Tastes and customs of the Istrian peninsula 8 days / 7 nights

OVERVIEW

Istria is a carefree combination of an active and quiet holiday destination so don't be surprised if it wins you over with its charm. Should you choose Buje, Buzet, Motovun, Groznjan, you will find privacy and the silence of medieval towns or fortresses so valuable and familiarize yourself with the gastronomy and wine making. Motovun is a small town in the interior part of Istria, with a green Istrian landscape and wine roads that host many film festivals. Buzet is an authentic Istrian town that was settled in ancient history and is known as the town of truffles. If you come to Istria, you will see for yourself why they refer to Istria as the "Tuscany of Croatia". The interior part of this region with its characteristic stone architecture and small towns situated on hills create a peaceful and relaxing environment that will greet you with rich agrotourism offer and mediterranean personality.

Trip style: Culinary & wine tours  Duration: 8 days / 7 nights
Start / finish: Motovun / Rovinj  Departures: upon request
Total distance: -
Group size: 6 – 16 persons
Transportation: 9-seater vans or 20-seater minibus

Grade: Leisure tour. Distances on this holiday are suitable for all ages.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1  ARRIVAL IN ISTRIA
Independent arrival to Istria. Meeting the guide and welcome dinner in a rural tavern. Overnight in Motovun.
Accommodation: Hotel Kaštel 3* in Motovun
          Hotel Roxanich 4* in Motovun with supplement
Meals: welcome dinner
Transportation: not included, transfer from any airport/station/town can be organized with supplement
Visit included: visit Motovun, entrance to Motovun city walls
DAY 2  ISTRIAN HILLTOP TOWNS AND LOCAL WINES
Transfer to Grožnjan to explore this town of artists, a city filled with history and art. In 1950’s Grožnjan was almost a
ghost town when a group of painters, musicians and artists decided to renovate the houses and started to live in the
town. Today most of inhabitants are artists and there are almost 200 of them. In the narrow, cobbled alleys you’ll
find numerous galleries and art studios with handmade jewelry and items. Beautiful view spreads from the sea on
one side to the istrian inland and Mirna river valley on the other side. Grožnjan is surrounded by endless wine yards
and winemakers so tasting some local wine would be perfect closure for the day. We will visit traditional Istrian
"stancija" and one of the best wine producers – Kabola to enjoy in local istrian flavors with perfect view. Drive back to
your hotel. Overnight in Motovun.
**Accommodation:** Hotel Kaštel 3* in Motovun
**Meals:** breakfast, 2 x wine tasting with snack
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** visit Grožnjan and Oprtalj

DAY 3  TRUFFLE HUNT AND GRAPPA BREWERY
Today we meet the truffle and his dogs. Culinary agree only on one thing – truffle in gastronomy is on
top level. Unusual underground hidden bulb, with no plant above ground is very difficult to find. Only,
a well trained dog can sniff them. Truffles grow in grey soil, in woody humid area of Motovun/Buzet in the valley of
river Mirna. Exactly that is where we go with a truffer and with his well dressed dogs seeking his majesty –
truffle. During our 1 hour walk through the forest truffer will tell us all the secrets and particulars about truffles.
Coming back to the family estate, our host (truffer) will prepare us a light lunch with truffles and local wine.
After delicious lunch we drive to Hum, according to Guiness book of record, the smallest town in the world. On the
way back to the hotel we will stop in Buzet to visit the Grappa brewery where you will be acquainted with grappa
production and have the opportunity to taste different grappas. Overnight in Motovun.
**Accommodation:** Hotel Kaštel 3* in Motovun
**Meals:** breakfast, light lunch with truffles and wine, grappa tasting
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** visit Grožnjan and Oprtalj

DAY 4  POREČ
In the morning we drive to Poreč. The whole old city of Porec is a monument of culture. The old city has preserved
the structure of old Roman castrum. The main streets, Decumanus and Cardo Maximus, are still preserved in their
original forms. Decumanus connected the square Marafor in the western part of old city with city gates at its eastern
end. Roman Forum with temples to Roman gods was located on the Marafor square. There is still today a Romanic
house and a few beautiful Venetian gothic palaces. The Istrian Assembly Hall, originally a 13th century gothic
Franciscan church, was remade in baroque style in the 18th century. Porec was surrounded with fortification walls
from 12th to 19th century. Three defense towers still exist at the entrance of the old city. The most important
cultural monument of Porec is the complex of Euphrasian Basilica dating from the 5th century. The original church
was extended in the 6th century under Byzantine Empire and bishop Euphrasius. The interior of the basilica is
ornamented with unique mosaics. From 1997 Eufrazius basilica is protected by UNESCO as a world heritage site.
Drive to Rovinj where you will spend your last 4 nights in Istria.
**Accommodation:** Hotel Angelo d’Oro 4* in Rovinj
**Meals:** breakfast
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** entrance to Euphrasius Basilica in Poreč

DAY 5  COOKING CLASS ISTRIAN PASTA
After breakfast we will explore the old town of Rovinj on foot. Feel the enchantment of the town in its narrow
medieval streets with many galleries and warm Mediterranean setting. The main Church of St. Euphemia keeps relics
of the saint and presents one of the most beautiful Baroque achievements in Istria. From the church plateau there is
a wonderful view of the open sea and numerous islets in the distance. Later we drive to a small village where we visit
a local family so you can learn how to make two types of Istrian pasta and of course have lunch from the food which you have prepared:

Makaruni or pljukanci, spindle-shaped pasta, are gaining popularity and the most popular by far are fusi – tubes of thin pasta three to five centimeters long. The smooth dough is made from wheat, salt, eggs and water, kneaded and rolled into a thin sheet before being cut into 4x4 centimeter cubes. Opposing corners are folded toward the middle and pressed. Like lasagna, fusi also have a wide use but are generally smothered in homemade sauces (žgvaceti), or Istrian goulash - a thick, dense meat sauce. In the afternoon drive back to Rovinj, rest of the day on your own. Overnight in Rovinj.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Angelo d’Oro 4* in Rovinj
**Meals:** breakfast, lunch with wine
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** visit Rovinj

**DAY 6  NP BRIJUNI AND ISTRIAN OLIVE OIL**

After 30-minute drive through Istrian countryside we arrive to a small fisherman village Fažana, where we embark on a boat which brings us to Veli Brijun island in only 25 minutes. 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 Fažana 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 for 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, Chiavalon Extra Virgin Olive Oil. You will learn everything about the olive oil production and have the opportunity to taste different varieties of Istrian olive oil. At the end of the tour, drive back to your hotel. Overnight in Rovinj.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Angelo d’Oro 4* in Rovinj
**Meals:** breakfast, olive oil tasting with snack
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** entrance to national park Brijuni, visit Brijuni

**DAY 7  ANCIENT PULA AND CHEESE PRODUCTION**

After breakfast we head out to Pula, where we are going to "walk through time", from ancient times through Roman arches and the Arena, one of the most preserved amphitheaters, through ancient renaissance and finally to modern day. Later we are going to visit the family homestead from the 14th century, situated in Štancija Kumparička next to Pula, that produces high-quality cheeses. Their products are made in complete harmony with nature, respecting and promoting the true taste and smell in gastronomy. In early afternoon we drive back to your hotel. Overnight in Rovinj.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Angelo d’Oro 4* OR Casa Garzotto 4* in Rovinj
**Meals:** breakfast, cheese tasting and lunch with wine
**Transportation:** in a private car/van
**Visit included:** entrance to amphitheatre Arena, visit Pula

**DAY 8  DEPARTURE**

After breakfast departure.

**PRICES AND AVAILABILITY**

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

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WHAT’S INCLUDED

• Local English-speaking guide
• All accommodation as described in the trip dossier
• 2 x visit wine produces with tasting and snacks
• Truffle hunt with truffle tasting and wine
• Visit grappa brewery with tasting
• Cooking class with lunch or dinner
• Visit olive oil producer with tasting
• Cheese tasting with lunch in Stancija Kumparička
• Entrance fees in national park Brijuni, Euphrasius basilica in Poreč, amphitheatre Arena in Pula and Motovun city walls
• Transportation in private car/van

WHAT’S NOT INCLUDED

• Travel insurance
• Visas
• Arrival and departure from Istria
• Airport taxes
• Extra activities and excursions not part of the itinerary
• Tips for local staff
• Miscellaneous personal expenditure

LIST OF PREFERRED HOTELS USED ON THIS TOUR:

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.

Wine & Heritage Hotel Roxanich 4*
Wine & Heritage hotel ROXANICH has a restaurant, seasonal outdoor swimming pool, a bar and garden in Motovun. Featuring family rooms, this property also provides guests with a terrace. The property has a 24-hour front desk, room service and free WiFi throughout the property. All 32 rooms come with a closet. Complete with a private bathroom equipped with a hairdryer, the rooms have a flat-screen TV and air conditioning, and some rooms include a balcony. All guest rooms will provide guests with a desk and an electric tea pot. Guests at the accommodation can enjoy a buffet breakfast. The wellness area features a sauna. Portorož is 24 mi / 38 km from Wine & Heritage hotel ROXANICH, while Poreč is 17 mi / 28 km from the property. The nearest airport is Pula Airport, 42 mi / 68 km from the hotel.

Hotel Angelo d’oro 3*
The Heritage Angelo d’Oro, formerly a Bishop’s Palace from the 17th century, is an elegant boutique hotel in Rovinj’s historic pedestrian centre. The green-shuttered façade on the Via Svalbe street is typically Venetian and inside, vaulted ceilings and exposed stone walls create intimate spaces for dining and relaxation. A tiny rooftop loggia offers stunning views over the rooftops. Located in centuries-old building, rooms are unique in size, position and views - each comfortable and cosy in its own way. Every room has air conditioning, free WiFi, well stocked mini bar and an ensuite bathroom with a bath or shower. All beds are double but also twin setting is offered on request. Earth colours and natural materials are signatures of Angelo d’Oro brand. The nearest airport is Pula airport, 19 mi / 31 km from hotel.

Hotel Casa Garzotto 4*
Decorated with stone walls and old-style window shutters, Hotel Casa Garzotto is set in Rovinj’s historical centre is 300 m from St. Euphemia’s Basilica. The nearest beach is a 5-minute walk away.
All accommodations units are equipped with air conditioning, a safe and satellite TV. Casa Garzotto provides laundry, ironing services, dry cleaning services and free bicycle rental. Guests can start their day with a rich and varied buffet breakfast, which is served in the tavern across the street. Casa Garzotto is 19 mi / 30 km away from Pula Airport and 50 mi / 80 km from Trieste in Italy. Rovinj is also connected to Venice by a 2-hour ship journey.

**Hotel Adriatic 4***
This lovely hotel embodies the heart and history of the Mediterranean and the seaside community of Rovinj. Located on the town’s central square, the hotel is within steps of lively cafes, water activities, and simply strolling to the rhythms of this region. The 14 rooms and 4 suites offer spectacular views of nearby islands, the main square, the old town with its colorful rooftops. Each room is uniquely decorated with individual artworks, a true home away from home. Enjoy WiFi, SMART TV, safe deposit box, mini-bar, A/C, hair dryer, and room service. Tavern Kantinon is popular with all gourmets and history lovers in search of local dishes and atmosphere. Its originality lies in the dishes that cannot be seen or ordered anywhere else in town. The closest rocky public beach is a 15-minute walk away. Pula Airport is at a distance of 25 mi / 40 km away. Free private parking is available outside the pedestrian zone.

**Hotel Monte Mulini 5***
Hotel Monte Mulini is a 20-minute walk away from Rovinj’s town centre. It is surrounded by a lush, centuries-old protected nature park and overlooks a bay. All rooms come with balconies offering views over the pool, the garden and the sea, free Wi-Fi and air conditioning. They are equipped with satellite TV, a minibar and bathrooms with walk-in showers. The Mediterraneo serves Mediterranean dishes. The fine-dining restaurant “Wine Vault” serves French and Mediterranean cuisine and offers the Chef’s table experience. The Monte Mulini Art Wellness area is spread over 1,000 m². It comprises indoor and outdoor pools, saunas, a gym and a Mediterranean garden. The newly opened “Mulini Beach” is a pebbly beach overlooking the Lone Bay and offers a wide selection of food & beverages, a cool and trendy Cocktail Bar, personalised service, beach concierge, hostesses, changing facilities and showers, toilets, towel counter and sun-lounger rental. The Monte Mulini is 17 mi / 27 km away from the Pula Airport.

**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
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 generals 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: 297435447503, Phone +385 52 526402. Policy number: 990007051412 if services are denied because of Fiore d.o.o. insolvency.


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