



AMC ADVENTURE TRAVEL
Volunteer-Led Excursions Worldwide

Discover Croatia by Kayak: A Scenic Coastal Adventure

September 11 - 21, 2025

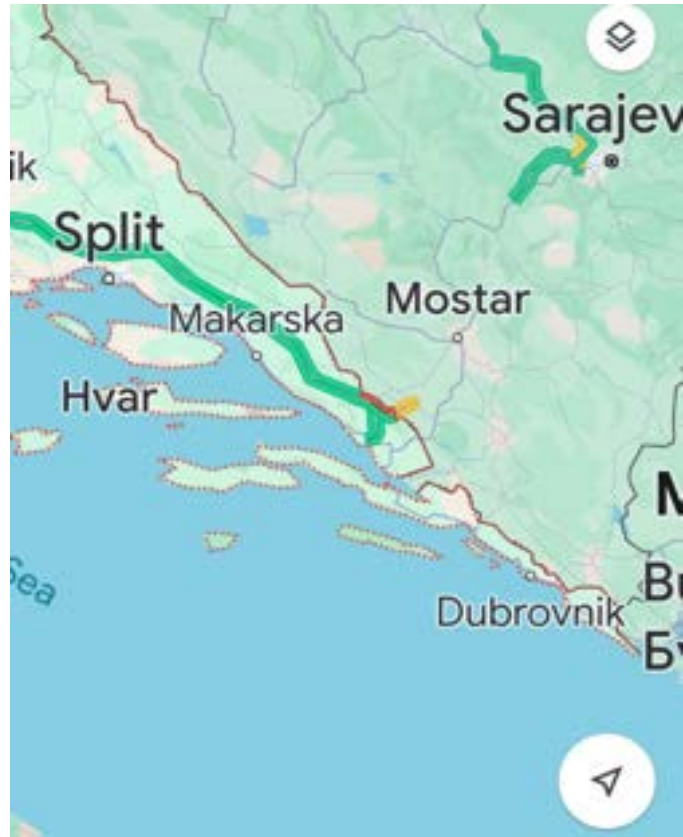
Trip #2549



TRIP OVERVIEW

Join us as we explore one of Europe's hidden treasures, the beautiful and awe-inspiring Croatian coast. On this thrilling 11-day adventure you will see the best that Croatia has to offer - kayaking, hiking, swimming, snorkeling, and cultural exploration in one of the most spectacular land and island destination areas in all of Croatia. Included on our itinerary will be a multi-day exploration of the island of Vis, including a sailboat ride through the enchanting Blue Cave, within the protected VIS Archipelago UNESCO Global Geopark.

Upon arriving in Split, we'll settle in and explore this ancient walled city, followed by a warm-up kayak paddle. We'll then take a ferry to the well-preserved island of Vis, where we'll base in Komiza and spend several days kayaking and exploring cliffs, sea caves, and beaches amid olive and fig orchards. After departing Vis on a high-speed boat, we'll spend two days exploring Hvar town and its surroundings on foot. Finally, we'll leave Hvar on a catamaran and conclude our trip with an overnight stay in Dubrovnik, including a guided tour of its historic sites and rich cultural heritage.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the history of Split, Dubrovnik, and all of Croatia
- Sea kayak in the breathtaking areas around the Island of Vis
- Indulge in the enchanting ambiance of the charming village of Komiza
- A sailboat ride through the enchanting Blue Cave, located in the protected Vis archipelago UNESCO Global Geopark
- Enjoy local cuisine, including fresh seafood
- Multi-transportation modes, including kayaking, ferry, sailboat, catamaran, and van

DAILY ITINERARY

The daily schedule assumes safe weather conditions, our participants' optimal strength and skill, and other safety considerations. The leaders reserve the right to make such changes as necessary, both before and during the trip. Factors that may require changes could include safety, weather considerations, natural disasters, or recommendations by governmental agencies.

Meals paid by the trip abbreviations: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner

TRIP STYLE

This trip is for people who are active and social, and who enjoy exploring new places with a group of new and old friends. On our scheduled activities, there is always an option for an off-day to rest and explore locally on your own.

TRIP DIFFICULTY

AMC Trip Rating System

This trip is rated moderate and has been designed for experienced participants who can comfortably paddle 4- 6 hrs with breaks, as well as walk and hike up to 6 miles, at a relaxed to occasionally moderate pace, up to 2 miles per hour. Kayak experience in coastal waters would be helpful but not necessary with other significant kayak experience. It is the participant's responsibility to have adequate experience in kayaking, swimming, and snorkeling before participating in these activities. Participants are also expected to be comfortable recovering from an overturned kayak with a wet exit while wearing a sea spray skirt. The ability to swim is essential. We will review safety skills on-site for everyone's benefit including wet-exits and two kayak rescues.



DAY 1. SPLIT – BRIEFING AND ORIENTATION

You should plan your flight so you arrive mid-day so we can depart for our hotel in nearby Split. Upon your arrival at Split Airport, our team will warmly welcome you and accompany you to your hotel in the charming town of Split. Once settled in, you'll attend a briefing and orientation session to familiarise yourself with the upcoming itinerary and any pertinent details for your adventure ahead. Afterward, you can relax and unwind in preparation for an exciting week of exploration. We will enjoy a group dinner together.

- Overnight: Split
- Group Welcome Dinner

DAY 2. SPLIT FROM A LOCAL'S PERSPECTIVE AND KAYAKING IN THE ADRIATIC

Your exploration of Split commences with a morning guided city tour led by Josko, a knowledgeable local guide. Together, you'll wander through the narrow streets of the historic old town and marvel at the awe-inspiring architecture of the Diocletian Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On this tour, we'll skip the tourist traps and see Split from a

local's perspective. In the afternoon, prepare for an initial kayak paddle and gear check either in Split's Marjan Hill or on the nearby Ciovo Island. Situated on the Adriatic Sea, both locations are a nature-lover's heaven, with breathtaking views and scenic beaches. Enjoy a delightful picnic lunch amidst the natural splendor of the area. Return to your hotel in Split for a well-deserved overnight stay.

- Highlights: Diocletian Palace, Marjan Hill, Ciovo Island
- Activity: Sea kayaking - 3-4 miles
- Overnight: Split
- Meals: B, L, Dinner on your own



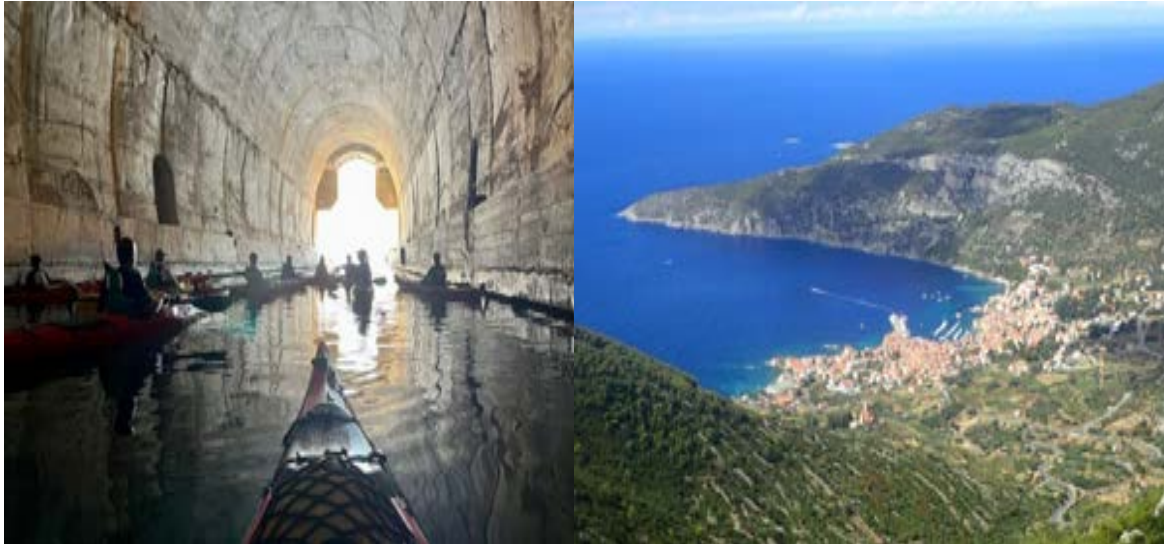
DAY 3. VIS ISLAND - SCENIC FERRY RIDE AND KAYAKING IN THE ADRIATIC SEA

Bid farewell to the mainland as you embark on a scenic two-and-a-half-hour ferry ride to Vis, an enchanting island steeped in history dating back to the 4th century BC when it was founded by the ancient Greeks. Upon arrival on Vis, take advantage of some free time to explore the rich historical tapestry of the town while our team prepares kayaks for the tour start.

Once geared up, venture onto the water to explore the renowned Vis Bay, the site of historical naval battles between the English and the French in 1811. The next stop on our journey is a mysterious navy tunnel constructed by the Yugoslav army during the Cold War. Transitioning from fortifications to nature, paddle along the breathtaking north side of Vis Island. Revel in the sights of dramatic cliffs and secluded beaches scattered along the route. The day concludes at the picturesque Okljucna Bay, where the kayaks are left for the night.

A short hike and van transfer take you to Komiza village, your base for the next five nights. Komiza, an authentic fishing village, embodies the “take it easy” life philosophy known as “pomalo.” Indulge in the enchanting ambiance of this charming village which offers numerous gastronomical options with traditional delicacies and local wines, offering the perfect conclusion to each exhilarating day of kayaking.

- Highlights: Town of Vis, Navy tunnels, Okljucna Bay, Komiza Village
- Activity: Sea kayaking – 7.5 miles
- Overnight: Komiža town
- Meals: B, L, and D included



DAY 4. HIKING AND KAYAKING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF VIS

Begin your day with a hearty breakfast before embarking on a captivating 2-hour hike to Okljucna Bay. Traverse through lush, scenic nature, where your kayaks await, marking the continuation of our sea adventure.

Embark on today's kayaking adventure, navigating a route that unfolds along a dramatic coastline adorned with towering cliffs, intriguing stone formations, secluded beaches, and a sprinkling of small islets. As we paddle along the coast, take in the beauty of charming beaches, including the renowned Barjoska Beach, famous for its role in the film "Mama Mia". The awe-inspiring natural scenery continues as we enter Komiza Bay, adorned with equally mesmerizing beaches, some featuring freshwater springs breaking through greenish volcanic rocks.

Today's paddle concludes in front of our accommodation in the idyllic Komiza village, providing a serene end to the day's sea exploration.

- Highlights: Okljucna Bay, Barjoska Beach, Komiza Bay
- Activity: Hiking – 4-5 miles; Sea kayaking – 5-7.5 miles
- Overnight: Komiža town
- Meals: B, L, Dinner on your own



DAY 5. EXPLORE BEAUTIFUL BISEVO ISLAND ON FOOT AND UNDER SAIL

Today, take a break from kayaking and enjoy a day sailing and exploring the stunning Biševo island. This island is renowned for its amazing caves, sandy beaches, and red wine, particularly the Plavac Moli variety, but mostly for its Blue Cave phenomenon. After passing the channel between Vis and Biševo, we will enter the magical Blue Cave.

This cave is one of the most spectacular natural attractions in Croatia. Morning sunbeams penetrate through the submarine opening, reflecting off the white bottom floor, colouring the cave blue, and giving objects in the water a silver shimmer. It's surely a jaw-dropping experience.

After the Blue Cave visit, we will sail further to the 100-metre-deep Monkseal Cave. Here, you can take a swim in one of the most majestic sceneries you can find. Swim in the Monkseal cave and witness its magnificent entrance hall. We will take a sailing break on the heavenly sandy Porat beach, one of the rare white sand beaches on the Croatian coast. In case you want to stretch your legs, you can join a hike to the top of Biševo Island for outstanding views. If time allows, we can explore military tunnels on the island's south side.

- Highlights: Sailing, Blue Cave, Monkseal Cave, Porat Sandy Beach
- Activity: Sailing and hiking
- Overnight: Komiža town
- Meals: B, L, & D included



DAY 6. PADDLE ALONG VIS'S MAGNIFICENT SOUTHSIDE

On our longest paddle, today we embark on a mesmerising journey as we paddle along the renowned south side of Vis Island, where nature has sculpted a scenic coast with dramatic cliffs, coves, and beaches over thousands of years. Today's route will showcase numerous natural works of art, with a few standout highlights.

Our first mention goes to the spectacular Gace (transl. "the Pants") cliffs, an awe-inspiring masterpiece. This natural wonder has two massive pillars rising from the sea and seamlessly merging into the cliffs above, forming a shape resembling the pants of a giant. Another standout feature is the Instagrammable Stiniva Beach, a secluded sanctuary surrounded by amphitheatre-shaped cliffs. One more, Pritiscina Bay, is a hidden bay nestled between impressive cliffs that will captivate us with its tranquillity and pristine waters. As we continue our exploration, we'll encounter Srebrna Beach. Meaning "silver," Srebrna is a long pebble beach where the underwater world shimmers like silver. The day concludes in Rukavac Bay, where we'll be transferred back to Komiza for our accommodation.

- Highlights: Natural Caves and Cliffs, Stiniva Cove, Srebrna Beach, Gace Cave, Pritiscina Bay
- Activity: Sea kayaking - 6-12.4 miles
- Overnight: Komiza town
- Meals: B, L, & D included

DAY 7. ENJOY VIS ISLAND FROM MOUNT HUM, VIS'S HIGHEST PEAK

Today's itinerary promises an exhilarating hiking adventure as we ascend to the summit of Vis island's highest peak, Hum, standing tall at 587 metres. Our primary objective is to reach the Chapel of The Holy Spirit, nestled in the vicinity, offering breathtaking vistas of Komiza town, the picturesque island of Biševo, and on clear days, even glimpses of the distant volcanic reef of Jabuka.

Following our visit to the Chapel, we'll proceed to Tito's Caves, a site of great historical significance. These shallow caves served as a crucial refuge and operational base for Josip Broz and the Yugoslavian Nazi resistance movement during the tumultuous days of World War II in 1944.

Continuing our journey, we'll encounter the quaint village of Žena Glava, distinguished by its traditional local architecture and fascinating history. Its unique name, "The Woman's Head," harks back to ancient times when a female leader governed the village, adding a layer of intrigue to our exploration.

As we conclude our inland exploration of Vis Island, we'll indulge in a memorable farewell dinner, featuring the renowned Peka dish prepared with lamb, veal, or octopus, accompanied by freshly baked homemade bread. Before we feast, immerse yourself in a delightful wine-tasting presentation, offering a taste of Vis's finest vintages.

- Highlights: Hum Peak, Tito's Cave, Žena Glava Village, Wine Tasting
- Activity: Hiking 4 - 8 miles
- Overnight: Komiza town
- Meals: B, L, & D included



DAY 8. FAREWELL KAYAK AND SPEEDBOAT TRANSFER

After breakfast, a van transfer will take us back to Rukavac where our kayaks await. Once geared up, embark on the final leg of our adventure towards the ultimate destination on our kayaking part of the program – Vis town. Along this scenic route, you'll pass by a group of islands including Ravnik, Budikovac, Parzana, and Greben.

The first stretch concludes in the pristine Vela Smokova Bay, where we'll pause for lunch amid its sandy beauty and crystal-clear waters. Afterward, paddle onward toward the imposing Stončica lighthouse.

The last segment of our kayaking journey will lead us from Stončica to Vis town. After a short break in Vis town, you will have a private speedboat transfer to Hvar town where we will be for the next two nights. In the evening, you will get to enjoy stunning Hvar town and its waterfront promenade.

- Highlights: Budikovac Island, Stončica Lighthouse, Speed Boats, Hvar Town
- Activity: Sea kayaking 6 -9 miles
- Overnight: Hvar town
- Meals: B, L, & D included



DAY 9. HIKE A JEWEL OF THE CROATIAN COAST - HVAR ISLAND

Enjoy a leisurely morning in one of the jewels of the Croatian coast. Explore the rich Venetian architecture and walk through its narrow streets and promenade. Grab a coffee on one of the most beautiful promenades in the world, all while enjoying the vibrant energy of Hvar town.

Today's adventure will take you for a hike up to Fortica Castle, where you'll be rewarded with breathtaking panoramic views of the island and surrounding sea. After soaking in the scenery, continue your journey with a hike along the picturesque coastline to the charming town of Milna, one of the nicest beaches on the island. From Milna, venture onward to Molo Grablje, an abandoned village nestled amidst olive groves and vineyards. Indulge in a traditional Croatian meal, either in Milna or at Stari Komin in Molo Grablje, before retiring for the night in Hvar.

- Highlights: Fortica Tower, Hvar Old Town, Milna Beach, Molo Grablje abandoned village
- Distance: 4-5 miles (Hiking)
- Overnight: Hvar town
- Meals: B & L Dinner on your own



DAY 10. SAIL TO STUNNING DUBROVNIK

Bid farewell to Hvar Island as you board a morning catamaran bound for the historic city of Dubrovnik. Arriving around noon, immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of Dubrovnik with an afternoon city tour. Explore the ancient city walls, stroll along the marble-paved streets of the Old Town, and marvel at iconic landmarks such as the Rector's Palace and the Cathedral of the Assumption. After a day filled with discovery, settle into your accommodation for the night in Dubrovnik.

- Highlights: Dubrovnik Old Town
- Overnight: Dubrovnik town
- Meals: B, L, Farewell Dinner included



DAY 11. DEPARTURE

The last day of our adventure. As your trip draws to a close, take some time to savour your last moments in Dubrovnik before departing for your onward journey. Whether you're heading home or continuing your travels elsewhere, may the memories of your Croatian adventure stay with you for years to come. Safe travels! Sigurna putovanja!

ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS, AND TRANSPORTATION

Accommodations

During our trip, we will stay in 4 locations with a mixture of villas and comfortable hotels.

- Split - 2 nights,
- Vis Island - 5 nights
- Hvar - 2 nights
- Dubrovnik - 1 night

We have planned for double occupancy of rooms.

Meals

During our trip, daily breakfast and lunch will be provided, and are included in the trip cost. The trip also includes 7 dinners together at local restaurants.

Transportation

We will all meet on Day 1 at Split Airport; its official name is Split Jerome Airport. We will want everyone to arrive there by 2 pm, upon which we will have transportation arranged to take us to our hotel. The entire trip will include all necessary van transport, ferry ride, boat and catamaran transports, and a day tour on a sailboat. At the conclusion of the trip, for those departing that day, we will have arranged airport transport from our hotel in Dubrovnik to Rudjer Boskovic Airport in Dubrovnik.

WEATHER

In September, Croatia experiences pleasant temperatures with an average high of 24°C (75°F) and an average low of 16°C (61°F). However, it is important to note that temperatures can vary depending on the region. Coastal areas tend to be slightly warmer than inland areas.

TRIP PRICE AND PAYMENT

The AMC Member price is \$6400.00. Non-members' price is \$6500.00. If you would like to join the AMC, click [here](#). A deposit of \$3000.00 is due with your application. The final payment is due May 1, 2025.

Price includes:

- 10 nights lodging with double occupancy rooms
- All breakfasts, lunches, and 7 dinners
- All in-country group ground transportation on scheduled trip days
- Basic medical and evacuation insurance
- Kayaks and all associated gear, experienced kayak guides, and a local guide in Split and Dubrovnik
- All gratuities for local guides, meals, and any other situations
- International airport pickups /drop-offs, conditional on group arrival and departure times.

Price does not include:

- Round trip airfare to Croatia.
- Personal trip and medical insurance
- Trip cancellation insurance
- Meals not listed above in the daily itinerary; also beverages, snacks, or any other meals you prefer that would normally be covered in the trip expenses
- Optional tips, and gratuities on an individual basis
- Other personal expenses

The price for this trip is based on quotes or estimates obtained at the time the trip was submitted to the Adventure Travel Committee for approval. The final price of the trip may be adjusted in accordance with the best final arrangements we can make. Any savings we achieve, as well as any cost increases, will be shared by trip participants. Refunds, if any, are issued after the trip's final accounting is complete.

AMC Adventure Travel trips are run on a nonprofit basis. Leaders are not compensated except for their travel and administrative expenses associated with the trip. A program fee is assessed toward AMC Adventure Travel programs and administrative expenses.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATION

Ability: This trip has been designed for experienced participants who can comfortably paddle 4- 6 hrs with breaks, as well as walk and hike up to 8 miles, at a relaxed to occasionally moderate pace, up to 2 miles per hour.

Safety: Individual and group safety is our highest priority. We will paddle and hike together at a pace that is comfortable for the slowest participant. Every day, everyone should be prepared to bring a minimum of 2 litres of water, as well as snacks, plus wear and bring appropriate clothing, including a hat and sunglasses (especially important on the water). A packing list will be sent separately.

Social Trip: We are planning on a group size between 12-16 people, including the two leaders. We believe strongly that our enjoyment on a trip like this will be derived as much from our interactions with each other as it will from our unique and spectacular environment. As always, we plan to adopt a "go with the flow" approach to managing all events that may be beyond our control (for example: delayed flights, or rooms not ready for occupancy). Our ultimate goal is for all participants to have a wonderful, memorable experience together.

APPLICATION PROCESS

We anticipate a group size of 14 participants including your AMC Adventure Travel Leaders. As this is a unique experience, we expect the trip to fill quickly. If you are interested, you should apply as soon as possible.

1. Complete the [online trip application](#) materials
2. Mail your \$3,000 deposit check, made out to the *Appalachian Mountain Club* to David Cole, 641 Main Street, Boylston MA 01505

You will not be accepted until you have completed the steps above, and the leaders have determined by telephone conversation that you and the trip are a good match. Before your acceptance as a participant in this trip, you will be asked to discuss your experience and capabilities with us. We may also request references to confirm your fitness level and suitability for participating in this group trip.

Your check will not be deposited until the trip leaders confirm the trip has enough participants. Deposit checks from wait-listed participants will not be cashed until we offer them a spot on the trip, and they accept. The balance of \$3,400. is due by May 1, 2025. In the unlikely event that the trip is cancelled because not enough acceptable participants apply, everything you have paid will be refunded in full.

TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Until the trip is confirmed to run on schedule, you may cancel with a full refund of your trip deposit. Please review the full AMC-AT cancellation policy found in this document: [AMC Adventure Travel Standard Terms and Conditions](#). By applying for this trip, you agree to the provisions of the AMC-AT Terms & Conditions, including that you have read and understand the stated [Trip Cancellation Policy](#). You are welcome to contact the leaders with any questions you have about this policy before you submit your application.

Required Gear List

Will be provided by the leaders approximately 6 months before departure.

TRIP LEADERSHIP



Dee Dice is an Adventure Travel Leader who has led trips in Glacier National Park, Baja Mexico, Spain, Morocco, and a two-week hiking trip to Austria. She has been leading hikes, weekend trips, and paddling trips with the AMC Western Mass and Worcester Chapters since 2018. Her passion is hiking and kayaking which has taken her around the world, travelling extensively to Nepal, New Zealand, South America, and Europe. dee@dicehome.com 508-566-9565



Dave Cole is a past Chair of the AMC Worcester Chapter, past multi-year AMC Worcester Chapter Paddle Chair, and current AMC AT Associate Leader. Dave has completed two recent AT Trips as Associate Leader, to South Tyrol, Italy, and a Portugal biking trip. Along with kayaking, Dave enjoys hiking, biking and skiing, but more importantly engaging in communities, as well as with old and new friends. davecolemail@gmail.com 508-887-2581

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