

Gravel biking across the Velebit mountain 8 days / 7 nights



OVERVIEW

The greatest artist in the world must be nature. Her creations are unsurpassed, and you can see some of her incredible luxury on a mountain cycling adventure through four Croatian national parks. In the heart of Gorski Kotar is Risnjak, a National Park, an oasis of natural beauty and natural habitat of lynx, wolves and bears, while Velebit Mountain is home to two national parks: North Velebit will enchant you with a botanical park hiding rare mountain plant species while Paklenica will show you its richness in geomorphological forms, diverse flora and fauna and the beauty of untouched nature. Another very special experience awaits you - once you visit the Kuterevo refuge for young bears, you will once again understand the beauty, importance and grandeur of nature and all its creations and beings. Familiarize yourself with the traditions, customs and life of the people in the Croatian mountains, learn about brown bears and lynx, try to prepare traditional dishes on your own, produce meadow honey and scribble cheese. Riding the Master Road is a special experience with stunning views of the Adriatic Sea and islands. It was the first modern thoroughfare whose construction was initiated by the Vienna court in 1819 during the Habsburg monarchy. The aim was to connect Zadar, the administrative center of Dalmatia at that time, with the interior of Croatia, in order to speed up postal and commercial transport. The spirit of history is felt every step of the way in the backward Austro-Hungarian ruins, Winnetou's tom band Tul's beams. The two-wheeled adventure ends in the beautiful canyon of the Krupa and Zrmanja rivers.

Trip style:	Guided cycling tour	Duration:	8 days / 7 nights
Start / finish:	Gorski kotar – Zrmanja river	Departures:	upon request
Total distance:	361 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 rides. Daily distance is 38 km to 82 km.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1 Arrival to Zagreb

Independent arrival to Zagreb. After checking into hotel join the meeting with the guide, followed by orientational walk through Zagreb. Welcome dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in Zagreb.

Accommodation: Hotel Jadran 3* in Zagreb or similar

Meals: welcome dinner

Distance: -

DAY 2 Cycling Delnice to Fužine

After breakfast, join to 1,5 hour transfer to Delnice. After bike fitting start your ride towards Fužine. Gorski kotar is a green oasis, at every turn you can notice the harmonious co-existence of a man and nature. Explore unspoilt nature that hides an unique beauty and tranquillity and green landscapes where you can go to sleep listening to the gentle murmur of the forest. You will be struck by the warmth of Gorski kotar's villages and people and your welcoming hosts are sure to leave a lasting impression on you. Overnight in Fužine.

Accommodation: Hotel Bitoraj 3* in Fužine or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 41 km

DAY 3 Biking Loop ride Fužine-Crni Lug Fužine

This cycle route begins in Crni Lug, where you ride through the village and head for Gornje Jelenje along a windy road until you reach the lakes of Mrzle Vodice. The lakes were created when a dam was built which interestingly submerged the old Luiziana route, the primary road from Karlovac to Rijeka, about 200 years ago.

This 60km round trip is a mix of asphalt and gravel and will take you around Risnjak National Park, where you'll explore one of Croatia's oldest national parks and the only park in Croatia where the European wolf, bear and lynx live side by side. Today's ride will pass scarcely populated with charming mountainous villages and towns like Stari Lug, Lokve. You pass around Lokvarsko and Bayer lake and end in Fužine, where we have started. Overnight in Fužine.

Accommodation: Hotel Bitoraj 3* in Fužine or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 56 km

DAY 4 Biking Fužine to Senj

After breakfast we start our descent to the coast, riding below mountains on a single trail that leads us towards the town of Novi Vinodolski. Then we continue above Novi Vinodolski until we reach Senj. Time to visit Nehaj fortress, the symbol of Senj built in the mid 15th century when the Turks and Venice were at the peak of their power. Overnight in Senj.

Accommodation: Hotel Libra 4* in Senj or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 64 km

DAY 5 Biking Senj to Krasno

Today's ride is one of the most challenging ride, it starts at the sea level and finishes up at the Zavižan peak with a rewarding view at the Adriatic sea and islands. From Zavižan we descend to Kuterevo to visit a bear sanctuary, where the volunteers help orphanaged brown bears to have a decent life. Overnight in Krasno.

Accommodation: Hotel Degenija 4* in Krasno or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 38 km

DAY 6 Biking Krasno to Gospić

One of the highlights of this adventure is today's ride, going along the main Velebit mountain's ridge. Riding through lush forests, across green meadows, passing below the fascinating nature creations or the carstic relief will be rewarded by the fantastic views on the Adriatic coast and islands. Overnight in Gospić.

Accommodation: Hotel Stara Lika 4* in Gospić or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 80 km

DAY 7 Biking Gospić to Zadar

After breakfast we start our ride in the Lika region just below the Velebit mountain to village of Sveti Rok where we will take a historical road called Majstorska cesta, built in the beginning of the 19th century to connect the coast with continental part of the country over the Velebit mountain. We will pass below Tulove Grede, enjoy the spectacular view at the Croatian coast and islands and end our cycling adventure by river Zrmanja. Through millennia Zrmanja and Krupa rivers in the Velebit Mountain Nature Park have carved a spectacular canyon and built magnificent waterfalls. These are two of the most beautiful rivers in Europe with green banks and perfectly clear water. Short transfer to Zadar where we will spend our last night in Croatia.

Accommodation: Hotel Mediteran 3* in Zadar or similar

Meals: breakfast, snacks and refreshment during biking, dinner

Distance: 82 km

DAY 8 Departure

After breakfast, independent departure.

PRICES AND AVAILABILITY

Prices are available upon request, based on the number of passengers and period.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Local English-speaking cycling guide
- Support van
- All accommodation as described in the trip dossier
- 7 breakfasts, 6 packed lunches, 7 dinners
- MTB or gravel bike rental
- National park entrance fees

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Travel insurance
- Visas
- Airport taxes
- Airport transfers
- Some meals as detailed in the meal plan
- Extra activities and excursions not part of the itinerary
- Tips for local staff
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure

LIST OF PREFERRED HOTELS USED ON THIS TOUR:

Hotel Jadran 3*

Hotel Jadran, a modern Bed & Breakfast located in the centre of Zagreb, only a few minutes' walk from Zagreb Cathedral and Ban Jelačić Square, between Upper and Lower Town and close to all major city attractions. It offers an excellent breakfast full of healthy seasonal foods within its restaurant. It has 49 modern rooms (A/C, WiFi, hairdryer, SAT TV, phone) and is a perfect blend of long-standing tradition and contemporary ambience. Just 200 m from Jadran Hotel there is a public parking garage. Cvjetni Square is a 10-minute walk from the hotel while Zagreb Cathedral 600m away. Zagreb Airport is 12 mi / 20 km from the property.

Hotel Bitoraj 3*

Hotel Bitoraj enjoys a picturesque location in the center of Fuzine, surrounded by a forest in the green heart of Croatia close to sea and with excellent access to area roads. Completely renovated in 2007, the luxuriously equipped rooms provide flat-screen TV sets and a free Wi-Fi connection. You can benefit from the mini bar and the room service. You can sample authentic local dishes in Restaurant Bitoraj while listening to live music; tasty dishes are prepared in front of you. Vegetarian as well as traditional pasta and game dishes are offered. Airport Rijeka is 9,5 mi /



15 km away from the property.

Hotel Libra 4*

Hotel Libra is situated in the center of the picturesque Senj at the very beach, offering elegantly decorated accommodations with free wireless internet access. Most of the rooms boast sea views and a balcony. They are also air conditioned. The restaurant, Paron, serves delicious meals and the Malisa cocktail bar is a great place to enjoy your favorite beverage. Hotel Libra also features terraces with beautiful sea views or views of the town square. Hot tub, massages and spa are available at request. Closest airport is Rijeka, 32 mi / 51 km away from the property.

Hotel Degenija 4*

Situated in the village of Seliste Dreznicko, Hotel Degenija offers rooms with free Wi-Fi and a flat-screen TV. The entrance of the Plitvice Lakes National Park is just 4 km away. The rooms at Degenija Hotel feature a modern interior with dark wooden furniture and parquet floors. All rooms have a work desk, a minibar, and a private bathroom with a bathtub. Degenija's restaurant offers traditional Croatian dishes as well as international cuisine. The restaurant's specialty is freshly caught trout. Free private parking is available on site. Closest airport is Rijeka, 56 mi / 90 km away from the property.

Hotel Stara Lika 4*

Hotel Stara Lika is located in Gospić, 38 mi / 61 km from Plitvička Jezera. Guests can enjoy the on-site restaurant. Rooms are equipped with a flat-screen TV with satellite channels. Certain rooms include a seating area to relax in after a busy day. The rooms come with a private bathroom. Extras include slippers and free toiletries. There is a 24-hour front desk at the property. Zadar is 62 mi / 99 km from the Hotel Stara Lika, while the nearest airport, Zadar Airport is 65 mi / 105 km away.

Hotel Mediteran 3*

Hotel Mediteran is a 10-minute walk from the beach and 2.5 mi from the historic center of Zadar. It offers 6 comfort rooms and 22 standard rooms with free Wi-Fi and a balcony overlooking the sea or the grounds. The air conditioned rooms have classic décor and carpeted floors. They provide satellite TV, minibar and bathroom with hairdryer. The on-site restaurant serves Dalmatian and international cuisine. Drinks and cocktails can be enjoyed at the bar. The Mediteran Hotel offers free private parking, including a garage for motorbikes. The main local attractions can be reached with the bus that stops 300 m away. Zadar airport is 7 mi / 11,5 km away.

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