

# HISTORY, HERITAGE, AND CULTURES OF CROATIA

With your host Robert Jerin

May 9 – 22, 2019

9 May, 2019 Thursday Fly from USA -> Dubrovnik

10 May, 2019 Friday DUBROVNIK APT

Arrival to Dubrovnik Airport, afternoon flights, and transfer to your hotel CROATIA 5\* Cavtat.

Welcome dinner at your hotel, overnight Cavtat. (D)



The famous walled city of Dubrovnik

DAY 3, 11 May, 2019 Saturday, DUBROVNIK

Breakfast at your hotel. Boat transfer to Dubrovnik - 1 hour cruise. Walking city tour with expert local guide. Dubrovnik is a unique destination on the UNESCO list of cultural heritage. Explore and enjoy – The Cathedral, Franciscan Monastery, old pharmacy, Orlando statue, Rector's Palace, Onophrian fountain. Free afternoon for walking along city the walls, or use the cable car to enjoy view of the city. Transfer by bus back to Cavtat. Dinner at CROATIA, overnight. (B,D)



Scenes from Cavtat

DAY 4, 12 May, 2019 Sunday CAVTAT - SPLIT (250 KM)

After breakfast check out and transfer direction north towards Split. First stop will be one Ston, the city with longest walls in Europe. We'll take a short boat trip of 45 minutes (The OYSTERS EXPERIENCE) and a chance for oysters tasting. A delicious sea food lunch will be served in one of the Ston restaurants.

After lunch continue to Split and check in to your hotel. HOTEL SPLIT 4\* in Podstrana.

Dinner at your hotel with a local Klapa group performance. (B, L, D) Overnight Podstrana.



Above left is the village of Ston, left our seaside hotel near Split

DAY 5, 13 May, 2019 Monday HVAR

Earlier breakfast and transfer by bus to SPLIT PORT to catch a ferry for island Hvar and its port Stari Grad. The cruise on the Adriatic takes app 2 hours, upon arrival stop in Stari Grad for a sightseeing tour and visit the home of Petar Hektorović, the most popular building in a picturesque small city. Continue to city of Hvar ( 15 km ) and enjoy the rest of the afternoon admiring the beauty of this amazing town, with its fortress, the island archipelago Paklinski otoci, and the ancient narrow streets. Late afternoon we head back to Stari Grad to take the ferry back to Split and your hotel where dinner will be served.

(B, D) Overnight Podstrana



A ferry will take us to Straigrad Hvar, a town which dates back 4.,000 years

DAY 6, 14 May, 2019 Tuesday SPLIT – RAKOVICA i.e. Plitvice 270 km

After breakfast, check out from the hotel then begin a Split city tour with a local expert guide who will tell you about Split history – a city more than 1700 years old. We'll walk the promenade, enter the famous Old city & Diocletian's palace, the Cathedral of St. Dominus, the statue Grgur of Nin. We'll have a lunch break in Split before we board the coach and head inland to the Plitvice region, check in. The Villa Rubcic will host us with a welcome dinner and overnight stay. (B, L, D)





Scenes from the old Roman Emperor's Palace at Split

DAY 7, 15 May, 2019 Wednesday - PLITVICE

After breakfast time to explore Plitvice lakes National Park - the most popular National Park in this part of Europe. It is a complex of 16 lakes, waterfalls, and cascades with breathless scenery and rich biodiversity (both flora and fauna). This evening enjoy an event organized by the family RUBČIĆ. That means lots of food, grappa, wine, music, folk dances with a local band to put everyone in a happy mood! Overnight Villa Rubcic. (B, D)



Party time at Villa Rubcic near Plitvice lakes



Plitvice Lakes Park

DAY 8, 16 May 2019, Thursday PLITVICE - ĐAKOVO – OSIJEK 420 km

Enjoy a hearty breakfast, then begin our journey to the Slavonia region and the charming city of Djakovo. We'll stop for a lunch break en route and before our early afternoon arrival to Đakovo for a city tour with a local guide. The sightseeing tour will

include a visit of the main cathedral, and the Lipizzaner stables. The Đakovo Cathedral or Basilica of St. Peter is the center of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Đakovo-Osijek and is the biggest sacral newly built building of Croatian historicism. Continue to Osijek for 1 more hour and then check in to the Hotel OSIJEK 4\*. Dinner and overnight in Osijek. (B, D)



DAY 9, 17 May, 2019 Friday OSIJEK – VUKOVAR –OSIJEK 80 KM

After breakfast begin an excursion to Vukovar for a moving sightseeing tour. We call Vukovar “the city hero” as it has a very special place in hearts and mind of all Croatians. Continue to Ovčara, a mass grave and Memorial Center, and on your way back to Vukovar visit Memorial Cemetery of Homeland War Victims. In Memorial Center of the Homeland War you will learn about the chronology and events that occurred in Croatia at that time, and admire their courage and their wish to defend the town. At the end of the tour, visit the impressive Cross at the confluence of the Vuka and Danube rivers. Back to Osijek for dinner at one of local restaurants with Tamburitza music B, D



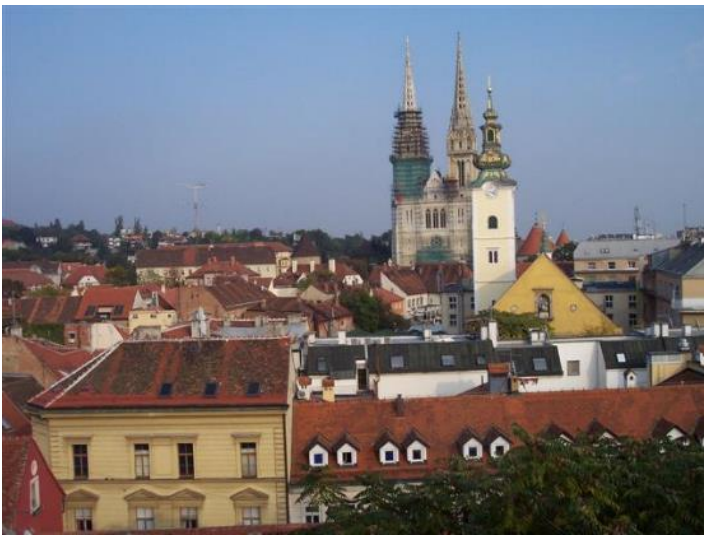
Above scenes from Vukovar



Above scenes from Osijek

DAY 10, 18 May, 2018 Saturday OSIJEK - ZAGREB

Depart Osijek today and drive across the fertile plains of Slavonia as we head toward the capitol city of Zagreb. We'll check into our centrally located hotel and then start a walking and driving tour of the Old and New city with local guide. Zagreb is a capitol of Croatia, a cultural, historic and business metropolis with many beautiful attractions such as: Ban Jelacic square, the main Cathedral, the old Upper town, Stone gate, St. Marco's church, tower of Lotrscak, Botanical garden, etc. We'll stop for an organized lunch in local restaurant serving traditional Croatian food. Overnight Zagreb. (B, L)



Scenes from Zagreb

DAY 11, 19 May, 2019 Sunday ZAGREB – BUKOVLJE

After a leisurely breakfast and some free time, we to the rustic village of Gornje Bukovlje for picnic with or friends and local residents. Enjoy local music, homemade specialties and a fun time with our hosts. Then it's back to Zagreb for a free evening in the city at the Hotel DUBROVNIK 4\*. Overnight. (B, PL)



Visiting the a small Croatian village, Gornje Bukovlje, much as it was in our ancestor's day



DAY 12, 20 May, 2019 Monday

Visit of the archive in the morning, free afternoon for meeting friends and relatives. Open day!



At the National Archives

DAY 13, 21 May, 2019 Tuesday Zagreb – Zagorje

Those interested will enjoy a coach tour into the rolling hills and valleys of the Zagorje region north of Zagreb. The region is steeped in the history of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and maintains its bucolic and charming feel. Lunch with some local treats is included. Back to Zagreb this afternoon for some shopping time before we rendezvous for our Farewell dinner (B, D)



Zagorje the land of castles, with the largest concentration of castle in Europe

DAY 14, 22 May, 2019 Wednesday ZAGREB AIRPORT

Breakfast check out and transfer to Zagreb airport.

**\$2775 per person** \$878 single supplement

Airfare NOT included

Michael Benz

**Director of Leisure Travel Operations**

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