

M/Y STARFIRE Itinerary · 14-Day Cruise · Venice to Croatia

We invite you to spend 14 days of luxurious relaxation aboard the magnificent **STARFIRE. The Dalmatian Riviera** has become a <u>very</u> popular cruising destination, and you will soon understand why.

From the legendary city of Venice, we will leisurely explore the enchantment of Croatia's dramatic Dalmatian Coast, visiting such remote destinations as the Losinj, Kvarneric, and Kornati Islands. Many of these renowned islands have a multitude of protected, tranquil anchorages not accessible by land and ideal for the enjoyment of the water sports on board **STARFIRE**.

We will later sail on to experience the more lively and bustling destinations as Sibenik, Trogir, and Split. A visit to the enchanting ports of Bol, Hvar, Korcula precedes disembarkation in the well-known city of Dubrovnik.

Keep in mind that itineraries are only guidelines. The following outline for your journey is subject to change, as we are dependent on **favorable** winds and seas. However, we know the area very well and will have a contingency plan!

Our **STARFIRE** crew will ensure you see all the highlights while offering the ultimate in personal service and guest care.

Welcome aboard!!

Day 1 - July 4th - VENICE

On arrival at the Marco Polo International Airport, a host from the STARFIRE crew warmly welcomes you to the jewel city in Italy's crown. Within no time at all, you will be on board the **M/Y STARFIRE**, moored in the Port of Venezia. **Welcome to Venice!**



Spend the rest of today and tomorrow getting lost amidst the famous canals and fashionable streets of Venice.

Venice is "the city of canals," and there are no big avenues – only small streets, squares, and its famous maze of waterways. You will notice right away the absence of cars and mopeds in its streets. Since horses were forbidden in Venice (1392), all transportation has been made exclusively through its water canals.

This evening, consider a gondola ride during sunset.



DAY 2 - July 5th - VENICE

With so many things to see and do in Venice, two days in port are very necessary! We will remain docked here for the day.

After breakfast, spend some leisure time wandering through the tiny streets where you will find chic shopping boutiques. Purchase some legendary Murano hand-blown glass. Enjoy a coffee and "admiring" the pigeons in Piazza di San Marco. Don't forget to shop the tiny streets for beautiful Murano hand blown glass.

We encourage you to get your fill of this magnificent and one-of-a-kind city.









This evening, we depart for an overnight run (9hrs) to **Croatia** and the **Dalmatian Riviera**.





Day 3 - July 6th - ROVINJ

You will awake this morning to find we have traveled across the Adriatic Sea from Venice and are now seated alongside the indented and pine-decorated coastline of **Rovinj**, on the Western coast of the Istrian region (Republic of Croatia).





The Rovinj coastal area is well articulated with numerous bays, creeks, and capes. There are numerous places of pristine natural wonder and ecological value in this area: forest park Punta Corente-Muntrav, St. Andrea's archipelago, the Palud Marsh, the Limski kanal Fjord, and Monfiorenzo Cave.

Tennis lovers will have opportunity to have all the fun in Rovinj. There are sufficient tennis courts, most of them positioned on very attractive locations next to the sea cost surrounded by pine trees and the sounds of the sea and seals.

You might also enjoy doing a bit of sightseeing here in Rovinj. Visit the Baroque-style Town Hall built in the 17th century, the Chapel of Holy Trinity from the 13th century, and hear when the town clock strike the magical Rovinj hours.

We will spend the night anchored out near the neighboring island of Brijuni.

Day 4 – July 7th – BRIJUNI NATIONAL PARK & LOSINJ ISLANDS

We highly recommend taking a VIP tour of the **Brijuni Islands** this morning. The Brijuni National Park park consists of 14 smaller islands all rich in exotic flora and fauna, as well as archeological sites. There are also options on the island for tennis, golf, and horseback riding.

We will depart Brijuni in late afternoon and head toward the **Losinj** islands (a 3.5 hour cruise).



Day 4 – LOSINJ ISLANDS cont.

Mali Losinj (meaning small island) and Veli Losinj (meaning big Island) are considered two of the sunniest islands off the coast of Croatia and hold much appeal. Also nearby is Cres, the second largest island in the Adriatic, covering 155 square miles.





There are many coves to explore in this tranquil area, and it is perfect for anchoring out, relaxing, and enjoying the view the islands offer you.

This evening we will dock in the main resort town on Mali Losinj, whose harbor is filled with numerous cafés and colorful houses. The tourist area is centered around Cikat bay. The town of Veli Losinj is quieter and there is easy access to it from Mali Losinj.

Day 5 - July 8th - KORNATI ISLANDS

This morning we set sail from Mali Losinj for a 6-hour cruise towards the **Telascica Bay** in the **Kornati Islands**, renown for its outstanding natural beauty.



We will explore the 147-island wilderness of the Kornati archipelago, meandering through the many channels and perhaps taking a trip to some of the magical waterfalls that can be found here. Look forward to anchoring in a bay for a light lunch and the opportunity to cool off in the pristine waters of the Adriatic.

We'll spend the night anchored out peacefully amongst the Kornati Islands.



Day 6 - July 9th - TROGIR

Leaving the natural haven of the Kornati Islands behind, this morning we cruise for 4 hours to the vibrant ancient walled town and port of **Trogir** on the coast of Kastelanski Bay, and just a 10 km drive from the <u>Split Airport</u>.



Standing on the foundations of an ancient Greek settlement, Trogir is an islet connected to the mainland by a stone bridge. The area has splendid rocky and pebble beaches, lavish vegetation, as well as numerous islands and islets.

This medieval town is a favorite stop and the fascinating old town offers restaurants, markets, and beautiful sights, including the 15th century Trogir chapel and the 13th century portal by the master Radovan.

We will stay on the dock here in Trogir for the night. The yacht marina is situated on the small island of Ciovo, opposite the old city walls, which is an easy walk over the bridge for exploring Trogir itself. If you care to hit the town this evening, you will surely find plenty of fine dining and entertainment options!

Day 7 – July 10th – OTAK SOLTA (The Island of Solta)

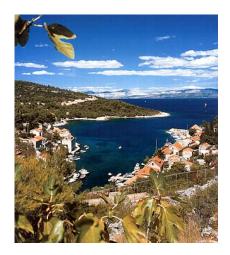
This morning, your crew will serve breakfast alfresco as the Skipper sets sail for a short, two-hour hop to the island of **Solta**, the Middle Dalmation Island.

Today's Solta, with its 1500 inhabitants, remains an oasis of virgin beauty. The southern side of the island with its breathtaking bays, beaches, islets and cliff is particulary beautiful.





Day 7 – OTAK SOLTA cont.



We may choose to spend the afternoon anchored in a remote bay near the island of **Solta**, where you can relax, sunbathe, and take a light lunch.

The area surrounding Solta is ideal for breaking out the yacht toys. You can go jet skiing at high speed or drift lazily around the boat on our "trampoline," basking in the sun. This would also be an excellent opportunity for you to take in the underwater life with some snorkeling gear.

We will remain at anchor near Solta overnight.

Day 8 - July 11th - BOL, BRAC ISLAND

STARFIRE will depart early this morning for roughly a four-hour cruise to the pristine bay of Bobovisca and the **island of Brac**. Our final destination is the city of **Bol**, a harbor and the oldest town on the island.

The town of Bol can boast of having marvelous cultural and historic sites and splendid beaches. The most famous beach is "Zlatni" rat that is actually a pebble cape that stretches into the sea and changes its shape depending on the wind and waves.



We will take a light lunch anchored out from the island and can then take the tender into shore to visit Vidova Gora, the highest peak on the Adriatic offering a unique panorama of the islands, many of which you have visited to this point.

While ashore in Bol, choose from various restaurants offering local and international cuisine, with an excellent selection of quality wines. The inhabitants of Bol are particularly proud of the well-known wine, "Bolski plavac."



Day 9 - July 12th - HVAR



This morning we travel just a short twohour distance to the town of **Hvar** – an inexhaustible treasure-chest of sights, experiences, and adventures.

Though representing a part of the diverse southern Croatian archipelago, formed by numerous islands, since the earliest days Hvar has been the subject of special recognition, distinguished by both its natural beauty and its cultural strata.

In the Middle Ages, Hvar achieved renown and power as an important port and part of the Venetian marine empire. Today, it is one of the best-loved tourist resorts on the Dalmatian Riviera.

By night this sophisticated port hosts some of the finest bars and clubs you will find anywhere. Fortunately for us, we will be docked here for the night to enjoy its entertainment options to the max!

Day 10 - July 13th - KORCULA, MLJET

Following a three-hour cruise this morning, we will arrive in what is undoubtedly one of the most interesting islands in the Croatian Adriatic: the ancient fortified town of **Korcula**.

There have been numerous legends told over generations about Korcula. One legend tells that in the 12th c. B.C. the town was founded by the Trojan hero Antenor.



One fact about Korcula that we can be sure of is that it was the birthplace of the explorer Marco Polo. One option for the day is to head ashore to explore Korcula's narrow medieval streets and visit the house in which Marco Polo was born, now a museum.



Day 10 – KORCULA, MLJET cont.



Alternatively, we can sail over to the mystical island of **Mljet**. It is here that Odysseus was reputed to have spent 40 days enchanted by a mermaid, and looking out on this beautiful scenery, it is easy to understand why - the many secluded coves and bays offer an exclusive spot in this secluded and natural haven.

This will be another great opportunity to break out the snorkeling gear, jet skis, or go for a swim. Enjoy the blue of the Adriatic one last time before we head to one of Croatia's biggest towns, Dubrovnik.

We will spend the night anchored off of the island of Mljet or on the dock of the medieval town of Korcula.

Day 11 - July 14th - SPLIT

This morning we continue sail on about one hour from Solta to neighboring **Split**, the largest town on the coast.

Sitting on a peninsula between the Castelian Bay and the Split Channel, you will find a very busy harbor here. The city's face, turned towards the sea, has been adorned with a line of marinas, ranked among the most beautiful ones of the Mediterranean.



The earliest foundation of Split was in 4th century BC. The medieval town developed out of the Emperor Diocletian's Palace, which is recorded as a World Heritage Site and referred to by UNESCO as a "monument of universal importance." The remains of the first city and its famed Palace are still visible and are worth visiting!

A bustling cosmopolitan city, Split's bars, restaurants, cafés, and boutiques welcome you to this enchanting spot, which you can enjoy while **STARFIRE** moors here for the night.



Days 12 & 13 – July 15th & 16th – SPLIT to DUBROVNIK for 2 Days

Today we will sail from Split towards our final destination: the historic city of **Dubrovnik**.

The most recognizable feature of the historic city Dubrovnik, famous all over the world, are the city walls, 1940 meters long and encircling the city. The history of the fortification goes back to the early Middle Ages.



The whole city was enclosed by walls in the 13th century, except the Dominican monastery, which came under their protection only in the 14th century. This walled structure consists of a series of forts, bastions, casemates, towers and detached forts.

You can walk the city walls today and take in the scenery from above. Other places to see in the city include: The Fortress Lovrijenac, The Big Onofrio's Fountain, The Pile Gate, The Rector's Palace, and St Blaise's Church to name a few.

Take some time to walk up and down the pedestrian street that runs through Old Town: the Placa. This is the main open urban area in Dubrovnik and the most favored promenade and gathering place. It has beautiful paved stones that managed to remain undamaged during the shelling of the Gulf War in 1991.

The locals are big on walking this promenade. Be forewarned though of the protocol: the "in" people of Dubrovnik walk from the southern end to the northern end, but they turn back three streets before reaching the end. If you do not follow this rule, they know you are a tourist. You've been warned!

As your journey aboard **STARFIRE** comes to an end on Day 14, you can be certain that you have enjoyed the definitive Dalmatian Coast experience.

*TIP: The official currency of the Republic of Croatia is the Kuna. For every dollar you receive 5.7 Kuna, which is made up of 100 Lipa.