



Croatia/Montenegro

May 9-25, 2019



16-Day Tour Highlights

9-Day Island Hopping Cruise

7-Days on 38-Passenger Mega Yacht M/S Splendid – Plus 2-Nights Zagreb
Explore Islands along Dalmatia Coast – Swim Stops –Sunbathing
2+ Meals Daily – Guided Tours on the Islands – Guided Tour of Dubrovnik

7-Days Montenegro

Guided Land Tour

Budva – Perast – Lakes – Mountains – Monasteries - Old Villages – Boat Rides
2+ Meals Daily – Wine Tasting - Excursions and Guided Tours, including Jeep Tour

Day Minus 1 (Wednesday, May 8) DEPART U.S. FOR ZAGREB

DAY 1 - (Thursday, May 9) ARRIVAL ZAGREB (D)

You may arrive any time today but we'll try to coordinate a Group transfer from the airport to our hotel in Zagreb. Dinner at the Hotel is included. Early to bed after your long journey and to rest up before beginning our adventure.

Accommodation: Sheraton, Zagreb

DAY 2 - ZAGREB (B, D)

After breakfast, we will embark on a sightseeing tour to see the historic Upper Town, St. Mark's Church, St. Catherine's Church, the Cathedral, Parliament, and Government Palace.

The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the winding city streets, browse through the shops, or take an optional excursion to see the countryside. Lunch will be on your own. Tonight we will enjoy a **Special Drifter Sister Welcome Dinner**.



Accommodation: Sheraton, Zagreb

DAY 3 - BOARD M/S SPLENDID (B, D)

After breakfast, we have an early departure by bus from Zagreb to **Krka National Park**. After spending time in this magical natural environment of waterfalls and gorges, with the river gushing through a karstic canyon 200 meters deep, we continue on to Split, boarding mega-yacht **M/S Splendid** in time to relax and meet our fellow passengers before our **Welcome Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. and **Welcome Dinner** at 7:30.



Accommodation for 7 nights: M/S Splendid



DAY 4 - SPLIT - OMIS - PUČIŠĆA (B, L)



Our English-speaking guide will do a morning **tour of Split City** and walk us through the historical Diocletian's Palace. We will have some leisure time on our own to explore Split before returning to the boat for a noon departure to start our cruise to Omis, an ancient town with city walls, fortresses and stone churches.

Lunch will be served on board while we continue our cruise across the Brac Channel, all the way to Pucisca. **Pučišća is the island's largest village.** The afternoon is spent exploring the village with its authentic Mediterranean architecture and

rustic ambiance inside a deep fjord. Pučišća is famous for its quarries from which stone was excavated to build the limestone columns of the White House in Washington DC, the Parliament house in Vienna and other famous buildings. It is also home to the only Croatian Stonemasonry school. We shall spend a night here. Enjoy the nightfall, as it unifies the distinct features of Pučišća that have intrigued us so much in daylight. Dinner is on your own, and we will overnight in this very quiet town.



DAY 5 - PUČIŠĆA - BOL - HVAR (B, L)

We'll start our day with a morning departure towards **Brac Island**, stopping first in **Bol**. Bol is famous for having one of the finest European beaches, called Zlatni Rat (Golden Cape). As we stop in Bol, you can relax in this charming Dalmatian town. Have a walk, a cup of coffee or a swim, until lunch is served on board. After a swim stop and lunch, we'll continue cruising along many idyllic coves and bays

towards Hvar, the sunniest Croatian island. **Hvar** is one of the most popular and attractive Croatian tourist destinations and a meeting point of the international jet set. Upon our evening arrival at Hvar, **a local English-speaking guide**

will walk us through the town and make a short presentation about lavender, Hvar's traditional product throughout the centuries. Afterwards, you'll be free to enjoy your evening in Hvar, to explore on your own and dine in one of its numerous family owned restaurants or taverns. Overnight in Hvar Historical Town.



DAY 6 - HVAR - BIŠEVO BLUE CAVE - VIS (B, L)

We'll start our day with a morning cruise toward the Island of Biševo and its **Blue Cave**. Sunbeams penetrating through the cave's submarine opening get reflected from the white bottom floor, coloring the cave aquamarine and objects in the water silver, creating a truly stunning and magical natural phenomenon. However, at times high waves prevent the entrance to Blue Cave, which is something we shall not know before the morning designated for our visit. For this reason, entrance fees are paid on the spot – if we are lucky enough to visit the cave! Afterwards we'll dock in



Vis and have lunch. Vis is truly unique in

comparison to other Adriatic islands. Due to its strategic location on the open sea it served as a military zone for a long time, for which reason it was **untouched by the usual tourist development.** Beautiful beaches, unspoilt nature, ecological agriculture and preserved traditional architecture make up the advantages of this unique Croatian island. You will have the evening free in Vis, to explore and dine in one of its family run taverns. We will overnight in Vis Town.



DAY 7 – VIS - KORCULA (B, L, D)

We'll start our day with a morning departure towards the Island of Korcula, with a **swim stop** and lunch en route. In the afternoon, we'll arrive to Korcula Town. This town is known as a birthplace of Marco Polo, one of the most famous world explorers of all times. Our English speaking guide will take us on a **City Tour of Korcula** and walk us through Korcula's charming narrow and cobbled streets. You'll have the rest of the evening free, to enjoy some shopping before meeting for a **Special Drifter Sister Dinner**. Overnight in Korcula Historical Town.



DAY 8 - KORKULA - NATIONAL PARK MLJET (B, L)

After breakfast we'll cruise to National Park Mljet, passing by the magnificent shores of Korcula islands archipelago, with a **swim stop** and lunch en route. Upon arrival to **National Park Mljet** you'll have a free afternoon to explore, walk around the Great and Small Lakes and take a small boat to visit the **Islet of St. Mary** with its 12th century **Benedictine Monastery**. You can also take a swim in the heart of this pristine National Park. Dinner is on your own at one of the local restaurants. Overnight in Mljet.

DAY 9 - N.P. MLJET – ELAPHITI ISLANDS – DUBROVNIK (B, L)

Today we'll depart for Dubrovnik, along the shores of Mljet and the Elaphiti islands, where we'll have one last short **swim stop** and lunch on board. Upon arrival, an English speaking guide will come to the pier to greet us for our **panoramic drive and photo stop** above Dubrovnik, before descending to the historical center. The guide will then show us the most interesting sights of Dubrovnik. Following the **city tour** you will be free to explore Dubrovnik, perhaps climbing the famous City Walls before choosing one of the many fine restaurants for dinner on your own. A return coach transfer to M/S Splendid will be scheduled in the evening, or you may return on your own. Overnight in Dubrovnik.



DAY 10 - (Saturday, May 18) - DUBROVNIK - CAVTAT - BUDVA (B, D)



After breakfast we **say farewell to our captain and crew, leave M/S Splendid, and drive to Montenegro**. En route we stop at the lovely little seaside town of **Cavtat**, where we will have free time to walk around and have lunch on our own at one of the many seafood restaurants. We'll then continue to Budva and check into our hotel Adria. Late this afternoon we will enjoy an informal **walking tour of the historic Old Town Budva**, followed by a **Welcome Dinner** in one of the local restaurants in the port.

NOTE: If doing just the cruise, you will be transferred after breakfast to DBV Airport.

Accommodation: Hotel Adria, Budva

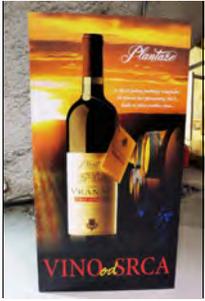
DAY 11 – BUDVA – MILOCER, ST. STEFAN – OLD MONTENEGRO (CETINJE) (B, L, D)

Today we will have a full day of sightseeing, beginning with a drive to the most beautiful part of the **Budva Riviera** – the island hotel Sveti (Saint) Stefan and Royal Villa and Park – **Milocer**. After a short walking tour through the village, we will board our motor coach and climb the mountain to reach **Cetinje, the Old Capital of Montenegro**. After our visit, we descend by serpentine through Mt. Lovcen with magnificent views of the Bay of Kotor, stopping in the village of **Njegusi** for a presentation of the making of their famous **prosciuto**, including a snack of prosciuto, cheese, and an old Slavic drink (brewed honey) at the **oldest inn in Montenegro**. After our visit we return to Budva and enjoy **dinner** at the hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel Adria, Budva



DAY 12 – MONTENEGRO WINE ROUTES (B, L)



Today we will visit the wineries of Montenegro as we journey to **Cemovsko Field**, part of the Zeta Plains. Up until the 1970s the Field was a wasteland, but it has been turned into the **biggest vineyard in Europe** (in one piece) with **Vranac** grapes. Europe's largest and most beautiful vineyard, "Plantaze" was raised covering 2,250 hectares, with **11 million vine plants**. We will visit a unique wine cellar built in a huge old underground air force hangar and **taste some of the best wines**. Our tour continues with a **Winemaker Lunch and Wine Tasting** at one of the best private wineries of Montenegro, "**Zenta**." After lunch we will drive by **Skadar Lake** and enjoy the beautiful vistas before returning to our hotel in Budva. Dinner is on your own in Old Town or at the hotel.



Dinner is on your own in Old Town or at the hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel Adria, Budva

DAY 13 – TALE OF TWO TOWNS: OLD BAR & ULCINI (B, L, D)

The Ulcinj region of Montenegro traces its history to the prehistoric times of the Illyrians. The scenic old walled town of **Ulcinj was founded in the 5th century BC** by the Colchianians. Several centuries later the town was captured by the Romans and was afforded special privileges and independent status under Roman law. We will have an informal **guided walking tour** of the old town. Next, we drive to **Ada Bojana** – an artificially created river island. Here there are many restaurants that serve fish caught in the old time-honored methods. **Lunch is included** and will be at one of these restaurants.



After lunch we will drive to **Old Bar**, a unique monument of the remnants of many past civilizations. Here there are churches and buildings from different epochs, squares, medieval palaces and houses that once were abundant with life. As we are leaving Old Bar, we stop for a visit to one of the oldest olive trees in the world (more than 2100 years old), called **Old Olive Tree of Mirovica**, which was put under State



protection in 1957 due to its natural, morphological, environmental, aesthetic and historical significance. We will drive in the afternoon to Perast and check in to Hotel Conte. **Dinner is at the hotel restaurant overlooking the enchanting Bay of Kotor** and the two churched islets floating in the middle of the bay.

Accommodation: Hotel Conte, Perast

DAY 14 – PERAST & KOTOR (B, D)



Today we have a leisurely morning to explore our little village of **Perast** and nearby **Risan**, which has a rich history dating back to the Illyrians of 4th century BCE, and Romans of the 1st century, with **mosaics dating back to the Roman period**. Lunch is on your own at one of the many little seaside cafes.



A Roman Mosaic Villa, dating back to the 2nd and early 3rd centuries, is located in Risan. A total of 5 mosaics have been preserved. The most famous of the mosaics shows Hypnos, the god of sleep.

This afternoon we will visit Tivat, Montenegro's jet-set port and drive to a centuries-old farm house with a great view of the Bay of Kotor, for a **Special Dinner** of local food, with wines and entertainment by a local folk group.

Accommodation: Hotel Conte, Perast

DAY 15 - MONTENEGRO MOUNTAINS – MT. DURMITOR & TARA RIVER NATIONAL PARK (B, L, D)



Today we drive through Risan and Niksic to **explore the mountains of Montenegro**. On our way to the Montenegro Highlands we will pass through the dramatic canyon of the Piva River and Lake to the mountain village of Trsa in the **National Park of Durmitor and Tara River**. From here we will embark on a thrilling **jeep expedition** through this glacier-formed landscape of deep canyons, pristine rivers and dense pine forests, enjoying



brehtaking views of the Tara River Canyon, the deepest in Europe. **Lunch will be a barbecue** in Susica Canyon, by a little alpine lake.

After lunch we drive through Mt. Durmitor, with **photo stops** at the most scenic sites, meeting our bus at Zabljak for our drive back to Perast. **Dinner** will be at Hotel Conte.

Accommodation: Hotel Conte, Perast

DAY 16 - MONTENEGRO'S BLUE BAY OF KOTOR (B, D)

There are very few places to be compared with the natural beauties of the **Bay of Kotor**, very often compared to Norwegian fjords. Today we explore 'our' bay by boat.

First we will board our private boat to **cruise across the Bay of Kotor** to the islet called "Gospa od Skrpjela" (**Our Lady of the Rocks**) – The 'Sistine Chapel of Montenegro' due to its ceiling and walls painted by the famous local Baroque painter Tripo Kukolja – where we will enjoy a short guided tour.



After our visit to the church, we again board our private boat to sail across the bay to the **UNESCO World Heritage site of Kotor**, famous for its nautical tradition and the famous merchant name of Boka Kotorska (Bay of Kotor). We will have a



guided walking tour of the old town, including a visit to the 10th century **Cathedral of St. Tryphon**, or Nautical Museum. After the tour you are free to wander the town or climb the magnificent city wall with its fantastic vistas, grabbing a light snack on your own.

A **Farewell Dinner** will be at the private home of a top Montenegro culinary expert featuring local specialities.

Accommodation: Hotel Conte, Perast

DAY 17 (Saturday, May 25) - PERAST - USA (B)

After breakfast we say farewell to our fellow travelers and transfer from our hotel in Perast to Dubrovnik Airport to begin our journey home or to continue our adventure.



The Cost of this 16-Day Tour is \$3,748 per person double occupancy (Upper Deck Cabin)

(minimum 10/maximum 20)

\$3,548 (Standard (Lower) Deck Cabin)

Singles will be assigned Standard Deck cabins only at \$3,748 (No Single Supplement on cruise portion)

Single Supplement (Montenegro only): \$467

- Travel Insurance is highly recommended, and supplied by Drifter Sister

Payment Schedule:

(Make checks out to **DRIFTER SISTER**)

Deposit: \$1,000 per person (\$300 non-refundable) is due October 15, 2018, or upon sign-up after this date

Balance: Due March 10, 2019 (a separate invoice will be sent for this payment)

THE TOUR INCLUDES

Montenegro Land Tour

Airport Transfer	Deluxe A/C bus for all transfers and excursions
3 Nights Lodging in Budva	Entrance to All Activities as stipulated in Itinerary
4 Nights Lodging in Perast	7 Daily Excursions with English-Speaking Guide
Breakfast included daily	Wine Tasting and Wine-Paired Lunch
3 Lunches + 1 Snack – included in excursions	Guide's Gratuities
6 Dinners, including Welcome & Farewell Dinners	All Local Taxes

Croatia Island Hopping Cruise

Airport Transfers	Sightseeing Tours include:
Port taxes	National Park Mljet entrance fees with boat and transfer to Islet of St. Mary
7 Nights aboard M/S Splendid	Professional English-speaking guides
2 Nights Zagreb, including dinner	Korcula City Tour
Professional English-speaking cruise director	Hvar City Tour
7 crew members	Split City Tour
Welcome dinner	Dubrovnik Panoramic drive and City Tour
Buffet breakfast daily and 6 lunches	National Park Krka River entrance fees
Complimentary fresh fruit available daily	
2 Special Drifter Sister Dinners on shore (Zagreb and Korcula)	Not Included
Drink Package: Glass of wine, beer, soda, or water with lunch	R/T International Airfare to Croatia
Free Wi-Fi on board	Optional Activities not on Itinerary
Towels changed every second day	Housekeeping Gratuities (Montenegro only)
Linen changed in the middle of the week	Beverages not included with meals
CCTV Security Cameras on board	Any personal expenses (i.e. telephone calls, laundry, etc.)
Elegant Rooftop Jacuzzi (Sun Deck)	Travel Insurance (Highly Recommended – ~5% of trip cost)
Wireless headset system for sightseeing tours	
All Gratuities	

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