

CROATIA

BY YACHT

CHARTERLINK
Private Yacht Vacations

SOUTHERN CROATIA

Croatia is one of the **world's top yacht charter destinations**, with over **a thousand islands**, countless hidden bays, and a coastline rich in history and culture. The most popular sailing route runs between **Split (or nearby Trogir) and Dubrovnik**, covering the **heart of Dalmatia** and some of the most beautiful and historically significant locations on the Adriatic. With charming old towns, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, **crystal-clear waters**, and **island-hopping opportunities** at every turn, this region is a dream for sailors and explorers alike.

The Dalmatian Coast is known not only for its **dramatic landscapes and ancient architecture** but also for its exceptional **gastronomy**. Fresh seafood is a staple, complemented by regional meat and vegetable dishes, and paired with excellent **local wines that rival the best in the world**. English is **widely spoken**, making it easy for international visitors to feel at home. Conveniently, Split and Dubrovnik both have international airports with excellent connections, making one-way charters between the two cities a practical and popular choice.

The islands along this route, including Hvar, Korčula, Vis, and Mljet, are close enough for **short daily sails**, giving you ample time to explore on land. From ancient ports and Venetian architecture to scenic anchorages and tucked-away tavernas, this coastline offers a **perfect balance of relaxation, discovery, and indulgence**.

Summers are hot and dry, with the **Mistral wind providing a pleasant, reliable afternoon breeze** that blows from the northwest during the summer months along the Croatian coast. It's one of the **main reasons sailing in Dalmatia is so enjoyable**. This wind typically picks up around midday, offering ideal and steady conditions for sailing before calming in the evening. While the weather is generally stable in summer, Croatia can occasionally experience stronger winds like the **Bura (a dry, gusty wind from the northeast)** and the **Jugo (a warm, humid wind from the southeast)**. These winds are **less predictable** and, although not common, they can greatly impact a yacht's itinerary and **raise safety concerns**. In such cases, your crew may need to **adjust the route or modify plans**, often choosing a more sheltered bay or harbor.

July and Aug: Busiest and hottest months. (82° - 90°F with water temperatures from 75° - 80°F)

June and Sept: Enjoyable shoulder season. (75° - 82°F with water temperatures from 70° - 77°F)

May and Oct: Quieter, mild to chilly weather. (64° - 75°F with water temperatures from 65° - 72°F)

Language: Croatian (**English widely spoken** in tourist areas)

Time zone: Central European Time (CET), UTC+1 (summer: UTC+2)

Electricity: 230V, plugs type C and F

Tap water is safe to drink.

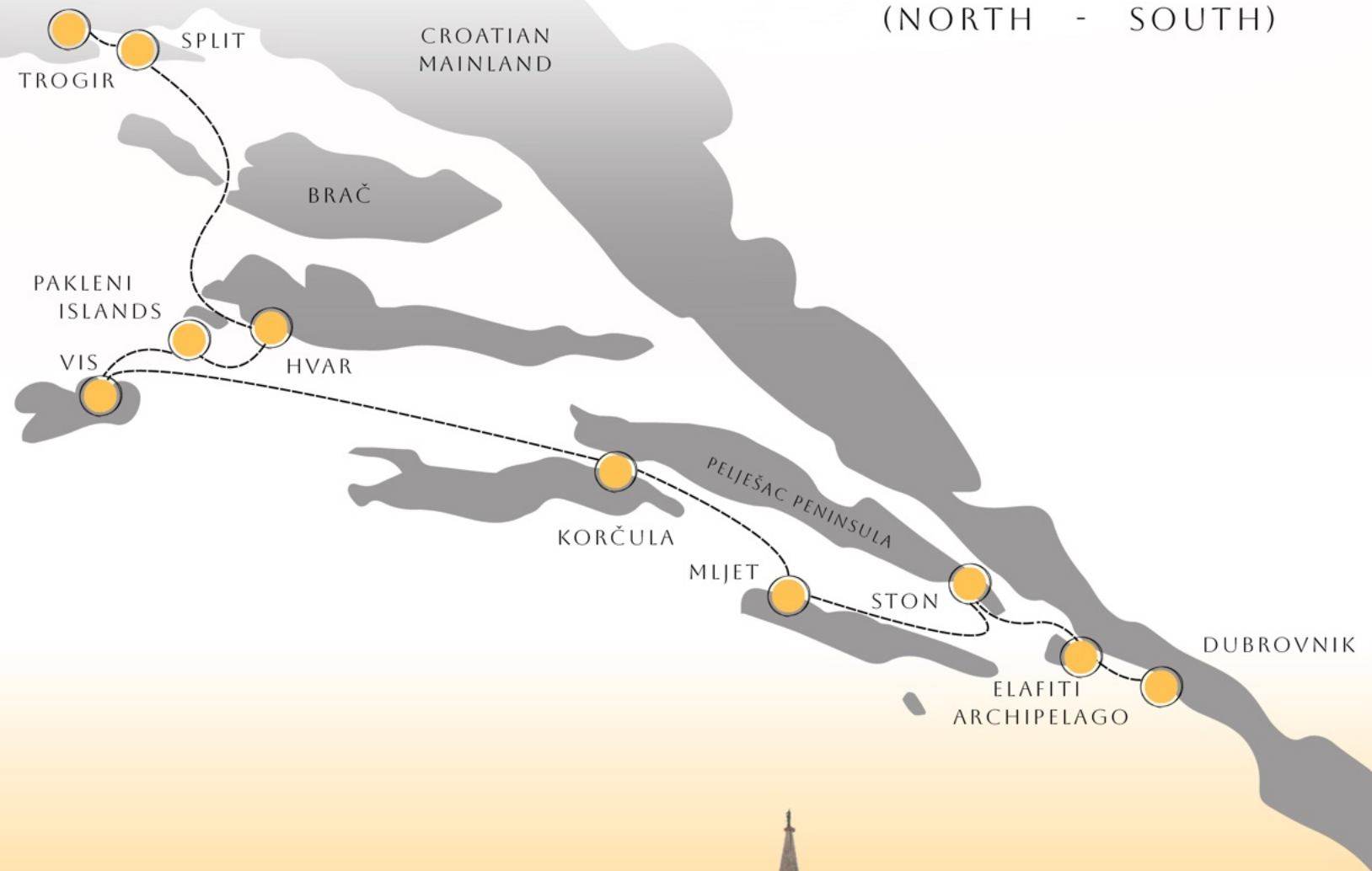
Euro is the currency.

Intl. Flights in/out Split & Dubrovnik.



SPLIT TO DUBROVNIK

7 NIGHTS (ONE WAY)
(NORTH - SOUTH)





TROGIR

Trogir is one of the most enchanting Italianate towns along the Adriatic coast. Nestled on a small island between the mainland and the island of Čiovo, it is a beautifully preserved gem with winding cobblestone streets, stone houses, and stunning architecture at every turn.

At the edge of town stands the remains of Kamerlengo Castle, still open to visitors. From its walls, you'll enjoy sweeping views over the town and its picturesque waterfront. Another architectural highlight is St. Lawrence Cathedral, a masterpiece blending Romanesque and Gothic styles and one of the key reasons Trogir holds UNESCO World Heritage status.

The town also houses a Benedictine Nunnery that dates back over 900 years. Originally dedicated to St. Dujе, the patron saint of Split, the nunnery is steeped in local legend. It's said the larger vestry once served as a meeting place for the town's earliest Christians and St. Dujе himself. A recently uncovered early Christian inscription adds to the site's historic significance. Now dedicated to St. Nicholas, the monastery is home to Trogir's oldest painting, Madonna with Child, and the Kairos Collection. Its centerpiece is a marble relief of Kairos, the Greek god of opportunity, believed to have been crafted in Athens in the 3rd or 4th century BC. Similar finds exist throughout Dalmatia—in Zadar, Šibenik, Hvar, Krk, Pag, Cres, and Rab.

But it's not all history, enjoy the world renowned dining options, stroll through the charming streets of the old town with its captivating atmosphere and shopping opportunities. And don't miss the chance to take home your own Kairos as a reminder to seize the moment!





SPLIT

Just a few miles south lies the city of Split, built around the extraordinary Palace of Emperor Diocletian, offering some of the most impressive Roman ruins in Europe. At its heart is a lively medieval old town, home to charming piazzas, excellent restaurants, bars, and the iconic Riva promenade, perfect for sipping an espresso or a cocktail.

Split is steeped in history and full of energy. Diocletian built his palace here in 305AD as a retirement residence, and the city has been continuously inhabited ever since. Locals are immensely proud of their heritage, and it shows in every corner. Within the palace walls, you'll find narrow cobbled streets, beautiful piazzas, quirky shops, excellent restaurants and bars and a beautiful promenade by the sea. When strolling through the maze of the palace streets make sure you look up, too. This is a lived-in palace and you will notice anything from crisp white sheets on a line drying, beautifully shaped windows and balconies, neighbors chatting, art by local artists. It feels like walking through time and the atmosphere is warm, authentic, and welcoming.

Split is also an ideal place to spend a few days before your yacht charter. While there are lovely boutique hotels, we highly recommend staying in one of the beautifully restored apartments tucked inside the palace itself. There's nothing quite like waking up within 1,700-year-old walls.

For stunning views, hike to the top of Marjan Hill. And don't miss a guided walking tour as many include wine and food tastings, and the local guides are fantastic!



HVAR & PAKLENI ARCHIPELAGO

Hvar town is known as the hippest destination on the Adriatic, a place where you want to be seen. But this beautiful town has something for everyone: incredibly glamorous night life, exclusive restaurants, a great art scene, wonderful views from the 17th century fortress, a magnificent piazza, one of the oldest public theatres in Europe ... and the perfect climate. During the day, a set of small islets right across from Hvar town, offers tranquil bays, beautiful beaches and several great restaurants. Sail around them to find your perfect spot, drop anchor and enjoy the blueness of the sea and the relaxing atmosphere.

Palmizana, is a heaven for foodies, art and nature lovers! Located on St Clement Island, right next to the island of Hvar. It's a jewel, a little heaven on earth, a sanctuary, an art gallery, a gourmet paradise, a place full of exotic plants and wonderful aromas, an extravagant cornucopia of delight for the senses. The pine woods are full of beautiful and exotic plants, gathered here by the owners to create a botanical garden. But it maintains its wild feel.

At the centre of the island is the Meneghello restaurant, set in the woods, overlooking the bay. Here you can enjoy a fantastic meal surrounded by the owners' collection of modern art. They have been collecting for over half a century. Exhibitions are held regularly in the restaurant and the surrounding area. There is something new to see every time you visit.

Don't miss the sundowners at Hula Hula!





VIS & KOMIZA

The island of Vis was originally a Greek settlement, but it was also the centre of the Yugoslav resistance in the Second World War and remained a military base after 1945. Foreigners were only allowed on the Island after the 1990s. There is a great round-the-island tour that shows the role the island played in the war. This is done in a 1974 terrain vehicle, used for getting to the places that one can't reach on foot, including the highest peak on the island, from where the view is just wonderful. The tour ends in the local Winery and dinner in a family run local restaurant where one can also enjoy a Peka, a traditional Dalmatian way of cooking. A peka is a large, domed iron lid that covers and bakes food for a long period of time (around 6 hours). The secret of its success is that it stews and roasts at the same time.

Both Vis and Komiza are beautiful ports with old stone houses and they offer some excellent restaurants tucked away in their narrow streets. Restaurant Villa Kaliopa has a wow factor for all foodies and historians out there – sit in a gothic-renaissance garden dating back to the 16th century, surrounded by palm trees and Gariboldi's muses. If you are a true foodie, you have to meet Senko Karuza. Senko is based in the cove of Mala Travnica. He is best reached by boat, but there is also a road down to his Robinson Crusoe style 'hut' where he prepares the most amazing seafood dishes.

The Island of Bisevo nearby hides an extraordinary natural phenomena, the Blue Cave. At noon, the sun pours into the cave from under the water, creating the most magnificent turquoise light.



KORČULA ISLAND

The town of Korčula, on the island of Korčula, is a Venetian town with old medieval streets and walls, and beautiful Renaissance churches. The entire town is a historic monument and believed to be the birthplace of the traveller Marco Polo. On the western side of the island, there is a peaceful little port of Vela Luka, with a brand new marina Korkyra and the most magical sunsets! There are some excellent Korčula restaurants and wineries, the latter being famous for the uniquely Korčulan 'Grk' wine. The countryside is full of quaint villages, vineyards and olive groves, while the coast is peppered with quiet beaches and idyllic coves.

During your visit, be sure to view a performance of the traditional Moreska sword dance, one of the most unique experiences in Korčula. Dating back to the 12th century, Moreska was once performed across the Mediterranean, but today Korčula is one of the few places where this centuries-old tradition still lives on.

Olive oil production is a major industry on Korčula, thanks to the island's abundant sunshine and unique local olive varieties. Korčulan olive oil stands out for its mildly bitter, herbaceous flavour, distinguishing it from other Croatian oils. It's also recognised at the highest level, holding PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) status from the European Commission, a prestigious mark of quality that few products achieve.

Korčula is also known for always having a bit of a breeze and is an excellent spot for kitesurfing and windsurfing!





PELJEŠAC PENINSULA

Across the water rise the dramatic peaks of the Pelješac Peninsula, a region famed for its rich winemaking tradition and world-class oysters. The sun-drenched slopes produce some of Croatia's finest wines, while the tranquil bays, particularly around Ston are known for the finest oysters. Historic towns like Orebić and Ston add cultural depth to this naturally stunning and gastronomically rich area.

Visiting the ancient walls and towers of Ston is like stepping back in time. Known for having the longest defensive walls in Europe, Ston's fortifications were built in the 14th century to protect its valuable salt pans. You can walk along sections of the walls, which stretch over 5 kilometers and offer sweeping views of the surrounding countryside, the town, and the sea. The climb is steep in parts, with 20 of the original 40 towers remaining, but the scenery and the sense of history is well worth the effort.

This beautiful and green National Park offers several peaceful anchorages, ideal for a leisurely evening on board. But this quiet island has an interesting history too. The 12th century monastery in the interior of the island on the Big Lake is well worth a visit.

Grgić Winery, perched above Trstenik Bay on the Pelješac Peninsula, is the Croatian sister winery to the renowned Grgich Hills Estate in Napa Valley. Yachts can anchor just offshore, with guests brought to land by tender to enjoy wine tastings on the terrace overlooking the Adriatic. The winery focuses on two local varietals, Plavac Mali and Pošip, crafted with the same care and quality that defines its Californian counterpart. With its stunning setting and elegant wines, it's a memorable addition to the itinerary.



ISLAND MLJET

Mljet, often called Croatia's greenest island, is known for its dense pine forests and tranquil saltwater lakes. Much of the island falls within Mljet National Park, home to Veliko and Malo Jezero, the two calm, warm lakes ideal for swimming, kayaking, and paddle boarding. The park's peaceful atmosphere makes it a relaxing spot for nature lovers and those looking to escape the crowds.

In the middle of Veliko Jezero sits St. Mary's islet, where visitors can explore a 12th-century Benedictine monastery. It's reachable by small boat or kayak and offers a quiet café among the old stone buildings. Not far away, the "Mali Most" bridge, meaning "small bridge" in Croatian, creates a fun natural current for floating through.

On the southern coast, Odysseus Cave draws visitors for its connection to myth and its clear blue water. It's best reached by kayak or boat. Inland, the village of Polače has Roman ruins, while Pomena serves as a gateway to the park with bike rentals, dive shops, and casual restaurants. Biking around Mljet is a peaceful way to explore the island's quiet roads, pine forests, and coastal views. There are also several scenic trails on offer, including the path up Montokuc Hill, which rewards walkers with panoramic views of the island and surrounding Adriatic Sea.

For beachgoers, Sapunara on the eastern end offers a wide sandy bay, rare for the region, while Blace Cove is a peaceful, shallow lagoon. Small villages like Blato and Goveđari add to Mljet's quiet, local charm, and most of the island can be explored easily by bike. Mljet offers a mix of nature, history, and laid-back island life.





ELAFITI ARCHIPELAGO

The Elafiti Archipelago, made up of the islands Koločep, Lopud, and Šipan, offers a tranquil stop prior to your arrival in Dubrovnik. Each island is known for its beautiful anchorages and peaceful atmosphere, perfect for visitors looking to relax amid natural beauty. Koločep and Lopud are especially serene, as both are car-free, encouraging leisurely strolls through shaded forest and along quiet, rocky beaches.

Šipan, the largest of the three islands, carries a unique charm with its history as a favored summer retreat for Dubrovnik's aristocracy in the 16th century. The island still bears the marks of that era, with the ruins of old summer villas scattered among vineyards, olive groves, and citrus orchards that blanket the hills. Šipan's main town, Šipanska Luka, is a picturesque village with terracotta roofs, marble-paved streets, and a distinctly traditional Dalmatian atmosphere that invites exploration.

Visitors to the Elafiti Islands will find plenty to enjoy beyond sailing and swimming. The islands are ideal for unwinding in a peaceful setting, with opportunities for gentle hikes through the hills or cycling along quiet lanes. Dining options range from the modern and highly recommended BOWA restaurant on Šipan, offering creative dishes, to the longtime favorite local taverna Kod Marka, where fresh seafood is served in a warm, welcoming environment.

This area is a place for simplicity, to stop time and soak up the serene coastal vibe, providing a refreshing contrast to the busier tourist spots nearby.



DUBROVNIK

Dubrovnik, known as the “Pearl of the Adriatic,” is one of the most beautiful and best-preserved medieval cities in the world. Enclosed by 13th-century stone walls, the UNESCO-listed Old Town is filled with Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture, all set against the sparkling Adriatic Sea. A walk along the full circuit of the city walls offers panoramic views over the terracotta rooftops and the coast, while the limestone-paved Stradun below is ideal for a slow stroll, a coffee stop, or simply soaking in the city’s timeless charm.

To really appreciate Dubrovnik’s layered history, a guided walking tour is highly recommended. Another must is the scenic cable car ride up to Mount Srđ, where you’ll get sweeping views over the city and surrounding islands, especially stunning at sunset. Away from the crowds, Fort Lovrijenac and the War Photo Limited gallery offer a deeper look into the city’s more recent past.

Dubrovnik is also a destination for exceptional dining. Michelin-starred Restaurant 360 offers a refined tasting menu in a dramatic setting on the city walls. For fresh seafood, Proto has been a trusted favorite for years, while Above 5 delivers fine dining and beautiful rooftop views right in the heart of the Old Town.

Whether you opt to spend an additional night or several, Dubrovnik deserves time to explore. Excellent boutique hotels and luxury stays can be found within or just outside the Old Town when your yacht charter comes to an end. Dubrovnik, with its blend of history, coastal beauty, and top-class cuisine, it’s the perfect place to make the most of your final days on the Adriatic Coast.

