

Istrian gourmet adventure by bike and kayak 8 days / 7 nights



OVERVIEW

It's always exciting to discover new lands, their natural beauty and historical background, to learn about cultural heritage and the local way of life and listen to legends that stimulate your imagination.

Join us in exploring the former narrow-gauge railway line Parenzana, which was turned into a true attraction for cyclists! You will be thrilled with the small picturesque towns and landscapes dotted with old villages through which you pass. Sweeping into beautiful valleys with forests and rivers framing them and then emerging onto the slopes of the hills, the beauty of the nature will take your breath away. Take a short break and soak up the abundance of peace and greenery. On this interesting trip you will pass through tunnels, over bridges and viaducts, between olive groves and vineyards that give this area special charm. The medieval hilltop towns of Grožnjan and Motovun will delight you just as much as the pristine nature of the protected areas of Lim Bay, the ornithological reserve at Palud and Cape Kamenjak (Rt Kamenjak). Do not miss unique Porec and the former Roman colony of Pula, and feel the magical spirit of the past there. Learn about the culture and heritage of Istria and visit picturesque towns on the hills with unforgettable views which will leave you breathless. Visit Hum, the smallest town in the world and experience the spirit of the past in Motovun and Grožnjan, the town of artists. To get to know the best of Istria, walk through Ucka Nature Park which contains a wealth of life and, finally, round off this green adventure with the delicious flavours of indigenous Istrian delicacies and wines. Passing through a landscape of hills framed by rivers, with forests, vineyards and olive groves, you'll enjoy every moment. Take a break at the winemakers and taste indigenous wines such as Malvasia and Teran, treat yourself to tasty delicacies and experience all the charms of Istria, this exciting Croatian wine region.

Trip style:	Guided & multiactive trip Culinary & wine tours	Duration:	8 days / 7 nights
Start / finish:	Buje - Pula	Departures:	March – November, upon request
Total distance:	140 km		
Group size:	6 – 16 persons		
Transportation:	9-seater vans or 20-seater minibus		

Grade: Distances on this holiday are bit longer with ascents and descents which require good level of fitness. This trips is perfect for those who are active and can enjoy in longer activity. Daily distances are 30 to 49 km.

ITINERARY:

Day 1 Arrival to Istria

Independent arrival to Istria. In the afternoon meet your tour leader for a brief orientation meeting followed by a welcome dinner. Overnight in rural hotel Parenzana in a small village Volpija close to Buje town.

Accommodation: Hotel Parenzana 3*, Volpija or similar

Meals: welcome dinner at the hotel

Activity: set up of bikes

Visit: -

Day 2 Biking Parenzana trail

From Buje cycle towards Grožnjan, a typical Istrian medieval town sprout high on top of the hill along the right coast of the river Mirna, renaissance loggia dating from 1585 and the beautiful St. Vid and Modesto's baroque church. If you just occasionally ride along its streets where almost every door leads to art studios or galleries and every direction echoes the sounds of different music genres, from classical to jazz, you'll understand why Grožnjan is known as A city of artists. We also visit Oprtalj, known for unchanged urban medieval style of building, narrow streets, various shops, the beautiful Venetian palaces, portals and covered passages and particularly the unique view to the Istrian peninsula from the town loggia, according to many the most beautiful of Istria. From Oprtalj you are going downhill enjoying the view at Mirna river and arriving to Motovun, one of the best-preserved medieval hilltop towns. Overnight in Motovun.

Accommodation: Hotel Kaštel 3*, Motovun or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch

Activity: biking 30km

Visit: Grožnjan, Motovun

Day 3 Truffle hunt

After breakfast we ride towards a small village to meet a local family that lives from truffle hunt. Unusual underground hidden bulb, without stem above the ground is very difficult to find. Only, a well-trained dog can sniff them. During a walk through the forest our truffer will tell us all the secrets and particulars about truffles and of course you will have opportunity to taste different products with truffle and local wine. Overnight in Motovun.

Accommodation: Hotel Kaštel 3*, Motovun or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch

Activity: truffle hunt, walking 2 hours

Visit: Grožnjan, Motovun

Day 4 Biking from Motovun to Vrsar

From Motovun, we cycle back towards the coast, again following the old track of Parenzana. We drop down out of the village and follow the track through a 200-meter tunnel, emerging to find views across the Mirna Valley as we leave Motovun behind us. We stop for a coffee in Vizinada after an hour or so and then continue towards the coast. At times, although we are still following the route of Parenzana, we find ourselves cycling on the bare, red Istrian soil, as we pass on farm tracks amongst pretty vineyards and olive groves. We stop for lunch in Visnjan, a hilltop village notable for its architecture and for its astronomical observatory. From the village square, at an elevation of around 250 m, we can actually see the sea. After lunch we have an enjoyable 15 km ride out to the coast, passing the last of the old Parenzana railway stations just before we reach Porec, a town famous for its UNESCO listed basilica and charming old quarter. Overnight in Vrsar.

Accommodation: Hotel Vista 3*, Vrsar or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch

Activity: biking 49 km

Visit: Višnjan, Poreč, Vrsar

Day 5 Sea kayaking at Lim channel

After breakfast we will start with our sea kayak adventure along the protected area of Lim channel. You will enjoy paddling along the bay, with its steep banks, passing beside the cultivation of mussels and fish to the end of Lim bay. During the trip we stop on a wild beach for swimming and snorkeling. There is also an option to visit a Pirate cave nearby with a possibility to make a stop for some coffee with a great view. Dinner is on your own tonight, so you're

free to explore town of Rovinj with fantastic selection of local taverns. Overnight in Rovinj.

Accommodation: Hotel Villa Lili 3*, Rovinj or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch

Activity: sea kayaking 3-4 hours

Visit: Lim channel

Day 6 National park Brijuni and olive oil

After short drive we arrive to small fishermen village Fažana, where we embark on a boat to Veli Brijun island, approx. 25 min ride. Brijuni Archipelago, 14 green jewels of the northern Adriatic, is one Croatia's most beautiful National Parks. Northwest of Pula, separated from the mainland by 3 km wide Fazana channel, the archipelago covers an area of 736 hectares, numerous picturesque coves and inlets forming a beautiful 44 km long coast. A mild Mediterranean climate enables more than 680 different local and exotic plants to grow here and to be the home of some 150 species of birds. Lovers of historic buildings will immediately admire the many archaeological finds, from the Neolithic settlement, Illyrian ruins and many ancient monuments. Visit of the island can be done using the bicycles on easy and flat terrain, or on foot. The tour continues towards the village of Vodnjan where you will be welcomed by one of the best olive oil producers, Chaivalon Extra Virgin Olive Oil. You will learn everything about the production of olive oil and you will have the opportunity to taste different varieties of Istrian olive oil. Overnight in Pula.

Accommodation: Hotel Amfiteatar 3*, Pula or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch, olive oil tasting

Activity: walking 3 hours

Visit: Vodnjan, NP Brijuni

Day 7 Biking at Cape Kamenjak

Our last day we ride along the coast to a Cape Kamenjak, surrounded by the 30 km long coast with numerous gulfs, bays and white beaches washed by the crystal clear blue & green sea, we reach ancient Mutila, nowadays Medulin. On the way we can find 22 types of orchids including the endemic specie "Serapias Istriaca" (the Istrian orchid), see the so-called "islet - plate" where the dinosaur's footprint has been preserved or find the remains of luxurious Roman villae rusticae. Later we are going to explore Pula, the largest town of Istrian county with lot of great monuments like Arena, (UNESCO) the most important monument in Istria from the Roman antiquity, erected in the 1st Century AD. When strolling around the Old Town, you will view the grandeur of Pula's impressive monuments, such as The Arch of Sergii, Hercules's and the Double Gates. Overnight in Rovinj.

Accommodation: Hotel Amfiteatar 3*, Pula or similar

Meals: breakfast, lunch

Activity: biking 40 km

Visit: Cape Kamenjak, Pula

Day 8 Departure

Departure after breakfast.

PRICES AND AVAILABILITY

Price per person in a standard double/twin room in EUR:

2-3 person EUR 2.590

4-7 person EUR 1.580

8 + person EUR 2.590

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Local English-speaking guide
- All accommodation as described in the trip dossier
- Support van
- Luggage transfer between the accommodation
- 7 x breakfast, 6 x lunches, 2 x dinner (welcome and farewell)
- Sea kayaking along Lim channel
- Truffle hunt, visit olive oil producer with tasting
- Visit wine cellar with tasting

- Entrance tickets to NP Brijuni, Euphrasius Basilica in Poreč, Arena in Pula

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Travel and bike insurance
- Visas
- Arrival and departure from Istria
- Airport taxes
- Extra activities, meals and excursions not part of the itinerary
- Bike rental with supplement, trekking/hybrid bike/MTB EUR 120 per bike/week
- Tips for local staff
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure

LIST OF PREFERRED HOTELS USED ON THIS TOUR:

Hotel Casa Romantica La Parenzana 3*

The family-owned Casa Romantica La Parenzana is a rugged former farmhouse with thick stone walls, wooden beams and open fireplaces, offering fine Istrian cuisine and free internet. Located close to Buje in Istria, on the former tracks of the Parenzana Railway Line, the historic towns of Motovun and Grožnjan are just about a few meters from the Casa Romantica La Parenzana. Traditional local food like Čripnja - roasted meat or fish and potatoes cooked in a cast iron pot over an open-hearth fire - or dishes with truffles are served in the Konoba restaurant. All 16 rooms are heated and have a private bathroom and a TV. Internet access is available for free at the reception. Trieste airport is 29 mi / 46 km away, while Pula airport is 39 mi / 63 km away from hotel.

Boutique Hotel Kaštel 3*

Featuring an indoor swimming pool and à-la-carte restaurant, the family-run Hotel Kaštel is set at the top of a hill in the center of the medieval town of Motovun. Its guests can enjoy spa area with a sauna, a relaxing garden and various massage treatments. The wellness and spa area as well as most of the hotel rooms offer views of characteristic central Istrian landscape, the valley of the river Mirna and the famous Motovun vineyards. Amenities in each of 33 rooms include air-conditioning, satellite TV, a telephone, free Wi-Fi internet and central heating. All rooms consist of a bathroom with bathtub or shower and a hairdryer. The distance to the beach is 19 mi / 30 km from the Kaštel Hotel. Pula Airport can be reached within 44 mi / 71 km and Rijeka Airport is at a distance of 62 mi / 100 km.

Hotel Vista 3*

Offering panoramic views of the Vrsar Marina from most rooms, the Hotel Vista is located a 5-minute walk from the Old Town and the beach. Free WiFi access is available throughout the hotel. All of the Adriatic-inspired themed rooms are air-conditioned and feature parquet flooring, a private bathroom and a flat-screen satellite TV. You can start the day with a buffet breakfast and enjoy drinks, smoothies and snacks at the bar or on the garden terrace of the Vista hotel. At the beach you can find children's playground and lots of bars and restaurants. A tourist train rides every 30 minutes and takes you to all attractions in and around Vrsar. Parking is located off site. Pula airport is 23 mi / 37,5 km away, while Trieste airport is 47 mi / 75,7 km away.

Hotel Vila Lili 3*

Located a 15-minute walk from Rovinj's historic center and a 10-minute walk from the seafront, this bright villa offers a restaurant and a cafe-bar with summer terrace. Facilities include a sauna. Hotel Vila Lili is located in a quiet area close to the marina, about one kilometer from St. Euphemia's Basilica. Its air-conditioned rooms are equipped with flat-screen satellite TV, a minibar and free Wi-Fi. They all have hypoallergenic pillows and bathrooms with shower and hairdryer. The restaurant at Vila Lili serves Mediterranean specialties and there is a large summer terrace where guests can enjoy a drink from the bar. Guests can also relax in the sauna or visit the hotel's library. The nearest airport is Pula Airport, 25 mi / 29,5 km from the property.

Hotel Amfiteatar 3*

A few steps from the Pula Arena amphitheater and Pula Marina, this hotel offers stylish, air-conditioned rooms with flat-screen TVs and free internet. Mediterranean cuisine is served in the restaurant. Hotel Amfiteatar's spacious rooms are decorated in bright lime green and beige colours. Each of 18 room has a mini-bar and a large, modern bathroom with rain shower. A breakfast buffet is provided each morning. Guests can taste a range of characteristic

Istrian dishes or enjoy international cuisine and wines in Amfiteatar's chic restaurant. A terrace is available in warm weather. The city beach and Pula Airport are each 12 minutes away by car.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fiore tours that operates within the company Fiore d.o.o., travel agency, Mate Vlašića 6, 52440 Poreč, Croatia, corporate ID number: 040009121, VAT number: HR58088454926.

Website / webshop: www.fiore-tours.com / www.fiore.hr

Phone: [+385 52 431397](tel:+38552431397)

E-mail: adventure@fiore.hr

The general conditions of business are part of the contract between a travel agency Fiore tours that operates within Fiore d.o.o., and the traveler who accepts the offered arrangement. By agreeing to the service (i.e., concluding a contract), the guest confirms that he is fully familiarized with these general terms and that he will adhere to them in their entirety.

BOOKING PROCEDURE

A booking for a trip with Fiore Tours can be made by first checking price and availability and then sending booking form and a deposit. A deposit is 30% of the total price. A booking is confirmed once we receive the booking form and the deposit at which point a receipt and invoice for the final balance will be issued. The balance is due four weeks before departure. Full payment is required for a booking made less than four weeks before departure. Payment can be accepted with bank transfer or online by credit card. If the balance is not paid at the specified time, unless previously arranged with us in writing, we reserve the right to cancel the booking.

TRAVEL PACKAGES

The combination of travel services offered to you is a package within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2015/2302.

Therefore, you will benefit from all EU rights applying to packages. Company FIORE d.o.o., travel agency, will be fully responsible for the proper performance of the package as a whole.

Additionally, as required by law, company FIORE d.o.o., travel agency has protection in place to refund your payments and where transport is included in the package, to ensure your repatriation in the event that it becomes/they become insolvent.

More information on key rights under Directive (EU) 2015/2302 (to be provided in the form of a hyperlink).

Following the hyperlink the traveller will receive the following information:

Key rights under Directive (EU) 2015/2302

- Travellers will receive all essential information about the package before concluding the package travel contract.
- There is always at least one trader who is liable for the proper performance of all the travel services included in the contract.
- Travellers are given an emergency telephone number or details of a contact point where they can get in touch with the organiser or the travel agent.
- Travellers may transfer the package to another person, on reasonable notice and possibly subject to additional costs.

The price of the package may only be increased if specific costs rise (for instance, fuel prices) and if expressly provided for in the contract, and in any event not later than 20 days before the start of the package. If the price increase exceeds 8 % of the price of the package, the traveller may terminate the contract. If the organiser reserves the right to a price increase, the traveller has a right to a price reduction if there is a decrease in the relevant costs.

- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee and get a full refund of any payments if any of the essential elements of the package, other than the price, are changed significantly. If before the start of the package the trader responsible for the package cancels the package, travellers are entitled to a refund and compensation where appropriate.
- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee before the start of the package in the event of exceptional circumstances, for instance if there are serious security problems at the destination which are likely to affect the package.
- Additionally, travellers may at any time before the start of the package terminate the contract in return for an appropriate and justifiable termination fee.

- If after the start of the package, significant elements of the package cannot be provided as agreed, suitable alternative arrangements will have to be offered to the traveller at no extra cost. Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee, where services are not performed in accordance with the contract and this substantially affects the performance of the package and the organiser fails to remedy the problem.
- Travellers are also entitled to a price reduction and/or compensation for damages where the travel services are not performed or are improperly performed.
- The organiser has to provide assistance if the traveller is in difficulty.
- If the organiser or, in some Member States, the retailer becomes insolvent, payments will be refunded. If the organiser or, where applicable, the retailer becomes insolvent after the start of the package and if transport is included in the package, repatriation of the travellers is secured. Fiore .o.o. has taken out insolvency protection with Triglav osiguranje d.d. (the entity in charge of the insolvency protection, e.g. a guarantee fund or an insurance company). Travellers may contact this entity Triglav Osiguranje d.d., Antuna Heinza 4, Zagreb, OIB: 29743547503, Phone +385 52 526402. Policy number: 990007051412 if services are denied because of Fiore d.o.o. insolvency.

Directive (EU) 2015/2302 as transposed into national law : <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/HR/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32015L2302>

INSURANCE

1) INSURANCE IN CASE OF CANCELLATION OF RESERVATION

If during the reservation, the traveler expects he could cancel the reservation for some reason, Fiore tours recommends Cancellation insurance. Cancellation insurance can't be paid afterwards, only during initial request for the travel.

2) TRAVEL INSURANCE

The cost of travel does not include the package of travel insurance. Fiore advises their guests to pay the travel insurance: insurance against risks of accidents and diseases, travel insurance from loss or damage of luggage as well as health insurance during travel and stay abroad and insurance to cover the costs of assistance and return of passengers to the starting place in case of accidents and illnesses.

3) INSURANCE IN THE EVENT OF PAYMENT INCAPABILITY OR BANKRUPTCY OF THE TRAVEL ORGANIZER

Fiore has concluded with Triglav d.d. a Contract on Insurance in Case of Insolvency or Bankruptcy of the Fiore, where the travel service might not be performed, or for the refunding the cost of the Guest's way back to the place of departure. In case of occurrence of the insured event, the Guest should contact the Insurer as soon as possible: Triglav Osiguranje d.d., Antuna Heinza 4, Zagreb, OIB: 29743547503, Phone +385 52 526402. Policy number: 990007051412

4) LIABILITY INSURANCE

Fiore has concluded with the insurance company Triglav osiguranje d.d. a Liability Insurance Contract for damages caused to a guest by failure to meet obligations or by partially or inconsistently meeting obligations. In the event of insured case, the guest should as fast as possible contact the insurer:

Triglav Osiguranje d.d., Antuna Heinza 4, Zagreb, OIB: 29743547503, Phone +385 52 526402. Policy number: 990007051413

CANCELLATION BY YOU

Cancellations must be made in writing.

The following cancellation fee will apply:

from reservation – 60 day before departure: 10% of the total trip cost

59 – 29 days before departure: 30% of the total trip cost

28 – 15 days before departure: 50% of the total trip cost

less than 14 days before departure: 100% of the total trip cost

FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: <https://fiore-tours.com/terms-conditions/>

INFO AND BOOKING: Email: adventure@fiore.hr / Phone +385 52 431 397