

# Herceg Novi to Split 7 Days





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## SEVEN DAYS LUXURY YACHT CHARTER CRUISING SOUTH CROATIA AND MONTENEGRO FROM HERCEG NOVI TO SPLIT

**Day 1:** Board at noon in Herceg Novi, Montenegro and either relax at anchor in a lovely bay to settle in and enjoy swimming and water sports, or start cruising towards Dubrovnik, Croatia. Have dinner on board, perhaps on the top deck and enjoy a nice wine from Montenegro. Overnight on anchor.

**Day 2:** After breakfast, clear through customs and get ready to visit the spectacular walled city of **Dubrovnik** (about 28 miles far). The wonderfully preserved 15<sup>th</sup> Century “Old Town” features ancient buildings, squares, cobbled streets and fountains, all created from the same beautiful cut stone. Visit the historic main square, the priceless collections in the Dominican Monastery, the Rector’s Palace, Dubrovnik Cathedral and the Franciscan Monastery. It is easy to spend a lovely morning in Old Town, just wandering the various walking streets or climbing on the walls that surround the town. It is impossible to get lost, so just wander where you please. Return to the yacht for lunch underway to the beautiful harbor of Sipan Luka. This is a great location for a relaxing swim, and water sports. Enjoy dinner ashore at Konoba Kod Marka, a lovely multi-generational family restaurant right on the water’s edge. Captain to make dinner reservations.

**Day 3:** Leave early for the Island of **Mljet**, 15 miles far from Dubrovnik. The island was once one of the biggest producers of olive oil in the Med. Odysseus was fabled to have been seduced here by nymphs in Homer's "The Odyssey". Swim and have lunch at a little secluded bay and then on to Polace, (literally "palace") to explore the ruins of a Roman palace.





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Cruise along a long wooded inlet, part of a national park. At the end is a protected bay with restaurants which is a great place for a refreshing swim. 95% of Mljet is a National Park with hiking and biking trails throughout. First identified geographically by Greco-Roman historians, the island of Mljet was popular during Roman times as referred to in various ancient texts as Melite or Melita. In later centuries, Mljet came under the rule of the Benedictine Order, with a monastery built in the 12th century on an islet in what was then a fresh water lake. In the 16th century, the monastery was the center of the Mljet Congregation, a gathering of all of the Benedictine Monastic Orders in the Republic of Ragusa. By the early 1800's the Benedictine importance had waned and the monastery was disbanded.

Located within Mljet National Park are two lakes, Veliko and Malo Jezero (Large and Small Lake) with buildings from the old Benedictine Monastery on Islet Melita in the middle. These lakes once were fresh water and are now salt water. It was the Benedictine Monks that changed the very nature of the lake waters that surrounded them, by building a canal from the lakes out into the sea. This changed the lake fresh water to salt water forever. Today the monastery building is a café restaurant and the lakes are a great location to explore. Hike or bike to the little quay and take the National Park boat to Islet Melita.

Due to the National Park, which also includes much of the water surrounding Mljet, fishing is allowed only for the residents of the island, and therefore the waters surrounding the island are teeming with fish and shellfish. Head ashore in the evening for dinner at Konoba Ankora, said to make the best Black Squid Ink Risotto in Croatia-virtually a national dish. And try their homemade after dinner "Digestive liqueurs.



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**Day 4:** In the morning cruise along the Peljesac Peninsula, where some of the finest red wines are made in Croatia from grapes grown right on this Peninsula. Anchor in front of the Korta Katarina Winery and walk up to the Winery for a wine tasting, reservations required, small fee. After lunch cruise to Vela Luka on Korcula Island, and head ashore to enjoy a Homestead lunch at Gulin Farm. This is a unique experience offered in Croatia, where farms open their doors to provide a traditional lunch cooked under the Peka Bell of foods grown on the farm, along with fresh fish and shellfish caught right in the local waters. Perhaps pick up wines at Korta Katarina to enjoy at Gulin Farm with your lunch. After lunch cruise to **Korcula Old Town** (about 30 miles far) and head ashore for a walk around the fortified medieval town of Korcula where Marco Polo lived – his house in the island is worth a visit. Have a drink at the cocktail bar at the top of one of the towers, where the drinks arrive by a pulley outside the walls. Right off of Korcula are a group of small little islands with beautiful anchorages, which is a perfect location to overnight with dinner on board after a lovely swim.

**Day 5:** After breakfast set sails to Hvar, 35 miles distance. **Hvar town** is overlooked by a large castle and has the oldest theatre in Croatia. Cruise first to the old town of **Stari Grad**, said to be one of the oldest towns in Europe. Next to Stari Grad is the UNESCO World Heritage site of Stari Grad Plain, a very fertile area, laid out in farming plots delineated with stone walls originally built by the Greeks 24 centuries ago, and still in use. Perhaps take a self-guided 2 hour bicycle ride through the plain to see the olive and citrus groves and other agricultural items grown on this plain. There is only one road, so you can't get lost. Have lunch on board the yacht while cruising around to Hvar Town, said to be the Saint Tropez of Croatia.





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Here are upscale shops and boutiques, along with little market carts selling everything lavender, one of the largest crops on the island. The ancients considered **Hvar** one of the "Isles of the Blessed". Flower-filled gardens, palms, lemon and orange groves add a fragrance lovely enough to match the visual appeal of this sun-drenched island beauty. Visit the theatre of 1506, the Benedictine Monastery, the town square and ancient stone houses. In the evening enjoy a cocktail at the very chic Hula Hula Bar before strolling along the promenade to soak up the atmosphere of Croatia's Cote d'Azur. At night the main square comes alive with a busy café life, until around midnight, when the night club Carpe Diem opens, along with Carpe Diem Beach on a nearby islet. Have dinner ashore. Overnight at anchor in Hvar bay.



**Day 6:** After breakfast, cruise over to **Vis** which is about 20 miles far. Studded with little coves and inlets, one is simply spoilt for choice as to where to stop for a dip. Visit **Komiza**, where Tito hid from the Germans during WW2 and where there are three excellent restaurants serving fresh fish, Viz lobster, and local produce as choices for lunch. Viz is famous as the lobster island and as a wine island where many lovely wines are made. Perhaps another visit to a local winery would be of interest. In the Gradina area are remnants of the ancient Greek town if Ussa. On the small Pirovo promontory are remains of a Roman theatre and thermal baths. After lunch, if weather allows, perhaps a short cruise to the off-lying island of **Bisevo**, where a lovely Blue Grotto is located, entrance only via special tour boats. Otherwise, head to a lovely anchorage to enjoy swimming and water sports. Head back to **Vis Town**, a charming old town with some excellent restaurants and enjoy, for cocktails, a wine bar where they serve nothing but wine from **Vis**. Dinner on board, Overnight.



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**Day 7:** Leave for the **island of Brac**, 20 miles far, heading ashore for lunch at a lovely multi-generational family owned boutique winery named “Stina vino”. Lunch is 7 courses, with foods paired to wines made at this winery all served in a lovely little courtyard with explanations of each wine, along with the food pairing. Be prepared to spend 2-3 hours in this endeavor, or you can visit the winery and enjoy wine tastings of either 3 wines or 5 wines with accompanying tidbits. There are two museums on this islands, that are also available to be visited, an olive oil museum and an archeology museum, or as this is the stone carving island you may want to visit the stone carving school. Head to Solta Island to enjoy swimming and water sports. In the evening cruise to **Trogir**, another lovely little medieval walled town for dinner on board (less than 10 miles far). After dinner take a walk around this little medieval jewel. Overnight in Trogir

**Day 8:** In the morning, visit the main square between 8:00am and 10:00am to be treated to the local men Klapa singing, an acapella tradition that is strong in Croatia, especially under the gothic arches for better sound. Disembark for a van ride to Split, and depending on when your flight out is, perhaps stop for an hour to see Diocletian’s Palace, a UNESCO world heritage site. Built by the Roman Diocletian as a retirement palace, Diocletian abandoned the property after 9 years, and over the centuries a medieval town developed inside and around the palace ruins, which now anchor the center of the town of Split.



*\*The itinerary is flexible according to guests requirements and weather conditions*