

CROATIA

*CROATIA IS KNOWN AS
THE JEWEL OF THE
ADRIATIC.*





TRIP OVERVIEW

The jewel of the Adriatic Sea, Croatia's rugged mountainous coast rises from sparkling turquoise waters. Featuring over a thousand islands, archaic trails and coastal civilizations, Croatia has been inspiring adventure for centuries. This trip combines immersion of the old world with wilderness travel, and the experience of the road less traveled. You'll trek the ancient footpaths and mountains overlooking the Adriatic Sea, and explore cities nestled among waterfalls and lakes. You'll climb spires of limestone, raft turquoise waters, and sea kayak through remote islands off the Dalmatian Coast. This leadership trip is for those looking to expand their wilderness skills, and connect with the culture of this ancient coastline.



EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Spend 4 days trekking the peaks of the Velebit Mountain Range, staying in mountain huts only accessible by foot.

Learn to rock climb on the limestone crags of Paklencia National Park

Paddle the Mreznica and Zrmanja Rivers and navigate the emerald waterfalls.

Sea kayak the remote Elaphiti Islands off the Dalmatian Coast.

DAY 1-2

Fly from the USA and arrive in Zagreb, Croatia. Once you arrive and meet your group, you will drive east to a quaint spot right off the Mreznica River for your first night together as a group.

DAY 3

Get oriented to the Adriatic and spend the day exploring Plitvice Lakes National Park. Featuring 16 lakes and naturally formed dams and waterfalls, this park is an incredible introduction to the crystal clear waters of Croatia. Spend the afternoon traveling to where you'll begin preparing for your trekking section.

DAY 4

Experience Croatia's magical waters firsthand as you paddle the beautiful Mreznica River. You'll fall in love with all of the different hues of green and blue. You'll return back to your quaint riverside lodge for delicious food and a great night's sleep.



**Itinerary and order of activities subject to variation.*



DAY 5-7

Spend the next three days tracing the ridgelines of the Adriatic coast on a trek through vast valleys and canyons of the Velebit Mountain Range. From your home base at a remote mountain hut, each day you'll walk through sweeping views and passes. Hot peka, (a traditional dish) and Croatian cuisine will be waiting for you at the end of these long mountain days. Away from civilization, this section will be a highlight for you and your group as you learn the art of wilderness travel.

DAY 8

Exit your backcountry section and spend the day exploring a different vantage point of Paklenica. Spend the morning rock climbing and rappelling the limestone spires you've been surrounded by for the last few days. Once you get your vertical fix, fill up on a tasty lunch and spend the evening traveling south to the Zrmanja River.

DAY 9

Spend your day today on an aquatic expedition on the Zrmanja River. Using inflatable kayaks, you and your group will learn to navigate the clear turquoise channels of this stunning river. Spend the day cruising through the deep canyons and waterfalls of the Zrmanja. Camp at a beautiful riverside campsite, with the sound of rushing water lulling you to sleep.



DAY 10

Today you will travel south, passing the Croatian countryside as you make your way to Dubrovnik. Hop on a quick ferry and make your way out to the ancient Elaphiti Islands you'll call home for the next few days!

DAY 11-13

Spend the next three days exploring the Elaphiti Islands from the belly of an ocean kayak and hiking the picturesque ridgelines. Paddle the bright blue Adriatic Sea and explore the cliffs and farmlands of the Dalmatian coast. You'll spend two days cruising the waterways and hiking on a few different islands. Spend your last night in Croatia strolling through the streets of Old Town Dubrovnik. Enjoy a final banquet dinner with your group in Dubrovnik reliving and recounting the adventures that you've had. Prepare for the travel day ahead.

DAY 14

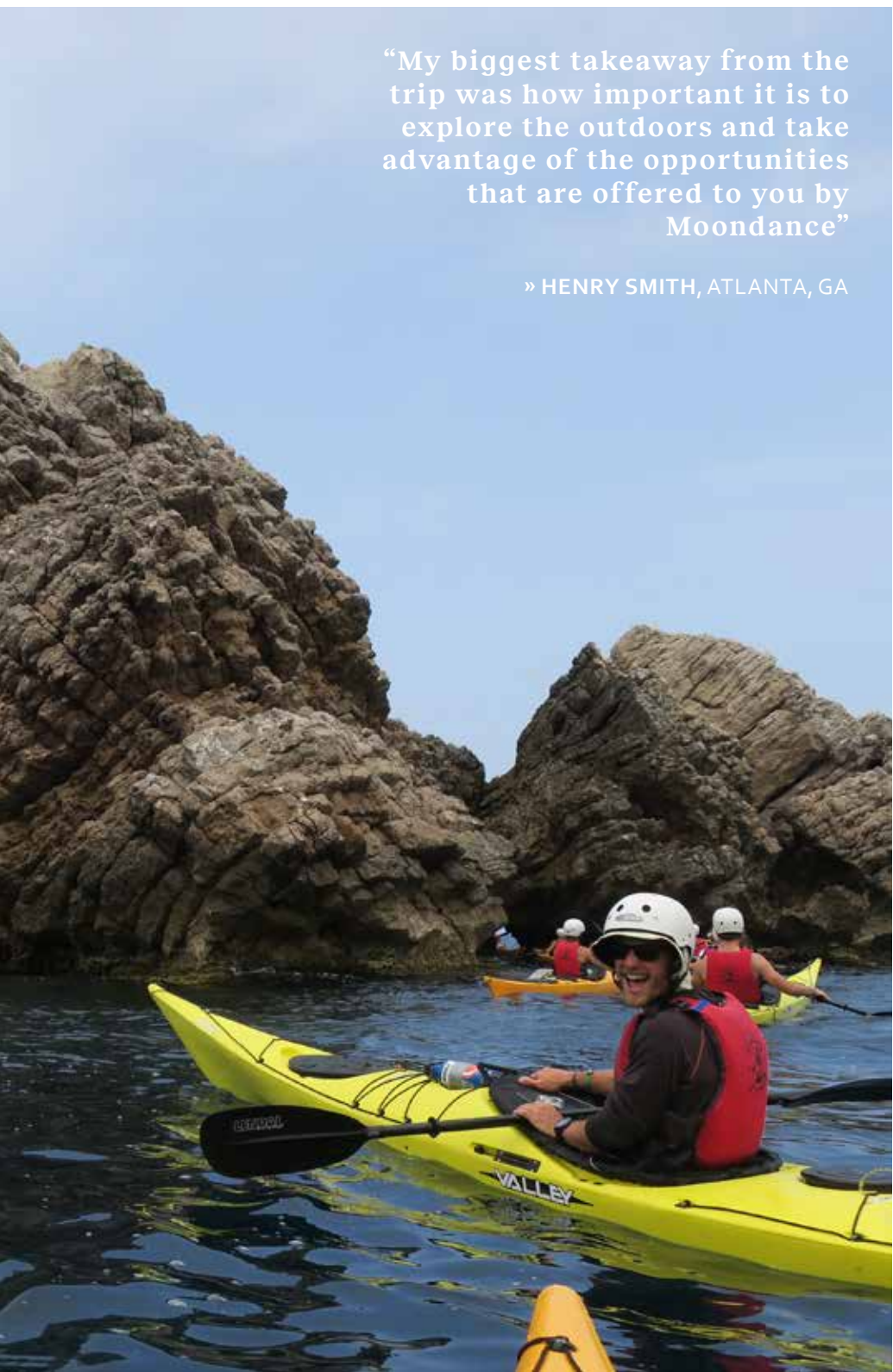
Depart for Zagreb with your group and savor the memories you've made in Croatia. Fly from Zagreb back to the United States.





“My biggest takeaway from the trip was how important it is to explore the outdoors and take advantage of the opportunities that are offered to you by Moondance”

» HENRY SMITH, ATLANTA, GA



TRIP DETAILS

LENGTH	14 Days
GRADE FOR CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR	9th-10th
CHALLENGE LEVEL	Moderate
BEGINS/ENDS	Zagreb, Croatia (ZAG) <i>Suggested flight details provided upon acceptance</i>
GROUP SIZE	13 Students
AVERAGE AIRFARE FROM EAST COAST	\$1,600

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Two dynamic trip leaders
- Professionally outfitted activities
 - Backpacking
 - Rock climbing
 - River kayaking
 - Sea kayaking
- Accommodations
 - Tents
 - Hostels
- Private ground transportation
- In country flight from Dubrovnik to Zagreb
- Park entrance fees
- All meals
- Photos taken during your trip

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare to and from Zagreb, Croatia (ZAG)
- Baggage fees
- Personal clothing + equipment
 - Full clothing + equipment list provided upon acceptance
- Personal spending money (\$150 recommended)
- Trip Insurance (Highly recommended)

CONTACT

ADMISSIONS

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EXPERIENCE MOONDANCE IN 2022