Cruising the Adriatic

Best of Slovenia and Croatia
Aboard Queen Eleganza

Ivo Banac
Bradford Durfee Emeritus Professor of History
Dear Yale Traveler,

Over the course of many millennia, a succession of civilizations—from the Illyrian tribal confederations, Greek colonies, Roman and Byzantine imperial systems interspersed with native Slavic rule, Ottoman and Habsburg contest that introduced other imperial actors and modern nationalist revolutions—swept across the Eastern shores of the Adriatic Sea, leaving behind a wealth of historical memories and cultural imprints. In June 2020, I invite you to join me to travel through a region well worth exploring for its natural beauty, impressive architectural treasures, and ancient city centers that reveal the complex, layered history of the eastern Adriatic.

We will begin in Ljubljana, Slovenia’s capital city, a place whose roots date back to Roman times. Together we’ll discover magical Lake Bled, monumental karst caves, and mountain aeries before traveling to Rovinj, Croatia. We’ll next enjoy a week-long Adriatic cruise aboard Queen Eleganza, a lovely ship which will be a real treat. As we sail along the Croatian coast from the Istrian Peninsula to Dubrovnik, we’ll call at Velika Brijun Island, Pula, Zadar, Split, Hvar, Korčula, and Dubrovnik, along the way.

I am closely tied to this magical land by birth, lifelong scholarly interest, and public engagement. Born in Dubrovnik, Croatia, I emigrated to the United States as a teenager, studied East European history at Stanford, and taught it at Yale for thirty-three years. In 2009, following my retirement, I moved back to Croatia where, besides extensive political commentary, I served both as a cabinet minister and a member of parliament (Sabor). I am currently writing a monograph on the reform movement in Croatia during the initial period of Yugoslav state crisis in the 1960’s and early 1970s. For my lectures, I tentatively plan to talk about the Second World War and the dissolution of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Also, we’ll have plenty time throughout the trip for informal discussion on other topics related to the program.

I hope you will explore the Adriatic with me and encourage you to reserve your place today by contacting Yale Educational Travel at (203) 432-1952 or edtravel@yale.edu. Or you can make your reservation online at yaleedtravel.org/croatia20.

Sincerely,

Ivo Banac
Bradford Durfee Emeritus Professor of History

yaleedtravel.org/croatia20
Ivo Banac is Bradford Durfee Emeritus Professor of History at Yale University and the Honorary Head of Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. From 1995 to 1999 he was the University Professor of History at the Central European University at Budapest, where he also directed the OSI/CEU Institute on Southeastern Europe. From 2009 to 2017 he served as a professor of history at the Philosophy Faculty, University of Zagreb, Croatia. His award-winning books are The National Question in Yugoslavia: Origins, History, Politics (1984, Wayne S. Vucinich Prize) and With Stalin against Tito: Cominformist Splits in Yugoslav Communism (1988, Strossmayer Prize). He served as the co-chair of the Open Society Institute (Croatia) and as the Director General of the Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik. He was also minister of environmental protection and urban planning in the government of Croatia, a member of the Croatian parliament (Sabor), president of the Liberal Party, president of the Croatian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, and editor of East European Politics and Societies. He is a corresponding member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU).
ITINERARY
JUNE 8-19, 2020

WELCOME PHONE CALL
Tuesday, May 26, 2020 (tentative)
Join the group at 1 p.m. Eastern for a pre-trip welcome call to learn more about what to expect and ask any questions you may have.

U.S. / LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA
Monday & Tuesday, June 8 & 9, 2020
Depart home on an overnight flight to Ljubljana. Upon arrival, transfer to the Grand Union Hotel located within the historic center of the city. Grand Union Hotel (R,D)

PORTOROŽ
Thursday, June 11
Travel by coach to Lipica Stud Farm, breeding home of Vienna’s famed Lipizzaner horses. Continue to the UNESCO-designated ancient Skocjan Karst Caves, a vast network of tunnels and chambers sometimes referred to as the “underground Grand Canyon.” Settle in at the Kempinski Palace Hotel near the oceanfront promenade of Portorož and this evening, dine at the historic Venetian stronghold Piran. Kempinski Palace Hotel (B,L,D)

ROVINJ, CROATIA
Friday, June 12
Cross the border into Croatia and continue to Rovinj by way of the scenic mountaintop village of Motovun on the Istrian Peninsula. Enjoy a walking tour of the charming old town, which was a small island until 1763, and time at leisure to explore the cobbled streets. Embark the Queen Eleganza this evening in time for a welcome reception and dinner. Queen Eleganza (B,L,D)

PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK / SPLIT
Monday, June 15
Explore scenic Plitvice Lakes National Park, a series of 16 lakes interconnected by waterfalls and pedestrian bridges, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Continue to Split, Croatia’s fashionable second-largest city. Enjoy time to explore the old town and have dinner at leisure. Queen Eleganza (B,L)
SPLIT / HVAR
Tuesday, June 16
Visit Roman Emperor Diocletian’s Palace, an ancient fortress-like complex spread along the Split waterfront, before cruising to lavender-scented Hvar Island. Stroll along the elegant main square, with views of St. Stephen’s Cathedral, distinguished by its tall, rectangular bell tower, and the 15th-century Franciscan Monastery, whose refectory contains a 1524 edition of Ptolemy’s Atlas. Explore the yacht-filled waterfront and enjoy an evening at leisure in the restaurant-lined avenues. Queen Eleganza (B,L)

KORČULA / DUBROVNIK
Wednesday, June 17
Cruise to the fortified town of Korčula, perched on a promontory on its namesake island. Take a walking tour of the narrow, stepped streets and enjoy a wine tasting with accompanying delicacies. Korčula is the sixth-largest island in the Adriatic Sea, rich in vineyards and olive groves, picturesque villages and a glorious old town, and age-old religious ceremonies, folk music, and dance traditions. Sample some of Croatia’s famous wines, including the white wine made from pošip grapes that grow primarily on Korčula, as well as local specialties. Continue to Dubrovnik this afternoon. Queen Eleganza (B,L,D)

DUBROVNIK
Thursday, June 18
Noted for its expansive walls and red tile rooftops, Dubrovnik is perhaps the most-visited destination on the Adriatic coast. This morning explore the sites along the city’s main street, the marble-clad Stradun, including Onofrio’s Fountain, St. Blaise’s Church, the Rector’s Palace, and the Franciscan Church and Monastery, a large complex belonging to the Order of the Friars Minor and consisting of a monastery, church, library, and pharmacy, the latter of which dates from A.D. 1317. Enjoy free time in the afternoon to explore the maze of alleyways and Renaissance-era architecture before a farewell dinner on board the Queen Eleganza. Queen Eleganza (B,D)

DUBROVNIK / HOME
Friday, June 19
Disembark this morning and transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for flights home. (B)

PHOTOS (From Dreamstime.com) COVER Dubrovnik © David Beaulieu; Dubrovnik © Dreamer4787; Pula © Maryia Bahutskaya; Ljubljana © levgenii Tryfonov; Rovinj © Daliu80; Plitvice Lakes National Park © Pmartitke; Lipizzaner Horses © Davor Zupancic; Split © Daliu80; Dubrovnik © Sergey Novikov; Palace of the Emperor Diocletian © Daniel M. Cisilino; Hvar © Franant; Dragons Bridge © Ian O’hanlon; Croatian Harbor © Nolte Lourens; Split © Daniel M. Cisilino
WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- Program of lectures and discussions with Professor Ivo Banac
- Three hotel nights and seven nights aboard Queen Eleganza
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel, porters, waitstaff, guides, and drivers
- Port charges
- Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners
- Bottled water throughout
- Team of expert local guides
- Professional tour manager throughout the program
- Emergency medical evacuation services

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, fax, internet and email charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature

ITINERARY CHANGES:

The itinerary as presented is subject to modification by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator), should unforeseen world events and conditions require such alterations for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant. Program rates are based upon current taxes, tariffs, fuel prices, currency values, and a minimum number of participants, and are subject to change (e.g., should fuel prices increase). If there are significant changes, we will notify participants in advance of departure.

QUEEN ELEGANZA

The yacht-like Queen Eleganza, launched in the spring of 2018, was beautifully crafted in Croatia specifically to cruise the Adriatic coastline. With its small number of travelers, there is a relaxed and informal atmosphere on board. The 18 cabins are finished to high standards with sleek lines and neutral colors. The bar/restaurant and lounge boast comfortable seating areas, large windows, and complimentary tea/coffee. Meals are served in a single seating and feature fresh and tasty Mediterranean cuisine.

Program Rates, per person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/DECK</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (LOWER DECK)</td>
<td>160 sq ft, fixed queen bed, two portholes</td>
<td>$6,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (MAIN DECK)</td>
<td>183 sq ft, fixed twin beds, except 17 &amp; 18 can be twins or queen; two portholes</td>
<td>$7,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (MAIN DECK)</td>
<td>156 sq ft, fixed twin beds, 3 windows</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (MAIN DECK)</td>
<td>160 sq ft, cabin 6 &amp; 7 fixed queen bed; cabins 8 &amp; 9 fixed twin, large picture windows</td>
<td>$9,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E (MAIN DECK)</td>
<td>280 sq ft, fixed king size bed, 4 windows</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
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AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

Reserve Your Trip Today
Book online: yaleedtravel.org/croatia20
RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Yale Alumni Association, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due February 10, 2020.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before February 10, 2020. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features. Neither Yale Educational Travel nor Criterion Travel accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

To reserve, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to Criterion Travel to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

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Terms and Conditions

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WHAT TO EXPECT: The pace of this tour is moderately active with considerable walking each day, often over very uneven and cobblestoned terrain. The ship has no elevator, so guests should be capable of navigating stairs on rolling seas. Participants should be in good health and capable of undertaking this level of activity without assistance from tour staff. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. If you have any questions about your ability to participate fully on this itinerary, please call Yale Educational Travel at (203) 432-1952.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST #2088800-40

To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person to YET. Final payment is due February 10, 2020.

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH
YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN
RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH
YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN
RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

Contact Information

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PRIMARY PHONE

SECONDARY PHONE

E-MAIL

Payment Options

Pay by check made out to Criterion Travel

Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to:

❏ AMEX ❏ Visa ❏ Mastercard ❏ Discover Card

To reserve, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to Criterion Travel to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.
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Delve into the historic grandeur of Dubrovnik, known as the “Pearl of the Adriatic.”

Moor at or near town centers aboard the yacht-like Queen Eleganza, with easy walk-off access to explore independently.