



**ROVINJ 2018.** 

**Contact us at:** 

booking.porec@atlas.hr

or +385/52 451 200

# **EXCURSIONS MANUAL 2018. ROVINJ**



## Dear representatives,

Welcome to Croatia! Have a nice stay and a successful season.

We have prepared this special "Manual" with useful information about our excursions. Within the document, you will find enclosed the detailed descriptions of all tours we operate, some useful hints, as well as all important ATLAS telephone numbers.

Please note that we will notify you about any changes regarding the program (if they occur).

We kindly ask you to contact us in case you need any help, advice or you just need someone to chat with.





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## 01. VENICE

# **One of the most romantic cities in the world**Regular boat line

Venice is, without a doubt, one of the most glorified and romantic cities in the world and thus one of the most desired destinations. A pleasant boat ride of around two and a half hours will take us to magnificent Venice and make your vacation a spectacular experience.

Founded in the 5th century and gradually spread over 118 islets, which make an impression of a floating city, Venice became the world's most powerful maritime force in the 10th century. The entire city is an incredible architectural masterpiece; the works of some of the world's most prominent artists like Giorgione, Titian, Tintoretto, etc., can be found even in its smallest buildings.

During the afternoon you can enjoy your free time in individual activities, have lunch, and take a gondola or water taxi ride.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

07:30 Boat ride to Venice

10:30 Arrival in Venice. Free time for sightseeing and individual activities

**17:00** Boat departure for Istria

**20:00** Arrival in Rovinj and transfer to the hotel

*Included:* Round trip boat ticket

**Option:** One way ticket available for purchase. Bus transfer extra charge.

**Local currency:** Euro

Important: Passport/EU ID required!



# 02. PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK

A breath-taking magic of nature forces
Full-day Tour

The Plitvice Lakes National Park was included in UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1979, as a "natural phenomenon of rare and unique beauty".

It was founded in 1949 as Croatia's first national park, to protect breath-taking natural beauty – a phenomenon of karst hydro-geology.

A series of 16 lakes, constantly changing colour from turquoise to green, grey or blue, was created by a natural process of travertine barriers deposition, and now form part of a superb symphony of lakes, waterfalls and surrounding woods with wildlife. Visitors can experience this rare phenomenon of water and karst by walking the eight-kilometre long trails and wooden bridges or by taking a ride by boat or electric train.

The National Park sightseeing tour lasts for about three and a half hours, after which you will enjoy a delicious lunch at the local restaurant.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**07:45** Departure from Rovinj

13:00 Lunch at the local restaurant

**14:15** Guided sightseeing tour of the National Park

17:15 Departure from Plitvice Lakes

22:00 Expected arrival in Rovini

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

Included: Transfers, professional guide, NP entrance ticket, lunch

*Note:* Light sportswear recommended



# 03. BRIJUNI ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK (by speed boat)

**Paradise islands of aristocracy** Half-day Tour

Brijuni Islands consist of 14 islands that are an extraordinary mix of natural beauty as well as cultural and historical heritage. Indigenous plants, preserved Mediterranean maquis and meadows where deers and mouflons freely graze are a part of the Brijuni landscape that you will experience during the tour.

The archaeological and other sites located away from the island's centre can be visited by train: the Verige Bay with the remnants of Roman villa Rustica from the 1st century AD, as well as the safari park that is home to many animals, such as zebras, Somali sheep, humped zebu cattle, dromedary camels, llamas and an elephant. It is noteworthy that as many as 200 dinosaur footprints have been identified on the Veli Brijun Island.

The archaeological museum, located in a Venetian castle dating from the 16th century, the small Gothic Church of St. German from the 15th century housing a permanent display of fresco replicas and Glagolitic monuments of Istria, a natural science collection, and the exhibition "Tito on the Brijuni Islands" are also a part of the sightseeing tour.







#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan

**09:45** Boat departure from Rovinj

10:30 Sightseeing of Brijuni Islands National Park

**14:00** Boat departure from Brijuni

**14:45** Arrival in Rovini

Included: Transfers, boat cruise, professional guide and entrance ticket for Brijuni NP



# 04. BRIJUNI NATIONAL PARK BY ASTRAL BOAT

Paradise islands of aristocracy

Full-day Tour

Brijuni Islands consist of 14 islands that are an extraordinary mix of natural beauty as well as cultural and historical heritage. Indigenous plants, preserved Mediterranean maquis and meadows where deers and mouflons freely graze are a part of the Brijuni landscape that you will experience during the tour.

The archaeological and other sites located away from the island's centre can be visited by train: the Verige Bay with the remnants of Roman villa Rustica from the 1st century AD, as well as the safari park that is home to many animals, such as zebras, Somali sheep, humped zebu cattle, dromedary camels, llamas and an elephant. It is noteworthy that as many as 200 dinosaur footprints have been identified on the Veli Brijun Island.



The archaeological museum, located in a Venetian castle dating from the 16th century, the small Gothic Church of St. German from the 15th century housing a permanent display of fresco replicas and Glagolitic monuments of Istria, a natural science collection, and the exhibition "Tito on the Brijuni Islands" are also a part of the sightseeing tour.

#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**12:00** Boat departure from Rovinj. Lunch on board.

14:00 Sightseeing tour

17:30 Boat departure from Brijuni

**18:45** Boat arrival in Rovinj

**Included:** Transfer, boat cruise, tour escort on the boat, professional guide on the island, entrance ticket for Brijuni NP, lunch and drink during lunch



# 05. BRIJUNI ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK (by bus)

Paradise islands of aristocracy

Half-day Tour

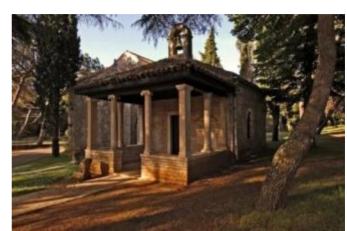
Brijuni Islands consist of 14 islands that are an extraordinary mix of natural beauty as well as cultural and historical heritage. Indigenous plants, preserved Mediterranean maquis and meadows where deers and mouflons freely graze are a part of the Brijuni landscape that you will experience during the tour.

The archaeological and other sites located away from the island's centre can be visited by train: the Verige Bay with the remnants of Roman villa

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The archaeological museum, located in a Venetian

castle dating from the 16th century, the small Gothic Church of St. German from the 15th century housing a permanent display of fresco replicas and Glagolitic monuments of Istria, a natural science collection, and the exhibition "Tito on the Brijuni Islands" are also a part of the sightseeing tour.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

## Available till 05th of June 2018

10:15 Departure from Rovinj

11:15 Arrival in Fažana

**11:30** Boat ride to the Brijuni Islands

**11:45** Sightseeing tour

16:00 Boat ride to Fažana

16:15 Arrival in Fažana

17:15 Arrival in Rovini

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

#### **Available from 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2018**

**12:15** Departure from Rovini

13:15 Arrival in Fažana

**13:30** Boat ride to the Brijuni Islands

13:45 Sightseeing tour

17:30 Boat ride to Fažana

17:45 Arrival in Fažana

**18:45** Arrival in Rovini

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

*Included:* Transfer, professional guide, entrance ticket for Brijuni NP



# 06. PANORAMA POREČ by ASTRAL BOAT

Join the merry sailors!

Full-day Tour

Join us on a relaxing boat ride alongside Istrian coast. Discover beautiful bays and untouched nature.

After having lunch on the boat, we will take a boat ride to the picturesque town of Vrsar. We will sail through Lim Channel - one of the most beautiful Istrian bays. It is a part of the 35 km long Lim Valley, stretching almost all the way to the town of Pazin at the heart of Istria. The very Bay is over 10km long, up to 30m deep and about 600m wide in its broadest part. It is surrounded by rather steep hills on both sides, in certain places exceeding 100m in altitude. Due to the brackish water, it is well known for fish and shell farming.

After a short stop in Vrsar, we will continue sailing to Poreč. There will be enough time to stroll down the streets of Poreč and afterwards we will board a boat and head back to Rovinj.







## **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan

**13:00** Departure from Rovinj. Lunch on board.

Boat ride through Lim Channel and stop in Vrsar (with short break and free time for swimming)

17:00 Arrival in Poreč and free time

18:30 Departure from Poreč

**19:30** Arrival in Rovinj

*Included:* Transfers, boat ride, tour escort, lunch and drink during lunch



#### 07. HIDDEN BEAUTY OF ISTRIAN INLAND

Fall in love with the magical Istria

Full-day Tour

Istria - Croatia's largest peninsula - is a picturesque mosaic that will enchant you not only with its coast but also with the beauty and diversity of its inland parts.

Join us on our journey through the Istria and enjoy the beauty of its green hills and numerous vineyards. We will visit medieval towns surrounded by walls and located on picturesque hills with an astonishing view of the nearby valleys, fields and mountains.

Our first stop will be the town of Grožnjan, a home of many artist colonies. After short strolling down its narrow roads, we will head towards Livade where you will have the opportunity to taste the famous Istrian truffles. Then follows a sightseeing tour of the picturesque town of Motovun. This captivating hilltop town is one of the characteristic symbols of the Istrian interior. After Motovun we will head towards Pazin, a town of long and rich tradition where we will enjoy local cuisine.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**08:30** Departure from Rovinj

10:00 Arrival in Grožnjan and sightseeing

**11:00** Departure

11:30 Arrival in Livade and truffle tasting

**12:30** Departure

13:00 Arrival in Motovun and sightseeing

**14:30** Departure

15:00 Arrival in Pazin and lunch

16:30 Departure from Pazin

17:20 Arrival in Rovini

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

Included: Transfers, professional guide, tasting at Livade (truffles), lunch



## 08. ISTRIAN CLASSICS

Art, culture & history mosaic

Full-day Tour

Istria, Croatia's largest peninsula will attract you not only because of its coast but also its lovely and varied inland area.

Our first stop is Pula with its numerous sights including a very famous historical Roman amphitheatre, the sixthlargest in the world. The Temple of Augustus, the ancient city walls, the Golden Gate and many other monuments built under the Roman Empire prove that Pula was an important centre in that area. Next, we will visit Lim Channel – one of the most beautiful Istrian bays. It is a part of the 35 km long Lim Valley, stretching almost all the way to the town of Pazin at the heart of Istria. Afterwards, we will board a boat and set sail across the Lim Channel.

As soon as we set our feet on land again, we will go to Rovinj, one of the most romantic places in the Mediterranean! There we will enjoy in local specialities on our short lunch break. Feel the enchantment of the town in its narrow medieval streets and small squares, still untouched by modern urbanism. The town of Rovinj is the right destination for all seeking a long forgotten atmosphere of the times that have forever gone by.







#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**08:30** Departure from Rovinj

09:20 Arrival in Pula. Sightseeing

**11:30** Free time

12:30 Departure from Pula

13:15 Arrival in Lim. 13:30 Boarding a vessel, sailing across the Lim Channel

14:30 Boarding a bus, departure from Lim

**14:50** Arrival in Rovinj, lunch

**16:00 - 17:00** Sightseeing

17:00 - 18:00 Free time

**18:00** Expected excursion end, transfers to the hotels

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

Included: Transfer, professional guide, entrance ticket for Pula Arena, lunch, Lim boat cruise



# 09. DISCOVER THE TASTES OF ISTRIA

## The magic of Istrian gastro scene

Half-day Tour

It would almost be a sin not to discover the tastes of Istria during your visit. Istria is known for gastronomic specialities like wine, brandy, olives and olive oil, cheese, truffles and many others, and you'll have the opportunity to try them on this tasteful tour.

We'll start the tour with a visit to a beautiful Agrolaguna's vineyard with amazing views, and afterwards we'll also visit the Agrolaguna factory, where grapes from this and many other vineyards turn to amazing wines. Agrolaguna is a company engaged in winemaking, olive growing and cattle farming, whose brands are regionally popular, highly appreciated and

awarded many medals for their quality. Here we'll have a tasting of wines, olive oils and cheeses.

Our next stop is "Stancija Špin", a sheep farm, only two kilometres from the sea, where we'll see and hear about the process of cheese making. After the tour of the production process, a delicious lunch and wine will be served. Our tour continues to Livade, a small village famous for truffles, where we'll stop for a tasting of various truffle products. Our final









destination is the town of Buzet, where we'll visit a small brandy distillery and our host will show how various fruit and herb brandies Istria is famous for are made. After the tour of the distillery, we'll have tasting of three kinds of brandy and homemade jams in beautiful, traditional ambient. Join us on a journey filled with passion and new tastes.

#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

- **11:50** Departure from Rovini
- **12:30** Funtana, vineyard tour
- 13:30 "Agrolaguna" winery tour, wine, cheese and olive oil tasting
- **14:15** "Stancija Špin" sheep farm and cheese factory tour
- **15:00** Stancija Špin, lunch
- **16:00** Livade, truffle produce tasting
- 17:00 Buzet, Aura distillery tour and tasting
- **19:30** Arrival in Rovini

**Included**: transfer, guide, wine and cheese tasting at Agrolaguna, lunch, truffle products tasting, homemade brandy and jams tasting



# 10. BLED LAKE & CASTLE

Full-day Tour

Join us on a trip to a beautiful Alpine lake with the only island in Slovenia. Bled has been a world-renowned paradise for centuries, impressing visitors with its natural beauty and wealth of legends. Enjoy the most beautiful view of the lake, its island, and the surrounding peaks from the castle towering over the lake on a cliff.

Upon arrival to lake Bled, we will visit the collection and considered to be one of the loveliest wedding venues in Europe. It is also often the location of important diplomatic and state protocol meetings.

After a visit to the Castle, there will be some free time and we recommend you use it to taste the famous Lake Bled delicacy – the Bled Cream Cake. Afterwards we will take a ride on a tipical "pletna" boat and visit the island. The most recognizable symbol of the lake and its island is the Church of the Assumption with its long and diverse history, however the lush greenery also hides other interesting island buildings, like the bell-tower, chaplain's





house, provost's house, small hermitage and some mysterious legends.

#### ITINERARY:

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**07:30** Departure from Rovinj

11:30 Arrival to Bled, castle visit

**12:30** Free time in city centre

**14:30** Boarding a boat, island visit

15:30 Departure from Bled

**19:30** Expected arrival in Rovinj

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

*Included:* Transfer, professional guide, entrance tickets

Important: Passport/EU ID required



# 11. POSTOJNA CAVE & PREDJAMA CASTLE

The world's famous cave and the beautiful castle that you shouldn't miss Full-day Tour

This is a trip made for nature lovers. After a pleasant drive we arrive at the Predjama village where the famous Predjama castle is located. The castle literally hangs in the middle of its 123 meters high rocky cliff and is a unique site that you cannot miss!

Later on we will proceed to the small town of Postojna, where we can see one of the most famous and beautiful caves in Europe. The cave is 22km long, through which we will partly be driven by an electric train and partly walk for about 2km through its most beautiful parts afterwards. The sightseeing activity will last for about 90 minutes after which lunch will follow along with some free time for souvenir shopping.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**08:00** Departure from Rovinj

11:00 Predjama castle sightseeing

12:30 Departure for Postojna

**13:00** Postojna cave sightseeing Lunch at the local restaurant

**16:00** Departure from Postojna

19:00 Expected arrival in Rovinj

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

Included: Transfer, professional guide, entrance tickets and lunch

**Note:** Light sportswear recommended **Important:** Passport/EU ID required



# 12. PULA & HOUSE OF OLIVE OIL

Half-day Tour

Pula with its numerous sights including a very famous historical Roman amphitheatre, the sixth-largest in the world.

The Tample of Augustus, the ancient city walls, the Golden Gate and many other monuments built under the Roman Empire prove that Pula was an important centre in that area.

We will also visit the "House of olive oil" where you can experience the history, as well as the present of olive growing and oil making in Istria.







#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**09:00** Departure from Rovinj

**09:45** Arrival in Pula and sightseeing (House of olive oil, city center)

**12:00** Free time

**13:00** Departure

13:45 Arrival in Rovinj

*Included:* transfer, professional guide, entrance to House of Olive Oil



## 13. LIM CHANNEL

Half-day Tour

Discover Lim channel, one of the most beautiful natural reousorces of the Istrian peninsula. The channel is a part of 35 km long Lim valley, streching almost all the way to the town of Pazin at the heart of Istria. The channel itself is a little bit longer than 10 km, 30 meters deep and its widest part is around 600 meters. The channel is surrounded from both sides with very steep mountains rise, in some parts even up to 100 meters.

We will bord a boat and set sail across the Limm channel.





#### ITINERARY:

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

09:00 Departure from Rovinj

09:30 Arrival in Lim

**09:35** Boarding a vessel, sailing across the Lim channel

10:40 Boarding a bus, departure from Lim

**11:10** Arrival in Rovinj

Included: transfer, professional guide, boat ride



# 14. KUPA RIVER RAFTING ADVENTURE

Explore your wild side Full-day Tour

Discover Gorski Kotar region - the greenest part of Croatia. A special way to explore its natural beauties is by paddling down the clear and green Kupa River. This trip is a soft adventure adapted for beginners, families with children or those who wish to spend a relaxing day on the water enjoying beautiful nature.

Rafting is one of the most exciting ways to experience a river's currents and take in its picturesque surroundings.

Nature lovers will be captivated by beautiful untouched valleys, intertwined with karst caves, fresh air forests, green gardens and orchards.





#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**08:30** Departure from Rovinj

11:00 Arrival at Farmhouse Zdravić in Kostel

**11:15** Presentation of the program, equipment and staff

**11:45** Departure to the starting position, practising basic skills

**12:00** Starting with the first part of the descent

**12:45** Free time. Playing animated water games

**14:00** Lunch time

**15:00** Starting with the second part of the descent

**16:15** Arrival at the final point and changing garment

16:45 Arrival at the Farmhouse Zdravić

17:00 Departure back to Istria

**19:30** Arrival in Rovini

\* time schedule may vary due to the traffic/crowd conditions

**Included:** Transfers, guide, professional instructor, raft equipment and lunch **Note:** Bring sports footwear, swimming suit, sun cream and clothes to change

**Important:** Not recommended for NON-SWIMMERS

Passport/EU ID required (for entrance to Slovenia)



## 15. PAZIN CAVE ADVENTURE

# Explore a cave that inspired Jules Verne

Half-day Tour

Join us on this Jules Verne style adventure where you will have an opportunity to explore the cave which lies underneath the Pazin Castle and was the inspiration for the famous writer's first novel. In this underground adventure, our experienced guides will take you on an unforgettable 2,5 – 3 h tour suited for grown-ups, kids and beginners of all ages.

Pazin cave is a speleological object protected by law and the visit is organised in a natural, ecological way. Before we descend underground our guides will make an introduction about how to use the basic equipment necessary for Caveadventure and give details about possible obstacles and how to overcome them in the easiest way. We'll start our adventure with a mild descent trail to the canyon of the Pazinčica riverbed and the entrance to the cave. The underground part of the trail is about 200 m long and it ends with a big hall and an underground lake 80 m long. There are two small ziplines inside the cave, one of which will transfer you to a small island (sandbar) of the underground lake. Ziplining inside a cave will be a unique and truly unforgettable experience. The total height difference is approximately 118 m, and the total length of the trail is about 800 m one way.

After the adventure, there will be free time. We strongly recommend you use the free time to end this exciting adventure

with ziplining the four lines (total of 660 m) over the canyon of the Pazinčica riverbed and Pazin cave (optional, surcharge160 kn). Zip line is also suitable for children and adults.









#### **ITINERARY:**

Departure from the hotel according to the plan.

**09:20** Departure from Rovini

10:00 Arrival in Pazin. Start of the cave adventure

**13:00** Free time, Zipline – optional (surcharge 160 kn)

**15:00** Departure from Pazin

**15:40** Arrival in Rovini

*Included:* transfer, professional guide for the cave-adventure, equipment

**Note:** It is necessary to bring appropriate sport shoes and extra clothes, as well as it is recommended to wear light long sleeves because it's colder inside (about 15°C).