



Croatia - An Island Adventure



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Croatia

BROCHURE CODE: 4047
DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

Based on the island of Sipan, in Croatia's beautiful Elaphiti Islands, this exciting activity holiday will see you island hopping most days. As a family you will sea kayak to hidden coves and uninhabited islands, take in Sipan by bike, visit the magnificent city of Dubrovnik and enjoy active fun and games, all whilst exploring the archipelago.

Our Opinion

“ This holiday encapsulates some of the best Croatia has to offer. The whole family can explore some of the lesser-known, but equally stunning Croatian islands in an active way. The combination of water and land-based activities means you cover the islands from all angles and enjoy a variety of experiences. You also get to visit landmark destinations such as Dubrovnik to enjoy the sights, before heading back to your more peaceful island base. The short ferry transfers are all part of the fun (and they are part of everyday life in this region) and add to the experience as you hop between islands and the mainland. ”

Andy Marshall



What's included?

- **Transfers:** return transfers from airport to Gruz harbour, return ferry transfers from Gruz harbour to Šipan and all required transfers between islands and Dubrovnik for included activities
- **Accommodation:** 7 nights' guesthouse accommodation
- **Meals:** 7 breakfasts
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** stand-up paddle boarding, hiking in Lopud, cycling in Šipan, day trip to Dubrovnik, sea kayaking on the Elaphiti Islands and catamaran sailing (**the order of activities is subject to change**)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities

Please note: there is now a mandatory 80€ per person fee to be paid locally and in cash, before the start of the trip. This is part of a sustainability fee which helps to contribute to local economies and suppliers, and also covers sojourn tax.

Trip Overview

Croatia's Elaphiti Islands are little-known gems for family holidays. They are some of the greenest in Croatia, covered by forests and edged by sandy beaches, hidden coves, reefs, pines and palms, all just waiting to be explored. You'll be based on the island of Šipan in a family-run guesthouse and situated on the edge of a stunning bay, but on most days you will hop between islands and explore further afield during your activities.

The whole family can get involved in this itinerary as activities can be tailored to accommodate those as young as six years old, whilst still maintaining the adventure for older kids. You will enjoy stand-up paddle boarding, sea kayaking, sailing, hiking and biking as you journey around, up, over and between the islands. The activities tend to last for between three and five hours (including breaks), so there is a great balance between adventure and free time. We also include a day in the magnificent city of Dubrovnik as one of the activities, a highlight of any holiday in Croatia.

Your transfer will take you to the ferry terminal for your scenic ride to the beautiful island of Šipan (only 40 minutes away). Your guesthouse home is in the quaint seaside village of Šipanska Luka which offers easy access for paddling, swimming and snorkelling.

Stand up paddle boarding is up there with one of the best ways to explore the islands and we will kick things off in style as you paddle to some of the tiny uninhabited islands to explore their coastlines. The pace will be leisurely and there will be plenty of time for swimming and enjoying the warm waters.

A cycling adventure is next on the agenda and you will travel through traditional sleepy villages on carefully selected routes with very little traffic. You'll get out and about in the stunning scenery, enjoying the views, sights and beauty of the island.

For a taste of Croatian culture, you will then visit the walled city of Dubrovnik back on the mainland. This spectacular city is sure to captivate grownups and children alike as you explore the ancient old town with its narrow limestone paved streets and incredible battlements.

You will take day trips to nearby Koločep for sea kayaking and sailing and to Lopud where a leisurely hike provides staggering views.

Overall, this holiday provides island hopping activities, a delightful location and the chance to explore some of the most stunning spots in Croatia as a family. What could be better!

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL, WELCOME AND FERRY TO ŠIPAN

On arrival in Croatia, you will be greeted and transferred to the ferry terminal. This ferry is the most scenic holiday transfer we offer anywhere and lasts around 40 minutes. It is the ideal way to start your holiday in Croatia as you can really enjoy the views of the islands and the mainland from the water.

On arrival in Šipan, you will be taken to the picturesque fishing village of Šipanska Luka. This tranquil spot is a favourite for mooring yachts due to the stunning palm-lined bay. Here you will check in to your welcoming guesthouse accommodation and enjoy a relaxed evening before the fun begins tomorrow. Meals will be served in a nearby local restaurant or cafe throughout your stay.

NB: Ideally, flights should arrive before 3 pm. Any arrivals after 6 pm may need a private taxi boat transfer supplement.

Included Meals: None

DAY
2

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING

After a leisurely breakfast, you will meet your experienced guide for your first activity, a paddle board adventure around the shores of Šipan. This is perhaps one of the most idyllic Croatian Archipelagos for sea exploring, with hidden coves and secret beaches.

You'll first take a short transfer to Sudurad, where the adventure begins. From here, you'll set off from a tranquil beach offering beautiful views of neighbouring Lopud Island. If weather permits, you'll have the opportunity to explore Šipan's green cave too.

The SUP activity will last for approximately 2 hours, not including breaks, and you'll have the chance to stay in Sudurad to enjoy lunch (please note, lunch is not included), or go biking or hiking. Why not head to the top of St Trinity for views of the whole island.

Lunches and dinners are typically not included in the holiday as there are normally several options each day (e.g. a local restaurant, a shop where you can purchase a picnic, etc.) so you can choose the option which best suits your family. You should also carry plenty of water with you throughout each day.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
3

CYCLING IN ŠIPAN

Enjoy breakfast overlooking the Adriatic before setting off on your cycling tour of Šipan. The island's quiet roads provide the perfect routes and your guide knows all the best viewpoints. You will pass through olive groves and traditional villages, enjoy hilltop views and look out across the glistening sea. In total, you will travel between 10-15km today (the island is only 9km long in total!) and there will be plenty of rest breaks. Should you have younger children in the family, they can ride in a bike seat with one of their parents.

This tour normally takes approximately 2 hours (depending on stops) and you can spend the rest of the day relaxing or possibly hiring the bikes for the afternoon if you wish to continue exploring independently (subject to availability, must be booked and paid for locally).

After completing your tour, you will return to the guesthouse for some time to relax.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
4

VISIT TO DUBROVNIK

You will enjoy your beachside breakfast today before setting off for a day exploring Dubrovnik on your own.

Taking the short ferry ride to the mainland will give you views of the ancient citadel as you head towards the port. It is a striking city and is great fun to explore. The sense of history and adventure is all around you as you walk the polished limestone paved streets and take in the city walls with their cannons pointing out to sea. It is easy to see why this city

is so often used in film and television. There are shops and cafes galore and we also recommend seeking out one of the ice cream parlours – always a family favourite!

Your guide will accompany you on the 30-minute walk from the port to the city and then you will have free time to explore the sights at leisure before returning to Šipan later in the day. If you would rather take the bus from the port to the city, this can be paid for locally.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
5

HIKING ON LOPUD ISLAND

Today you are island hopping once more as you take the short (around 15 minutes) ferry ride to nearby Lopud Island after breakfast.

Lopud offers some of Croatia's most picturesque walking trails, starting from the sea and heading into the hill. Small churches and an impressive fort are located at one of the island's highest points where you can enjoy amazing views of the Elaphiti Archipelago and Mljet island. The route is approximately 10 kilometres, but there will be plenty of rest breaks and time for fun and games in between. The activity will last for around 3 hours today.

In the evening, you will return to Šipanska Luka for a relaxing evening.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
6

SEA KAYAKING AND SAILING

Following breakfast, you will begin your sea kayaking trip west to some of the neighbouring Elaphiti Islands, where you can discover numerous secret caves, coves and beaches dotted around the pine and palm-lined coastline. You will paddle towards Jakljan, Tajan and Olipa which are all uninhabited islands and only accessible from the water.

There will be plenty of time for swimming and snorkelling so you can look at the world under the azure blue sea. If you have younger children, then they can share a kayak with their parents. The kayaking will last for approximately 2-3 hours today, not including breaks.

Afterwards, you'll board a catamaran for a relaxing afternoon sailing. Occasionally, you can spot dolphins swimming along side the boat, so be sure to keep look out! The cruise will last around 2-3 hours.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
7

DAY AT LEISURE

Today your time is your own and you can spend it as you wish. Most families tend to take advantage by having a day at the beach, enjoying an independent swim in the warm waters and some family time together. If you would like to include more active exploits, then optional tours may be available locally (subject to availability).

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
8

DEPARTURE

Enjoy a final breakfast before your transfer back to Dubrovnik Airport for the flight home. To ensure that you avoid the need for private taxi boat transfers, flights should be booked to depart no earlier than 10 am.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Included Accommodation

Villa Lela (Nights: 1-7)



Villa Lela is in Šipanska Luka, a village in the northern part of the delightful island of Sipan. Šipanska Luka is a small fishing village and so accommodation is typically in small family-run guesthouses such as Villa Lela. This option is ideal for families with younger children who need to share with their parents.

Close to the waterside, the location is perfect for families, being just a stone's throw from the sandy beach and tranquil palm-lined shore where you can swim and paddle to your heart's content during your stay.

ROOM TYPE

It has just six bedrooms across three floors, but some are larger so are more accommodating for parents and children sharing.

The two double rooms are suitable for two people with space for a third on a sofa bed.

For larger families, there are four further bedrooms with the option to connect two rooms, which can be closed off by a lockable door. Hence, these rooms can be made into a much larger space, one with two double beds and the other with a double bed and two single beds. These connecting rooms come with the bonus of a kitchenette.

All the rooms have air-conditioning and en-suite facilities.

Please note: The images above show both the smaller and larger bedroom options.

Image credit: Villa Lela

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 4 and maximum 16 persons (approximately)

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum numbers required for a holiday to operate

Some of our holidays require a minimum number of participants to operate (as listed in the 'Group Size' section). If your holiday departure has not yet reached the minimum number, you will be told at the time of booking. In the unlikely event that your chosen date is not guaranteed by nine weeks before your scheduled departure date, we will

contact you to discuss the available options as per our booking conditions.

Minimum and maximum age

The minimum age for this holiday can be found in the 'Key Facts' section of the holiday overview.

Younger family members may be able to participate but may not be able to take part in all activities. Please contact one of our Travel Experts if you have any questions.

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: <https://www.activitiesabroad.com/booking-conditions>

Please note: our payment and cancellation terms will be unique to each booking - they will be confirmed with you at the time of quotation. The terms listed above are noted as a guide only