

# CRUISING THE ADRIATIC ~ CROATIA & SLOVENIA



operatunity

*Travel*

Venice, Slovenia, private cruise of  
Croatia, opera, music

20 AUGUST ~ 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

# CRUISING THE ADRIATIC - CROATIA AND SLOVENIA

Venice, Slovenia, Private Cruise of Croatia,  
Opera and song, Folklore concerts

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**The 'jewel in the crown' The Adriatic Sea beckons us for a truly remarkable, escorted tour of Croatia and Slovenia. Starting in Venice and ending in "the pearl of the Adriatic" Dubrovnik, we experience the music, colour and culture of this magnificent region.**

With sparkling seas of sapphire, rich coral buildings and a history steeped in both tragedy and triumph, we journey through Slovenia by land and Croatia by land and sea. Our exclusive luxury small ship charter ensures we enjoy the best of everything, complete with the Operatunity 'feel' provided by Jess, Bonnie and our travel manager Sonja.

Rich with music from our own private concert in the Postojna Caves, to operas in Venice, to folklore concerts to concerts on board, we travel through magnificent lakes and mountains, glistening seas, wondrous castles and churches and quaint, charming villages.

If this region is the 'jewel in the crown of the Adriatic' our tour is surely the finest white Diamond!



Komiza Beach



Old cathedral of Santa Maria della Salute, Venice

## PLACES WE STAY

**Avangard (Katarina Line)** is a five star small ship with only 18 cabins. Her maiden voyage was in May 2017 so she is brand new!

Avangard is ours exclusively for our seven night cruise down the Adriatic Coast. This allows us to enjoy our own special flavour, our own destinations and include several concerts from Bonnie and Jess as well as music groups we will bring onboard, especially to entertain us.

**Hotel Ca' Dei Conti** is a romantic, elegant hotel set in the heart of Venice, built in the 18th century and situated around the corner from St Marks Square.

**The Hotel Golf** is situated in a beautiful park full of old trees in the very heart of Bled. Boasting magnificent views of Lake Bled, Bled Castle and the Julian Alps, we enjoy lake view rooms at this hotel.

**Remisens Hotel Admiral**, Opatija is a four star hotel, set right next to the sea, just above the Opatija Seaside Promenade. We enjoy sea view rooms at this hotel.

**Hotel Cornaro** in Split is an award winning hotel situated in an excellent central city location complimenting its ancient history surroundings and interior elegance.

**Hotel Excelsior**, Dubrovnik is located in a spectacular seaside setting overlooking both the Adriatic and the ancient Old Town. Combined with flawless service and an illustrious history of royal and celebrity guests, this five-star hotel is an iconic landmark. (Seaside rooms with balconies!)



Avangard



Hotel Ca' Dei Conti Venice



Remisens Hotel Admiral, Opatija



Hotel Excelsior, Dubrovnik



## **DUBAI (4 nights - stopovers return including early check in) ~ Sheraton Dubai Mall of the Emirates Hotel**

We begin and end our tour with flights to and from Dubai on Emirates.

As we arrive into Dubai early in the morning we have arranged another night's accommodation so we can go to our rooms immediately. On return we arrive into Dubai late at night so we will again have access to our rooms immediately. Please note that on return, we will leave Dubrovnik for a short flight to Zagreb, before flying Emirates to Dubai.

## **VENICE (3 nights) ~ Hotel Ga' Dei Conti**

City of love, iconic buildings, San Marco Square, palazzi and canals.

### **HIGHLIGHTS in Venice include:**

- ☞ Opera performance at the newly restored La Fenice Opera House, one of the most famous opera houses in the world.
- ☞ Speed boat ride entrance to Venice.
- ☞ Dinner at local restaurant followed by a Gondola ride with serenade from our handsome Gondolier, we hope!
- ☞ Morning guided sightseeing tour including reserved entrances to Doges Palace and San Marco Basilica.

- ☞ Venetian mask making demonstration and a chance for us to make our own mask!
- ☞ La Traviata (to be confirmed), set in the beautiful Palazzo Barbarigo Minotto!
- ☞ Time to stroll and enjoy the beauty of this most romantic of cities.



## **BLED (2 nights)**

### **~ Hotel Golf**

A Slovenian resort town in the foothills of the Julian Alps, is set along the glacial Lake Bled.

Coach from Venice to Bled via Trieste and a visit to Miramare Castle near Trieste.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS in Bled include:**

- 👁️ Gorgeous drive through countryside of Slovenia.
- 👁️ Gala Slovenian evening programme with wine tasting in the wine cellar, accompanied by accordion music, dinner with local folklore performance.
- 👁️ Pletna boat ride to St. Mary's Island located on the Lake (Church visit included).
- 👁️ Tour of Bled and a custard cake tasting!

## **OPATIJA (3 nights)**

### **~ Remisens Hotel Admiral**

An elegant tourist destination, lies at the foot of Učka mountain, with the longest tradition of tourism in Croatia.

Transfer to Opatija via the Postojna Caves and Predjama Castle.

One of the highlights of the trip: a private concert presented by Bonnie and Jess in the Postojna Caves with drinks and nibbles and a private special train to transport us within the caves.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS in Opatija include:**

- 👁️ Guided Opatija walking tour including Villa Angiolina with The Croatian Museum of Tourism, Juraj Šporer Arts Pavilion with different exhibitions situated next to Abbey and Angiolina Park.
- 👁️ Chocolate tasting - watch you don't leave Jess behind when you leave - she loves chocolate!
- 👁️ Rest of the day is free to enjoy a walk along the promenade of Lungo Mare.



Folk Dancing, Slovenia

- 👁️ Folk dance ensemble with live music, performed by traditional Opatija folk dancers in traditional costumes.
- 👁️ Visit Pula amphitheatre and a local, family owned olive oil farm for a tour and tasting before a tour of Rovinj.

## **SPLIT (2 nights)**

### **~ Hotel Cornaro**

A 1700 year old city and a UNESCO world heritage site, with the magnificent Diocletian palace, once inhabited by the Roman emperor.

Split via Zadar for a walking tour, including the Sea Organ, Roman Forum, dating back to 1st century AD, St. Donatus, dated to the 9th century and the Zadar Cathedral.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS in Split include:**

- 👁️ Split guided walking tour includes the massive substructures of Diocletian's Palace, the Cathedral (one of the smallest in the world) and Jupiter's Temple.
- 👁️ Visit to Trogirs old town, with its mix of Renaissance buildings.
- 👁️ Split to Makarska tour including swim, visit town of Omis, and a walk around Makarska Riviera.



Split Waterfront

## AVANGARD

### (7 night private chartered cruise)

Avangard is a state of the art, deluxe class, small ship with only 18 cabins. Her maiden voyage was in May 2017 so she is brand new!

Avangard is for our exclusive use for our seven night cruise down the Adriatic Coast. This allows us to enjoy our own special flavour, our own destinations and including several concerts from Bonnie and Jess as well as music groups we will bring onboard, especially to entertain us. Being a small ship it also allows us to enjoy the smaller ports and coastal villages.

#### HIGHLIGHTS on the Avangard include:

- 👁️ Concerts provided by Bonnie and Jess and local artists on board.
- 👁️ Welcome meet & greet cocktail party and dinner on board.

#### STARI GRAD/ HVAR:

- 👁️ Brač Island with swimming at the most famous beach in Dalmatia – Zlatni Rat near Bol.
- 👁️ The jet-set island Hvar with lunch on board at the Pakleni Islands. Hvar is the longest and sunniest island in the Adriatic known for lavish lavender fields and breathtaking beauty.
- 👁️ A short presentation of lavender products and a tour of the town's historical landmarks.
- 👁️ Free evening to enjoy the abundance of entertainment around this beautiful bay.

#### HVAR - VIS:

- 👁️ Cruise to the island of Hvar.
- 👁️ Hvar sightseeing tour late afternoon (Cathedral theatre, Monastery Benedictine convent).
- 👁️ Croatian wine and appetiser tasting.
- 👁️ Cruise towards the small island of Bisevo to visit the famous Blue Cave.
- 👁️ Island of Vis, once a strategic naval Yugoslav base and closed to the public.

#### VIS - KORČULA ISLAND:

- 👁️ Korčula Island, the birthplace of Marco Polo.
- 👁️ Lunch in one of the secluded bays en route.
- 👁️ Korčula guided walking tour.
- 👁️ Excursion to small village near Korčula for typical Dalmatian dinner.



## MLJET:

- 👁️ Island of Mljet with a stroll to the famous salt lakes in the Mljet National Park.
- 👁️ Boat ride to the St Mary Isle to visit an ancient Benedictine monastery dating back to the 12th Century.

## SLANO - STON:

- 👁️ Visit to Slano, a peaceful fishermen's village and Ston, once fortified small village with medieval ramparts.
- 👁️ Visit to oyster farm to learn more about oysters and tasting this delicious treat.
- 👁️ Captain's dinner with entertainment.

## DUBROVNIK (on cruise):

- 👁️ Cruise to Dubrovnik.
- 👁️ Guided walking tour of this magical town ending with the cable car from the Old Town to Srđ mountain to enjoy scenic views of the Walls and Elaphiti Islands.

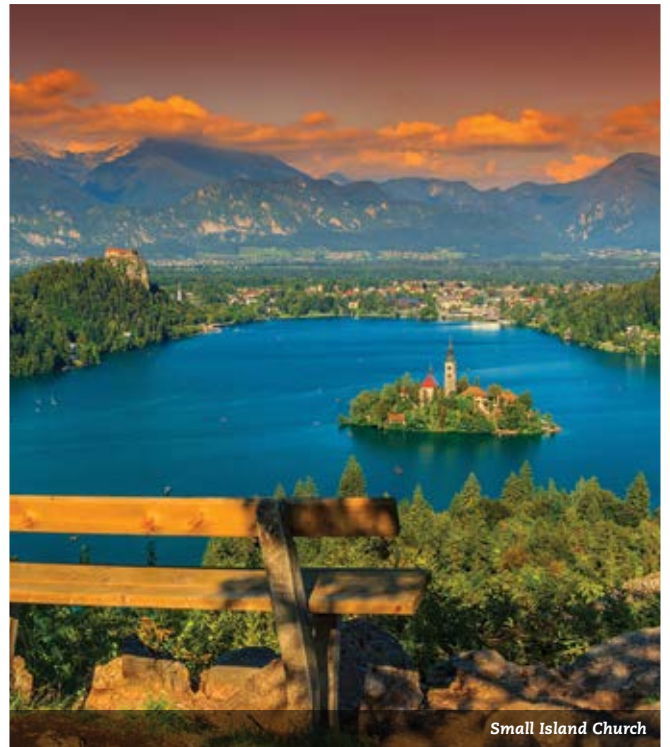
## DUBROVNIK (3 nights) (land component)

### ~ Hotel Excelsior

Dubrovnik's proud and turbulent history goes back to the 6th century and this magnificent city is known as "the pearl of the Adriatic".

### HIGHLIGHTS in Dubrovnik include:

- 👁️ Glorious hotel with views over the sea and village!
- 👁️ A full day tour to Montenegro, Croatia's neighbouring country, visiting the UNESCO site of Kotor town, alongside the nearby "Our Lady of the Rocks Islet".
- 👁️ Visit to Lokrum Islet near the Old Town.
- 👁️ Full free day to wander, relax and swim in this beautiful area.
- 👁️ A special folklore performance followed by farewell group dinner in a local restaurant.



Small Island Church



Dubrovnik



Old Town Dubrovnik



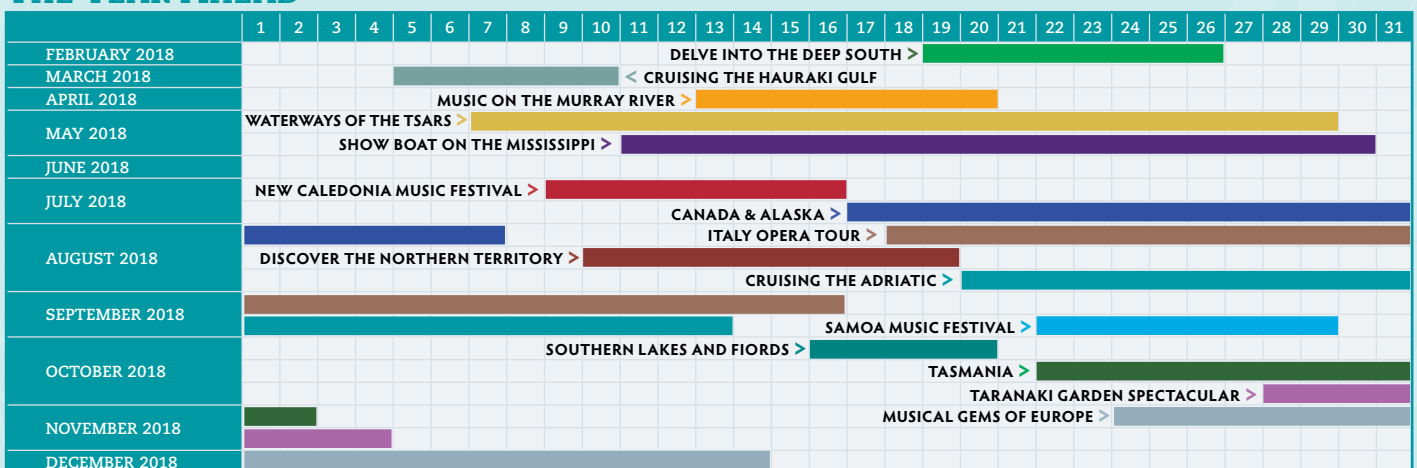
Dubrovnik

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- 👁 For further information please ring our office or visit our website.
- 👁 All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- 👁 All deposits are refundable up until final payment date minus any costs that the company has incurred.
- 👁 Please refer to our terms and conditions on our booking form.
- 👁 While we carefully plan our trips to be well paced, all travellers need to possess a certain level of fitness. Some trips are more arduous and carry an advisory note in the itinerary that a specific level of fitness is required.
- 👁 Operatunity Travel requires all travellers to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. Please be sure to ring our office if you require any information or clarification about insurance or any questions regarding travelling with Operatunity Travel.

For your travel bookings call our Travel Department toll free on 0508 886 489 or email [travel@operatunity.co.nz](mailto:travel@operatunity.co.nz)

## THE YEAR AHEAD



**\$16,985** per person twin share

(Includes lower deck cabins on ship)

Single in hotels and lower deck cabin add \$6,296

Single in hotels and upper deck cabin add \$6,696

For upper deck cabins Add \$400 per person twin share

**Initial Deposit on booking \$2,000**

**Second Deposit due 11 February 2018 \$3,000**

**Final Balance due 12 May 2018**

*Deposits refundable (less costs incurred) prior to FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE. Itinerary details are subject to change, however any changes will be replaced with a comparable or better option. All our trips are specifically designed for our core market but this trip does contain travel challenges, either because of the region visited or the walking distances or uneven surfaces that arise at some sites. We do advise that you and your doctor evaluate your level of fitness before you consider booking this tour.*

### THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return airfares, Auckland - Dubai - Venice // Dubrovnik - Zagreb - Dubai - Auckland on Emirates, including taxes.
- An extensive fully guided 25 day tour including Slovenia by land and Croatia by land and sea. Inclusive of all musical and cultural events.
- Music content includes 2 operas: *La Fenice*, Venice and *La Traviata*, Musica Palazzo, Venice; exclusive private concert with Bonnie and Jess, Postojna Caves, folklore concerts at Opatija, Bled and Dubrovnik plus concerts onboard by Bonnie, Jess and local artists.
- 7 nights exclusive charter on five star small ship Avangard, from Split to Dubrovnik, including music and special events.
- Accommodation in 4 or 5 star hotels in Venice (3 nights), Bled (2 nights), Opatija (3 nights), Split (2 nights), Dubrovnik (3 nights), 4 nights (includes early check in) Dubai stopovers.
- Numerous tours with special flavours including guided tours of Venice, Bled, Split, Dubrovnik, Trieste, Montenegro, plus all shore excursions on cruise, Diocletian Palace tour, church tours, castles, wine, chocolate, custard and olive oil tastings, Venetian mask making and gondola ride.
- All tours, boat cruises, coach transfers included as listed on itinerary plus reserved entrance and entrance fees to all sights and sites as listed in itinerary.
- All breakfasts, 10 dinners and 8 lunches, 1 morning tea, tips, portorage and taxes included.
- Limited to 32 people. Escorted by tenor Bonaventure Allan-Moetaua, violinist Jessica Hindin and our travel manager, Sonja.



Travel

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