



Cruise Details

Name:	Hidden Gems of the Croatian Riviera
Reference:	EMERALDE03D030525-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Azzurra
Regions:	Mediterranean
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Departs On:	03 May 25
Departs From:	Dubrovnik
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Arrives On:	10 May 25
Arrives At:	Venice
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Fly from the UK to Dubrovnik. Your Mediterranean cruise begins in the historic city of Dubrovnik, where you'll be transferred to your Emerald Cruises luxury yacht to embark on a tour of intriguing cities and extraordinary coastlines.

Flight to arrive into Dubrovnik prior to 07:00 PM.

Arrives On: 03 May 25

Day 2: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Dubrovnik, known as the 'Pearl of the Adriatic', is a compelling city on Croatia's Dalmatian coast. With its medieval city walls and breathtaking views of terracotta rooftops and the Adriatic Sea, it offers the perfect blend of cultural exploration and a beach holiday.

Included Excursion

Walking tour of Dubrovnik

Embark on a captivating walking tour of Dubrovnik, starting with a scenic coach

journey from the pier to Pile Gate. As you step onto the renowned main street, the Stradun, your knowledgeable guide will lead you through the heart of the city's historic center. Explore the Franciscan Monastery, where the mesmerizing cloister and Europe's oldest operating pharmacy, dating back to 1317, await your discovery. Along the way, admire the exterior of other notable sites, soaking in the rich history and architectural beauty of Dubrovnik. After the guided tour, take advantage of some free time to further explore the town at your own pace, perhaps wandering through charming alleyways or pausing to indulge in local cuisine.

Activity Level: Moderate, **Duration:** 3.5 hours

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Dalmatian family experience (extra expense, must be pre-booked)

Travel by motorcoach to Cilipi, a quaint village near Dubrovnik with a population of around 400. Here, we will break into smaller groups to enjoy a Home-Hosted dining experience with a local family. Our experience will begin with a brief stroll through the village alongside our hosts, allowing us to meet the residents and gain insight into their everyday lives. Following this, we will gather at the family table to share a meal together. This unique opportunity will let you enter the homes of the villagers, fostering a personal connection and providing a deeper understanding of their way of life. Our hosts come from diverse working- or middle-class backgrounds, and it's likely that several generations of the family will join us at the table, offering a rich perspective on village life in Croatia. You'll also savor authentic, home-cooked Croatian dishes as we partake in a meal that reflects the daily culinary traditions of our host family.

Activity Level: Easy, **Duration:** 3.5 hours

Arrives On: 04 May 25

Day 3: Split (Croatia)

Croatia's second-largest city, Split, is visually stunning and rich with culture, history and architecture. Take a stroll along the Riva past beautiful terraces, palm trees and busy eateries with harbour views. Diocletian's Palace, built in the 4th century AD, dominates the city centre and houses a myriad of buzzing bars and cafes.

EmeraldACTIVE

Guided hike to Marjan hill

Explore the natural beauty and rich history of Split with a leisurely walking and hiking excursion through Marjan Park Forest. Begin your journey with a short stroll from the ship to downtown Split, where you'll be greeted by your knowledgeable local guide. Embark on a captivating journey as you traverse the main promenade, Riva, and delve into the fascinating history of Split. Pass by the quaint fishing port and venture through the oldest neighbourhood, immersing yourself in the city's centuries-old charm. Your adventure continues as you ascend Marjan's winding trails, shaded by majestic pine trees. Along the way, discover hidden treasures such as medieval churches, the ancient Jewish cemetery, and breathtaking panoramic viewpoints offering vistas of the shimmering Adriatic Sea and picturesque islands. Marvel at the natural splendour of Marjan Park, a cherished sanctuary cherished by locals and visitors alike for its tranquil ambiance and recreational opportunities. Learn about the hill's rich heritage and the efforts of the Marjan Association to preserve its pristine beauty since the 19th century. With its

serene atmosphere and abundance of historical landmarks, Marjan Park Forest promises an unforgettable exploration of Split's cultural and natural heritage. Lace up your walking shoes and prepare for an enriching journey through this enchanting coastal paradise.

Activity Level:

Strenuous, Duration: 2.5 hours

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Guided tour of Trogir (extra expense)
Embark on a picturesque drive to the town of Trogir, situated on a small island between the mainland and Ciovo. Connected by a bridge, this historic island is adorned with magnificent stone constructions, including palaces, churches, monasteries, towers, and walls. Experience the charm of narrow streets, offering a glimpse into life in days gone by. Join a guided walking tour to explore Town Loggia, the Town Hall, and the Cipiko Palace, culminating in a visit to the highlight—the Cathedral of St. Lawrence. Dating back to the 13th century, this architectural marvel with three naves and three semi-circular apses stands as Croatia's finest example of sacral architecture, dominating the town's landscape.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours

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A walking tour of Split (extra expense)
Explore the captivating Old Town of Split, nestled within and around the magnificent 4th-century Roman Palace of Emperor Diocletian. Your walking tour commences with a leisurely stroll from the ship to the Old Town, where your knowledgeable guide will lead you through narrow streets to the remarkable Cathedral. Discover the fascinating Cathedral of St. Dujice, purportedly the oldest cathedral in the world, built upon ancient shrine ruins. Explore the charming Temple of Jupiter and catch glimpses of iconic landmarks such as the Golden Gate, the Silver Gate, and Peristyle Square from the exterior. Don't miss the vibrant open market, the largest on the Dalmatian coast, where you can enjoy some free time exploring at your leisure before returning to the ship.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration:

2 hours

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Klapa performance on board
Immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of the Dalmatia region with an enchanting Klapa Performance on board. Delight in the harmonious melodies of traditional Dalmatian songs as the Klapa ensemble serenades you with their captivating vocals. Take a seat, unwind, and savor this unforgettable cultural experience. Klapa is a traditional form of a cappella singing originating from the Dalmatian region of Croatia. It features tight harmonies and emotional depth, often reflecting themes of love and the region's landscape. Typically performed by male singers, klapa music is celebrated for its rich sound and cultural significance, captivating audiences with its timeless beauty.

Duration: 1 hour

Arrives On: 05 May 25

Day 4: Split (Croatia)

Get ready to set sail in the morning from Split to Zadar. A historic city set on a peninsula; Zadar boasts relics from various eras. Explore the churches, Roman ruins, and unique modern attractions: the Sun Salutation and Sea Organ, which are inventive sound, surf and sun-activated art pieces.

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A walking tour of Zadar (extra expense)
Embark on a journey through time as you stroll along the ancient streets of Zadar, a

city steeped in over 2000 years of history. As the historical capital of Dalmatia, Zadar exudes charm with its intriguing legends and captivating stories. Your walking tour commences from the Seafront Promenade, where you'll encounter two of the city's most renowned modern attractions: the mesmerizing Sea Organ and the captivating Greeting to the Sun. From there, delve into the past as you explore the Roman Forum Square, a testament to Zadar's rich Roman heritage. Admire the impressive architecture of the church of St. Donatus and the Romanesque Cathedral of St. Anastasia, both iconic landmarks that stand as symbols of the city's religious heritage. Next, journey along Kalelarga, the oldest street in Zadar, and soak in the vibrant atmosphere of this ancient thoroughfare. Your path leads you to the bustling People's Square, a hub of activity since the Middle Ages and still a vibrant centre of public life today.

During your tour, you'll also visit The Gold & Silver Exhibition and the Museum of Ancient Glass, where you'll discover fascinating artifacts that further illuminate Zadar's storied past.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 06 May 25

Day 4: Zadar (Croatia)

Arrives On: 06 May 25

Day 5: Opatija (Croatia)

On the western peninsula of Croatia, southwest of the city of Rijeka, is Opatija, with alluring views across the Adriatic towards the Kvarner Islands and the distant Istrian mountains. Known as the Nice of Croatia, Opatija has lovely seaside promenades and fairy-tale villas.

Discover MORE

Hilltowns of Istria (extra expense)

Depart from the pier and take in the stunning scenery as you journey to the charming hilltop village of Motovun. After approximately 90 minutes, you will arrive at the parking area, where you will disembark your motor coach and board a local shuttle bus that will take you to the entrance of this Croatian gem. At the top, you will be greeted by a breathtaking Romanesque-Gothic bell tower dating back to the 13th century. From this elevated perspective, admire the panoramic views of the Mirna Valley and Motovun Forest. As you explore the village, immerse yourself in the rich local history, with landmarks dating back to the 12th century, including the Romanesque Municipal Palace, the largest secular structure of its era in Istria. After your guided tour, return via shuttle bus to the parking area, where your motor coach waits for scenic travels along narrow roads and across a plateau to the picturesque town of Opatalj. Resembling a Tuscan village with its hilltop perch and rows of cypress trees, Opatalj is celebrated as one of the most beautiful towns in Northern Istria. Once fortified by city walls, it now invites visitors to explore its many historical sites, including the parish church of St. George, built in 1526, two charming churches adorned with frescoes, and the impressive Venetian loggia. Next, proceed to the third hilltop town of the day, Groznjan. It is recognized as a vibrant cultural hub, particularly in the

summer when it comes alive with music academies, workshops, and artistic performances.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 7.5 hours</p><p>DiscoverMORE
Hiking to Kamacnik Spink (extra expense)
Board your motor coach for a scenic one-hour journey to Gorski Kotar, specifically the Vrbovsko area, where your hiking adventure begins in the breathtaking Kamacnik Canyon. At the canyon's entrance, you'll find a historic sawmill that has been transformed into a charming restaurant, offering a glimpse into the region's intriguing past while enhancing the picturesque landscape. From this starting point, embark on a two-mile trek to the Kamacnik spring. As you hike, immerse yourself in the natural beauty that surrounds you, walking alongside the creek and crossing sturdy wooden bridges that elegantly arch over the small rapids or stretch over the water's edge. The trail leads you through a lush valley, creating a truly enchanting scene.
Activity Level: Strenuous, Duration: 4 hours</p>

Arrives On: 07 May 25

Day 6: Piran (Slovenia)

<p><p>Piran is a pretty town of red-tiled, white-washed buildings clustered on the tip of the Piran peninsula. Part of the Venetian empire from the late 13th century to the end of the 18th century, its esteemed for its gothic-style Venetian architecture.</p></p><p>DiscoverMORE
Postoina cave and Predjana Castle (extra expense)
Set off on an awe-inspiring journey through the natural beauty of Postojna Cave, a stunning geological gem that has fascinated visitors for centuries. During your exclusive visit, take in the enchanting formations and underground scenery, all while being guided by experts who reveal the intriguing secrets of this subterranean paradise. Then, make your way to the iconic Predjama Castle, an impressive fortress built into a cliffside cave, where captivating stories of medieval intrigue await. Conclude your delightful adventure with a scenic drive back to Piran, where you can reflect on the day's wonders amidst the coastal charm of this delightful seaside town.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 5 hours</p><p>DiscoverMORE
Slovenia's alluring Lipica Stud (extra expense)
Embark on an unforgettable journey to the prestigious Lipica Stud Farm, renowned for its rich equestrian heritage and majestic Lipizzaner horses. Immerse yourself in the splendour of the stud farm with a guided walking tour, where you'll discover the elegant stables and lush pastures that have bred these noble creatures for centuries. Witness the grace and precision of the Lipica Riding School as you observe their official training session, a captivating display of equestrian artistry. Enjoy the added charm of a horse carriage ride through the picturesque surroundings.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 5 hours</p>

Arrives On: 08 May 25

Day 7: Venice (Italy)

Venice is an enchanting city that exudes an atmosphere not found anywhere else in the world. Established in the 5th century, the city stretches across 118 small islands in the marshy Venetian Lagoon along the Adriatic. Admire the grandeur of the canals and see St Marks Basilica.

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Walking tour of Venice with Doge's Palace (extra expense, must be pre-booked)

Depart from the pier and take a scenic 20-minute ride in a private motorboat to the Saint Mark's district, navigating along the stunning Canale della Giudecca. Upon arrival, meet your guide at the designated drop-off point and embark on a delightful walk-through Venice's most beloved square. As you stroll, your guide will share fascinating insights into the history of Venice, highlighting the powerful figures who once inhabited these remarkable buildings. Marvel at the impressive Marciana Library, the Loggetta designed by J. Sansovino, the towering belltower, the clocktower adorned with its two bronze Moors, and the striking wings known as Procuratie Vecchie and Procuratie Nuove, all framed by the Cathedral in the beautiful daylight. Adjacent to the cathedral stands the magnificent Doges' Palace, the historical residence of the Doges of Venice, celebrated as one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture, with its exquisite façade and intricate loggias. Next, you'll see the iconic Ponte dei Sospiri, or Bridge of Sighs, which connects the palace to the former ducal prison, steeped in legend and history. Your guide will navigate you through the charming narrow streets (Calli) of Venice, leading you to the Grand Canal with a breathtaking view of the Rialto Bridge, the largest and most iconic of the four bridges that cross the canal.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4.5 hours

Arrives On: 09 May 25

Day 8: Venice (Italy)

Your Emerald Cruises voyage concludes in the grand, historic city of Venice. From the yacht, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to the UK or to continue your holiday.

Flight to depart out of Venice after 11:00 AM.

The itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons. As such Emerald Cruises cannot guarantee the cruise will operate unaltered from the itinerary stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 10 May 25

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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