

# Adriatic Light

*Rovinj to Split · Eleven Days Down the Dalmatian Coast*

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You begin in the quiet of an Istrian morning and end on the marble of an emperor's palace — and in between, the whole length of the Croatian coast unspools in stone and sea. This is a journey measured in textures: cobblestones worn smooth on Grisia Street, candlelight on amphorae buried eight meters under Motovun, the empty boardwalks of Plitvice at seven in the morning when the turquoise pools are yours alone and Veliki Slap thunders to no one.

The coast gives itself up slowly. Šibenik's cathedral, raised stone by stone without mortar. The Sea Organ at Zadar breathing music into the dusk. Oysters pulled from the cold water of Mali Ston and shucked on the boat. Dubrovnik's ramparts at eight, before the ships arrive. Then the islands — Korčula's herringbone alleys, the lavender silence of an abandoned village above Hvar, the pine-shaded coves of Palmižana where you can see twenty meters down.

By the time you walk into the cellars beneath Diocletian's rooms, you'll have traced four hundred kilometers of coastline and seventeen hundred years of it. Full days, long tables, slow evenings. Pack light. Move slowly. Let the Adriatic set the pace.

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<b>DATES</b>	Aug 25 – Sep 5, 2027 · 11 nights
<b>TRAVELERS</b>	Eric · Denise · Abby · Molly (4)
<b>PACE</b>	Full — 3–4 things/day
<b>STYLE</b>	Cultural · food & wine · beach · adventure
<b>ROUTE</b>	Rovinj → Plitvice → Zadar → Mali Ston → Dubrovnik → Korčula → Hvar → Split
<b>DRIVER</b>	Andrea Del Vecchio (mainland) · Jadrolinija catamaran (islands)

## THE COAST, STOP BY STOP

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### Rovinj

2 NIGHTS

Istrian harbor town · Grisia Street galleries · amphora wines at Roxanich · hilltop Motovun and Hum.



### Plitvice

1 NIGHT

Route C boardwalks at 7am opening · turquoise pools · Veliki Slap to yourself.



### Zadar

1 NIGHT

Šibenik Cathedral en route · Museum of Ancient Glass · the Sea Organ at sunset.



### Mali Ston

1 NIGHT

The Great Wall walk · oyster farm visit · shellfish plateau at Ostrea.



### Dubrovnik

2 NIGHTS

City Walls at 8am · Porporela swim · 360° tasting menu · Mount Srđ cable car.



### Korčula

1 NIGHT

Marco Polo House · Pošip wine at Bokar · Moreška Sword Dance · Lumbarda cycling.



### Hvar

2 NIGHTS

Malo Grablje hike · Pakleni Islands boat taxi · Palmižana swim · Fortica at golden hour.



### Split

2 NIGHTS

Diocletian's Palace cellars · Marjan Hill 360+ stairs · Froggyland · Old Town cats.

## DAY BY DAY



### DAY 1 · MON AUG 25 · ARRIVE VENICE, DRIVE TO ROVINJ

*Private driver to Rovinj via the Istrian countryside—Grisia Street galleries before dinner*

*High 82°F / low 68°F · sun with light coastal breeze · Easy arrival — settle in, light evening walk*

#### 9:00 AM FLIGHT

#### United nonstop EWR → Venice (VCE)

<b>FLIGHT</b>	United 112 EWR 8:00 PM → VCE 9:00 AM+1 · 8h 45m · nonstop
<b>CABIN</b>	Economy
<b>AIRCRAFT</b>	Boeing 767-300ER
<b>NOTE</b>	Book directly on <a href="https://www.united.com">united.com</a> for MileagePlus accrual and Star Alliance lounge access at EWR Terminal C. Verify flight number, times and equipment at booking — schedules change.
<b>PHONE</b>	+1-800-864-8331
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.united.com">https://www.united.com</a>

#### 9:30 AM TRANSPORT

#### Driver pickup at VCE — Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class · meet at baggage claim with name placard

*2h 30m*

<b>PHONE</b>	+39 348 341 5578
<b>NOTE</b>	Pre-confirmed with Andrea. Email <a href="mailto:andelvecchio1@virgilio.it">andelvecchio1@virgilio.it</a> if flight delayed.

#### 12:30 PM NOTE

#### Optional stop en route: Vodnjan · Chiesa di San Biagio · mummified saints in sacristy · 30 min

*Vodnjan, Croatia*

<b>PHONE</b>	+385 52 511 420
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Svetvincenat 1, 52215, Vodnjan, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Mon–Sat 9am–noon, 4–7pm
<b>PRICE</b>	€3/adult
<b>NOTE</b>	No reservation needed — walk-in

#### 1:30 PM HOTEL

#### Check in Grand Park Hotel Rovinj · 5-star sea-view room

<b>HOTEL</b>	Grand Park Hotel Rovinj
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Setaliste Vijeca Europe 1, 52210 Rovinj, Croatia
<b>PHONE</b>	+385 52 800 000
<b>TIMES</b>	In 3:00 PM
<b>ROOM</b>	Deluxe Sea View Room
<b>NOTE</b>	Request early check-in if available after overnight flight. Spa open daily 9am–9pm.

**5:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Rovinj harbor promenade walk · St. Catherine Island view · Grisia Street galleries

90 min · Old Town Rovinj

Grisia Street is the gallery heart of Rovinj — a cobblestone lane lined with artist studios and a summer open-air market.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Grisia Ulica, 52210 Rovinj, Croatia
<b>NOTE</b>	Self-guided walk — galleries keep irregular hours, most open 10am–1pm and 6–10pm in summer.

**7:30 PM**  
DINNER

### Restaurant Monte — Michelin-starred Istrian tasting menu

<b>RESTAURANT</b>	Restaurant Monte
<b>STYLE</b>	Modern Istrian · Michelin 1-star · \$\$\$\$ · Old Town Rovinj
<b>RESERVE</b>	Phone — +385 52 830 203
<b>BACKUP</b>	La Puntulina · Adriatic seafood · terrace over the rocks

## DAY 2 · TUE AUG 26 · ROVINJ FULL DAY

*Roxanich amphora cellar by candlelight—then Motovun ramparts and Hum the world's smallest town*

High 83°F / low 69°F · sun, light afternoon breeze

**8:00 AM**  
ACTIVITY

### Rovinj harbor fish market · full spread before 9am · locals buy for dinner

45 min · Riva waterfront, Rovinj

The fish market is the town's morning theater — fishermen display the night's Adriatic haul on ice, locals haggle in dialect, and by 9am the best is gone.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Obala Pina Budicina, 52210 Rovinj, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Daily 7am–1pm, best before 9am
<b>NOTE</b>	Walk-in only · bring small euro notes

**9:00 AM**  
ACTIVITY

### St. Euphemia Church bell tower · 200-step climb · Istrian coast panorama

45 min · St. Euphemia Church, Rovinj

The baroque campanile is Rovinj's signature silhouette.

<b>PHONE</b>	+385 52 815 615
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Trg Sv. Eufemije, 52210 Rovinj, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Daily 10am–6pm (summer), shorter hours in winter
<b>PRICE</b>	€2/adult
<b>NOTE</b>	No reservation — walk-in. Narrow stone spiral stairs.

**10:00 AM**  
TRANSPORT

### Driver pickup for Roxanich Winery, Motovun, Hum loop — depart 10:00, return 18:30

<b>PHONE</b>	+39 348 341 5578
<b>NOTE</b>	Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class

**11:00 AM**  
ACTIVITY

### Roxanich Winery · amphora-aged natural wines · candlelit cellar tasting

75 min · Roxanich Estate, Motovun area

Mladen Rozanic is a cult figure in natural-wine circles — his amphorae rest 8 meters underground in a stone cellar lit only by candles.

<b>PHONE</b>	+385 52 725 091
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Kaldir 7, 52425 Oprtalj, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Mon–Sat by appointment only
<b>PRICE</b>	€25–40/person
<b>NOTE</b>	Book 1 week ahead · max 6 people · confirm time at least 3 days prior

**1:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Motovun: Town Gate · Venetian ramparts walk · longest stone staircase in Istria · lunch Konoba Mondo**

*2h 30m · Motovun hilltop town*

Motovun is the postcard Istrian hill town — medieval walls, truffle-hunting territory below, and a stone staircase of 1,052 steps.

PHONE	+385 52 681 791
ADDRESS	Trg Andrea Antico 7, 52424 Motovun, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 10am–11pm (summer)
NOTE	Walk-in OK for lunch · €15–25 mains

**1:15 PM**  
LUNCH

**Konoba Mondo · pljukanci pasta, truffle dishes, Istrian malvazija**

RESTAURANT	Konoba Mondo
STYLE	Istrian traditional · \$\$ · Motovun hilltop
RESERVE	Phone — +385 52 681 791
BACKUP	Restoran Pod Voltom · Istrian · terrace under the town gate arch

**4:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Hum: world's smallest town · 28 permanent residents · Glagolitic stone alley · Humska Konoba grappa tasting**

*45 min · Hum, Croatia*

Hum is completely unmarked on most maps and holds the Guinness record for smallest town still inhabited.

PHONE	+385 52 660 005
ADDRESS	Hum 2, 52425 Hum, Croatia
HOURS	Alley open 24/7 · Humska Konoba daily 11am–9pm
NOTE	Free entry · grappa tasting at Humska Konoba €3–5/glass · coordinates 45.3047°N, 13.9478°E

**6:30 PM**  
TRANSPORT

**Return to Grand Park Hotel Rovinj · spa and pool time before dinner**

PHONE	+39 348 341 5578
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**8:00 PM**  
DINNER

**La Puntulina — terrace carved into the sea wall, Adriatic seafood**

RESTAURANT	La Puntulina
STYLE	Adriatic seafood · terrace over the rocks · \$\$\$ · Old Town Rovinj waterfront
RESERVE	Phone — +385 52 813 186
BACKUP	Cap Aureo · Modern Mediterranean · Michelin Plate



**DAY 3 · WED AUG 27 · ROVINJ TO PLITVICE**

*Plitvice Route C at golden hour—boardwalks over turquoise pools, Veliki Slap thunder*

*High 79°F / low 63°F · sun with afternoon thunderstorm risk inland at Plitvice*

**9:00 AM**  
HOTEL

**Check out Grand Park Hotel Rovinj · driver loads luggage**

HOTEL	Grand Park Hotel Rovinj
TIMES	Out 11:00 AM

9:30 AM  
TRANSPORT

**Private driver Rovinj → Plitvice · 3h drive · 250 km via A7/D1 inland**

3h

**PHONE** +39 348 341 5578  
**NOTE** Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class

12:30 PM  
HOTEL

**Check in Fenomen Plitvice Resort · lake-facing room**

**HOTEL** Fenomen Plitvice Resort  
**ADDRESS** Plitvice Lakes National Park, 53231 Plitvicki Ljeskovac, Croatia  
**PHONE** +385 53 751 999  
**TIMES** In 3:00 PM  
**ROOM** Lake View Room  
**NOTE** Request early check-in. On-site Restaurant Lika for dinner.

2:30 PM–7:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

**Plitvice Lakes Route C (4–5 hours) · Entrance 1 timed entry · turquoise pools, boardwalks, Veliki Slap waterfall**

4h 30m · Plitvice Lakes National Park, Entrance 1

Route C is the full Plitvice experience: 16 interconnected lakes cascading through limestone canyons, wooden boardwalks over impossibly clear water.

**PHONE** +385 53 751 015  
**WEBSITE** <https://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr>  
**ADDRESS** Plitvice Lakes National Park, Entrance 1, 53231 Plitvicka Jezera, Croatia  
**HOURS** Daily 7am–8pm (summer)  
**PRICE** €40/adult (peak season Aug)  
**NOTE** TIMED ENTRY REQUIRED — book 2–4 weeks ahead at np-plitvicka-jezera.hr. August sells out. Select Entrance 1, Route C, afternoon slot 14:00–15:00.

7:30 PM  
DINNER

**Restaurant Lika (on-site Fenomen Resort) — Lika lamb, trout, forest mushrooms**

**RESTAURANT** Restaurant Lika  
**STYLE** Lika regional · game, trout, lamb · \$\$ · Fenomen Plitvice Resort  
**RESERVE** Phone — +385 53 751 999  
**BACKUP** Restoran Degenija · Lika traditional · peka, game



**DAY 4 · THU AUG 28 · PLITVICE TO ZADAR VIA SIBENIK**

*7am Plitvice boardwalks to yourself—then Šibenik's all-stone cathedral and Zadar's Sea Organ at sunset*

*High 84°F / low 64°F · sun inland, coastal breeze by evening*

**7:00 AM–11:30 AM**  
ACTIVITY

**Plitvice Route C at 7am opening · empty boardwalks, soft light, Veliki Slap to yourself**

*4h 30m · Plitvice Lakes National Park, Entrance 1*

7am is transformative — the boardwalks are empty, the light is soft, and you have Veliki Slap to yourself.

PHONE	+385 53 751 015
WEBSITE	<a href="https://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr">https://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr</a>
ADDRESS	Plitvice Lakes National Park, Entrance 1, 53231 Plitvicka Jezera, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 7am–8pm (summer)
PRICE	€40/adult (included in yesterday's ticket if you kept wristband; otherwise rebook)
NOTE	TIMED ENTRY REQUIRED — book 2–4 weeks ahead at np-plitvicka-jezera.hr. Select 07:00 slot.

**11:30 AM**  
HOTEL

**Check out Fenomen Plitvice Resort · driver loads luggage**

HOTEL	Fenomen Plitvice Resort
TIMES	Out 11:00 AM
NOTE	Request late checkout to 11:30 given early morning activity.

**11:45 AM**  
TRANSPORT

**Private driver Plitvice → Zadar via Šibenik · 2h 30m · 180 km via D1**

*2h 30m*

PHONE	+39 348 341 5578
NOTE	Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class · stop in Šibenik for cathedral visit

**1:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Šibenik Cathedral of St. James · UNESCO · all-stone construction 1431–1536 · frieze of 71 sculpted faces**

*45 min · Cathedral of St. James, Šibenik*

Built stone by stone with no mortar between 1431 and 1536, the cathedral is a Renaissance masterpiece.

PHONE	+385 22 214 881
WEBSITE	<a href="https://www.sibenik-tourism.hr">https://www.sibenik-tourism.hr</a>
ADDRESS	Trg Republike Hrvatske 1, 22000 Šibenik, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 8:30am–8pm (summer)
PRICE	€4/adult
NOTE	No advance ticket needed — walk-in

**2:30 PM**  
TRANSPORT

**Drive Šibenik → Zadar · 1h via A1**

*1h*

PHONE	+39 348 341 5578
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**3:30 PM**  
HOTEL

**Check in Almayer Arts & Heritage Hotel · Old Town Zadar**

HOTEL	Almayer Arts & Heritage Hotel
ADDRESS	Obala kralja Petra Kresimira IV 12, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
PHONE	+385 23 494 000
TIMES	In 3:00 PM
ROOM	Superior Double Room
NOTE	Boutique heritage hotel in Old Town — walking distance to Sea Organ, Greeting to the Sun, and Museum of Ancient Glass.

**4:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Museum of Ancient Glass · world-class Roman glassware collection · live glassblowing demos**

*45 min · Museum of Ancient Glass, Zadar*

Zadar was a Roman glassmaking center, and this museum holds one of the finest collections of ancient Roman glass in the world.

PHONE	+385 23 363 831
WEBSITE	<a href="https://www.mas-zadar.hr">https://www.mas-zadar.hr</a>
ADDRESS	Poljana Zemaljskog odbora 1, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
HOURS	Mon–Sat 9am–9pm, Sun 10am–3pm (summer)
PRICE	€5/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK — glassblowing demos hourly 10am–7pm

**5:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Five Wells Square · Land Gate · Roman Forum · Church of St. Donatus (9th century)**

45 min · Old Town Zadar

Self-guided walk through Zadar's Roman and Venetian layers.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Forum, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
<b>NOTE</b>	Free — self-guided walk. St. Donatus interior €3 if open for visits.

**7:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Sea Organ at sunset · arrive 30 min early for marble steps front row · Greeting to the Sun adjacent**

45 min · Zadar waterfront

The Sea Organ is an installation of 35 underwater pipes that turn wave motion into sound — a haunting, ever-changing chord played by the sea.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Obala kralja Petra Kresimira IV, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
<b>NOTE</b>	Free — open 24/7. Sunset ~19:30 in late August. Greeting to the Sun (solar-powered light installation) activates at dusk.

**8:30 PM**  
DINNER

**The Botanist — modern Croatian, garden terrace, natural wine list**

<b>RESTAURANT</b>	The Botanist
<b>STYLE</b>	Modern Croatian · garden setting · \$\$\$ · Old Town Zadar
<b>RESERVE</b>	Phone — +385 23 364 408
<b>BACKUP</b>	Pet Bunara · Dalmatian traditional · courtyard terrace



**DAY 5 · FRI AUG 29 · ZADAR TO MALI STON**

*Zeleni Trg morning market—then Mali Ston oyster farm and the Great Wall walk at golden hour*

High 85°F / low 71°F · sun, coastal breeze

**8:00 AM**  
ACTIVITY

**Zadar morning market Zeleni Trg · local produce, cheese, prosciutto, honey**

45 min · Zeleni Trg, Zadar

The green market is Zadar's daily gathering — farmers sell Pag cheese, Dalmatian prosciutto, island olive oil, and honey.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Zeleni Trg, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Mon–Sat 7am–2pm, closed Sun
<b>NOTE</b>	Walk-in only · bring small euro notes

**10:00 AM**  
HOTEL

**Check out Almayer Arts & Heritage Hotel · driver loads luggage**

<b>HOTEL</b>	Almayer Arts & Heritage Hotel
<b>TIMES</b>	Out 11:00 AM

**10:15 AM**  
TRANSPORT

**Private driver Zadar → Mali Ston · 3h 45m · 270 km via A1/D8**

3h 45m

<b>PHONE</b>	+39 348 341 5578
<b>NOTE</b>	Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class

2:00 PM  
HOTEL

### Check in Hotel Ostrea · 4-star bay-view room

HOTEL	Hotel Ostrea
ADDRESS	Mali Ston bb, 20230 Mali Ston, Croatia
PHONE	+385 20 754 555
TIMES	In 2:00 PM
ROOM	Superior Bay View Room
NOTE	Family-run hotel on the Mali Ston waterfront. Concierge arranges oyster farm visits and harvesting excursions.

3:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

### Oyster farm visit · arranged via Hotel Ostrea concierge · boat to farm, tasting on the water

90 min · Mali Ston Bay

Mali Ston oysters are legendary — plumper, brinier, more mineral than French or Irish.

PHONE	+385 20 754 555
NOTE	Arranged via Hotel Ostrea concierge — typically €20–30/person. Book at check-in for same afternoon or next morning.

5:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

### Mali Ston Great Wall walk · 5.5 km stone wall · best light 4–6pm · bay views

90 min · Mali Ston fortifications

The 14th-century wall connecting Mali Ston and Ston is the longest defensive structure in Europe after Hadrian's Wall.

PHONE	+385 20 754 452
ADDRESS	Mali Ston, 20230, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 8am–7pm (summer)
PRICE	€7–10/adult
NOTE	Walk-in only — ticket booth at Mali Ston entrance. Wear comfortable shoes.

7:30 PM  
DINNER

### Restaurant Ostrea — shellfish plateau, oysters, grilled fish, chilled Pošip

RESTAURANT	Restaurant Ostrea
STYLE	Seafood · oyster specialist · \$\$\$ · Mali Ston waterfront
RESERVE	Phone — +385 20 754 555
BACKUP	Kapetanova Kuca · Seafood · family-run since 1971



## DAY 6 · SAT AUG 30 · MALI STON TO DUBROVNIK

Oyster harvesting from the hotel dock—then cable car to Mount Srđ and sunset aperitivo at Lady Pipi

High 86°F / low 73°F · sun, light coastal breeze

8:30 AM  
ACTIVITY

### Oyster harvesting excursion · departs Hotel Ostrea dock · pull nets, shuck and taste on the boat

2h · Mali Ston Bay

The full oyster experience — a local farmer takes you out to the beds, pulls the nets, and shows you how to shuck.

PHONE	+385 20 754 555
NOTE	Arranged via Hotel Ostrea concierge — €40–60/person. Confirm the night before.

**10:30 AM**  
HOTEL

### Check out Hotel Ostrea · driver loads luggage

**HOTEL** Hotel Ostrea  
**TIMES** Out 11:00 AM

**11:00 AM**  
TRANSPORT

### Private driver Mali Ston → Dubrovnik · 1h 15m · 60 km via D8

*1h 15m*

**PHONE** +39 348 341 5578  
**NOTE** Andrea Del Vecchio · Mercedes E-Class · this is Andrea's final mainland leg; island transport via catamaran or private speedboat from Dubrovnik onward

**12:30 PM**  
HOTEL

### Check in Hotel Stari Grad · 4-star Old Town location

**HOTEL** Hotel Stari Grad  
**ADDRESS** Od Sigurate 4, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia  
**PHONE** +385 20 322 244  
**TIMES** In 2:00 PM  
**ROOM** Deluxe Double Room  
**NOTE** Boutique hotel in the heart of Old Town — 2 min walk to Stradun, 5 min to City Walls entrance. Request early check-in if available.

**3:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Cable Car to Mount Srđ · panoramic view of Old Town, Lokrum, Elaphiti Islands

*90 min · Dubrovnik Cable Car station*

The cable car climbs 778 meters in 4 minutes.

**PHONE** +385 20 325 393  
**WEBSITE** <https://www.dubrovnikcablecar.com>  
**ADDRESS** Ul. kralja Petra Kresimira IV 1A, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia  
**HOURS** Daily 9am–10pm (summer)  
**PRICE** €30–35/adult round-trip  
**NOTE** Buy tickets online to skip the queue — [dubrovnikcablecar.com](http://dubrovnikcablecar.com). Peak wait can be 30+ min in August.

**5:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Stradun orientation walk · Pile Gate to Ploce Gate · Onofrio Fountain · Rector's Palace exterior

*45 min · Old Town Dubrovnik*

The Stradun is Dubrovnik's main artery — 300 meters of polished white limestone flanked by baroque facades.

**NOTE** Self-guided walk — free

**6:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Aperitivo at Lady Pipi — cliff terrace, sunset over the Adriatic, walk-in only arrive early

*90 min · Above Buza Bar, Dubrovnik*

Lady Pipi is a locals' open secret — a cliff-edge terrace with sweeping sunset views and grilled meats.

**ADDRESS** Ul. Ispod Mincete bb, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia  
**NOTE** Walk-in only — arrive by 18:30 for sunset terrace seats. Cash preferred.

**8:30 PM**  
DINNER

### Restaurant Kopun — traditional Dalmatian, roasted capon, stone-walled courtyard

**RESTAURANT** Restaurant Kopun  
**STYLE** Traditional Dalmatian · signature roasted capon · \$\$\$ · Old Town Dubrovnik  
**RESERVE** Phone — +385 20 323 969  
**BACKUP** Konoba Jezuite · Dalmatian konoba · grilled fish, octopus salad

## DAY 7 · SUN AUG 31 · DUBROVNIK FULL DAY

City Walls at 8am opening—Porporela swim with the locals—then 360° tasting menu at sunset

High 87°F / low 74°F · sun, light afternoon breeze

**8:00 AM–10:00 AM**

ACTIVITY

### Dubrovnik City Walls circuit · 2 km rampart walk · Fort Lovrijenac included

2h · City Walls entrance, Pile Gate

The 8am opening is the only time to walk the walls without the cruise-ship crowds.

PHONE	+385 20 638 800
WEBSITE	<a href="https://www.citywallsdubrovnik.hr">https://www.citywallsdubrovnik.hr</a>
ADDRESS	Ul. Ispod Mincete 9, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 8am–6:30pm (summer)
PRICE	€35/adult (includes Fort Lovrijenac)
NOTE	Buy tickets online at <a href="http://citywallsdubrovnik.hr">citywallsdubrovnik.hr</a> to skip the queue. Wear sun protection — no shade on the ramparts.

**10:30 AM**

ACTIVITY

### Rector's Palace museum · Gothic-Renaissance courtyard · atrium concerts in summer

45 min · Rector's Palace, Old Town

The Rector's Palace was the seat of the Ragusan Republic — a Gothic-Renaissance hybrid with a courtyard that hosts summer concerts.

PHONE	+385 20 321 422
ADDRESS	Pred Dvorom 3, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 9am–6pm (summer)
PRICE	€10/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK

**11:30 AM**

ACTIVITY

### Dominican Monastery · 14th-century cloister · art collection

45 min · Dominican Monastery, Old Town

The cloister is one of Dubrovnik's quietest spaces — a Gothic arcade around an orange-tree courtyard.

PHONE	+385 20 321 423
ADDRESS	Ul. Svetog Dominika 4, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 9am–5pm
PRICE	€6/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK

**12:30 PM**

LUNCH

### Bar Dodo — casual terrace, grilled fish, octopus salad, walk-in

RESTAURANT	Bar Dodo
STYLE	Casual Dalmatian · grilled fish, salads · \$\$ · Old Town Dubrovnik
RESERVE	Walk-in
BACKUP	Barba · Street food · fish tacos, ceviche

**2:30 PM**

ACTIVITY

### Porporela breakwater swim · locals-only hidden gem · free · steps into the Adriatic

90 min · Porporela, east of Old Town

Porporela is the locals' open secret — a stone breakwater with steps carved into the sea.

ADDRESS	Porporela, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
NOTE	Free — walk from Old Town via Ploce Gate, 10 min. Bring swim gear and towel.

**4:30 PM**

ACTIVITY

### Cathedral of the Assumption treasury · relic collection, Byzantine paintings

30 min · Cathedral of the Assumption, Old Town

The treasury holds relics of St. Blaise (Dubrovnik's patron), Byzantine gold and silver work, and paintings spanning five centuries.

PHONE	+385 20 323 459
ADDRESS	Ul. kneza Damjana Jude 1, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
HOURS	Mon–Sat 9am–5pm, Sun 11am–5pm
PRICE	€5/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK

8:00 PM  
DINNER

### 360° Restaurant — tasting menu, terrace over the Old Town walls, sunset views

RESTAURANT	360° Restaurant
STYLE	Modern Adriatic tasting menu · terrace over the walls · \$\$\$\$ · Old Town Dubrovnik · St. Dominic Street
RESERVE	Phone — <a href="https://www.360dubrovnik.com">https://www.360dubrovnik.com</a>
BACKUP	Restaurant Nautika · Fine-dining Adriatic · signature lobster, champagne list



## DAY 8 · MON SEP 1 · DUBROVNIK TO KORČULA

*Catamaran to Korčula—Marco Polo House and Pošip wine tasting—Moreška Sword Dance at sunset*

High 86°F / low 73°F · sun, light coastal breeze

8:00 AM  
HOTEL

### Check out Hotel Stari Grad · luggage to Dubrovnik port

HOTEL	Hotel Stari Grad
TIMES	Out 11:00 AM
NOTE	Hotel can arrange luggage transfer to port. Confirm the night before.

9:00 AM  
TRANSPORT

### Catamaran Dubrovnik → Korčula · Jadrolinija or Krilo Jet · 2h 30m crossing

2h 30m

PHONE	+385 20 418 000
WEBSITE	<a href="https://www.jadrolinija.hr">https://www.jadrolinija.hr</a>
NOTE	Book 1–2 weeks ahead via <a href="http://jadrolinija.hr">jadrolinija.hr</a> or <a href="http://krilojadran.hr">krilojadran.hr</a> . Confirm departure time at booking — schedule varies by season. Outdoor deck seating recommended.

11:30 AM  
HOTEL

### Check in Lesic Dimitri Palace · 5-star heritage hotel

HOTEL	Lesic Dimitri Palace
ADDRESS	Don Pavla Pose 1-6, 20260 Korcula, Croatia
PHONE	+385 20 715 560
TIMES	In 2:00 PM
ROOM	Palace Suite
NOTE	18th-century bishop's palace converted to a 5-star property. LD Restaurant on-site. Concierge can arrange Moreška Sword Dance tickets and confirm Monday evening performance.

1:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

### Korčula Old Town walking tour · self-guided or licensed guide · Marco Polo birthplace tradition

90 min · Korčula Old Town

Korčula's Old Town is a miniature Dubrovnik — stone alleys laid out in a herringbone pattern for wind flow, Gothic-Renaissance palaces.

NOTE	Self-guided walk free. Licensed guide €60–80 for 90 min — arrange via Lesic Dimitri concierge.
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2:30 PM  
ACTIVITY

**Marco Polo House museum · birthplace tradition · tower climb**

30 min · Marco Polo House, Korčula

Korčula claims Marco Polo was born in this stone house in 1254.

PHONE	+385 20 715 009
ADDRESS	Ulica Depolo, 20260 Korcula, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 9am–7pm (summer)
PRICE	€5/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK

3:30 PM  
ACTIVITY

**St. Mark's Cathedral · Tintoretto altarpiece · Gothic-Renaissance bell tower**

30 min · St. Mark's Cathedral, Korčula

The cathedral's facade is a mix of Gothic and Renaissance — the rose window, the carved portal, and the Tintoretto altarpiece inside.

PHONE	+385 20 711 049
ADDRESS	Trg Sv. Marka, 20260 Korcula, Croatia
HOURS	Mon–Sat 9am–2pm, 5–7pm; Sun for Mass only
PRICE	€4/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK

5:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

**Pošip wine tasting at Bokar Wine Bar or Cara Winery · Korčula's indigenous white grape**

90 min · Bokar Wine Bar or Cara Winery, Korčula

Pošip is Korčula's signature white — mineral, saline, and age-worthy.

PHONE	+385 20 711 194
NOTE	Bokar Wine Bar walk-in OK. Cara Winery by appointment — call +385 20 712 066. Tasting €15–25/person.

7:00 PM  
ACTIVITY

**Moreška Sword Dance · traditional performance · confirm Monday evening schedule**

45 min · Open-air amphitheater or St. Mark's Square, Korčula

The Moreška is a 500-year-old sword dance dramatizing a battle between two kings over a captured bride.

PHONE	+385 20 715 560
NOTE	Confirm Monday evening performance schedule with Lesic Dimitri concierge at check-in. Tickets €10–15/adult. Performance typically at 9pm in summer.

8:30 PM  
DINNER

**LD Restaurant Lesic Dimitri — on-site fine dining, Adriatic tasting menu, wine cellar**

RESTAURANT	LD Restaurant Lesic Dimitri
STYLE	Modern Adriatic · tasting menu · \$\$\$\$ · Lesic Dimitri Palace, Old Town Korčula
RESERVE	Phone — +385 20 715 560
BACKUP	Konoba Mareta · Dalmatian konoba · grilled fish, octopus peka



**DAY 9 · TUE SEP 2 · KORČULA TO HVAR**

*Lumbarda e-bike and Pošip vineyard morning—catamaran to Hvar—then Fortica at golden hour*

*High 85°F / low 72°F · sun, light coastal breeze*

**8:45 AM–10:45 AM**  
ACTIVITY

### Lumbarda e-bike and Pošip vineyard tasting · 6 km flat coastal ride · Cara Winery

2h · Lumbarda village, Korčula

Lumbarda is a 15-minute drive from Korčula Town — a sleepy fishing village ringed by Pošip vineyards.

PHONE	+385 20 712 066
NOTE	Hotel arranges e-bike rental and pickup/dropoff. Call Cara Winery +385 20 712 066 to confirm 9:30am tasting. Depart hotel 8:45am, arrive Lumbarda 9:15am, tasting 9:30–10:30am, return 10:45am.

**11:00 AM**  
HOTEL

### Check out Lesic Dimitri Palace · luggage to Korčula port

HOTEL	Lesic Dimitri Palace
TIMES	Out 11:00 AM
NOTE	Hotel can arrange luggage transfer to port.

**12:00 PM**  
TRANSPORT

### Catamaran Korčula → Hvar · Jadrolinija · 2h crossing

2h

PHONE	+385 21 338 333
WEBSITE	<a href="https://www.jadrolinija.hr">https://www.jadrolinija.hr</a>
NOTE	Book 1–2 weeks ahead via jadrolinija.hr. Confirm departure time at booking. Outdoor deck recommended.

**2:00 PM**  
HOTEL

### Check in Palace Elisabeth Hvar Heritage Hotel · 5-star Old Town location

HOTEL	Palace Elisabeth Hvar Heritage Hotel
ADDRESS	Trg Svetog Stjepana 1, 21450 Hvar, Croatia
PHONE	+385 21 741 966
TIMES	In 2:00 PM
ROOM	Deluxe Double Room
NOTE	Historic palace on St. Stephen's Square. Walking distance to Fortica, Riva promenade, and Pakleni Islands boat taxi dock.

**5:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Hvar Fortress Fortica at golden hour · 25-min uphill walk · 360° panorama of the harbor and Pakleni Islands

90 min · Fortica (Spanish Fortress), Hvar

The climb to Fortica is steep but short.

PHONE	+385 21 741 009
ADDRESS	Kula sv. Nikole, 21450 Hvar, Croatia
HOURS	Daily 9am–11pm (summer)
PRICE	€8/adult
NOTE	Walk-in OK — ticket booth at the fortress entrance. Bring water and sun protection.

**7:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

### Sunset cocktails Hula Hula Beach Bar · walk-in, arrive early for waterfront cushions

90 min · Hula Hula Beach Bar, Hvar

Hula Hula is the island's sunset institution — a beach club on the rocks west of town with DJ sets, cocktails, and a front-row seat to the sun.

ADDRESS	Uvala Pokonji Dol, 21450 Hvar, Croatia
NOTE	Walk-in only — no reservations. Arrive early. 15-min walk from Old Town or water taxi from harbor.

**9:00 PM**  
DINNER

### Konoba Stori Komin — stone courtyard, grilled fish, octopus peka, house wine

RESTAURANT	Konoba Stori Komin
STYLE	Dalmatian konoba · grilled fish, octopus peka · \$\$ · Old Town Hvar · quiet side street
RESERVE	Phone — +385 98 188 6057
BACKUP	Gariful · Upscale seafood · lobster, oysters, champagne

## DAY 10 · WED SEP 3 · HVAR FULL DAY

*Malo Grablje abandoned village hike—then Pakleni Islands boat taxi, Palmižana swim and late lunch*

High 84°F / low 71°F · sun, 20+ meter visibility for snorkeling

<b>9:00 AM–11:30 AM</b> ACTIVITY	<b>Malo Grablje abandoned hilltop village hike · trailhead Milna village · 90-min round-trip</b> <i>2h 30m · Malo Grablje trail, Milna village (15 min drive from Hvar Town)</i> Malo Grablje is an abandoned village perched in the hills above Milna — stone houses overtaken by lavender, a 16th-century church. <b>NOTE</b> Hotel arranges taxi to Milna trailhead. Depart 9am, arrive Milna 9:15am, hike 9:30–11:00am, return to Hvar Town by 11:30am. Free hike, no ticket.
<b>1:00 PM</b> TRANSPORT	<b>Pakleni Islands boat taxi departs Hvar harbor · continuous departures · €10/person round-trip</b> <i>15 min</i> <b>NOTE</b> Boat taxis depart continuously from Hvar harbor to Palmižana. No reservation needed — buy ticket at the dock kiosk. Return boats run until 8pm in summer.
<b>1:15 PM</b> ACTIVITY	<b>Palmižana coves swim and snorkel · 20+ meter visibility · pine-shaded beach</b> <i>3h · Palmižana, Pakleni Islands</i> Palmižana is the jewel of the Pakleni archipelago — crystal-clear coves, 20+ meter snorkeling visibility, and Aleppo pine shade. <b>NOTE</b> Free — bring snorkel gear, towel, sun protection. Meneghello restaurant on the beach for lunch.
<b>3:00 PM</b> LUNCH	<b>Meneghello Palmižana — beachfront terrace, grilled fish, octopus salad, rose</b> <b>RESTAURANT</b> Meneghello Palmižana <b>STYLE</b> Beachfront Dalmatian · grilled fish, salads · \$\$ · Palmižana, Pakleni Islands <b>RESERVE</b> Walk-in <b>BACKUP</b> Laganini Lounge Bar & Fish House · Beachfront lounge · fish, cocktails
<b>6:00 PM</b> TRANSPORT	<b>Return boat taxi Palmižana → Hvar Town · 15 min</b> <b>NOTE</b> Continuous departures until 8pm — buy ticket at Palmižana dock kiosk.
<b>7:30 PM</b> ACTIVITY	<b>Sunset aperitivo on the Riva promenade · walk-in cafe or wine bar</b> <i>60 min · Riva promenade, Hvar</i> The Riva at sunset is Hvar's living room — locals and travelers gather for aperitivo, the light goes gold, and the harbor glows. <b>NOTE</b> Walk-in only — dozens of cafes and wine bars line the Riva.
<b>9:00 PM</b> DINNER	<b>Restaurant Divino — Old Town courtyard, truffle pasta, Plavac Mali wine list</b> <b>RESTAURANT</b> Restaurant Divino <b>STYLE</b> Dalmatian · truffle pasta, Plavac Mali focus · \$\$\$ · Old Town Hvar <b>RESERVE</b> Phone — +385 21 741 978 <b>BACKUP</b> Konoba Menego · Dalmatian konoba · grilled fish, pasticada



## DAY 11 · THU SEP 4 · HVAR TO SPLIT

*Catamaran crossing to Split—Diocletian's cellars and Marjan stairs—then Bokamorra pizza after the climb*

High 83°F / low 70°F · sun, light coastal breeze

**8:30 AM**

HOTEL

**Check out Palace Elisabeth Hvar Heritage Hotel · luggage to Hvar port**

**HOTEL** Palace Elisabeth Hvar Heritage Hotel  
**TIMES** Out 11:00 AM

**10:00 AM**

TRANSPORT

**Catamaran Hvar → Split · Jadrolinija · 1h crossing · look northeast for Brač island Pučišća quarry**

*1h*

**PHONE** +385 21 338 333  
**WEBSITE** <https://www.jadrolinija.hr>  
**NOTE** Book 1–2 weeks ahead via jadrolinija.hr. During the crossing, look northeast — the white cliffs of Brač island are the Pučišća quarry, source of the stone in Diocletian's Palace (and the White House).

**11:00 AM**

HOTEL

**Check in Hotel Vestibul Palace · 5-star location inside Diocletian's Palace**

**HOTEL** Hotel Vestibul Palace  
**ADDRESS** Iza Vestibula 4, 21000 Split, Croatia  
**PHONE** +385 21 329 329  
**TIMES** In 2:00 PM  
**ROOM** Deluxe Double Room  
**NOTE** Luxury boutique hotel built into the Roman walls of Diocletian's Palace. Walking distance to Peristyle, Marjan Hill, Riva, and all Old Town sights. Request early check-in if available.

**12:00 PM**

ACTIVITY

**Diocletian's Palace Cellars + Peristyle + Cathedral · combo ticket · Brač marble quarry connection**

*90 min · Diocletian's Palace, Split*

The cellars are the Palace's underground foundation — Roman vaults that mirror the Emperor's apartments above.

**PHONE** +385 21 345 602  
**WEBSITE** <https://www.visitsplit.com>  
**ADDRESS** Dioklecijanova 1, 21000 Split, Croatia  
**HOURS** Daily 9am–8pm (summer)  
**PRICE** €10/adult combo ticket (cellars + cathedral + treasury)  
**NOTE** Walk-in OK — ticket booth in the cellars.

**2:00 PM**

ACTIVITY

**Marjan Hill Stairs · 360+ steps · forest trail · viewpoint over Split and islands**

*90 min · Marjan Hill, Split*

The Marjan stairs climb through Aleppo pine forest to a viewpoint over Split, the Palace, and the offshore islands.

**ADDRESS** Marjan Hill trailhead near Varos neighborhood, 21000 Split, Croatia  
**NOTE** Free — self-guided. Trailhead 10-min walk from Vestibul Palace. Bring water.

**3:45 PM**  
LUNCH

**Bokamorra Haute Couture Pizza — post-Marjan lunch, creative pizzas, craft beer**

<b>RESTAURANT</b>	Bokamorra Haute Couture Pizza
<b>STYLE</b>	Gourmet pizza · creative toppings · \$ · Near Marjan Hill, Split
<b>RESERVE</b>	Walk-in
<b>BACKUP</b>	Fife · Dalmatian traditional · no-frills konoba

**5:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Republic Square Prokurative · Venetian-style arcades · open-air summer concerts**

*20 min · Prokurative, Split*

Prokurative is Split's 19th-century answer to Venice's St. Mark's Square — arcaded on three sides and a summer concert venue.

<b>NOTE</b>	Free — self-guided walk.
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**5:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Gregory of Nin Statue · rub the toe for good luck · Mestrovic bronze**

*10 min · North Gate of Diocletian's Palace, Split*

Ivan Mestrovic's bronze statue of the 10th-century bishop — locals rub the big toe for good luck.

<b>NOTE</b>	Free — outside the North Gate of Diocletian's Palace.
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**6:00 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Cat Tom and Old Town cats near Peristyle · local cat colony, shaded courtyard**

*15 min · Peristyle, Diocletian's Palace*

The Palace is home to a colony of cats that lounge on the Roman stones.

<b>NOTE</b>	Free — the cats are around the Peristyle and cellars entrance.
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**6:30 PM**  
ACTIVITY

**Froggyland Museum · taxidermy frogs in human scenes · kitschy, surreal, unforgettable**

*30 min · Froggyland, Split*

Froggyland is exactly what it sounds like — 500+ taxidermy frogs posed in human scenes (schoolroom, barbershop, orchestra).

<b>PHONE</b>	+385 21 324 035
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.froggyland.net">https://www.froggyland.net</a>
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Kraj Sv. Ivana 5, 21000 Split, Croatia
<b>HOURS</b>	Daily 9am–10pm
<b>PRICE</b>	€5/adult
<b>NOTE</b>	Walk-in OK

**8:30 PM**  
DINNER

**Lola Restaurant — modern Dalmatian, Riva terrace, tasting menu focus**

<b>RESTAURANT</b>	Lola Restaurant
<b>STYLE</b>	Modern Dalmatian · tasting menu · \$\$\$ · Riva promenade, Split
<b>RESERVE</b>	Phone — +385 21 466 303
<b>BACKUP</b>	Zinfandel Food & Wine Bar · Fine-dining Dalmatian · wine-pairing focus

**DAY 12 · FRI SEP 5 · DEPART SPLIT**

*Final Riva coffee and Peristyle wander—then private transfer to SPU for United nonstop home*

*High 82°F / low 69°F · sun · Departure day — easy morning, transfer to SPU*

**8:00 AM**  
ACTIVITY

**Final Riva coffee · Peristyle morning light · last Palace wander**

*60 min · Riva promenade and Peristyle, Split*

One last espresso on the Riva, one last walk through the Peristyle before the crowds arrive.

<b>NOTE</b>	Walk-in cafe on the Riva — dozens to choose from.
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**9:30 AM**  
HOTEL

**Check out Hotel Vestibul Palace · luggage pickup for SPU transfer**

<b>HOTEL</b>	Hotel Vestibul Palace
<b>TIMES</b>	Out 11:00 AM

**10:00 AM**  
TRANSPORT

**Private transfer Split → SPU airport · 30 min · depart 2.5 hours before flight**

*30 min*

<b>PHONE</b>	+385 21 329 329
<b>NOTE</b>	Hotel arranges private transfer to SPU. Confirm pickup time the night before. SPU is 30 min from Old Town.

**1:00 PM**  
FLIGHT

**United nonstop Split (SPU) → EWR · seasonal Wed/Fri/Sun service**

<b>FLIGHT</b>	United 20 SPU 1:00 PM → EWR 4:30 PM · 9h 30m · nonstop
<b>CABIN</b>	Economy
<b>AIRCRAFT</b>	Boeing 767-400ER
<b>NOTE</b>	United operates seasonal nonstop SPU–EWR on Wed/Fri/Sun only (Sep 5 is Sunday). Confirm when booking opens. Book directly on <a href="https://www.united.com">united.com</a> for MileagePlus accrual. Verify flight number, times and equipment at booking — schedules change.
<b>PHONE</b>	+1-800-864-8331
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.united.com">https://www.united.com</a>

## TRIP REFERENCE

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### Tonight

- MUST: Confirm Andrea Del Vecchio VCE pickup Aug 25 — email [andelvecchio1@virgilio.it](mailto:andelvecchio1@virgilio.it) with flight arrival time.
- MUST: Book Plitvice timed-entry tickets NOW at [np-plitvicka-jezera.hr](http://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr) — Aug slots sell out 2–4 weeks ahead — need Day 3 afternoon 14:00–15:00 slot + Day 4 morning 07:00 slot, both Entrance 1 Route C.
- MUST: Reserve Restaurant Monte Rovinj for Day 1 dinner — Michelin 1-star, phone only +385 52 830 203.
- MUST: Reserve 360° Restaurant Dubrovnik for Day 7 dinner — tasting menu, terrace over walls, book weeks ahead +385 20 322 222.
- This week: Book catamaran ferry tickets Dubrovnik → Korčula → Hvar → Split via [jadrolinija.hr](http://jadrolinija.hr) — 1–2 weeks ahead recommended for August.
- This week: Reserve LD Restaurant Lesic Dimitri Korčula for Day 8 dinner +385 20 715 560 — confirm Moreška Sword Dance Monday performance schedule at same call.

### Logistics

- Driver · Andrea Del Vecchio mainland VCE → Dubrovnik.
- Islands · Jadrolinija catamaran.
- United EWR ↔ VCE + SPU → EWR.
- 8 hotels · 2n each leg avg.
- Currency: Euro (EUR) since Jan 2023.
- Plitvice timed · book NOW.

### Weather Window

- Late August through early September on the Croatian coast: highs 82–87°F, lows 68–74°F, sun with occasional afternoon breeze. Inland at Plitvice expect cooler (high 79°F) with afternoon thunderstorm risk. Water temperature 73–76°F — perfect for swimming and snorkeling in the Pakleni Islands. Afternoon coastal breeze picks up around 3pm, especially in Hvar and Korčula. No fog or rain expected; this is peak Adriatic season.

### Pack

- Reef-safe sunscreen · Pakleni + Korčula marine-protected.
- Comfortable walking shoes · cobblestones + Plitvice boardwalks + Marjan stairs.
- Light packable rain layer · Plitvice/Motovun afternoon storm risk.
- Snorkel gear · Palmižana 20+ meter visibility.
- Small euro notes · markets, tips, park entry.
- Sun hat + UV sunglasses · no shade on City Walls or Plitvice Route C.
- Light layers · evening coastal breeze, lows low 70s.
- Tote bag for market finds · Zadar Zeleni Trg, Rovinj fish market.

### Flags

- United SPU → EWR seasonal Wed/Fri/Sun only — Sep 5 is Sunday — confirm flight operates when booking opens.
- Plitvice timed entry sells out 2–4 weeks ahead in August — book immediately at [np-plitvicka-jezera.hr](http://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr) for Day 3 afternoon + Day 4 7am slots.
- Marquee restaurants Monte, 360°, LD, The Botanist, Ostrea — book 2–4 weeks ahead, some phone only.
- Catamaran ferry tickets Dubrovnik → Korčula → Hvar → Split — book 1–2 weeks ahead via [jadrolinija.hr](http://jadrolinija.hr) or [kriloadran.hr](http://kriloadran.hr).
- Confirm Andrea Del Vecchio VCE pickup immediately — [andelvecchio1@virgilio.it](mailto:andelvecchio1@virgilio.it) — he handles mainland Venice through Dubrovnik only.
- Roxanich Winery max 6 people — book 1 week ahead +385 52 725 091.

## PLAN B

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1. Rain or weather inland at Plitvice/Motovun/Hum — Plitvice has covered boardwalks so Route C is still viable in light rain; shift outdoor Motovun rampart walk earlier in the day; move Roxanich winery tasting forward to avoid afternoon storms.
2. Sold-out marquee restaurant — Rovinj: Cap Aureo (Michelin Plate, Monte Mulini peninsula) in place of Monte or La Puntulina; Dubrovnik: Restaurant Nautika (Fort Lovrijenac terrace) in place of 360°; Korčula: Konoba Mareta (family-run, grilled fish) in place of LD; Hvar: Gariful (upscale Riva seafood) in place of Divino; Split: Zinfandel Food & Wine Bar (on-site Vestibul Palace) in place of Lola.
3. Plitvice sold-out timed entry — Route A Lower Lakes only (2–3 hours, less dramatic but still turquoise pools and boardwalks) OR substitute Krka National Park (1 hour north of Zadar, waterfalls and swimming allowed, less crowded than Plitvice).
4. Catamaran ferry disruption or sold-out — private speedboat via hotel concierge: Dubrovnik → Korčula €400–600 (2h), Korčula → Hvar €400–600 (1.5h), Hvar → Split €300–400 (1h); all hotels on this itinerary have speedboat contacts.
5. Health, altitude, or fatigue day — spa at Grand Park Rovinj (Day 2 afternoon in place of Motovun/Hum loop); Lokrum Island ferry from Dubrovnik (15 min, botanical garden, peacocks, swimming — replaces one full-day activity); beach club day at Palmižana Hvar (extend the Pakleni Islands visit, skip Malo Grablje hike); Bacvice Beach Split (local sandy beach, 10 min walk from Palace, replaces Marjan stairs).

## INSIDER NOTES

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*“Rovinj harbor fish market before 9am — full spread, locals haggle in dialect, and by 9am the best is gone; this is where the Monte and La Puntulina chefs buy.”*

*“Roxanich amphora cellar is candlelit and theatrical — Mladen Rozanic is a cult natural-wine figure, the wines are orange and polarizing, max 6 people, book 1 week ahead.”*

*“Hum the world's smallest town (28 permanent residents) is completely unmarked on most maps — the Glagolitic stone alley is one of the most quietly moving installations in all of Istria.”*

*“Plitvice at 7am opening is transformative — empty boardwalks, soft light, Veliki Slap to yourself; by 10am it is a queue.”*

*“Šibenik Cathedral built stone by stone 1431–1536 with no mortar — the frieze of 71 sculpted faces on the exterior apse is one of the great Renaissance achievements in the Adriatic; almost no one stops here.”*

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