



A Journey with
Steppin' Out Adventures
Croatia
6/17/2025 – 6/25/2025



BEFORE YOU LEAVE REMINDERS

- Make sure your passport has at least 6 months before expiration and enough blank pages.
- Take a pair of passport photos with you
- No vaccinations are required to travel to Belize and Belize does not require the yellow fever vaccination.
 - Suggested altitude prevention medicine like diamox
 - Other medication good to have – **Cipro** (an all purpose antibiotic) and **Ambien** if you want help to sleep on the plane
- Call your credit card company and let them know that you will be in foreign countries so they don't put a watch on your card. Also find out and make sure you are aware of foreign transaction fees. Those can become hefty. All major credit cards are accepted almost everywhere.
- Please Download WhatsApp. Download it onto your phone www.whatsapp.com/ . It's a good way for the group to stay in touch with one another and the guides as well. As long as there is wi-fi you can text, send pictures, even make phone calls (I think only to others on WhatsApp, so have your contacts at home do it as well) for free.
- Call your cell phone service and see if they have any deals for roaming and find out the costs so there are no surprises. Same with internet and email. T-Mobile lets you pay \$20/month and then you can use email service
- We strongly recommend that you photocopy all important documents e.g. air tickets, passport, vaccination certificate, etc. and keep the copies separate from the originals. While not valid, a photocopy makes it very much easier to obtain replacements if necessary.
- It is a good idea to register your travel with the U.S. State Department or similar institution in your own country so that you may be contacted if need be, whether because of a family emergency in the U.S., or because of a crisis in the area in which you are traveling. Travel registration is a free service provided by the U.S. State Department, and is easily accomplished online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>
- To avoid problems when passing through customs, keep medicines in their original, labeled containers. Bring copies of your prescriptions and the generic names for the drugs. If a medication is unusual or contains narcotics, carry a letter from your doctor attesting to your need to take the drug. If you have any doubt about the legality of carrying a certain drug into a country, consult the embassy or consulate of that country before you travel.
- Bring one or two major credit cards and cash. (see money section).
- Put your name, address and telephone numbers inside and outside of each piece of luggage. Use covered luggage tags to avoid casual observation of your identity or nationality. If possible, lock your luggage.
- **Purchase Traveler's Insurance—REQUIRED—TALK TO ROBIN**

PASSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please make sure you have enough blank pages in your passport. These pages are in addition to the endorsement/amendment pages at the back of the passport. You can get additional pages by contacting http://www.us-passport-service-guide.com/add-pages-to-passport.html ● Make sure your passport has at least 6 months before expiration. Take a pair of passport photos with you
VISAs	You don't need a visa for Croatia if you have a passport from United States.
ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE	<p>Arrive and depart from Split Airport (SPU). Shared group transfers will be organized based on your flight schedules. Please aim to arrive on June 17, 2025, by 11:00 am for a seamless start to your journey.</p> <p>Your Departure will be from Dubrovnik (DBV) airport on June 25. We would like departures to be between noon and 3:00, but we can work with itineraries.</p>
COST:	<p>Croatia is one of those very popular European countries....you'd think it would be cheaper, but it's not. We are going at a perfect time (weather- wise and before the huge crowds), and we are staying at 4 and 5 star hotels to make this a truly all you can dream of vacation.</p> <p>\$9000- single</p> <p>\$7200- double/sharing a room. We can assist but no guarantees with roommates.</p> <p>Sign up before Feb. 14 and get \$100 off. Bring a new friend, and you each get an additional \$50. We can also work installment plans over the next 7 months (Feb-August)</p>
COST INCLUDES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Private transportation, including speedboat transfers ● 8 nights in 4 and 5 star accommodations ● Most meals, as detailed in the itinerary (daily breakfast, select lunches, and dinners) ● Private guided tours of UNESCO World Heritage sites (Split, Trogir, Dubrovnik, and Stari Grad Plain) ● Exclusive experiences like a Soparnik cooking class and olive oil tasting ● Wine tastings in Hvar and Pelješac ● Admission to Krka National Park and other key sites ● Small group size (maximum of 10 participants) for a personalized experience ● Split Farmers' market visit ● Dalmatian Hinterland small village hike ● Boat Ride on Cetina River ● Etnoland Dalmatic open Air Museum experience ● The Blue Cave of Bisevo visit ● Agave lace production museum ● Kayak ride in Dubrovnik ● Dubrovnik walls hike

COST EXCLUDES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International airfare to/from Croatia ● Travel insurance (highly recommended) ● Certain meals as specified in the itinerary ● Gratuities for local guides and drivers ● Personal expenses
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ACCOMMODATIONS

June 17 – 19	<p>Hotel Cornaro Split https://cornarohotel.com/ Tel: +385 21 644 200 Mob: +385 91 644 2000 info@cornarohotel.com</p> <p>As an urban lifestyle hotel in the city center, the Cornaro Hotel reflects a vibrant atmosphere and pulsing rhythm of the ancient city of Split.</p> <p>All rooms and suites include a flat-screen TV with satellite channels, telephone, Wireless internet, tea/coffee maker, air-conditioning, a seating area, mini bar and city views. The bathrooms are fitted with walk in showers or baths.</p> <p>There are two restaurants and bars as well as a rooftop bar.</p>
June 20 – 21	<p>Pharos Hotel HVAR https://www.suncanihvar.com/pharos Phone: +385 21 750 555 reservations@suncanihvar.com</p> <p>Sunčani Hvar offers an unbeatable offer for guests from all over the world. Their vision is to promote responsible and sustainable tourism, value tradition, local culture, and the environment, which all play an integral role in designing the hotel and its services, with an emphasis on authenticity and providing unique experiences for each guest.</p> <p>Pharos bayhill hotel redesigns the traditional hotel experience, allowing guests to discover Hvar, connect and explore. Enjoy modern interiors and an eco-conscious design with sunbeds nestled among olive trees allowing guests to immerse themselves in nature, right by the poolside.</p> <p>Amenities: Pool, Restaurant and Bar, television, air conditioning, toiletries, Free WiFi, hair dryer, in room safe, non allergic pillows, phone</p>

<p>June 22 – 24</p>	<p>Hotel Hilton</p> <p>https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dbvhihi-hilton-imperial-dubrovnik/</p> <p>Phone: +385 20 320 320</p> <p>sales.dubrovnik@hilton.com</p> <p>Set in a historic building dating back to 1897, this 5 star hotel fuses period charm with modern styling. Found on the edge of Dubrovnik’s Old Town, with views of its iconic red roofs and the Adriatic Sea. Less than 500 meters from Pile Gate, the Lovrijenac Fort, and Šulić beach. Discover the indoor pool, spa area, and terrace restaurant.</p> <p>Try Dalmatian dishes and specially selected Croatian wines in Imperial Terrace. There is a lounge bar with an outdoor terrace and a stylish lounge with 19th-century features and signature cocktails inspired by bygone eras.</p> <p>Amenities: Free WiFi, Spa, On-site restaurant, room service, non-smoking rooms, indoor pool, fitness center, breakfast buffet for a fee</p>
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ITINERARY

<p>OVERVIEW</p>	<p>Join Steppin’ Out Adventures for an exclusive journey through Croatia’s breathtaking Dalmatian Coast. This trip offers an intimate group setting, limited to just ten guests, where you’ll explore ancient cities, idyllic islands, and the vibrant culture that makes Croatia so unforgettable. Known for its stunning coastline, historic landmarks, and warm hospitality, Croatia invites you to discover its unique charm and timeless traditions.</p>
<p>Tue, June 17</p>	<p>DAY 1: SPLIT</p> <p>Welcome to Croatia! Upon arrival of your flight to Split Airport, you will be transferred to your hotel and go for a private walking tour of this one-of-a-kind town. Croatia's second largest city and largest port town attracts visitors from all over the globe due to it's incredible old town. Split, this enchanting heart of Dalmatia invites you to experience an eclectic mix of Roman architecture and medieval alleys. The guided tour will also take us to the vibrant farmer's market and down into the vast substructures of the ancient Diocletian's palace, rightfully a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Sights list. Wrap your first amazing day in Dalmatia up with a welcome dinner in the town.</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Cornaro 4*, Split https://cornarohotel.com/</p> <p>Included meals: dinner</p>
<p>Wed, June 18</p>	<p>DAY 2: DALMATIAN HINTERLAND</p> <p>A short ride from Split will take us into an entirely different world, the area of the former Republic of Poljica in the Dalmatian hinterlands. After a hike between old villages, we will head to the church of St George, the place where the grand duke of the Republic was elected. Admire the breathtaking view of river Cetina canyon below. A cooking class in the nearby village will teach us how to make the UNESCO-protected traditional dish called ‘Soparnik’ and enjoy light lunch composed of local goodies.</p>

	<p>Our exploration of the less-known surroundings of Split will take us to the town of Omiš next. The town where the river Cetina meets the sea was a haven for pirates in the middle ages. Stroll through the town and take a boat ride through the magnificent Cetina River canyon.</p> <p>POLJICA HIKE</p> <p>We will start at a small village called Trusa and continue with mild uphill forest hike to the church of Our Lady of the Snow. After a short break with a beautiful view of the Adriatic Sea we will take a goat trail to the village of Naklice. From here we will go for a cooking class & lunch. The last part will be a descent down Lisicina gorge to the town of Omiš at the mouth of the Cetina river. In Omiš we will take a boat and drive through an impressive Cetina river canyon.</p> <p>The terrain is a mix of dirt and rocks.</p> <p>This hike itself lasts 2 - 3 hours.</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Cornaro 4*, Split https://cornarohotel.com/</p> <p>Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>
<p>Thu, June 19</p>	<p>DAY 3: KRKA FALLS & TROGIR</p> <p>Drive to Krka National Park and get mesmerised by uncountable rapids and waterfalls. We will hike through this nature lovers' paradise with plenty of time to enjoy its pristine beauty.</p> <p>Continue to a family-run Etnoland to experience authentic, interactive and entertaining storytelling of how the people of Dalmatia's mainland lived in the past. Welcome drinks and lunch will get us ready for the remainder of the day.</p> <p>After lunch visit a wildlife rehabilitation and education centre dedicated to the conservation of birds of prey for a unique opportunity to learn about these magnificent creatures.</p> <p>On the way back to Split stop at the UNESCO protected town of Trogir, known for its magnificent Romanesque-Renaissance buildings and stone carvings. Trogir sits on a tiny island and once you experience its atmosphere it will be easy to understand why even the World's rich and famous cannot resist the charm of this tiny gem. Stroll through the town and enjoy a local gelato.</p> <p>KRKA FALLS HIKE</p> <p>We will start our hike in the town of Skradin. First it will take us along Krka river for 3.5 km (around 45min) and then we will reach the spectacular waterfall Skradinski buk that falls down along 17 cascades. We will continue with an uphill hike along the waterfall to reach its upper level. There we'll be enchanted by the beauty of the cascades from several viewpoints, we will see old watermills and learn about the hydro-powerplant from 1895, a technological milestone.</p> <p>This hike will last about 1.5 hours</p> <p>https://visitskradin.croatia.hr/en-gb</p> <p>https://buffaloah.com/a/virtual/croatia/sibenik/KRKA/tesla.html</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Cornaro 4*, Split https://cornarohotel.com/</p>

	<p>Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>
<p>Fri, June 20</p>	<p>DAY 4: ISLAND OF VIS & BLUE CAVE</p> <p>Dalmatian coast is one of the world's most beautiful coasts. It boasts over 50 inhabited and over a 1000 uninhabited islands. A speed boat will be our main mode of transportation when we move from Split to Hvar and will allow us to visit the gorgeous island of Vis. During Yugoslav times, Vis was a military base and therefore off limits to tourists. There are lots of interesting stories covering that period on the island. We will visit the famous Blue cave on the nearby island of Biševo. While sailing around Vis, we will stop at small coves and swim in the crystal blue waters of the Adriatic. If you haven't to this day, you will certainly fall in love with Dalmatia here.</p> <p>We will enjoy lunch in one of the towns on this special island. Next, we will head to the island of Hvar and check-in the hotel.</p> <p>Overnight at Pharos Hotel 4*, Hvar https://www.suncanihvar.com/pharos</p> <p>Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>

<p>Sat, June 21</p>	<p>DAY 5: HVAR TOWN & HVAR ISLAND</p> <p>Hvar island is known as the sunniest Croatian island with a rich history and culture, dating back to ancient Greece. Because of its architecture, beautiful nature and a mild climate, many describe the town of Hvar as a true fairy-tale town. During our morning walking tour we will explore Hvar town's little alleys and squares, learn about history and present life of people and meet the Benedictine nuns producing filigree lace made of agave plant.</p> <p>After Hvar town, our exploration will expand to Hvar island. Taking the old road will give us the greatest number of beautiful vistas. Hvar's hundreds of miles of amazing stone walls and terraces were painstakingly constructed throughout the centuries. Today, friendly locals are reviving old deserted villages. During a hike between two of them we will learn about medicinal plants that grow on the island and in particular, lavender, which together with wine is one of Hvar's main exports.</p> <p>After a typical local lunch we will continue to the village of Vrboska. Also called the Venice of Hvar, Vrboska will be our first (of two) wine tastings on our Dalmatian adventure. A stop at a local wine producer is an absolute must. Hvar's wines are among Croatia's finest.</p> <p>To wrap our day at Hvar up in style, we are doing something special for dinner. We will take a short shuttle boat to the neighbouring Pakleni (Devil's) islands for a perfect ending of the day in Hvar - a sunset dinner.</p> <p>HVAR HIKE</p> <p>The trail leads from Velo Grablje, descending some 3 km along a dry stream towards the abandoned village of Malo Grablje. Malo Grablje is located above the bay of Milna and looks like a nest in the rocky hills at the top of the island. During this trail we will get familiar with wild herbs and learn what are they used for in natural medicine and get acquainted with about typical Dalmatian architecture.</p> <p>This hike will last about 1 hour.</p> <p>https://www.hvar.com/destinations/malo-grablje</p> <p>Overnight at Pharos Hotel 4*, Hvar https://www.suncanihvar.com/pharos</p> <p>Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner</p>
<p>Sun, June 22</p>	<p>DAY 6: PELJEŠAC PENINSULA & KORČULA ISLAND</p> <p>Today we sail further south. Our boat will first take us to Pelješac peninsula, whose vineyards have ideal conditions and have fans worldwide.</p> <p>We will dock next to a boutique family-owned wine cellar and taste some of their exquisite wine. After the wine tasting, we will sail across the narrow channel over to the lovely little town of Korčula on the island of the same name. Korčula, with its tiny, enchanting old town is most probably the birthplace of the famous explorer Marco Polo. We will learn about its history and explore it on a walking tour followed by lunch at the sea.</p>

	<p>Later we will sail out to Dubrovnik with breathtaking views and possible swimming stops en route.</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Hilton, 5*, Dubrovnik https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dbvhihi-hilton-imperial-dubrovnik/ Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>
Mon, June 23	<p>DAY 7: THE PEARL OF THE ADRIATIC</p> <p>Dubrovnik is a stunningly intact walled city on the extreme south of the Croatian coast. Its breathtaking walls have protected the town for centuries, including during the 1990's war in Croatia. During our walking tour we will visit its wonders, learn about its amazing past and conquer (hike) its mighty walls.</p> <p>After the tour, we will go to the beautiful fertile Konavle valley for olive oil press visit and olive oil tasting. We will have lunch in a family-owned restaurant at the foot of the mountains. Later, a visit to the workshop of a local artist will teach us about silk production and the traditional embroidery of Konavle. This embroidery is an important part of the national costume of this small region and through the ages it developed its own artistic language transforming into something much more than simple decoration. Participate in extracting silk threads from the silk worms and learn about life in this valley.</p> <p>Return to Dubrovnik to enjoy the evening in this jewel of the Adriatic.</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Hilton, 5*, Dubrovnik https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dbvhihi-hilton-imperial-dubrovnik/ Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>
Tue, June 24	<p>DAY 8: DUBROVNIK</p> <p>The best way to see the eternal walled city is from the sea. We will kayak around the majestic Dubrovnik walls, stop at the neighboring green island of Lokrum that overlooks the old port of Dubrovnik. Then we will join Marjan and his recycling crew on a boat ride to pick up plastics and then learn what he does with them.</p> <p>In the evening, we will meet and visit the old town again for a farewell dinner to remember.</p> <p>SEA KAYAKING</p> <p>Sea kayaking Dubrovnik will reveal amazing views of the City Walls, Lokrum Island, and one of Dubrovnik's most popular caves. You will have the opportunity to enjoy snorkeling and to learn a bit about the history of Dubrovnik. We make numerous stops on the water during the tour, including several stops near the "cursed" Island of Lokrum. The longest stop is at a beach-cave. Once we reach the cave we will step out of our kayaks and onto a beach, where we will break for a refreshing snack, and a bit of snorkeling and sunbathing.</p> <p>This activity will last 2.5 - 3 hours. https://www.adventuredubrovnik.com/sea-kayaking-dubrovnik</p>

	<p>Optional SRĐ MOUNTAIN HIKE</p> <p>This hike lasts about 1 hour and takes a zig-zag path with rocks to Dubrovnik's mount Srđ overlooking the old town. We would take the cable car back down into the old town. At the top of Srđ, you can visit the war museum about Dubrovnik in the 90s war.</p> <p>Good walking shoes required!</p> <p>Cost for this optional hike:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cost for shared taxi one way: 4 guests in a car - approx. 5 eur pp - one-way cable-car ticket 15 eur pp <p>https://www.alltrails.com/trail/croatia/dubrovnik-neretva/dubrovnik-srd</p> <p>Overnight at Hotel Hilton, 5*, Dubrovnik</p> <p>https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dbvhihi-hilton-imperial-dubrovnik/</p> <p>Included meals: breakfast, lunch</p>
Wed, June 25	<p>DAY 9: SO LONG</p> <p>Hugs and all!</p> <p>Departure transfers to Dubrovnik airport. Preferably make your departure afternoon. But we will work with schedules</p> <p>Maybe you'll continue on to Bulgaria with us!</p> <p>Included meals: breakfast</p>