Cruise Details

Name:	Hidden Gems of the Croatian Riviera
Reference:	EMERALDE03D240727-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Azzurra
Regions:	Mediterranean
Departs On:	24 Jul 27
Departs From:	Dubrovnik
Arrives On:	31 Jul 27
Arrives At:	Venice
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Your Adriatic cruise begins in Croatia in the dazzling city of Dubrovnik. Here, you'll be transferred to your Emerald luxury yacht to embark on a voyage to discover the hidden gems of the Croatian Riviera. Please book your flight to arrive into Dubrovnik prior to 06:00 PM. Docked: overnight

Arrives On: 24 Jul 27

Day 2: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Spend another fascinating day exploring the city of Dubrovnik. Be awed by the impressive Rector's Palace, a 15th-century Gothic Renaissance palace that was once the administrative centre of the city. Enjoy a drink on the Stradun, the main thoroughfare through the city, and take a walk along the ancient city walls for panoramic views over the rooftops and Adriatic Sea. DiscoverMORE
Walking tour of Dubrovnik (extra

expense, must be pre-booked)
Step inside the magnificent walls of Dubrovnik Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where centuries of history, elegant architecture, and vibrant city life await. A short coach transfer brings you to Pile Gate, the grand entrance to the Old Town, where your guided walk begins along the famous Stradun, Dubrovnik's historic main street. Visit the beautiful Franciscan Monastery, renowned for its peaceful cloister and home to one of Europe's oldest working pharmacies, established in 1317. Along the way, admire the exteriors of Dubrovnik's most celebrated landmarks while your guide shares the fascinating history of this remarkable medieval city. Following the guided tour, enjoy free time to explore the Old Town at your own pace, browse local shops, or relax at a café (own expense) before returning independently to the designated coach departure point for the transfer back.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours 45 minutes DiscoverMORE
Traditional Dalmatian Meal Experience at family owned local restaurant (extra expense, must be pre-booked)
Escape to the peaceful Konavle Valley and experience authentic Croatian hospitality with a traditional meal in one of the region's most renowned family-run restaurants. Travel through the picturesque countryside to family owned Konoba, beautifully situated on the banks of the Ljuta River. Surrounded by lush greenery, this charming family-owned restaurant is celebrated for preserving the culinary traditions of Konavle and Dalmatia using fresh, locally sourced ingredients and recipes passed down through generations. Relax in the tranquil riverside setting while enjoying a traditional meal accompanied by local wines. Afterwards, take time to browse the small shop offering regional wines, local delicacies, and handcrafted souvenirs before departing for the return journey.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours Docked: 08:00 - 18:00

Arrives On: 25 Jul 27

Day 3: Split (Croatia)

Split is a stunning city laden with culture, history and striking architecture. Take a stroll along the Riva, a palm-lined promenade that is the beating heart of the city, passing beautiful terraces and bustling eateries with harbour views. Built from the fourth century and added to over 1,700 years, the ruins of Diocletian's Palace dominate the city centre. This incredible World Heritage site comprises an imperial residence, military fortress and fortified town with gates and walls. Today, its remnants house a myriad of bars and cafés. Included Excursion
Walking Tour of Split with Mestrovic Gallery
Discover the artistic and historical treasures of Split, where Roman architecture, medieval landmarks, and Croatian art combine in one of the Adriatic's most fascinating cities. A panoramic drive leads to the elegant Meštrovic Gallery, the former residence of Croatia's most celebrated sculptor, Ivan Meštrovic. Today, the villa houses an impressive collection of his sculptures and artworks, displayed throughout the historic residence and its tranquil gardens. Continue into the heart of Split Old Town, built around the remarkable 4th-century Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walk through its atmospheric stone streets to

visit the Cathedral of St. Domnius (St. Duje), one of the world's oldest cathedrals, originally constructed as the mausoleum of Emperor Diocletian. Visit the Temple of Jupiter and admire landmarks including the Peristyle Square, Golden Gate, and Silver Gate before enjoying free time near Split's lively open-air market to browse local stalls or explore at your own pace. You may return with the group or remain in the Old Town for independent exploration.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours EmeraldPLUS
Klapa perfomance on Board
Experience the timeless sounds of Dalmatia with an authentic Klapa performance, one of Croatia's most treasured musical traditions and recognised by UNESCO as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Enjoy an enchanting performance by a traditional Klapa ensemble, whose powerful a cappella harmonies bring to life songs inspired by love, the sea, and the rich cultural heritage of the Dalmatian coast. This captivating musical tradition has been passed down through generations and offers a memorable insight into Croatia's enduring folklore.
Duration: 1 hour Anchored: 08:00 - 05:00 (next day)

Arrives On: 26 Jul 27

Day 4: Zadar (Croatia)

Zadar is something of a hidden Croatian gem, a captivating blend of ancient history and modern charm. As you stroll through its cobbled streets, encounter spectacular Roman ruins, including the well-preserved Roman Forum constructed between the first century BC and third century AD, and the majestic St. Donatus Church, a symbol of the city's rich heritage. You'll be mesmerised by the Sea Organ, stone carvings along the promenade designed so the lapping waves create natural and hauntingly beautiful melodies. As the sun disappears, be captivated by Sun Salutation, a dazzling solar-powered installation that lights up at night. DiscoverMORE
Walking tour of Zadar and Rural estate visit (extra expense)
Experience the rich history of Zadar before discovering the traditions, flavours, and warm hospitality of the Croatian countryside. Begin with a guided walk through Zadar's historic centre, where Roman ruins, medieval churches, and contemporary landmarks reflect over 3,000 years of history. Visit highlights including the famous Sea Organ, Greeting to the Sun, the ancient Roman Forum, and the impressive Cathedral of St. Anastasia, while learning about the city's remarkable cultural heritage. Continue with a short drive to the Odžakovic Estate in the village of Nadin, renowned for its sustainable farming and winemaking traditions. Receive a traditional Croatian welcome before sampling regional specialities accompanied by locally produced wines. During your visit, explore the estate's Ethnographic Museum, where exhibits showcase the customs, crafts, and rural traditions that have shaped life in this part of Dalmatia.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours 25 minutes Docked: 14:00 - 22:00

Arrives On: 27 Jul 27

Day 5: Opatija (Croatia)

On the western peninsula of Croatia, southwest of the large city of Rijeka, Opatija has alluring views across the Adriatic towards the Kvarner Islands and the distant Istrian Mountains. Known as the ‘Nice of Croatia’, Opatija was a seaside resort for the upper classes during the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and it retains its lovely seaside promenades, handsome villas and manicured parks and gardens. DiscoverMORE
The Heart of Istria: Hills History & Flavors (extra expense)
Embark on a full-day excursion through the heart of Istria, where medieval hilltop towns, sweeping landscapes, and regional flavours create a memorable experience. A scenic drive through rolling countryside leads to Hum, officially recognised as the smallest town in the world. Wander its stone-paved lanes, admire centuries-old houses, and hear the legends that surround this tiny yet historic settlement. Continue to the picturesque hilltop town of Motovun, renowned for panoramic views, ancient walls, and its celebrated truffle heritage. A local shuttle brings you to the town’s entrance, where a guided walk reveals cobbled streets, historic squares, and impressive fortifications. Free time follows to explore boutiques and cafés or simply enjoy the atmosphere. A traditional Istrian lunch in Motovun showcases authentic regional specialities, reflecting the area’s distinctive culinary traditions.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 7 hours DiscoverMORE
Kayak the Opatija Riviera (extra expense)
Experience Opatija’s beautiful coastline from the sea on this guided kayaking excursion, ideal for beginners and suitable for all ages (except infants). The route covers approximately 4.5 kilometres of gentle paddling along the Adriatic, combining light activity with scenic views and relaxation. After a short 500-metre walk to the beach, your adventure begins with kayaks, paddles, life jackets, and waterproof bags provided for comfort and safety. Accompanied by your guide, paddle along the shoreline with several pauses at notable landmarks, while hearing engaging stories from Opatija’s rich past. A stop for swimming and snorkelling is included, with masks provided, offering the chance to explore the clear Adriatic waters. Throughout the excursion, your guide captures digital photos, and waterproof phone cases are available upon request.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 3 hours Anchored: 08:00 - 19:00

Arrives On: 28 Jul 27

Day 6: Piran (Slovenia)

Piran is a pretty town of red-tiled and whitewashed buildings clustered on the tip of Slovenia’s Piran Peninsula. Part of the Venetian Empire from the late 13th century to the end of the 18th century, Piran is known for its grand Gothic architecture. The town has a history of salt panning, and its landscape is dotted with olive groves and pebbly beaches. Restaurants line the waterfront and serve seafood direct from the Adriatic, as well as drawing inspiration from its Italian heritage with excellent gelaterias and pizzerias. Today choose between our EmeraldACTIVE or DiscoverMORE option. EmeraldACTIVE
Scenic Strunjan Trail & Countryside Flavors
Experience the natural beauty and authentic flavours of

Slovenian Istria, where dramatic coastal scenery, traditional villages, and local delicacies create a memorable day ashore. Begin with a scenic drive to Strunjan Landscape Park, a protected coastal reserve renowned for its towering cliffs and unspoilt Mediterranean landscapes. Join your guide for a leisurely walk along the cliff-top trails, enjoying spectacular panoramic views across the Gulf of Trieste and the historic Strunjan Salt Pans below. Continue into the rolling hills of the Istrian countryside to the picturesque hilltop village of Padna, celebrated for its stone architecture and olive-growing heritage. Explore the village at your own pace and visit the local Farmer's Market, where tasting vouchers allow you to sample a selection of regional specialities, including locally produced olive oils and truffle delicacies, before departing for the return journey.
Activity level: Active, Duration: 4 hours 15 minutes DiscoverMORE
Postoina cave and Predjana Castle with Home Hosted Experience (extra expense)
Discover one of Slovenia's greatest natural wonders before experiencing the country's rich history and warm local hospitality. Travel inland to the spectacular Postojna Cave, one of Europe's largest and most celebrated karst cave systems. Explore its vast underground chambers, magnificent stalactites and stalagmites, and remarkable limestone formations while learning about the cave's fascinating geology and unique ecosystem. Continue to the dramatic Predjama Castle, perched dramatically within a towering cliff face. Enjoy a photo stop and hear the remarkable stories of this medieval fortress, one of Slovenia's most iconic landmarks. The experience concludes with a visit to a local family home, where you will enjoy a traditional Slovenian lunch prepared with regional ingredients before departing for the return journey.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 7 hours 30 minutes Anchored: 08:00 - 23:00

Arrives On: 29 Jul 27

Day 7: Venice (Italy)

Today, you will arrive in Venice, a 1,600-year-old city that is one of the world’s most iconic destinations. Built across 118 small islands in the Venetian Lagoon, it’s a place shaped by water, from its quiet canals to St Mark’s Basilica and the grand piazza in front. It’s a spectacular city to get lost in, with its maze-like alleyways and vibrant squares. With your luxury yacht docked here overnight, you can choose to linger over a drink at a tiny bar or glide along the canals by gondola as the city lights illuminate the water. DiscoverMORE
Walking tour of Venice with Doge's Palace (extra expense)
Experience the timeless beauty of Venice as you explore its iconic landmarks, magnificent architecture, and rich maritime history in the heart of this extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel by private motorboat along the Giudecca Canal to St. Mark's Square, where your guided walk begins. Admire the elegant Marciana Library, Sansovino's Loggetta, the impressive Bell Tower, the famous Clock Tower with its bronze Moors, and the historic Procuratie buildings surrounding one of the world's most celebrated squares. Continue with a guided visit to the magnificent Doge's Palace, the former seat of the Venetian Republic. Explore its lavish chambers, climb the famous Golden Staircase, and admire masterpieces by Tintoretto and Veronese before crossing the legendary Bridge of Sighs,

which once connected the palace to the historic prison. Admire the exterior of the magnificent St. Mark's Basilica, whose origins date back to the 9th century, before enjoying free time to explore Venice at your own pace. Rejoin your assistant at the designated meeting point before departing for the return journey by private motorboat.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 4 hours 30 minutes Docked: 09:00 - overnight

Arrives On: 30 Jul 27

Day 8: Venice (Italy)

Your Emerald Cruises voyage concludes here. From your luxury yacht, you'll be transferred to the airport for your journey home or to continue
your travels. DiscoverMORE
Murano With Glass Demonstration & Visit to Burano (extra expense, must be booked on board)
Cruise through the enchanting Venetian Lagoon to explore two of its most celebrated islands, renowned for centuries of craftsmanship, colourful traditions, and unique character. Travel by private motorboat across the lagoon to Murano, world-famous for its artistic glassmaking tradition. Visit a renowned glass factory where skilled artisans demonstrate the delicate techniques that have made Murano glass famous worldwide for over seven centuries. Afterwards, enjoy time to browse the showroom featuring a remarkable collection of handcrafted glass creations. Continue to the picturesque island of Burano, instantly recognisable by its brightly coloured fishermen's houses lining the canals. Stroll through the charming streets while learning about the island's historic lace-making tradition, once regarded as the finest in Europe. Enjoy free time to explore the village, browse local shops, or relax at a café (own expense) before departing for the return journey by private motorboat.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours 30 minutes

Note: This excursion is available for guests continuing on to the next cruise, as well as disembarking guests with flights departing after 5:00 pm. Luggage will be stored at the terminal, and a transfer to the airport will be provided upon completion of the excursion. Those staying in Venice may also participate; however, upon returning from the excursion, luggage must be collected from the terminal, and onward travel to the final destination is at their own arrangement and
expense. Please book your 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 operated unaltered from the itinerary states above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 31 Jul 27

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