13 nights of deluxe and boutique accommodations, all meals from dinner on June 8 through breakfast on June 21, airport transfers, ground transportation, entrance fees, gratuities and the services of a tour director and local guides. The tour price **does not include** flights to Dubrovnik and from Ljubljana, hotels en route (if required) and alcoholic beverages. | You must book and purchase your own airline tickets to Dubrovnik and from Ljubljana to your onward destination. | A US\$500 deposit is required to reserve a place on the tour. The balance is due 90 days prior to departure.



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Day 1 | June 8 | Arrive Dubrovnik, Croatia

Day 2 | June 9 | Dubrovnik, Croatia

Our tour of Dubrovnik reveals the genius of history's architectural masters. Its ramparts and fortresses are enduring monuments to emperors and legends, and speak softly of a bygone era.

Day 3 | June 10 | Dubrovnik, Croatia (Elaphiti Islands)

Guardians of the coast and sea, the Elaphite Islands have been home to generations of sailors. Our full day excursion is by speedboat.

Day 4 | June 11 | Dubrovnik → Ston → Split, Croatia

Fun fact: some oysters have both male and female reproductive organs. There will be an oyster farm tour and optional tasting of this delicacy in Ston, then we continue to Split.

Day 5 | June 12 | Split, Croatia

Today we explore Split, the 4th century holiday home of Roman Emperor Diocletian. With Roman ruins and grand museums juxtaposed with trendy shops and cafes, this city has it all. Our tour includes a gallery that features the most important work of renowned sculptor Ivan Meštrović.



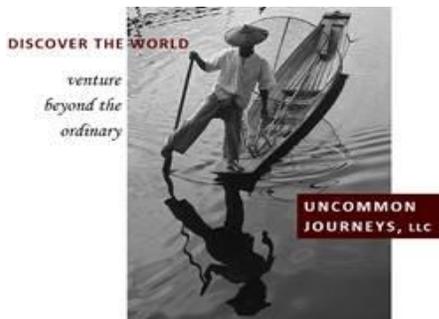
Day 6 | June 13 | Split, Croatia (Hvar Island)

Board the ferry and set sail for the picturesque hamlet of Hvar Island. The serenity belies the fierce 16th century uprising against the cruelty and inhumanity of Venetian nobility. Important sites include the Dominican Monastery, Hektorovic's Castle and the UNESCO town of Stari Grad.

Day 7 | June 14 | Split → Plitvice, Croatia

It's hard to conjure anything more wondrous than 16 terraced lakes, joined by waterfalls, flowing into a limestone canyon. This photo enthusiasts' dream was described by Rebecca West as "the most laughing and light-minded of natural prodigies."





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Day 8 | June 15 | Plitvice → Zagreb, Croatia → Bled, Slovenia

It's been said that "Zagreb pleases like a Schubert song, a delight that begins quietly and never definitely ends." Following our city tour we proceed to Bled. Prepare to be enchanted by its emerald lake and tiny magical island in the heart of the Julian Alps.



Day 9 | June 16 | Bled, Slovenia

Our day begins with a drive to Bohinj in Triglav National Park, an Eden-like paradise graced with stunning mountains, forests, pastures & meadows. We'll reach the top of Vogel Mountain by cable car and enjoy a leisurely stroll. Following lunch at a dairy farm we'll end the day with a zganje (schnapps) tasting. Na zdravje! (Cheers!)



Day 10 | June 17 | Bled, Slovenia

Partizanska Bolnica Franja stands as a poignant symbol of WWII heroism, solidarity and human fortitude. Then off to a wine tasting at Brda, "Tuscany of Slovenia."

Day 11 | June 18 | Bled → Ljubljana, Slovenia

This morning we visit the Apiculture Museum and Šivec House in Radovljica, and continue to a city tour of Ljubljana.



Day 12 | June 19 | Ljubljana, Slovenia

Salt has been mined in the Sečovelje Salina Nature Park since the middle ages, and traditional methods and tools still account for its exceptional taste and characteristics. Next stop is the medieval, Venetian style town of Piran. We end the day at Lipica, with a presentation of the majestic Lipizzaner horses.



Day 13 | June 20 | Ljubljana, Slovenia

Postojna Cave is an enchantment of tunnels, passageways and karst formations that will leave you speechless. You won't want to leave, but we must, to explore Predjama Castle, a fairytale world where human ingenuity meets nature's wonders. Perched on a towering cliff, it is the magnificent, defiant, intriguing site of the legend of 15th century robber baron Erasmus Leuger.

Day 14 | June 21 | Departure