

- Spectacular coastal cycling routes
- Explore the mainland and islands on two wheels
- Discover the UNESCO city of Dubrovnik

Is This Trip for You?

This tour is classified Road: activity level 3 (Moderate)

4 days cycling (plus one optional days ride) with an average distance of 45km per day with full vehicle support.

The rides mainly follow tarmac roads, but where possible on the islands we will use the quieter older roads that tend to be hard gravel. The roads are quiet and there is less traffic on the islands than the mainland. The route will be generally undulating but there are a few challenging hills that can be tough in the warm weather. The trip is vehicle supported so it is possible to miss some of these harder sections if you prefer. At times the route will follow roads or tracks with a steep down slope to one side. Certain sections will not have a barrier.

No specific cycling experience required but you should be comfortable on a bike and have a reasonable level of fitness.

Following a review of all our trips we have categorised this trip as generally not suitable for persons of reduced mobility. However if you are a regular traveller on such trips, please contact customer services to discuss the trip and your personal condition.

Group

Normally 4 to 16, plus local leader and driver.

Adult min age: 16

Min group size: 4

Max group size: 16

Itinerary

Day 2

Circular ride exploring the island of Hvar, including Hvar town and a 8km climb.

Our first cycle is a circular ride exploring the island of Hvar. We start with a transfer to Stari Grad where we do our bike fitting before we start cycling along an old Roman road to Vrbovska and then follow the coastal road towards the village of Jelsa. Here we take a break before heading back to Stari Grad for an optional lunch. After lunch, we continue our cycle back to the town of Hvar. We will cycle up a challenging hill to a viewpoint overlooking the island of Brac with breathtaking views. When we return to Hvar, we will have a chance to wander around the narrow streets of this quintessential Dalmatian town. Rather like a mini Venice, the streets of Hvar are marbled and there are elegant gothic palaces and cathedrals inside the city walls.

Meals included: Breakfast

Distance covered: 47 km / 29 miles

Day 3

Ride east along the island to port of Sucuraj; ferry via mainland to Korcula.

Today we start with a transfer to Jelsa and we ride east along the narrow part of the island with views of both coasts as we head to the port of Sucuraj. The road is generally quiet and there are a couple of challenging climbs today to get you warmed up, however, the support vehicle will be available for anyone who doesn't want to cycle up the hills. Heading east, we have wonderful views of the mountainous mainland and the turquoise waters and we pass small villages, olive groves and tiny vineyards on our way to Sucuraj. From Sucuraj we take a ferry to Drvenik on the mainland, transfer by bus to Orebic, then catch another ferry to Korcula which is the historic centre of the island and in a lovely setting on the Peljesac Channel. It is also known for its outstanding cultural and historical heritage with a long tradition of seafaring, shipbuilding and stone-masonry, as well as being the birthplace of the adventurer and traveller Marco Polo. Once on Korcula, we have a short 15min transfer to the small town of Lumbarda which will be our base for the next three nights.

From June to September a ferry runs from Ploce to Trpanj, and from here we will take the bus to Orebic and then the ferry to Korcula. This shortens the time spent on the bus travelling from Drvenik to Orebic and makes the journey a bit more fun and picturesque.

Meals included: Breakfast

Distance covered: 44 km / 27 miles

Day 4

Free day in Lumbarda; optional visit (with bikes) to picturesque island of Mljet.

Today we have a free day to relax in Lumbarda, go for a swim at the sandy beach on Przina or explore the charming town of Korcula at your own pace. There is an optional visit (with bikes) to the picturesque island of Mljet. Those choosing to explore Mljet and its famous national park will take a boat ride to Pomena, which is also the entrance for the Mljet National Park. Here you can enjoy a very scenic but short ride around the two lakes.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5

Scenic ride on forested island of Korcula, from Vela Luka to Korcula town and on to Lumbarda.

After breakfast we will start our circular ride on the forested island of Korcula. We start with a transfer to Vela Luka and from here we ride to the pretty village Brna near Smokvica before transferring to Pupnat where we will have lunch. From here we get back on the bikes and cycle all the way back to Lumbarda after a great exploration of the island. Today is a busy day and there are some hills, but we will use the support vehicle where necessary.

Meals included: Breakfast

Distance covered: 45 km / 28 miles

Day 6

Ride through the vineyards of Peljesac Peninsula towards the mainland; transfer to Dubrovnik.

After a short ferry ride (approx 20 minutes) to the Peljesac Peninsula we follow this narrow and rugged finger of land. The route passes through olive groves, quiet villages and the famous vineyards hugging the steep slopes descending to the clear waters of the Adriatic. We complete our ride along an easy unpaved track to the tiny cove at Zuljana. From here the traffic levels increase so we take our support vehicle to Dubrovnik. En route there is a short stop at the small historic settlement of Ston, a beautiful example of a fortified town and Dubrovnik-style architecture. We should arrive in Dubrovnik in the late afternoon. We spend two nights in a lovely hotel which is a 10-minute public bus ride from the old town of Dubrovnik. This evening we will have a guided tour of the Old Town of Dubrovnik.

Meals included: Breakfast

Distance covered: 18 km / 11 miles

Day 7

Free day to explore Dubrovnik.

Dubrovnik exudes old-world charm. Located right on the Adriatic, the fine religious buildings surrounded by heavily fortified walls and the jumble of red-tiled roofs make this a truly enchanting place. The shelling of Dubrovnik by Serb troops in 1991 and 1992 outraged the world. Fortunately over the last 15 years great care has been taken to re-build the damaged parts of Dubrovnik and the city has now returned to its former glory. The old town, or Stari Grad, is filled with cobblestone streets, fountains, churches, palaces and museums — all built from the same light-coloured stone. There are no motor vehicles in the quiet city, but at night the streets come alive as locals and visitors take an early evening stroll along the Stradun, the main street, covered in smooth shiny marble. Dubrovnik is famous for its fine seafood, and what better way to end our Croatian experience than splashing out on a feast of freshly grilled fish within Dubrovnik's city walls.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8

End Dubrovnik.

Trip ends in Dubrovnik.

Meals included: Breakfast

All ascents, descents and distances listed above have been measured by our local partners or tour leaders. Please note that different GPS measuring devices can give differing results dependent on the barometric pressures at the time. Measurements stated throughout these trips notes are given to help you understand the types of terrain and distances you will encounter.

Accommodation

Hotels

The hotels used throughout the trip are of a good standard. All are clean and comfortable, most have air conditioning and swimming pools or are close to the beach allowing you to have a swim after a day on the bike. Croatia is not the cheap destination that some might expect and hotels can lack a little character, especially in the more popular destinations like Dubrovnik.

On Hvar, we stay in the vibrant town of Hvar.

On the island of Korcula, we stay in the small quaint fishing village of Lumbarda. The family run hotel offers warm hospitality, be sure to pack your swimming costume as there is a pool you can enjoy at the end of the day.

In Dubrovnik, we stay in Lapad Bay, next to many restaurants and close to a pebbly public beach. There is a supermarket nearby and the local bus for the Old Town of Dubrovnik is just in front of the hotel.

Please note: During the low season, some of the pools might be closed. However, when staying on Hvar and Korcula we are never far away from the sea if you fancy a swim.

Additional Accommodation

Additional accommodation can be booked, subject to availability, at our hotels in Split or Dubrovnik, either before or after the trip. Prices are available from the Breakaway office on request.

Where a single supplement is available, paying for a single only guarantees a room for single use. It does not always mean a twin or double room will be provided for sole occupancy.

Single supplement from \$162.75 USD

Food & Transport

Eating & Drinking

All breakfasts are included throughout.

For breakfast, you can expect a continental buffet serving a wide selection of food from cold meats, cheeses, bread and eggs to pastries, yoghurts, jams and fruit as well as tea and coffee.

Croatian cuisine is a mixture of fine seafood, grilled lamb, pizza, pasta and salads, with influences from Central Europe, Italy and other parts of the Balkans.

A popular optional lunch spot in Pupnat (Korcula) is Mate restaurant. Lunch here is often a highlight of the trip. A selection of homemade produce is on offer with a drink and comes to around 155kn/20EUR. Credit card not accepted.

Another highlight in Korcula is an optional dinner on day 5 at an agrotourism. Dinner here is around 200kn/27EUR for their set menu. Credit card not accepted.

Transportation

The group is accompanied by a transfer bus, and a trailer to carry the bikes.

Weather & Seasonality

When to go

During the low season (March to early May and October) temperatures will be cooler and some of the more popular places we visit will be quieter. Consequently, during these times the choice of restaurants in some areas may be more limited and some pools might be closed.

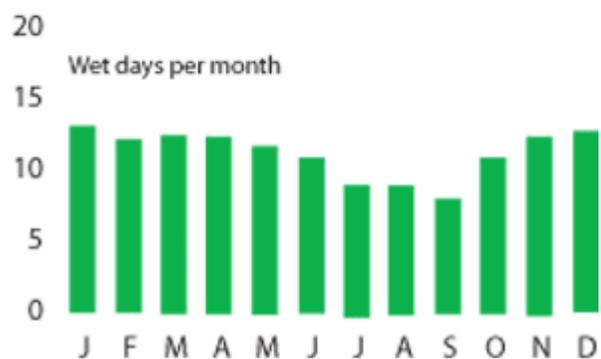
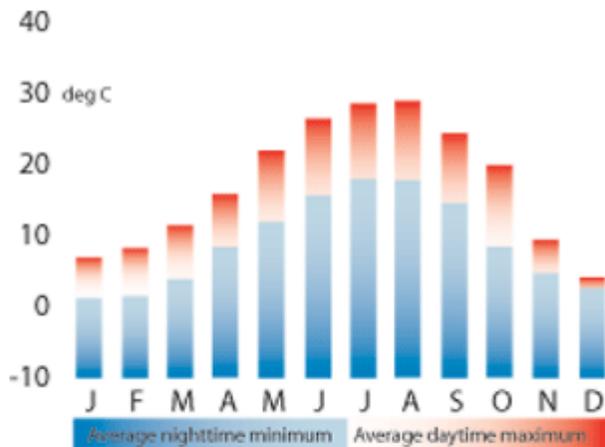
Late May to late September sees temperatures climb and visitor numbers increase and the roads will be a little busier.

Weather Information

Croatia boasts one of the sunniest climates in Europe, and some regions are well known to be free from rain. Our trips from March through to October, so you should expect some variation in temperature and possibly some rainfall. Temperatures can be high, particularly on the July departures and can reach the mid to high 30s. Temperatures in March, April and October are typically cooler.

Weather Charts

MVJ



Joining Instructions

Travelling land only: 8 days starting in Split and ending in Dubrovnik

The start hotel is located on the Island of Hvar. The start point is rather difficult to get to so we recommend joining the group transfer from the airport (inquire for timings). You have 3 options to join the group (1) At Split airport. (2) In central Split in the afternoon. In this case please call the leader on the day the group arrives to get all the information about where to meet. (3) At the ferry port in Split. The ferry port is a small place

so it's easy to find the group. You should be there by 7.30pm, and the ferry leaves at 8.30pm. You should meet by the quay to Stari Grad, Hvar. Please let us know which option is most suitable for you as we need to inform our leader where and when they can expect you. If you decide to make own way, you need to get from Split airport to the ferry port and onwards from there.

From Split airport, you can take a shuttle bus that will take you to the main bus station in Split which is opposite the Split ferry port. If you decide to make your own way to town on Hvar, you can take a fast boat to the town of Hvar, Jadrolinija line 9604 or Jadrolinija 9604S; the sailing schedules are subject to change please see more detailed info [here](#).

Full joining instructions including local emergency numbers will be sent to you as part of our Final Joining Instructions. If you do not receive these at least a week before departure, or require them earlier please contact our office or your travel agent.

Transfers Details

Airport transfers are included if you are able to meet the group timings. Please note that transfers are not included for clients arriving at any other time, even if Breakaway has booked it.

If you require airport transfers, you may (by prior arrangement only) be able to join the group transfer. Transfers are arranged to at designated times. If you do not take this transfer, or miss it, you must make your own way to the joining point at your own expense.

Location start: Split

Location end: Dubrovnik

What to Take

Essential Equipment

We recommend packing the following items:

Normal daily clothes

Cycling helmet (compulsory on this tour)

Padded cycling shorts and gloves

Breathable top or cycling jersey

Sunglasses/eye protection

Stiff-soled shoes suitable for cycling

Waterproofs and long cycling trousers

For the earlier and later departures you may need some warmer layers

Sun cream

Water bottle

Wearing a helmet is mandatory for anyone taking part in any guided Breakaway cycling holiday. Group members must bring their own helmets, as they are not available for hire, even if they are hiring a bike from Breakaway.

Handle bike bags are provided: can fit a camera, wallet, smartphone, small quick dry towel and swimmers

A safe cycling guide and daily biking maps are provided

Water Included

Plastic bottles are a big global issue; they often end up in landfill sites or get burnt, both processes are harmful to the environment and we would like to reduce our impact here. For your trip we provide an alternative to single-use plastic bottles in order to reduce the amount of plastic used. This means that safe drinking water will be available throughout so all you need to do is bring a bottle to re-fill along the way. Please add this to your packing list!

Equipment Hire

Local Bike Details: Wheeler Protron 300 mountain bikes with front suspension or Cube Pinetree 2019.

Discount for bringing your own bike: Inquire for discount.

Please note: it is logistically difficult to transport bike boxes on this trip, therefore extra charges might be incurred locally to send it to the end location.

A quality local hire bike is now included in the overall price of our cycling holidays. At the time of booking we will take your height in order to reserve equipment. There may on occasions be insufficient bikes available in the correct size; we will endeavour to find suitable alternative equipment but this cannot be guaranteed. We will tell you before you book whether suitably sized bikes are available.

Conditions

1. The equipment remains the property of the supplier and you may not sell, hire out or part possession with the equipment.
2. You must not misuse the equipment and must return it in the same condition as when received (ordinary wear and tear excepted). The supplier is entitled to charge for any damage caused to the equipment during the period of hire.
3. You must ensure that the equipment is adequately secured when not in use. In the event of the equipment being lost or stolen, you may be liable for the replacement value of the equipment
4. You must not use the equipment whilst under the influence of drink or drugs and should immediately notify the Supplier in the event of breakdown or loss.

Bringing Your Own Bike

If you prefer the familiarity of your own bike, you may of course bring it along. Please advise us at the time of booking and you will receive a discount off the price of the holiday, as specified above. You will be responsible for any extra baggage charges, please speak to our Sales team for individual airline fees. Any clients bringing their own bike should ensure they have adequate cover for loss, damage or theft under their travel, home contents or a specialist insurance policy. If Breakaway is confident that we have taken all reasonable care to ensure the safety of your bike, in the rare event of loss, damage or theft you will need to claim under your own insurance policy.

Extra Bike Bits

You may like to bring your own pedals and saddle (excluding the seat post) or gel saddle cover to fit to the hire bikes. We encourage this, if it is your preference. However, please note that you are responsible for your own equipment, and removing your saddle/pedals at the end of the trip. We cannot guarantee the return of any bike parts left behind.

Breakaway Policy on Cycling Helmets

Wearing a helmet is mandatory for anyone taking part in any guided Breakaway cycling holiday. Group members must bring their own helmets, as they are not available for hire, even if they are hiring a bike from Breakaway.

For self-guided cycling holidays wearing a helmet is highly recommended. Customers who choose to ignore our advice do so entirely at their own risk and on the understanding that it may affect the validity of their travel insurance. It should also be noted that in some countries we travel to wearing a helmet is already a legal requirement.

Cycling of all kinds has its dangers and accidents can happen from time to time. Please ensure that you are properly prepared for the riding you are going to undertake.

Recommended Cycling Clothing

Padded cycling shorts (with loose 'over-shorts' where recommended), breathable clothing, and a lightweight waterproof/windproof top. Shoes with relatively stiff soles are better for biking, but are not essential unless you are cycling long distances. Most people want to carry certain items with them during the day while cycling, for this we recommend a large bum-bag or small close-fitting daysack.

E-Bikes Available

Electric bikes offer all the thrills and healthy exercise of a regular bike, but with one crucial difference - power! A tiny electric motor (capped at 25mph) assists your pedalling, allowing you to make molehills out of mountains. Cycle further, see more, have more fun. They are just perfect if you want to try a trip with companions of differing fitness level - or a trip at a slightly harder grade - and want to know there's a bit of motor power available if you need it.

Reading List

The Balkans - Misha Glenny

To Kill a Nation - Michael Perenti

A Travellers history of Croatia - Benjamin Curtis



Practical Information

Passport

Croatia

All nationalities require a full passport that must be valid beyond the intended length of stay. It is your responsibility to have the correct personal documents and to obtain your own visa, if one is necessary, in accordance with the regulations of the country you are to visit. The information offered below is to help you with that process. We are not responsible for the actions of local immigration and customs officials, whether at points of entry or otherwise, and any subsequent effects.

Visa

UK passport holders do not need visas for this trip. Other nationalities should check with the relevant embassies.

Visa regulations can change without notice: please check the current regulations in good time to obtain a visa if one is required.

There are no specific health risks on this trip.

Vaccination

No vaccinations are obligatory.

Travel health can often be something people forget about before going away, but a little preparation and knowledge can go a long way to help you stay fit and healthy while abroad.

The above information can change at short notice; as we are not qualified to answer all your questions about travel health we strongly recommend you contact your Medical Professional or a Travel Health Clinic at least 8 weeks prior to departure for up-to-date information. Please note: vaccinations that are routinely recommended to residents of the UK, North America or Australasia

are not considered to form part of the travel health advice, and you should ensure these are kept up to date where necessary.

For additional information please visit: <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>

Insurance - are you adequately covered?

It is a condition of joining any of our holidays that you must be fully insured against medical and personal accident risks (to include repatriation costs and air ambulance or helicopter rescue services where appropriate). On arrival in destination for your trip, you will be asked to present details to your leader or local representative of your policy.

If you are resident in the UK we strongly recommend the Exodus travel insurance policy, this is specifically designed to cover all activities on your trip. If arranging your own policy please ensure that you are covered for all activities that are part of the trip, optional activities that you intend to take part in and/or on high altitude itineraries, that you are covered up to the maximum altitude of the trip.

If you are a UK citizen and travelling in Europe you should obtain the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from your Post Office. This gives you medical care at a reduced cost, and some cases for free, in many European countries, but should not be considered a substitute for adequate insurance.

Local Time

Croatia's Timezone: Europe/Zagreb CET (GMT +01:00)

Electricity

Croatia's Electricity: European plug - 2 round pins. 230 Volts AC.

In Croatia they use the two-pin Type C (Europlug) electrical plug. Voltage is 220-240 Volts. You will be able to charge a phone/camera etc on every night during this trip.

Money

Croatia's Currency

The national currency of Croatia is the Croatian Kuna (HRK), with an exchange rate at the time of publication (November 2018) of approximately 8.3 to the GBP, 6.5 to the USD, 4.9 to the CAD, 7.4 to the EUR, 4.8 to the AUD and 4.5 to the NZD.

ATM Availability

ATM's and banks are available throughout the trip. You can use credit cards in most shops and restaurants in Croatia. We suggest you have some cash with you, in some restaurants it is quicker to arrange cash payments and/or card is still not accepted.

Extra Expenses & Spending Money

Allow £30-40 per day for meals that are not included; this would cover a good sized lunch and a standard 3 course meal in the evening. It is certainly possible to spend a lot more depending on what you chose to eat and drink.

The bus into Dubrovnik town centre is not included. Please allow for 60kn (15kn per journey) which is approximately 8EUR. The Dubrovnik Card is a really cost effective way to explore the city and if you purchase one of these you can travel on the buses for free. The card also gives you discounts at some of the local attractions and restaurants. Please see the website for more details <https://www.dubrovnikcard.com/product/three-day-card/>. Your leader will be able to assist you in getting one of these either at your hotel or at Pile Gate.

Optional excursions

Mijet National Park - Boat (390kn/55EU) + entrance ticket (70-125kn/10-17EUR depending on the season)

Tipping

Although optional, a tip for the leader at the end of the trip is greatly appreciated. As a guideline we recommend a contribution of between EUR15 and EUR20 per client per week. It is also customary to leave a tip for any additional local staff who support your holiday – for example drivers, cooks and hotel staff. This can be handed in to your leader at the end of the week to distribute accordingly. In total for the leader to distribute to all relevant staff, we recommend to budget approx. EUR10-EUR15 per person per week.

Responsible Tourism

Tourism can be a real help to local communities, providing income, positive cultural exchanges and a financial incentive to protect their natural environment. Ours is a 'total approach' to responsible tourism, covering everything from the way we plan and operate our trips to the practices of Exodus as a company.

As much as possible, we try to stay in locally owned accommodations or at least locally staffed hotels to ensure that our money stays within the local community. For all the breakfast provided, ingredients are locally sourced wherever possible otherwise, there are plenty of opportunities to visit local restaurants and cafes to try local specialties recommended by our local guides.

As a cycling trip, it allows easier access to the local communities and hence, facilitates interaction with locals from visits to local cafes and restaurants as well as markets to purchase traditional gifts and craft and get a real impression of the country. Entrance fees to the historical sites and attractions also goes to the upkeep of the structures.

In March 2019, Exodus Travels launched the Exodus Travels Foundation where we support initiatives all around the world. But it cannot exist without travellers who care. Get involved or learn more about what Responsible Travel means to Exodus here...

Exodus Community

Join the Exodus online community

Don't forget to visit the Community area on our website. You can view the range of Exodus videos and podcasts, read trip write-ups which have featured in the national media and take advantage of some special deals on travel gear and equipment.

In the Community Travel Forum you'll find the Departure Lounge where you can discuss your trip with fellow travellers before you depart. When you get back from your holiday remember to upload your images to the relevant trip page on our website. This helps other people see what our holidays are really like and you'll be entered automatically into our monthly photo competition.

To make full use of the Community you'll need to join My Exodus. It's free, registration is simple and easy, so what are you waiting for?

Important Information

On all guided trips

Although our leaders are well trained to deal with different capabilities, if they have any concerns about someone's ability to safely partake in an activity, or their impact on other people's enjoyment, we authorise them to take necessary action which, in some circumstances, may involve asking someone to miss that activity.

Although rarely enforced, by booking this trip you agree to section 14 of our Booking Conditions which clearly states that our leaders have the authority to do this. In these circumstances we will ensure anyone sitting out is safely provided for and offered alternative options where possible. Refunds will not be provided for activities missed and customers may be liable for additional costs incurred.

On all trips

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call the Breakaway office and ask to speak to one of the experts on this itinerary.

In an emergency, please contact our 24 hour out of hours service on +44 (0) 844 326 7041.

Every time that you travel abroad you should take the time to read the warnings in the essential information in the brochure.

Full joining instructions including local emergency numbers, and details of how to reach the start point, will be sent to you approximately 2 to 3 weeks prior to departure. If you do not receive these at least a week before departure, or require them earlier please contact our office or your travel agent.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure or website, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure and website. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; in order to enjoy them you should be prepared to be flexible where necessary. Occasionally, as stated in our brochure, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned. This may be for a variety of reasons - climatic, political, physical or other. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements that maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

As fuel prices, airport taxes and exchange rates fluctuate, and airlines manage their rates to match demand, it is proving harder than ever to guarantee our Flight Inclusive prices. Although we endeavour to keep our website as accurate as possible, daily fluctuations mean that our Flight Inclusive price may be out of date. For accurate prices we recommend that you contact one of our Travel Experts, or your Travel Agent.

This trip includes time by a lake, river or sea, where there may be opportunities to swim. Swimming results in more tourists deaths than any other activity. All customers should always seek local advice before deciding whether to swim, and are requested to treat the sea with extreme caution if they choose to enter the water. Details on how to keep yourself safe while swimming are shown **here**.

TRAVEL AWARE – STAY SAFE & HEALTHY ABROAD

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the NHS have up-to-date advice on staying safe and healthy abroad. For more on security, local laws, plus passport and visa information, see <https://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk/>

Keep informed of current travel health news by visiting <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/>

Advice can change so check regularly for updates.

For all latest travel information about your holiday, please visit our Travel Safety Advice page.



How to Book

Ready to book? Please contact your travel agent

Version 1