

IDYLLIC ISTRIA - ISTRIA & KVARNER BAY CRUISE

Join us for an eight night exploration of the beautiful Istrian coast combined with a visit to the region's bucolic interior and some charming islands. Croatia's Istrian coast and Kvarner Bay offer some of the world's most beautiful coastal scenery, picturesque islands and a wonderfully tranquil and peaceful atmosphere. The 36-passenger Queen Eleganza is the perfect vessel for our journey allowing us to moor centrally in towns and call into secluded bays, enabling us to fully discover all the region has to offer and to visit some marvellous places which do not cater for the big ships along the way. Our island calls will include Cres with its Italian influence and scenic Medieval harbour, Pula where we will visit one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheatres and Rab with its picturesque Old Town. We will also travel inland to an area of disarming beauty characterised by fertile valleys with hilltop villages. Here we explore the village of Motovun, in the middle of truffle territory, which has arguably the best views of the Istrian interior from its ramparts. As we make our way along the coast we will discover more remote, uncrowded spots such as Losinj, a classic Adriatic island which is still relatively unspoilt and the flower-filled island of Ilovik before arriving in Zadar where we have time to explore this historic city. Istria is often acclaimed for its gastronomy and we will experience the local cuisine as well as a visit to a vineyard to taste the wines typical of the area. Each night we will remain moored in the picturesque harbours affording the opportunity to dine ashore on some evenings and to enjoy the floodlit splendour and lively café society which is so atmospheric. For those who enjoy cruising amongst scenic waterways, swimming in clear blue waters and exploring

Medieval harbours and picturesque villages with a small group of like-minded travellers, this journey will



surely appeal.

ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Opatjia, Croatia.

Fly by scheduled flight to Zagreb. On arrival transfer to the Queen Eleganza in Opatija. Enjoy our welcome dinner on board this evening as we moor overnight. (D)

Day 2 Cres.

During breakfast we will cruise to the nearby island of Cres, mooring in the sheltered scenic Medieval harbour at Cres Town. Enjoy a walk through the atmospheric streets which have a





strong Italian feel having been under Venetian rule in the 15th and 16th centuries. We will continue to the former fort city of Lubenice. Situated on a cliff 378 metres above the sea we will explore the fortress, city gates, houses, chapels and winding streets of this evocative site and enjoy the stunning views over the bay below. Dine ashore this evening and perhaps take a stroll along the seaside promenade. (B, L)

Day 3 Rovinj.

Sail today to the atmospheric town of Rovinj where the houses inside the old town are small and lean into each other creating a unique atmosphere. Our guided walking tour will include a visit to the town's main landmark, St Euphemia Church, which is built on the top of a small hill. This Baroque building built in Venetian style was dedicated to the saint and martyr whose sarcophagus, according to a legend, was miraculously washed ashore sometime around 800 AD. Take the opportunity to dine ashore this evening in one of the delightful local restaurants. (B, L)

Day 4 Porec for Motovun & Momjan.

After a short sail to Porec we will travel to the Istrian interior, an area famed for its picturesque villages, vineyards producing fine Malvasia and Teran wines and the forests that produce Istrian white truffles. On a morning walking tour we will explore Motovun which is perched on a hill in the Mirna River Valley with its Romanesque-Gothic bell tower, the Renaissance Church of St Stephen, designed by Andrea Palladio, and the charming central square. After a lunch of local specialities, including sampling the olive oil, we will head into the agricultural area around Momjan where some of Croatia's finest olives and vines have been grown for thousands of years. We will visit a local vineyard and enjoy a tasting of wines which are typical of the region. Return to the

ship for dinner on board. (B, L, D)

Day 5 Porec & Pula.

On a morning walking tour of Porec we will discover the compact old town including the 6th century Euphrasian Basilica, a World Heritage Site and one of Europe's finest intact examples of Byzantine art. The basilica, atrium, baptistery and episcopal palace are outstanding examples of religious architecture. Return to the ship late morning and set sail. This afternoon we arrive at the tip of the Istrian Peninsula and the former Roman settlement of Polensium, now known as Pula. On our walking tour we will discover one of the best preserved Roman amphitheatres left in the world. The Arena, built in the 1st century AD was designed to host gladiatorial contests with seating for up to 20,000 spectators. Exploring the town further we will see the varied architecture from Baroque palaces, Christian churches and Austrian villas. Dine ashore this evening in one of the charming local restaurants. (B, L)

Day 6 Mali Losinj.

Spend the morning cruising and take the opportunity for a swim before arriving at Mali Losinj which sits at the foot of a protected harbour on the southeast coast of Losinj Island. It is the island's mild climate and rich flora that give Mali Losinj its reputation as one of the most fragrant islands in Croatia; its air is scented with lavender, sage and rosemary. The seafront of the old town is lined with a string of imposing 19th century houses and villas and is a pleasant place to wander. This evening dinner will be served on board. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Ilovik & Rab.

Cruise this morning to Ilovik. Known as the island of flowers with oleander, palms and roses growing around every house and with





only 170 residents, llovik is well off the traditional tourist route. We will stop for a wander or a swim before sailing to Rab. A late afternoon walking tour will take us through the picturesque Old Town, a perfectly preserved late Medieval Adriatic settlement squeezed into a slender peninsula along which are dotted a sequence of Romanesque campaniles. This evening you can sample one of the many local restaurants. (B, L)

Day 8 Zadar.

After a morning sailing we arrive at Zadar. Once a dominant city on the Adriatic Coast rivalling Venice, Zadar is today a treasured city that has preserved its historical core. Enjoy an afternoon walking tour strolling around the old town with its Roman columns and portals, Romanesque churches and Renaissance and Baroque palaces. Of particular interest are the 9th century circular Church of St Donat and the 13th century Romanesque cathedral. Enjoy our farewell dinner on board this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Zadar to London.

Disembark this morning and transfer to Split Airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.





YOUR SHIP: QUEEN ELEGANZA

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

For our cruises along the Adriatic coast, we are delighted to have the newly built Queen Eleganza. This beautifully crafted vessel is one of the finest Croatian flagged vessels of her kind and we believe she is the perfect vessel from which to explore the Croatian coast. Carrying a maximum of just 36 guests, there is the added benefit of a relaxed and intimate atmosphere on board. The Sun Deck, with its comfortable sun loungers, is the perfect place to watch the passing scenery and the team of friendly Croatian crew will provide you with excellent service and hospitality throughout the ship. To enhance your voyage further there is also a Cruise Director on board. Dining on board is a casual affair and the menus feature locally sourced fresh food including fish. When dining ashore independently, your knowledgeable Cruise Director will recommend popular local restaurants. AIR-CONDITIONING All cabins and public rooms have air-conditioning. BAR/BEVERAGES Wine, beer and soft drinks at lunch and dinner are included in your holiday price. For other drinks consumed throughout your journey you will receive a final bill to settle at the end of your journey. Complimentary bottles of mineral water will be placed in your cabin daily and near reception before an excursion. CABINS The 18 cabins are

equipped with air conditioning/heating, a wardrobe, drawers, radio, a flat screen television, a hairdryer and safety deposit box. Most cabins also feature a dressing table and chair. The cabins on the Lower Deck all have two portholes whereas on the Main Deck, the category 3 cabins have three portholes and the category 5 cabin has four portholes. The category 2 and 4 cabins on the Main Deck benefit from a large picture window offering wonderful views. Cabins measure between 12 and 18 square metres, with Category 5 measuring 26 square metres. The cabins have fixed twin or double beds and the configuration cannot be changed. Each cabin also has an en-suite bathroom with shampoo /shower gel dispenser. Please note that the movement of the ship can cause small amounts of water to collect on your bathroom floor. Please note that bathrobes and slippers are not provided. DINING, DRINKING & DIETARY REQUIREMENTS Meals on board are either buffet style or served and there is one sitting with an open seating arrangement. When the weather permits, lunch and dinner may be served in the covered outside area of the Sun Deck. Please be advised that, as there is not always a choice at meal times it is imperative that you advise any special dietary requests, such as vegetarian, gluten free, low salt etc. to Noble Caledonia (in writing) in advance. Please also advise if you do not, or cannot, eat fish and shellfish as these feature regularly on the lunch and dinner menus. We regret that the ship is unable to guarantee special requests and is not equipped to prepare or serve kosher or halal cuisine. Complimentary self-service tea and coffee, with fruit and biscuits, are available in the restaurant 24 hours a day. On nights when you are free to dine independently ashore, if



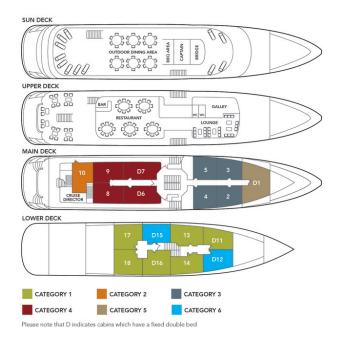
instead you wish to stay on board for dinner, this is possible at a rate of €25 per person each time, which will be added to your onboard account. 24 hours advance notice is required. DISABLED FACILITIES The ship does not have facilities for disabled or wheelchair dependent passengers. The stairs between decks are steep and there is no lift or chair lift on board. DOCTOR There is no doctor on board. Should you be in need of medical assistance, please contact a member of the crew who are first aid trained, or the Cruise Director. ELECTRICITY The cabins feature 220 volt current, with sockets accepting 2 round-pin (European style) sockets. There are no sockets in the bathrooms. We recommend taking a universal adaptor. INTERNET The ship offers a free Wi-Fi connection in the public areas, but not in the cabins. Depending on the ship's location, there may be times when the connection is very slow or is disrupted and the same level of connectivity that you enjoy at home cannot be expected on board. LANGUAGE All members of the crew speak English. LAUNDRY SERVICE Due to the size of the ship there is no laundry service on board. PUBLIC AREAS Main Deck: Reception is located on the Main Deck. Upper Deck: On the Upper Deck you will find the bar, restaurant, lounge, and public restrooms. The lounge has a small library of books, games and DVDs. The tea/coffee station is located in the restaurant here. Sun Deck: The Sun Deck has sun loungers and seating for outdoor dining (weather permitting). SMOKING Smoking is restricted to the designated open areas only. Smoking is prohibited in all other areas including cabins and the



restaurant.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP





PRICING