

## Cruising the

# ADRIATIC

Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard *Queen Eleganza* May 27-June 7, 2023









## **Dear Members and Friends,**

We invite you to join SBMA and our cosponsoring organization, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, on a journey to Slovenia and Croatia. With artistic, cultural, and architectural influences from those who vied for control of this strategic coastline—the Romans, Byzantines, Venetians, Ottomans, and Austrians—the Dalmatian Coast has everything from spellbinding archaeological sites, impressive museums, dramatic palaces and cathedrals, and ancient city centers.

Begin the program with two nights at the Grand Union Hotel in **Slovenia's capital city, Ljubljana**, a city with roots back to Roman times, followed by a night at the Kempinski Palace Hotel along the **"French Riviera" of Slovenia**. Continue to Pula, Croatia and embark the modern, **18-cabin yacht for a seven-night cruise along Croatia's coast**, including stops in Zadar, Split, Hvar, Korčula, and Dubrovnik. Art-focused excursions have been created for SBMA, including the Zadar Museum of Ancient Glass, the Mestrovic Gallery in Split, and the Modern Art Museum in Dubrovnik, which houses many works by Croatian artists.

The Queen Eleganza was built specifically to cruise the Adriatic and its small size allows mooring in or very near to town center promenades overnight for easy walk-off access to explore independently. Launched in 2018, she has the ability to call at small islands and ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The seaside cities of Zadar, Split, and Korčula, and the island of Hvar teem with narrow, cobblestone streets lined with cafes and outdoor dining opportunities. In response to past traveler feedback, many evenings are unscheduled for exploring on one's own and eating dinner ashore at the many wonderful restaurants in easy walking distance to where the ship can be docked, due to its small size. This cruise is perfect for the traveler who would enjoy experiencing local life and dining in charming seaside restaurants in the evening when they are unencumbered by the throngs of tourists from the big ships. On particular nights, tour staff will invite those who wish to join them for dinner at favorite restaurants.

Your travel experience will be enriched by onboard lectures and informal discussions with an expert study leader, in addition to excellent local guides accompanying you throughout. With only 18 cabins total aboard the ship, we urge you to reserve your space today. Please call us at **(805) 884-6435** or email us at **travel@sbma.net**. We hope you will join us!

With kind regards,

Lisa Benshea

Manager of Travel & Special Programs Santa Barbara Museum of Art Jen Crowe

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Travel & Special Programs Coordinator Santa Barbara Museum of Art



## Study Leader

Lecturer **Barbara Horlbeck, M.A.**, is an arts and culture professional with extensive global experience. She is a lecturer, writer, independent researcher, and adjunct instructor of art history, and has developed and teaches college and university-level art history courses, including "Arts of the Islamic World" and "Arts of the Ancient World." As Founder of *Arts and Influences*, Barbara developed the successful Food for Thought Lecture and Lunch Series and created a series of in-depth seminars covering a broad range of topics from "Arts of the Medieval World," and "Arts of China, India and Japan" to "Collectors, Collections, and the Modern Museum." As a docent at the Minneapolis Institute of Art for nearly 20 years, Barbara has led tours for educators, specialists and the general public. She has traveled in nearly 40 countries, including five continents and the North Pole, as well as Iran, India, Pakistan and China. Barbara loves helping travelers develop a deeper understanding of our rich artistic and cultural legacy while, at the same time, placing works of art and architecture in their rich historical context.

## **Highlights**

- ♦ Enjoy art excursions to Mestrovic Gallery in Split, Zadar Museum of Ancient Glass, and the Modern Art Museum in Dubrovnik, which showcases many works by Croatian artists in a converted palace.
- ♦ **Marvel** at the well-preserved Roman ruins of Emperor Diocletian's palace at Split and Pula's amphitheater and temple.
- ♦ Explore Krka National Park's magnificent waterfalls and splashing cascades in a magical landscape.
- Delve into the historic grandeur of Dubrovnik, known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic."
- ♦ **Moor** at or near town centers aboard the yacht-like *Queen Eleganza*, with easy walk-off access to explore independently.







## **Itinerary**

Saturday-Sunday, May 27-28

## 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 and gather for drinks and a festive welcome reception and dinner featuring Slovenian specialties. GRAND UNION HOTEL (R,D)

Monday, May 29

## 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 in Ljubljana this evenina.

GRAND UNION HOTEL (B,L)

Tuesday, May 30

#### **Portorož**

Travel by coach to the UNESCOdesignated ancient Škocjan Karst Caves, a vast network of tunnels and chambers sometimes referred to as the

"underground Grand Canyon." Settle in at the luxurious Kempinski Palace Hotel near the oceanfront promenade of Portorož, "the French Riviera" of Slovenia, followed by a sunset dinner at the historic Venetian stronghold Piran.

KEMPINSKI PALACE HOTEL (B,D)

Wednesday, May 31

## Pula, Croatia

Cross the border into Croatia and drive to Pula by way of the scenic mountaintop village of Motovun on the Istrian Peninsula. Explore the well-preserved Roman ruins including the impressive colosseum, the only Roman amphitheater in the world with a complete circle wall. Embark Queen Eleganza this evening in time for a welcome reception and dinner.

QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,R,D)

Thursday, June 1

## Mali Lošinj

Relax on the sun deck while cruising the scenic coastline to Mali Lošinj, a lovely town with a rich maritime legacy thanks to its unique long natural harbor. Explore the bustling seafront, lined with imposing 19th-century houses and villas, and enjoy free time in town for dinner and individual pursuits. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Friday, June 2

## Zadar

Spend the morning cruising through the coastal islands 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. A walking tour will include a presentation of glass blowing at the Museum of Ancient Glass, which houses Roman-era glass from the 1st to 3rd centuries. Spend the evening at leisure exploring Roman ruins. Venetian architecture, and street-side cafes.

QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Saturday, June 3

## Krka National Park / Split

Board a coach and drive to Krka National Park, one of Croatia's most-loved National Parks, known for its series of cascading waterfalls, picturesque pools, and acres of lush vegetation. Take guided walks on wooden walkwavs and bridges through this magical landscape. Then tour











the UNESCO World Heritage Cathedral of St. James in nearby Šibenik, and enjoy lunch on your own in town. Continue to Split, Croatia's fashionable second-largest city. QUEEN ELEGANZA (B.D)

Sunday, June 4

## Split / Hvar

Visit Roman Emperor Diocletian's Palace, an ancient fortress-like complex spread along the Split waterfront, and enjoy more free time in the city or an optional visit to the beautiful Mestrovic Gallery before cruising to lavenderscented Hvar Island. Stroll along the elegant main square of Hvar, 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.

QUEEN ELEGANZA (B)

## Monday, June 5 Korčula

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 visit St. Mark's cathedral and the treasury. Sample some of Croatia's famous wines along with accompanying local specialties.

QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

### Tuesday, June 6 Dubrovnik

Noted for its expansive walls and red tile rooftops, Dubrovnik is perhaps the most-visited destination on the Adriatic coast. 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. Enjoy a curator-led tour of the Modern Art Museum, which features paintings and sculptures by Croatian artists in a beautiful former palace. Time permitting, stroll the maze of alleyways and Renaissance era architecture before a farewell dinner on board.

QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

Wednesday, June 7

## **Dubrovnik / Home**

Disembark this morning and transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for flights home.

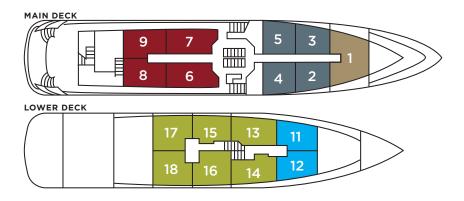


PHOTO CREDITS: Dubrovnik Rooftops @ Nikola Sorokin; Pula © Phant; Dragon Statue © Svetlana Leybova; Ljubljana © Kasto80; Lake Bled © Andrey Rodionov; Split © Daliu80; Krka NP © Pmartike; Zadar © Dreamer4787; Dubrovnik Bay © Dreamer4787: Emperor Diocletian © Oleg Bannikov

## Queen Eleganza



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.



## Program Rates (per person)

CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE
A (LOWER DECK) 161 sq ft; queen bed; two portholes	\$7,990	\$11,390
B (LOWER DECK) 156-178 sq ft; twins or queen; two portholes	\$8,990	\$12,640
C (MAIN DECK) 156-172 sq ft; twin beds; 3 windows	\$9,990	_
(MAIN DECK) 151 sq ft; twins or queen; large picture window; cabins 8 & 9 have partially obstructed views	\$10,990	_
E (MAIN DECK) 242 sq ft; king size bed; 4 windows	\$11,990	_

## **General Information**

## **PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE**

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 · Complete packet of pre-departure information · Professional tour manager throughout the program

#### **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.

#### **GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 28 participants, including travelers from National Trust Tours.

## 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. SARS-COV-2 (COVID 19) vaccinations are required for all participants as well as tour staff and shipboard crew. Up-to-date COVID-related protocols and procedures will be communicated in pre-trip documents. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art or Criterion Travel, our tour operator; local staff; and host country laws.



## ruising the Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard Queen Eleganza

May 27-June 7, 2023

To reserve a place, please call (805) 884-6435, email travel@sbma.net, or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Santa Barbara Museum of Art, to: Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2746. You may also fax the form to (805) 966-

## **GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

#### PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare Passport/visa expenses Medical expenses immunizations, or COVID-19 testing if required at the time of travel . Travel and trip cancellation insurance · Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days · Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options · 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 RATES

Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will 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.

#### MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT

Travel is a benefit of Museum Membership. Non-members will be required to join at the "Friend" level (\$80 or \$60 for seniors) or higher and will receive full membership benefits for a year. Members at the "Enthusiast" (\$500) level and above receive advance notice about SBMA-custom

#### ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by SBMA and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, we reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation will be the responsibility of the participant.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation.

## RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. You may complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to: Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2746. Or you may fax the completed reservation form to (805) 966-6840. If you have questions, please call (805) 884-6435 or email travel@sbma.net. Final payment deadline is January 27, 2023. For those who register after January 27, 2023, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

**CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS** Upon payment of the deposit, all reservations are subject

to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound, Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the January 27, 2023 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. We HIGHLY recommend a travel insurance policy with "Cancel for Any Reason" (CFAR) coverage. If a staff member is unable to participate, no refund will be made, but SBMA will make every effort to find a replacement with similar qualifications. NOTE: Neither the Santa Barbara Museum of Art nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets

SINGLE TRAVELERS

**ACCOMMODATIONS** 

1st Choice

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

Cabin category preference:

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

NAME #1 (as	it appears on p	assport)		BIRTHDATE
NAME #2 (as	s it appears on p	assport)		BIRTHDATI
MAILING AD	DRESS			
CITY / STAT	E / ZIP or POSTA	L CODE		
HOME PHON	NE			MOBILE PHONE
E-MAIL 1				
E-MAIL 2				
PAYMEN				
O Please	charge the	deposit to m	y credit card (ci	rcle one):
VISA	MC	AMEX	DISCOV	'ER
NAME ON C	REDIT CARD			
CARD #			EXP. DATE	SECURITY CODE
SIGNATURE	AS IT APPEARS	ON CREDIT CAR	D	DATE
O Enclos	sed is my ch	eck for \$	(\$1,000	per person,
payable t	o Santa Barl	oara Museun	n of Art) to rese	rve
place(s) c	on <b>Cruisina t</b>	he Adriatic		

O I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability)

2nd Choice

DATE

DATE

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of January 27, 2023 I will pay the single rate.

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): O One bed O Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and

O I plan to share accommodations with:

O I'd like to know about roommates

understand and agree with them as stated herein:

U.S. Postage PRSRT STD

Sacramento, CA Permit No. 604

PAID

SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF

1130 State Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2746 Cruising the **Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard Queen Eleganza** May 27-June 7, 2023