



The Olive Odysseys
Croatia & the Dalmatian Coast
By Land & By Sea
with Prague & Budapest
September 3-15 2018

Day Seven September 9
Zadar Croatia

We are off by private launch to the beautiful islands off the coast of Zadar. Join us as we enter the [Kornati Islands National Park](#), a slalom trip through the 89 islands that make up the archipelago. Crystal clear blue waters and stunning scenery will be ours as we are whisked around these islands. We will have frequent stops so that we may swim off the boat, do some snorkelling or just take in the relaxing sea air. Lunch together onboard.*

In the afternoon, we will return to Zadar so that you may take in any of the sights you want, including the Roman Forum, the 9th century Byzantine church of St. Donates, or have a drink at the People's Square. All a delightful part of this great city by the sea. Dinner will be on your own with plenty of recommendations from us.

Breakfast / Private Boat tour of Kornati Islands / Swimming and snorkeling/ Lunch on board / [UNESCO World Heritage Site List Zadar](#) / [List for UNESCO World Heritage Site-Kornati Islands](#) /Overnight Zadar

**Weather permitting. If high seas or high winds kick up, the coast guard may close the port, forbidding any ships to move.*

Koronati Park is the largest archipelago on the Adriatic coast with over 89 islands and islets in total, all of arid and karst terrain filled with caves and crevices. This Mediterranean archipelago was officially declared a National Park in 1980 and the underwater world is now a paradise for swimmers and divers, as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, due to the fact that most islands are not inhabited. This area can only be reached by boat and it boasts many private beaches for exploring.

Koronati Park and its archipelago are named after the biggest island, Kornat, which represents two thirds of the total area of the archipelago. Between this 25-kilometer long, thin island, which faces the coast, and the chain of islands on the other side, there is a stretch of water naturally protected from the open sea, with dozens of safe bays to drop anchor.

The Roman forum is located the heart of the city of Zadar, and was built in the first century BC during the time of Caesar Augustus, as witnessed by the inscriptions engraved on the stone. Zadar used to be a small but prosperous Roman colony. The Roman forum follows the classic layover of a military settlement. Centuries later, the Church of Saint Donates and the Episcopal Palace were built on top of some of its foundations, and this can be admired as some parts and pillars have been excavated to reveal the Roman ruins directly underneath.

The **Byzantine Church of St. Donates**, one of Zadar's well-known icons, is a pre-Romanesque church that was built during the 9th century. It took its name from its first bishop, back in the year 801 A.D. It is perhaps the most important monument of this period in all of Dalmatia as it also showcases elements of Byzantine influence, such as the round plan that crowns a dome 27 meters high. It is located in the center of the old town, next to the Roman forum and all the other important monuments of the city such as the cathedral and its bell tower, and St. Mary's church.

September 8 & 9 **Zadar, Croatia** Hotel Niko <http://www.hotel-niko.hr/> □ Obala kneza Domagoja 9, 23000 Zadar, Hrvatska. Tel: +385 (0)23 337 888 □

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