

The Alumni Association Travel Program LLC

Presents

Croatia and Montenegro Coastal Voyage

August 14 – 22, 2024

Main Deck \$5,600 Per Person, Double Occupancy from Chicago

Embarkation Deck \$5,800 Per Person, Double Occupancy from Chicago

Upper Deck \$6,000 Per Person, Double Occupancy from Chicago

Single Cabin Supplement \$1,000



This is an exclusive travel program presented by the Alumni Association Travel Program LLC

Day by Day Itinerary

Wednesday, August 14 – CHICAGO / EN ROUTE (I)

We depart Chicago's O'Hare International Airport this afternoon by scheduled service of Aer Lingus on the overnight transatlantic flight to Dublin, Ireland.

Thursday, August 15 – DUBLIN / DUBROVNIK (I,L,D)

As the sun begins to rise on the Irish coast, we arrive in Dublin and continue by connecting flight to Dubrovnik, Croatia. On arrival, we'll meet a local representative that will take us to Cavtat, a charming Adriatic seaside town full of natural beauty and Mediterranean hospitality. After lunch and time at leisure to stroll the tree-lined harbor, we'll travel to the cruise port of Dubrovnik for embarkation aboard CroisiEurope's *MV La Belle de l'Adriatique*. As we'll soon find out, Dubrovnik is not only beautiful, but also an architectural gem that is more than 1,000 years old, and to this day remains virtually untouched by the modern world. Founded in the 7th century, Dubrovnik rose to greatness as a merchant state, independent republic and cultural crossroads.

Friday, August 16 – DUBROVNIK / CRUISING (B,L,D)

We begin our day by setting off on foot for a walking tour of Dubrovnik's Old Town. We'll start from Pile Gate, the entrance to the old walled city, and walk down Stradun to visit the 14th century Franciscan Monastery whose cloister ranks among the most inspiring sites of the city, and is also home to the oldest, still working pharmacy in all of Europe. We'll also visit the Rector's Palace which used to be the seat of the Government and the Rector in the once independent Republic of Dubrovnik. Afterward, we'll visit the Cathedral, built on the remains of the old Cathedral that was destroyed in 1667 by an earthquake. Our tour will come to an end with a view of Sponza Palace, notable for its columned courtyard and elaborate stone carvings.

From the moment we depart Dubrovnik, you know this will be a vacation to treasure forever. The Croatian coastline and its islands rank among the most intricately indented coastlines in the world. Of the 1,244 islands, islets, cliffs and reefs, only 50 are inhabited. Due to the rugged coastline and being only 30 miles wide at its widest part, the Dalmatian coast is known for its warm sea and fantastic ports of call and is best seen from the deck of a passing ship.

Saturday, August 17 – CRUISING

(Mljet & Korcula) (B,L,D)

This morning's port of call is the island of Mljet. Isolated and untouched, the pristine natural surroundings only add to the island's mysticism. The most visited part of the island is the green and unspoiled west, declared a national park in 1960. On our guided tour we'll enjoy a short boat ride across the glass-clear waters of the Big Lake, taking us to the small island of St. Mary where we'll visit the 12th century Benedictine Monastery that formerly housed a hotel. As we'll soon see, St. Mary's Monastery gives new meaning to the word 'secluded'.

This afternoon's port of call is the beautiful island of Korcula.



As the birthplace of Marco Polo, Korcula is a historical icon with many museums and cathedrals. Our guided tour will introduce us to the important cultural monuments, and we'll also learn about the way of life, old traditions and specialties of the island. Surrounded by strong 13th century walls and reinforced with towers and bastions built by the Venetians, a walking tour of the Old Town will reveal some of the finest sights such as the Civic Museum and include a visit to the Cathedral of Saint Mark as well as the Abbey Treasury.

Sunday, August 18 – CRUISING

(Sibenik & Krka Falls) (B,L,D)

Today's port of call is Sibenik, located in the middle of the Croatian Adriatic Coast, where the Krka River flows into the Adriatic Sea. Sibenik's rich cultural and historical heritage will be evident on our guided walking tour that will include a visit to St. Jacob's Cathedral. This stunning Renaissance building, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, has taken Croatian and international experts years to restore following its shelling in the Croatian War of Independence fought from 1991 to 1995. Additional highlights include numerous churches, the former Count's Palace which is now the Civic Museum, and the four fortresses that 'frame' the city.

Following our tour of Sibenik we'll travel to Krka National Park, home to a carefully preserved ecosystem. The park, established in 1985, covers 67 square miles of land along the Krka River. Here we'll have the opportunity to visit an ancient mill, hike through untouched nature, view the cascading waterfalls and visit the island of Visovac. Be sure to bring your camera!

Monday, August 19 – CRUISING (Trogir & Split)(B,L,D)

We begin our day on arrival in Trogir, a pleasant town set on a small island connected to the mainland and the island of Čiovo by bridges. Trogir is one of the jewels of the Dalmatian coast. We'll enjoy a guided walking tour of the Old Town, under UNESCO protection, a treasure trove for lovers of art full of Renaissance and Baroque buildings, and Romanesque churches. We'll visit the Cathedral of St. Lawrence with its west portal, a masterpiece of Radovan and the most significant

example of Roman and Gothic art in Croatia. We'll also take in the Town Hall, Loggia and Clock Tower. Then it's time to explore the narrow lanes and village squares at our leisure.

This afternoon's port of call is the ancient coastal town of Split, a city with a 1700-year old tradition, and a variety of archaeological, historical and cultural monuments, among which is the well-known Palace of Diocletian, inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List. We'll begin our tour of the historic inner city with a visit to the Emperor Diocletian's Palace, the only imperial palace from Roman times in which residents' dwell. We'll also see the remnants of Split's Roman heritage, and its Renaissance and Gothic structures, including the Temple of Jupiter, Peristyle Square and the Cathedral of St. Domnius. Afterward, free time will be set aside to enjoy a cappuccino along the Riva, a pedestrian paradise offering a spectacular view of the sea.

Tuesday, August 20 – CRUISING (Hvar & Vis) (B,L,D)

This morning's port of call is the island of Hvar. Art treasures, beaches and fields of lavender make this island one of the gems of the Adriatic. A walking tour of Hvar Town, located in picturesque natural surroundings on the south side of the island, will take us to the Pjaca, where we'll find Hvar's three most important buildings. We'll visit the Renaissance Cathedral of St. Stephen, take in the Clock Tower and Loggia constructed in 1497, and learn about the ancient Arsenal, which dates from the 16th century and housed the first public theater in the Balkans. From here we'll walk along the promenade to visit the Franciscan Monastery built in the 15th century as a retreat for sailors.

This afternoon we sail to the island of Vis. Of all the Croatian islands, Vis is the most mysterious – even to locals. The

furthest of the main central Dalmatian islands from the coast, Vis spent much of its recent history serving as a military base for the Yugoslav National Army, cut off from foreign visitors from the 1950s right up until 1989. On arrival, free time will be set aside to explore the town at our leisure, an opportunity to really see "the Mediterranean as it once was."

Wednesday, August 21 – CRUISING (Kotor) (B,L,D)

A leisurely day will take us to the independent state of Montenegro and the town of Kotor, an extraordinary place full of marvelous architecture and pretty town squares. We'll enjoy a guided walking tour of the historic center, a treasure trove of monuments and cultural heritage. We'll visit the Cathedral of St. Tryphon, one of the oldest and most beautiful examples of Roman architecture along the Adriatic Sea that is home to a rich collection of artifacts. We'll also see the ancient town gates and visit the Maritime Museum of Montenegro grown from a collection founded by the "Boka Marine" Fraternity around the year 1880. We'll learn about important events and the most distinguished personalities from the rich past of the Bay of Kotor, and how the sailors established new routes of maritime trade on the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas.

Thursday, August 22 – DUBROVNIK / CHICAGO (B,I)

This morning we disembark from the *MV La Belle de l'Adriatique* and transfer to Dubrovnik's Čilipi Airport in preparation for our return journey home. No better time to reflect on memories of our *Croatia and Montenegro Coastal Voyage* to last a lifetime and new friendships made along the way!

*** * * Welcome Home * * ***

Visit myniu.com to make your reservation.

The Vacation Price Includes:

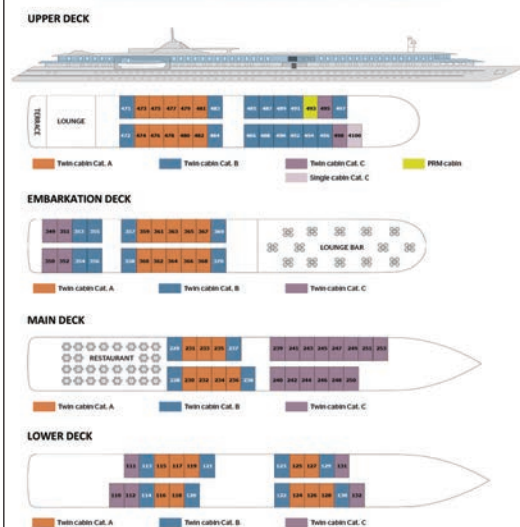
- Pre-trip assistance.
- Informational packet.
- Alumni staff assistance for a worry-free travel experience.
- Economy-class air transportation by scheduled service of Aer Lingus.
- Pre and post-cruise transportation by deluxe private motor coach with accompanying local representative.
- Accommodations based on choice of stateroom aboard CroisiEurope's *MV La Belle de l'Adriatique*.
- All meals as shown in the Day by Day Itinerary including onboard drinks with meals and at the bar.
- Sightseeing as detailed in the Day by Day Itinerary including applicable entrance fees.
- Free on board Wi-Fi.
- Luggage handling and portage charges for one suitcase per person at the pier.
- Airlines taxes and fees, taxes for included ground services and cruise destination port fees.

The Vacation Price Does Not Include: Items of a personal nature such as passport fees and destination entry requirements; luggage handling at airports; gratuities to Motorcoach Drivers, Tour Guides, and shipboard personnel; meals other than those stated above; and Travel Protection.

About the MV La Belle de l'Adriatique:

This five deck Coastal Cruiser is fully equipped to make your vacation care-free and relaxing. All 99 cabins have private bathrooms with shower, satellite television, hairdryer, safe, radio, central heating and air conditioning, along with sleeping views.

MS LA BELLE DE L'ADRIATIQUE



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TRAVEL PROGRAM LLC

PROGRAM TOUR CONDITIONS

Tour Deposit and Payment: Reservation deposits and payments may be made by check. Tour prices increase every year. Therefore, please note that price increases could occur after the printing of this brochure and in advance of your tour's departure

Tour Pricing: This is a package tour in which land tour costs and special group airfares have been combined in the most advantageous way. Should you wish to make any deviation from the package tour by changing your departure and/or return dates, the advantages of the package tour price may be eliminated, and additional charges may be assessed.

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is very important and can be purchased through USI Travel Insurance Services. This insurance is designed to cover you and your tour investment from tour cancellation/interruption penalties and to provide medical expense, medical evacuation, baggage and personal effects loss, and accidental death coverage, as well as emergency assistance. There is an advantage to early enrollment in this travel insurance program. Purchasing coverage within 21 days (Plus and Elite Options) of your initial tour deposit can make you eligible for (1) Pre-existing Medical Condition Exclusion Waiver, and (2) Optional Cancel for Any Reason Coverage (Plus and Elite Options). If you wish to take advantage of these special options, you must enroll within 21 days of the date your initial tour deposit is received. Contact Travel Insurance Services at 1-800-937-1387 or my.travelinsure.com/niu. Considering recent global events, including without limitation, the global pandemic, it is strongly recommended that all travelers purchase additional insurance to protect their travel purchase.

No Liability: By participating in this Program, you understand and agree that the Alumni Association Travel Program LLC ("AATP") and its affiliates, related entities, officers, directors, attorneys, trustees, beneficiaries, insurers, employees, managers, members, volunteers, students, agents, other representatives, predecessors, successors and assigns are not responsible for any liabilities, claims, causes of action, damages, fees, costs, and expenses of any kind relating to any tour cancellation, tour interruption and/or delay; baggage loss, theft, damage, or delay; accident and/or sickness medical expenses, accidental death; and worldwide emergency medical evacuation and assistance arising out of or in any way related to this Program.

RESPONSIBILITY

AATP does not conduct the tours and does not act as agent for any participants interested in tours. AATP acts solely as a facilitator with independent tour operators, with whom tour participants directly make arrangements for completing travel. As a courtesy only, AATP acts as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions or concerns that may arise before, during or after your tour. AATP strongly encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with all the tour operator's terms and conditions, including without limitation, their cancellation and refund policies. AATP strongly encourages you to investigate all available insurance options from third parties. AATP and its affiliates, related entities, officers, directors, attorneys, trustees, beneficiaries, insurers, employees, managers, members, volunteers, students, agents, other representatives, predecessors, successors and assigns are not responsible for any changes to trips or travel arrangements, or for any monetary losses or additional expenses of any kind arising out of or related in any way to your travel.

AATP does not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program. AATP does not act as agent for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations, or any other travel related services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AATP is not liable for any negligent, intentional, or willful act by any such person or entity. In addition and without limitation, AATP is not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property, or any accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature whatsoever arising out of or related in any way to any accommodations, transportation or other services, or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses that may be incurred. AATP, in its sole and exclusive discretion reserves the right to withdraw its affiliation with any individual tour operator should conditions warrant.

Tour Operator. The tour operator, supplier of services, or their respective affiliates, officers, directors, trustees, employees, agents or other representatives (collectively "Tour Operator") shall not be responsible for or become liable for any delay incurred by any person in connection with any means of transportation, for any loss, damage or injury to person or property by reason of any event beyond their control or occurring without their fault or negligence.

The Tour Operator reserves the right to:

1. Substitute the airline to be used; the type of aircraft; and to alter the dates of the tour; the tour routing; or to cancel the trip if a minimum number of bookings is not reached for either the air or land portion of this itinerary.
2. Substitute hotels for other hotels in available categories.
3. Decline to accept or to retain at any time any person as a participant on any tour or to cancel any tour.

No Refunds. No refund will be made for voluntary absence from the tour unless arrangements are made at the time of booking. The schedules contained herein are subject to change without notice. All rates are based on current Tariff and Exchange rates in effect at the time of the printing of this itinerary and are subject to adjustment without prior notification in the event of changes therein or in changes in the number of participants on which the rates are based.

No Travel Carrier Liability. The travel carriers involved in this Program are not responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or other conveyance. The passage contract in use by any travel carrier, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the travel carrier and the purchaser of this Program tour.

For more information, contact our office at 815-753-2586 or visit the Travel section at myniu.com to make your reservation.

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