**ZADAR(Croatia)**

ZAD01 - ZADAR CITY SIGHTSEEING - 49 EURO

Duration: approx. 4 hours

Simeon, Chrysogonus, Anastasia and Zoilus – no, not the latest pop band, but rather the four patron saints that protect the Croatian port of Zadar, founded more than 3,000 ago. Intending to familiarise you with the town’s particularly rich religious heritage, the tour begins with a visit to the 9th-century pre-Romanesque Church of St. Donatus, a rotunda that occupies the north-eastern corner of the old Roman forum. Next up is the monumental interior of the Cathedral of St. Anastasia, built partly in the 4th and 5th, partly in the 12th and 13th centuries, after which you’ll move on to the 11th-century Church of St. Mary, situated on the eastern part of the Roman forum. The Romanesque Church of St. Chrysogonus, consecrated in 1175, follows as well as the Church of St. Simeon, home of the reliquary of St. Simeon, and finally the Gothic Church of St. Francis, where the 1358 Zadar Peace Treaty was signed. You will then have time to retrace the steps of ancient civilisations as you check out Zadar’s appealing townscape on your own before returning to the ship. Please note: this tour includes extensive walking and steps to negotiate to visit the sites; it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance.

ZAD02 – PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK - 75 EURO

Duration: approx. 8 hours, lunch not included

Croatia’s mountainous Lika region is where you will find the vast Plitvice Lakes National Park, the nation’s largest of eight and about a 2.5-hour coach ride from the port. The park is home to a total of 16 lakes, separated by dams of travertine, which in turn are formed by deposits of moss, algae and bacteria. Of these 16, 12 are called the Upper Lakes, or Gornja jezera, and four the Lower Lakes, or Donja jezera. The lakes themselves are famed for their fabulous and ever-changing colours, ranging from azure and green to grey and blue, while the surrounding landscape boasts dense forestation of mainly beech, spruce and fir trees, but also supports a variety of Alpine and Mediterranean vegetation thanks to the park’s wide range of microclimates. Most notably, though, the park provides a natural habitat for numerous species of animal, including such rare individuals as the European brown bear, wolves, eagles, owls, lynx, wild cats and wood grouse. Keep your camera at hand throughout the tour to capture some of the most spectacular karstic landscapes on the planet before the coach returns you to Zadar and your ship. Please note: this tour includes extensive walking on uneven ground so it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Sightings of animals cannot be guaranteed. Guests are advised that time constraints will mean only the lower lakes can be visited.

ZAD03 – PAKLENICA NATIONAL PARK HIKING TOUR - 89 EURO

Duration: approx. 5 hours, lunch box included

Fresh air, glorious scenery and hiking make up the main ingredients of this half-day outing, which begins with a 45-minute coach ride to the Paklenica National Park, a forested area of ravines and canyons. Paklenica was made a national park in 1949 in an effort to protect Dalmatia’s largest forest complex, which had come under threat due to overexploitation. Your hike through the majestic terrain will deliver fabulous views of this highly varied mountain landscape, along with a surfeit of flora and fauna. Among the wildlife found in the park are roe deer, chamois, brown bears and numerous other mammals, a variety of birdlife including golden eagles, peregrine falcons and woodpeckers as well as the rare meadow viper, whose conservation status is classified as vulnerable. Also part of the park are the two breathtaking canyons of Velika and Mala Paklenica. At the end of your hike, you will return to the coach for the relaxing ride back to the ship. Please note: this tour includes extensive walking on uneven ground so it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

ZAD04 – ŠIBENIK & TROGIR - 59 EURO

Duration: approx. 6 hours

Founded in its present form in the 11th century by Croats and not the Greeks, Illyrians or Romans like many other Adriatic cities, the town of Šibenik will be the first destination on this appealing tour. You will first head south of the port by coach to reach the coastal town to visit the Renaissance-style Cathedral of St. Jacob, a triple-nave basilica designed by the notable 15th-century Dalmatian architect, Giorgio de Sebenico, and completed in 1536. Leaving Šibenik, you will then travel a little further south to Trogir, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Situated on a small island just off the coast, Trogir boasts a picture-perfect townscape, parts of which date back to the 3rd century B.C.. Your look around town will take you past the 13th-century Gothic-Romanesque Cathedral of St. Lawrence, which features a famous door carved by the Trogir-born craftsman known as Master Radovan and a beautiful belfry, as well as the 15th-century Trogir portal and loggia along with numerous other lovely sights. Your return to Zadar then brings your tour to a close. Please note: this tour includes extensive walking on uneven ground so it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance.

ZAD05 – THE TINY TOWN OF NIN - 52 EURO

Duration: approx. 4.5 hours

Half a day of enjoyable exploration in the small town of Nin is on the itinerary of this outing, which will first take you north of Zadar on a short but scenic drive. Having first been settled around 10,000 years ago, the town can truly be said to be steeped in history, although its present iteration goes back around 3,000 years. The historical core of Nin is situated on a tiny island, separated from the mainland by a narrow stretch of water spanned by two 16th-century stone bridges. The main places of interest on the islet are the 9th century Church of the Holy Cross – said to be the world’s smallest cathedral, even though it is not the seat of a bishop – along with the remains of a Roman temple and the old town walls, 2nd-century floor mosaics as well as the ancient port, which dates back to the 9th century B.C., to name but a few. After a good look around this scenic and historical town, your relaxing return journey to the ship will then bring the tour to a close. Please note: this tour includes extensive walking on uneven ground so it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

ZAD06 – KRKA NATIONAL PARK - 62 EURO

Duration: approx. 5 hours

Croatia certainly has more than its fair share of natural beauty and one such example, the sizeable Krka National Park, forms your scenic destination on this enjoyable half-day tour. Stunning views of Šibenik-Knin county will keep you entertained during the 45-minute coach transfer to the park. Once you have arrived, you’ll first head for one of the park’s most popular attractions, the beautiful natural pool and waterfall called Skradinski buk. The River Krka runs through the area and feeds the Skradinski waterfall, one of three cascades in the park. Do keep your camera at hand as you set off on a guided walk through the greenery, revealing not only views of the river and gushing cascades, but also including a visit to an old mill with an ethnographic exhibition. There will also be time for you to explore the natural setting at your leisure before the coach ride back to the port, with more lovely vistas to savour on the way, wraps up the tour. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

ZAD07 – ZRMANJA RIVER FUN - 99 EURO

Duration: approx. 5 hours

If the adrenalin-pumping thrill of riding white-water rapids is something you have always wanted to do, join this half-day tour and prepare to cross the activity off your personal bucket list. A 45-minute coach journey will first take you from Zadar to reach the beautiful Zrmanja River, whose source lies in the Lika mountains and meanders down to empty into the Adriatic Sea. You’ll be met by instructors who will first brief you on safety issues, after which you’ll embark on the ride of your life in either a canoe or on a rafting boat. Look forward to stretches of calm – time to enjoy the gorgeous scenery along the route – and stretches of frothing rapids while escorted by your expert tour guides. You will spend about 3 hours exploring the river, after which the return drive to Zadar and your ship brings this adventure tour to a close. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Guests must be in good physical conditions and be able to padde along an approx. 3-hour route on the river. Guests will use canoes or rafting boats, depending on Zrmanja water level on the day of call.