Cruising the ADRIATIC
Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard Queen Eleganza
September 10–21, 2021 • with archaeologist Ivančica Schrunk

SPECIAL PAYMENT TERMS
For peace of mind, all payments are 100% refundable until June 7, 2021.
Contact us for more details
Dear Traveler,

I invite you to join Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Ivančica (Vanča) Schrunk aboard a modern, 18-cabin yacht for a fall cruise along the spectacular coast of Croatia. Romans, Byzantines, Venetians, Ottomans, and Austrians have vied for control of this strategic coastline that is dotted with over 1,000 islands. In a region well worth exploring for its natural beauty alone, you will visit spellbinding archaeological sites, impressive cathedrals, dramatic palaces, and ancient city centers.

Begin the program in Slovenia’s capital city, Ljubljana, a city with roots back to Roman times. Discover magical Lake Bled, monumental karst caves, and mountain aeries before continuing to Rovinj, Croatia, to begin your seven-night Adriatic cruise from the Istrian Peninsula to Dubrovnik, calling at Veliki Brijun Island, Pula, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, Hvar, and Korčula along the way. A leisurely pace allows for free time in town to sample local cuisine and mingle with locals.

Born in Zagreb, Croatia, AIA lecturer and host Vanča Schrunk will enrich your travel experience and understanding of the ancient and medieval history of this region through an onboard series of stimulating lectures as well as informal discussions. In addition, excellent local guides will accompany you on excursions throughout the program.

Launched in 2018, the intimate Queen Eleganza yacht features a casual ambiance and the ability to call at small islands and ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. We are co-sponsoring this program with another organization and, with only 18 cabins total aboard ship, I urge you to reserve your cabin today. Call AIA Tours at (800) 748-6262 or email aia@studytours.org.

Sincerely,
R. Todd Nielsen
Director, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA AND THE AIA TOURS PROGRAM
The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world’s archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA’s network of scholars and worldwide contacts.
Study Leader

Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Ivančica (Vanča) Dvoržak Schrunk was born in Zagreb, Croatia, and teaches ancient history and archaeology at the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN). She has published numerous articles and has co-authored or co-edited several books, including two volumes on the excavations at Diocletian's Palace in Split and a book on archaeology and history of Brijuni from prehistory to Tito. Vanča is past president of the Minnesota Society of the Archaeological Institute of America and is currently vice-president of the Croatian Cultural Society of Minnesota. In 2017 she was named one of the Croatian Women's Network’s “Croatian Women of Influence.” She leads study abroad courses in Croatia and Italy, and for more than a decade she has involved her students and international volunteers in a collaborative archaeological project on the island of Sveti Klement (St. Clement), near Hvar. Vanča excavated in Diocletian’s Palace, where she met her husband, and since then they did archaeological work at several other Adriatic sites, as well as in Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria. She will share with the group her expertise in Roman maritime villas, island environments, and ancient Mediterranean networks.

Highlights

♦ **Experience** Veliki Brijun Island, where Marshal Tito, former president of Yugoslavia, once entertained celebrity guests, and is now a national park with abundant flora and fauna.

♦ **Marvel** at the well-preserved Roman ruins of Emperor Diocletian’s palace at Split and Pula’s amphitheater and temple.

♦ **Explore** World Heritage-designated Plitvice Lake National Park’s 16 lakes, interconnected by a series of soaring waterfalls and splashing cascades.

♦ **Delve** into the historic grandeur of Dubrovnik, known as the “Pearl of the Adriatic.” Swim in the pristine waters of the Kornati Archipelago.

♦ **Moor** at or near town centers aboard the yacht-like Queen Eleganza, with easy walk-off access to explore independently.
Friday–Saturday, Sept. 10–11
Home / Ljubljana, Slovenia
Depart home on an overnight flight to Ljubljana. Upon arrival, transfer to the Grand Union Hotel located within the historic center of the city.
GRAND UNION HOTEL (R,D)

Sunday, September 12
Ljubljana
After a morning lecture, set out on a walking tour of the historic center, which is off limits to automobiles, and visit the sprawling Central Market. See the famous Dragon Bridge and explore the ancient Roman wall. After lunch, venture to the lovely and impossibly blue Lake Bled and ride gondola-like Pletna boats to visit Slovenia’s only island, a picturesque outpost in the center of the lake. Dinner is at your leisure this evening.
GRAND UNION HOTEL (B,L)

Monday, September 13
Portoroz
Travel by coach to Lipica Stud Farm, breeding home of Vienna’s famed Lipizzaner horses. Continue to the UNESCO-designated ancient Skocjan Karst Caves, a vast network of tunnels and chambers sometimes referred to as the “underground Grand Canyon.” Settle in at the Kempinski Palace Hotel near the oceanfront promenade of Portoroz, and this evening dine at the historic Venetian stronghold Piran.
KEMPINSKI PALACE HOTEL (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 14
Rovinj, Croatia
Cross the border into Croatia and drive to Rovinj by way of the scenic mountaintop village of Motovun on the Istrian Peninsula. Enjoy a walking tour of Rovinj’s charming old town, which was a small island until 1763, and time at leisure to explore the cobbled streets. Embark the Queen Eleganza this evening in time for a reception and dinner.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

Wednesday, September 15
Pula
Cruise to Veliki Brijun Island, formerly a favorite of Marshal Tito, now part of a national park known for dinosaur footprints and home to a 1st-century Roman villa. Continue to nearby Pula to explore its well-preserved Roman ruins, including the impressive colosseum, the only Roman amphitheater in the world with a complete circle wall.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 16
At Sea / Zadar
Spend the morning sailing the scenic coastline and enjoying the educational program en route to Zadar, with stops for swimming also possible. The impressive but less-crowded city of Zadar boasts a rich history that dates as far back as the Neolithic era. The streets of the old town are paved with shining white marble, and the inviting waterfront is a magnet for art lovers. Spend the evening at leisure exploring Roman ruins, Venetian architecture, and street-side cafes.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Friday, September 17
Plitvice Lakes National Park / Split
Explore Plitvice Lakes National Park, a series of 16 lakes interconnected by waterfalls and pedestrian bridges, and a World Heritage Site. Catch up with the Queen Eleganza in
Split, Croatia’s fashionable, second-largest city. Enjoy time to explore the old town and have dinner at leisure. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

**Saturday, September 18**

**Split / Hvar**
Visit Roman Emperor Diocletian’s Palace, an ancient fortress-like complex spread along the Split waterfront, before cruising to lavender-scented Hvar Island. Stroll along the elegant main square, with views of St. Stephen’s Cathedral, distinguished by its tall, rectangular bell tower, and the 15th-century Franciscan Monastery, whose refectory contains a 1524 edition of Ptolemy’s Atlas. Explore the yacht-filled waterfront and enjoy an evening at leisure in the restaurant-lined avenues. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

**Sunday, September 19**

**Korčula / Dubrovnik**
Cruise to the fortified town of Korčula, perched on a promontory on its namesake island. Take a walking tour of the narrow, stepped streets and enjoy a wine tasting with accompanying local specialties. Korčula is the sixth-largest island in the Adriatic Sea, rich in vineyards and olive groves, picturesque villages and a glorious old town, and age-old religious ceremonies, folk music, and dance traditions. Sample some of Croatia’s famous wines, including the white wine made from pošip grapes that grow primarily on Korčula, as well as local specialties. Continue to Dubrovnik this afternoon. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

**Monday, September 20**

**Dubrovnik**
Noted for its expansive walls and red tile rooftops, Dubrovnik is perhaps the most-visited destination on the Adriatic coast. This morning explore the sites along the city’s main street, the marble-clad Stradun, including Onofrio’s Fountain, St. Blaise’s Church, the Rector’s Palace, and the Franciscan Church and Monastery, a large complex belonging to the Order of the Friars Minor and consisting of a monastery, church, library, and pharmacy, the latter of which dates from A.D. 1317. Enjoy free time in the afternoon to explore the maze of alleyways and Renaissance-era architecture before a farewell dinner on board. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,D)

**Tuesday, September 21**

**Dubrovnik / Home**
Disembark this morning and transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for flights home. (B)
The yacht-like Queen Eleganza, launched in the spring of 2018, was beautifully crafted in Croatia specifically to cruise the Adriatic coastline. With its small number of travelers, there is a relaxed and informal atmosphere on board. The 18 cabins are finished to high standards with sleek lines and neutral colors. The bar/restaurant and lounge boast comfortable seating areas, large windows, and complimentary tea/coffee. Meals are served in a single seating and feature fresh and tasty Mediterranean cuisine.

**General Information**

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including **three hotel nights and seven nights aboard Queen Eleganza** • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities • Entrance fees and port charges • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners • Hand sanitizer • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

The pace of this tour is moderately active with considerable walking each day, often over very uneven and cobblestoned terrain, and extended periods of standing. The ship has no elevator, so guests should be capable of navigating stairs on rolling seas. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. By forwarding the deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants.

**GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 30 participants, including travelers from the Archaeological Institute of America and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

**INSURANCE**

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.
PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE
1. U.S. domestic and international airfare - Passport/visa expenses
2. Medical expenses and immunizations - Travel and trip cancellation insurance
3. Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days - Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour - Airline baggage charges - Meals not specified in the itinerary - Dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted - Laundry or dry cleaning - Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges - Room service - Other items of a personal nature

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS
Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. When we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
Health insurance and travel insurance are mandated by causes beyond our control, the trip cancellation, itinerary to be altered, AIA Tours and Criterion shall have the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

TERMS & CONDITIONS
RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS
To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your $1,000.00 per person deposit to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main St., Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 or fax to 603-756-2922. Balance of payment is due 120 days prior to departure (May 13, 2021). Please send your deposit check, payable to “Eos Passenger Account – AIA AdriaticCRI9/21,” and this form to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938; Fax: 603-756-2922. For questions or to hold your space while you send in your Reservation Form please contact us at 800-748-6262; or by email: aia@studytours.org. Website: www.aiatours.org.

NAME #1 (as it appears on passport)  BIRTHDATE
NAME #2 (as it appears on passport)  BIRTHDATE
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE
E-MAIL 1
E-MAIL 2

PAYMENT
Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):
VISA  MC  AMEX

NAME ON CREDIT CARD
CARD #
EXP. DATE  SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD  DATE

Enclosed is my check for $_________ ($1,000 per person, payable to “Eos Passenger Account – AIA AdriaticCRI9/21”) to reserve ________ place(s) on Cruising the Adriatic

SINGLE TRAVELERS
I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability) or I plan to share accommodations with:

or  I’d like to know about roommates
I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of May 13, 2021, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Cabin category preference:
1st Choice  __________  2nd Choice  __________

Bed Preference (not guaranteed):  One bed  Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE  DATE
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