

Dalmatian Coast Discovery Tour

Destinations: Croatia & Mediterranean

Trip code: BVLEL



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Situated on Croatia's beautiful Dalmatian Coast, the resort of Baska Voda (pronounced Bashka Voda) is an attractive base from which to explore the local area. From here, ancient cities and beautiful countryside are within easy reach by road. Daily sightseeing excursions will reveal some of the most celebrated sites in the area. We'll take you to explore the maze of narrow streets in Split's old town and admire the impressive architecture of the UNESCO listed Diocletian's Palace and also take you to the gushing waterfalls bursting out of the forest in Krka National Park. Feel tiny as you travel by boat through the towering sides of Cetina Gorge, enjoy the beauty of the Biokovo Mountains and distant coast from an elevated viewpoint and explore the ancient walled city of Trogir, built on an island.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Good quality en-suite accommodation in one of our European partner hotels
- Half Board – continental breakfast and evening meal
- The services of an experienced HF Holidays' leader
- Full day excursions with all essential transport in resort
- 'With flight' holidays include return flights from the UK and hotel transfers

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Travel by boat through the impressive Cetina Gorge
- Discover the medieval walled city of Trogir
- Explore the dramatic Waterfalls of Krka National Park
- Visit the Diocletian's Palace in the historic city of Split

TRIP SUITABILITY

Discovery holidays involve active sightseeing and you should expect to spend lots of time on your feet. Optional short walks of approximately 2½ miles allow you to stretch your legs and see the best of the local scenery.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Arrive at the Hotel Villa Bacchus in the coastal town of Baska Voda. Unpack, relax and start to meet your fellow guests.

Day 2: Makarska

Today we head for Makarska - the largest resort in the area - which has a popular and bustling harbour. A pleasant coastal drive offers superb views of the coast and the islands. Just outside of Makarska, there is the opportunity to take a gentle shady walk, with the foothills of the Biokovo mountains rising around you. There will be time at the end of the day to explore the town, or perhaps visit a harbourside café, before returning to the hotel.

Day 3: Omiš And The Cetina Gorge

The Cetina River flows into the Adriatic at Omiš, a few miles north of Baška Voda. On its way to the sea, the

river carved an impressive gorge that we'll explore by boat from Omiš, stopping upstream for refreshments or lunch before returning to the town. Omiš itself has some delightful old churches and narrow streets to explore, and a spectacular view over the town from an elevated fortress.

Day 4: Free Day

Today is a free day where there are no organised excursions. This is an ideal opportunity for you to relax, enjoy the hotel facilities or explore in and around Baska Voda independently. Baska Voda has several very nice pebble beaches if you fancy a day relaxing by the sea; most beaches are backed by large pine trees which provide some shade. If you fancy stretching your legs, you could stroll along the coast to the town of Brela to enjoy sea views one way and views of the Biokovo Mountains the other. Walks inland to the villages of Bast and Topici are another option; both are renowned for their locally made bread, cheese and prosciutto and traditional buildings.

Day 5: The Historic City Of Split

Split is the region's capital and the second-largest city in Croatia. At its heart is an enthralling old town of narrow streets and ancient buildings including the Diocletian's Palace - a UNESCO World Heritage Site - and the Cathedral of St Domnius.

Day 6: Trogir And The Krka National Park

A little way north of Split is the impressive city of Trogir. Built on an island, this beautiful walled city houses a maze of narrow streets, elegant waterfront cafés and dramatic fortifications. After exploring Trogir we travel further along the coast, then inland to the dramatic waterfalls at Krka. Here, a boardwalk and broad path allow us to enjoy walking around this spectacular series of cascades.

Day 7: The Biokovo Mountains

High above the coastal towns rise the Biokovo mountains and the summit of Vošac which peaks at nearly 4,700 feet. A spectacular road with stunning views winds its way up to the intriguing limestone plateau which you will reach by bus. A short stony path leads to a viewpoint in a saddle below the summit of Vošac from which there are dramatic views along the coast and over the offshore islands of Brač and Hvar.

Day 8: Departure Day

Depart after a leisurely breakfast.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Villa Bacchus - Dalmatian Coast

The 4-star Hotel Bacchus is located on the seafront, overlooking the crystal-clear Adriatic Sea and the island of Brač. There is a peaceful pebble beach in front of the hotel where sun loungers and beach towels can be hired. Built in 2003, Hotel Villa Bacchus is owned by the Divic family, and guests have rated the accommodation, meals and service very highly. Winner of three HF Hotel Awards in 2018 based on guest feedback.

Accommodation Info

Facilities

The hotel has a good range of facilities and public rooms, including a lounge bar perfect for meeting fellow guests.

There's an attractive restaurant which takes full advantage of the sea views and opens onto a terrace where meals can be taken in good weather.

Hotel Bacchus offers a modern leisure suite on the lower floor with a sauna and spa pool - perfect for relaxing at the end of the day.

The hotel also has internet access.

Food & Drink

Our holidays at Hotel Bacchus are on a Half Board basis and include breakfast and evening meal.

Breakfast

There is an extensive selection of hot and cold options for breakfast from a self-select buffet. Hot options are cooked fresh to order and include boiled or poached eggs, bacon, and omelettes.

Lunch (Payable Locally)

There are a number of shops in Baška Voda, where you can buy ingredients for your picnic lunch. On other days it may be possible to eat in local cafés; your leader will advise you of all the options.

Evening Meal

The three course evening meal offers a mixture of Croatian and international dishes, and, as might be expected, there are fish and seafood options. The starter is selected from a superb buffet with a wide variety of salads, soup and hot dishes. Main course is selected from the extensive menu.

Drinks

The hotel has a well-stocked bar serving beer, wine and spirits

Your Evenings

The friendly atmosphere of our Guided Walking holidays continues into the evening.

Enjoy a glass of wine or local beer whilst finding out more about the next day's walks. We'll enjoy a leisurely evening meal and you may also like to join your leader for an evening stroll along the prom to the harbour and visit one of the local bars, or enjoy a boat trip along the beautiful Adriatic Coast.

Your leader will also keep you informed of any local events going on nearby. Alternatively, you may like to relax on the terrace or in the bar, with a drink and chat with your fellow guests.

TRAVEL DETAILS

THE HASSLE-FREE OPTION

Book your holiday 'with flight' and choose between Gatwick and Manchester flights to Dubrovnik airport. For flight times and prices please see the Dates & Prices tab.

If you choose this option we automatically include return transfers between the airport and the hotel. The coach transfer takes approx 4 hours including comfort stop to the Hotel Villa Bacchus.

THE FLEXIBLE TRAVEL OPTION

Alternatively, tailor your journey to suit you by booking your holiday 'without flight' allowing you the freedom to book your own flights from your local airport.

If you choose this option, transfers are not included in the price. However, below are some suggestions to help you reach your destination:

- We can book you a seat on the **HF Holidays' transfer coach** from Dubrovnik airport. This is timed to meet the HF Holidays' flights* (provisional flight times can be found on the dates and prices tab or you can call us on 020 8732 1220 for more information). Cost per single journey is £42.50
- Why not let us book you a **private taxi transfer** - price on request

Transfers must be pre-booked. Please call 020 8732 1220 for more details

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Holiday Information

Situated on Croatia's beautiful Dalmatian Coast, the small resort of Baška Voda is an attractive base from which to explore the local area. The town itself centres on the promenade and harbour, where you'll find a good selection of shops, bars and cafés. Immediately behind the town rise the Biokovo Mountains.

These impressive mountains rise to some 1,762 metres at the summit of Sveti Jure, and contain an intriguing karst landscape of shake holes and limestone pavements.

On the lower wooded slopes you'll find secluded hamlets which overlook the busier coastline.

Just to the southeast of Baška Voda is the larger resort of Makarska, with its bustling harbour lining the large horseshoe bay. A visit to Croatia is a fascinating cultural experience and your excursions and visits will give a great insight into this charming country.

What To Bring

To enjoy your holiday comfortably and safely, it's essential that your clothing and footwear is suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Changeable weather is possible throughout the year, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities – hot, cold, wet or dry.

All of our Discovery Tours involve active sightseeing and you should therefore be prepared for walking between the sights and wear flat, comfortable shoes. In the evening most guests wear casual clothing. You will probably find a small rucksack or cross-body bag useful for carrying spare clothing, camera, sun protection, drinks (at least 2 litres) etc during the day. A money belt is always a good idea.

You'll also need to bring your:

- Booking confirmation
- Travel insurance cover note and contact details
- European Health Insurance Card (if applicable)
- Completed guest registration form
- Photocopy of photo page of passport
- Sunhat, sun cream and sunglasses
- **Medication:** If you require any medication, please take adequate supplies for the duration of your holiday. It's advisable to carry your medication in your hand luggage instead of packing it in your suitcase

Essential Information

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out travel insurance and any other personal insurance relevant to you and the holiday. It is particularly important with the possibility of flight changes and cancellations due to the challenging weather conditions that can occur on the islands and might impact your onward travel arrangements.

Dietary Requirements

Vegetarians and special diets can be catered for if requested in advance of the holiday.

Useful Information

The local language is Croatian. English is spoken widely in shops and tourist attractions.

Tap water is considered safe to drink, but if you prefer, bottled mineral water can be purchased from the hotel or local supermarkets.

If the international number you wish to call starts with a 0, you must drop the starting digit when dialling the number.

To dial a UK number 0044

To dial a Croatian number 00385

To dial a Serbian number 00381

To dial a Bosnian number 00387

To dial a Montenegrin number 00382

Local Currency

The local currency is the Croatian Kuna.

Electricity

220 - 230 Volt AC with round two round pin plugs; you will need an adaptor for any appliances brought from the UK.

ATM Availability

There are several ATM machines in Baška Voda where you can obtain money.

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 7pm Saturday: 9am – 1pm Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £20 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the Manage My Booking function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on 01702 427 236 or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

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