

CROATIA DISCOVERY – FAMILIARIZATION TRIP

October 22nd – 28th, 2016

Day 1 – October 22nd

Split

Arrival day

Evening stroll of Split with wine tasting

Welcome to Croatia!

Arrival to Split. At the airport you will be met by your chauffeur for private transfer to Hotel Cornaro 4*. Enjoy an early evening stroll through Split's historic center – and the famous Diocletian's Palace – with a local guide. Originally the palatial walled summer residence of the Emperor Diocletian, Split became a city after Salona, the Roman capital of Dalmatia just 6km north, was sacked in the 7th Ct. Fleeing refugees were given asylum inside the two meter thick walls of the palace and over the next 1000 years, the "city" of Split was such a safe haven, it never grew beyond the same walls that exist today! As a result, the remarkable ensemble of Roman, Gothic, Romanesque, Renaissance and other architectural remains are all still here—and so are more than 3,000 people still living inside these ancient walls.

After the tour, enjoy wine tasting in premium wine bar: *Paradox*.

Hotel: Cornaro 4* Meals: wine tasting



Day 2 – October 23rd

Split – Trogir

Site inspection followed by special late lunch by Chef Tatjana

After breakfast you will get acquainted with this beautiful hotel in a detailed site inspection. Join us for site inspections of Hotel Marmont 4*, Hotel Vestibul Palace 4* and Judita Palace 4* all located in the very center of Split and Hotel Park 5* located on Bačvice beach. After the site inspections, continue to the nearby town

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of Trogir where you'll have a guided stroll of this stunning UNESCO listed Old Town. A tiny island treasure, Trogir's roots are Greek, not Roman like Split, and its crown jewel is the spectacular 13th century Cathedral of St. Lawrence. Its daring portal, carved in 1280, is just a precursor of the wonders inside. Enjoy an exclusive late lunch in a private 13th century palace, hosted by one the most amazing and creative chefs in the region! Return to Split in the early evening.

Hotel: Cornaro 4* Meals: breakfast, lunch with wine



Day 3 – October 24th

Split – Hvar Island

Private motor boat tour of Hvar Island

Site inspection

Around 9 AM board your private motor boat and head towards Hvar Island. Upon arrival to Hvar Town, join our local guide for a short stroll through town before you get acquainted with the trendy and chic boutique hotels Adriana 4* and Riva 4*. Afterwards, head to Stari Grad Town for site inspection of Heritage Villa Apolon 4*. Finally, head to the interior of the island to enjoy wine tasting at Duboković winery and a private late lunch in an old family olive grove with views of the UNESCO protected Stari Grad fields, the oldest continuously cultivated agricultural plain in the world! Return to Hvar Town in the late afternoon hours where your skipper will meet you for transfer back to Split. Evening at your leisure.

Hotel: Cornaro 4* Meals: breakfast, wine tasting, late lunch



Day 4 – October 25th

Split – Pelješac – Dubrovnik

Wine tasting and light lunch at Rizman Winery

Walking tour of Dubrovnik

Meet your chauffeur after breakfast for private transfer to Dubrovnik. En route stop at Rizman winery for wine tasting and light lunch. Arrive to Dubrovnik in the afternoon and check in to Hotel Kompas 4*.

Once you check in and refresh, join our local guide for a private walking tour of Dubrovnik Old Town.

George Bernard Shaw was so enchanted by this beautiful city, that he proclaimed "those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik and see Dubrovnik", as well as, famously describing it as "the pearl of the Adriatic". Dubrovnik truly is a stunning city with its amazing Old Town, which became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1979. A magnificent curtain of walls surrounds marble streets and baroque buildings that exude a pearly light in the Adriatic sun. The main pedestrian thoroughfare, Placa, is a mélange of cafés and shops with outstanding monuments at either end. Churches, monasteries and museums ornamented with finely carved stone recall an eventful history and a vibrant artistic tradition.

Evening at leisure.

Hotel: Kompas 4* Meals: breakfast, wine tasting, light lunch



Day 5 – October 26th

Dubrovnik

Site inspection of hotels and motor boats

Olive oil presentation in Orašac

Today we will show you the selection of best and upscale hotels Dubrovnik has to offer during several site inspections. Of course, we start with the fabulous Villa Dubrovnik 5*, the hotel that introduced a completely new meaning of luxury to Dubrovnik. Next, we will visit nearby hotels Villa Orsula 5*, Bellevue 5* and Excelsior 5* that have had worldwide reputations for decades. Continuing, we'll take a short walk to the Old Town for a site inspection of the luxury boutique Hotel Pucić Palace 5*, one of just two hotels located within the City walls.

Afterwards we will drive to nearby village of Orašac for olive oil presentation at local family farm, where homemade specialties will be served for lunch.

Before returning to your hotel, site inspection of Hotel Lapad 4* and Hotel Kompas 4* is scheduled. Finally, you will get a chance to see our motor boat for day tours in Dubrovnik.

Evening at leisure.

Hotel: Kompas 4* Meals: breakfast, lunch

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Day 6 – October 27th

Dubrovnik – Montenegro

Tour of Boka Bay with late lunch

Site inspection of Aman Resort

We will meet our driver in the early morning and leave to spectacular Boka bay in Montenegro. The Bay of Boka Kotorska has been proclaimed by UNESCO as one of the most beautiful bays in the world. It is a mix of high mountains extending into the sea, with a presence of many styles and cultures - prehistoric fossils, Illyrian epoch, antique, gothic, renaissance and baroque. Our first destination is the old town of Perast where we will be greeted by a local guide who will show us all of the charming spots of this region. Perast is a sleepy baroque place on the seashore. The strong merchant navy tradition of the town is represented in the best preserved baroque entity on the Adriatic. Perast also abounds in sacred monuments, such as the Church Sveti Nikola and Our Lady of the rocks, built on the artificial island just opposite of Perast. Afterwards, we will continue to Kotor, home-town of the famous sailors and traders of Boka Bay and an old coastal and cultural center. For centuries, it has been a crossroad of commercial itineraries under strong influence of Venice. The Old City is a well preserved urbanization typical of the Middle Ages, built between the 12th and 14th century. The guide will take us to the Cathedral of St. Trifun, a monument of Roman culture and one of the most recognizable symbols of the town. You will also discover the Maritime Museum, the custodian of Boka navy fame.

After the tour we will continue to Sveti Stefan islet for a site inspection of the stunning Aman Resort Sveti Stefan. Once a fortified village, Aman Sveti Stefan has retained the historic air of sturdy stone houses with red-tiled roofs. Every room, cottage and suite is completely unique, as are the views of the sea, rooftops, quaint courtyards and piazzas. Soak up the magical atmosphere of this luxurious property while enjoying lunch at one of Aman's restaurants.

Late lunch will be served at local restaurant before returning to Dubrovnik in the late afternoon hours.

Spend your last evening at leisure.

Hotel: Kompas 4* Meals breakfast, late lunch

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Day 7 – October 28th

Dubrovnik

Departure day

Departure day. Private transfers to Dubrovnik Airport.

Meals: breakfast

The program cost includes:

3 nights in Split, Hotel Cornaro 4* - Single use rooms

3 nights in Dubrovnik, Hotel Kompas 4* - Single use rooms

Private transfers as stated in the program by luxury minivan

Guided walking tour of Split historic center

Wine tasting at *Paradox* premium wine bar

Private „behind the closed doors“ late lunch in Trogir

Private motor boat round transfer to Hvar Island with guided walking tour of Hvar and Stari Grad Town, with visit to wineries and private lunch in the olive grove

Guided tour of Rizman winery with lunch

Guided walking tour of Dubrovnik Old Town

Private olive oil presentation in Orašac with lunch

Day tour of Boka Bay, Montenegro (includes guided walking tour of Perast and Kotor) with late lunch

Program price per person (staying in single room)..... 1 250 Euros

Not included:

Flights

Personal expenses

Insurance

Gratuities