

Croatia & Slovenia

28 June to 9 July 2026

Join us on our 12-day tour during the school holidays to the highlights of **Croatia & Slovenia**. The special group rate is **R52 990** per person and includes all sightseeing and two good meals every day.

Itinerary

Day 1: Sunday, 28 June — Cape Town / Johannesburg →

The big day has finally arrived! We depart late afternoon from Cape Town and Johannesburg to Europe. Overnight onboard after dinner.

Day 2: Monday, 29 June — → Zagreb

After an early breakfast, we arrive in **Zagreb**, the capital of Croatia. We travel by bus to the **Central Hotel**, located in the heart of the city. There will be time to unpack and rest. At **14:00**, we meet in the hotel lobby to explore this beautiful city with our local tour guide. Highlights include the impressive Cathedral and St. Mark's Church. At 19:00, we gather for dinner at the hotel.

Day 3: Tuesday, 30 June — Zagreb → Plitvice

After breakfast, we depart by bus to **Plitvice National Park**, located in central Croatia (entrance fees included). A highlight of our tour is experiencing the magnificent sixteen crystal-clear lakes, connected by numerous waterfalls. Included in our entrance is a boat ride on one of the large lakes. Dinner and overnight stay at the Big House Hotel, located near Plitvice National Park.

The **Plitvice Lakes National Park** is the oldest and largest national park in the Republic of Croatia, famous for its numerous turquoise-colored lakes separated by tufa, or travertine, barriers. Its karst landscape is characterized by specific hydrological features and exceptional biological diversity, which helped the National Park gain international significance.

Dinner and overnight at the **Big House Hotel** in the Plitvice area.



The picturesque Plitvice Waterfalls

Day 4: Wednesday, 1 July — Plitvice → Trogir

After breakfast, we travel south through beautiful landscapes to the charming medieval town of **Trogir**, near Split. According to legends, this town has existed for over 2,300 years! No vehicles are allowed in the town center, making it a special experience to walk around. We stay two nights at the four-star **Trogir Palace Hotel**. Dinner at 19:00.

Day 5: Thursday, 2 July — Trogir → Split → Trogir

After breakfast, we depart by bus to Split for a sightseeing tour of this harbor city. We meet our local guide and visit, among others, the fascinating Palace of Diocletian (entrance fees included). Afterward, there is free time to explore this busy harbor city on your own. Make sure to try Croatia's mouthwatering ice cream! Dinner at 19:00.

Day 6: Friday, 3 July — Trogir → Dubrovnik

It's time to say goodbye to Trogir after breakfast. We depart along the beautiful coastal route further south to **Dubrovnik**, the pearl of the Adriatic Sea. We stay the next two nights at the **Adria Hotel**. Dinner at 19:00 at the hotel. **Dubrovnik**, historically known as Ragusa, is a city on the Adriatic Sea in the Dalmatia region of southern Croatia. It is one of the Mediterranean's most prominent tourist destinations, a seaport, and the center of Dubrovnik-Neretva County. Situated in an exclave, it is connected to the rest of the country by the Pelješac Bridge. In 1979, Dubrovnik was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list in recognition of its outstanding medieval architecture and fortified old town



The Medieval Town of Trogir



We visit Cavtat by boat from Dubrovnik

Day 7: Saturday, 4 July — Dubrovnik → Cavtat → Dubrovnik

After breakfast, we visit Dubrovnik's impressive old town. The city has remained virtually unchanged since the 13th century – filled with beautiful churches and palaces. Entrance to the Franciscan Monastery with our guide is included. Following a three-hour guided tour with a local guide, we'll have free time to further explore the city on our own. For the more active travelers, there is the opportunity to walk along the old city walls — a truly unforgettable experience. There is also a cable car ride available, offering stunning views over the old town of Dubrovnik. After our tour and free time, we take a private boat to the picturesque harbor town of **Cavtat**. The 15 km boat ride, passing several islands, is a unique experience. After some leisure time in Cavtat, we return to Dubrovnik by boat. For those who want to swim in the Mediterranean Sea, there is a beautiful beach right next to the old town! The sea water in Croatia is crystal clear. Dinner at our hotel.

Day 8: Sunday, 5 July — Dubrovnik → Zadar

After breakfast, we travel north by bus to the beautiful coastal town of **Zadar**. In the late afternoon, we visit the old town of Zadar, located near our hotel. Tonight we stay at the centrally located four-star **Kolovare Hotel**, situated on one of Zadar's most beautiful and popular beaches. Be sure to listen to the unique **Sea Organ**! Dinner is at 19:00 at our hotel.

Day 9: Monday, 6 July — Zadar → Postojna → Bled

After an early breakfast, we say goodbye to Zadar and travel north along the coast, crossing the border between Croatia and Slovenia. We continue on to the remarkable **Postojna Caves**. These caves are more than two million years old and form the largest cave system in Europe. We travel about 7 km through the caves by small train (entrance fee included). The average temperature inside the caves is just 8°C, so remember to bring something warm. In the late afternoon, we arrive in **Bled**, a picturesque town located on a lake at the foot of the Julian Alps. We stay the next two nights in the centrally located **Astoria Hotel**. Buffet dinner at 19:00 in our hotel.



Sail on a Pletna boat on Lake Bled in Slovenia!



Get lost in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia.

Day 10: Tuesday, 7 July — Bled

After breakfast, we meet our local guide and visit Bled Castle, which dates back to the 11th century. Afterwards, we sail in traditional *Pletna* boats to a small island in the middle of the lake, where we visit the Church of St. Mary of the Lake (entrance fees included). This is one of the highlights of our tour! In the afternoon, we travel by bus to **Ljubljana**, the capital of Slovenia. We meet our local guide for a walking tour of this fascinating city. Highlights include a visit to Ljubljana Castle, which dates from the 13th century. We take a funicular ride (entrance fee included) up to the castle. Later in the afternoon, we return to Bled for our final group dinner at 19:00.

Day 11: Wednesday, 8 July — Bled → Ljubljana Airport →

It's our final morning in Europe! After breakfast and some free time in Bled, we pack up and depart. We travel by bus from our hotel to Ljubljana Airport, from where we begin our journey back to South Africa. Dinner will be served on the flight.

Day 12: Thursday, 9 July — → Johannesburg / Cape Town

Early morning breakfast is served on the flight. After a wonderful experience in **Croatia and Slovenia**, we land in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR COST:

- ✓ International economy-class flights to and from Johannesburg. There is an additional cost of R1 850 for the return flight to and from Cape Town.
- ✓ Airport taxes and fuel surcharges for all flights.
- ✓ Luxury coach transport throughout, including all parking and toll fees.
- ✓ Accommodation in selected three- and four-star hotels as listed in the itinerary.
- ✓ Full breakfast and dinner daily.
- ✓ All sightseeing (with entrance fees where applicable) as outlined in the itinerary.
- ✓ Services of local English-speaking tour guides in Zagreb, Plitvice, Split, Dubrovnik, Bled, and Ljubljana.
- ✓ A return boat trip between Dubrovnik and Cavtat, and a Pletna boat ride on Lake Bled.
- ✓ The services of an experienced tour leader throughout.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- The provisional tour cost of **R52 990** is based on airfare and land arrangement prices as of March 2025. It is calculated at an exchange rate of €1 = R20 and is subject to exchange rate fluctuations.
- Visa costs of approximately **R1 800** for a Croatian Schengen visa, as well as around **R600** in handling fees charged by the visa application center, are **not** included in the tour cost. We will assist all travellers with their Schengen visa applications and provide the necessary documentation.
- A single supplement of **R8 880** applies for those who require a single room.
- Comprehensive group travel insurance from **TIC Europ Assistance** is available for all tour members under the age of 76 at **R420** for the twelve-day tour (a surcharge applies for travellers over 75).
- If there are any booking issues with the listed hotels, similar alternative accommodations will be arranged.
- A minimum of **36 passengers** must travel together throughout the tour.
- A deposit of **R6 000** must be paid as soon as possible to secure a place on the tour.
- The balance of the tour cost must be paid by **21 March 2026**.
- Unfortunately, credit card payments are not accepted.

HOW TO BOOK:

Please complete the booking form and indemnity form as soon as possible and email them to: info@vandyktours.co.za

Deposit payments must be made or transferred to the following account:

Bank: Nedbank	Account Number: 119 1533 964	Branch: George	Branch Code: 198 765
Account Holder: Van Dyk Travel	Account Type: Cheque/Business	Reference: CROATIA/your surname	

For further inquiries, contact the tour leader **Renhard van Dyk**: ☎ 082 767 8400 ✉ info@vandyktours.co.za



We ride a little train through the magnificent Postojna Caves!



VAN DYK TOURS
INNOVATIVE QUALITY SINCE 1995