



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# CAPTIVATING CROATIA

2024 MULTI-GENERATIONAL TOUR

US DEPARTURE DATE: JUNE 29, 2024

LAND TOUR START DATE: JUNE 30, 2024

RETURN DATE: JULY 7, 2024

LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$2,765

# START YOUR ADVENTURE.



Dear Alumni and Friends!

Look forward to summer 2024 and join us on a multi-generational adventure to Captivating Croatia. As you step onto the magical Croatian shores, be sure to take in all the culture, beauty, and vibrant atmosphere the country has to offer. Explore the old walled cities and learn about the country's fascinating history.

Discover this paradise for nature lovers and those looking for an off-the-beaten-path European getaway. Travel solo or with friends, a partner or your family as young as age twelve and above.

These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning enrichment and enjoying a connection back to the University of Michigan. Our journeys are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 46 years of experience in the young travel market.

If you have any questions about this tour, please contact our tour operator AESU Alumni World Travel by calling 800-638-7640 or email [alumni@aesu.com](mailto:alumni@aesu.com). To make an online booking, please visit our young alumni tour landing page [www.aesu.com/umich](http://www.aesu.com/umich) and select this tour to be directed to the tour web site.

We are looking forward to traveling with you this coming season.

Sincerely,

*Rachele Neu*

RACHELE NEU B.S. '08, M.A. '12

Senior Travel Program Manager

Alumni Association of the University of Michigan

[alumnitravel@umich.edu](mailto:alumnitravel@umich.edu)

The Captivating Croatia Multi-Generational Trip is a benefit to current members of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. To join the Alumni Association, please visit <https://alumni.umich.edu/membership/>

Visit our website [www.aesu.com/umich](http://www.aesu.com/umich) for more details and to book.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is compulsory. The Alumni Association of Michigan offers the following travel insurance:

<https://alumni.trawickinternational.com/school/welcome/677/>

# CAPTIVATING CROATIA



9 DAYS | 7 NIGHTS

COUNTRIES VISITED:  
ZAGREB | SPLIT | DUBROVNIK

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

### 9-Day Land Package Transportation and Lodging

- 7 nights in superior tourist class hotels with private bath/shower, 2-share rooms
- All ground transportation by air-conditioned motor coach as per itinerary
- Airport transfers included with purchase of AESU group airfare

### Meals

- 12 meals: 7 breakfasts, 1 picnic lunch, 4 specialty dinners

### Activities and Admissions

- Guided tours in Split, Dubrovnik and Trsteno with local experts
  - Cocktails and refreshments at Trsteno Arboretum
    - Admissions:
      - o Plitvice Lakes National Park
      - o Split Diocletian's Palace and Dungeons
      - o Trsteno Arboretum
      - o Dubrovnik city walls and Fortress Lovrijenac

### Plus

- Private tour director for the duration of the land tour
  - All service charges and local taxes

### Optional Activities (not included in land package price):

- Day 2: Half-day walking tour of Zagreb
- Day 5: Catamaran cruise from Split (weather permitting)

### Tour Highlights

- Welcome orientation
- Zagreb city sights
- Plitvice Lakes National Park, UNESCO World Heritage Site
  - Nature hike
- UNESCO World Heritage Site Diocletian Palace in Split
  - Adriatic beaches
- Salt producing towns of Ston and Mali Ston
  - World's second largest defense wall
- UNESCO World Heritage Site Dubrovnik
  - Culinary experiences
- Guided tours with local experts





# CAPTIVATING CROATIA ITINERARY

## ABOUT THE TRIP:

Offering an abundance of activities, sights, culture and cuisine, Croatia is a treasure trove for multi-generational travelers.

The exquisite coastline, speckled with islands surrounded by crystal clear waters and dazzling sandy beaches invites you to spend a perfectly lazy holiday and suggests activities such as snorkeling, kayaking or sailing. Historically speaking, this country has been passed between competing kingdoms and empires for millennia, leaving a rich cultural legacy, Roman designs, Venetian palaces, Viennese estates, and Slavic churches. Traveling through Croatia's countryside, encounter caverns, river canyons, waterfalls, and other-worldly stunning lakes. If you are here for the food – you won't be disappointed either. Cuisine is heavily influenced by Italian and Mediterranean fare making it the basis for the Dalmatian and Istrian food. Croatian wines and olive oils are making their mark on the world stage, winning top awards.

Are you ready to go on this adventure?

### DAY 1 TRAVEL TO CROATIA

Today, we embark on our overnight flight to Zagreb.

[Meals: In-flight](#)

### DAY 2 LAND TOUR START DAY: ZAGREB

Welcome to Zagreb. The capital city of Croatia has it all: culture, arts, music, architecture, and good eats. Explore the city on your own, relax, or join us on an optional walking tour with a local historian. Visit the medieval Upper Town, Zagreb's oldest district. Sitting on top of two hills, Kaptol, the old town's clerical center, clustered around the city's elegant neo-Gothic cathedrals and Gradec, lined with pastel-colored baroque palaces, once home to the city's nobility. Check out Gornji Grad and the Church of St. Mark's, the Art Pavilion and the Meštrović Gallery or the Croatian National Theater. Tonight, join the welcome cocktail and cevapcici dinner with our travel companions.

[Meals: In-flight, Dinner](#)

[Inclusions: Airport transfer included with purchased AESU group airfare, Welcome orientation with tour director, Welcome cocktail, Welcome dinner](#)

[Optional activity: Guided walking tour of Zagreb \(approx. 2.5 hours\)](#)

### DAY 3 ZAGREB | PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK | SPLIT

Depart Zagreb early in the morning for a drive south to Plitvice Lakes National Park, one of Europe's great natural wonders. This is truly one of the most amazing primeval forests, featuring 16 terraced lakes, laced together by waterfalls and miles of wooden walkways and bridges. Take advantage of the park's free boat and train rides to get the most out of your visit and enjoy a picnic lunch at one of the park's al fresco dining areas. Our journey continues to the historic port city of Split, Croatia's second-largest city. This bustling city offers a perfect balance between traditional and modern lifestyles. The jewel in the center of town is the breath-taking Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most impressive Roman monuments in the world. Enjoy a typical Dalmatian dinner, then stroll along the lively harbor by the sparkling Adriatic Sea.

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner](#)

[Inclusions: Plitvice Lakes National Park, UNESCO World Heritage Site, Admission to park, Nature hike, Picnic \(box\) lunch, Adriatic seafood dinner](#)



#### DAY 4

#### SPLIT

Our morning tour of Split with a local historian starts at the Diocletian's Palace, built in the early 4th century as a retirement estate for the Diocletian, who spared no expense, importing marble from Italy and Greece, and columns and sphinxes from Egypt. Today the palace is a living monument, with residences and colorful shops that started to occupy the ruins of the palace around the 7th century. This afternoon, continue your own exploration of Split, sample fresh local seafood, or relax on the beach.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions: Guided walking tour of Split, led by a local expert, Diocletian's palace and dungeons admission

#### DAY 5

#### SPLIT

Spend the day as you wish or join us on an optional catamaran cruise. Enjoy an unforgettable adventure along coastal Croatia and sail across the Split Riviera toward the Pakleni Islands and soak up amazing views over Brač and Šolta Islands. Swim and sunbathe at your leisure in peaceful bays around the Pakleni Islands, then enjoy a delicious lunch. Take time to explore the ancient town of Hvar on your own before returning to Split as the sun sets on the horizon.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions: Free day to explore Split

Optional activity: Catamaran cruise to the islands of Pakleni and Hvar

#### DAY 6

#### SPLIT | STON AND MALI STON | TRSTENO ARBORETUM | DUBROVNIK

This morning we drive along the dramatic coastline, crossing the recently finished Pelješac Bridge, which connects the region of Southern Dalmatia with the rest of the country's mainland. We arrive at Ston, and Mali Ston, both salt-producing towns. The city's defensive walls are world-famous and second largest in the world after the Great Wall of China. After lunch on your own and time to explore the town, our journey continues to Trsteno Arboretum, the oldest arboretum in this part of the world. It was built in the late 15th century to house plants and seeds brought back from foreign countries by the Gozze family. The aqueduct used for irrigation purposes is still in use today, and the stunning Belvedere Pavilion overlooking the Dalmatian Coast and Adriatic Sea was the gardens of the Red Keep in the Game of Thrones TV series. Later, we arrive in Dubrovnik, 'Pearl of the Adriatic' and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Inclusions: Ston and Mali Ston, salt-producing towns visit, Ston's defensive walls, second largest after the Great Wall of China, Trsteno Arboretum admission, Cocktails and refreshments at Trsteno Arboretum, Tour of the Arboretum, guided tour with local expert



## DAY 7

### DUBROVNIK

Whether this is your first visit to Dubrovnik, or you are returning, the beauty of the Old Town will never cease to amaze you. Our local historian will take us on a walk through the ancient city, including Fort Lovrijenac, often called "Dubrovnik's Gibraltar," and along the 25-meter-high city wall which has protected the city from pirates and unwanted guests for centuries. Enjoy some of the best views of Dubrovnik, overlooking the red-roofed, terracotta skyline. Be enchanted by the city's marble streets, imposing stone walls rising from steep cliffs, churches, monuments and picturesque coves and beaches. During free time, take some time to shop in the narrow streets or opt for a cocktail at one of the cafes carved in the city walls, overlooking the blue Adriatic Sea.

[Meals: Breakfast](#)

[Inclusions: Guided walking tour of Dubrovnik's old town, led by a local expert, Admission to Lovrijenac Fortress, Admission to the city wall](#)

## DAY 8

### DUBROVNIK

Enjoy a day at your leisure. Take some time to relax on the beach or return to Dubrovnik's old town for further exploration. Tonight, join us for our Dalmatian farewell dinner.

[Meals: Breakfast, Dinner](#)

[Inclusions: Free day to explore Dubrovnik's old town and Adriatic beaches, Dalmatian farewell dinner](#)

## DAY 9

### TRAVEL HOME

After breakfast the land program ends, and we bid farewell to our new-found friends and make plans for a reunion trip.

[Meals: Breakfast](#)

[Inclusions: Airport transfer included with purchased AESU group airfare](#)

# PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS



Hello Multi-Generational Traveler!

Croatia is an absolutely captivating destination that has something for everyone! From the breathtaking natural wonder of Plitvice National Park to the ancient beauty of the Diocletian Palace in Split, there's no shortage of awe-inspiring sights to see. The capital city of Zagreb is a vibrant and exciting hub that offers a mix of old-world charm and modern-day attractions. And let's not forget the Dalmatian Coast's crystal-clear blue sea that's perfect for swimming, snorkeling, and all sorts of water activities! Dubrovnik, with its medieval walls and stunning Old Town, is a true gem that's not to be missed. And for families, Croatia is an absolute paradise with so many kid-friendly activities and attractions such as beaches, and outdoor adventures that will keep the whole family entertained! Whether you're a history buff, nature lover, or beach enthusiast, Croatia is the ultimate vacation destination that you'll fall in love with!

This trip has been carefully designed and features fantastic inclusions and highlights.



Culinary



Culture & Heritage



Leisure & Free Time



Landscapes & Wildlife



Outdoor & Adventure



Educational



Eco Friendly

For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: [www.aesu.com/aspects-awt](http://www.aesu.com/aspects-awt)



## ACTIVITY LEVEL: RELAXED

For more details, please visit: <https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>

### TOUR DIRECTORS

Your tour includes the services of a professional tour director throughout the land package. We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major universities. They are eager to show you the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime for you and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.

### HOTELS

Our hotels offer superior tourist class accommodations, with private bathrooms. Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$545 applies. This tour is suitable for children 12 years of age or older. The child package rate for a child between the ages of 12 and 17 (age at the time of travel) is \$ 2,615 if they share a room with 1 or 2 adults.

“ **A WONDERFUL TIME WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE. PHENOMENAL TOUR.** ”

- past traveler



# BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

**EXCLUSIONS:** These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; any vaccinations, pre/post trip testing/screening, airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. Cancellation from time of booking until 120 days prior to departure will result in a \$300 cancellation fee. Cancellation between 119-90 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 25% of tour cost; between 89-60 days 35% of tour cost; between 59-30 days 50% of tour cost. Cancellation within 30 days of departure or a "no-show" at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Processing of cancellation refunds takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

**AIRFARES** are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Travel insurance, including medical health and accident coverage, is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

**AIRPORT TRANSFERS AND BAGGAGE:** All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. **FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS:** In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.)

AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline's website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, epidemic health risk, any force majeure event, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond the Operator's control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. **TRAVEL INSURANCE** is compulsory in the event of tour cancellation for any reason, medical expenses, personal accident, baggage and other personal items, liability and 24-hr emergency assistance. Trip insurance may be offered directly by your Alumni Association. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, the Operator's liability shall be limited to a refund of land payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. If the change or cancellation is due to force majeure or other similar events beyond Operator's control, a refund of land payments received from applicants will be made less reasonable expenses incurred by Operator in respect to applicant's land booking.

Baggage and personal injury are at owner's risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. The Operator reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/ or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at [www.aesu.com](http://www.aesu.com).