

Croatia

CRUISING THE DALMATIAN COAST



**NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT**
for Solo
Travelers

SPONSORED BY



ALUMNI

University of Illinois Alumni Association
September 29 – October 10, 2026

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Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

Experience the best of Croatia on this extraordinary 10-night adventure! After a stay in Zagreb, soak up absolute serenity aboard your first-class yacht while sailing the Dalmatian Coast, a region celebrated for its natural beauty and timeless charms.

The adventure begins with three nights in buzzing Zagreb, a capital city full of life and historical landmarks. Then, embark your intimately sized ship and spend seven nights cruising the Adriatic. Sailing in a small yacht is the ideal way to visit Croatia's islands and ports. Your cruise ship can reach tiny islets, ports and remote harbors that larger vessels cannot, allowing you access to some of Croatia's most spectacular destinations. By day, glide from one island to another, explore delightful towns and enjoy opportunities to swim, snorkel and sunbathe (weather dependent). Thoughtfully planned excursions introduce you to lauded sights and ancient ruins, local culture and natural wonders. By night, indulge in local gastronomic delights and fall asleep to the gentle rhythm of the sea. After sailing down the Dalmatian Coast, cap off the adventure with a visit to medieval Dubrovnik!

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. Enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with a group and, during your free time, feel the thrill of making your own discoveries! Space on this exclusive journey is limited, and the trip is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservations today!

Sincerely,



David Bambrey
President

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

UNESCO World Heritage

1. Plitvice Lakes National Park
2. Historical Complex of Split with the Palace of Diocletian
3. Old City of Dubrovnik
4. The Cathedral of St James in Šibenik
5. Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries: Stato da Terra – Western Stato da Mar
6. Stari Grad Plain, Hvar

Cathedral of St. James, Šibenik





Discovery begins here



This exhilarating itinerary introduces you to Croatia's familiar gems, such as Zagreb and Dubrovnik, as well as lesser-known fishing towns and unspoiled islets. After three nights in electric Zagreb, get a taste of cruising life aboard your intimate ship. Glide away from the crowds, pausing at various ports so you can hop off and witness centuries of visible history or sip wine in a café. Back on board, soak up more seascapes before your next port of call!

Top: Split | Above: Lavender farm, Jesla

Cover: Cruising the Dalmatian Coast | Mail panel: St. Mark's Church, Zagreb | Dubrovnik

Inspiring Moments



- Fall under the spell of the **Dalmatian Coast**, where glistening waters, timeless beauty and alluring islands await.
- Bask in unrivaled relaxation during a **seven-night Adriatic cruise**.
- **Glide away from the crowds** on your small cruise ship, which can reach islets, delightful ports and remote harbors.
- Uncover cultural treasures and ancient sites on the islands of **Hvar** and **Korčula**.
- Stand amid the magnificent Roman ruins of **Diocletian's Palace** in Split.
- Embrace Croatia's traditions during visits to a **lavender farm**, a **local winery** and a Pelješac Peninsula **oyster farm**.
- Trace the rich history of **Dubrovnik** and uncover the hum of **Zagreb**.
- Experience six **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.



Mali Ston, Peleješac Peninsula

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Zagreb, Croatia. 🌐

Day 2 | Zagreb, Croatia

Upon arrival, transfer 🔄 and check in to the hotel. Later tonight, gather for a convivial Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Zagreb

Enrichment: *Contemporary Croatia.*

Zagreb City Tour. Zagreb weaves European elegance with a vivacious Balkan spirit. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the modern lower town, then drive to Mirogoj Cemetery to see its tiled arcades, sculptures and green copper domes. Return to the upper town and admire its art nouveau and Austro-Hungarian architecture.

Day 4 | Zagreb

Free Time: Make your own discoveries in Zagreb today or join our elective excursion.

🌐 **Elective | Ljubljana, Slovenia.** Cross into Slovenia to discover colorful Ljubljana. Stroll along the Ljubljanica River, passing iconic bridges, shop like a local at the Central Market and browse Prešeren Square, home to the Franciscan Church of the Annunciation. Then, enjoy a cruise along the Ljubljanica River.

Day 5 | Zagreb | Plitvice Lakes National Park | Zadar

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and continue to Plitvice Lakes National Park.

Plitvice Lakes National Park. This national park boasts 16 crystal-clear terraced lakes linked by a series of waterfalls. Wander along

planked walkways and trails amid a fragrant forest. The area is also home to nearly 160 species of birds and numerous plant species.

After a lunch of regional dishes, proceed to Zadar and embark the ship. Gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening.

Free Time: Perhaps return to see the famous sea organ and light show by the promenade.

Day 6 | Zadar | Šibenik

Zadar. Get to know Zadar, a storied university town that is home to an impressive Roman Forum and the Church of St. Donatus. Learn about and sample Maraschino cherry liquor, a unique recipe first created in Zadar during the 16th century, and other locally made sweets. Set sail for Šibenik. Lunch is served on board.

Day 7 | Šibenik | Split

Cultural Šibenik. Uncover the proud city of Šibenik on a guided tour to see its winding alleys, squares and striking buildings. Visit the Cathedral of St. James, one of Europe's most



Stari Grad, Hvar



significant and monumental cathedrals.

Sail to Split. Breathe in the salty air and revel in the beauty of far-off islands on the horizon.

Split. Behold Split's many riches on a walking tour through the courtyards and chambers of Diocletian's Palace. See the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, the Golden Gate and the Peristyle. Craft your own path during time at leisure.

Day 8 | Hvar

After a satisfying breakfast, cruise on to Hvar.

Hvar. Explore this sunny island and uncover a slice of paradise in the ancient port town of Stari Grad, Croatia's oldest town. Admire the churches, squares and orange-tiled rooftops clustered around the charming marina.

 **AHI Connects | Lavender Farm.** Soak up the purple beauty and delightful fragrance of lavender during a visit to a family-run lavender farm in Jesla. The blossoms are grown for medical, cosmetic, cooking and other products.

Vrboska & Winery. Learn about the local viticulture during a tour of a family winery and

enjoy a guided tasting of their legendary wines. Continue to the fishing town of Vrboska to see its fig-covered courtyards and pretty alleyways. Chat about your day during dinner at a local restaurant with a dazzling view.

Day 9 | Korčula

Settle on a sunny deck while sailing to Korčula.

Korčula. This spectacular isle, rumored to be the birthplace of Marco Polo, juts into the Pelješac Channel and brims with natural wonder. Take a guided tour of the medieval old town, filled with enduring architecture.

Day 10 | Mali Ston & Ston | Dubrovnik

Idyllic Pelješac Peninsula. Beloved for its stunning beauty, the rugged Pelješac Peninsula is abundant with fjords, quiet bays and beautiful vineyards. Today, gain insight into a centuries-old practice while visiting some of the world's oldest salt harvesting



Wine tasting



Zadar



Included Features



Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **3 nights** in Zagreb, Croatia, at the deluxe Esplanade Zagreb Hotel.
- Cruise for **7 nights** aboard the first-class MV Infinity.

Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land | Cruise Program.

Extensive Meal Program

- 10 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

sites. Admire the impressive 14th-century Walls of Ston, which link Ston to Mali Ston.

AHI Connects | Mali Ston Oyster Farm. Board a boat in the fishing village of Mali Ston. Ride across the bay to visit an oyster farm. Taste delicious bivalves, fresh from the sea, accompanied by sensational wine. Gather for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 11 | Dubrovnik

Enchanting Dubrovnik. Discover this historic city by the sea on a guided tour. Witness the Pile Gate, Europe's oldest working pharmacy and the Franciscan Monastery's cloister. View the medieval Sponza Palace and see a baroque cathedral with its collections of art and religious relics. After free time, head back to the boat and refresh over a lunch of regional cuisine.

Free Time: Opt to take a leisurely stroll along the Stradun, a wide, marble-tiled street.

Day 12 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

Activity Level

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

Dubrovnik





Plitvice Lakes National Park



Šibenik



Ban Jelačić Square, Zagreb

2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates † **September 29 – October 10, 2026**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates* **September 30 – October 10, 2026**

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land | Cruise Program

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings Price*
D-Lower	\$6,545	\$5,795
C-Lower	\$6,745	\$5,995
B-Main	\$7,545	\$6,795
A-Upper	\$8,545	\$7,795

***This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$750 per person.

Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.

A category features a private balcony and large window. B category features a large window. Categories C and D feature a porthole.

Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single supplement waived for solo travelers! This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://il.ahitravel.com/destinations/1932A?schoold=69>.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise

Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides and **Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.

Accommodations



MV Infinity

Sail the Adriatic on the MV Infinity! Your sleek yacht features state-of-the-art amenities, beautifully appointed furnishings and warm Mediterranean colors. With just 19 cabins, guests are guaranteed an intimate setting and personalized service. Take advantage of expansive gathering spaces, inviting social areas and quiet nooks. Play in the water using complimentary sports equipment or just relax in the hot tub. Fuel your adventures with wholesome breakfasts and three-course lunch menus. Cabins are fully air-conditioned with en-suite bathrooms and Wi-Fi is complimentary (may be limited).



Esplanade Zagreb Hotel | Zagreb



Book your journey today!

844-414-0369

<https://uiaa.org/explorers/>

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CROATIA2677



Discover Croatia's harbors, cities and Dalmatian Coast!

Committed to connecting travelers
to the people, places and cultures
of the world for more than 62 years.



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